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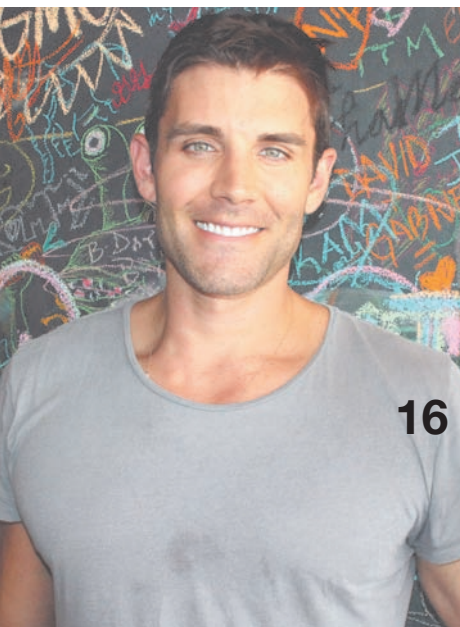
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Photo by Arnold Wayne Jones.  
Design by Craig Tuggle.



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Please bring a canned food item for the Resource Center's Food Pantry



Political Ad paid for by Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, Mike McCue, Treasurer.

# instantTEA

DallasVoice.com/Category/Instant-Tea



Michael Sam

## NCTE launches survey of trans Americans

The National Center for Transgender Equality opened the 2015 U.S. Trans Survey on Wednesday, Aug. 19, in an effort to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the lives of trans men and women in the U.S.

The new survey is, officials said, the largest, most extensive survey of transgender Americans ever undertaken. It covers a wide range of topics to assess transgender people's experiences in employment, housing, healthcare, HIV/AIDS, disabilities, immigration, sex work and police interactions.

Participants will have at least one month to complete the survey, and results are expected to be released in the spring of 2016.

Complete the survey at [Ustranssurvey.org](http://Ustranssurvey.org).

— Tammye Nash

## Michael Sam taking a break, citing mental health concerns

Michael Sam announced his departure from professional football on Saturday, Aug. 15, citing concern for his mental health after an emotionally difficult last year.

The first openly gay NFL draft pick began the 2015 season with Canadian Football League's Montreal Alouettes after brief stints last year with the St. Louis Rams and the Dallas Cowboys.

The Corpus Christi native hasn't escaped the spotlight since 2013, when he was named the SEC defensive player of the year at the University of Mis-

souri. He was a first-rate draft but after a weak practice performance, the St. Louis Rams in the sixth and final round picked him.

He was soon after released from the Rams, picked up by the Cowboys for their practice squad and released again, finally taking him to Montreal.

Get some rest, Michael. You deserve it.

— James Russell

## Stewart resigns as executive director of TENT

Katy Stewart announced Monday, Aug. 17, that she is resigning as executive director of the Transgender Education Network of Texas "to pursue other projects and some degree of self-care that is much needed."

In an email announcing her resignation, Stewart said she and TENT Board of Directors Chair Brandon Beck will "work closely over the remainder of this year" to transition the organization from a "board-led, staff-run model" to a working board model. "This will allow the TENT board to be more directly involved in the daily actions of the organization and provide a closer link between the community and the organization," Stewart wrote.

She also thanked the board and the group's supporters.

"I do thank you for the opportunity to serve you and hope that you will invest patience and trust in this new direction in very capable hands," Stewart said.

— Tammye Nash

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**THE GAY AGENDA**

Have an event coming up? Email your information to staff writer James Russell at [russell@dallasvoice.com](mailto:russell@dallasvoice.com) by Thursday at 10 a.m. for that week's issue.

**AUGUST**

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly** every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM.; **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 St., Ste. C; **Fuse** game night every Monday evening but the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space at ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Road, apt. 2367; **Fuse Connect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. at the Fuse Space. For more information call or e-mail Ruben Ramirez at 214-540-4500 or [rramirez@myresourcecenter.org](mailto:rramirez@myresourcecenter.org).

• **Aug. 21: HRC DFW Federal Club 'Married on the Weekend, Fired Monday Morning' Mixer**  
Socialize with fellow HRC DFW Federal Club supporters and enjoy drink specials until 7 p.m. at Green Door Public House, 600 S. Harwood.

• **Aug. 22: 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 from Cedar Springs at 8:30 a.m. and Collin Creek Mall at 9 a.m. For tickets and more information visit [T.co/r7voNP2HBu](http://T.co/r7voNP2HBu) or email [Info@razzledazzledallas.org](mailto:Info@razzledazzledallas.org).

• **Aug. 22: GALA's Fifth Annual Party on Lake Lewisville**  
9 a.m.-1 p.m. aboard the 105-passenger Chaminox II party boat on Lake Lewisville. Tickets include lunch, drinks and entertainment by DJ Little Chalupa. For tickets and more information visit [GALANorthTexas.org](http://GALANorthTexas.org).

• **Aug. 23: Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association Meeting**  
Tarrant County Pride's monthly meeting at 3 p.m. at the Barron House at Celebration Community Church, 908 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Worth.

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**pet of the week / SNOW**

Meet **Snow!** This amazing, cutie pie is looking for his forever home, but he won't have to look for long. Snow is a mix of Retriever and Terrier, meaning he is smart and athletic too. Like most dogs, his ideal life would include some daily activity followed by a relaxing evening, lounging with the family. Snow plays well with other dogs and is very friendly with all ages of people. Snow recently went on a field trip and he loved riding in the car and sticking his head out the window! Snow appears to be used to an indoor life and has wonderful manners. He is a favorite among the Volunteers at Operation Kindness and he knows how to "sit" for treats. If you're looking for your new best friend, come down and meet Snow.

**Snow** 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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**Aug. 23: HRC DFW Federal Club 'Women Celebrating Women' BBQ and Pool Party**  
1-4 p.m. at private home. Address disclosed upon registration. \$10 in advance or \$15 at door. Includes drinks and food. For tickets and more information visit [Bit.ly/1P6Nqqn](http://Bit.ly/1P6Nqqn).

**• Aug. 27: Out & Equal Dallas-Fort Worth 'One Night in Monte Carlo' Fundraiser**  
Annual fundraiser for local chapter of LGBT workplace inclusion group includes appetizers, drinks, a live auction and music 6-8 p.m. at Times Ten Cellar, 6324 Prospect Ave. Tickets are \$35 online or \$40 at door. For tickets and more information visit [Conta.cc/1g9oJy3](http://Conta.cc/1g9oJy3).

**• Aug. 28-30: Family Equality Council at Austin Pride**  
Family Equality Council partners with the Austin community to create additional family-friendly spaces where parents and prospective parents who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer, along with their children and other allies, can celebrate, make new connections, and reflect on the equality movement. For more information, visit [Familyequality.org/get\\_involved/events/pri\\_de\\_celebrations/austin\\_pride](http://Familyequality.org/get_involved/events/pri_de_celebrations/austin_pride).

**• Aug. 29: Latino Center for Leadership Development Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Clinic**  
Free clinic provides legal advice to those who qualify for DACA, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 8701 Greenmound Ave. Bring current passport, birth certificate, U.S. school records, and

hospital and medical records including immunizations.

**• Aug. 29: HRC DFW Federal Club Tarrant County Social**  
Socialize with fellow HRC DFW Federal Club supporters and enjoy drink specials from 6-8 p.m. at Ron's Corner Tavern, 1833 N. Airport Fwy., Bedford.

**• Aug. 30: Annual Stonewall Democrats of Dallas Fundraiser**  
Test your political knowledge and raise money for the Stonewall Democrats of Dallas with host Edna Jean Robinson, 3-6 p.m. at the Round Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. \$20 suggested donation at door. Various sponsorship levels available. For tickets and more information visit [StonewallDemocratsOfDallas.org/donate](http://StonewallDemocratsOfDallas.org/donate).

#### SEPTEMBER

**• Weekly: Lambda Weekly** every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM; **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 St., 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. For more information call or e-mail Ruben Ramirez at 214-540-4500 or [rramirez@myresourcecenter.org](mailto:rramirez@myresourcecenter.org).



#### Aug. 22: GALA's Fifth Annual Party on Lake Lewisville

GALA North Texas, the LGBT advocacy organization in Collin County, holds its fifth annual Party on Lake Lewisville from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, aboard the 105-passenger Chaminox II party boat. Tickets include lunch, drinks and entertainment by DJ Little Chalupa. For tickets and more information visit [GALANorthTexas.org](http://GALANorthTexas.org).

**• Sept. 1: 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, contact Finn Jones by phone at 214-499-0378 or by email at [sfinn.jones@gmail.com](mailto:sfinn.jones@gmail.com).

**• Sept. 3: 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](http://PflagFortWorth.org).



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# LGBT Community Center



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# FEEDing a Need

Resource Center launches food insecurity project, addressing needs of HIV-positive clients

**JAMES RUSSELL** | Staff Writer  
Russell@dallasvoice.com

In 2013, 14.3 percent of households in the United States — that's about 17.5 million households, or 1 in 7 — were "food insecure," according to the World Hunger Education Service. That means, that in 1 in 7 households, people spent at least part of their lives wondering where their next meal would come from.

Throw in the extra dimension of dealing with a chronic illness, such as HIV/AIDS, and the statistics go up.

"Food insecurity" is defined as an individual not having consistent access to affordable, adequate and healthy food. Project FEED, a new Resource Center project, aims to rectify that issue among the center's most vulnerable HIV-positive clients.

FEED is an acronym for "Food, Education, Empowerment Dallas," and the program is a collaboration between Resource Center's existing nutritional programs and Neha Gaddam, a UT-Southwestern medical student and Schweitzer Foundation fellow.

(Currently 10 fellows are working with organizations across the Dallas-Fort Worth region. Gaddam is the only one working directly with HIV-positive individuals.)

Originally from The Woodlands, the second-year medical student wanted to make a difference outside of medical school. As part of the application for the national fellowship, applicants must submit a proposal for a 200-hour volunteer project that helps vulnerable people live healthier lives and create healthier communities.

The competitive fellowship attracted Gaddam because of its entrepreneurial approach and because it offered the opportunity to build a program "from the ground up."

After researching area agencies with nutrition programs, she thought the Resource Center would be a good fit. She asked friends about it — "They only had good things to say" — and immediately contacted Jennifer Hurn, Resource Center's client service manager who oversees the project.

The center was already looking to expand its outreach to HIV-positive clients. And Hurn said food insecurity had become one of her pet issues.

After submitting the proposal and winning the fellowship, Gaddam joined forces with Hurn and the duo went to work.

## Building the program

FEED's goal aligns with the fellowship's out-

comes: to increase access to healthy and nutritional food opportunities for the center's HIV-positive clients. A three-page action plan provided by Hurn details just how much work needs to be done to begin the program.

The first part involved research. A lot of research.



Currently, there are few published studies exploring food insecurity among HIV-positive individuals, and "A lot of the [available] research explores the impact of food insecurity on HIV-positive individuals internationally," Gaddam said.

But based on the few domestic studies available, it is an issue in the United States.

According to research conducted by the University of California-San Francisco's AIDS Research Institute, high rates of international food insecurity negatively impact antiretroviral treatment outcomes.

But, the report notes, "food insecurity is present in half of the HIV-positive urban poor in San Francisco, one of the best resourced settings for HIV-positive individuals in the United States, and is associated with incomplete viral suppression."

Even with access to quality services and low-cost medication, HIV-positive individuals are still plagued with a lack of healthy nutritional options, which can weaken the impact of the medications they take to treat HIV/AIDS. Access to healthy food and maintaining a healthy diet not only helps contain an individual's viral load, it is also a preventive measure for the community as a whole.

The study concludes HIV service providers must integrate access to healthy food in programs serving key populations.

Hurn said an estimated 50 percent of HIV-positive people experience food insecurity. Those statistics match the experiences of the center's clients.

Hurn culls her data from a needs and outcomes assessment all clients are required to fill out. Two questions on the assessment address food insecurity. And responses to those questions reveal an overwhelming lack of access to affordable food.

Factors affecting lack of access includes financial barriers and a lack of adequate transportation.

Food insecurity is not just about healthy eating, however. To understand food insecurity one must also look at the negative social determinants. In



Neha Gaddam reviews data about Resource Center's clients' nutritional habits in the center's kitchen.

short, negative social determinants have dangerous outcomes.

"If someone offers a burger to someone who hasn't eaten in two days in exchange for unprotected sex," Hurn said, "the likelihood the recipient may contract HIV goes up."

Obesity is another determinant. Limited access to healthy food means many people eat high-fat, high-sugar and low-protein foods, like potato chips, to temporarily satisfy their appetite.

Stigma against those with HIV also contributes to food insecurity.

Last year, the center's food pantry and hot meals program served 1,900 clients. By Hurn's estimate, that means 31,000 pantry visits and 18,000 hot meals.

"We have clients who say our hot meals are the only reason they get out of bed," she said.

For many clients, the safe environment at the center is all they have going for them. By providing a well-balanced meal in a safe environment, the center is helping clients control their viral load and thus helping them live healthier lives.

## Future goals

Part of the program's goal is to provide educational workshops at the center and elsewhere in the community. Ideally the first workshops will

occur when hot meals are served. They will look at "the little things you miss on nutrition labels and [that] you may not understand," Gaddam said.

Other workshops will address managing caloric intake on a minimum budget.

Participants will also learn how to enjoy not just eating, but cooking, too. Using the Resource Center's kitchen space, guest chefs will provide practical demonstrations.

"We want clients to learn how to create a meal using what's in the pantry," Gaddam said.

Workshops should begin within the month.

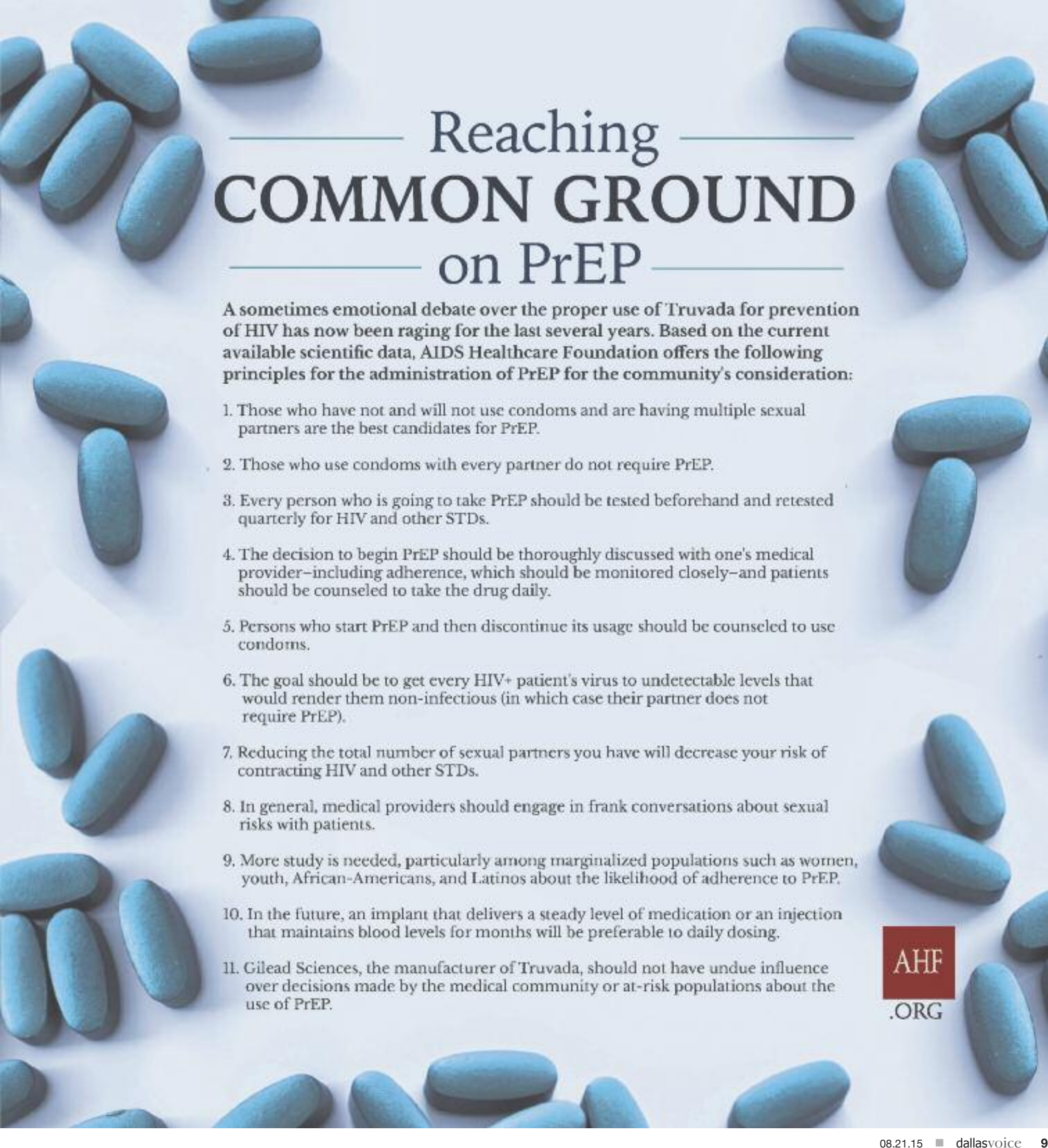
The project will not just benefit clients, but the Resource Center, too.

"We're pulling together community resources not already connected to our nutrition program to help sustain a healthy lifestyle for our clients," Hurn said. "We're also hoping to strengthen our partnership with UT-Southwestern's Clinical Nutrition Department."

Hurn said she is grateful for Gaddam and the Schweitzer Foundation.

"We're happy to make this connection because it gives academic support and advice to stay ahead of the latest trends and best-practice strategies," Hurn said. "It'll take our pantry and hot meal services to the next level by enhancing our ability to provide for our clients."





# Reaching COMMON GROUND on PrEP

A sometimes emotional debate over the proper use of Truvada for prevention of HIV has now been raging for the last several years. Based on the current available scientific data, AIDS Healthcare Foundation offers the following principles for the administration of PrEP for the community's consideration:

1. Those who have not and will not use condoms and are having multiple sexual partners are the best candidates for PrEP.
2. Those who use condoms with every partner do not require PrEP.
3. Every person who is going to take PrEP should be tested beforehand and retested quarterly for HIV and other STDs.
4. The decision to begin PrEP should be thoroughly discussed with one's medical provider—including adherence, which should be monitored closely—and patients should be counseled to take the drug daily.
5. Persons who start PrEP and then discontinue its usage should be counseled to use condoms.
6. The goal should be to get every HIV+ patient's virus to undetectable levels that would render them non-infectious (in which case their partner does not require PrEP).
7. Reducing the total number of sexual partners you have will decrease your risk of contracting HIV and other STDs.
8. In general, medical providers should engage in frank conversations about sexual risks with patients.
9. More study is needed, particularly among marginalized populations such as women, youth, African-Americans, and Latinos about the likelihood of adherence to PrEP.
10. In the future, an implant that delivers a steady level of medication or an injection that maintains blood levels for months will be preferable to daily dosing.
11. Gilead Sciences, the manufacturer of Truvada, should not have undue influence over decisions made by the medical community or at-risk populations about the use of PrEP.

# No progress yet in murder of trans woman



'Ms. Shade' Schuler was one of 18 trans women killed this year in the U.S.

**TAMMYE NASH** | Managing Editor  
Nash@dallasvoice.com

Sr. Cpl. Tramese Andrews said this week Dallas police have no new developments to report in their ongoing investigation into the murder of 22-year-old Shade Schuler, a black transwoman whose badly decomposed body was found July 29 in a vacant field off Riverside Drive.

But Andrews said the department's investigation is ongoing, and asked that anyone with information related to the case call DPD Homicide investigators at 214-671-3584 or Crime Stoppers at 214-373-8477.

Schuler is one of 18 transgender women known to have been murdered so far this year, and the second one in Texas. Ty Underwood, 24, was murdered Jan. 26 in Tyler allegedly by a man with whom she had had a brief relationship. Carlton Ray Champion Jr. has been arrested and charged with Underwood's murder.

Transgender advocates note that more transgender people have been murdered in the U.S. already this year than in all of 2014. They also note that there have likely been more transgender victims, but that these women are often misgendered by police and the media, and so they are not included in the tally of transgender murder victims.

There are also numerous other violent attacks on transgender victims that do not end with the victims' death. A 12-year-old boy was arrested July 31 in Orlando, Fla., and charged with attempted murder and grand theft of a firearm, according to WESH Channel 2, after chasing a transgender woman down a downtown Orlando street while firing a handgun at her and shouting threats and homophobic slurs.

Cheyenne West, 25, told Orlando police she did not know the boy who fired seven shots at her.

Transgender advocates have also noted that the vast majority of the murdered women have been trans women of color. Houston activist Monica Roberts, in her blog TransGriot, said that more would have been done to address the epidemic of anti-trans violence had most of the victims been white.

"I'll bet if the script was flipped and we had young white trans women under 30 dying at the same rate as black and Latina ones have been in 2015, we would already have the 100,000 signatures on that White House We The People petition calling for the federal investigation of anti-trans violence and then some," Roberts wrote on her blog on Aug. 16. "Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton would be saying it from the Democratic campaign trail, and Hollywood's trans supportive allies would already be talking about 'stopping the orgy of violence aimed at young trans people.'"

Roberts continued, "So no, don't even dare part your lips to let that infuriating and insulting 'All Trans Lives Matter' comment pass through your lips when some of these trans kids have yet to be buried. It's fairly obvious some trans lives matter more than others, and we need to keep it real on that point."

## The victims

This year's string of murders of transgender woman began Jan. 9 in Louisville, Ky., when 20-year-old Papi Edwards was shot to death. Henry Richard Gleaves, 20, has been arrested and charged with her murder.

On Jan. 17, Lamia Beard, 30, was shot to death on a Norfolk, Va., street. Her death is still under investigation, and police have said it could be linked to another shooting that occurred on a nearby street that same night. Reports on Beard's death have not identified the second shooting victim.

Underwood was shot to death in Tyler on Jan. 26, her body found in her car after the vehicle crashed into a telephone pole as she apparently tried to flee her attacker. Five days later, Yazmin Vash Payne, 33, was stabbed to death in Los Angeles. Her boyfriend, 25-year-old Ezekiel Dear, later turned himself in to police and confessed to Payne's murder.

San Francisco trans activist Taja Gabrielle De-Jesus, 36, was stabbed to death in the stairwell of a Bayview District building on Feb. 1. Police found the suspect in her murder, James Hayes, 49, dead of an apparent suicide five days later.

Penny Proud, 21, of New Orleans was shot to death Feb. 10 in an apparent robbery. Her death is still under investigation and no arrests have been made.

Bri Golec, 22, was stabbed to death in Akron, Ohio on Feb. 13, allegedly by her 52-year-old father, Kevin Golec. Kevin Golec initially told police Bri had been killed by members of a "cult" who had broken into their home and assaulted them both.

On Feb. 16, Kristina Gomez Reinwald, 46, was stabbed to in her home in Miami. Police initially said Reinwald committed suicide, but later said she was murdered. The case is still under investigation, and while no suspect has been arrested, Reinwald's friends have suggested that she was likely murdered by a former boyfriend with whom she had a stormy relationship.

London Chanel, 21, was stabbed to death in North Philadelphia on May 18. Investigators believe that Chanel was attacked inside a home, and that her body was then moved to the street by the man who stabbed her and a witness. But even though those men have been questioned by police, no charges have been filed. The investigation continues.

On May 30, 17-year-old Mercedes Williamson was stabbed to death and her body buried in a field behind the home of the murder suspect's father near Rocky Creek, Ala. The suspect in the

case, 28-year-old Joshua Brandon Vallum, told his father he had killed someone and buried them in the field, and the father, Bobby Vallum then contacted police. Williamson's body was found on June 2. Josh Vallum has been identified as a possible member of the Latin Kings street gang.

Ashton O'Hara, 25, was beaten to death July 14 in Detroit. Larry B. Gaulding has been arrested and charged with first degree murder in her death.

The next murder occurred July 21 when India Clarke, 25, was beaten to death in Tampa, Fla. Her murder remains under investigation and no arrests have been made.

Police in Fresno, Calif., have made no arrests in the July 23 death of K.C. Haggard, although the 66-year-old woman's grisly murder was caught on video by surveillance cameras at a nearby store. The video shows Haggard walking down the street, about 2 a.m., when an SUV pulled up nearby and someone inside the vehicle called her over. Haggard approached the passenger side window of the SUV and after talking for less than a minute, a passenger in the SUV reached out and slashed her throat.

College student Amber Monroe, 20, was shot to death on a Detroit street on Aug. 8. Witnesses told police Monroe was getting out of a vehicle when someone inside the vehicle shot her.

The most recent murder happened Aug. 11 when 35-year-old Kandis Capri was shot to death outside an apartment complex in Phoenix. Because her purse and phone were missing, police believe she may have been killed during a robbery. No arrests have been made and the investigation is ongoing.

The body of a 19th transgender victim found buried behind a home in Smithfield, in Johnson County, N.C., has been identified as 20-year-old Elisha Walker, who family members say had been missing since last fall. Police say Walker died of blunt force injuries.

Police found Walker's body after locating her car, which had been burned and abandoned in another county. The discovery of the car led to the arrest of Angel Arias, 23, who has been charged with murder and felony theft. Police said Arias, like the suspect in the murder of Mercedes Williamson, is a member of the Latin Kings street gang.



## Sanchez murder investigation continues

Dallas Police spokeswoman Sr. Cpl. Tramese Andrews said this week investigators have no new leads in the July 11 murder of Tony Sanchez, a 51-year-old gay man found dead in his apartment at the Budget Suites on North Walton Walker Freeway at Singleton Boulevard.

According to information released by police, officers responded to the Budget Suites at about 2:13 p.m. Saturday after a friend of Sanchez's, unable to reach him by phone, went to his apartment and found him dead. Homicide detectives responding to the scene determined that Sanchez "died as a result of homicidal violence."

Police said at they time they had no information on a potential suspect. Anyone with information is asked to call DPD Homicide investigators at 14-671-3584 or Crime Stoppers at 214-373-8477.

# Supporters will keep pushing for Keller ISD policy change

Superintendent cites polarization in the community as reason for delay

**JAMES RUSSELL** | Staff Writer  
russell@dallasvoice.com

Supporters of a proposed new policy that would have offered protections to LGBT people in the Keller Independent School District said this week that they were disappointed that the school board postponed a vote on the policy. But they intend to use the extra time to educate the public on the need for such a policy.

School board members had planned to vote on the policy — which would have protected students and employees from bullying, discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression — at their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, Aug. 13. The item was pulled from the agenda at the last minute.

David Mack Henderson, president of Fairness Fort Worth, said supporters of the new policy need to work to counter-act the efforts of opponents to sensationalize the issue with ominous threats of sexual predators lurking in bathrooms.

“The go-to scare tactic now seems to be centered on a prurient sex-centric bath and locker room argument, demeaning and dehumanizing LGBT people along the way,” Henderson said. “We all know it’s baloney, but they’ve used this successfully. It’s up to us to take control of this narrative and set it on an honest course.”

Administrators with the northeast Tarrant County district proposed the language after a student, Casey Akers, alleged discrimination based on her sexual orientation by administrators at Timber Creek High School earlier this year.

In the spring, Akers, who is lesbian, wanted to perform a “promposal,” a popular prom event akin to a wedding proposal among high school students, to a straight female friend who did not have a date. Initially school administrators said she could but recanted after learning Akers was proposing to a girl. They told her, she said, that it “wasn’t appropriate.”

A district spokesperson, however, said the student code of conduct does not permit “actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities,” including promposals.

The incident led Akers to discover that LGBT people were not protected under district policies, so she began lobbying district officials to change those policies.

On May 8, the administration presented a new policy offering protections to LGBT people to numerous stakeholders, and the board previewed the policy in June.

But two trustees, Jo Lynn Haussmann and Brad Schofield — backed by anti-LGBT activists — vocally opposed the measure.

According to a screenshot Henderson sent to Dallas Voice, Haussmann questioned on Facebook why transgender children aren’t “normal” and agreed with another commenter that transgender



Casey Akers

adults should go through counseling.

On a radio show, Schofield slammed his fellow trustees for being “too liberal.”

The two rallied other opponents of the measure to attend the Aug. 13 school board meeting for which the new policy was on the agenda, even if those opponents did not live in the school district and would not be impacted by the policy change.

The night of the meeting, district Superintendent Randy Reid announced the board would delay the vote for further consideration. He said the responses to the ordinance from both those for and against it lead to the decision to pull it.

Henderson said Reid told Akers the agenda item was pulled after an outcry from “mainstream families,” and that Reid should think about the pressure LGBT individuals deal with all the time in the face of such opposition.

“If the superintendent felt his job might be on the line [because he was] openly supporting LGBT stakeholders, maybe he and the board will start to realize how rank-and-file faculty and students feel,” Henderson said.

“For all the advances we’ve recently made there is considerable work left to do. KISD says they have no problems, but FFW gets phone calls from students, parents and faculty indicating quite a different culture than the facade suggests,” he said.

The proposal is returning to a review committee for further consideration.

Observers believe the change would have passed with only Haussmann and Schofield voting against it, had it been allowed to proceed to a vote. And proponents of the measure do not plan to give up.

In a text message, Akers wrote she was initially hurt after hearing about the last minute postponement. “I felt like the LGBT community was being swept under the rug. Although we are not [facing discrimination] in this case, we are being overlooked,” she wrote.

By a few days later, her feelings had changed, and she now calls the delay an opportunity to “spread awareness about the [issues facing LGBT people] to my peers.”

Henderson predicted Keller ISD won’t be the last school district to face such issues.

“We’re going to see more of these encounters in school districts around Texas,” he said. “It’s prudent for us to remember that laws and policies alone are but one step in gaining rights. We have to educate and advocate as well.”

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# Dear Dallas: Stand together and keep fighting

**D**ear Dallas LGBT Community: First of all, I want to thank you for being the beacon of hope and the example you are to the rest of the state of Texas and to our entire nation. You've worked tirelessly and diligently for decades, and have helped accomplish so much in the struggle for an end to the second-class citizenship of gay and lesbian Texans.

Thank you for letting me work among and alongside you. This little po-dunk, small-town boy came to the big city to expand his life and ended up finding his purpose. So much of the knowledge I have gained is because you let me learn from you. And the work we have done together in coalition — for gay causes and for others broader than LGBT — has been some of the most fulfilling work of my life.

But I also want to make an appeal to you what I know you've already heard before: Please don't quit working for others — those



**Todd Whitley**  
Contributing Columnist

within the alphabet of our community and those outside it. Don't walk away like some leaders in our movement and pundits predict you will now that we have marriage equality. As I stood on the Legacy of Love Monument on June 26, 2015, I saw an incredible celebration! I saw us there, all together — gay and transgender, lesbian and straight, black, Asian, brown and white, cisgender and gender-queer. And I believed us — *really believed us* — when we chanted, "Gay! Straight! Black! White! Same struggle, same

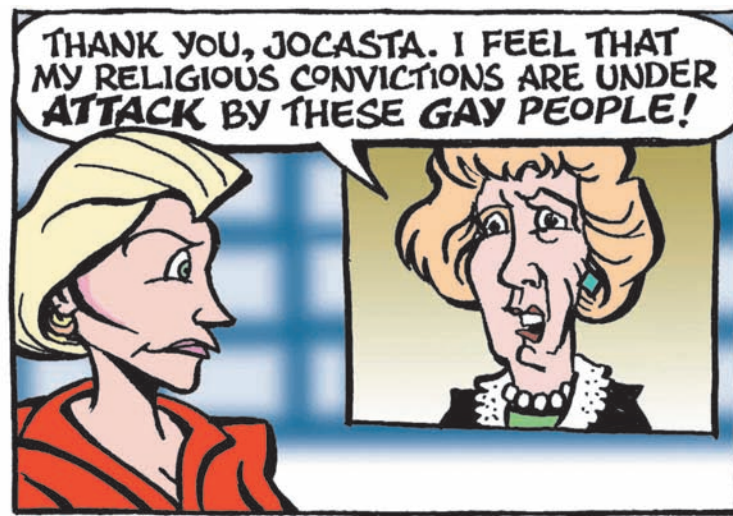
fight!

Never have I felt more unity in our community than at that moment.

But friends, we have some serious challenges in our state and country right now. In Texas and other places, many of us can be fired simply because of whom we love or how we express our gender. Transgender people — particularly black women — are being murdered right here in our own damn city.

Young black men continue to be hunted down, victims of white police brutality. Undocumented workers among us live in fear of being separated from the ones they love, while the safety and very lives of gay and transgender people caught in detention prisons are at risk.

The rights of our sisters to make their own healthcare decisions continue to be controlled by white, evangelical men. The same group in power also wants to cut vital funding for



HIV/AIDS education. They couldn't do it this time, but mark my words, we have not heard the end of this issue.

It doesn't matter what your own personal politics are; we don't all have to believe the same on every issue. But where we do find agreement, it is critical that we get involved. Where we find disagreement, it is vital that we find common ground.

Don't forget those generations who never even dreamed to hope for marriage equality, and honor them with your own relationships and your own activism.

Don't forget the generations of our predecessors lost to AIDS.

Don't judge each other. Don't bicker and fight like those in other gay communities are known for doing. Don't let people tear us apart!

Instead of criticizing, do something. Partner. Reach out. Consider how you can form coalition with each other.

Speak the truth, for sure, but work with others, not against them, to find solutions to challenges.

Support the people around you, even if they're different from you.

Don't stay silo-ed into your groups — you know: just white, just trans, just lesbian, just straight, just black, just Christian, just gay, just

wealthy. There is a time to break bread with those like us and there is a time to expand the table to invite others to join.

Mix it up. Go where you do not usually go and stand with someone not like you.

Lend your privilege, your energy, your passion to someone else's fight.

Model compassion for others and with moxy, make a difference with your talents and gifts.

Friends, in this historical moment in time, we have earned the trust of some in our community

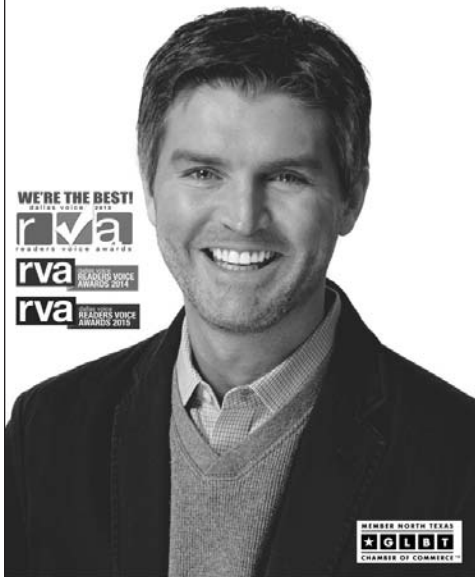
who are outside the "L" and the "G." We have promised them that we will now turn our energies toward them. Continue to work toward earning the trust of those who previously or still view our commitment to them with skepticism. Show them, and the world, with your words and your bodies that you will not let them down. That you will not quit fighting until all of us are equal and no longer viewed as second-class to anyone.

You've done it before, and I know that the

LGBT community in Dallas, Texas will continue to rise up and be a "city set upon a hill" for the whole state of Texas and the rest of the country to see, inspiring a revolution and changing hearts and minds for the benefit of all.

Todd Whitley left his career in the corporate world last year to work as an activist for social justice in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Now he is moving to Berkley, Calif., to attend Pacific School of Religion, so that he can continue to do the work he feels called to do. ■

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# Soup 2 nuts

From concept to reality with Oak Cliff's hotly anticipated new restaurant **Pink Magnolia** ... in 743 easy steps!



**ARNOLD WAYNE JONES** | Executive Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

It's the second week of August, when a lot of sane people are slowing down because of the heat, but Blythe Beck has never been busier. She's feeling the pinch of time. And she doesn't like it.

When she announced in May that she and her business partner, restaurateur Casie Caldwell, would be launching a new concept in Oak Cliff



this summer — to be called Pink Magnolia — they gave a target opening date of mid July. That's long gone. Today, there are still construction crews busily renovating the space. Skylights still need to be cut out of the ceiling, and paper-hangers are carefully but quickly installing wallpaper in the bathrooms. (The design is custom, but Caldwell and Beck are keeping it a secret for now.) Wait staff, line cooks and bartenders are being interviewed, and it's all going slowly. But they've already sold out one night for a special event in September, and there's no chance they'll

**HERE'S TO THE LADIES WHO LAUNCH** | Chef Blythe Beck and business partner Casie Caldwell are a rarity in the Dallas food scene: A team of women restaurateurs both in the kitchen and behind the scenes. Opposite, Pink Magnolia, which is set to open by Labor Day. (Photography by Arnold Wayne Jones)

miss that. As of now, Labor Day weekend is the target. Beck and Caldwell insist that's for sure.

And yet....

Opening a restaurant isn't a big thing — it's countless little things, and the experience is largely new for Beck. Despite her bona fides in the kitchen, this is Beck's first resto from the ground up, if you don't count coming in as sous chef a month before Hector's on Henderson opened, and that was a decade ago — long before she was The Naughty Chef. Long before she had a following. Long before there were expectations. And that's a big part of why she's nervous.

"This is so huge!" she gushes like a child on Christmas Eve. "We feel a real obligation to open soon. It's beautiful just how many people are working together to make your dream a reality."

It's lucky for Beck, then, that Caldwell has been through this before ... often. Pink Magnolia will be her seventh restaurant concept from scratch. That makes her an old hand, and she projects a tolerance for the bureaucracy and a been-there-done-that familiarity with the delays. Not Beck, though. Beck was so happy when the first health inspector gave her green tag that she burst into tears. The inspector even offered to call *more* inspectors to expedite the process. By the third time, one inspector saw Beck approach and stopped her cold. "I've heard about you," he said of Beck's reputation for getting nervous and teary. "You sit right there." He approved the permit quickly; more tears of joy.

But it's what makes the two — a comparatively rare team of woman chef and woman restaurateur — ideal business partners. The affection — the respect — is real. So we started talking to them soon after the announcement: What is it like building a restaurant brand (not just the menu) from soup to nuts. Here's what we discovered.

"I've always talked about starting a restaurant from scratch, but I was really scared about the back-end part — how do you get the money?" Beck wondered. That's where Caldwell's calm, connections and organizational skills came in.

"Let me tell you a little story about my partner," Beck drawls coyly. "It starts with a simple thing called Excel. She'll send me a spreadsheet about a schedule to set up a schedule to talk about spreadsheets. Meanwhile, I'll write recipes on the flaps of cardboard boxes. It's what makes for the perfect partner. I knew a month ago that this was the week would be doing interviews. It's a great team.

And one born of friendship. Although they



had known each other for about five years, the first time they worked seriously together was two years ago, when Caldwell was launching Kitchen LTO in the brand new Trinity Groves development. Her concept for the restaurant was a laboratory to allow chefs and designers to create, rotating chefs every four months so that each time a diner returned, it had the potential to be a brand-new experience. She called Beck to pitch the idea to her and get her feedback.

"She said I was crazy," Caldwell recalls.

"She was taking the worst part about being a restaurant owner — *opening* a restaurant — and repeating it over and over again!" Beck screams with disbelief still.

Nevertheless, Beck agreed to be part of the culinary team that vetted the potential chefs wanting to compete for the initial slot. She had no intention of ever being in the running herself ever — in fact, she had decided to take a much-deserved break and not work all last summer while her fiancé supported them. Suddenly, though, he broke his wrist and she was looking for a job. Caldwell suggested she audition for the fourth rotation at Kitchen LTO. Beck was initially skeptical.

"What if I don't win?" she asked. But her popularity — especially among her loyal gay fans who like to feel naughty with her — quickly made her the frontrunner. She was a hit, and handily won the chance to take over the kitchen there. It became instantly clear to Caldwell that working with Beck was a dream.

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# Market forces

LIFE+STYLE  
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How Brent Rodgers turned a juice company into a door-to-door virtual food-market-and-more for yuppies — and guppies

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

It's a warm Saturday, and you're relaxing by the pool when you realize you've run out of beer or a bottle of white wine. There's none in the fridge. You used to get half-dressed, grab the car keys and run to the 7-11. Now, just touch a few buttons and within the hour, the beer — and lots of other things — will have come to you. That's the magic of the new Dallas-based grocery-delivery app called Plat.

Plat (pronounced *plate*) is the brainchild of foodie entrepreneur Brent Rodgers. Rodgers is the man behind Roots Juices, which started three years ago as an online juice-delivery service before opening a storefront on Oak Lawn Avenue. It's now in three additional cities (Houston, Little Rock, Atlanta) with a second Dallas location set to open in Lakewood next month. And from Roots did mighty Plat grow.

"We were making 110 deliveries a week just of juice, but it kept expanding," Rodgers explains from a stole inside Roots Juices. They would deliver not just bottles of juice, but also select items (fruits, snacks) from the

small pantry. But customers kept wanting more and more.

"People came in everyday to ask if we could deliver" more items, Rodgers says. The question was how to do it.

Online grocery delivery services are nothing new, but ever the perfectionist, Rodgers wanted to do it the right way. First off, it had to be easy to use. And while Plat does have a desktop website, it was original designed as an effortless smartphone app.

"We wanted the look of simplicity even though it's actually very complicated," he says. Rodgers' partner is an engineer, which made developing the user-friendly app a little easier. But even that was just the first step. Next up was convenience.

"I am an anti-fee person," Rodgers says. He knew Plat would only take off with no delivery fee whatsoever (there is, though, a very reasonable minimum order of \$35). Then came speed: One hour delivery, guaranteed ... "and we've never been late... not once, though we have been close," he brags.

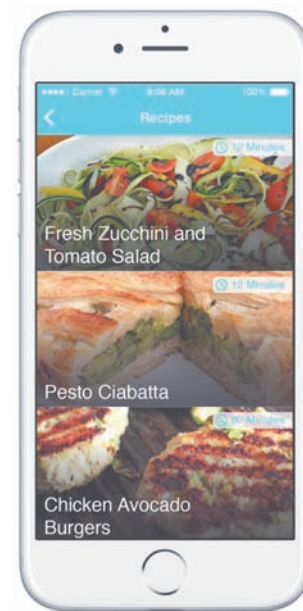
The system is efficiency itself: An order comes to

their warehouse on Harry Hines and is filled within five minutes. Then it's just a question of getting to the customer. Most orders are from high-rises in the Uptown area, though he has noticed a great deal of traffic as far as Addison. "We don't do a whole lot of moms — right now it's lots of young singles," he says.

One of the coolest features of the app? A recipes section: Scan through photos of easy-to-make dishes, and when you find one you want, you can instantly purchase all the items needed to turn it into a meal. It's cheaper and easier than take-out!

The final step of the process was curating a small but thoughtful inventory. At present, there are about 350 items for purchase, but new ones are being added all the time (Blue Bell is one of the most recent). They try to keep on hand "one type of everything," though the app does offer three different price points for wine (including from Hall Winery), three kinds of dip (from hummus to salsa) and even common household items. Rodgers has his sights set next on a prepared foods section.

Eventually, Rodgers hopes to expand even further — more items, more locations, more services ... all stops along the path to the ultimate goal: Becoming the Uber of food.



**APP-ETIZING** | Rodgers insisted his Plat app look simple and be effortless to use. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)



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# MOONSHINE

*That Hee Haw Musical*

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MUSIC AND LYRICS BY BRANDY CLARK AND SHANE McANALLY

DIRECTED BY GARY GRIFFIN CHOREOGRAPHED BY DENIS JONES

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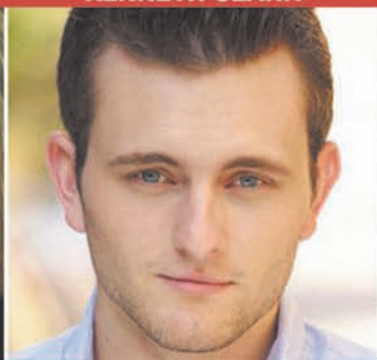
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■ PINK, From Page 15

"Guests would come in and were like, 'you can't let her go,'" Caldwell says. (Two of the eventual investors in Pink Magnolia, in fact, were complete strangers to both Caldwell and Beck—they simply came into the LTO, tasted the food, and said, "How can we be a part of this?")

It was almost immediately that the two began making plans for a new concept.

Caldwell started a campaign to extend Beck's stay an additional four months, during which time she and Beck began scouting locations for their new concept. When she found out Driftwood, the acclaimed seafood restaurant on Davis Street in Oak Cliff, had closed, she called Chris Zielke, the owner, who said it was available. They bought it up quickly.

The next step was hiring an interior decorator to make their vision manifest. After some failed attempts, they finally tapped April Schneider.

"She's nuts and we love her creativity. She's brilliant." They changed the interior of Driftwood, adding black, white and lime green—very little pink, though ("It's not Barbie's Fun House; it's a fine dining restaurant!" Beck sighs); they rescued shutters from a mansion in McKinney; they re-

moved the wooden slats from the windows to add more light to the interior, then repurposed them for bar shelves. And perhaps most importantly, they tore down a wall to provide an open kitchen.

In the spirit of *Dirty Dancing*'s "Nobody puts Baby in a corner," Caldwell said, "Nobody puts Blythe behind a wall." There will be counter seating right there for a kind of chef's table.

Those are some of the big decisions, but Beck insists, "We have to make 55 decisions every day," from light switch wall plates to hostesses ("Is this person going to be great?" Beck asks herself at each interview) to menu boards and of course the dishware. In fact, one thing that she didn't expect to get hung up on was selecting bowls. They finally settled on a homey-yet-elegant bone-white design that calls to mind Corn-

ing Ware, reinforcing the indulgent, familiar charm of Beck's Texas upbringing.

"You have to be so intense about every detail—just to sit down with our small wares and make decisions [is exhausting]," Caldwell says.

"And nothing is contrived—everything has a purpose... and I worry about everything," Beck says. She's personalized it more than you can imagine; Beck refers to the restaurant as "her" all the time. "She's a girl, of course!"

It's not just the décor details that obsess her, of course; the term "chef driven" has rarely been more accurate. The restaurant will be unapologetically over-the-top—"Bacon, butter and booze," as Beck likes to say.

"It's about the personality, the budget, the food! The menu had to be done first, because everything flowed from that." No wonder it took a while to pick a plate—how can you decide if you don't know what you're going to set on it?

The dinner and brunch menus were the first to be finalized; lunch will come later. There will

be some holdover items from the menu at Kitchen LTO—and for that matter, Central 214—including the chicken-fried ribeye, the shrimp and grits, the chocolate waffles and the iceberg babies. These are

staples that Beck's legion of fans will demand. But it won't be a rehash of those concepts.

"This is bigger than any menu I've ever done—bigger than Kitchen LTO, of course, but even Central 214 and Hector's. We went with very shareable plates. All the apps you can add onto. The whole idea is not to make a reservation, or even come in, but to 'come over.'" The Southern hospitality theme echoes throughout the entire space; it's part of the mission statement, printed right on the exterior sign: "Where company comes to dine."

That's reflected in many menu choices, but Beck is especially proud of the punches she'll serve. One, the Pink Magnolia punch, will be available when you come in, but another version—the Ladies' Punch, made of pink sherbet, champagne and soda, and served to parties of



## Uptown, meet Whole Foods

Gay foodies rejoice! Uptown has its first **Whole Foods**. The newly-opened grocery store along McKinney Avenue is conveniently located across the street from Gold's Gym, to make it oh-so-simple for you to pick up some protein powder and get in some weights and cardio without having to park twice (and there's two levels of underground parking). The concierge program (basically a personal shopper who'll pull your shopping list for you to pick up) is actually free right now on Thursdays, which makes it easy to drop off your list, grab a craft beer from the tap wall, pick up a half-priced pizza and enjoy the patio. Oh, and the foodie mecca has a pet section that's more than twice as big as most of their stores. Why? "The locals have more dogs than children," they told me. Uh-huh. That's Uptown.



— A.W.J.

six or more — will arrive in a one of several one-of-a-kind mismatched punch bowls they bought at estate sales. “We could’ve purchased them from a vendor, but that would’ve missed the point. We wanted punch bowls that had history, where lives have already touched it,” Beck says.

So there will be pink on the kitchen door, on the sign and in the punch bowl... but that’s it? Then why call it Pink Magnolia?

“I think people expect to see pink everywhere

when they come in, but there isn’t,” Caldwell explains. “The whole pink positivity thing? She really lives it. I didn’t get that until I worked with her — it’s for real. We will go to another restaurant and I’ll say, ‘This just doesn’t work for me,’ and Blythe will say, ‘They didn’t put their heart into it.’ It’s a philosophy, not a gimmick. Why distract? Blythe is the Pink Magnolia.”

*Pink Magnolia by Chef Blythe Beck, 642 W. Davis St. PinkMagnoliaDallas.com.*

## SWAP-OUTS!

**Plant-based alternatives to animal products make going vegan easier than ever**

Since we gave Naughty Chef Blythe Beck space to talk about her love of bacon and butter, it seemed only fair to give the vegetarians a say as well.

Assume that you’ve decided to become a vegetarian. No? Well, maybe that’s because you figured it would be too hard to do — you’ve become accustomed to accessing the (not-vegan) products you like, and replacing them with vegetable-strong alternatives is just too much work. That’s bull ... or at least, the meat-less equivalent of bull.

We asked Eddie Garza, food policy manager with the Humane Society of the U.S., to scour the market and find five great, easy-to-access plant-based products that you can effortlessly substitute for their animal-based counterparts.

**Replace your ground beef with Beyond Meat Beast Burger:** Vegans, vegetarians and meat-eaters alike are raving about the new Beast Burger. It has more protein and iron than beef, more omegas than salmon, more antioxidants than blueberries, plus tons of calcium and B vitamins. Fun fact: The Beast Burger is so popular now, you can even order one at the world’s largest honky-tonk, Billy Bob’s Texas.

**Replace your tilapia with Gardein Fishless Filets:** “Gardein really nailed this product in terms of taste and texture,” Garza says. “Plus, they’ve got omega-3s so I can feel OK about skipping the flaxseeds in my morning smoothie. I love them in tacos, sandwiches or as part of a simple fish and chips platter.” Fun fact: Gardein was recently bought by Pinnacle Foods, the company that owns Hungry-Man. In response to the buyout, Pinnacle Foods CEO Bob Gamgort told Reuters: “We believe that plant-based protein is at the tipping point of becoming mainstream.” Pretty cool quote from the company that also owns the very meaty “eat like a man” TV dinners.

**Replace your cheese board with Kite Hill:** You’ll fall quickly in love with Kite Hill’s almond milk-based artisanal cheeses, Garza promises. You can find them at Whole Foods alongside their dairy counterparts (because they’re that realistic), and occasionally at the hot bar in “Kite



Photography by Sylvia Elzafon

Hill Lasagna.”

**Replace your breakfast patties with Field Roast Sausage Links:** These are a staple in many vegan households. “Toss some of the Mexican Chipotle style in a food processor for tacos, or slice them up for paella,” Garza recommends. “The Italian style works great with hearty pasta dishes, and the Smoked Apple Sage links are incredible in a French country cassoulet.”

**Replace your eggy mayonnaise with Hampton Creek Just Mayo:** This one’s a real game changer. Just Mayo is a delicious egg-free mayo that tastes like traditional mayonnaise — even better! — and is actually cheaper than most major brands. (You can find it at Walmart for the same price as Hellmann’s.) Fun fact: Dallas-based 7-11 recently switched to Just Mayo for its sandwiches nationwide.

— A.W.J.

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### SUMMER RECIPE Grilled shrimp tacos

What's the No. 1 sport in Dallas in August? Nope, not Cowboys training camp — complaining about the heat. **Aaron Henschen**, the executive chef at the **Del Frisco's Grille** in Southlake, devised a few home-cook seasonal recipes that will make that Texas sun easier to handle. For your cooking pleasure, we share one here: his take on marinated summer shrimp tacos in pesto with slaw and brown rice.

#### Ingredients:

- 3/4 cup basil leaves (or cilantro, if desired)
- 1/4 cup parsley leaves
- 1 teaspoon chopped garlic
- 4 tablespoons of chopped almonds
- olive oil
- Parmesan (grated)
- 2 lbs. of shrimp
- 1 cup short grain brown rice
- 6–8 Roma tomatoes
- 1 lb. jicama, deskinced and diced into 1/2-in. cubes
- 1/4 cup chopped basil or cilantro
- 1 lime, zested and juiced
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup mayo
- 2 cups shredded green cabbage
- 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
- 16 grape tomatoes, halved
- 2–4 whole ears of corn
- salt, pepper, spices to taste.

#### Making it:

Make the pesto first, combining basil/cilantro, parsley, garlic and almonds in a food processor;

pulse for 30 seconds. Add 6–8 tablespoons of olive oil and 1 tablespoon Parmesan, plus salt and pepper to taste. Mix. Set into refrigerator.

Next, prepare shrimp, peeling off tail and shell —de-vein and rinse. Add shrimp to a plastic bag and coat thoroughly with pesto. Marinate for at least four hours in refrigerator.

Next, prepare the rice mixture. Dice tomatoes in half, and coat in 4 tablespoons olive oil, 1 tablespoon kosher salt and 1 teaspoon black pepper. Roast on a foil-lined baking sheet for 1 hour at 350. Pour olive oil in a sauce pan and add rice, making sure it doesn't stick to the bottom. Continue toasting for 5–8 mins. Pour in 2 cups chicken stock and bring to a boil. Add roasted tomatoes. Cover and put saucepan in over, cooking at 325 for about 30 mins. or until at desired doneness.

To make the slaw, peel back leaves of corn-on-the-cob, remove silk and return leaves over kernels; soak in water 10 mins., then cook on grill until tender; allow to cool.

While cooling, sauté grape tomatoes in olive oil about 3 mins. Cut corn from cob and add to bowl with lime. Soak 15 mins. then add jicama, basil/cilantro, zest, mayo, cabbage and vinegar.

Now, grill the shrimp at 350, about 3 mins. each side, squeezing lime juice over them. Cool and chop into bite-sized pieces. Heat up some flour or corn tortillas on the grill. Assemble, starting with the rice, topped by the slaw and shrimp, then your favorite salsa.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



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**Saturday** 08.22

**Jason Dottley comes to the Rose Room to chat about his 'Life on the Gay List'**

From his high-profile marriage to Del Shores to his even more high-profile divorce and lots of adventures in between, Jason Dottley's life has been on public display for more than a decade. He dishes about all of it in his confessional one-man show, which he brings to the Rose Room for a one-night-only performance.

**DEETS:** The Rose Room inside Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 8 p.m. LifeOnTheGayList.com.



**LIFE+STYLE**

best bets

**Friday** 08.21

**Q Cinema holds fundraiser and announcement party for Season 17**

Fort Worth's Q Cinema is the longest-running gay and lesbian film festival in North Texas, and it's about to launch its 17th season this fall. Just what films will be on the slate? Well, that's part of the purpose of the announcement party, which is being co-hosted by co-beneficiary Amphibian Stage Productions. There's even a VIP level for those who want to show their enthusiastic support for Q Cinema while sipping cocktails.

**DEETS:** Amphibian Stage Productions, 120 S. Main St., Fort Worth. 7 p.m. \$15-\$50. QCinema.org.

**Saturday** 08.22

**Drag Racer Pearl continues Dallas' string of RuPaul alums**

What happens after the queens on *RuPaul's Drag Race* sashay away? Why, they come to Dallas! One Night in Bangkok continues its lineup of Drag Racers with an appearance this weekend by Pearl. She's joined by local luminaries Nicole O'Hara Munro, Jada Fox, Raquel Blake and G Licious G at the midnight show. It'll be followed by a meet-and-greet and photos with the cast.

**DEETS:** The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave. 9 p.m. doors, performance at midnight. OneNightInBangkok.org.



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**ARTSWEEK**

**THEATER**

**Mr. Burns, a Post-Electric Play.** Regional premiere of the dark comedy about a post-apocalyptic world where The Simpsons has become a cultural touchstone. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Sept. 13. StageWest.org.

**A School Bus Named Desire.** Once again, Jeff Swearingen adapts a classic of modern adult literature for performance by children and adolescence. Fun House Theatre and Film, 1301 Custer Road, ste.706, Plano. *Final weekend.* FunHouseTheatreAndFilm.com.

**Silence! The Musical.** A spoof of *The Silence of the Lambs*, performed late-night from the folks who just did *Jerry Springer: The Opera*. OhLook Performing Arts, 1631 W. Northwest Highway, Grapevine. Through Aug. 29. 11 p.m. only. OhLookPerform.com.

**The Color Purple.** Alice Walker's novel about racial and sexual liberation adapted for the musical stage. *Final weekend.* Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. JubileeTheatre.org.

**God of Carnage.** The volatile comedy about parents on the edge. *Final weekend.* Studio Theatre at the Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. OurDallasProductions.org.

**The Glass Menagerie.** The first show of Theatre 3's new season — and the first without the late Jac Alder's leadership — is this classic Tennessee Williams drama. *Final weekend.* Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Theatre3Dallas.com.

**Lovers and Executioners.** A cross-dressing comic battle of the sexes. Circle Theatre, 230 W. 4th St., Fort Worth. Through Sept. 19 (in previews through Aug. 21). CircleTheatre.com.

**Reefer Madness The Musical.** Art Centre Theatre Plano, 5220 Village Creek Drive, Plano. Through Aug. 29. ArtCentreTheatre.com.

**Streamers.** David Rabe's award-winning drama about soldiers headed for Vietnam who react when one of their number comes out at gay. The Firehouse Theatre, 2535 Valley View Lane. Through Aug. 29. JasonLeyva.com.

**The House of Blue Leaves.** John Guare's wacky family comedy. Bedford Boys Ranch, 2819 Forest Ridge Drive, Bedford. Aug. 14–30. OnstageInBedford.com.

**I'm Always on My Mind.** A world premiere one-man show about a narcissist who doesn't realize it ... yet. Theatre 166, 2425 Parker Road, Carrollton. Through Aug. 28. Eventbrite.com.

**FINE ART**

**CHAOS!!! 2015.** A curated exhibit of small works from more than 100 artists. Ro2 Art Downtown Gallery, 110 N. Akard St. Through Sept. 12. Ro2Art.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.

**FRIDAY 08.21**

**COMMUNITY**

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

**FASHION**

**B.Stellar.** The latest women't collection and launch of a



**DON'T YOU LOVETT** | Texas troubadour Lyle Lovett brings his Large Band to Bass Hall.

new men's life. A fundraiser for The Family Place. Goss-Michael Foundation, 1405 Turtle Creek Blvd. 5–8 p.m.

**FILM**

**Q Cinema Sneak Peek.** The Fort Worth-based gay film festival announced its 17th season of films at a fundraiser benefiting Q Cinema and co-sponsor Amphibian Stage Productions, 120 S. Main St., Fort Worth. 7 p.m. \$15; \$50 (VIP). Qcinema.org.

**SATURDAY 08.22**

**COMMUNITY**

**Jason Dottley: Life on the Gay List.** The singer and actor (*Sordid Lives*) performs a solo show about his celebrity misadventures and romantic entanglements. The Rose Room inside S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 8 p.m. LifeOnTheGayList.com.

**Pearl and Friends.** Former Drag Racer Pearl performs

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#### SHOPPING

**NorthPark Center Birthday Bash.** The shopping destination turns 50 years old with a fashion show, model search and even a birthday cake. 8687 North Central Expressway. Opens at 10 a.m.

### SUNDAY 08.23

#### CONCERTS

**Lyle Lovett and His Large Band.** The Texas troubadour performs. Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. 6:30 p.m. \$66-\$132. BassHall.com.

### TUESDAY 08.25

#### FILM

**Gimme Shelter.** The concert film-cum-documentary about a fatal Rolling Stones concert. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie new Classic Series at Landmark's Magnolia in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Sponsored by Dallas Voice. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

### THURSDAY 08.27

#### CABARET

**Judy Chamberlain Jazz.** The jazz vocalist's weekly cabaret performance in the back room of Zippers Hideaway, 3333 N. Fitzhugh St. 9 p.m.

#### BROADCAST

**Project Runway.** The latest season of competing designers is underway. Lifetime at 8 p.m.

#### this week's solution

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# Cassie Nova

Who has an awesome life?

You know what, my gaybies? My life is pretty awesome. I don't say that in a *flazed* Facebook post trying to convince the world and myself that my life is better than it actually is. I say it because all I have to bitch about are ridiculously petty things. You know the things in your life are not that bad when your biggest complaint of the day is the temperature in the pool is too tepid. Poor me. Or that we haven't been able to enjoy the summer as much because we haven't been able to go to the lake. Our boat has been out of commission due to the heavy rains a few months ago. The marina at Joe Pool Lake, where we keep our boat, has had a lot of damage. Yes, it is horrible that the boat has damage; yes, it is a pain in

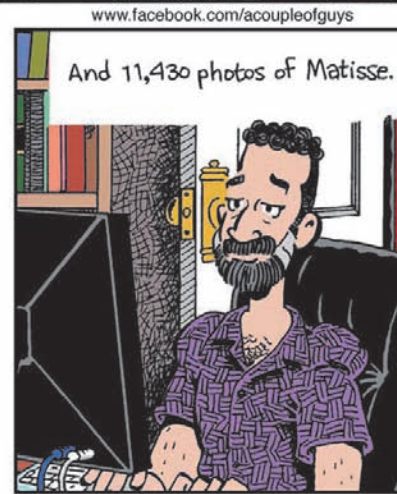
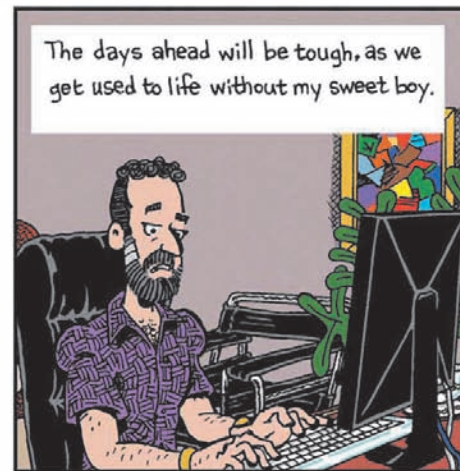
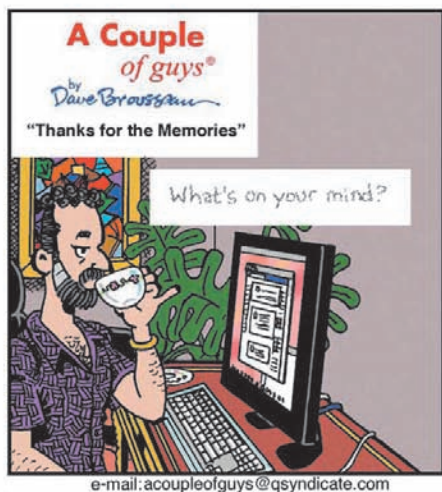
the ass to do an insurance claim. But if this is my biggest complaint, I am doing pretty good.

I do have a huge problem with worrying about shit I have no control over, instead of just enjoying things and living in the moment. I can never just stop and allow myself to enjoy the fruits of our labor. My husband and I have worked hard for everything we have, but I live in constant fear that if I enjoy myself too much or let myself be too happy for too long, it will all vanish. I have to make a conscious decision to stop and smell the roses and be present in the moment. It is just so hard to get out of your own head sometimes. I am my own worst enemy.

Even as I started to write this week's column, I thought I would start with a woe is me, light hearted commentary on "My great life," that has now got me in my head thinking ... don't write that, you will jinx it. If you come off as too happy then something horrible is gonna happen ... don't do it. I hate that about myself. When did I become the person who obsesses over the what ifs? Why isn't there a switch in your brain you could flip that would just turn off all of the

white noise and bullshit that you just can't stop thinking about?

I know I am not alone in my over-active brain, bullying and tainting my thoughts. I have friends that suffer from this to varying degrees. I wish we could all just snap out of it and just genuinely be happy. Now I will use my



stupid brain to help out others. *Sheesh!* Good luck to them.

*Dear Cassie, You always have insightful things to say so I thought you might be able to help with this one. When you have family members that you love dearly, but seem to not have the ability to come around to the idea of homosexuality or transgender people, and post bigoted comments about it, what's the best way to respond? I have tried to shower them with love anyways, and although they treat me well to my face, I feel it's a different story when I'm not around. It's not in my nature to start turning my back on a couple of members of my family, but I'm not exactly sure what to do when some of them clearly have beliefs that are so hateful and condescending that I don't want to speak to them. I have so many friends and family members that do support me, so I almost feel like why bother with the others? Kelly Clarkson's song "Sober" sums it up best. "I picked all my weeds, but kept the flowers." It's just a little bit harder when the weeds are people you care about. Thanks, Tyson.*

My dearest Tyson, This is a problem that so many of us have to deal with to one degree or another. There is nothing so heartbreaking as seeing someone you care about post something that goes against everything you are or believe in. And now with Facebook and social media we unfortunately get to see a person's true feelings on many subjects. Religion, politics and especially gay rights can be such a hot topic when dealing with family, and unfortunately our different views can drive a wedge between us. Bigoted, small-minded comments coming from someone, especially a one-time close friend or family member drives me crazy and breaks my heart. It makes you feel like the time you spend with them is disingenuous, past and present. I love the idea of keeping the flowers and getting rid of the weeds. Kelly is always on point. Nurture the relationships of the people who love and support you ... all of you. Life is too short to spend too much time pulling up weeds. In the words of our Miss Clarkson from the song "Second Wind," *You can hate me, underestimate me, do what you do cause what you do don't*

*phase me!*

Their words and "views" still hurt. It's hard not to take things personally, but what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. See what I did there? Kelly Clarkson is my oracle! Always stand up for yourself and what you believe in. You might just be the ripple that causes a wave in their new way of thinking. Good luck and stay strong Tyson.

So last week I had an interaction with a lady in the Walmart parking lot I just have to share with y'all. OK, so I was headed to Subway to get the hubby and myself a sammich, and of course our closest Subway is located inside the Walmart. When I go to the devil chain box store, I always park in the row directly in front of the doors. No matter how far back I have to park. Well, on this afternoon I parked far away from the front doors. On my long journey from my car to the store, I notice this portly lady about to finish loading groceries into her car. I, being the well raised southern gentleman I am, was going to offer to take her shopping cart for her. It was very hot out and I was going that way. So as I got closer, I said, "Excuse me," but before I could get another word out, she whipped around at me and said with arms raised in a stop motion, "Just back up! It is too early in the day for me to be getting hit on so just back up."

I was wearing sunglasses and a baseball cap, which is my "I'm just a normal guy with full eyebrows" disguise; it must have worked. This bitch really thought I, James Love aka Cassie Nova the Supergay, was gonna hit on her. I laughed out loud and said, "Baby No! No. No." I laughed again. I turned on my full gayness away from her and sashayed away. I served my most fishy catwalk walk all the way into the Walmart like I was on the runways of Milan. Bitch please! Ain't nobody got time for that.

I know this week's article has been all over the place and I appreciate you sticking with me. That is just how my mind works sometimes. Thank you all for the great feedback. Keep it coming.

Remember to love more, bitch less and be fabulous. XOXO, Cassie Nova.

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





Alec and Haylee at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



DJ Diamonds and DJ Matea on The Strip.



Carl and John at Woody's Sports & Video Bar.



Buds on The Strip.



Michael at TMC: The Mining Company.

Making the **SCENE** the week of **Aug. 21-27:**

• **1851 Club:** Addison Foster, Athena Sapphire and Chanel St. John at 10 p.m. on Friday. Candi Carol, Carress Riata and Andre Versace at 10 p.m. on Saturday.

**Alexandre's:** Liz Mikel at 10 p.m. on Friday. Jason Huff and the Ignition at 10 p.m. on Saturday. **Karaoke with Li!** Chalupa at 10 p.m. on Sunday and Tuesday. Chris Chism and the Band at 9 p.m. on Wednesday. Alicia Silex at 9 p.m. on Thursday.

**Best Friends:** Sock Hop on Friday.

**Brick:** Second Saturday drag performance on Saturday. Pablo Hernandez and Ricky Roman at 10 p.m. on Thursday.

**Changes:** Wall of Food show at 9:30 p.m. on Saturday. Wall of Food meeting at 8 p.m. on Wednesday.

**Club Reflection:** Trinity River Bears meeting at 2:30 p.m. and TRB cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday. International Gay Rodeo Show at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Texas Gay Rodeo Association show at 7 p.m. on Thursday.

**Dallas Eagle:** DFW Leather Corps at 7 p.m. and United Court of the Lone Star Empire Leather and Lace benefit at 8 p.m. on Friday. National Leather Association Leather Perspectives from 1:30-5 p.m., Mr. Dallas Eagle and Mr. Texas Leather 2015 at 7 p.m. on Saturday. UCLSE Haute in Texas benefit at 7 p.m. on Sunday.

**J.R.'s:** Free HIV Testing from 4-6 p.m. on Sunday.

**Rainbow Lounge:** The Illusions at 9 p.m. on Friday. Drag Bingo at 9:30 p.m. on Monday. Latin Night with Kenya Blue at 11 p.m. on Wednesday.

**Round-Up Saloon:** Lost Souls Rugby 2015 Car Wash from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday. Dallas Bears Teddy Bear Auction at 7 p.m. on Saturday. Project Funway Round 2 at 9 p.m. on Monday.

**Sue Ellen's:** Mi Diva Loca on Friday. Cherry Hill on Saturday. Karaoke with Li! Chalupa on Monday and Thursday.

To view more Scene photos, go to [DallasVoice.com/category/photos](http://DallasVoice.com/category/photos). Scene Photographer: Kat Haygood.



Les and David at the Dallas Eagle.



Julian and Kimber at Alexandre's.



Dina and Jordan at JR.'s Bar & Grill.



Friends' night out on The Strip.



Julie, Lemontre and Paige at S4.



Guys at The Brick.



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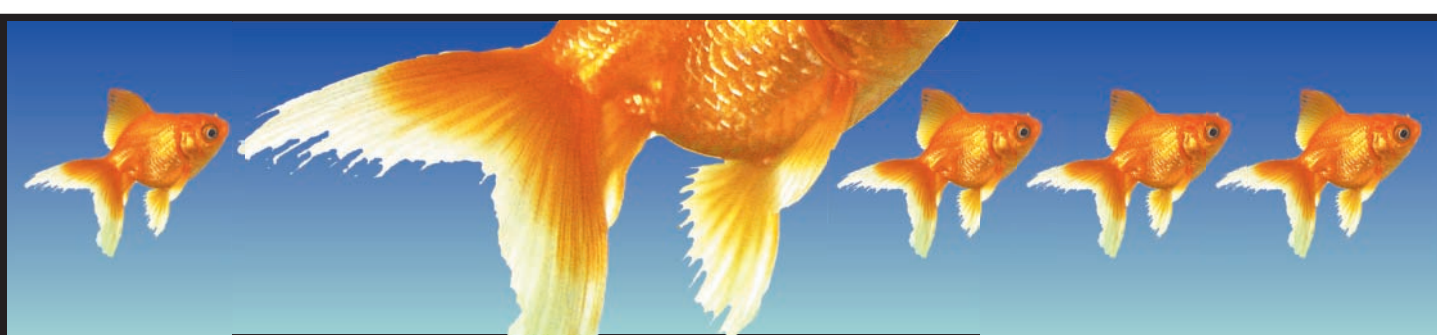
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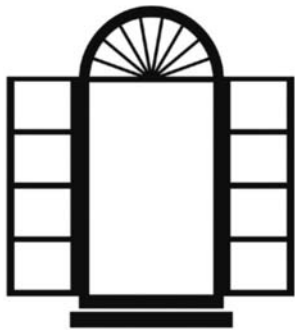
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### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Billy Ralph Wesson, Deceased, were issued on July 27, 2015, in Cause No. PR-15-01925-2, pending in the Probate Court No. 2, Dallas County, Texas, to: Jerry Love Wesson.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Richard L. Welch  
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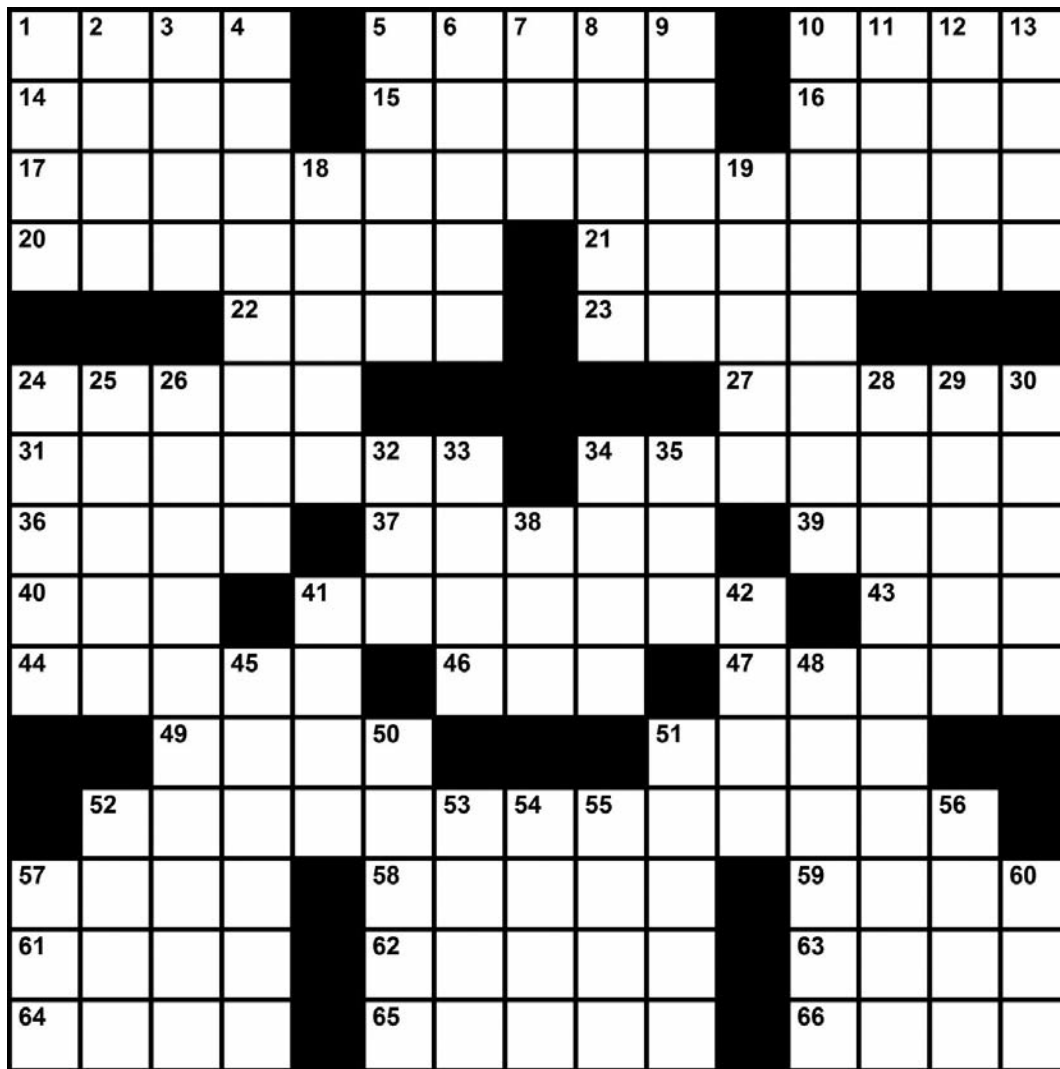
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## q-puzzle



# Twilight of the Need for Sexual Clarity

### Solution on page 23

#### Across

- Pastry with fruit, perhaps
- "Lesbians ignite!" e.g.
- Type of Mary pass
- "You want the light \_\_\_ off?"
- "On the Beach" writer Shute
- Alan of *And the Band Played On*
- Twilight* star and former love interest of 31-Across
- Like some fowls, to Sue Wicks
- Phantom of the Opera* carrier
- Phnom \_\_\_, Cambodia
- What bottoms say when they treat?
- Pie fight sound
- Jamaican cultist
- With 34-Across, sexually ambiguous *Twilight* star
- See 31-Across
- Enjoys Rubicon restaurant
- Be a success in life
- Give the cold shoulder
- Chemical ending
- Responded to Di's passing away
- Drink with jam and bread
- "Goodbye \_\_\_ Jean"
- Use your head?
- Willing and able partner
- PAC of seniors

- It might go right to the bottom
- Visual effects producer and current love interest of 31-Across
- Came to rest
- Tickle pink
- Gilbert of *Roseanne*
- Lorca's pink
- Contract conditions
- Refrain from tongue use
- Sweet opening?
- Drivers' rods
- Cruising

#### Down

- That's bull, to Frida
- Soon, long ago
- Frat toga
- Violate a property sign
- Susan of *Goldengirl*
- Length, to a bottom
- Gardner of *Show Boat*
- Very beginning, slangily
- "Candle in the Wind" singer John
- Woodcutters' tools
- "And another thing ..."
- Ryan of porn
- Chloe's role in *Boys Don't Cry*
- Butler in *Gone with the Wind*

- Harden
- Yarn buy
- Madrid museum
- Saying "Bite me!" to cannibals?
- He delivers gifts in stockings
- Brought into alignment
- In check
- A chat room boaster may have a big one
- Just one of those things
- Material from Sylvia Beach?
- Da Vinci's threesome
- To's partner
- South Park* composer Shaiman
- Cross-dressing
- Fruity rum drink
- Inventor Otis
- Portrayal of Mary and son
- Head lock?
- It's for skin care
- Ms. Swan portrayer Borstein
- Psychiatrist Jung
- Melissa Etheridge's "Don't Look \_\_\_"
- Irish tongue
- Nero's arts
- Palindromist's cry

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