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Making history in D.C.

SCOTUS hears arguments on marriage equality

By Lisa Keen, Page 8



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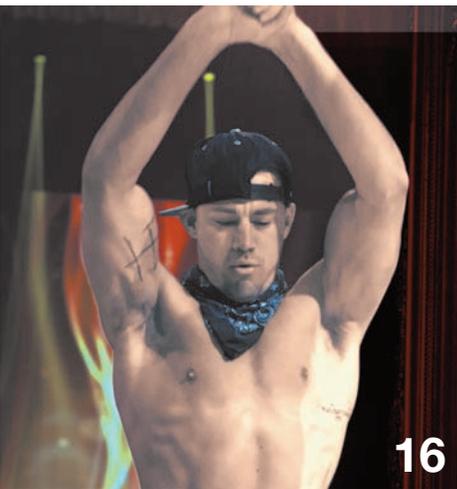
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Marriage equality supporters stand in front of a rainbow flag outside the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., on April 28.

Jose Luis Magana/Associated Press.

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Early Voting is going on

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District 1: Scott Griggs

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District 6: Monica Alonzo

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District 8: No Endorsement

District 9: Mark Clayton

District 10: James White

District 14: Philip Kingston

Dallas County School Board

President: Larry Duncan

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No candidates from Districts 4, 12 or 13 sought our endorsement.

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*Visit www.dallascountyvotest.org for a full list of early voting locations

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Downpour moves SCOTUS rally to Sue Ellen's; hundreds gather to support equality

Despite flooded streets in Oak Lawn, hundreds of people turned out for a rally Monday night (April 27), the night before the U.S. Supreme Court was to hear arguments on marriage equality. The event moved from the Legacy of Love Monument to Sue Ellen's because of the weather.

The LGBT community, allies and TV crews packed the second floor of the bar for a rally that lasted several hours and included speakers, singers and spoken word, and was topped off with wedding cake and champagne.

About a dozen people — from a Greenhill School student and Texas Christian University student to allied pastors and community activists — gave short rallying speeches. Lambda Legal's Omar Narvaez delivered the keynote, calling for an end to laws criminalizing HIV status, an end to anti-trans legislation and an end

to LGBT youth homelessness — linking these and other battles for justice to not just marriage equality but to the social justice movement overall.

Emily McGaughy writes for AfterEllen.com. In her remarks she said she and her wife had to choose between a legal wedding out of state and a wedding in Texas that included family and friends.

"Tomorrow is a step in the right direction for equality," she said. "It won't solve all problems, but it's a big step."

Greenhill School student Josh Rudner said he realized he was gay at 11. He kept that bottled up inside himself for a year before telling his family.

"You can't choose who you love," he said, "but you can choose to love yourself."

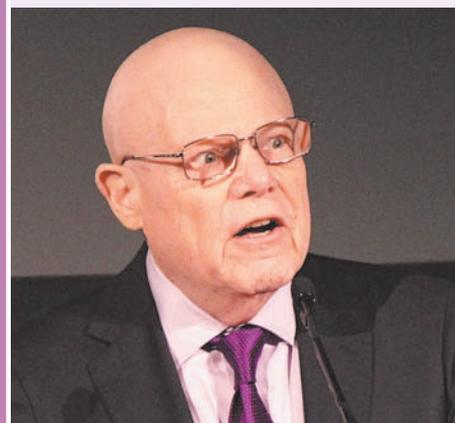
His father is now president of Equality Texas Foundation and attended the Supreme Court hearing.

The Rev. Alex Byrd compared marriage bans today to slave owners preventing slaves from marrying. He said the purpose was to destabilize the community.

The Rev. Colleen Darraugh of MCC of Greater Dallas said, "Your religious freedom should not come at the expense of my religious freedom."

Community activist John Seelig brought a message from Freedom to Marry founder Evan Wolfson: "We can all feel the momentum," Wolfson told Seelig. "America is ready for the freedom to marry."

— David Taffet



Mark Shekter

BUSINESS NEWS: GLBT Chamber celebrates 10th anniversary

The North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 10th anniversary on Friday night, (April 24), with its Celebration of Excellence Dinner, held at the Renaissance Dallas Hotel.

Chamber officials presented a number of awards during the dinner, including presenting Mark Arthur Shekter with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Shekter owns Surealty Corporation, a real estate agency, and Graphic+Design+Group+International. He is known for his work as an architectural and interior designer, but he is also known for his years of volunteer work in Dallas' LGBT community. Shekter founded Meals on the Move, or MOM, which for several years delivered meals to people with HIV.

Other individuals recognized for their contributions to the community were Capt. Kathi Durst, chief pilot for American Airlines; Andy Smith, executive director of the Texas Instruments Foundation; Roger Thomson, executive vice president and chief administrative officer for Brinker International; and Zack Hicks, chief information officer for Toyota Motors North America.

The 2014 Business Excellence Awards were also presented at the event. Business of the Year honors went to Liberty Burger, founded by Mariel Street and sponsored by Prudential Financial. The Extra Mile Award went to Pride Pharmacy, led by President John Shero and sponsored by American Airlines. The Community Impact Award went to ilume Management Services, led by President Luke Crosland and sponsored by Raytheon.

The Corporate Ally Award went to Haynes & Boonem LLC, with Theo Foster as LGBT diversity chair. Det. Christopher Gorrie of the Fort Worth Police Department, sponsored by Allied Stone, won the Emerging Leader Award. Robin Pulford with American Airlines accepted the Supplier Diversity Award, sponsored by Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau. And the Member Service Award with TravelOUT owner Michael Henshaw, sponsored by Pride Pharmacy.

In the final award presentation of the evening, chamber Chairman Larry Paschall named the chamber's president and CEO, Tony Vedda, as winner of the Chairman's Award.

— Tammye Nash

A TIP FROM A
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SMOKER**

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clogged artery
in my neck.
Smoking with
HIV did.**

Brian, age 45, California

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SPOTLIGHT:

Bloomin' Ball: Sowing Seeds of Hope



A celebration of AIDS Interfaith Network's inspiring individual, faith and corporate leaders, the Bloomin' Ball, now in its ninth year, is also the spring fundraiser for AIN. This year's Crystal Hope Award recipients in the individual, corporate and faith leader categories are AIDS Walk South Dallas' Auntjuan Wiley (faith leader), Sam Bowers and Glenn Romero (individual leader) and Dallas Light and Sound (corporate leader). Texas Instruments is once again the presenting sponsor.

Each award recipient and sponsor, said AIN Executive Director Stephen Pace, has put AIN on track to even exceed Bloomin' Ball's fundraising goals "You can always use more help," he said.

From its small office space off Stemmons Freeway, AIN provides service to 2,000 men, women, youth and children who have HIV/AIDS. They reach an additional 10,000 people at-risk of contracting HIV through their education and prevention programs.

5-9 p.m. on May 9, at Hilton Anatole, 2201 N. Stemmons Freeway. Sponsorship opportunities and tickets available online at 2015bloominball.eventbrite.com. For more information call 214-943-4444 or e-mail space@aimsinterfaithnetwork.org.

pet of the week / PONG

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Pong and other pets are available for adoption from Operation Kindness, 3201 Earhart Drive, Carrollton. The no-kill shelter is open six days: Monday, 3-8 p.m.; closed Tuesday; Wednesday, 3-8 p.m.; Thursday, noon-8 p.m.; Friday, noon-5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. The cost is \$110 for cats, \$135 for kittens, \$150 for dogs over 1 year, and \$175 for puppies. The cost includes the spay/neuter surgery, microchipping, vaccinations, heartworm test for dogs, leukemia and FIV test for cats, and more. Those who adopt two pets at the same time receive a \$20 discount.



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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.

MAY

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM.** This week's guests are Mark Phariss and Vic Holmes. **Fuse** game night every Monday evening but 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.

• **May 2: Oak Lawn Community Outreach Center Home Ownership Conversation** Find out if home ownership is right for you from 10:30 a.m.–noon at the Oak Lawn Community Outreach Center at Oak Lawn United Methodist Church, 3707 Cedar Springs Road. To RSVP call or e-mail Rev. Gregg Alan Smith at 214-521-5197 ext. 121 or gregg.smith@olumc.org.



Tony Coronado

• **May 2: Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association Cinco de Mayo Bingo** TCGPWA hosts another Pride Bingo benefit for Pride Week events from 6–9 p.m. at Trinity Metropolitan Community Church, 993 E. Avenue J, Grand Prairie. \$20 donation includes 2 bingo cards, 15 rounds of bingo, beverages and snacks. \$5 extra donation includes extra rounds of bingo. For more information and prize donation opportunities call or e-mail "Richard" James Tinker at 817-921-3318 or tink2withu@aol.com. For anonymous donations e-mail Tony Coronado at tonyconradodsns@aol.com.

• **May 2: DFW Trans Ladies Monthly Meeting** Meets from 7–8:30 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month at Agape MCC, 4615 E. California Parkway, Fort Worth. For more information e-mail info@dfwtgladies.org or visit DFWTGLadies.org.



To celebrate Cinco de Mayo, the Turtle Creek Chorale's chamber chorus, the Hotchkiss Elementary School choir and Mi Diva Loca present sizzling music from the Mexican choral and pop tradition. The evening honors Sheriff Lupe Valdez. Featured songs include the popular Quien Sera, music of Selena and other Latin pop artists, the beautiful Gracias A La Vida, and of course, La Cucaracha. Musica de Mayo at 7:30 p.m. on May 2 at the Latino Cultural Center, 2600 Live Oak St. Tickets are available at TurtleCreekChorale.com

• **May 2: Razzle Dazzle Dallas bus trip to Winstar Casino** First of three bus trips to Winstar Casinos from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. benefits Razzle Dazzle Dallas, Home for the Holidays and The Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund. \$75. Party Bus will include adult beverages and soft drinks, snacks, entertainment and raffle prizes. Leaves Cedar Springs at 8:30 a.m. and Collin Creek Mall at 9 a.m. For more information and to register visit T.co/r7voNP2HBu or contact Info@razzledazzledallas.org.

• **May 2: 27th Annual Dallas Cinco de Mayo Parade, festival and car show** from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. on Jefferson Blvd. presented by Oak Cliff Coalition for the Arts. For more information visit Dallascinodemayo.net.

• **May 2: GEAR Awards Annual Ceremony** Mara Kiesling of the National Center for Transgender Equality keynotes the annual celebration of members of and allies to the transgender community and scholarship recipients at 7 p.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.

• **May 3: International Family Equality Day North Texas** Rainbow Roundup, a social group for local LGBT families, celebrates International Family Equality Day with a Sandcastle Sunday outing at 1 p.m. at Little Elm Park and Sandy Beach on Lake Lewisville. Sandcastle Sunday is also this month's Rainbow Roundup's outing. Prizes for the best sandcastle will be awarded. Look for

the rainbow flag on the beach. For more information call Leo Cusimano at 214-893-1075 or visit Facebook.com/rainbowroundup.

• **May 5: DFW Transcendence Trans/SOFFA Meeting:** Nell Gaither of Trans Pride Initiative. 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.

• **May 7: Trans Network Affiliates Meeting: Dr. Steven Klemow, Parkland Hospital** Networking event and lecture for transgender organizations and service providers features Dr. Steven Klemow of the Amelia Court Clinic at Parkland Health and Hospital System. 7 p.m. at Brazos Room, Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak Street. For more information e-mail Nell Gaither at nell@tpride.org.

• **May 7: DFW HRC Federal Club Neighborhood Social** Dallas-based Journey cover band Escape performs from 7:30–9:30 p.m. at the Dallas Arboretum during its Cool Thursdays Concert Series, 8525 Garland Road. Gates open at 6 p.m. Guests are encouraged to bring picnic baskets or choose from some of Dallas' favorite food trucks. Alcohol is permitted to be brought on site but will not be available for purchase. Ticket prices vary. To buy tickets and for more information visit Bit.ly/1ODPWIL or e-mail Linda Reyes at lindareyeshrc@gmail.com

• **May 8: High Tech Happy Hour** Texas Instruments Pride, the LGBT and ally diversity group, hosts its monthly High Tech Happy Hour to increase professional and social contacts between groups and individuals and to foster community. 5:30–7:30 p.m. at Komali Restaurant, 4152 Cole, Ste. 106. For more information e-mail Paul von Wupperfeld at pavw@ti.com.

• **May 9: Election Day**

• **May 9: Bloomin' Ball: Sowing Seeds of Hope** Spring fundraiser for AIDS Interfaith Network presents Crystal Hope Awards in the individual, corporate and faith leader categories. 5–9 p.m. at Hilton Anatole, 2201 N. Stemmons Freeway. Sponsorship opportunities and tickets available online at 2015bloominball.eventbrite.com. For more information call 214-943-4444 or e-mail space@aidsinterfaithnetwork.org.

• **May 13: Lambda Legal Dallas Spring Mixer** Meet new friends and learn about Lambda Legal's victories, 5:30–7:30 p.m. at Sambuca-Uptown, 2120 McKinney Ave. For more information call Carla McKinzie at 214-219-8585.

• **May 13: GEAR: Transmen Community Session** Monthly meeting discussion topics relating to masculine gender identity and transitioning. 6–8 p.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.

• **May 13–May 23: Couple Communication Workshop** Candy Marcum, LPC, and Jimmy Owen, LPC, conduct a two-weekend workshop for couples. 5-7 p.m. on May 15 and May 22 and 10 a.m.–



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noon on May 16 and May 23 at 3500 Oak Lawn Ave., Suite 260. \$440 per couple includes two workbooks and eight hours of instruction. 214-521-1278. For more information call or e-mail Candy Marcum at 214-521-1278 or candy@candymarcum.com.

SCOTUS hears arguments in marriage equality cases; equality supporters hopeful but there's no guarantees

LISA KEEN | Contributing Writer
Keen News Service

The very first question from the U.S. Supreme Court bench Tuesday morning, April 28, was about the rights of states to regulate marriage. And, though attorneys for same-sex couples tried numerous times to refocus attention to the damage that bans on same-sex marriage inflict on the rights of LGBT people, the focus stayed largely on states' rights throughout the historic argument.

For 2 1/2 hours — more than twice the time most cases get — an animated bench grilled attor-

Barely a minute into Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders' Mary Bonauto's opening comments about how laws prohibiting same-sex couples from marrying convey a "stain of unworthiness," Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg asked how the "federal government's historic deference to states when it comes to matters of domestic relations" should influence the court's decision on whether the state bans are unconstitutional.

In asking her question, Ginsburg referred to the court's 2013 landmark decision in *United States v. Windsor*, in which the court emphasized states' rights to regulate marriage as it struck down the key provision of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which had prohibited the federal government from recognizing marriages licensed to same-sex couples in some states.

"States do have primacy over domestic relations except that their laws must respect the constitutional rights of persons, and *Windsor* couldn't have

laws. But then he compared 10 years to the "millennia" of years during which people thought of marriage as being between a man and a woman.

"This definition has been with us for millennia. And it's very difficult for the court to say, 'Oh, well, we know better.'"

Within just a few minutes, Ginsburg seemed to respond to Kennedy's comment when she said to Bonauto, "You wouldn't be asking for this relief if the law of marriage was what it was a millennium ago. I mean, it wasn't possible," said Ginsburg. "Same-sex unions would not have opted into that pattern of marriage, which was a dominant and a subordinate relationship. Yes, it was marriage between a man and a woman, but the man decided where the couple would be domiciled; it was her obligation to follow him.

"There was a change in the institution of marriage," said Ginsburg, "to make it egalitarian when it wasn't egalitarian."

Historic day in D.C.



neys for same-sex couples and the four states that seek to ban their marriages.

Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Stephen Breyer asked most of the tough questions to challenge the governmental interest served by banning same-sex couples from marriage. Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Antonin Scalia and Samuel Alito asked most of the tough questions to parties seeking to strike down those bans.

Per his routine, Justice Clarence Thomas asked no questions, and true to his role as the court's most unpredictable vote, Justice Anthony Kennedy asked tough questions of both sides.

The packed courtroom was equally lively, with those in the audience laughing frequently and applauding once.

At one point, a man at the back of the courtroom jumped up and began ranting loudly and incessantly about the Bible and "abominations," declaring that gays would "burn in hell." Such outbursts have occurred in the court recently on other issues, and the man's disruption seemed well-timed, given that it did not interrupt any attorney's allotted time before the bench.

But, as is also routine, the justices interrupted attorneys throughout the proceeding.

been clearer about that," said Bonauto. "And here we have a whole class of people who are denied the equal right to be able to join in this very extensive government institution that provides protection for families."

Chief Justice John Roberts jumped on Bonauto's choice of words, saying same-sex couples weren't seeking the right to "join" marriage but to "redefine" it. The comment echoed his remarks in 2013 and hinted early on that Roberts is not a likely vote in favor of striking down state bans on same-sex marriage.

Bonauto attempted to make the point that many things have changed for society over time, for instance, the role of women, but that the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides "enduring guarantees" to citizens.

Kennedy jumped in next, first noting that it has been about 10 years since the Supreme Court struck down sodomy laws — an amount of time comparable to the time span between when the court struck down state-mandated racial segregation of schools and when it struck down state laws banning interracial marriages.

It was an initial ray of hope that Kennedy was heading in the direction of striking down state

Justice Scalia soon entered the fray, declaring that the question "is not whether there should be same-sex marriage, but who should decide the point. ... And you're asking us to decide it for this society when no other society until 2001 ever had it."

Justice Alito took the discussion back even further than Ginsburg and Scalia, to ancient Greece, noting that same-sex relationships were accepted then but that there were no marriages between same-sex couples.

"So their limiting marriage to couples of the opposite sex was not based on prejudice against gay people, was it?" asked Alito.

Bonauto tried to make the point that a big difference between other cultures and other times is that the United States, from its inception, made "a commitment to individual liberty and equality."

Justice Breyer brought up the states' "wait and see" rationale for denying marriage to same-sex couples, to which Bonauto noted that states, including Virginia in *Loving v. Virginia*, offered that rationale to justify miscegenation laws. The Supreme Court struck down those laws, noted Bonauto, even though 80 percent of the public supported such bans and the Supreme Court's striking down of those laws was considered a

"profound change."

Solicitor General Don Verrilli repeatedly reminded the court that a "wait and see" approach to the issue leaves "the nation as a house divided" in the same way racial segregation did. And leaving the issue to voters, he said, would be saying "that the demeaning, second-class status that gay and lesbian couples now inhabit in states that do not provide for marriage is consistent with the equal protection of the laws. That is not a wait-and-see," said Verrilli. "That is a validation."

John Bursch, a special assistant attorney general from Michigan, urged the court to affirm "every individual's fundamental liberty interest" to decide the meaning of marriage by ensuring that voters be able to define marriage through the democratic process. The state's marriage laws, he said, were developed "to serve purposes that, by their nature, arise from biology."

Just as the question of whether states can ban same-sex marriage seemed to rely largely on how Kennedy will ultimately vote, the court seemed split on the question of whether a state can refuse to recognize a marriage license from another state. But the overriding concern Tuesday was how the court would rule on the first question: Does the 14th Amendment require a state to license a marriage between two people of the same sex?

Reactions

Gay legal activists at the argument Tuesday expressed optimism that Kennedy will come through with the majority vote.

Kate Kendall, executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, which helped representing same-sex couples from Tennessee, said she thinks there's "no doubt" the court will find that states have to recognize other states' marriages.

"I do think things look favorable" for striking down state bans on same-sex marriage, said Kendall on the plaza outside the court after the argument. "Kennedy is always the swing."

Kendall acknowledged that Kennedy seemed "more inscrutable here than he was in the DOMA case."

"He didn't really tip his hand. He asked difficult questions of both sides," said Kendall. "But even if it's sooner than he wants to or the court is not entirely comfortable with it, I believe ... when push comes to shove, I do not believe this is a justice who is going to allow *Romer v. Evans* and *Lawrence v. Texas* and the *Windsor* decision to come up full stop and not have that legacy finished."

Kennedy wrote the majority decision in all three cases, striking down a voter-approved initiative in Colorado, striking down state laws banning intimate relations between same-sex couples, and striking down DOMA.

Jon Davidson, legal director for Lambda Legal, said he was encouraged by Kennedy's comparison of *Brown* and *Loving* to *Lawrence* and this appeal. And he thought it "odd" that Alito "tried to make this point about Greece."

"Sometimes, it just seems like they're playing with you," Davidson said.

"I was surprised that they focused so much at the beginning about this millennia this or that; that's not how you decide the law. That's not the basis for constitutional jurisprudence," said Abby Rubinfeld, former legal director for Lambda Legal and one of the attorneys representing plaintiffs

from the Tennessee case.

Rubinfeld said she was pleasantly surprised to hear Chief Justice Roberts ask “an interesting sex discrimination question.”

In questioning John Bursch, special assistant attorney general for Michigan, Roberts said he wasn't sure it was necessary to get into the issue of sexual orientation discrimination to resolve the case.

“If Sue loves Joe, and Tom loves Joe, Sue can marry him and Tom can't,” Roberts said. “And the difference is based upon their different sex. Why isn't that a straightforward question of sexual discrimination?”

Bursch said laws banning same-sex couples from marrying do not treat classes of men and women differently. And, he said, a 2001 Supreme Court ruling in *Nguyen v. INS* held that “it's appropriate to draw lines based on sex if it's related to biology.”

Justice Kennedy wrote that 5-to-4 majority opinion, saying a law that provided citizenship to children if their biological mothers were American, but not if only their fathers were American, was unconstitutional. Ginsburg interjected that the reason behind that sex discrimination was that “we know who the [biological] mother is” and was intended to avoid the possibility that a man might claim to be the father in order to gain some benefits.

If the state laws were seen as sex discrimination, the court would impose a higher standard of judicial scrutiny than mere rational basis. Laws disadvantaging people based on gender must be justified with not just a rational reason, but an important governmental interest.

Evan Wolfson, head of the national Freedom to Marry organization, said Justice Kennedy's questions “invited our advocates to make the case about the newness and relative evolution” of the issue.

“He also asked key questions about the kids. He pointed out the illogic of some of the state's positions,” Wolfson said. “And at the end of the day, arguments are arguments. What counts is what they're going to go back and do — read these briefs and write the arguments, build on the law, and write the opinion. And Justice Kennedy has a long and serious legacy to build on here and I hope he does the right thing.”

Equality Texas Foundation President Steve Rudner, who was in the courtroom, said he thought the turning point came when Kennedy compared the amount of time that passed between the Brown decision and the Loving decision.

He also liked a comment Kagan made about the court's role. She said the court defines constitutional rights but doesn't decide who gets to exercise those rights.

Texas marriage equality plaintiffs Mark Phariss and Vic Holmes of Plano also attended the hearing. Phariss mentioned several points that he thought were strong arguments.

After Scalia argued that leaving marriage laws to the states allows states to protect religion but making marriage a constitutional right will force clergy to perform weddings, Kagan answered. She said most rabbis refuse to perform interfaith marriages and no one can force them to perform any wedding they choose not to perform.

“Tuesday's Supreme Court arguments put the LGBT community on the brink of history,” Resource Center CEO Cece Cox said. “Our families

should have the same protections and respect under the law as straight couples. Ultimately people get married to demonstrate to the world a commitment towards each other. It's time that the law catches up with that, and I hope that the Supreme Court agrees.”

Now the wait begins.

Today, same-sex couples can obtain marriage licenses in 37 states. In June, that could quickly become 50.

Or the court might split the baby and decide states can ban same-sex marriage but must recognize marriage licenses lawfully obtained in marriage equality states. That would enable the 13 states which currently enforce bans to continue to do so and another 10 states which had to temporarily suspend their bans to reinstate them.

On NBC's *Meet the Press* Sunday, April 26, Ted Olson, who argued the Proposition 8 case against California's ban on same-sex marriage, said he doesn't believe the Supreme Court will issue such a split decision. And if the court follows the precedent of *Loving v. Virginia*, it won't do a split.

That 1967 decision said that state laws banning marriage between persons solely on the basis of racial classifications violated the 14th Amendment's guarantees of equal protection and due process. The question now is whether state laws banning marriage between persons solely on the basis of sexual orientation or gender violate the 14th Amendment's guarantees of equal protection and due process.

The Supreme Court will most likely take until the end of June to issue its decision. Until then, legal scholars and media will analyze Tuesday's arguments to find clues for how each justice is leaning on both questions posed and to speculate how the majority will rule.

The fact that six justices agreed last year not to hear appeals from states seeking to keep their bans will prompt most to predict a victory for marriage equality.

(It takes the support of at least four of the nine justices to take an appeal. The court did not take an appeal until it accepted the appeal of plaintiffs challenging the same-sex marriage bans.)

The fact that Kennedy has written three of the court's decisions treating LGBT people with respect (*Romer*, *Lawrence*, and *Windsor*), gives marriage equality supporters hope that he'll forge the majority once again. But his historic support for state sovereignty and his recent bond with the conservative justices to strike down the Voting Rights Act, saying the states “retain broad autonomy,” will give hope to those who support the state bans.

Phariss said he expects a 5-4 decision written by Kennedy. Rudner said he's holding out hope that Roberts joins the majority opinion.

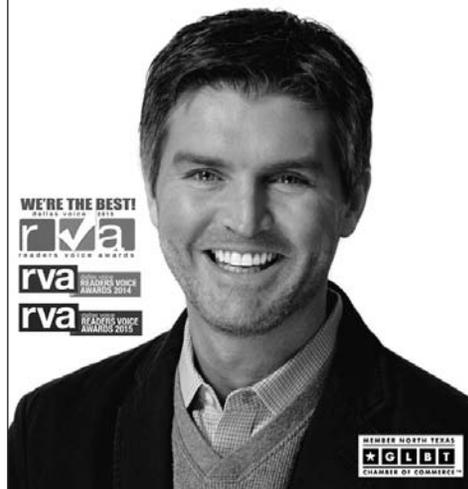
The Washington Post reported last week that its poll with ABC found 61 percent support, 35 percent oppose, 4 percent had no opinion. Essentially that same percentage also opposed allowing individual states to ban same-sex marriage. NBC reported Sunday that its poll with the Wall Street Journal found 59 percent of Americans support marriage equality — up 18 points over 2009. ■

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David Taffet contributed to this article.

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Cowboy Up

TGRA expands annual rodeo, adds
music festival, barrel race exhibition

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

The Texas Gay Rodeo Association's annual Texas Tradition Rodeo kicks off its next 30 years this weekend with a new look and an expanded slate of events. The rodeo takes place Friday through Sunday, May 1-3 at the Fair Park Coliseum.

This year, TGRA's 31st annual event includes a music festival, featuring newly-out country-western star Ty Herndon, along with the usual Mr./Miss/Ms. TGRA royalty contests and two days of rodeo competition, according to Charlie Collela, TGRA's contestant chair.

There will also be a separate barrel race exhibition and competition on Friday night, Collela said. He explained that the rodeo competition on Saturday and Sunday will also include barrel racing events, "but the barrel racing in the actual rodeo is only open to TGRA members. The barrel racing on Friday night is open to the public. Anybody can register and compete on Friday night."

Collela said this year's TGRA state rodeo was originally scheduled to be held at the city of Dallas' Texas Horse Park at the Trinity venue. But the addition of Herndon as the music festival headliner and the extra traffic that is expected to generate prompted officials to relocate to the Fair Park Coliseum.

"We have had the rodeo at the Coliseum before, about 20 years ago," Collela said. "It worked out just fine then, and I am sure it will be great this year, too."

Herndon, who came out as a gay man last November, will perform, along with Weldon Henson, Big City Outlaws, Time Machine Band, Donovan Marcelle, Gerald Sugg Trio.

The music fest begins at noon on Saturday and Sunday.

Friday night's event begins at 6 p.m. with a barrel race exhibition. Winners in the TGRA Royalty contest — competition for which was held Thursday night — will be announced at 7:30 p.m., and then the open barrel race competition begins at 8 p.m.

Registration for the open barrel race competition is \$45, and there will be \$1,000 added to the purse for the winner.

Collela said that anyone who wants to compete in the TGRA Rodeo events on Saturday and Sunday can sign up as a TGRA member on Friday night and register for the Saturday and Sunday events then.

"All they have to do is come to the coliseum on Friday night and ask for me," he said.

Rodeo competition begins at 8 a.m. on both Sat-

urday and Sunday, Collela said, with competitors "running slack" in the morning hours. "Running slack," he explained means that some competitors in events with a large number of entrants compete in the morning to keep the afternoon events running more smoothly.

Each event will be included in the afternoon competition, too, he added.

Grand entry begins at noon both Saturday and Sunday, followed by competition in each event. That includes calf roping on foot, chute dogging, steer riding, bull riding, barrel racing, pole bending, the flag race, mounted break-away roping and team roping, along with what Collela called the "real crowd-pleaser events" of goat dressing, steer decorating and the Wild Drag Race.

Collela said that about 50 contestants had pre-registered for the rodeo. Including those who will register at the gate, about 90 entrants are expected to compete overall.

There are five TGRA chapters around the state — in Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, Austin and San Antonio. TGRA members work throughout the year to raise money, and at the end of the state rodeo each May, those proceeds are divided among the five chapters, which then donate the funds to designated beneficiaries.

One of the main ways the organization raises money is through shows and events staged by the TGRA Royalty contestants, said Mary Honeycutt, Fort Worth chapter president and a Ms. TGRA contestant. In fact, fundraising is one of the main categories on which contestants are judged.

"TGRA is about the rodeo, yes, but we are a charity organization. That's really our main function — to raise money for our communities," Honeycutt said. "That's what keeps me involved. I love the rodeo in general, but what I really love the most is seeing the money we raise go back into helping our community."

Honeycutt also said that anyone who is interested can join TGRA. It's not just for experienced rodeo cowboys and cowgirls.

"I've been involved in TGRA off and on for about 20 years, and I got started in the dance competition," she said. "Now I also compete in some of the non-horse events, too."

"TGRA is a lot of fun. This is a great group of people," Honeycutt continued. "It's about competition and trying to win, yes. But everybody is willing to step up and help other people get better, too. It's a great way to meet wonderful people and make friends who will be your friends for a long time to come."

Tickets to the Texas Tradition Rodeo are \$20 for Saturday and \$20 for Sunday, or \$30 for a weekend pass. A VIP weekend pass, which includes reserved seating for the rodeo on Saturday and Sunday and a meet-and-greet with Ty Herndon, are \$150. For a complete schedule of events and to purchase tickets online visit TGRA.org.



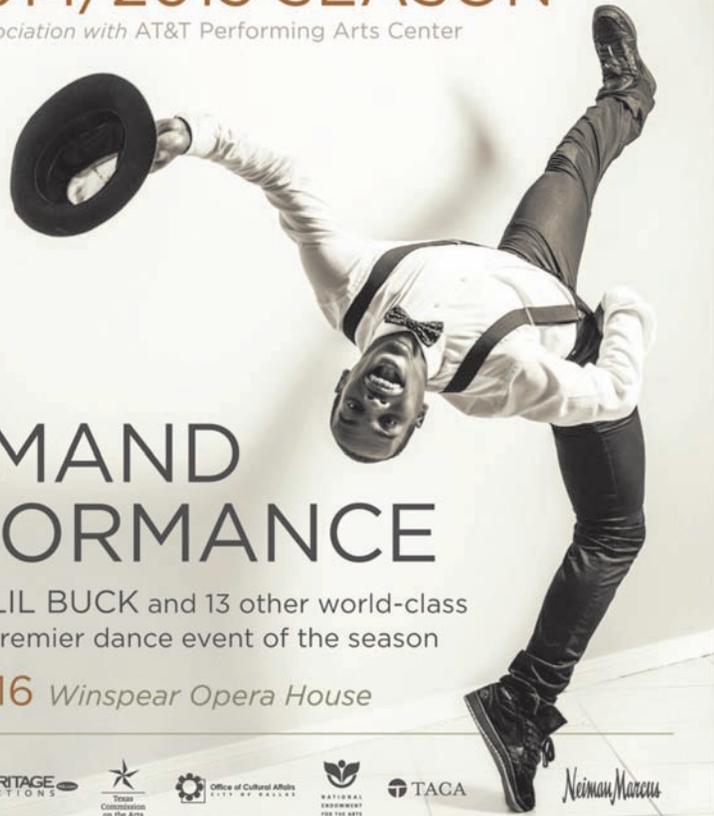
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Keisling calls Jenner brave, bathroom bills bullying



Mara Keisling

National Center for Transgender Equality executive director to speak at GEAR awards at Resource Center

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality, called the Bruce Jenner interview helpful, equated the bathroom bills in the Texas Legislature to bullying and is glad we'll soon be moving beyond the marriage issue.

Keisling speaks at GEAR's annual awards ceremony on Saturday, May 2, at Resource Center.

Last week, ABC aired an interview with Jenner, the former Olympic champion who announced he is transitioning. Keisling called the interview a brave and honest presentation and said she believes it saved lives. She also liked the way the network and its local affiliates used the interview as a vehicle for hundreds of trans people across the country to tell their stories.

And no matter what anyone thinks of the Kardashians, they have a huge following.

"They've leveraged that to educate what family acceptance looks like," Keisling said. "Hey, I should be supportive of my trans relative."

She added that 17 million people saw the interview, among them a number of trans youth.

"Some trans kid somewhere saw it and said, 'There's a chance for me,'" Keisling said. "I know it saved lives."

She thought some of the confusion over Jenner's sexual orientation was differentiating between past and future identities, while rarely speaking about a current identity.

Keisling also took the time to comment on other current issues and how they affect the trans community.

While she said she hasn't done much work on marriage equality, she called this week's Supreme Court hearing exciting and suggested the prospects of winning equality very good. She said most trans people are concerned with other issues, but marriage equality concerns the community.

"Everyone trans is in a same-sex relationship or people think of us as being in same-sex relationships," she said.

Taking gender out of another law would be a positive step, she said.

The legislation that is very concerning to all trans people are the bathroom bills circulating in many-

GEAR Awards honor trans activists, allies

Resource Center's GEAR Awards, which take place Saturday, May 2, will honor three Dallas-area transgender leaders and an ally for their efforts at improving the lives of the trans community.

National Center for Transgender Equality's Mara Keisling will keynote.

The four recipients are: Trans Pride Initiative's Nell Gaither, who will receive the Katherine Walton Award in recognition of her leadership and service to the transgender community; Blair High, who is the inaugural recipient of the newly named Blair High Lifetime Service Award; Rebekka Ouer will receive the Ally Award in recognition for her counseling services; and Terry Allen will receive the Trailblazer Award for creating and sustaining a GEAR men's group.

Scholarship opportunities will also be announced, including scholarships to assist with hormone replacement therapy, counseling, name and gender marker changes and electrology. A new scholarship to assist those early in their transition will be announced as well. That scholarship will provide small purchases like wigs.

Award ceremony organizer Paula Ellis praised each recipient, calling them trailblazers and tireless advocates for trans awareness and community service.

Ellis, a software engineer began transitioning in 2013 while living in Austin. After moving to Dallas she began regularly attending GEAR events. While she may be new to Dallas and GEAR events, she has already taken on a leadership role. GEAR organizers thought her willingness to serve would make her a good leader. After longtime coordinator High stepped aside to devote time to her business, Ellis was asked to help GEAR.

"I talk a lot and am kind of bossy, so they thought I should lead," she said.

It's that type of fearless leadership that could perhaps earn Ellis an award of her own some day.

GEAR's Annual Awards take place 7-9:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 2 at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.

— James Russell

tate legislatures including Texas. Keisling said there's a misconception about those bills.

"It's not that I would have to use the wrong bathroom," she said. "I can't use the wrong bathroom. It wouldn't be safe and would cause a commotion."

She said by legislating that trans people can't use a public bathroom, they can't go to school, can't have a job or even go shopping, which she called bullying. The legislation is designed to turn a trans person into a freak, Keisling said, and is unconstitutional.

■ KEISLING, Next Page

After the Jenner interview

Trans activists weigh in on celebrity athlete's coming out

DAVID WEBB | Contributing Writer
nash@dallasvoice.com

Reality television star and Olympic icon Bruce Jenner seemed a little out of touch with reality when he told America he identified as female during a recent ABC network interview, according to a few transgender activists who watched the show or followed media reports about it.

Stephanie Mott, founder of Transgender Faith Tour and president of Topeka – Capital City Now, said she thought more emphasis should be placed on Jenner's "place of privilege" in society and how that contrasts with the dilemmas faced by ordinary transgender people.

"Black trans women are being murdered with horrifying frequency," Mott said. "People were saying how Jenner's interview was the bravest thing they have ever seen, and I just thought that most transgender people live daily lives of courage that Jenner could never understand."

Mott said she missed the interview because of other obligations, but her colleagues told her the highly-promoted interview went better than many had feared it would. Media reports about transgender issues often create confusion, she said.

"The visibility is good," Mott said. "The circus is bad. The media gets it all wrong because they don't know how to talk about transgender. It is all very frustrating to me."

Peculiarly, Jenner, who is now in his mid 60s, told interviewer Diane Sawyer he wanted to continue to be known as "Bruce" and not to be identified by female pronouns for now. He brushed aside questions about how transitioning to a woman would affect his sexual orientation, calling it a discussion of "apples and oranges," although he noted that he still desired women sexually.

Jenner said he first realized he was female instead of male when he was eight years old, even though he pursued a macho athletic career path through school and beyond. He said over the years he had on occasion dressed as a woman and went out into society unrecognized.

Tabloid publications have hounded Jenner in recent years, noting how his appearance became more feminine as he underwent plastic surgeries, grew his painted fingernails long and was captured wearing a dress by a photographer using a

telephoto lens.

Dallas' Pam Curry, a longtime LGBT activist, said she watched a recording of the interview after it aired live, and she noted how atypical Jenner's experience coming out as transgender appeared to be, compared to ordinary transgender people. He received support from his ex-wives, his biological children, his stepchildren and his Hollywood superstar friends.

"Her coming out went completely and totally opposite of mine," Curry said of Jenner. "It took nearly eight years for my son and 12 years for one of my four sisters to accept me."

Still, Curry said she could relate to much of what Jenner said. "As a later transitioner myself, at 36, I most definitely related to much of what she went through," Curry said. "Years of pain and suffering keeping a secret and not wanting to harm family — I see her actually where I was about 16 years ago, except she has money."

Curry said one of Jenner's comments particularly confused her. The reality star, who has been married three times and fathered several children, said he took hormones for five years, stopped the treatment and had more kids with a new wife.

"He must have been taking plant estrogen," Curry said. "I remember after only three months my secretions turning clear. After approximately six months you are permanently sterile."

On a more positive note, former Dallas Transgender Alliance President Tylana Marie Coop, who now lives in Illinois, expressed hope Jenner would help improve the fate of all transgender people.

"I thought it was pretty good," Coop said of the interview. "I like the fact that there were educational parts and other trans people with different backgrounds in the mix. He is in a unique position with his fame to make a big difference through the sharing of his journey."

It remains to be seen where Jenner's journey takes him, but many people expect to see the transition happen on a television reality show. Jenner, who experienced financial problems in the past, rebounded with the success of the Kardashian family reality show.

After the interview aired, Jenner said he was considering legal action against the photographer who took the photos of him in a dress and published them in the New York Daily News and CNN. Jenner said the photographer invaded his privacy by taking the photos of him at his Malibu home from a mile away. ■

■ KEISLING, From Previous Page

"If you don't let trans employees use the correct bathroom, that's a Title 7 sex discrimination violation," she explained.

Some of these bathroom bills could have some serious, unintended consequences, Keisling added. At least one gay-straight alliance she knows is planning to fund its activities by self-reporting bathroom violations. If McDonald's is liable for a \$2,000 fine every time a trans person uses the "wrong" bathroom, another member of the group will report the violation and collect the money. She said a group could rack up quite a bit of cash, if businesses don't step up and kill these bills before they

are enacted.

Looking beyond this bad legislation, Keisling is optimistic about the future.

She said they are about to introduce legislation to replace the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. The replacement would base protections for sexual orientation, gender identity and expression in employment, housing, credit, public accommodations and several other categories.

She said military service by trans people is coming as well. The military is at a point of saying they're studying it. The days of "gays will never serve," "blacks will never serve," "women will never serve" are over. The military has learned its lesson on that, she said. ■

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From the perspective of privilege

The civil rights battle became real when privilege disappeared

I was assigned a male gender at birth during a time in our nation's history when it was all but impossible for me to articulate my feelings of not being in the right body, let alone realize my dream of living life as the little girl I knew lived inside of me, genitalia notwithstanding.

So I did the best I could with the hand I was dealt. I never believed it would ever be possible to live the life I dreamed of, so I lived the life I had. It was like knowing there was this parallel universe that nobody else could see, and in that universe, I was a girl. And I had no way to get there, though I desperately wanted to.

I grew up in the 1960s, watching the fight for civil rights from afar.

The Watts Riots in 1965 happened not far from where I lived in terms of miles, but it was a world away in terms of the privilege of my white middle class life. I didn't understand at the time why there was a riot — I was only 7 — I just knew it was on my mom's birthday.

Shortly before the Woodstock Music and Arts festival happened in 1969, there was a riot at the Stonewall Inn in New York City, igniting the fight for gay rights. I only read about it years later.

In the early 1970s I watched as the Equal Rights Amendment was passed, first by the House of Representatives and then by the U.S. Senate. Women I loved and respected were passionate about the E.R.A., and I was mystified that it was never ratified. I still am mystified by that.

More recently, in February 2004, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom directed the city-county clerk to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. About 4,000 were issued before the California Supreme Court put the kibosh on it. Eventually, California voters passed Proposition 8 — Prop H8 — in 2008, which eliminated the rights of same-sex couples to marry. (It was later overturned by the courts and marriages resumed.)

Those are some of the major civil rights battles I remember.

But up until 2012, I was living as an upper middle class white guy, married with two kids. It was a life of privilege, in so many ways.

I would love to be able to say I have always been a warrior for civil rights. But I wasn't. While I did nothing to prevent anyone having equal rights, I did precious little to help the cause. After all, I wasn't African-American, female or gay. There was nothing preventing me from being with or marrying the person I loved; I was already married. And no one ever threatened my safety for public displays of affection.

My head was planted firmly in the sand. Boy, was I in for a rude awakening.

People often ask me about transitioning, and I always tell them it's the hardest thing I've ever done. But it is also the most rewarding.

It's hard in a million different ways, like being



over 50 and being dropped into a culture in which you weren't raised or socialized. Also, our society has no time or patience for those who are transitioning, and being stuck between genders during transition is monumentally difficult.

I had always embraced the privilege I was raised with. But when I transitioned in July 2012, I gave all that up. And it was overwhelming.

I never went to bat for civil rights like I should have because I had my own life to worry about. Besides, I wasn't really personally affected by this inequality. As a matter of fact, if I'm completely honest, I benefitted from it. I was at the top of the heap: a white, upper middle class male. Right? That's the life I'd concocted.



Leslie McMurray

Accidental Activist

Yeah, about that.

As I type this, I'm single, very female, very lesbian and very much in love with my girlfriend. We have even discussed getting married. So those things that were abstract for so long are suddenly critically important to me.

Is that karma? Or is it just another one of the

magical things about being transgender — that you can figuratively go to sleep a white, married, heterosexual male and wake up a lesbian?

Today, I can't get married to the person I love in my home state of Texas. I am now concerned that showing affection in public will put me in harm's way. And I'm not used to that; it runs against everything I feel in my heart.

Frankly, it sucks! Hell, there are people in Austin who want to put me in jail for using a public restroom! Hello? Shoe, meet "Other Foot."

How's that for a parallel universe?

So here I am, anxiously awaiting the ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court on marriage equality. It matters to me now. It affects me and yeah, it's just the right thing to do. I sincerely hope marriage equality becomes the law of the land.

So as a woman and a lesbian and a member of the trans community I owe a huge debt of thanks to those who did fight the good fight, those who sacrificed so much to make things easier and advance the protections that we are now beginning to see.

My eyes have been opened. I came late to the activist party, but I'm here now. Just ask Matt Rinaldi and other elected officials who are probably tired of hearing from me.

Leslie McMurray, a transgender woman, is a former radio DJ who lives and works in Dallas. Read more of her blogs at lesliemichelle44.wordpress.com.

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Hunks of summer

The big guns — and we mean the hottest ticket of the summer, 'The Avengers' — kick off an early movie season, with plenty of action, humor and sex appeal to take you through Labor Day

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Life+Style Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

Astronomers, farmers, the world's major religions and even your smartphone calendar all agree: Summer doesn't start until June 21. Don't believe any of them.

Know when summer actually starts in 2015? May 1 ... just ask Hollywood. Cuz that's when the season's tallest tentpole, the sequel to the No. 2 highest grossing movie of all-time — *Avengers: Age of Ultron* — storms into theaters. Forget equinoxes and solstices and planetary alignments; the guardians of the galaxy have spoken.

Or at least, Tinseltown hopes they will. The summer film season in 2014 was something of a disaster, with most of the hoped-for hits (*The Amazing Spider-Man 2*, *Godzilla*, *Edge of Tomorrow*) all under-performing expectations. In fact, 2014 became the first year since 1999 that the year's No. 1 film to date was released in August: *Guardians of the Galaxy* (the last time that happened was *The Sixth Sense*).

There are more sequels of course, more action films ... but also some less testosterone-fueled entries, many with gay appeal, including the musical comedy *Pitch Perfect 2*, *Mr. Holmes* (which played at the USA Film Festival last week), the documentaries *Do I Sound Gay?* and *Best of Enemies*, plus the biopic *Saint Laurent*. And there's *Magic Mike XXL* and plenty of shirtless hunks in other releases to entertain us. Hey, we're gay — not dead.

Here's our run-down of major films and their planned release dates, all of which are subject to being yanked, moved or rolled out on a different schedule locally. ■

YOU CAN LEAVE YOUR HAT ON Channing Tatum returns in the male stripper extravaganza 'Magic Mike XXL,' due out July 1.



SAINTS AND WINNERS | The girls return to a capella into your heart again in 'Pitch Perfect 2,' above; below, the second biopic of designer YSL in a year, 'Saint Laurent,' opening May 22.

MAY 1

Avengers: Age of Ultron. Reviewed on Page 20.

Also: *Man from Reno; Adult Beginners.*

MAY 8

Hot Pursuit. A buddy comedy with some estrogen replacing the testosterone — Reese Witherspoon and Sofia Vergara co-star.

Far from the Madding Crowd. An adaptation of Thomas Hardy's classic novel.

5 Flights Up. Out actress Cynthia Nixon (*Sex and the City*) co-stars with Oscar winners Morgan Freeman and Diane Keaton in this drama.

The D Train. Jack Black and James Marsden appear in this movie about a class reunion.

Also: *Black Souls; Welcome to Me; Maggie.*

MAY 15

Mad Max: Fury Road. George Miller revisits his most iconic character, set in a dark post-apocalypse, with Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron and Nicholas Hoult.

Pitch Perfect 2. Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson and friends reunite for the sequel to the surprise,

gleeful hit about collegiate a capella groups.

Iris. Another recent film festival hit, a doc about the fashionista Iris Apfel.

Also: *Good Kill.*

MAY 22 (Memorial Day Weekend)

Poltergeist. The remake of the modern classic, once again produced by Spielberg.

Tomorrowland. Brad Bird (*The Incredibles, Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol*) directs the latest Disney adaptation of a theme park ride into a feature film, with George Clooney.

Saint Laurent. Gaspard Ulliel stars in the second of the biopics about famed gay fashion designer Yves St. Laurent.

Also: *Love at First Sight* (from Strand Releasing).

MAY 29

San Andreas. A massive earthquake hits California; appropriately, The Rock stars.

Aloha. The new film from Cameron Crowe.

■ HUNKS Page 18



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L+S screen



MEN AND ANIMALS | Chris Pratt, above, continues to soar as the lead in the dinosaur actioner 'Jurassic World,' out June 12; then comes Paul Rudd as mini-hero 'Ant-Man,' opposite, July 17.

■ **HUNKS**, From Page 17

JUNE 5

Entourage. The long-awaited film adaptation of the cult HBO series about life in Hollywood, once again including out actor Rex Lee.

Insidious Chapter 3. Threequel to the scare series.

Spy. The latest antics from Melissa McCarthy.

Love and Mercy. Biopic of Beach Boy Brian Wilson.

JUNE 12

Jurassic World. Chris Pratt, last year's No. 1 box office star (*The LEGO Movie*, *Guardians of the Galaxy*) leads the new cast in this dinosaur cloning series.

Me and Earl and the Dying Girl. This coming of age story looks to be the sleeper hit of the season.

JUNE 19

Inside Out. Animated feature from Disney, including voice work from Paula Poundstone and others.

Dope. A coming of age story set in the post-hip-hop streets of Southern California.

JUNE 26

Ted 2. Sequel to Seth McFarlane's hit comedy about a living, foul-mouthed teddy bear.

Max. A family-friendly heartwarmer about a dog.

The Outskirts. Unpopular kids get revenge on their school's queen bee in this comedy.

JULY 1 (Independence Day Weekend)

Magic Mike XXL. Channing Tatum, Matt Bomer and Joe Manganiello take it all off (again) in this sequel to the male stripper hit.

Terminator Genisys. The latest entry in the sci-fi saga.

JULY 10

Minions. The world-less helpers of *Despicable Me* get a prequel, with Sandra Bullock voicing the villain.

Self/Less. Tarsem Singh (*Immortals*) directs this sci-fi action film.

The Gallows. A horror film about a tragedy at a high school play.

Also: *Nowitzki* (about the Dallas Mavericks superstar); *Do I Sound Gay?* (documentary that debuted at DIFF).

JULY 17

Ant-Man. Paul Rudd stars in this latest entry from Marvel.

Trainwreck. Judd Apatow's new comedy, starring Amy Schumer and Bill Hader.

Mr. Holmes. Ian McKellen may be headed for an Oscar with an astonishing performance as Sherlock, reliving his last case, in the new film from Oscar-winning gay writer-director Bill Condon (*Dreamgirls*, *Gods and Monsters*).

JULY 24

Southpaw. Remember those photos of Jake Gyllenhaal as a ripped boxer? Those were from this film.



AUG. 21

Criminal. Ryan Reynolds stars in this spy thriller with Kevin Costner and Tommy Lee Jones.

Me Before You. *Game of Thrones'* Emilia Clarke stars as a woman who falls in love with a paralyzed man.

Sinister 2. Sequel to the scarefest.

AUG. 28 (Labor Day Weekend)

Don't expect much from this de facto dumping ground slot. **Hitman: Agent 47** (with Zachary Quinto); **Regression.**

Israel Luna launches short film contest

Israel Luna, the Dallas-based filmmaker responsible for cult hits like *Ticked-Off Trannies with Knives* and *The Ouija Experiment*, launches a new short film competition to give up-and-coming filmmakers a shot to make movies. Called Rack Focus, it's launching May 2, and unlike other short film "races," gives contestants not 24 hours but three months to create a work. The pay off? Audience screenings, peer comments and prize money. Luna hopes to do the series three times a year in four-month segments to create an ever-changing landscape of filmmaking in North Texas.

— A.W.J.

To learn more, visit RackFocusDallas.com or find them on Facebook.



Paper Towns. A young man and his friends look for a neighbor who went missing.

Pixels. Chris Columbus (the first two Harry Potter movies) directs Adam Sandler in this comedy about video games attacking earth.

JULY 31

Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation. The first in the Tom Cruise action-espionage series.

Vacation. A new Griswold family comedy, this time with Chris Hemsworth.

The Gift. Jason Bateman goes against type, starring in this domestic thriller, the directorial debut of Joel Edgerton.

Best of Enemies. A documentary about the rivalry between out activist and novelist Gore Vidal and conservative commentator William F. Buckley Jr.

AUG. 7

Fantastic Four. Reboot of the Marvel franchise.

Masterminds. Dallas' Owen Wilson co-stars with Kristen Wiig and Zach Galifianakis in this comedy.

Ricki and the Flash. Meryl Streep sings again (after *Into the Woods* and *Postcards from the Edge*) with this musical drama.

AUG. 14

The Man from U.N.C.L.E. The '60s-era TV spy spoof gets the big-screen treatment. And we all know how well *The Saint* worked out...

Straight Outta Compton. Biopic of the hip-hop pioneers NWA.

Underdogs. Animated film about foosball players who are alive.



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Why we fight

'Age of Ultron' is an unexpectedly smart wild ride

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

The two things that have best served Joss Whedon, the writer-director of *The Avengers* and now it's sequel, *Age of Ultron*, in his mission to bring the Marvel Comic Universe into the Marvel Cinematic Universe probably are, first, that he is as much a nerd as the fanboys who are his target audience; and second, he's got a liberal arts background that he applies to counteract all the visual chaos. It would be exceedingly tiresome to sit through 140 minutes of Dolby Digital bonecrunching if there weren't at least a few lines of dialogue to keep the brain active.

Whedon has the bona fides to get smart on his audiences. After the runaway success of the mega-budgeted 3D extravaganza of *The Avengers*, his follow-up film was a black-and-white micro-budgeted adaptation of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*. It was a terrible movie (it just didn't have the right tone and casting was bad), but it proved Whedon has a literary bent, which also informs the *Ultron* screenplay when. So, if you find yourself scratching your head when Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) jokes about "restoring the doctrine of prima nocta" or doffing off lines like, "today has been Eugene O'Neill-long," don't take it personally — it's just Whedon's way of showing the critics that he *knows* this may be comic book, but one made by a well-read guy.

But it is *still* a comic book. The VFX are often dizzying themselves, so in the quieter, more expositional scenes, Whedon employs the hard angles and dramatic compositions of a graphic novel. It gives the character more of a sense for an interior life, especially when he's juggling upwards of a dozen established characters, including the introduction of three new ones: Super-villain artificial intelligence Ultron (James Spader) and his minions, supernatural twins The Scarlet Witch (Elizabeth Olsen) and Quicksilver (Aaron Taylor-Johnson). In many ways, the movie belongs to them, especially Spader and Olsen.

Spader's oily voice has well-served him over his career, but ever since the TV show *The Blacklist*, he's shown he's at the top of his game portraying elegant but ruthless criminals. His Ultron, an android created via motion-capture

technology, has a spidery way of sashaying that seems both effete and menacing. And Olsen's otherworldly face conveys a much creepier sense than you typically get from mystical mutants; when she waves her fingers and glares wide-eyed at the victims of her spells, it's less Jedi mind trick than *Macbeth's* weird sisters.

Ah, Shakespeare again. *Ultron* is an introspective actioner, moody when it's not ballistically destroying urban centers. There's a maturity to it, even though the climactic sequence feels strained and overlong. Eh, who cares? It delivers on most fronts, covering the waterfront from nerd to geek. That's a range, right? ■



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE | James Spader's motion-capture performance as the dangerous android Ultron is one of the smartly unnerving aspects of the summer tent-pole film.



Extra! Extra!

Disney tries to form a more perfect union in dancetastic 'Newsies'

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

If you're reading this review and not getting newsprint on your fingers, then you might not fully grasp what a show like *Newsies*, now at the Winspear Opera House, means to old-school journalists. I'm a newspaperman, but in the 21st century, when newsboys — the kids who hawk print copies of the daily rag on sidewalks for a dime a piece — are outmoded and quaint. But that doesn't diminish the fist-in-the-air passion of this enrapturing musical, any more than a post-DeGaulle France makes the struggles in *Les Miserables* irrelevant. In fact, think of it like *Les Miz* where everyone sounds like Cyndi Lauper and the pen truly is mightier than the sword.

It's 1899, and Joseph Pulitzer isn't the patron saint of journalism yet, but a craven power-broker who uses his pulpit to shape public opinion and achieve his social ends. Circulation of his New York World newspaper has dropped, so to increase profits he raises the charge he levies against the newsies, mostly street kids who scramble to sell the headlines in a city where two dozen daily papers vie for the eyes of readers. (For those not holding a copy of Dallas Voice in your hands: It's like Gawker vs. Perez Hilton, but without Twitter.)

Radicalize young Jack Kelly (and endlessly moving Dan DeLuca) unionizes his fellow salesmen with the hopes of bringing Pulitzer around, but how do you defeat the man who controls what the people know? Will their story ever make it above the fold (another newspaper

term — ask an adult to explain it to you). Hey, this is a musical — they'll find a way. And it will definitely include dancin'.

Let it be known: There are more beefy calves in the cast of *Newsies* than at a veal farm, and that's just one small reason why you have to see this show. Written by Harvey Fierstein, it's really what we all hoped *Kinky Boots* would be before it arrived earlier this year as a firecracker instead of the dynamite that this show is. It's old-fashioned Broadway-style excitement, with an energetic cast whose dancing skills are only surpassed by their smiles. Oh, and those calves.

When's the last time you saw a show populated by a line of chorus boys all tapping away like telegraphs sending out distress calls? When's the last time you saw an audience cheer this much at that tapping? And it's like that for more than two hours.

If that were all there were to it, you might not be transfixed, but there's also Alan Menken's plum of a score, director Jeff Calhoun's fluid stagecraft (three scaffoldings convey the dehumanizing effect of industrialization while managing to be exceedingly useful) and a slate of young actors who leave every bit of sweat they can spare on that stage.

Especially this week, after seeing the cops-against-citizenry clashes in Baltimore, it's difficult to look at standoffs, even theatrical ones like here, and not have them resonate. And that's as much the point as anything: *Newsies* may seem to be about people trying to save jobs long since abandoned by history, but the struggles are as current as today's headlines. ■

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Oooh! Snapper!

Kenichi ups its game with sushi menu from former Uchi chef Sho Mochido

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor

jones@dallasvoice.com

Last week, Kenichi — the workhorse of the Victory Park dining scene, the only original eatery to withstand the vagaries of that difficult-to-program development — revealed its full new sushi menu. In most contexts, the addition of a new roll here, a unique sashimi there, would be of no greater moment beyond a mention in Tasting Notes. What makes this release notable, however, is who is designing it: Sho Mochido. A gifted authentic Japanese chef with experience as head sushi chef both at

Austin's acclaimed Uchi (which opens a Dallas branch any moment now) and Las Vegas' Kumi at Mandalay Bay, "Chef Sho" is a thoughtful and gifted manipulator of the sushi arts, a technician who understands the delicate nature of fish as few people can comprehend.

This is the thing about sushi: Anyone who dismissively calls it just raw fish misses the point — it is quite anything but. Sure, it's often not cooked under a flame or on a griddle. That does not mean that the fish itself is doing all the work, with the chef merely plopping it in front of you on a dish with a side of rice. As anyone who has seen the documentary *Jiro Dreams of Sushi* can attest, the craft of sushi preparation is more akin to an art than a craft, from the selection of perfect flesh to the subtleties of its cut to the compositional aspects of a dish, both visually and as a taste-sensory experience. Great sushi is so much better than good sushi it's a shame to refer to them in the same paragraph.

While I was an early fan of Kenichi, I have not been back in a number of years; the Dallas food scene has been so vibrant (and not always



ROLL OF THE DICE | Cubes of crispy rice provide the platform for elegant slices of seared tuna doused in Sho's signature 'hot mess' sauce (grr!), above; and his snapper carpaccio, opposite, provides an excellent introduction to the deftness on Kenichi's new sushi menu. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

around Victory Park) that there were, so to speak, other fish to fry. That includes Dallas' near-countless sushi options.

The master of what Americans perceive as the mark of excellence in that field, of course, is Nobu Matsuhisa, whose Nobu, in the 1980s, first introduced the entire concept to American

palates. Nobu's skill was in giving traditional Japanese cuisine a modern and decidedly Western update. He didn't cleave needlessly to old-school traditions where new-school could produce exquisite results.

The same is true of Sho. He understands the balance of flavors and style to create some-

OVERALL RATING



Kenichi, 2400 Victory Park Lane. Open daily for dinner only. KenichiDallas.com.

A revitalized sushi menu raises the bar on this workhorse of the Victory Park dining scene.

Food: ☆☆☆☆☆

Atmosphere: ☆☆☆☆☆

Service: ☆☆☆☆☆

Price: Moderate to expensive

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thing refreshing. Among the items on his new menu, which joins some of the long-standing items from the grill side of the kitchen, are several standouts, though the one he calls “crispy rice sushi” (\$18) delighted me the most: perfect little dice of rice, browned ever so slightly into firm cubes, provide a platform for slender slices of fish topped with the snappily-named “hot mess” sauce. I was enchanted by its depth and ingenuity from such sparse ingredients ... which is, naturally, the great strength of most Japanese cuisine. (I asked Sho if he could share with me his technique for making that rice so goddamn good. He smiled, shook his head, and said in slightly broken English, “No. Secret.” Touché.)

Of course, anyone can stumble upon one workable recipe. But his work at Kenichi holds up on multiple dishes (sushi and grilled). Sho offers a selection of items, from the madai “carpaccio” (Sho’s twist on the Italian raw meat dish; thin crescents of snapper seasoned deftly with salt, pepper, yuzu and the much-discussed dashi broth, dabbled with EVOO and a sprinkle of microgreens — \$22) to his exquisite buffet of a chef’s tasting (at \$200, a sort of orgasmic omakase of raw bar delights, from Spanish red snapper to a fully baked fish skeleton which



you are encouraged to consume fully — up to and including all the bones and the head, where all the meat is — as a kind of fishy “chip”) to an entire “hot mess” roll of snow crab and avocado (\$19). All of them pair terrifically with the craft cocktails, high-end sakes (including the restaurant’s own proprietary brew) and traditional desserts (a selection of mochi ice creams, warm lava cake). Yes, Dallas is a beef town, but Chef Sho might convince you otherwise. Fish — it’s what’s for dinner. ■

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**Friday 05.01 —
Saturday 05.02**

Malandain Ballet Biarritz leaps from France to Dallas

Bad weather kept the cargo vessel containing sets for Malandain Ballet Biarritz's production of *Cinderella* from reaching the U.S. in time for the May 1-2 performances scheduled for Dallas. But choreographer Thierry Malandain will make sure the show goes on, with performances of Ravel's *Bolero*, Vivaldi's *Estro* and Dumestre's *Une dernière Chanson*.

DEETS: City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. May 1-2 at 8 p.m. ATTPAC.org.

**Friday 05.08 —
Sunday 05.10**

Margaret Cho returns to North Texas for five shows at The Addison Improv

Now that Joan Rivers is gone, the crown of The Gays' Favorite Comedian has become a two-chick race between Margaret Cho and Kathy Griffin. If you need convincing of one's prowess, you'll have five chances over three nights when Cho performs at The Addison Improv. Wanna know more? We'll have a full interview with Cho next week in Dallas Voice!

DEETS: Addison Improv, 4980 Belt Line Road, Ste. 250. Addison. May 8, 8 and 10:30 p.m., May 9, 7 and 9:30 p.m., May 10, 7:30 p.m. \$30-\$40. Addison.Improv.com.



Friday 05.01

DTC winds up current season with classic Austen adaptation

For the first time in several seasons, the Dallas Theater Center didn't plan a summertime family musical this year, so the run of the adaptation of Jane Austen's comedy of manners *Sense & Sensibility*, which officially opens May 1, is the end of the 2014-15 season. And while there might not be lots of singing and dancing, it's still a family-friendly kind of show, full of romance, dignity, subtle doses of feminism and lush costumes.

DEETS: Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Opening night May 1. Through May 25. DallasTheaterCenter.org.



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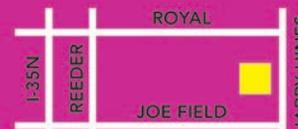


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ARTSWEEK

THEATER

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

Sense & Sensibility. Stage adaptation of Jane Austen's romantic comedy of manners. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through May 24. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

All My Sons. Arthur Miller's meditation on profiteering during WWII. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through May 10. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Avenue Q. The subversive, very gay musical with puppets. Presented by Art Centre Theatre, 5220 Village Creek Drive, Plano. Through May 16. ArtCentreTheatre.com.

Jackie & Me. Rene Moreno directs this play about a time-traveling kid who meets Jackie Robinson. Presented by Dallas Children's Theater. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. May 1-17. \$13-\$26. DCT.org.

The Secret Affairs of Mildred Wild. A comedy about a movie fan losing touch with reality. Greenville Center for the Arts, 5601 Sears St. Through May 10. ContemporaryTheatreOfDallas.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.

Newsies. Musical adaptation of the live-action Disney film about newsboys in turn-of-the-century New York. *Reviewed this week.* Winspear Opera House, 2403

Flora St. Through May 10. ATPAC.org.

I and You. Circle Theatre. 230 W. Fourth St., Fort Worth. Through May 23. CircleTheatre.com.

Urinetown. The hilarious Tony Award winner about a bleak future where water is more valuable than gold. Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St., Arlington. May 1-24. TheatreArlington.org.

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

OPERA

Fort Worth Opera Festival. Performances at Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., and Scott Theatre, 1300 Gendy St., Fort Worth. Through May 10. For complete schedule and information, visit FWOpera.org.

DANCE

Ballet Biarritz. The French ballet company performs three works. City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. May 1-2. 8 p.m. ATPAC.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. *Final weekend.* McDavid Studio, 301 E. Fifth St., Fort Worth. \$30-\$40. BassHall.com.

FINE ART

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



GENDER BENDER | Trans Sri Lankan D'Lo appears as part of the Asian (mostly female) comedy tour, Dis?oriented/ed on Thursday.

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.

FESTIVAL

Scarborough Renaissance Festival. The annual trip to Medieval Europe, including dancers, musicians, food, crafts and cosplayers. Faire Grounds, FM 66,

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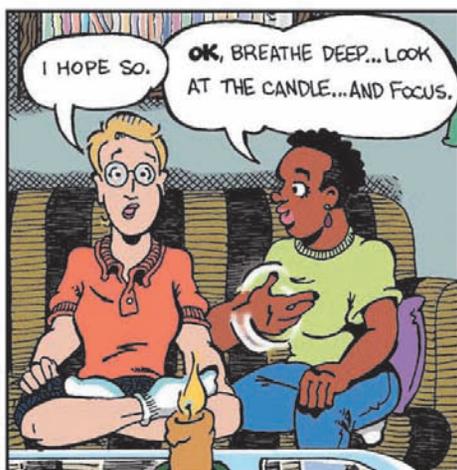
Memories of moms for Mother's Day!

Hello to all my friends, fans and frenemies. As you all know, Mother's Day is on May 10, and it makes me think of and appreciate my mother. That poor lady — could you imagine having to be *my* mom? The amount of emotional distress and bullshit I have put her through over the years should qualify her for sainthood ... or at least a disability pension. She should have known the cantankerous fetus inside her was going to be a handful when she went into labor with me during a triple feature of *Rosemary's Baby*, *The Dunwich Horror* and *Night of the Living Dead*. By the way, she wouldn't let my dad take her to the hospital until *after* all three movies were over. That should give you an idea of the strong-willed, crazy and stubborn person my mother can be.

My mom and dad divorced when I was 5, and she worked her ass off to provide for me and my sister. I remember her having three jobs at one time and still taking care of us — a real superwoman. She did such a great job of providing for us that I had no idea how poor we really were 'til I went away to art school in Pittsburgh. I thought all mothers had to pawn all of their jewelry to pay tuition and afford moving costs. But that is what she did. I didn't last a whole year being so far away from home — I'm a mama's boy and proud.

Our relationship has had many ups and downs over the years but I am so thankful for the journey we have been on. I knew that the gay thing was going to be a lot for her to take. I get it; she wanted a masculine son that would provide her with a bunch of awful grandkids and she got... well, not that. If it were up to me, I would never have told her I was gay but my sister (a well-known nosy brat) read my journal and "accidentally" outed me. When mom found out I was gay, the first thing she said to me was, "Don't you ever dress up like no woman!" Whoops! Seed planted.

After that, for a long time, we never talked about the gay stuff. Poor thang — first I come out as gay and then a few years later I had to come out as a drag queen. I tried to hide that fact for a few years until one day we were at Dairy Queen enjoying our full meal deals when she noticed make up in my ear. Apparently I hadn't scrubbed all the war paint off from the night before. I was like, "Oh, shit! ... And oh, well!" She rolled her eyes but the secret was out.



When I was finally ready for her to see me in drag, I thought I would invite her to the Halloween block party, the night when there are literally hundreds of drag queens out and about and only about four of them look good. I wanted her to see I was one of the four. I wanted her to see I took it seriously and was quite good at it. When Mom and my fabulous aunt Zina showed up to my apartment, I opened the door wearing a strapless black lace dress with a poofy crinoline. And my hair! I was so proud of my hair. I had worked for three days on my wig. It was actually two DrPepper-red wigs sewn together with blonde streaks sewn in. Bitch, it was huge and looked incredible! My mom walked in, gave me the once over and said in her very heavy Texas accent, "Good Lord, ain't no real woman got hair that big." The look on her face was a mix of "what the fuck" and amazement. I told her, "Exactly — I don't want to be a woman; I'm a drag queen."

We started our night at the block party. It was crazy — drag queens in crazy costumes and nearly naked men everywhere. Every time my mom saw a hot looking guy, she would ask, "Is he gay?" I would say yes and she would shake her head: "Damn." She must have asked that question a hundred times. It was hilarious. We went to the Rose Room in the old Village Station and made an appearance, but we spent most of the night downstairs playing pool. My mom is a kick-ass pool player. My fans and random people were buying us drinks all night. We didn't pay for a single beverage. I think we even won some money when my mom pool-sharked a couple of homos. I have to give my mom props for going out with me all dressed up. I know it wasn't easy for her but we had a great time and I think it gave her a little insight into my world.

I think it helps that when she meets people that are Cassie Nova fans and they find out she is Cassie Nova's mother, they freak out and gush about how much they love me. I have to admit, I love hearing that. She travels all over Texas and will talk to the most random people that know who I am and are

fans. I think it makes her feel pride in something that at one time horrified her. Kudos to Ma, for being so loving, accepting and willing to grow. Our relationship now is great, she loves and accepts my husband Jamie and always makes him feel welcome. I couldn't ask for a better mama.

Speaking of moms, I also have a great mother-in-law. From the moment I met my other mother, she has welcomed me into her family with open arms. She has even been to the show a few times and always has a great time.

Now it's time for a question.

Dear Cassie, I have a drag question: Being in my early forties, I said I would stop doing drag show once I reached this age yet I feel nowhere close of stopping. What's a good age for a drag queen to retire or is it a certain age for that? Thanks, Fantasha.

Miss Fantasha, There is no age limit on entertaining. Looks may fade, things may sag but if you are a born entertainer and continue to grow and evolve, there is a place for you. If at some point you stop enjoying what you do and it starts to feel like work more than play, then call it quits. But as long as you are still killing it on stage with a smile in your heart, then keep doing what you do. I truly feel you will know when it is time to hang up your heels. And you, my friend, have way too much to offer. Besides, if it wasn't for us old-school broads, who would teach the gaybies how to be true divas! They need us! Thanks, Cassie.

I almost forgot, Happy Mother's Day to my drag mother, **Celeste Martinez**. She mentored me and pushed me to be better. In drag and in life and I am so grateful to her for all these years of friendship. If your mother is still around call her. If she is not, remember her. If your relationship is strained, forgive her. Life is short and you wouldn't be here to enjoy it if it wasn't for her. Happy Mother's Day to all you muthas!

Love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova, other man's bible.

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



Danny Phann with the RuPaul queens at The Brick.



Andrew and Nathan at The Round Up Saloon.



Raul and Juan at The Tin Room.



Friends' night out on The Strip.



Melissa and Adam at Zipperz.



Being fashionable on The Strip.



Kyle and Chris at Marty's LIVE.



Lee, Catherine and Tori at Sue Ellen's.

Making the **SCENE** the week of **May 1-7:**

Alexandre's: *Girl's Night Out with Peggy Honea* at 10 p.m. on Friday. *Kerry Lepai and the Shifters* at 10 p.m. on Saturday. *Chris Chism* at 9 p.m. on Wednesday. *So Strung Out* at 9 p.m. on Thursday.

Best Friends Club: *Miss Rainbow Ranch State and State-at-Large* with *Onyx Anderson, Sapphire Ray Brooks* and *Channing Cole* at 6 p.m. on Saturday.

BJ's NXSI: *Cinco de Mayo* party on *Trashy Tuesday*.

Brick/Joe's: *Miss DIVA 25th anniversary* at 8 p.m. on Sunday. \$5 at the door benefits *Resource Center Food Pantry*. *Chanel* emcees with special guest *Anita Protest* with *Lucianna Morgan, Mai Valentine* and *Tanica*. Monday night watch *Rupaul's Drag Race* with *Kennedy Davenport LIVE* and stay for *Karaoke Monday Night*. Best Happy Hour in Dallas seven nights a week.

Cedar Springs Tap House: *Churchill Downs* attire encouraged for *Kentucky Derby Day* on Saturday. *Best hat contest*. \$150 prize after the race.

Changes: *Wall of Food Show* at 8 p.m. on Thursday.

Club Reflection: *Cowtown Leathermen* cookout at 4 p.m. and *Trinity River Bears* show at 7 p.m. on Sunday.

Dallas Eagle: *Women in Leather* social night at 9 p.m. on Friday. *Dallas Bears* and *Leather Knights* club night on Saturday at 9 p.m. *Cinco de Mayo Dance* at 10 p.m. on Saturday with *DJ Blaine Soileau*. *Dallas Girls of Leather* monthly meeting at 5 p.m. on Sunday. *Video Music Night* with *VJ/DJ Trojan* on Thursday.

Round-Up Saloon: *Frank and Joe* are in the parlor at 9 p.m. every Monday for *Karaoke Out Loud*.

Sue Ellen's: *Mustache Envy* on Friday. *Filter Kings* on Saturday. *Kathy and Bella* at 3 p.m. and *Barefoot Hippies* at 6 p.m. on Sunday. *The Big D Talent Contest* at 7 p.m. on Thursday.

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



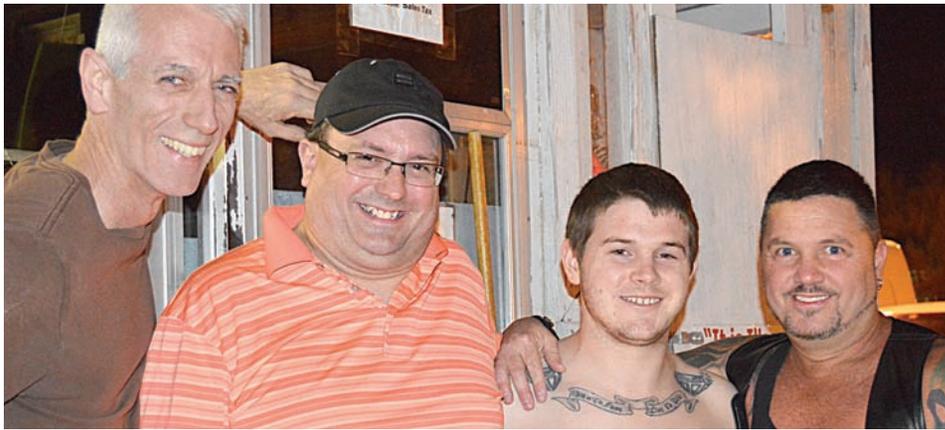
Melissa and Jess at The Hidden Door.



Kassia and Joy at Pekers.



Miss Gay Texas 2015 State Sapphire Ray Brooks, left, and Miss Gay Texas State at Large 2015 Onyx Anderson, right, congratulate Miss Fire and Ice State 2015 Alirah Cole, second from left, and first alternate Natasha Alexander.



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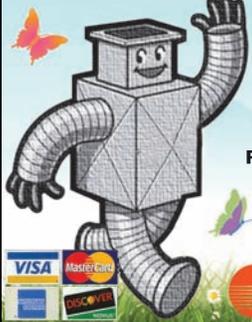
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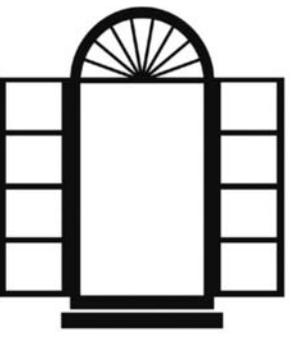
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Roar, May 8th @ Dallas Eagle
Rise, May 9th @ Sisu Uptown
Purple Party May 9th @
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Revival, May 10th @ Fair Park
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer of Application
To the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, You who solve all problems, who light all road so that I can attain my goal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life you are with me, I want, in this short prayer, to thank You for all things & to confirm once again that I never want to be separated from You, even & in spite of all material illusion. I wish to be with you in eternal Glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me & mine. The person must say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. After 8 days the favor requested will be granted even if it may appear difficult. This prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted without mentioning the favor and your initials should appear at the bottom. W.R.C.

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Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA) is a Twelve Step Fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is recovery from codependence and the development and maintenance of healthy relationships. CoDA meetings in the area meet:

- St. Thomas Episcopal Church
6525 Inwood Road
(Inwood at Mockingbird)
Dallas, Texas 75209
- LAMBDA GROUP
6:30 PM, Friday; 1 hour
OAK LAWN CoDA GROUP
7:30 PM, Wed; 1 1/2 hours
Meeting Type: Open, Sharing,
Steps, Welcoming to all,
Safe for GLBT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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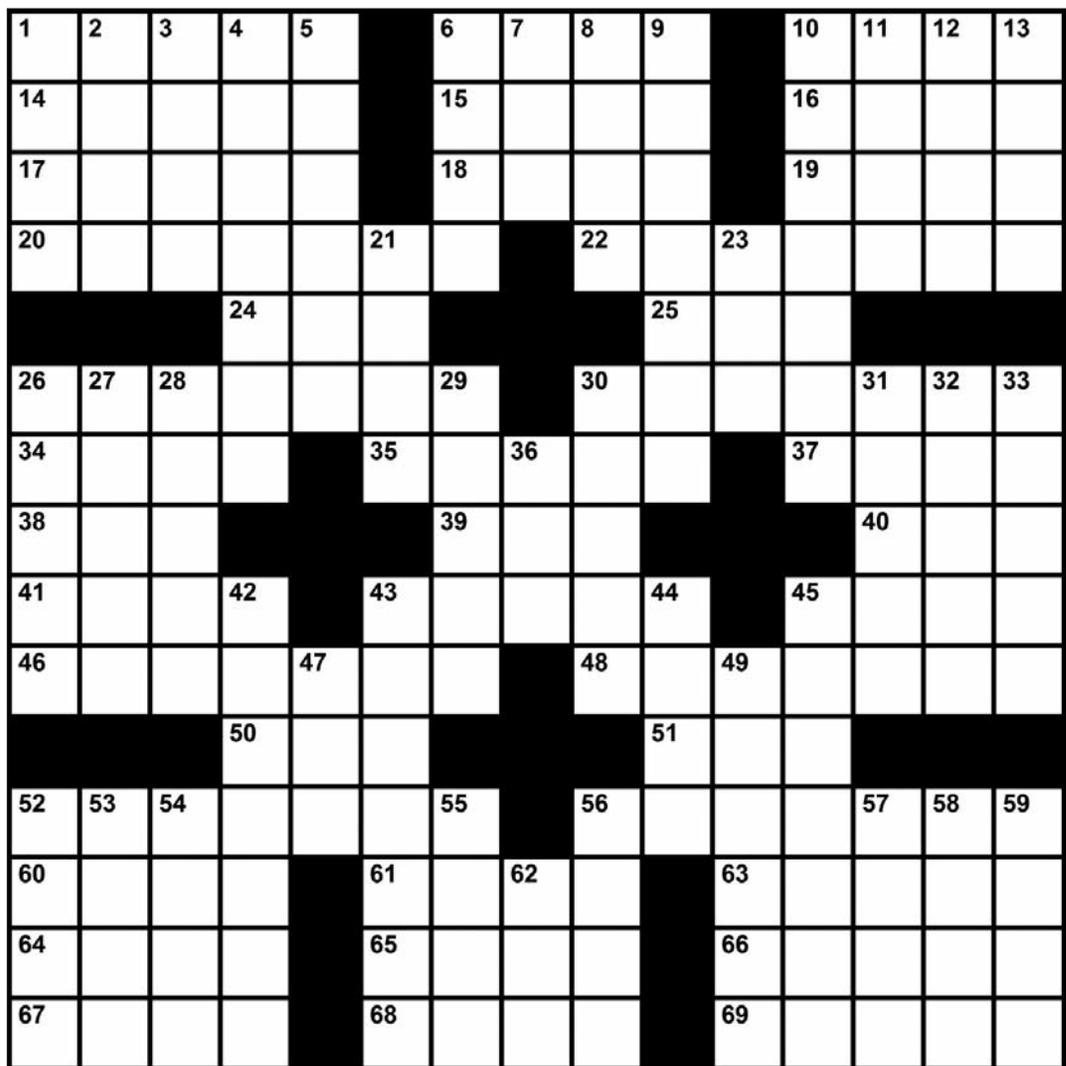
Join us for Catholic Mass
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dignitydallas@hotmail.com
972-729-9572 www.dignitydallas.net

Pegasus Squares,
an LGBT Square Dance Club,
meets every Sunday from
2:30pm-4:30pm at the Resource
Center. Beginner lessons start in
October. Contact Rob Miller at
682-238-3442 for more informa-
tion or visit pegasus-squares.com.

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q-puzzle



Gay Actors in Straight Roles

Solution on page 27

Across

- Sounds of stallions on streets
- Low man in the loft
- Guillermo of *Weeds*
- Like a room by Thom Filicia
- "It ___ Necessarily So"
- Prime the poker pot
- It arouses you in bed
- Unappetizing fare
- Creator of Sal Mineo's *Exodus* character
- Jim of *The Big Bang Theory*
- Jonathan of *Mean Girls*
- Pinch opening?
- Small fry
- Marble named for a pussy part
- Inning to stretch in
- State of gay Paree
- Look from Snidely
- Type of straits for straights in a gay bar?
- Divided terr.
- Drops on the grass
- Made a mark in *Hollywood Squares*
- Position at sea
- "Air Music" composer Ned
- The sound of Patti LaBelle?
- Bury again

- Thaw with Nureyev's land
- LP successors
- Edvard Grieg's land (abbr.)
- Sarah of *American Horror Story*
- Alan of *The Good Wife*
- Food on the floor
- Go lickety-split
- Soap star Susan
- Vows for many gays these days
- 1982 Disney flick
- Rupert Everett's *An ___ Husband*
- Nathan of *The Good Wife*
- Dundee denizen
- ___ T. Lardbottom of *Kudzu*

Down

- E.M. Forster's fellow
- Song with the line "girls will be boys and boys will be girls"
- Nicky, in *Funny Girl*
- Hang tough
- Raven of *The Cosby Show*
- Bases for Glenn Burke
- Feel badly
- Stuffed shirt
- Member of the apostles?
- Overcome
- Start of an Evan Wolfson memo

- Keep ___ (persevere)
- Quality of Feniger's cooking
- Thumbs-down votes
- Mo. to elect pro-gay pols
- Wood that doesn't need moth balls
- ___ of *Two Cities*
- George of *Star Trek*
- Moon in *Return of the Jedi*
- Clinched, with "up"
- Cynthia of *Sex and the City*
- Staffordshire river
- Hem and haw
- Always, to Byron
- Wall off
- P-town and Fire Island
- Cafeteria list
- Islands in the Atlantic
- Scores by David Kopay
- Lily of *Nashville*
- Beach toy
- Alan of *The Object of My Affection*
- Second word of fairy tales
- Drug cop
- Relief of Lincoln
- Tops cakes
- Mar. Madness source
- Quark founder Tim
- Loving murmur

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