

# dallasvoice

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# Crime Wave continues

As robberies, assaults continue, residents, business owners search for solutions

by David Taffet, Page 8





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## The Wedding Workshop

An LGBT Community Event

### Wedding workshop will help couples plan their big day

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How do you choose the right venue? How do you order wedding cake? How do you keep within a budget yet include the little details that are important to you?

Well, now's there's an event that can answer those questions for you: On Sunday, Nov. 8, Dallas Voice Conference and Events presents the first Wedding Workshop. The three-hour event is free to attend.

Six presenters and a moderator will discuss all the details that go into planning a wedding. The afternoon will be divided into three segments — a panel discussion, a reception with tables set up by each presenter and a question-and-answer session.

The moderator for the event will be Donnie Brown, celebrity wedding planner and decor specialist who stars in *Whose Wedding Is It Anyway* and *Married Away*, both on The Style Network.

"The unique thing about this workshop is it will delve into new traditions for the LGBT community," said Leo Cusimano, Dallas Voice Conference and Events producer.

He compared the workshop to the Wedding Expo held over the summer at the Anatole. "The workshop will be an in-depth, comprehensive review of how to create your special day from flowers to fashion and cakes to catering," Cusimano said.

Each participant will be given an e-workbook to use to continue to plan their big day.

The workshop is limited to 125 people. More information at [DallasVoice.com/workshop](http://DallasVoice.com/workshop).

Magnolia Hotel, 6070 N. Central Expressway. 1-4 p.m. on Nov. 8. Free.

— David Taffet

### Loftis to chair Resource Center capital campaign

Officials at Resource Center announced on Nov. 3 that Terry D. Loftis has been appointed chair of the Center's capital campaign steering committee. Loftis, who will oversee the final phase of the capital campaign, replaces Gary Olsen, who served as chair of the committee during phase 2.

Resource Center will host a reception in honor of Loftis, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov.

18, at The Ashton, 2215 Cedar Springs Road. Contact Dean S. Wilson at [dwilson@myresource-center.org](mailto:dwilson@myresource-center.org) for more information and to R.S.V.P.

The Center has raised \$7.5 million, or 86 percent of the total needed. Loftis' job is to bring in the remaining \$1.2 million necessary. The campaign is scheduled to wind up in December next year.

Cameron Hernholm, the Center's chief development officer, said Loftis' "past leadership and involvement with Resource Center will be a valuable asset as we near the end of the campaign.

Loftis is president of Dallas-based Eisenberg & Associates marketing communications agency. He was a producer of the 2015 Broadway musical, *The Visit*, which earned five Tony Award nominations, and also worked on production for the NBC hit show, *The Voice*.

— Tammye Nash

### Alexandre's manager Sterling Smith has died



Sterling Smith

Lee Daugherty, owner of Alexandre's bar on Cedar Springs Road, announced that the bar's manager and marketing director, Sterling Smith, died in his sleep on Nov. 2.

Asking that friends and patrons keep Smith's "family, James and [his] family here at the bar" in their thoughts, Daugherty added, "You will be missed, and I raise a glass to a great man."

A celebration of his life will be held at Alexandre's at 7 p.m. on Nov. 6. Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Nov. 9 at First Baptist Church, 115 S. Carroll St., Athens.

— 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.

469-410-3755 or e-mail [Strengthconference@AIDSWalkSouthDallas.com](mailto:Strengthconference@AIDSWalkSouthDallas.com).

### NOVEMBER

- **Weekly: Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM** with guest Candy Marcum; **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).

- **Nov. 7: DFW Trans Ladies Monthly Meeting**  
 Meets from 7-8:30 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month at Agape MCC, 4615 E. California Parkway, Fort Worth. For more information email [info@dfwtgladies.org](mailto:info@dfwtgladies.org) or visit [DFWTGLadies.org](http://DFWTGLadies.org).

- **Nov. 7: The Dallas Flea: An Indoor Curated Marketplace**  
 All day fair includes drinks, entertainment, food and 140-plus vendors showcasing vintage and handmade items takes place from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Trinity Groves, 2900 Bataan Street. \$5 entry. Kids under 12 enter free. Free parking. For more information visit [TheDallasFlea.com](http://TheDallasFlea.com).

- **Nov. 6-8: Strength Conference for Men Living with HIV**  
 Weekend conference offering support, seminars, workshops and fellowship at Embassy Suites Love Field, 3880 W. Northwest Highway. \$50 registration fee. For more information and to register call

- **Nov. 8: The Wedding Workshop: An LGBT Community Event**  
 Three-hour workshop features wedding industry experts to create a personal action plan for couples' wedding day from 1-4 p.m. at Magnolia Hotel Dallas Park Cities, 6070 N. Central Expressway. Moderated by Donnie

### pet of the week / HERBERT

**Herbert** was found close to the highway and was in danger of being hit. He was more than happy to jump into his rescuer's car and rode like a gentleman. Herbert is very people friendly and seems to like other dogs. We are not sure about Herbert's attitude towards cats yet. He has lots of extra energy and loves to play almost any game. He will need a home with that will exercise with him regularly. Herbert like most hounds, loves the sound of his own bark and would not do well in an apartment or any home with a shared wall. Come meet this playful, gorgeous hound!



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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### Real Live Connection launches clothing drive for LGBT youth

From now through Nov. 20, Real Live Connection in coordination with various venues host clothing, canned good and toiletry drives for LGBT and allied youth ages 13-19. Donations will be distributed with 300 blessing bags.

Items will be distributed at Gobble 'til ya Wobble: A Real Thanksgiving Dinner and Celebration With Others," 2-7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22 at the Cosmopolitan Congregation of Dallas, 1812 N. Haskell Ave., Ste. 100.

Real Live Connection also accepts donations for programming and event costs. Donate at [Transtexas.org/realliveconnection](http://Transtexas.org/realliveconnection) or make a check out to Real Live Connection, 4009 North Hall St., Unit B.

For more information contact [PR@RLC365.org](mailto:PR@RLC365.org).

Donation drop locations include:

Cosmopolitan Congregation of Dallas, 1812 N. Haskell Ave., Ste. 100

Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road

Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road

Thairrific, 4000 Cedar Springs Road, Ste. E

UPS, 3824 Cedar Springs Road.

Brown. Sponsored by Dallas Voice. Free. To register and for more information visit [LGBTWeddingWorkshop.com](http://LGBTWeddingWorkshop.com).

#### • Nov. 9: 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).

#### • Nov. 10: Tarrant County Stonewall Democrats Meeting

LGBT Democratic group meets at 7 p.m. every second Tuesday of the month at Tommy's Hamburgers, 2455 Forest Park Blvd., Fort Worth. For more information e-mail [Info@tarrantstonewall.org](mailto:Info@tarrantstonewall.org).

#### • Nov. 10: Ed-U-Care Building Bridge Network

Training group for caretakers of LGBT seniors hosts a dinner followed by screening of the movie *Gen Silent* and discussion of the needs of LGBT seniors and caretakers needs

6-8:30 p.m. at The Senior Source, 3910 Harry Hines Blvd. For more information and to RSVP e-mail Sharyn Fein at [educaredallas@gmail.com](mailto:educaredallas@gmail.com).

#### • Nov. 10: Survivors Offering Support

Support group meeting for survivors of violent attacks meets every second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Resource Center, 2701 Reagan.


#### • Nov. 12: The Group

Support group for black men who have sex with men living with HIV meets every second and fourth Thursday of the month from 7-9 p.m. at a private location. For more information call 214-455-7316.

#### • Nov. 12: Fort Worth Transgender Resource Group

Support and resource group meets every second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Barron House, 516 College Ave., Fort Worth. Use side door.

#### • Nov. 12: DIFFA/Dallas Holiday Wreath Collection



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Ed-U-CARE, Inc. A non-profit      RSVP to attend to Sharyn Fein at [educaredallas@gmail.com](mailto:educaredallas@gmail.com)  
Your commitment is to stay until the program is over!

Ed-U-Care Building Bridge Network, the local networking and training group promoting best practices, awareness and needs of caretakers of LGBT seniors, hosts a dinner, Tuesday, Nov. 10, followed by screening of the movie *Gen Silent* and discussion. See the Gay Agenda listings for details.

Auction featuring 70 wreaths from international designers at 6:30 p.m. at Expressions Home Gallery, 1500 Dragon St. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres served. \$50. Purchase tickets at [Bit.ly/1RU5CVv](http://Bit.ly/1RU5CVv).

#### • Nov. 13: High Tech Happy Hour

Texas Instruments Pride, the LGBT and ally diversity group, hosts its monthly High Tech Happy Hour to increase professional and social contacts between groups and individuals and to foster community. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Two Corks and a Bottle at the Quadrangle, 2800 Routh St. For more information e-mail Paul von Wupperfeld at [pavw@ti.com](mailto:pavw@ti.com). ■

## Obituary



### Raymond "Dan" Harper

Raymond "Dan" Harper, a former Dallas resident, died Oct. 19 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Harper was born on January 27, 1960, and spent most of his life in Kansas City, Mo., before moving to Houston to start a floral design business. He quickly became well known there for his floral designs, but excelled at decorating homes for the holidays, his favorite time of year. His over-the-top aesthetic attracted a very discerning clientele, and before long he was planning lavish events.

Harper moved to Dallas in 2014 and began working with top designers here, again with a focus on holiday décor. He had recently accepted a new job that took him to Atlanta for training and then on to Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Friends said Harper had a great heart and desire to help people. He was always the first to volunteer his time to help local organizations with their events. He was a very lively spirit who always tried to make people laugh. He never met a stranger and made friends easily.

Harper had no surviving family, but was survived by many friends. He will be greatly missed.

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# Gayborhood CRIME WAVE continues

Victims of recent crimes tell their stories as residents, business owners seek to improve safety

**DAVID TAFFET** | Senior Staff Writer  
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Michael Dominguez was walking in a lighted area when he was hit on the head from behind. He said he left S4 at about 1:15 a.m. on Oct. 2 when he was attacked, somewhere between S4 and Havana — either on Cedar Springs Road, or possibly on a nearby side street.

He was stabbed in the neck, ribs and arm in the attack, and his eye socket was fractured

Someone in Havana nightclub made the first call to 911 when they saw Dominguez stagger by, covered in blood. He finally passed out in front of Kroger. Paramedics, responding to another emergency call about Dominguez, found him there and transported him to Parkland Hospital.

He has little memory of what happened between the time he left the bar and the time he woke up at Parkland.

Dominguez said the attack wasn't a robbery. When he got to the hospital, his phone was missing, but he still had his watch, credit cards and \$200 in his pocket.

But police have not classified the attack as a hate crime because Dominguez can't confirm that anti-gay language was used during the attack.

So far, no witnesses have come forward, even though the attack apparently happened on or near The Strip and people saw him covered in blood, staggering down the street.

What happened next speeded his recovery, he said. Friends rallied around him to make sure his bills were paid.

"That took the stress off my shoulders and allowed me to heal," Dominguez said. Although he still has an orbital fracture and his eyesight is only at 80 percent, he returned to work last week.

"I can get through the day," he said, "although my left eye doesn't track."

He said doctors suggested he could undergo surgery, but he has opted to just allow his body to heal naturally.

Dominguez is just one of at least 11 victims who have been assaulted and/or robbed in the Oak Lawn area since the first of September. Armed suspects committed five other robberies on the Katy Trail, not far from Oak Lawn. At least some of the other victims have similar stories, including Blake, a young man who was attacked Sept. 19, as he walked near Cedar Springs Road. He was dumped, badly beaten, on a side street off Wycliff.

Burke Burnett, a hate crime survivor who survived an attack in Paris, Texas several years ago, has since moved to Dallas. He approached Dominguez about creating a survivors support group, and Dominguez, while still healing himself, jumped at the chance to help others.

The first meeting of Survivors Offering Support will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10 at Resource Center. The group will meet thereafter on the second Tuesday of every month and is open to any survivor of violent crime.

After the SOS website went live with an appeal for money to help the victims of these recent attacks, the group collected enough money in first day for Dominguez to help Tito Gonzalez, the lat-

est attack victim.

Gonzalez was walking home from his job at Quesa, a restaurant on Cedar Springs Road on Sunday night, Nov. 1, when he was attacked. Gonzalez said he constantly looked over his shoulder as he walked down the dark stretch of Reagan Street toward Lemmon Avenue. When he saw someone appear suddenly behind him, he tried to cross the street. But a second assailant came from the other side of the street to box him in, and both men attacked.

Gonzalez said he covered his face to protect himself, so most of his bruises were on his hands and legs. After threatening and injuring him, the two men took off with his phone and his rent money.

Dominguez said he heard about the attack that same day. First he and Gonzalez spoke by phone and Dominguez heard how scared and upset Gonzalez sounded, so he went over to Gonzalez's house to keep him company. He also wrote a check to cover Gonzalez's rent, taking at least one source of stress off the young man's shoulders.

Activist Daniel Cates, one of the organizers of the Light Up Oak Lawn rally and march held Sunday, Nov. 1, said he is "heartened to see the good efforts of a number of groups" to help the victims and find ways to improve safety in the neighborhood. He praised SOS for helping to care for the survivors immediate needs as well as long-term emotional recovery.

One of those groups is Dallas Stonewall Young Democrats, which has re-invigorated its previous attempts to improve lighting in the neighborhood by creating the Light Up Oak Lawn 2.0 effort. Cates said he hopes the city is serious about help-

ing stop crime in the area and will work with DSYD to make Oak Lawn's streets safer with better lighting.

Cates said that two Cedar Springs nightclubs, Alexandre's and the Round-Up Saloon, are already adding cameras to monitor parking lots and sidewalks in front of their businesses. He said he hopes merchants and bar owners will go to City Hall to address the city council along with the group Citizens for a Safer Oak Lawn.

Cates did, however, criticize police, citing Gonzalez's situation as an example. He said police picked Gonzalez up after he was attacked on Reagan Street, but thought they were answering a domestic violence call. So when the officer dropped Gonzalez off at his house, he told him to be careful because "that kind of thing" happens all the time in this neighborhood.

Cates called the officer's attitude terrible, adding that "Increased patrols aren't fixing the problem."

Caven Enterprises CEO Gregg Kilhoffer said Wednesday, Nov. 4, that "bar owners [in the area] are taking this very seriously" and that safety in the neighborhood would be a main topic of discussion at the Dallas Tavern Guild meeting on Thursday, Nov. 5.

"We hope to come up with some plan of action we can all be part of," Kilhoffer said.

He noted Caven, which operates four nightclubs on Cedar Springs, added lights behind its parking lot on Dickason Street, and that private security officers patrol Caven's parking lots and the perimeter of the block. Kilhoffer said he is working with police to figure out where cameras can be placed to not only monitor the sidewalks in front



of the bars, but also the streets from the bars' parking lots.

He also said he's been in touch with police to make sure extra patrols are continuing.

"We have a good relationship with our beat cops," Killhoffer said. Caven clubs will be putting up signage to make sure anyone who hasn't kept up with the news is aware of what's going on in the neighborhood and will provide extra training for door staff to encourage people leaving the bars alone to walk in pairs.

### Effect on the community

Legacy Counseling Center Executive Director Melissa Grove called attacks like the one on Gonzalez very traumatizing, not just to the person attacked, but on the community as a whole.

"He needs to surround himself with support," she said of Gonzalez and other crime victims. "Process it with someone."

### When disaster meets crime

Dallas City Councilman Adam Medrano contacted Crime Stoppers after Resource Center's Rafael McDonnell suggested it, and this week, Crime Stoppers began offering a \$5,000 reward for tips that leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone involved in these crimes. They're particularly hopeful in Dominguez's case, since that attack happened on Cedar Springs Road while the bars were still open where somebody should have witnessed the attack.

Medrano said he also checked with Dallas Police to make sure the extra patrols and undercover officers were still in place.

"They didn't go away," Medrano said. "We're doing our best to catch these guys."

But some residents of one condo complex believe the extra patrols are targeting them to benefit the city and not addressing the crime in the area.



Upset about attacks in Oak Lawn, community members marched down Cedar Springs on Nov. 1 to bring awareness to the problem. (Winston Lockey/Dallas Voice)

Attacks like this make someone feel unsafe and a person needs to feel safe to function, she said, adding, "A victim needs time to grieve."

Grove said that while a random street attack feels very personal, these criminals aren't targeting a specific person; it could happen to anyone.

But in the LGBT community an attack like this may bring up past trauma. If a person was bullied in school, beaten up or had a difficult childhood, this can bring back those memories. Someone who thought he was past that bullying suddenly finds he's the target again, Grove said.

Her advice is that it takes time to heal, something that can be difficult in today's world.

"In this Facebook world, things go viral and then they go away," Grove said. But recovery from an attack takes longer than that, and Grove said she hopes friends and families of the victims understand that.

Because these crimes are so random, they have an effect on the entire community. When one person is victimized, the community feels attacked, making everyone feel unsafe. And when the community gets together to help someone who's been a victim of crime, it helps all of us feel safer, Grove said.

While we can't control the crime, we can make a difference in the victim's healing, she said.

After the parking garage collapsed at The Renaissance on Turtle Creek on Oct. 23, parking became an even bigger problem in the area. The two towers of the complex have 603 apartments and about 1,100 residents.

The condo's insurance paid for rental cars for residents who couldn't get their cars out of the structure, putting about 1,000 vehicles on the street — and those vehicles needed a place to park.

Several lots surround the complex and an open field sits across Cedar Springs Road. But Renaissance residents' cars have been towed from those locations. Cars parked illegally have been ticketed, even those parked only marginally over a "do not park zone" or crosswalk.

Renaissance resident John Sieber said in an online post that "the city's behavior has been disgusting."

Resident James Cannata sent pictures of cars ticketed and said residents are afraid to park too far away because of the attacks on the Katy Trail a block from the complex and attacks in Oak Lawn two blocks away.

He said that if police are going to continue ticketing and towing cars for parking illegally around the complex, they owe residents a safe escort home when they parked in potentially unsafe areas.

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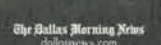
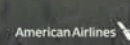
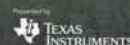
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## HERO repealed in landslide vote

Houston Mayor Annise Parker speaks to supporters of the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance at a watch party Tuesday, Nov. 3. The ordinance that would have established nondiscrimination protections for gay and transgender people in Houston did not pass. (Pat Sullivan/Associated Press)

Trans activists criticize Houston Unites for excluding them from campaign supporting ordinance

**JAMES RUSSELL** | Staff Writer  
[russell@dallasvoice.com](mailto:russell@dallasvoice.com)

After a year and a half of legal battles over its fate, voters repealed the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance 61-39 percent on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Opponents of the ordinance, which they described as the "bathroom bill," called the 21-point defeat a turning point in the social conservative cause.

"This is a national game-changer," said Jonathan Saenz of Texas Values Action, which opposes LGBT equality. Claiming the campaign's success could lead to a nationwide blueprint for other campaigns opposing LGBT rights, he added, "[It was] massive victory for common sense, safety and religious freedom."

HERO's repeal is not only a victory for opponents of LGBT equality, but also a stunning blow to the legacy of outgoing mayor, Annise Parker.

The ordinance, also known as Proposition 1, would have prohibited discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodation on the basis of 15 protected classes, including race, gender, pregnancy, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability and military status. Religious institutions were exempted, but violators of the ordinance could have been fined up to \$5,000.

While it passed the Houston City Council last year, HERO had since been mired in costly legal battles, culminating in a July decision by the Texas Supreme Court to halt its enforcement. The ruling forced the city to either repeal it or put it on the ballot. The council soon afterward voted to put it on the ballot, leading to Tuesday's defeat.

Opponents organized under the banner of

the Campaign for Houston and winnowed in one message: that the ordinance would allow men to use women's bathrooms. The message was meant to stoke panic that women and children could be raped or assaulted.

The transgender panic messaging was accompanied by previous efforts arguing that it violated religious liberties and would waste taxpayer dollars with court fines.

Amy Stone, an associate professor of sociology at Trinity University in San Antonio who studies LGBT politics and policies, said the transgender scare tactic was all too familiar.

"The religious right, who largely oppose these ordinances, have ceased to use gay panic defenses," Stone said. "They now focus on the danger of transwomen in bathrooms and the threat, in some cases, they raise for women and children."

The bathroom panic strategy has been "used over and over again since the 1990s," Stone said. Opponents bank on the public's lack of education on transgender issues, and in Houston, it worked.

"It's all about claiming the narrative," Stone said. "Opponents banked that voters would assume transwomen are men. They make the insidious assumption and conflation about transwomen and cisgendered men sex offenders. They are just tactics whipped about kids' lives at hand because of the effort to secure LGBT rights."

Longtime Houston resident, transgender rights activist and prominent blogger Monica Roberts said Houston Unites, the organization supporting Proposition 1, indeed failed to educate the public about transgender issues. She called Houston Unites' efforts "human rights malpractice."

"They cut the transgender community out of the deal and failed to do the one thing they needed to do to win: they failed to take away the opponents' bathroom talking points,"



# Privacy at risk

Planned Parenthood subpoena stokes fear among reproductive rights, LGBT and HIV activists

**JAMES RUSSELL** | Staff Writer  
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Officials with Texas' Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General subpoenaed three Planned Parenthood administrative offices on Oct. 23, requesting the medical records of all Medicaid recipients that visited the Texas clinics between Nov. 2010 and Sept. 30, 2015. And some people with HIV are concerned that if the records are handed over, it will give the state access to their own personal medical situations.

The investigation purportedly stems from videos released by the anti-abortion group Center for Medical Progress over the summer alleging Planned Parenthood clinics received reimbursements for fetal tissue from clinics where abortions were performed.

Critics of the videos have said some were heavily edited and skewed executives' statements. The Center for Medical Progress has denied those claims.

While the videos were criticized for being heavily edited, many conservatives still latched onto the opportunity to investigate the organization. Texas is just the latest to seize on the opportunity.

The state's request was sweeping, including all patient records, clinic notes, test results and other confidential information. The goal, the state wrote in the subpoena, was to ensure all services billed to Medicaid "were medically necessary, provided in a quality manner and billed appropriately."

Medicaid recipients also are not required to consent either, according to a provision in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, known as HIPAA, which guarantees doctor-patient confidentiality.

Under the law, federal and state authorities do not need authorization or consent from Medicaid recipients if the protected health information (PHI) is requested for investigative purposes. The burden of protecting certain confidential information falls on the provider.

That could spell disaster for numerous Medicaid recipients, including individuals living with HIV or AIDS who have not disclosed their status publicly, as well as closeted LGBT individuals.

"We will make every effort to comply with the state's on-going requests. Protecting the confidentiality of our patients is paramount. We will do everything we can to ensure their confidentiality as we cooperate with the state's request," Ken Lambrecht, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, has said.

Yet even as Planned Parenthood executives promise to protect patients' records, activists are worried about the precedent set by the state.

Marsha Jones, executive director and co-founder of The Afiya Center, a Dallas organization

for black women living with HIV and AIDS, is alarmed by the request. Because the state will have access to the records, she worries HIV-positive and trans women will be outed.

"It could have devastating effects," Jones said.

Stacey Long Simmons, director of public policy and government affairs at the National LGBTQ Task Force, pointed out that patient records should be secure.

"While certain health care entities are permitted to respond to court orders, HIPAA places constraints on what is allowable," she said. "While there may be a scenario where a patient's HIV status or gender transition is not kept confidential, that really should not be the case. For one thing, there are limitations on the release of individually identifiable 'protected health information' by health care providers."

But there's a larger issue at stake, said Ghazaleh Kinney Moayed, an OBGYN in El Paso. It could allow to state to set a precedent for investigations.

"This move is unprecedented. [Records requests] have never been used like the state has," Moayed said.

HIPAA specifically is geared toward addressing public safety and health threats like bioterrorism, or if someone was in explicit danger. In this case, the state is treating abortion and specifically fetal tissue research as a public safety issue.

"The state is spreading this interpretation pretty thin," Moayed said.

Jones, who did not previously know about the HIPAA clause allowing information to be released without consent, is concerned that her clients likely may not know about it either.

"HIPAA is in place so people do not have to be concerned their health records will be shared," Jones said. "This sets a precedent that is cause for concern. It can open so many doors."

Moayed agreed.

"I think it's important for the government to have the ability to access records. But the state's interpretation is loose at best," she said.

While it may not be true that all private information will be accessible to the government, Jones fears the perception, coupled with fear, will increase the stigma of HIV and AIDS.

If someone is outed, people may not maintain their relationship with their treatment provider for fear of their lives. Outing someone may prevent them going to any remaining treatment sessions. "It's like the stigma that comes from abortion. People go to back alleys," Jones said.

"Disclosure is 100 percent ownership to a patient. This puts their life in jeopardy," she continued. "If other people know without their consent, it changes everything. People have the right to live with the assurance their information is confidential and they do not have to share it."

The same situation applies to transwomen. Treatments now make transitioning possible without visible signs, and "the only one who should know is the doctor providing the treatment," Jones said.

"Privacy is a treasure and not up for grabs, especially if everyone isn't ready to come out yet," she insisted.

Public perception may be that reproductive rights are only an issue to cisgendered women, but everyone is impacted when women's health providers are under attack, advocates said.

"It's why reproductive rights and the LGBT rights communities must work together. These are issues of autonomy and privacy," Moayed said. ■

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HERO, From Page 10

Roberts said.

She equated it to the failed strategy in 2008 to defeat Proposition 8 in California, which banned marriage equality.

Houston Unites also failed to reach out to people of color, she added.

"They should have reached the black community, but failed to do so. They had no outreach to people of color," Roberts said. "They weren't listening to folks who live here. They didn't engage locals."

She was concerned about supporters' strategy in the months ahead of the ballot referendum.

"My mother told me she got calls from opponents but none from Houston Unites. They also did not have trans folks to talk to voters. I didn't get any calls to speak," Roberts said.

It was as if the campaign was doomed from the start.

While the Houston chapter of the NAACP was a Houston Unites coalition member, there was no mention of the proposition when the chapter held its annual award ceremony and gala.

"You can tell how bad it is when there was no mention of HERO at the NAACP Houston awards on the Friday before the election," Roberts said.

Terri Burke, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas, another Houston Unites member, knows there's enough criticism to go around. But the campaign also came down to mere numbers.

Turnout was unusually high for Houston, hovering at 26 percent compared to between 14 and 16 percent. The high turnout was also attributed to the open mayor's race.

Out of a field of 13 candidates running for the open seat, Democratic state Rep. Sylvester Turner, an LGBT ally, and Bill King, a former Kemah, Texas mayor who is courting Republicans, will face one another in a Dec. 5 runoff.

But many voters simply had HERO on their mind.

"There were 20,000 more votes in the Proposition 1 race than in the mayoral race. Of the people who voted, many were first-time municipal voters who may only vote in Republican primaries," Burke said.

The opposition to HERO contradicts numerous polls indicating a majority of Texans believe LGBT individuals should be protected from discrimination. But it comes down to the campaign itself. Winning campaigns are highly organized machines.

"Oftentimes it comes down to organization. The opposition in this case was clearly organized," Stone said. "And in an off-year election it's all about concerted turn-out and get out the vote efforts. It's a numbers game."

With emotions still raw over the outcome, Burke said it is too soon to address the way forward.

With a new mayoral administration coming in — Mayor Parker is term-limited — many proponents of HERO are waiting for the next step. But they're also waiting to hear what went wrong.

"I hope the lesson learned is you can no longer run campaigns for human rights without people of color, transgender people or transgender people of color," Roberts said.

The postmortem must address the exclusion of transgender and transgender people of color from campaigns beyond Houston's boundaries.

"We are experts on our lives. The entire ordinance was incumbent on fighting the 'bathroom' lie. But they denied us the chance to talk. If they don't get anything from the postmortem then let them realize they can't try the Prop 8 playbook again," Roberts said.

During this lame duck period, there will be time to listen and reflect on the campaign. Much of the criticism, Burke predicted, will be constructive and fair.

"The silver lining, if you could call it that, is we have an opportunity to renew our education and outreach efforts to ensure people have a better understanding of transgender people. We will fight the bathroom lies," Burke said.

As a native Houstonian, Burke said the referendum does not reflect the city of Houston overall.

"I grew up in Houston and this is not a reflection of the city," Burke said. "But as the opponents will see, elections have consequences. I hope opponents see what people are now saying about the city."

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# A wake-up call from Houston



HERO's defeat proves again that legal rulings don't change hearts and minds

The LGBT community in this country has been riding a wave of euphoria for months now, celebrating the fact that the U.S. Supreme Court — the highest court in the land — has ruled that, yes, our right to legally marry the person we love, regardless of genders, is indeed constitutionally protected.

Despite the irritation of people like that Kentucky county clerk what's-her-name who defied SCOTUS and refused to issue licenses to same-sex couples, many of us have kept our lavender-colored glasses firmly in place as we dreamed of, planned and celebrated our nuptials.

But now the blinders are coming off. Now we have been slapped right across the face with the reality that legal rulings may change laws but they don't change hearts and minds, that legal rulings don't really keep us safe.

Not only that, we are finding out once again that great leaps forward, like we experienced with the marriage equality ruling, are most often followed by vicious backlash. Our successes galvanize those that hate and fear us.

Here in Texas this week, we got a very painful reminder of that, as 61 percent of voters in Houston voted to repeal that city's equal rights ordinance in its infancy. They didn't even care that it would have protected people other than LGBTs. They were so hateful and fearful they were willing to deny protections to military veterans, the disabled, people of different religions, pregnant women — 15 groups in all.

Our trans brothers and sisters — and let's face



Tammye Nash  
Managing Editor

it, it was mainly our trans sisters since people outside our community often choose to overlook the fact that trans men even exist — were the ones in the trenches who bore the brunt of the vitriol. Opponents dubbed HERO “the bathroom bill” and belittled out dire warnings of male sexual predators slaving after helpless women and children in public restrooms if residents of the Bayou City were foolish enough to enact protections for trans folk.

Polls consistently show that a majority of Texans support equal rights and protection from discrimination for LGBT people. And yet, once again we lost at the ballot box.

Why? Put aside for the moment the simple, basic truth that NO person's civil rights, no person's safety should ever be subject to a majority vote, and think about why this happened.

It happened, I think, in part because we poked the sleeping bear in June.

Those frothing-at-the-mouth homophobes who still preach that gays and lesbians should be stoned to death because the Old Testament says so didn't ever lose sight of the progress we were making toward equality. But some of those not-quite-so-far-right-wingers did. The marriage equality ruling in June reminded them, and in Houston at least, they headed to the polls on Tuesday looking for some payback.

Maybe the majority of Texans — Houstonians

— lied to the pollsters just because they didn't want somebody to figure out that they are bigots that really don't support equality. Or maybe they are just a bunch of bullies who figure the homos are sissies and easy targets.

Regardless of the “why,” though, the fact remains that the HERO was defeated. It should not have been, but it was. And if that isn't enough of a wake-up call, I don't know what it is.

Listen to that message coming out of Houston people: We are not safe. We are not equal. And we will not be either safe or equal if we don't stand up and keep on fighting.

We need protections against discrimination in employment. We need them at the local, state and federal levels. We need protections against discrimination in housing and public accommodations, including the legal right to use public restrooms without fear of being harassed, arrested or attacked.

We have to keep fighting, no matter how tired and burned out we think we are, to get laws passed ensuring those protections.

But most importantly, we have to find a way to change the hearts and the minds of the people who still think it is ok to deny us those protections. We have to educate people. We have to be stronger than the haters, out-argue them when we must, outlast them when we must.

We must make sure that people know who we are. That means we have to keep on coming out and speaking up — even those of us who thought we had put the need for all that behind us long, long ago.

We may get disappointed. We may get disillusioned. We may get so tired we don't think we can keep going. But we have to. We can't give up.

We deserve a better world. But we won't get it if we don't keep fighting. ■



# DRIVEN



Dallas Voice's LGBT Automotive  
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# Pump that ride

## Previewing 2016's best models



CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer

From redesigned versions of familiar rides to entirely new speedsters, 2016 is sizing up to be a club dance of excitement for autos. There are even plug-ins from unlikely sources — luxury crossovers and affordable sub-compacts. Check out the highlights.

### High fashion

**Mercedes-Benz GLC.** The butch-square GLK crossover will be missed, but not so much after driving this replacement with air suspension, 241-horsepower turbo-4 and 9-speed transmission. The gorgeous interior flows with wood and stitched leather. Infotainment is bolstered by a gesture-controlled touchpad, Wi-Fi and smartphone-enabled remote starting. And the price is appealing. *Base price: \$38,950.*



**Ford Edge.** Edge cribs the popular Fusion's styling and comes with a 245-horsepower turbo-four (30-MPG hwy) or 300-horsepower EcoBoost V6. Adaptive cruise, crash avoidance with brake support, lane-keeping assist and hands-free liftgate are available. Comfort thyself with heated/cooled front seats, heated rear seats and a heated steering wheel. Inflatable rear safety belts enhance

safety. *Base price: \$28,100.*

**Volvo XC90.** While all new, styling is pure Volvo with Thor's Hammer LED driving lights and strong shoulders. Inside, look for cloud-based apps, head-up display and Bowers & Wilkins audio. Being a Volvo, safety is fortified with road sign reading technology, and pedestrian avoidance system. A turbocharged/super-

Tesla's Model X, top, is a corgasm of styling and usefulness; Scion's iA, above, is an economy car with pizzazz; and the Smart ForTwo, left, packs an improved transmission and new interior into an iconic chassis.





Alfa Romeo's stunning roadster, left, is a powerhouse on the blacktop; Nissan's Titan, below, will be the hot truck of the fall.

charged 2.0-liter engine with 316 horsepower and 20/25-MPG works with an air suspension for swift motoring. A plug-in will soon follow. *Base price: \$49,800.*

### All the pretty horses

**Alfa Romeo Giulia Quadrifoglio.** The Italians challenge Germans and Americans with a rear-drive hot rod driven by a 505-horsepower BiTurbo V6 that achieves 0-60 mph in 3.8s. An active aero front splitter, torque-vectoring differential and carbon fiber hood, roof and driveshaft enhance performance. Alfa's racing-inspired Cloverleafs convey intentions. *Base price (est): \$50,000.*

**Buick Cascada.** Buick's first convertible since the Reatta flaunts sexy curves over a German-engineered chassis. The canvas top folds in 17s at speeds up to 31 mph. Innovative roll-over bars deploy should the worst happen. Under-hood is a 1.6-liter turbo-four delivering 200 horsepower. Get it with 4G Wi-Fi and 20-in. wheels. *Base price: \$33,065.*

**Cadillac CT6.** Extensive aluminum keeps it light — all the less for the 400-horsepower twin-turbo V6 with AWD to move. A turbo-4 and 3.6-liter V6 are also available. Corvette's Magnetic Ride Control smooths all pavement. A lavish interior checks 4G Wi-Fi, Night Vision display, exterior video recorder, seat massagers and Bose

Panaray audio. It can even park itself and avoid pedestrians. Just wait for the plug-in edition! *Base price (est): \$70,000.*

### Go green (and save green)

**Chevy Volt.** Chevy's range-extended plug-in gets re-styled, but that's not the big news. Up-graded electrics increase non-fossil range from 38 to 53 miles, after which the gas engine keeps it going. Recharge in 4.5 hours (240v). A simpler interior features 4G Wi-Fi and Apple CarPlay. *Base price: \$33,120.*

**Scion iA.** Essentially a Mazda2, Scion's new sub-compact comes standard with keyless entry, push button starting, low-speed pre-collision system and rear camera. Also get Bluetooth, touchscreen, 2 USB ports and apps for Pandora, Aha and Stitcher. Navigation is optional. A sport-tuned suspension and 106-horse 1.5-liter four-cylinder engine (33/42-MPG) add to the fun. *Base price: \$15,700.*

**Smart ForTwo.** Smart love becomes easier. It's wider for enhanced stability and shoulder room — and more powerful with a turbo-three that delivers 89 horsepower, 100 lb.-ft. of torque and 33/39-MPG city/hwy. Suspension and transmission refinement are vastly improved. A completely re-designed interior adds JBL

audio, crosswind assist and forward collision warning. Smarts were crash tested against Mercedes C- and S-Class models to ensure safety. *Base price: \$14,650.*

**Tesla Model X.** Model X is way cool given a 250 miles all-electric range, seating for seven and falcon wing rear doors. It even has a medical grade HEPA air filter to remove pollution from the cabin and create positive pressure to protect in case of a bio-attack. Pull a 5,000-lb. trailer (enough for a classic car or a couple of jet skis). If you liked the Model S sedan, you'll pulse for the crossover version. *Base price: \$75,000.*

### Haul ass (and lumber)

**Toyota Tacoma.** Marty McFly's pickup arrives in the future with a beefier design and bicycles/gear bed attachments. Gadgets include a GoPro mount under the rearview mirror, app-based Entune infotainment system, JBL speakers and wireless phone charging. Turn wheels with a 159-horsepower 2.7-liter I4 (19/23-MPG city/hwy) or 278-horsepower 3.5-liter V6 (19/24-MPG) for up to 6,800 lbs. towing. *Base price: \$23,300.*

**Nissan Titan XD.** The newly-crowned Truck of Texas harbors a 5.0-liter Cummins turbo-Diesel V8 that delivers 310 horsepower, 555 lb.-ft. of torque and 12,000-lbs. towing capacity. An Infinity-esque interior coddles with heated/cooled Zero Gravity seats, Rockford Fosgate audio and heated rear benches. Convenience is enhanced with a 120-volt in-bed plug, LED cargo lighting and Around View Monitor. Sales commence this fall. *Base price (est): \$30,000.*





You don't need to spend a fortune to drive in style



# Urban crossover artists

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer

Even in Texas, there's a limit to the size of our ranches. That ginormous SUV is *not* going to fit in the tight garage of your urban loft, apartment, or bungalow. Any of these new eight urban-size crossovers provide big-truck utility with small-car practicality.

**Priced \$20,000 and under**

**Honda HR-V.** It only dishes 141 horses, but style and utility get

top billing. Deep body sculpting adds flair while top interiors sport fly-bridge center consoles, stitched dash coverings, swipe-sensitive touchscreens, and glassy climate control touchpads. A rearview camera, 1-in. alloys, Bluetooth and USB come standard. Flip rear seats to cross-load gear. Enjoy up to 28/35-MPG city/hwy. *Base price: \$19,115.*

**Fiat 500X.** Launched with Viagra-inspired commercials, 500X adds girth and length. Sharing architecture and Italian assembly space with Jeep Renegade, 500X comes with a 160hp 2.4-liter four-

cylinder engine and 9-speed transmission to deliver 34-MPG hwy. Lane departure, blind zone warning, and Beats audio systems are optional. It's the Fiat for a growing, um, family. *Base price: \$20,000.*

**Mazda CX-3.** The Miata of crossovers flaunts dynamic KODO design cues, backup camera, and push-button starting standard. A 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine delivers 146hp and up to 29/35-MPG city/hwy. AWD is optional. Sporty interiors can be equipped with navigation, head-up display, Bluetooth, internet radio apps, heated seats and crash avoidance warning systems. *Base price: \$19,960.*

## The Wedding Workshop

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Our Wedding workshop was created specifically to help LGBT couples with the many details of planning for their big day. This three-hour workshop was designed to present advice from wedding industry experts to help you with a personal action plan. From setting your budget to advice on selecting a cake, our certified experts make wedding planning easy.

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**Moderator: Donnie Brown**  
Celebrity Wedding Planner & Decor Specialist A regular guest on Good Morning Texas, Donnie is the star of "Whose Wedding is it Anyway" and "Married Away", both on the Style Network.





**Jeep Renegade.** Sharing architecture and assembly space with the Fiat 500X, Jeep's baby boasts removable roof panels and Jerry can tail-lamps. Choose between 150hp 1.4-liter and 184hp 2.4-liter four-cylinder engines, achieving up to 31-MPG hwy. Go Trailhawk for a crawl mode and skid plates. Funky style, flamboyant colors and compact dimensions delight. *Base price: \$17,995.*

**Priced over \$20,000**

**Hyundai Tucson.** Tucson is right-sized for your urban clan. Upscale styling flashes a bold

grille, HID headlamps and LED running lamps. Get it basic or stacked with heated/ventilated leather seats, proximity-opening rear hatch, remote start/stop, app for Android watches and crash-avoidance technology. Choose the up-level 1.6-liter turbo-4 that serves 175hp and 26/33-MPG. It's a tomb quiet refuge from city life. *Base price: \$22,700.*

**Buick Encore.** Buick's city-sized luxury crossover adds a new Sport Touring package that includes 18-in. wheels, body color trim, projector-beams and spoiler. Luxury is bol-



stered with 4G Wi-Fi, Bose audio, rearview camera and active noise cancellation. Heated leather seats and steering wheel warm winters. Enjoy up to 153 horses and 25/33-MPG city/hwy. *Base price: \$24,065.*

**Land Rover Discovery Sport.** Orgasmic leather and glass roof overwhelm senses as you tap the 240hp 2.0-liter turbo-4. Styling is distinguished by a sleek body with forward-canted C-pillars. Get heated seats, heated steering wheel

and primo audio. Land Rover's Terrain Response System adjusts for snow, mud and sand should date night turn into a campout. *Base price: \$37,455.*

**Infiniti Q30.** Squint at the proportions and examine the switchgear — you'll realize this is a Mercedes GLA in disguise. But, Infiniti's expressive lines will appeal to younger trend-loving buyers. Interiors flaunt themes dubbed City Black, Café Teak and Gallery White. Active noise cancellation, 208 horsepower 2.0-liter turbo-4 and 7-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission come standard. Sales commence late this year. *Base price (est): \$35,000.*

Fiat's 500X, opposite, delivers a lot of positives (good mileage, maneuverability, low price) in a fun package; Buick's Encore Sport, left, offers urban luxury in a crossover; and Infiniti's upcoming Q30, above, has Mercedes proportions for less money.

**Panelist:**



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# True stars

Classic cars are considered classics for a reason. We look at some iconic hotties that have been reimagined for 2016

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer



Among the brands that will seemingly always be in style: The Jaguar F-Type, above, and (clockwise opposite) the Camaro, Ram and Acura.

We use the term “star” too much. Celebrities come and go (a draw today becomes yesterday’s tabloid trash), but true stars endure while evolving their style. They’re classic hotties.

The same is true of automobiles — including this troupe of rides. (Of course, the biggest stars command the highest asking prices ... but there are some values to be found.)

**Chevrolet Camaro.** Camaro goes from edgy to smooth, but still brings it with a 275hp turbo-four, 335hp V6, and 455 6.2-liter V8 engines connected to 6-speed manual and 8-speed automatic transmissions. A sophisticated-feeling interior employs Chevrolet’s updated MyLink infotainment system. Really let your hair fly with the available convertible. *Base price: \$23,705.*

**Mazda MX-5 Miata.** If a classic roadster gets you stoked, you’ll crave the new Miata. Sexier than ever, the car would be killer to weave down California’s PCH. Rev the 155-horsepower four-cylinder engine that achieves 27/34-MPG city/hwy. Get it with lane departure warning, blind spot assist alert, rear cross traffic assist and Bose audio. Flip the top, grab a gear and enjoy. *Base price: \$24,915.*

**Ram Rebel.** If you like ‘em butch and beefy — a cross between a Power Wagon and ‘Lil Red Truck — get this. Rebel boasts skid plates, tow hooks and air suspension that can increase ride height. RAM black grille, red and black seats with tire tread pattern and aluminum snorkel hood are fab. Get this 4x4 with a 305hp V6 or 395hp HEMI. Bilstein off-road shocks are standard. *Base price: \$42,790.*

**Ford Shelby GT350 (pictured, Page 15).** First introduced in 1965, the GT350 cradles a 526-horsepower 5.2-liter V8. Performance is enhanced by adjustable MagneRide suspension, 5 driving modes, and lift-reducing hood heat extractor. You can even tune the exhaust note. Step up to the GT350R for a stripped ripper with carbon fiber wheels. It’s all so sexy. *Base price: \$47,795.*

**Jaguar F-Type R AWD.** Mad men deploy flush doorhandles before slipping past the E-Type inspired style with oval grille, long sculpted hood and rear haunches drawn tight. Soft leather, suede, glass roof and 770W Meridian audio define the interior. Crack the 550-horsepower supercharged V8 for a real mind-blow. 15/23-MPG city/hwy seems frugal. *Base price: \$103,600 (R AWD), \$65,000 (base coupe).*

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**Mercedes-AMG GT-S.** Gaze at the rump, then it's long... ummmm, hood. Then deploy the spoiler to get busy. Slide into firmly-bolstered heated Nappa leather seats and crank Bestermer audio. Its 4.0-liter Biturbo V8 dispenses 503 horsepower and 16/22-MPG city/hwy. Drivers can configure the car for Comfort, Sport, Sport+ and Race. Press the exhaust button to wake Elvis. *Base price: \$129,900.*

**Acura NSX.** Reviving a revered supercar, this hybrid runs with a mid-mounted V6 engine and electric motor-based AWD. Throw in batteries, and you're looking at 550 horses; ride it in Quiet all-electric mode or full-on Track mode. Either way, it's sexy as hell and packin' technology. Production commences this fall. *Base price (est): \$150,000.*

**Rolls-Royce Dawn.** Britain's crown jewel offers a smaller convertible. Based on the Wraith coupe, Dawn is both sleek and traditional with recessed Parthenon grille, boat-tail rear taper, teak tonneau, perfect hides and book-matched veneers. The fabric roof raises/lowers in 22s. Owners will revel in the 6.6-liter twin-turbo V-12. The Flying Lady never ages. *Base price (est): \$350,000.*



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# Trend setting

Technology often drives automotive innovation. Here's what the future of driving will look like

**Going wireless.** GM made a big play over the last couple of years by offering 4G LTE Wi-Fi hotspots in almost every model, allowing owners to connect multiple devices to the Internet from wherever they roam. Whether you're doing a little office catch-up or letting the offspring stream videos, it's convenient. Most luxury models now offer Wi-Fi; expect it to be as ubiquitous as FM radio within a few years. And how should you charge your mobile device? Place it on a pad and let it charge wirelessly. The technology

begins to trickle down from luxury cars with the 2016 Chevy Malibu.

**Apple CarPlay/Android Auto.** Connecting your smartphone becomes easy. Apple CarPlay allows users to connect applications like naviga-

CD player.

Nobody cares about CD players now. Automakers are eliminating them as quickly as they can, delighting drivers with easy Bluetooth connections, Wi-Fi hotspots and baby-simple con-

trol screens. Things just change.

So while we ponder our automated future, noting that old-tech diesels and headlamps are getting new focus, we consider some of the trends you'll see in 2016 ... and beyond.

CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer

Maybe you're old enough to remember when every car had a cassette player in it, and how delighted you were when you could get one with a

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Chevy's CarPlay and charging station, and GMC's dedication to Diesel, are just a few developments in tech that can be expected to take hold on the new normal in the coming years.

**Diesel glory.** We all know what a sticky wicket Volkswagen finds itself in by falsifying diesel emissions reports, but that doesn't incriminate all diesels. The Chevy Cruze diesel delivers 46-MPG hwy. Ram EcoDiesel achieves 29-MPG hwy with a 3.0-liter V6 engine. But the big news this year is the all-new Nissan Titan XD pickup with a 5.0-liter Cummins diesel that can tow the equivalent of 6 Smarts. Or check diesel versions of the mid-size Chevy Colorado and GMC Canyon pickups ... not to mention GM, Ford and Ram heavy-duty pickups. With gasoline prices lower than Huckaby poll ratings, it remains to be seen if more will adopt

diesels. Be warned: Drive one and you'll want one!

**Automated driving.** Despite the nonsense coming out of Tesla, Google and almost every other automaker, we're years from having cars that can drive themselves. Sure, a Mercedes S-Class can steer around corners and automatically slow and we'll see limited "super cruise" systems with limited autonomy for highway and traffic creeping, but full automation comes beyond 2020. To prove the future is realistic, Nissan unveiled the sporty IDS concept at the recent Tokyo auto show that works much like the cop cars in *Demolition Man*.

tion, hands-free text messaging, music libraries and news via Siri's voice commands and screen graphics that echo those of an iPad. Not to be outdone, a similar interface comes as Android Auto for those other devices. Virtually every new auto will be compatible with both going forward.

**LED headlamps.** Projector beams are going the way of carbide lanterns as LEDs take over. The tiny lights give designers great freedom to create knife-edge illumination front and rear while being long-lasting and energy efficient. Until recently, they've mostly been found on luxury models like the Cadillac Escalade and Acura RILDA, but they're also lighting roads in front of the affordable all-new Honda Civic. Next generation light clusters will selectively illuminate individual LEDs to shine high beams down the road while keeping light out of passing drivers' eyes. Bright idea!

**Gesture-recognition infotainment.** Ever since Steve Jobs unveiled the iPad, automakers have been redesigning their control panels. Tesla's is perhaps the biggest touchscreen, but Cadillac's CUE system can be swiped, pinched and pecked like Apple's signature product. The Honda Pilot's screen is nearly as good and that functionality is the new standard for every automaker. BLEW showcases the next-generation of interface with the new 7-Series' idylize 5.0 that employs 3D sensors so drivers can wave their hands in mid-air to make selections. Do you miss old-fashioned volume and tuning knobs?



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Friday 11.06  
Saturday 11.07



### Akram Khan dances into Dallas debut

TITAS' season of dance this year is most notable for the plethora of Dallas debuts (only one company has appeared in the past). One of the newcomers generating the most excitement is Akram Khan, the British-born, Bengali-bred choreography known for his innovative style. You're invited to this rare performance, which comes to City Performance Hall for two shows.

**DEETS:** City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. 8 p.m. ATPAC.org.



LIFE+STYLE

best bets

Sunday 11.08

### Planning your big gay wedding? We got you covered

Now that marriage equality is a reality, queer Texans can legally wed ... but many never actually expected to be able to plan an authentic wedding. Where do you start? Not a problem — celebrity wedding planner and decorator Donnie Brown knows all the ins and outs, and has a ton of advice he can share at Dallas Voice's free workshop Sunday. You, toom can become a bridezilla in one afternoon!

**DEETS:** Magnolia Hotel, 6070 N. Central Expressway. 1-4 p.m. Free. [LGBTWeddingWorkshop.com](http://LGBTWeddingWorkshop.com).

Friday 11.06 —  
Sunday 11.22

### Puccini's 'Tosca' continues the Dallas Opera season with free simulcast

Since its debut in 1900, Puccini's intrigue-filled melodrama *Tosca* has been one of the most popular operas in the classical canon. And why not, with its lush orchestrations, overwrought shocks and political machinations, all centered on the celebrated singer Floria Tosca. Emily Magee tackles the juicy title role, with maestro Emmanuel Villaume conducting. *Tosca* runs in rep with the season opener *Great Scott* (reviewed this week) And on Nov. 6, you can even see it for free via a live simulcast at Klyde Warren Park.

**DEETS:** Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Nov. 6, 11, 14 and 20 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 8 and 22 at 2 p.m. [DallasOpera.org](http://DallasOpera.org).



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**ARTSWEEK**

**THEATER**

**Grand Hotel.** Lyric Stage presents the award-winning musical based on the Oscar-winning film, with a score by Maury Yeston (*Nine*). *Reviewed this week; final weekend.* Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving. LyricStage.org.

**The Sound of Music.** Jack O'Brien directs this enduring Rodgers & Hammerstein classic, on its way to Broadway. Fair Park Music Hall, 901 First Ave. Through Nov. 22. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

**Picnic.** William Inge's steamy drama about a drifter who transforms a small town. *Reviewed this week.* Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Nov. 22. Theatre3Dallas.com.

**The Addams Family.** Andrew Lipppa's musical comedy.

Directed by Michael Serrecchia. Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving. Through Nov. 21. IrvingArtsCenter.com.

**The Mountaintop.** Play about the final hours of Martin Luther King Jr. Studio Theatre of the Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Nov. 15. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**OPERA**

**Tosca.** Puccini's great romantic tragedy. Performed in repertory with *Great Scott*. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Nov. 6, 11, 14 and 20 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 8 and 22 at 2 p.m. DallasOpera.org.

**Great Scott.** A world premiere opera from Jake Heggie and Terrence McNally, directed by Jack O'Brien. *Reviewed this week.* Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. DallasOpera.org.

**DANCE**

**Akram Khan Company.** The British-born, Bengali-centric choreographer makes his Dallas debut. Presented by TITAS. City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. ATPAC.org.

**FINE ART**

**N.S. Harsha: Sprouts, reach in to reach out.** A site-specific mural, the first in Dallas for the Indian artist, transforms the main corridor of the DMA. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Feb. 21. DMA.org.

**International Pop.** A survey of pop art, the distinctive modern movement of the 1960s. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Jan. 17. DMA.org.

**SATURDAY 11.07**

**CONCERTS**

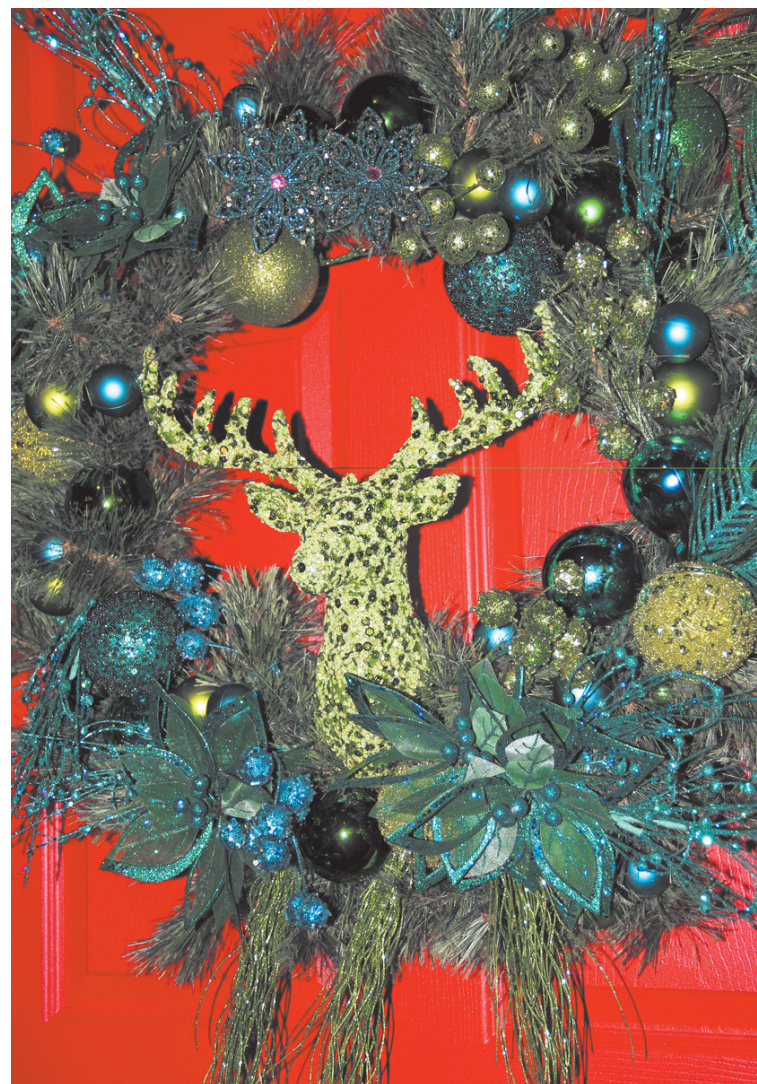
**Hope.** The Turtle Creek Chorale's Chamber Chorus teams up with the First Presbyterian Church's Chancel Choir for a special concert commemorating the 25th anniversary of the release of Nelson Mandela from prison with a series of South African freedom songs. First Presbyterian Church, 1835 Young St. 7 p.m. Free (\$15 for reserved seating).

**SHOPPING**

**The Dallas Flea.** An indoor curated marketplace. Trinity Groves, 2900 Bataan St. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. \$5 entry. TheDallasFlea.com.

**FUNDRAISER**

**TGRA Chili Cook-off.** The Dallas chapter of the Texas Gay Rodeo Association is hosting a chili cook-off and fundraiser with prizes given for best chili, best taste, hot



**DOOR PRIZES** | DIFFA's annual Holiday Wreath Auction returns with a cocktail party in the Design District Thursday.

damn that is hot! and judges and fan favorites. The Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. Noon.

**SUNDAY 11.08**

**WORKSHOP**

**Wedding Workshop.** Celebrity party planner and decor specialist Donnie Brown moderates a free afternoon or tips, hints and advice for throwing your big, fat, gay wedding. Magnolia Hotel, 6070 N. Central Expressway. 1–4 p.m. Free. LGBTWeddingWorkshop.com.

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## TUESDAY 11.10

### FILM

**On the Waterfront.** Marlon Brando's sultry and pained performance made a classic of this mob drama. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series at Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Sponsored by Dallas Voice. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY 11.11

### PERFORMANCE

**Peter Pan 360.** A theatrical-stunt-circus hybrid, this multimedia presentation combines J.M. Barrie's story with high-wire acrobatics and CGI projections inside a 100-foot-tall structure in Downtown Dallas. ThreeSixty Theatre, 2450 San Jacinto St. Nov. 11–Dec. 6. ATPAC.org.

## THURSDAY 11.12

### FUNDRAISER

**DIFFA Holiday Wreath Collection.** Annual party and fundraiser for DIFFA, featuring designer holiday wreaths. Expressions Home Gallery, 1500 Dragon St. 6:30 p.m. \$50. DIFFADallas.org.

## FRIDAY 11.13

### DANCE

**Bruce Wood Dance Project: 5 Years.** The fall finale performance by the innovative dance company, featuring new works and revivals from the Bruce Wood repertoire. City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. Friday–Saturday at 8 p.m. BruceWoodDance.org.

### COMMUNITY

**Black Tie Dinner Preview.** Check out the items for auction at this preview event before the big gala on Saturday. Sheraton Dallas Downtown, 820 N. Olive St. 8–10 p.m. BlackTie.org.

## OPERA REVIEW: A great 'Scott'

Does anybody really care about opera anymore? That's the existential conundrum posed by several characters in the meta-opera *Great Scott*, a world premiere — based on an original idea — by composer Jake Heggie and librettist Terrence McNally. When the Super Bowl is watched by millions, what difference does a never-before-seen 18th century Italian bel canto opera mean to the American culture at large really? Why bother?

The brilliant irony, of course, is that the existence of *Great Scott* answers its own question. A magnificent and glorious creation from the overture until the sweetly understated ending, this is a modern opera that defies expectations. It's truly a game-changer: An adrenaline injection of life-force into a classic form.

First in the plus column is its creativity: Even in the heyday from Wagner to Verdi to Puccini, operas were based on preexisting sources — plays, legends, classics. But with its cellphones and contemporary dress and easy vernacular, *Great Scott* is wholly relatable and repeatedly unexpected. Like an MGM musical from the Golden Age, we meet the main characters backstage before the debut of a long-lost opera about Pompeii from the 1830s. The acclaimed soprano Arden Scott (Joyce DiDonato, who despite a small handful of shaky notes was in fine form and acted brilliantly) has returned to her hometown to present this piece at the struggling American Opera, run by the optimistic impresario Winnie Flato (mezzo Frederica von Stade). Like *The Producers*, everything seems to go wrong — from the vain Eve-Harrington-ish newcomer (Ailyn Perez, powerful and hilarious) to the tentative romance between the conductor (Kevin Burdette, in a far cry from his work as Beck Weathers in *Everest* earlier this year) and the feisty stage manager (countertenor Anthony Roth Costanzo) to the bickering tenor and hunky baritone (Rodell Rosel, Michael Mayes) to the bare-assed *deux ex machina* entrance — until it all goes wonderfully right. Arden finds her purpose, not unlike Princeton in *Avenue Q*, but with more recitativos.

*Great Scott* is a solidly-structured comedy, the kind McNally has been crafting for 40 years. There are well-timed jokes ("This shit is hard!" Arden exclaims after performing an especially impressive



aria) and finely-drawn personalities (there's an embarrassingly deep list of interesting supporting characters) and even insights into the artistic temperament that never devolve into navel-gazing. Truly, this is a libretto to be admired for its nimbleness.

At three-and-a-half hours, though, and only one intermission, there must be room to parse and tuck; the fictional opera-within-the-opera Arden performs feels as if it is staged almost in full, and while Heggie's music astonishingly mirrors true bel canto style, and the staging by Jack O'Brien is amazing, it drags out the metaphors too much. The same is true of Arden's mystical conversation with the ghost of the composer Bazzetti (Guido Contini's confrontation with his younger self in *Nine* accomplishes much the same in one-third the time). But as much as these scenes seem to stretch out, it's almost impossible to imagine where, exactly, to cut any notes from Heggie's endlessly ravishing score.

World premieres of theater works always have a bit of a "work in progress" feel to them, but despite some quibbles, there's little to be said badly of *Great Scott*. It is, simply, one of the most engaging modern operas produced this century. See it, and you'll talk about it for years.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m.;  
Nov. 15 at 2 p.m. DallasOpera.org.

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Making the SCENE the week of Nov. 6-12:

- **Alexandre's:** Girls night Out with Peggy Honea on Friday. Lala Johnson on Saturday. Chris Chism on Wednesday. Alicia Silex on Thursday.
- **Brick/Joe's:** Fifth annual All White Affair with a splash of color with entertainment by Barbie Onassis Davenport, Cire Santiago-Elite, Dynisty St. James, Jeremy C. Black and Devin Banx on Saturday.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House:** Texas Bear Round Up kickoff party from 5-9 p.m. on Friday.
- **Changes:** Cowtown Leathermen meet at 7 p.m. on Monday.
- **Club Reflection:** Texas Gay Rodeo Association cookout at 4 p.m. and Imperial Court show at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Rhonda Mae's annual Veteran's Day event at 7 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** North Texas Council of Clubs candidate show A Night at the Movies on Friday. Women in Leather social night on Friday. Leather Knights annual Military Maneuvers fundraiser on Saturday. Dallas Bears and Leather Knights monthly club night on Saturday.
- **Havana:** Tekilas Diskotek showtime at 10 p.m. on Friday.
- **Pekers:** Frank's birthday party at 9 p.m. on Friday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** Mister Texas USofA on Friday. No Label on Saturday. Kathy & Bella at 3 p.m. and Bad Habits at 6 p.m. on Sunday.
- **The Rose Room:** Rising Star with Layla and Kalexis.

To view more Scene photos, go to [DallasVoice.com/category/photos](http://DallasVoice.com/category/photos). Photographers: Winston Lackey and Chad Mantooth.



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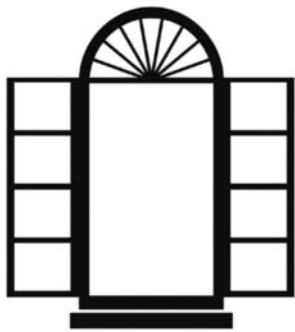
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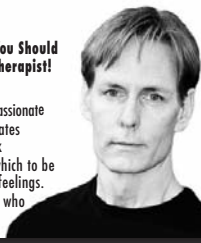
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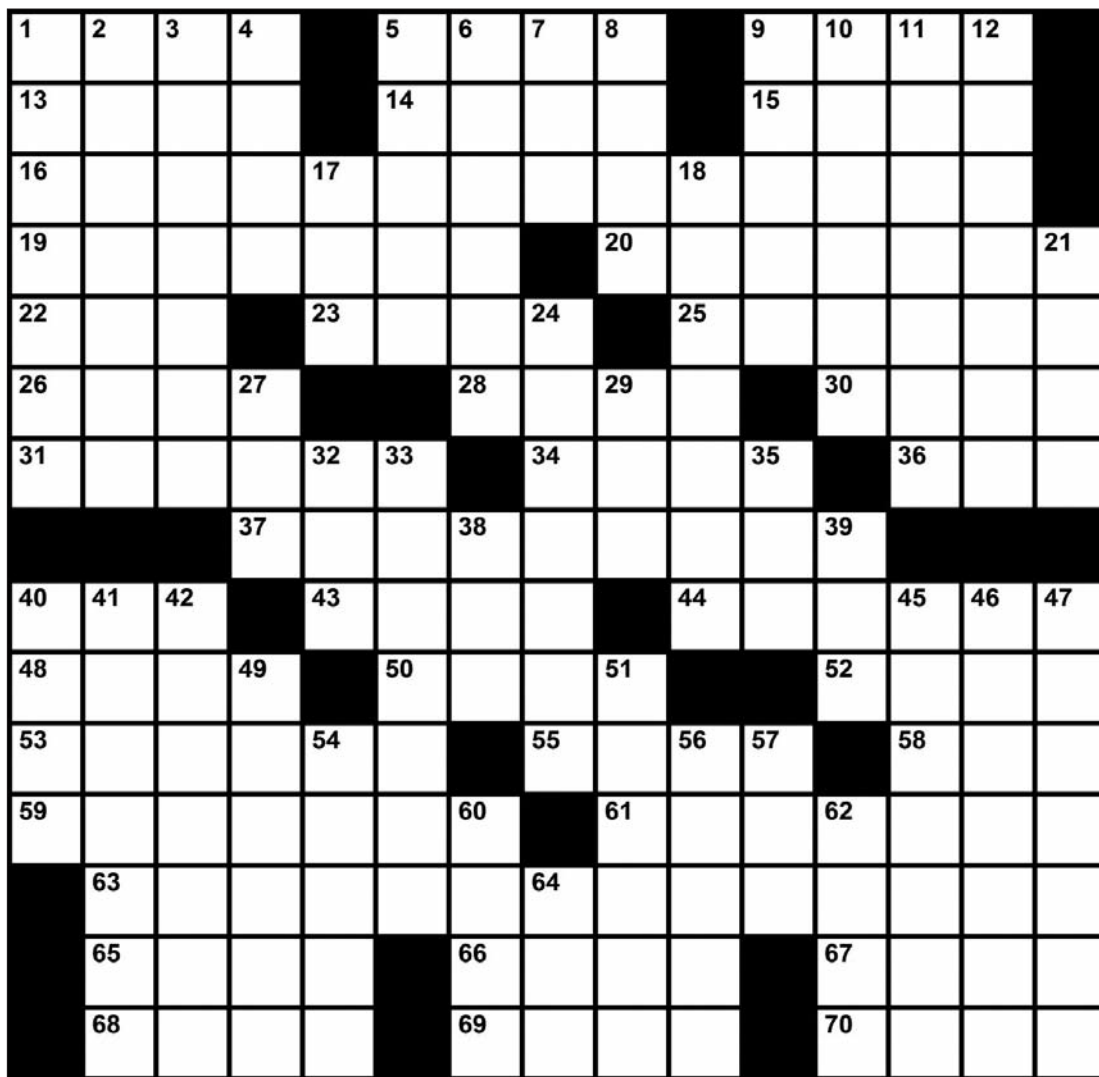
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## Kara Mia!

#### Solution on page 28

##### Across

- Stringed instrument of Shakespeare's day
- Home of Picasso's Stein portrait
- One and only
- Tight-assed
- Siberian river
- Three of Frida's family
- She plays the title character of 37-Across
- Reaches the top
- Famous, to fifty million Frenchmen
- Sender of 1040 forms
- James VI, e.g.
- Kind of labor
- Place in a Robert Redford movie
- Ready for plucking
- Small amounts
- My Fair Lady* song
- Moisten with spray
- Duncan's denial
- New CBS program whose main character is from Krypton
- It turns out its.
- "You bet!" in Yucatán
- Sleep with Kahlo?
- Honey-pot lover
- Chip off the old flock?

52 Get as profit

53 Bad weather culprit

55 Highland dialect

58 Arthur of *The Golden Girls*

59 Bend over and take it

61 Like the dawn

63 What 37-Across is to Kara Danvers

65 Macho man

66 Rep in the 'hood

67 Character in *No Exit*

68 Game of observation

69 Bugs Bunny's Broadway musical?

70 S&M root

##### Down

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2 Discover

3 Addresses

4 Peace Nobelist Wiesel

5 Notes from Barber's staff

6 Cicero, for one

7 Queen in *Romeo and Juliet*

8 Obi-Wan player

9 Mink \_\_\_ of *Cry Baby*

10 Set straight

11 When 37-Across "came out" about who she was, one of her friends thought she was this

12 *CHiPs* costar Erik

17 Sound of an inflated doll puncture

18 Moby Dick, to Ahab

21 *Showboat's* "Nobody \_\_\_ But Me"

24 *Evita* lyricist

27 Sounds of disappointment

29 Party in a fairy tale threesome

32 "M-m-m!" to Sappho

33 *Galavant* installment, e.g.

35 Prefix with angle

38 Tongue ending

39 Jason of *Chasing Amy*

40 Drilling org.

41 Statues with big packages

42 Some Byron poems

45 Audrey Hepburn role

46 Avoided tricks

47 What Niles and Frasier do to patients

49 Minor setback

51 Bear or bull

54 Like Michael Cera

56 Napped leather

57 It may follow directions

60 Emulate Paul Cadmus

62 Porter's regretful miss

64 SEP, e.g.





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