

dallas voice

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Issue 3 | FREE | Friday, May 29, 2015

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HEADLINES METRO BALL

By ARNOLD WAYNE JONES, PAGE 20

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City of Dallas

**NOTICE OF RUNOFF ELECTION (IN BRIEF)
CITY OF DALLAS • JUNE 13, 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 runoff election is ordered to be held on Saturday, June 13, 2015, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing 4 members to the city council of the City of Dallas to be designated as: Member of Council, Place 3; Member of Council, Place 7; Member of Council, Place 8; and Member of Council, Place 10, respectively.

Noted below are the City Council Candidates in ballot order:

Place 3	Place 7	Place 8	Place 10
Casey Thomas, II	Tiffinni A. Young	Dianne Gibson	Paul Reyes
Joe Tave	Kevin Felder	Erik Wilson	Adam McGough

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 runoff election precincts on Election Day, June 13, 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/electionRunoff2015>.
 Dallas County: <http://www.dallascountyvotes.org/polling-locations/>

EARLY VOTING

Early voting by personal appearance for the June 13, 2015 City of Dallas runoff 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/electionRunoff2015.html>. Dates, times and locations that will be open for early voting are as follows, unless otherwise indicated:

DATES AND TIMES OF EARLY VOTING

June 01 – June 05 (Monday through Friday).....8am – 5pm **June 06 (Saturday).....8am – 5pm**
June 07 (Sunday).....1pm – 6pm **June 08 – June 09 (Monday and Tuesday)...7am – 7pm**

**EARLY
VOTING
LOCATIONS**

Location	Address	City	Zip
Balch Springs (New City Hall)	13503 Alexander Rd.	Balch Springs	75181
Bethany Lutheran Church	10101 Walnut Hill Ln.	Dallas	75238
Eastfield College - Pleasant Grove Campus	802 S. Buckner	Dallas	75217
Highland Hills Library	6200 Bonnie View Rd.	Dallas	75241
Irving City Hall	825 W. Irving Blvd.	Irving	75060
J. Erik Jonsson Central Library	1515 Young St.	Dallas	75201
Lochwood Library	11221 Lochwood Blvd.	Dallas	75218
Martin Luther King Jr. Core Bldg.	2922 Mlk Blvd.	Dallas	75215
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
Samuell Grand Recreation Center	6200 E. Grand Ave.	Dallas	75223

VOTE 2015



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Belinda Carlisle
Cover design by Kevin Thomas

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instant**TEA** DallasVoice.com/Category/Instant-Tea



Harvey Milk Day 2015 "Let Hope Shine" Rally and March

On Friday, March 22, local LGBT advocates gathered at the Legacy of Love monument to honor the late Harvey Milk with a rally and march ending in a celebration with a birthday cake. The rally featured readings from Milk's interviews with the press and correspondence to activists, corporate executives and even President Jimmy Carter. Speakers included local faith leaders, Resource Center representatives and others. Participants marched down Cedar Springs before ending the evening in celebration on TMC's patio.

— James Russell

Resolution supporting "traditional marriage" passes

A resolution introduced by Sen. Kelly Hancock, R-North Richland Hills, supporting "traditional marriage" passed the Senate 21-10 Wednesday, May 27 after testy debate.

Hancock introduced the resolution after Sen. Eddie Lucio II, D-Brownsville, pulled language from HB 2977 that would deny county officials from issuing same-sex marriages. Lucio joined all Republicans in backing the bill.

"I am proud to add my support to that of twenty Republican senators who approved Senate Resolution 1028 as a unified support of traditional marriage between a man and a woman," wrote Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick in a press statement. "This effort mirrors the will of 76 percent of Texas voters who previously voted to make this definition a part of the state constitution in 2005."

— James Russell

Snookies on Oak Lawn closing

After 26 years in business, Snookies on Oak Lawn Avenue is closing. The bar and restaurant

was created by Gene Street, who also owns Lucky's and created Black-eyed Pea and Good Eats.

I heard from several people that the restaurant lost its lease. Rumors are that the building will be torn down and replaced with something, well, newer and bigger. After all, the building is more than 20 years old, so it violates Dallas zoning ordinances that prohibit buildings that old in the city.

The closing party is on Friday, May 29 and Snookies will close for good on Sunday, May 31.

— David Taffet

Tallywackers grand opening

Straight guys (and at least some lesbians) love their breasteraurants. Now Oak Lawn has something for the gay guys (and straight women) — a "chestaurant."

Tallywackers — a bar, restaurant and live entertainment venue featuring a wait staff consisting of hot guys in tight t-shirts and short-shorts — holds its grand opening Saturday, May 30. The restaurant opens at 11 a.m. Saturday, with a full menu available and casual wear allowed until 4 p.m. for the lunch crowd. But when the doors re-open for the grand celebration at 8 p.m., it will be a black tie/red carpet event, with appetizers and cocktails, til 2 a.m.

And of course, there's all that luscious "guy-candy" everybody's talking about.

After the grand opening, regular business hours will be 11 a.m.-4 p.m. for lunch, 5-10 p.m. for dinner, and 10 p.m.-2 a.m. for appetizers and cocktails. Beginning June 1, the restaurant will accept reservations for parties of six or more, and the reservation form — and more information — is available online at Tallywackers.com.

Tallywackers is located at 4218 Lemmon Ave.

— Tammye Nash

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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

• **May 30: Evening of Hope**
 Benefits AIDS Outreach Center. 6:30 p.m. at Worthington Renaissance Hotel, 200 Main St., Fort Worth. Pre-party for sponsors at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$175. Tables are \$1750. For sponsorship opportunities and ticket information, call 817-916-5224.

JUNE

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM.** This week's guest is former state Rep. Harryette Ehrhardt; **United Black Ellument** hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community at 7 p.m. every second Tuesday of the month at 3116 Commerce Street, Suite C; **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.

• **June 2: DFW Transcendence Trans/SOFFA Meeting**
 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.

• **June 4: Fort Worth PFLAG meeting**
 Meets every first Thursday of the month from 7-9 p.m. at First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. For more information call 817-428-2329 or visit PflagFortWorth.org.

• **June 6: Oak Lawn Library Friends hosts Transcending Gender Author Tracy James Jones**
 Jones will discuss her latest novel LGBT romance novel *Secrets & Lies* at 11 a.m. at the Oak Lawn Public Library auditorium 4100 Cedar Springs Road. Copies available for purchase. For more information e-mail Stan Aten at s.aten@att.net.

• **June 5: Fairway to Equality Auction and Calcutta**

pet of the week / TYLER

Tyler is a really big boy with a wonderful, playful and very attentive disposition who needs a loving home and lots of exercise. He seems alert and very interested in his surroundings. Tyler plays well with other dogs, loves to play ball and is also easily motivated by food, which should make training a snap. He is a very strong dog and will need some guidance with his leash manners but with consistency, rules and boundaries Tyler will thrive.



Tyler 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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Auction and fundraiser for HRC DFW's Fairway to Equality Golf Tournament with celebrity emcee Dana Goldberg begins at 6:30 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton. Free and open to the public.

• **June 6: Fairway to Equality Golf Tournament**

Benefits HRC DFW. Sold out. For more information visit HRC.org/Dallasgolf.

• **June 6: DFW Trans Ladies Monthly Meeting**

Meets from 7:00–8:30 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.

• **June 11: LifeWalk "What's the Fuss?" Tour and Mixer**



Meet the people behind the work at AIDS Arms clinics with a tour and mixer beginning at 6 p.m. at the Trinity Health and Wellness Center, 219 Sunset 116-A. Tours begin at 6 p.m. and the program at 7:15 p.m. For more information and to RSVP e-mail Hannah Orsburn at hannah.orsburn@aidsarms.org

• **June 14: SPCA Paws Cause 2015**

20th anniversary celebration of SPCA fundraiser for SPCA of Texas' Mary Spencer Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinic at Village Fair from 6-9 p.m. at the Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center, 2400 Lone Star Dr. Tickets are \$150 each. Limited quantity. For more information, visit Pawscousedallas.org.



Jane McGarry

• **June 14: Fifth Annual North Texas Gay Pride Festival**

Family-friendly festival features entertainment including former McKinney resident Hollie Cavangh and Jane McGarry of



Fairway to Equality golf tournament, benefitting the Human Rights Campaign, is set for Sunday, June 7. A few surprises this year: Former HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch will auction herself as a celebrity caddy to the highest bidder at the Saturday, June 6 Calcutta auction at Sue Ellen's, which is open to the public. The golf tournament is sold out but the auction will go on until the bar closes that evening.

WFAA as well as games, photo booths and vendors from 1–5 p.m. in downtown McKinney, 218 E. Louisiana. Benefits Collin County's Hope's Door, an organization offering domestic violence resources and services. Tickets are \$5 per person beginning May 1 at NorthTexasPride.org on or \$10 per person at the gates. Children 12 and under are free. For more information visit NorthTexasPride.org.

• **June 16: DFW Transcendence Trans/SOFFA Meeting**

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 sfynn.jones@gmail.com.

• **June 18: Urban Engagement Book Club: Capital in the Twenty-First Century by Thomas Piketty**

CitySquare's monthly Urban Engagement Book Club explores various social justice issues with writer Randy Mayeux and local social justice leaders. Free. Noon of every third Thursday at the Opportunity Center, 1610 S. Malcolm X Blvd. For more information visit CitySquare.org.

• **June 18: Pride Party in Plano**

Celebrate pride and toast the pending Supreme Court decision on marriage equality with GALA North Texas from 5:30–8:30 p.m. at the Blue Martini Lounge, 7301 Lone Star

Drive, A-110, Plano. Event includes half price discount drinks, free appetizers and raffle prizes. For more information visit On.fb.me/1PR9HrD.

• **June 19: Dallas Juneteenth Festival**

Free event and festival features vendors, games, food, live music and games from noon–5 p.m. at Martin Luther King Community Center, 2922 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. For more information call LaRhonda Bacon at 214-670-8419.

• **June 20: Gaybingo: Super hero/villain**

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.

• **June 24: Lambda Weekly fundraiser**

Draconis van Trapp, Molly Midori, Brook and Vincente, Athena C Sapphire and Syd Gotswood perform at 7-10 p.m. at Cedar Springs Tap House, 4123 Cedar Springs Road to raise money for KNON, the non-commercial radio station that has hosted the world's longest continuously running weekly LGBT radio show since 1983.

• **June 27: Be An Angel Benefit for Legacy Counseling**

Fundraiser for Legacy Counseling three course dinner and passed hors d'oeuvres by Chef Wendy Krispin, complimentary red and

white wine, specialty cocktails by Stoli, live and silent auctions, and fabulous entertainment by Vince Martinez.

• **June 28: TAG Pride Picnic**

Tyler Area Gays hosts its largest pride picnic yet with more auction items, entertainment, food and vendors. 11 a.m.–4 p.m. at Southside Park, Tyler. For more information e-mail info@tylerareagays.com or visit Tylerareagays.com or on Facebook at Facebook.com/TylerAreaGays.

JULY

• **July 2: Fort Worth PFLAG meeting**

Meets every first Thursday of the month from 7–9 p.m. at First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church, 1959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth. For more information call 817-428-2329 or visit PflagFortWorth.org.

• **July 2–5: 50th Anniversary of LGBT Civil Rights Movement**

The 50th anniversary in Philadelphia celebration includes panels, LGBT history exhibits, parties and more. Each day features LGBT history exhibits at the National Constitution Center, National Museum of American Jewish History and Independence Visitor Center along with fireworks on July 3 and 4. For more information, visit LGBT50th.org and Gaypioneers.com.

Beyond the Rainbow:



Baltimore, Ferguson and the pursuit of justice

A community leader witnessed the changes following the Rainbow Lounge

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Editor's Note: This is Part 2 of a two-part look into relationships between police and the LGBT community in North Texas, and how we are working to avoid the unrest that has erupted in Ferguson, Baltimore and New York.

The Fort Worth Police Department screwed up during the Rainbow Lounge raid, but officials wouldn't admit it. Chief Jeff Halstead and Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission officials dug in their heels in the days following the bar raid.

Rainbow Lounge patrons touched officers inappropriately, Halstead insisted. They threatened us, he said.

Despite embarrassing international coverage, the chief stood by his officers' actions: It didn't matter if the gay bar raid fell on the 40th anniversary of another gay bar raid at the

Stonewall Inn in New York City. Officers acted with discretion and appropriate force, the chief declared.

At first, Halstead soon backtracked, though, and a new bond was forged between his department and the LGBT community.

In the face of international attention, a contingent of local LGBT activists, including the Rev. Carol West of Celebration Community Church, met with Halstead to express their concerns. West entered the conversation furious but left cautiously optimistic.

She was confident to take a risk; as the pastor of an LGBT-friendly nondenominational Christian church, West decided to invite the chief and officers for a blessing ceremony.

"I didn't know what would happen," she said. "I didn't know if I should expect riots."

Before a packed congregation, West blessed the officers with a medal of St. Michael — commonly known as the patron saint of security. She vividly remembers what happened next.

"Forty officers came out [as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender] to the chief that night, to the

congregation and Halstead. They said, "This is my partner, this is who I love."

No one rioted that night. Instead, another bond was formed between many LGBT members and law enforcement. In her eyes, the fragile bond only grew stronger. If 40 officers coming out to their boss wasn't enough, department officials asked to meet with TABC officials at the church. "The officers called the church a neutral ground," West recalled.



Among the reforms launched on that neutral ground was a direct line of communication between the department and LGBT community, including the appointment of a LGBT liaison and appearances by officers every Wednesday afternoon at the church to hear community concerns.

The specific demographic and venue may have been new to the department, but the community outreach efforts were not.

"Fort Worth and FWPB have a long history of community policing — this is not a new thing for us here," noted Cpl. Tracey Knight, the department's LGBT liaison. "We rely heavily on the citizens of Fort Worth to assist us with public safety and we have a dedicated Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO) for each and every beat area in the city. Like the LGBT liaison, NPOs answer questions and handle ongoing problems. "He/she is the liaison between the department and the citizens we protect," she wrote in an email response to Dallas Voice questions.

The tragic events in Baltimore, Ferguson, Mo., and elsewhere remind West of an earlier, scarier time. Through the 1950s and beyond, Fort Worth police officers would copy the license plate numbers of individuals seen outside gay and lesbian clubs, then published names in the city's main daily newspaper, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Bar patrons were routinely attacked and harassed.

Now, unlike then, Fort Worth police report hate crime statistics to the annual Hate Crime Statistics report released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

In 2013, Fort Worth law enforcement reported nine hate-related incidents based on race, five on ethnicity and two based on sexual orientation. Zero reports were filed based on gender and gender identity in Fort Worth and across Texas.

If that number sounds surprisingly small, it shouldn't. Nationwide, of the 5,922 reported single-bias incidents, only were 1,402 hate crime offenses related to sexual orientation. Even more startling, only 33 offenses based on gender identity or expression were reported.

Despite a department's best efforts, statistics are hard to gather. Animus toward and

■ JUSTICE, Page 16



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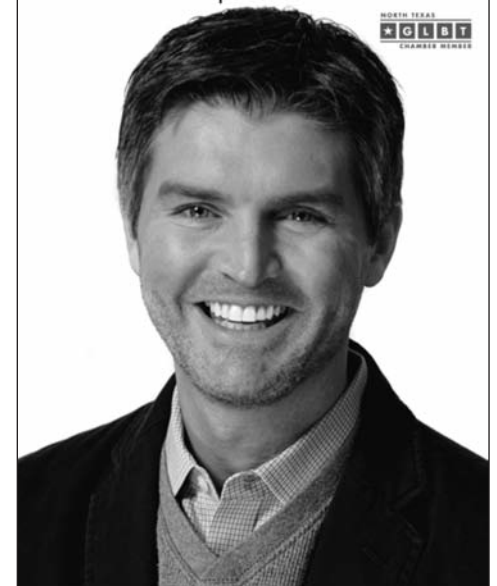
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TEXAS PRIDE



EVENTS

June is National Pride month, but in Texas we spread our celebrations out from now until October for a number of reasons.

Dallas celebrates in September to commemorate a court ruling by U.S. District Judge Jerry Buchmeyer that declared the Texas sodomy law unconstitutional in 1982.

Austin used to celebrate in June but moved its celebration to August a few years ago, while San Antonio pushed its celebration back to Fourth of July weekend. That might be the perfect schedule this year, taking place just a week after the expected U.S. Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality.

The state's largest Pride event, however takes place in Houston on the last Saturday in June to coincide with the anniversary of New York's Stonewall rebellion.

Here's this year's list of Pride events around the state:

Galveston

JUNE 5

Opening Party: Splash Bar,
3102 Seawall Blvd. at 7 p.m.-11 p.m.
and Krave, 2416 Post Office St. at 11 p.m.

JUNE 6

Beach Party: R.A. Apfel Park,
1923 Boddeker Dr. from 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

JUNE 7

Sunday Brunch: at The M&M
Restaurant & Bar, 2401 Church St.

El Paso

JUNE 6

Eighth annual Sun City Pride Parade
Parade: From Houston Park,
900 Montana Ave to concludes at
Pride Square, 500 N Stanton St. at 10 a.m.
EPSCP.org

Beaumont

JUNE 13

Second annual LGBTQIA Pride
Walk and Festival
Pride Walk: From 1393 Broadway to
Pearl and Crockett streets at 11:30 a.m.
Pride Festival: Crockett Street
Entertainment Complex at noon includes
Art Walk with 100 artists, drag queens,
live music, theater performances,
vendors and more.
Beaumont-Pride.org

Longview

JUNE 13

Pride: Second annual Pride event at
Heritage Plaza, 219 E. Methvin St.
from 5-9 p.m. Live music and
entertainment, food vendors.
Local organizations and businesses from
Longview, Tyler, East Texas and Dallas
will have booths.
Facebook.com/events/734570543277957

North Texas Pride

JUNE 14

Pride Festival: featuring American Idol Finalist, Hollie Cavanagh with vendors, kids activities, celebrity impersonators, balloon artists and food and beverage in downtown McKinney from 1-5 p.m. NorthTexasPride.com

Houston

JUNE 21

Salvation — A Pride Pool Party:
HI-Houston: The Morty Rich Hostel, 501 Lovett Blvd. From 1-6 p.m.

JUNE 22

Dine With Pride: Gratifi Kitchen and Bar, 302 Fairview St. from 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

JUNE 23

Pride Superstar Competition Finale: South Beach Houston, 810 Pacific St. at 9:30 p.m.

JUNE 24

Eden: A Pride Girl Party: The Pearl Bar, 4216 Washington Ave. from 8 p.m.-midnight.

JUNE 25

Rock the Runway: Audi Central Houston, 2120 Southwest Freeway from 8-11 p.m.

JUNE 26

Wonderland Houston 2015: South Beach Houston, 810 Pacific St. from 9 p.m.-3 a.m.

JUNE 27

Pride Festival: Moves downtown to McKinney and Smith streets from noon-7 p.m.

Parade: Fourth largest Pride Parade in U.S. with 450,000 expected to attend begins at Milam and Walker streets, continues down Walker Street and makes a left on Smith Street until Pease Street from 8:30 p.m.-11 p.m.

Official After Party: South Beach Houston, 810 Pacific St. from 10 p.m.-3 a.m.

JUNE 28

Heroes Tea Dance: The official closing party of Houston Pride Week at Fbar Houston, 202 Tuam St. from 5-10 p.m. PrideHouston.org

San Antonio

JULY 4

Festival: in Crockett Park, 1300 N. Main St. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Rainbow Dash 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk: at 8 p.m.

Krystal Kelly High Hell Race at 8:45 p.m.

Parade: at 9 p.m. Kickoff at N. Main St. and Dewey Place in front of the Silver Dollar Saloon. PrideSanAntonio.org

Lubbock

AUG. 22

Pride: Maxey Park and Community Center, 4020 30th St. from 1-10 p.m. LubbockPride.Wix.com/LubbockPride

Austin

JUNE 25

Stonewall Rally: Transgender Education Network of Texas, Equality Texas and Austin's drag community gather on the south steps of the Capitol to observe the 46th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion at 7 p.m.

AUG. 29

Festival: Main stage with a lineup of live music performers and DJ stage with national and regional DJs. Activities for children, photo booths, face painting, food and drinks, vendor booths at Fiesta Gardens, 2101 Jesse E. Segovia St. from 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Parade: Congress Avenue from the Capitol to 4th at Guadalupe streets at 8 p.m. AustinPride.org

Dallas

SEPT. 20

Parade: Along Cedar Springs Road from Wycliff Avenue. This year the parade makes



a right on Turtle Creek Boulevard and ends in Reverchon Park from 2-5 p.m.
Festival: Reverchon Park, 3505 Maple Ave. from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Admission \$5 includes performance by Ty Herndon. DallasPride.org

South Padre Island

OCT. 8-10

Splash: Event info not yet posted SplashSouthPadre.com

Fort Worth

OCT. 10

Parade and festival: in downtown Fort Worth. Times not yet listed

OCT. 11

Picnic: in Trinity Park, 2401 University Dr. Times not yet listed TCGPWA.org



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After I die



Jeff Friedman stands in front of "Before I Die," an outdoor art installation on Lower Greenville Ave. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

A straight funeral director who's planned lots of LGBT funerals has some practical advice to make sure last wishes are honored

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Jeff Friedman prefers to celebrate life rather than dwell on death. That's why he's part of the "Before I die" art installation on Lowest Greenville.

The idea is simple: On four panels, people are invited to write in chalk something they'd like to do before they die. Some are life changing — like kicking cancer.

Others may not be. One of Friedman's favorites was a man who wrote he'd like to finish his book. He asked the man if he was writing the book. Hell, no, the man told him — he started reading a book 30 years ago and he'd like to finally finish it.

Whatever it is that someone would like to do, Friedman encourages them to do it before they die so they can leave this earth without regrets. He hears those stories of regret far too often.

Friedman is president of DistinctiveLife Cremations & Funerals. The company is based in Houston, but he has both a licensed funeral home in

Plano and a store location in Richardson for cremation services.

Friedman said the first time he dealt with a gay couple, he understood he was dealing with some different issues than opposite-sex couples face. In that first case, the couple had been together 20 years and the parents were still alive. Friedman had to listen to the fighting over the cremated remains.

In another case, the mom and dad were Catholic and wanted a traditional funeral mass. Their son had left the church because of its rejection of gays and his partner wanted a celebration of his life. Friedman pointed out that a religious service for the family doesn't preclude a celebration of life for the friends, and in that case he encouraged them to do both.

Family and friends who wanted to honor a trans woman's entire life weren't sure how to do that. Friedman encouraged them to display pictures that included her time living as a man. He said for that family, it was their way of remembering they loved her before her transition as much as after.

Friedman said he likes working out solutions for families that aren't in agreement over the funeral. But the best solution for same-sex couples — at least until Texas becomes a marriage equality

IMMIGRATION ATTORNEYS

fear of the police stymie those efforts, according to the March 2015 report *Discrimination and Harassment by Law Enforcement Officers in the LGBT Community*, released by the Williams Institute, an LGBT think tank.

Conclusive data is especially hard to track in a state like Texas, which lacks laws explicitly protecting LGBT people. The patchwork of rules make it difficult to track anti-LGBT motivated bias or violence. LGBT advocates must rely on individual jurisdictions to report crimes.

"Without federal or state protections for LGBT people, it's hard to get accurate data," said Christy Mallory, Williams' senior counsel and co-author of the report. "You can't report an absence of something."

"Each jurisdiction uses its own discretion about whether a crime fits a definition of hate violence when recommending charges to the district attorney," wrote Sally Huffer with Houston's Montrose Center. "Measurement relies on consistency and accuracy across jurisdictions and time, and we are far from having that, so the numbers are unreliable."

Additionally, some crime victims won't file reports because they fear being outed or having their complaints discounted. "Many people cannot afford to be outed so publicly, and so countless crimes are not counted in the right category, if they are reported at all," she wrote.

If there's anything to draw from the available data, it's that "the relic of the Stonewall era still stands out," Mallory added.

West and her congregants couldn't be happier with the police department now. Still, the minister knows there are plenty of other steps to take and reforms to be made.

Fort Worth, noted Knight, successfully lobbied to be one of the six pilot cities for the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice project, which seeks to improve community relations and best practices among various communities, including the LGBT community.

"We have a highly trained and very professional police department. That's not to say that improvements can't be made because there is always room for improvement," Knight wrote.

Ensuring fair and equal treatment was not limited to law enforcement following the raid. "18 of the 19 recommendations from the diversity task force formed after the raid have been implemented," Knight added. Even with a clear ways to go to ensuring fairness and equality, West recalled a milestone moment in the post-Rainbow Lounge era.

During the 2014 Tarrant County Gay Pride parade, West marched hand in hand with Halstead. She recalled people cheering for the police.

"That wasn't the case during Stonewall," she said, "but I don't think our story is typical in many cities [either]. It wasn't something I ever expected to see, much less in this city. [The strides made since the raid] really speak to the culture of our area." ■

state — is to write out your wishes. Visit an attorney and have the paperwork drawn up, Friedman advised.

While many couples have powers-of-attorney drawn up, that power of those documents ends at death, Friedman pointed out. If a couple is not recognized as married in Texas, the rights of a deceased person's parents, children or siblings take precedence over the rights over their partner, no matter how long the couple has been together.

"The right of disposition goes to the family," he said. "We've gone to battle with a lot of families."

He said the best way to make sure a spouse, partner or friend is in charge of the disposition of the body, including any funeral or memorial services, is to have an attorney draw up a "spring" amendment. That document springs into action after the power-of-attorney ends at death and before a will is read.

In that document, specify any wishes, especially who should make decisions about the disposition and funeral.

"There's lots of guilt at the time of death," Friedman said.

He said he's seen that guilt amplified at the time of death especially from families who have not accepted the relative's sexual orientation.

He also said the problem is usually with gay male couples and rarely with lesbians.

"Gay couples won't talk about death," he said, while lesbians are more likely to talk to each other about what they want. His advice for all

couples is, "Talk things out then go to a lawyer and have it put down on paper."

Friedman is also not a big proponent of pre-arranged funerals. Prepaying for the mechanics is one thing, he said, but micromanaging the service is another.

By the mechanics, he means prepaying for a flight to transport the body from Dallas to a family plot elsewhere in the country. Prepaying for a casket prevents guilt from driving the family to buy something more expensive than they really want or can afford.

Too many people, however, preplan by directing which music and what readings will be included as well as where and when the memorial will take place. He said that prevents those who knew the person best from truly celebrating the person's life and honoring the person's memory.

Friedman said cremations have 43 percent of the funeral market right now but the percent is even higher in the LGBT community. With cremations, memorials aren't as likely to be held the week of the death as with burials.

He advised mourners not to delay the celebration of life, because more often than not, the memorial doesn't take place.

"People want to come together to honor the person," he said. "They want closure."

The "Before I Die" public art installation, on a wall across from Trader Joe's on Lowest Greenville, continues through the end of May.

For information about *DistinctiveLife Cremations and Funerals*, visit *DistinctiveLife.com*. ■

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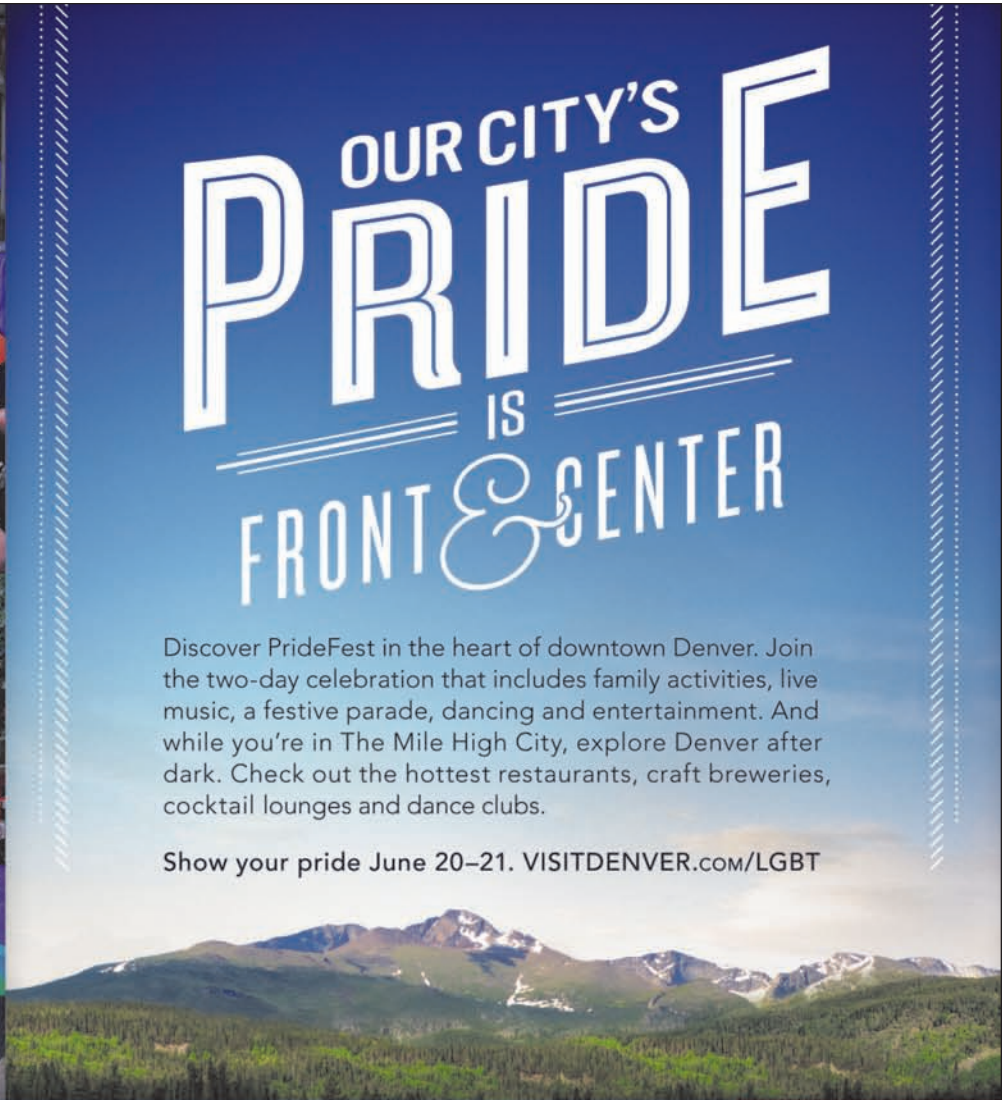
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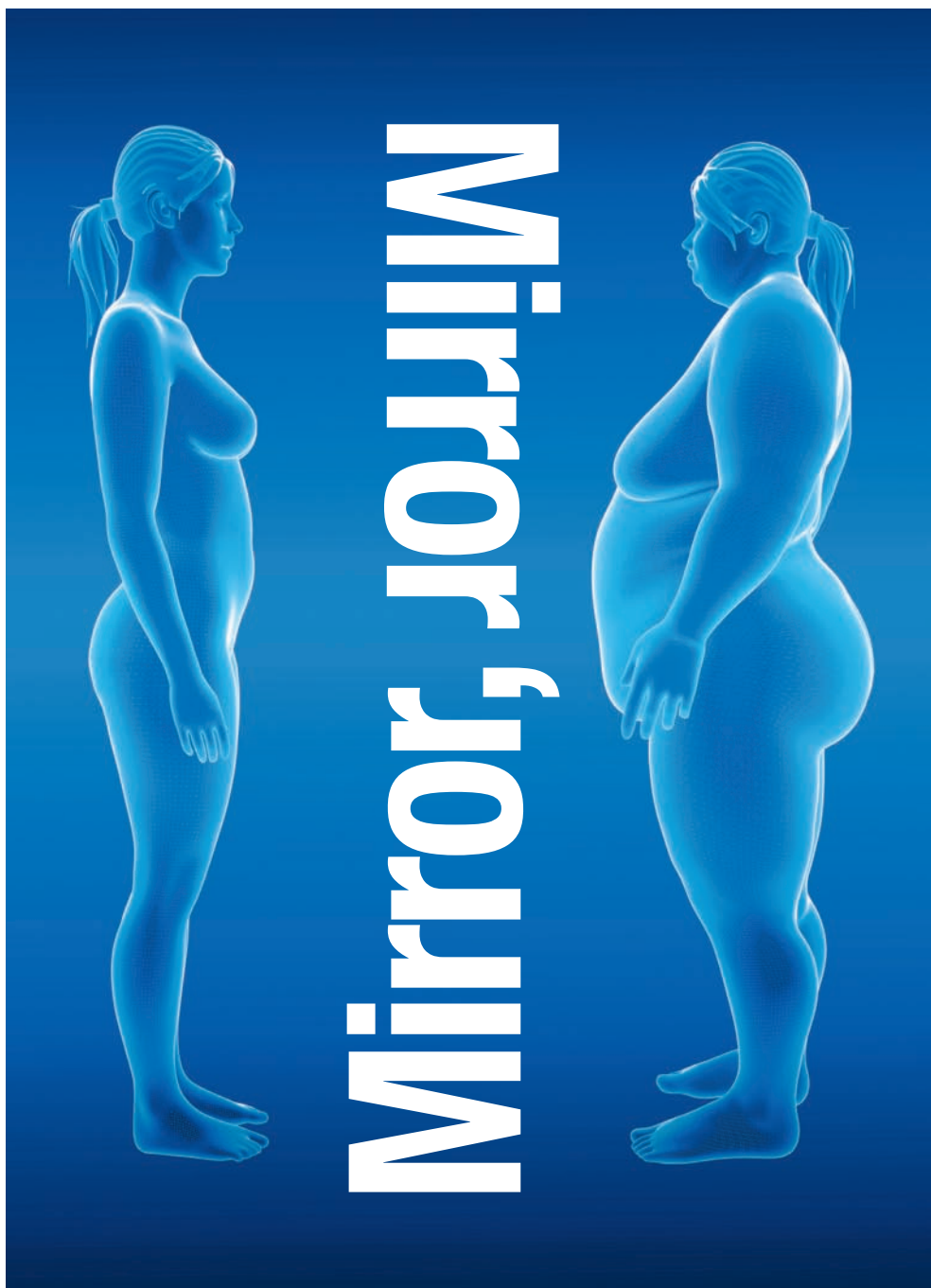
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Women must see past their own overly critical body image issues

I recently went to my regular beauty salon in Highland Park — I live nowhere near Highland Park, but the salon was super convenient when I worked for CBS on Central and Fitzhugh and Jamie does a wonderful job — and while I was there, I started thinking about women and body images.

I was a bit early for my appointment, so the receptionist brought me a glass of white wine while I waited. I fiddled with my phone and thumbed through a magazine. All around me were these gorgeous Highland Park women with handbags that cost more than my car.

One woman walked in and I almost felt bad for her because she would walk out of there looking no better than when she walked in. I mean, she looked that good. She was as tall as me — pushing 6 feet — with longish, honey blonde hair that



Leslie McMurray
Accidental Activist

made it difficult to tell whether she was coming in for a cut or whether she had just forgotten her keys. Her make-up was flawless.

I wanted to get up and run screaming from the salon. I didn't belong there among these women!

It's no secret that pretty much every woman has some kind of body image problem. Women we might view as having the perfect body still pick at themselves. Many of us say awful things to ourselves about our bodies. I'm certainly guilty of that.

Trans women are some of the worst self critics ever because there is just so much about ourselves

that we wish were different. It's not about just wanting to lose a few extra pounds; it's having the wrong anatomy — broad shoulders, huge feet, a brow ridge, an Adam's apple, facial hair, small breasts, big hands, male pattern baldness ... and the list goes on.

Self acceptance is a long road.

Also at work is the odd "grass is always greener on the other side" phenomenon. I bought some clothes a while back, and the girl at the checkout counter was a beautiful Asian girl who surveyed me and asked, "How tall are you?" I told her I was 5-foot, 11-inches (I don't like saying I'm 6 feet tall), and she said she'd love to be that tall.

Really? I told her I'd trade for her 5-foot, 2-inch frame in a second. (OK, maybe 5-foot, 6-inches, if we're granting such wishes. But you get the idea.)

Another girlfriend wants my long legs and flat-ish stomach. And I'd trade for her hips and size 8 feet. Oh, the shoes I'd love to wear.

Thing is, stuff doesn't work like that. We get what we get and while we can work on some things, others are like cards in Texas Hold 'em: You play the ones you are dealt.

A Facebook friend recently posted a video that really opened my eyes. A woman who often said terrible things to herself in the mirror, and who thought she was alone with these thoughts, asked 100 women to use one word — any one word — to describe their body. Every single one used a derogatory word to describe themselves.

That made me so sad. It was actually hard to hear women describe themselves that way when I'd make a deal with the devil to have any one of their bodies.

There are too many mornings that it's been a struggle for me to leave the house. The standards of beauty and femininity often seem impossibly high; knowing I will never reach them can get to me sometimes.

What I need to focus on — and I am talking about me, personally — is that I lived the vast majority of my life aching to be a woman with every fiber of my being, knowing I was a woman inside, but also being a realist in understanding that nothing of my exterior betrayed my secret.

Now that I have fully transitioned — as far as I can — by accessing some well of courage and determination I never knew existed, I need to remember how long it took and how hard I fought to get here. I need to be grateful every day.

I need to reconcile the fact that I have the body of a 55-plus-year-old woman and that I'll never feel what it's like to be a 25-year-old girl. That's a tough one to get over.

But living a life of dissatisfaction with my body is a waste of time. I need to get back to my belief in changing the things I can while accepting the ones I can't and living each day to the fullest.

As for those awful things we say to ourselves in front of the mirror, we need to ask ourselves: Would we say those things to our daughters? Or to someone we love? Absolutely not!

Perhaps it's high time for some self love and acceptance. What do you say girls? ■

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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She's (still) got the beat

Pop icon **Belinda Carlisle** headlines 10th annual MetroBall, but her Dallas trip will be bittersweet

For those old enough to remember the release of the 1981 album *Beauty and the Beat*, its debut was a kind of dividing line in music history: B.C. (Before Carlisle) and A.D. (After Disco). Belinda Carlisle, frontwoman for The Go-Go's, ushered in the era of the "girl band," a subgenre of pop that helped spawn everyone from The Bangles to Destiny's Child. With their first single, "We Got the Beat" and equally catchy post-punk hits like "Our Lips Are Sealed" and "Vacation," The Go-Go's rode the musical new wave into the record books.

The group split up within a few years, but Carlisle continued her solo career, highlighted by her No. 1 smash "Heaven is a Place on Earth." But more than a musical pioneer, she has also been politically and social active, especially in her support of animal rights and LGBT issues. (Her son James Duke Mason — grandson of film legend James Mason — came out at 14.)

Carlisle will bring all that energy to Dallas next week, when she headlines the 10th annual MetroBall, a fundraiser for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund. But her appearance will also be tinged with tragedy: Earlier this year, one of Carlisle's oldest friends, Dallas personality Jack E. Jett, died.

We chatted with Carlisle about her memories of Jett, as well as her upcoming album, her activism and why she loves the gay community. ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Dallas Voice: Like a lot of men my age and younger, your work with the Go-Go's was kind of the soundtrack to our early dance life. How often do you get approached by gay guys — or women — telling you your music was the way they let loose when they came out? Belinda Carlisle: I get told all the time how the Go-Go's were the soundtrack to people's lives. It's always flattering when someone comes up and tells you that.

Certainly you're a feminist icon — and by extension, one of the divas of gay culture. Were you aware of what you were forging when you first hit it big? Well, all I knew is, we [The Go-Go's] from the beginning had a sizable gay following, and when I began my solo

career, it did grow. I would say that it's about 70 percent of my following now, and of course I love it!

How has the music business changed over the years, especially as it deals with feminist issues? The music business has changed completely since I began — it used to champion artistry and help young artists develop and [labels] were with you for the long haul. Now it is completely disposable and about money. Art has, for the most, part lost its importance.

I've wanted to interview you for many years, in large part because my dear friend Jack E. Jett always talked so fondly of you. I was devastated by his sudden death earlier this year. Can you share

some memories about him? (I'm sure he was looking forward to seeing you at the MetroBall. How will that affect your appearance here — tinged with melancholy, perhaps?) Of course, I was shocked and saddened at losing Jack. He was my friend for 35 years — we had many funny times together. I think my favorite memories are from Japan when he was a big model. We spent a lot of time there getting into mischief. I was looking forward to seeing him [in Dallas]. So, yes, this trip is tinged with melancholy for sure.

The Go-Go's were one of the most successful girl groups of all time, but you were actually around just a few years — you've


■ BELINDA Page 23



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Iconic '60s star
Barbara Eden
 blinks her way into
 pop culture expo

Bottle blonde

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
 nash@dallasvoice.com

OK with her.

"I like her," Eden says about her iconic role. "She's easy to live with. What's important is what people like, and people like Jeannie. I have no regrets about that."

Jeannie helped reinvent her from journeyman career actress to TV legend.

"When I was doing all those movies at MGM [before the sitcom], I was always 'the abandoned wife,' 'the woman who's rescued.' I was working with all these famous co-stars — wonderful actors — but no one knew who I was. *Jeannie* gave me a face. It wasn't until *Jeannie* came along that people began to know who I was."

In the 45 years since the show went off the air, Eden — now 83 — has embraced the chance to

When Barbara Eden signed a contract with Sidney Sheldon in 1965 to star in a little sitcom called *I Dream of Jeannie*, she was only 34 years old, but had already been a member of Actors Equity for more than half her life. *I Dream of Jeannie*, which also starred Fort Worth native Larry Hagman, ran for five years (139 episodes) — just a tiny percentage of all her work in show biz. In the years since, Eden has continued to appear in dozens and dozens of productions, on the small screen, the big screen and onstage.

Still, despite all her other work, Eden will always be the "Jeannie" in the bottle. And that's

FAN EXPO DALLAS

Dallas Convention Center,
 250 S. Griffin St. May 29–31.
 Eden appears each day.
 FanExpoDallas.com.

LIGHTNING IN A BOTTLE | Now 83, Barbara Eden is proud that her Jeannie character continues to engage so many fans; opposite, Eden in her heyday on the iconic 1960s fantasy sitcom.



Dream Café
 a dreamy comedy by Alejandro de la Costa



Dream Café by Alejandro de la Costa Now through June 21st

Bryan is a single man trying to find his soul mate. He keeps running up against obstacles preventing him from falling in love. The problem? Men. Six scenes of his life are presented. Some are poignant while others are funny as he goes on different dates. What makes the play unique is that each night the same six scenes will be presented in random order as picked by the audience, thus determining his life. The result is an almost guaranteed different play nightly because there are 720 possible combinations. This play is intended for mature audiences due to language, adult situations, and nudity. No one under 18 will be admitted.

Starring: Mark-Brian Sonna | Aaron Jakoboski | Gerald Taylor II
 Laura Lester | Andrew Friedrich | **Directed by:** Charles Ballinger

At the **Stone Cottage Theatre**, 15650 Addison Rd,
 Shows Thursday through Saturday at 8pm.
 Sunday Matinee, June 21st at 2pm. Tickets \$20 - \$29.

Produced by **MBS Productions**
 Tickets: www.mbsproductions.net or call 214-477-4942.



meet fans of the show. She tours with her one-woman show called *On The Magic Carpet with Barbara Eden*, and she travels the world to appear at conventions and fan events, like Fan Expo Dallas, which takes place this weekend at the Dallas Convention Center.

"I do quite a few of the conventions and expos, here [in the U.S.] and internationally," Eden says. "Wherever Jeannie is, that's where I go!"

She's especially fond of her gay fans. "I think it's wonderful, just wonderful," Eden says of the suggestion that Jeannie was a symbol of self-confidence, independence and courage for the LGBT community, who often wished they could also dispose of bullies with a blink of the eye and a nod of the head. "I remember as a child myself, I lived in an imaginary world. I had my friends who lived under the bed — Good Johnny and Bad Johnny and a girl. What did I call the girl? I can't remember, except that it was an odd name, and Mama used to laugh and ask me how in the world I came up with that name. Even when I was older, it was nice to have that safe place still in your head and your heart, someplace to go to get away from it all and just be safe."

Eden is glad to know that her character was a symbol of independence and strength for women in a time when men really still ruled the world.



"Yes, Jeannie lived in a bottle. But it was *her* bottle, you know!" she laughs. "She had a lot of control, even if she didn't know she had the control. It was a lot of fun."

The one-woman show, the expos, charity work — including the 2013 Life Ball, Europe's largest AIDS fundraiser, and work she does for drug rehab centers in memory of her only son who died of a drug overdose in 2001 — all put Eden in the spotlight in a way that can be tiring. But it is her 2011 memoir, *Jeannie Out of the Bottle*, that was perhaps most trying.

"The book covers everything, you name it, soup to nuts," she says. "There was this lovely lady who helped me write it [who] got me to say things I wouldn't normally say, which is, I guess, what the readers want. It was a difficult process, but she did a wonderful job on me. For years, I had refused to do a book. Finally, though, someone said, 'Barbara, do it now, or you won't be around to do it. And you don't want someone else to do it when you don't have any input.'"

She pauses. "I look at it now, and it's a life. My life," Eden says. "It's not always fun to get into that secret place and expose it to the world. But I was glad I did it. Was it cathartic? No, it wasn't. But I wouldn't have done it if I didn't think it ought to have been done."

■ BELINDA, From Page 20

had a much longer solo career. In your own mind, do you think of it all as one career, or do you tend to compartmentalize the stages of your work? I think of my career as one — I started with the Go-Go's, and then pretty much went right into my solo career after the breakup. I went right into the studio and then a year later my first solo album came out. It all has gone by very quickly.

I do embrace my work with the Go-Go's — I'm proud of that band. I find it easy to be able to switch gears when I have to. At the end of it all, it's pop music.

Do you feel like you get pigeonholed as "New Wave" or "neo punk" artist or that your musical interests defy categorization? I guess I would be

[pigeonholed] as an "80s artist," but actually I have had plenty of success in the '90s, too. It doesn't bother me — people like labels.

Your son, James Duke Mason, came out as a very young man. How has having a gay son affected your feelings or activities about gay issues? I've always been interested in gay issues but of course having a gay son makes you think about them a lot more. When he first told me he was gay, I immediately thought, "What kind of world is he going to have to make his way in?" It's tough out there — I know it's getting better, but still there's a lot of homophobia out there, and I find it shocking.

How important is the gay community to you? Did you have any gay mentors or inspirations, either musically, about gay issues? Well, I live in West Hollywood, in the middle of a gay community, and I find it interesting and it's amazing how everyone really watches out for each other, which

isn't something that happens in other communities. It will always be a big interest for me ... and especially now with my son.

As far as personalities that really interest me — I would say Stephen Fry, Gore Vidal, Elton John ... there are so many more, but those are the three that come to mind.

Do you have a favorite song, or particular feelings that are stirred every time you perform specific songs? I love performing ["Heaven is a Place on Earth"] — I love seeing people's reactions. The same with "We Got the Beat" — they love that, too. Personally, I love singing "Mad about You" and "Summer Rain."

What are your favorite memories from the heyday of the '80s? There are so many! I think "Heaven" becoming a No. 1 song all over the world is one of my top memories.

What are your current goals or future projects? Is there anything you haven't yet accomplished that's still a life goal (or career goal) of yours? I'm making an album as we speak — it mixes pop and mantra (which is something I've been very into and studied for the past 10 years as a Buddhist). Some of it is in English and some of it is in *sanskrit gurmukhi* [the ancient yogi language]. It's a science and it has an amazing effect chanting it or listening to it. I love it, and it will be out probably in January 2016 — at the latest, next spring. I also have an animal charity project in Calcutta, called Animal People Alliance — I just did a 750-mile rickshaw ride across India to bring awareness to the plight of India's street animals. I'm interested in service and adventure now!

For more information, visit Belinda's Facebook page, [Facebook.com/animalpeoplealliance?ref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/animalpeoplealliance?ref=ts).



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LIFE+STYLE

best bets

Monday 06.01 —
Friday 06.05

Knife steakhouse hosts series of celebrichef dinners benefiting HIV cause all week long

John Tesar, the executive chef behind Knife steakhouse at The Highland, has long been an ardent supporter of HIV/AIDS causes — and never more so now. As the Ambassador Chef for Mario Batali's EAT (RED) DRINK (RED) SAVE LIVES foundation, Tesar has planned an unprecedented series of dinners: Five chefs — starting with recent James Beard Award Best Chef Southwest winner Aaron Franklin (he of Austin's Franklin Barbecue, in his first time cooking in Dallas) on Monday, and continuing with Alex Stratta (another Best Chef Southwest honoree), Tuesday), Naomi Pomeroy (*Top Chef Masters* alum, Wednesday), Tim Rattray (San Antonio's The Granary, Thursday) and Kris Morningstar (L.A. Terrine, Friday) — will pair up with Tesar for five intimate dinners (40 seats only) for five consecutive nights for this fundraising culinary experience.

DEETS: Knife at The Highland, 5300 E. Mockingbird Lane. June 1–5 at 7 p.m. \$150. 214-443-9339. KnifeDallas.com/events/eat-red-drink-red-save-lives.



Sunday 05.31

Miss Big Thickette marks 25 years of fundraising drag

It's been 25 years since members of the gay community first donned drag (including those who don't otherwise drag their looks) to camp it up for a charity — the TCC AIDS Fund (pictured is a slate of past winners). Sunday, four more folks will hold out buckets to add thousands of bucks toward their LifeWalk team ... all while entertaining you.

DEETS: The Round-Up Saloon, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 7 p.m. \$5 suggested cover. Donations encouraged.



Thursday 06.04

Queermedian Dana Goldberg brings her standup to Sue Ellen's

Dana Goldberg slayed the audience at last fall's Black Tie Dinner as the main entertainment. If you missed her set back then, no need to curse your bad luck — you can make up for it this week, when the out humorist brings her hilarious act to Sue Ellen's.

DEETS: Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. 8:30 p.m. SueEllensDallas.com.



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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK

THEATER

The Firestorm. A politician in an interracial marriage finds his campaign compromised by an episode of his past in this centerpiece mainstage production of Kitchen Dog Theater's annual New Works series. *Reviewed this week.* The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. Through June 27. KitchenDogTheater.org.

Dream Cafe. Brian's life as a single gay man is explored through six scenes, performed in a different order each night (as determined by the audience). A revival of Alejandro de la Costa's 2010 play. Contains nudity. Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road, Addison. Through June 21. MBSProductions.net.

Old Time Music Hall. Theatre Britain's annual revue (and fundraiser) featuring song, dance and comedy in the classic style of a London burlesque. Cox Building Playhouse, 1517 H Ave., Plano. Through June 21. Theatre-Britain.com.

Stop Hitting Yourself. Part of the Off-Broadway on Flora series, this clever contemporary satire is performed by Austin's Rude Mechanicals. Potter Rose Hall inside Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Friday-Sunday. ATPAC.org.

True West and Speed-the-Plow. Fun House Theatre and Film embarks on this repertory run of two show by classic American playwrights Sam Shepard and David Mamet, performed by a cast of teenaged actors. Plano Children's Theatre, 1301 Dolphin Drive, ste. 706, Plano. Through June 6. \$8. FunHouseTheatreAndFilm.com.

Belleville. Drew Wall stars in this heartbreaking examination of a relationship in crisis, written by Amy Herzog and directed by Lee Trull. Presented by Second Thought Theatre. Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through June 13. 2TT.co.

The Lady with All the Answers. Gay playwright David Rambo wrote this solo show about advice columnist Ann Landers. Starring Gene Raye Price. Theatre 3 in the Theatre Too space, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through June 14. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Urinetown. The hilarious Tony Award winner about a bleak future where water is more valuable than gold. *Final weekend.* Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St., Arlington. TheatreArlington.org.

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

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this week's solution

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'DREAM' BOAT | MBS Productions revives its sexy gay play (there's nudity!), 'Dream Cafe.'

The Liar. B.J. Cleveland directs this modern twist on a Corneille farce. *Final weekend.* Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Theatre3Dallas.com.

BALLET

Ballet West. The acclaimed troupe's Dallas debut closes TITAS' 2014-15 season of dance. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Friday-Saturday. ATPAC.org.

Texas Ballet Theater. This program, called Artistic Director's Choice, includes *Petite Mort*, *Crash* and *Rubies*. Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Friday-Saturday at 8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday at 2 p.m. TexasBalletTheater.org.

FINE ART

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.

Ruben Nieto: Decollage. The bold, colorful abstract paintings of Ruben Nieto, influenced by the pop art movement (especially Roy Lichtenstein), mark a new series opening Saturday. Cris Worley Fine Arts, 1845 Levee St., ste. 110. Through June 20. CrisWorley.com.

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

Dallas International Guitar Festival. The 38th annual extravaganza that combines music, musicians, fans and collectors. Automotive Building at Fair Park. May 29–31. GuitarShow.com.

FRIDAY 05.29

COMMUNITY

Panoptikon. The weekly retro disco dance party, presented by Lord Byron. Red Light, 2911 Main St. Doors 9 p.m.

SATURDAY 05.30

SPORTS

FrontRunners. Gay jogging group meets at 8:30 a.m. at the statue in Lee Park for a run along the Katy Trail.

MONDAY 06.01

BROADCAST

RuPaul's Drag Race. A winner is chosen in this finale episode. Airs on Logo at 8 p.m.

TUESDAY 06.02

FILM

Superman: The Movie. "You will believe a man can

fly" promised this 1978 film, which launched the modern comic book movie adaptation ... and we did believe it. The film, which introduced Christopher Reeve to the world, still holds up. 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 10:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 06.03

CONCERTS

A.R. Rahman: The Intimate Tour. The Oscar winning composer (*Slumdog Millionaire*) takes his usual large-format show and turns it into an intimate concert. Verizon Theatre, 1001 Performance Place, Grand Prairie. AXS.com.

THURSDAY 06.04

COMEDY

Dana Goldberg. The lesbian comedian performs her hilarious standup. Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. 8:30 pm. SueEllensDallas.com.

FRIDAY 06.05

CONCERTS

Brandi Carlile. The out folk singer performs, with opening act Anderson East. House of Blues, 2201 Lamar St. HOB.com.

STAGE REVIEW: 'The Firestorm'

It's odd to think that Kitchen Dog Theater — which many local theater fans consider to be our edgiest "young" company — is 25 years old, and has spent 20 of those years housed in the McKinney Avenue Contemporary, where more than 100 productions have challenged audiences ... some more successfully than others, to be sure, but always with the goal to provoke. News that KDT would be relocating (for one season only) to the Green Zone in the Design District tinges the current mainstage production, **The Firestorm**, with melancholy — a farewell to a space I've spent countless hours spying in the dark as the scope of human foibles unfold.

The Firestorm feels like an appropriate kind of play to sign off with, if not KDT's best work. It focuses on some hot-button issues: Patrick (Cameron Cobb), an Ohio politician running for governor, performed a racist act 20 years early as a college hazing prank, and its disclosure just weeks before the election threatens to derail him. Only Patrick's new wife, Gaby (Kenneisha Thompson), is African-American, and her support could soften the blow ... if only she wants to.

Racist fraternities, political scandals, power couples— Meredith Friedman seems to have culled her plot points from front page headlines. But in many ways, the play goes no deeper than headlines, and many of the behaviors seem like authorly conceits rather than character-driven. Gaby begins to suspect that Patrick married her "in case" this 20-year-old scandal ever reared itself, as if this were some Victorian thriller about a Bluebeard;

we're given the facts in a light most sympathetic to Patrick, but then sucker-punched when the object of his prank confronts him about the repercussions of his actions. That speech, like many portions of *The Firestorm*, are packed with emotional resonance and make good points. Too bad they feel more at home at a town hall meeting on race than in a play.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



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Cassie Nova

After weeks of crazy weather, Cassie takes out a hit on Mother Nature

You ever have one of those days when you wake up and just wanna stay in bed or get up and punch the shit out of someone? I am having one of those days. This weekend was a big ol' storm and my yard was raped by Mother Nature with no lube. That bitch knocked down two of my giant pecan trees, ripped my back porch and patio to shreds and bent our carport by knocking another big tree into it. It looked like a scene from a slasher film, but instead of dead teenagers lying everywhere it was hundred-year-old trees, limbs and debris. We were very lucky that the house was not damaged and no one was hurt. My dogs and Ruby the tortoise are all OK, thanks for asking. I am super thankful that things were not worse.

But as thankful as I am, I'm still pissed off. If I ever see Mother Nature out at the club, I am gonna walk right up to her and punch her in the dick! (BTW, in this scenario Mother Nature is a drag queen. I picture her as Endora from Bewitched with a 5 o'clock shadow.)

We can't even start to clean up until the insurance people come out to access the situation. We have a shit-ton of work ahead of us. On the up side, I will finally be getting the new back porch/patio I have been wanting. My husband is a genius at building stuff, so I am gonna go crazy. Silver linings.

The outpouring of love and concern from our friends and family is kind of overwhelming. Many of our neighbors have come over to offer support. They have all been very sweet to the gay couple on the block. There is nothing like some storm damage to bring a neighborhood together. My mind is everywhere else today so I will do my best to help others by answering some questions. Forgive me if I am more of a cunt with my replies. I apologize in advance.

Hi Cassie, I recently cuddled with a guy, and now I am uncomfortable about it. Somehow this always happens; I always get paranoid about cuddling or even having sex with a guy, because I feel I cannot trust him. How can I get over my fear, how can I trust a guy and how do I go about not feeling like I acquired a STD every time I kiss someone. Thank you Cassie, even though there is so much OMG from you, you always have good advice to give.
Signed, the Gay Hypochondriac.



Dear Gay Hypo, Dude, chill the fuck out. You cannot get a STD from cuddling. Your trust issues are going to keep you bitter and alone. Always have safe sex and put the "what ifs" out of your head. You seriously might want to see a therapist to work on your fears about trust. Know the facts about safe sex to keep your paranoia in check. Try yoga, breathing exercises or take a damn Valium. Life is too short to have so many hangups. Relax! Cassie

Dear Cassie, My fiancé and I were recently at one of your shows. We go often; we love all of your Rose Room performances. I like to sit by, watch and enjoy the show. But one of the things my hubby-to-be loves doing is taking pictures with all the girls right in the middle of their performances! I've told him it probably gets annoying for all the girls. So the question is: What is the proper etiquette regarding photos and videos of performers during the show and related sharing on social media? Do you girls like to have people share photos/videos (publicity) or does it feel intrusive (paparazzi)? Thanks, Stephen.

Dear Stephen, Thank you for your kind words and your interest in pictiquette. We drag queens and performers in general love to have our picture taken. So here are a few rules to make everyone happy: 1. If you take a picture or video and we look awful, or the angle gives us so many chins we look like Mama June, don't post it. 2. If the video could win you \$10,000 from Americas Funniest Home Videos, post it. 3. It's better to ask forgiveness than ask permission. Still, if we are performing and really into it or maybe there is some choreography, don't interrupt to take a selfie with us. You can always Photoshop yourself in later. 4. Also, remember that your hashtags and things you say about a pic or video matter. If you take a picture of a thick bitch wearing a red dress, don't give the hashtag #HeyKoolAid! Just kidding — funny trumps mean every time. Seriously, just be respectful taking the pics or videos and use common sense when posting things. Just think to

yourself, how would I feel if this were me? If you think it's a bad pic, chances are we would too. Thanks, Cassie.

Dear Cassie, I have noticed lately that a lot of other queens have been slinging my name through the mud. I really hate that I let it get to me, but as an Aquarius, we naturally take things to heart. I've been that way my entire life. I know in the drag business you have to have a thick skin but why is it that we as queens have resulted to bullying as a way to get attention? Can't we all just get along? Thanks, Faharah.

Miss Faharah, Girl bye. Mudslinging, shit-talking and messiness is just par for the course. Yes, you need to have thick skin, but you also need to be able to deflect and retaliate. Social media has made it so easy to talk shit about people. A true queen can shut a bitch up with one good read. Don't be bitter, be better. You have no control over what others say or do, but you do have control over how you handle a situation. There is nothing more powerful than not giving someone power to bother you and there is no better feeling than knowing they can't keep your name out of their mouths. Even if they are talking smack about you, at least they are talking about you. And, no, we can't all just get along. Nice sentiment, Pollyanna, but the reality is, sometimes people just don't like each other. Sometimes they don't have a reason why. Most drag queens are very polarizing; some people will love you, while others won't. No big, just the way things are. Focus on the positive and release the other bullshit. Thanks, Cassie.

I really do have a lot to be thankful for, as horrible as the storm was last night, the flood of love from friends today has been filled my heart like a rain barrel. This has been a surprisingly emotional day.

Thanks everybody! Love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova.

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

LIFE+STYLE

scene



Fun friends at The Round Up Saloon.

Making the SCENE the week of May 29–June 4:

- **Alexandre's:** *Filter Kings* at 10 p.m. on Friday. *Bad Habits* at 10 p.m. on Saturday. *Chris Chism* at 9:30 on Wednesday. *So Strung Out* at 9 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Brick/Joe's:** *Softball Extra Innings* from 4-8 p.m. on Sunday. *RuPaul's Drag Race* final viewing party with *Kennedy Davenport* at 7:30 p.m. on Monday. Upcoming: *Frenchie Davis* and *Ts Madison* at midnight on June 6.
- **Changes:** *Wall of Food Show* at 8 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Club Reflection:** Cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday. *Texas Gay Rodeo Association* show at 7 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** *Beyond Vanilla XXV Launch Party* from 7-9 p.m. on Friday. *United Court of the Lone Star Empire* presents *Broadway Our Way* at 7 p.m. on Saturday benefiting *Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund*. *Leather Knights* hosts *Dragon Lady of the Realm* contest at 7 p.m. on Sunday. *Voice of Pride* preliminary round at 9 p.m. on Thursday.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** *Cassie's Freak Show* with *Fantasha, Alexis, Your Highness* and *Jada*.
- **Kaliente:** *Voice of Pride* preliminary round at 9 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Marty's Live:** *Voice of Pride* preliminary round at 9 p.m. on Monday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** *Miss Big Thickette* hosted by *Nelda Pickens* benefits *Turtle Creek Chorale's LifeWalk* team at 7 p.m. on Sunday. *Sasha Leigh Chambers* hosts *Project Funway: A Design Game Show* at 9 p.m. on Monday. Finals on July 6.
- **S4:** Upcoming: *Metroball* featuring *Belinda Carlisle* on June 5.
- **Sue Ellen's:** *Barfoot Hippies* on Friday. *Mojo Dolls* on Saturday. *Kathy & Bella* at 3 p.m. on Sunday. *Tyla Taylor* at 6 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** *Extra Innings* at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

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

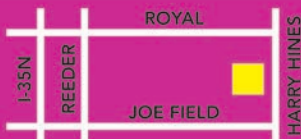
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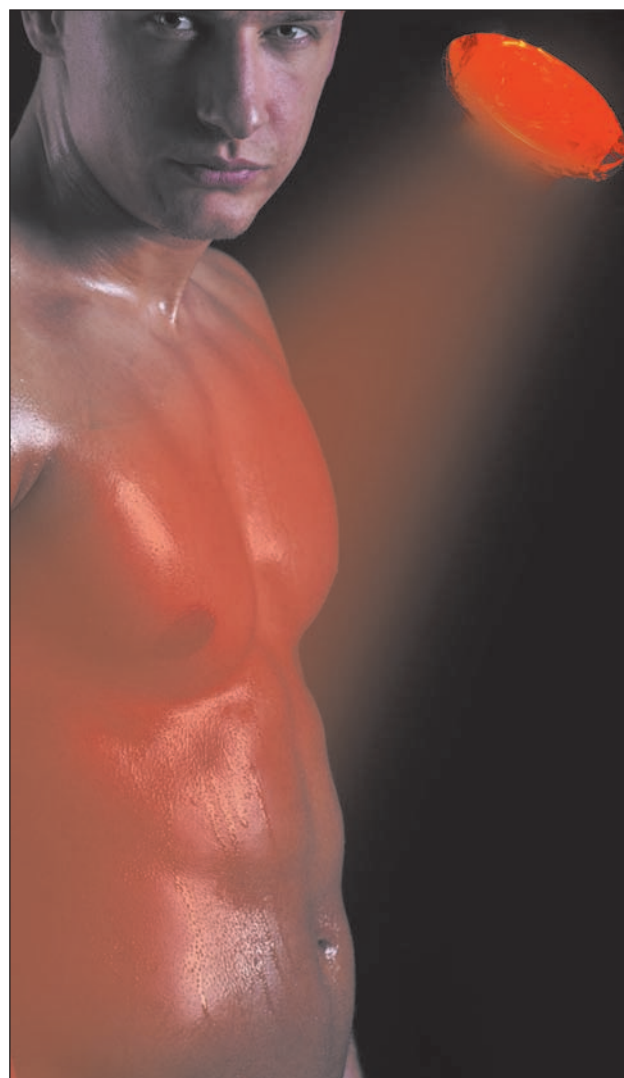
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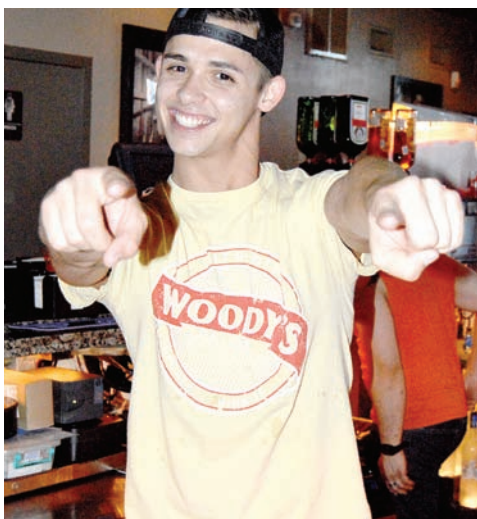
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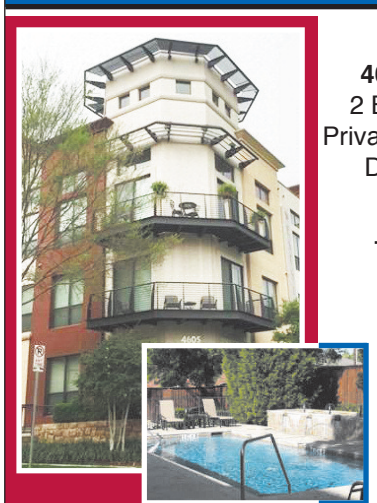
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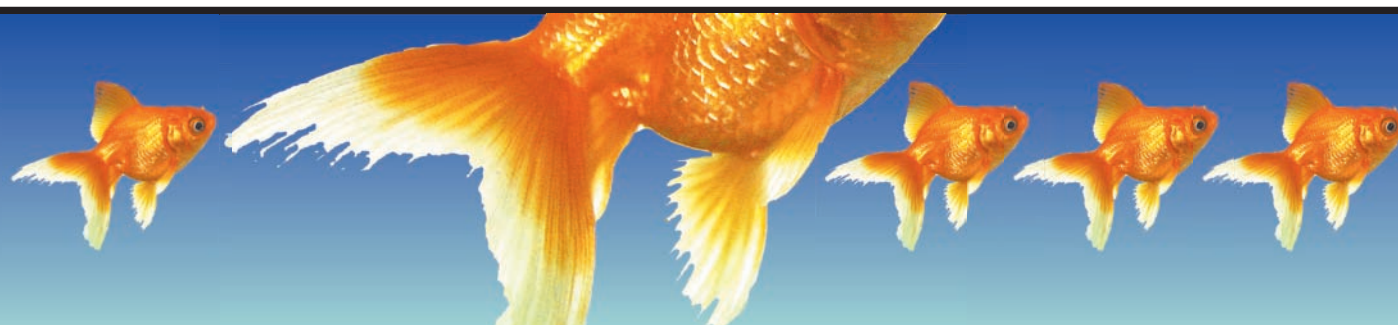
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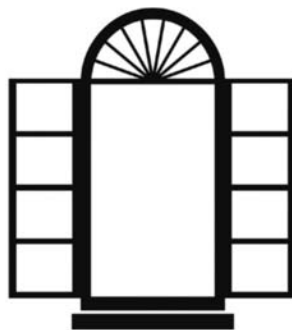
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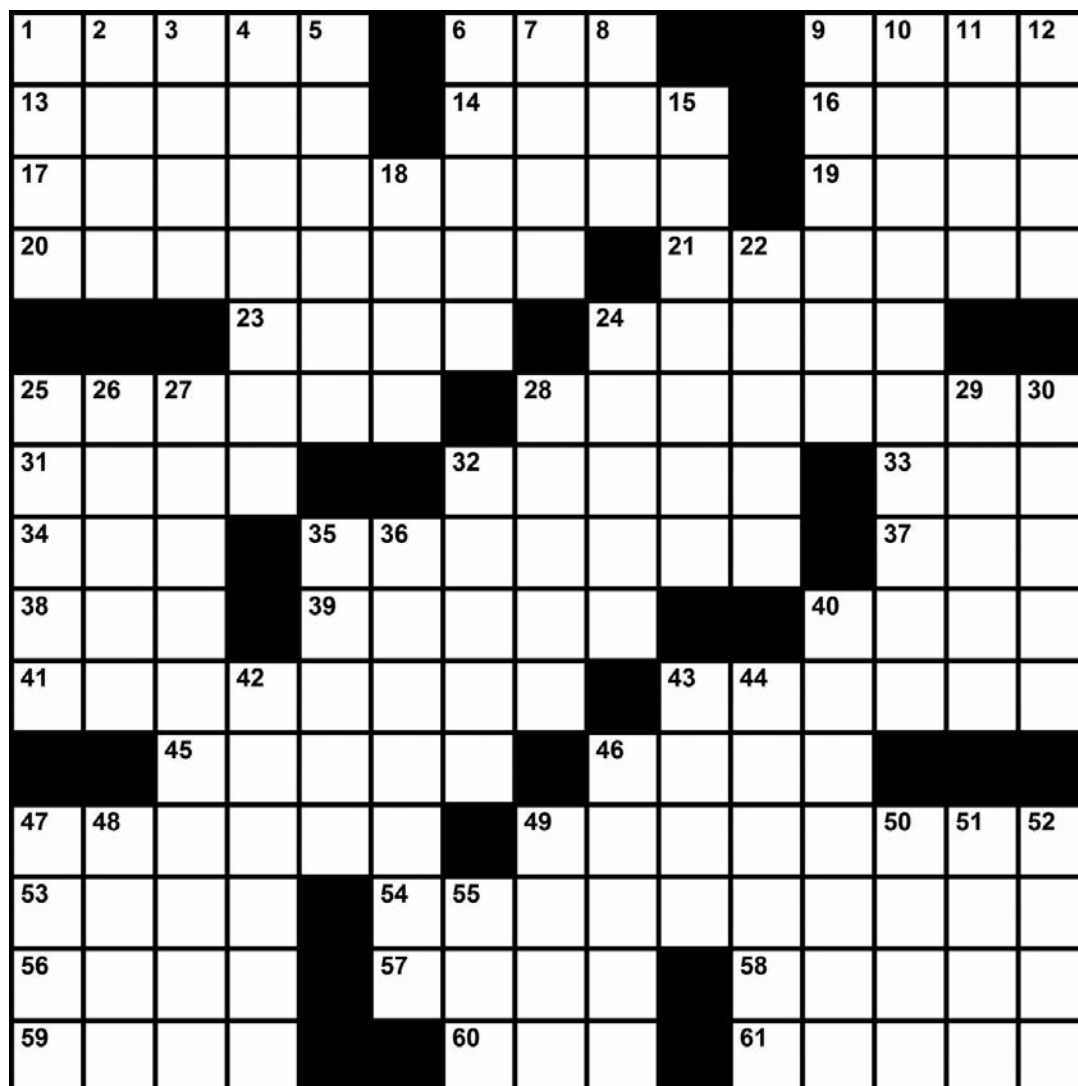
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q-puzzle



Favorite Gay Things About Mad Max

Solution on page 28

Across

- Staff leader for Copland?
- Plug extension
- Egyptian vipers
- Eurasian range
- Diana of *The Avengers*
- Madonna, in a creche
- She plays Aunty Entity in *Mad Max*
- Like every other number
- "Move your ass!"
- Like a flaming queen?
- Washer cycle
- "The rain in ____"
- Most queer
- Vehicles that swing both ways?
- Piecrust ingredient
- It arouses soldiers in bed
- Lizzie Borden used one
- Rubber-stamped
- Material worn by *Mad Max* cops
- Vardalos of *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*
- Actress Charlotte
- Secretes nocturnally
- To *Kill a Mockingbird* character
- Stocking materials for queens?
- High points
- Dens of bears

46 Farm fare

- Ruler with a vagina
- Place for a fruit dessert
- Skin moisturizer
- Minimalist clothing worn in *Mad Max*
- Position to fill
- Fender nick
- Oral performances
- Lamarr of *Samson and Delilah*
- Writer Harper
- Back to the present

Down

- Balls
- Lit ____
- Nathan of *The Producers*
- Rolled by
- Lens settings for Mapplethorpe
- Utah's Hatch
- Navel fetish accessory?
- Tree rings indication
- Aviator Earhart
- Leader of a tribe of children in *Mad Max*
- Honest Abe, for one
- Auld lang ____
- Fight hand-to-hand

- Hand, when measuring a stallion
- Cotton compressor
- Love-making sounds
- Prayer start at Metropolitan Community Church
- Senegal's capital
- Magistrate of Bartertown in *Mad Max*
- Top targets
- Send to Siberia
- Elite divers
- Attempts to seduce
- Pinko's hero
- City hue in Oz
- Disapprove of
- Homosexuality?
- Obi-Wan player
- Tulip tree, e.g.
- Barely burn
- Possible STD symptom
- Woods of *Legally Blonde*
- Box material in *Six Feet Under*
- "Take a crack ____"
- Adverb for seamen
- Canadian oil company
- Lubricant

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