State Fair Classic

Classic Chassis Car Club to exhibit autos at Texas State Fair

by David Taffet, Page 8
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HELP Center
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headlines

- TEXAS NEWS
  8 Classic Chassis returning to State Fair
  9 Man no-billed in trans daughter’s death
  10 Dallas Pride weekend in photos
  11 Redefining aging for LGBT people

- LIFE+STYLE
  18 Leslie Jordan is coming to Dallas
  19 k.d. lang — still ‘Craving’
  20 Uptown prepares for ‘Perestroika’
  24 Chloe Sevigny on her LGBT roles

- ON THE COVER
  Photo by David Taffet.
  Design by Kevin Thomas.

departments

- The Gay Agenda
- News
- CommUNITY
- Life+Style

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Surprising endorsements for the November election

As election season gets into high gear, Republicans are endorsing Democrats in surprising numbers. The Dallas Morning News endorsed Democrat Kendall Scudder, who also counts himself as a member of the LGBT community because he was raised by two moms, in his Texas Senate race. Scudder’s district stretches from east Dallas to Greenville.

On Monday, Sept. 17, the Dallas Morning News endorsed Democrat Mark Phariss in his Texas Senate race in Republican Collin County. Phariss said a number of Republican elected officials told him privately they were supporting him. But other Republicans are publicly endorsing Democrats in their races against Republican incumbents.

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Former Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, a Republican, and three other former Republican primary challengers announced last Friday they will not support incumbent George P. Bush.

They’ll be voting for Democrat Miguel Suazo.

In her race for Texas House District 115, Julie Johnson picked up the support of Republican Bennett Ratliff who preceded incumbent Republican Matt Rinaldi.

The Johnson campaign released this message from Ratliff: “As a lifelong Republican, I have supported and worked for Republican candidates since before I was able to vote, I have voted Republican since I was able and served as a Republican elected official. I have supported the party, our nominees, and I have never endorsed a Democrat for office. But extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures.

“While we don’t agree on every issue facing our state, we both agree and understand that Republicans and Democrats must come together on the issue of public education for the future of our children, I encourage my friends and neighbors to join me in voting for Julie Johnson.” — David Taffet

Mark Phariss receives Dallas Morning News endorsement

Texas marriage equality plaintiff Mark Phariss, who is running for state Senate against Angela Paxton, received the endorsement of the Dallas Morning News.

In an editorial “We recommend Mark Phariss for state Senate District 8,” the usually conservative newspaper said Phariss “displays a wealth of knowledge about a variety of topics, from the broad strokes down to the smallest details.”

“I’m thrilled to receive the Dallas Morning New endorsement,” Phariss said. “I think it lays out the reasons voters will vote for me.”

Phariss said public education and property taxes are his two top issues. Unlike his opponent, he believes the state should increase funding for public schools.

And, he said, the reason property taxes are so high is because the state isn’t funding its share of public education.

The Morning News wrote, “He has the gravitas of a seasoned legislator despite being a first-time candidate and would use that knowledge to hit the ground running.

In a press release, Phariss wrote, “This endorsement by the Dallas Morning News is another sign of what our campaign has been hearing from
Meet Raz, a 12 year old blue tabby domestic shorthair mix. She’s a sweet, calm old lady who loves being around people and enjoys being petted all over. But she really likes head and ear scratches the best. She’s very gentle, quiet and calm, so she’s a perfect partner for snuggling up to watch a movie or read a book. If you’re looking for a loyal kitty to keep your lap warm, she’s the one for you! Raz has been spayed, microchipped and has received all age-appropriate vaccinations. Come meet her today. #166230

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tammye@spca.org

See website for more details.

The rumors are confirmed: Bert and Ernie are a couple
Longtime Sesame Street writer Mark Saltzman has confirmed the rumors: Bert and Ernie are a gay couple.

Saltzman, speaking to reporter Dave Reddish for an exclusive article published Sunday, Sept. 16, by Queerty.com. “I always felt that without a huge agenda, when I was writing Bert & Ernie, they were [a gay couple]. I didn’t have any other way to contextualize them. The other thing was, more than one person referred to [Saltzman’s partner of more than 20 years, the late Arnold ‘Arnie’ Glassman] and I as ‘Bert & Ernie.’”

So there you have it.
Saltzman, of course, talked about much more, including his “fanboy” moment when Patti LuPone was on Sesame Street. Read the complete article here.

— Tammye Nash

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families and voters across Senate District 8 for months. Our district wants bipartisan leaders who understand the issues. Voters are tired of watching their property taxes rise while their schools suffer and extremists in Austin focus on wedge issues. Senate District 8 is a diverse community that wants quality schools, good jobs, and reasonable property taxes. I’m committed to being the State Senator focused on the real day to day issues.”

— David Taffet

— Tammye Nash

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— David Taffet

— Tammye Nash
SEPTEMBER

- **Through September: Pride at the Library**
  From UNT’s LGBT Archive, the library will exhibit collections from UNT’s LGBT Archive, documenting the history and culture of the LGBT community in Dallas at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, Dallas History & Archives (7th floor), 1515 Young St.

- **Through Oct. 18: The Journey: A Coming Out Workshop**
  Did you come out recently or have you been out for awhile. No matter where you are on your coming out journey, you will benefit from this six-week interactive workshop open to all LGBT persons, family and friends facilitated by Rev. Robin Booth, Rev. Jane Graner and CoH member Will Fields on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Interfaith Peace Chapel, Conference Rooms A/B, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Register at CathedralOfHOpe.ChurchCenter.com/groups/coh-care-ministry-groups/the-journey-workshop. For more info email will.fields@live.com.

- **Sept. 21: Suicide Awareness event**
  Members of the Greater Dallas Suicide Prevention Coalition including the Suicide and Crisis Center and Prism Health North Texas remember more than 500 people lost through suicide last year at 10 a.m. in the lobby of Dallas City Hall, 1500 Marilla St.

- **Sept. 22: Leslie Jordan Exposed**
  Leslie Jordan returns to raise money for Legacy Counseling Center at 7 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. $35-100. LeslieJordanDallas.com.

- **Sept. 22: Rainbow Members Club anniversary**
  Rainbow Members Club, 203 S. High St. in Longview, celebrates its nine-year anniversary, beginning at 2:30 p.m. For information call 903-753-9393.

- **Sept. 22-23: Give A Fetch**
  Camp Bow Wow holds Give A Fetch, a weekend-long celebration benefitting local animal shelters, with a 7-foot tennis ball dispenser holding more than 1,000 balls in Klyde Warren Park, 2012 Woodall Rodgers Freeway, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For every ball dispensed, Camp Bow Wow will donate $5 to the local shelter of the participant’s choice, and there will be a chance to win a free year of Camp Bow Wow services. Shelters, vendors, food trucks and more will be on site.

- **Sept. 23: LGBTQ Teen Community Forum**
  Meet other teens in the community, munch on popcorn, play games and tell library staff what you want to do at your local library from 2-4 p.m. in O’Hara Hall, 7th Floor, Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young St.

- **Sept. 23: Trump’s Invisible Wall**
  Attorneys George Rodriguez and Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez will discuss immigration at 6:30 p.m. at Walnut Hill Recreation Center, 10011 Midway Road.

- **Sept. 24: Texas Justice screening**
  A work-in-progress screening of the documentary Texas Justice: Brandon Woodruff by Scott Poggensee. Reception at 6 p.m., film at 7 p.m. and Q&A at 8:30 p.m. at Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. Free.

- **Sept. 24: Just As I Am meeting**
  Just As I Am, a group of LGBTQ people and allies that gathers weekly in a safe and affirming environment to share God’s love, meets from 7-9 p.m. at 3320 Troup Highway, Ste. 230, in Tyler. Call 903-941-9131 for information.

- **Sept. 25: LGBTQ Teen Community Forum**
  Family Night at Durkins Pizza Gala (Gay and Lesbian Alliance) North Texas hosts Family Night from 5-8 p.m. at Durkins Pizza, 8930 Highway 121, Ste. 594, in McKinney. Michael Durkin donates 10 percent of sales to GALA Youth.

- **Sept. 26: Pride Party**
  Pride Party in Plano with DJ Sideshow speaking and leadership skills from 6:30–8 p.m. Lambda Toastmasters meets at 7 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday at 1575 W. Mockingbird Lane #625. Call 214-267-0222 for details; LGBT Sex Addicts Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. every Friday at 1919 Independence St., Room 19, Plano, 972-316-9165 for details; Leadership Lambda Toastmasters gay-identified Toastmasters group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at the First Unitarian Church, 4015 Normandy Road (does not meet on Mondays that are holidays); United Black Ellument hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; DvTv in Spayse, news and entertainment discussion live streaming every Friday, 4-5 p.m., on the Spayse Station YouTube channel.

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**OBITUARY**

**Vince Pascacio Martinez**, 56, a Sinatra-style crooner better known in the community for performing at Legacy Counseling Center fundraisers, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 13, from complications from diabetes.

He described himself as “the singing hairdresser.” Close friend Steve Weir said, “He would share all of his friends with all of his friends.” “He was instrumental in our growth,” said Legacy Counseling Executive director Melissa Grove. “He brought in people I didn’t have access to.”

She said a number of Legacy’s board chairs were people Vince introduced to Grove. He performed at numerous Legacy fundraisers including a sell-out at the Majestic Theater with Leslie Jordan.

He is survived by his mother, Bobbye; brothers and sisters-in-law, Robert Jr. and Kim, Jeffery and Amber and Myron and Silvia; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The service and burial were held at Mount Olivet funeral home and cemetery, 2301 N. Sylvania Ave., Fort Worth.
THE BEST PART OF FACEBOOK ISN'T ON FACEBOOK

Get Together
Gays of the Midway: Classic Chassis Car Club

DAVID TAFFET | SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Cars — old, new and experimental — are always a big draw at the State Fair of Texas. Every year, automakers send their newest models — and often, some concept cars, too — to Dallas where they fill up two huge exhibit halls and then spill over to the nearby areas.

This year on Sept. 29, members of Dallas’ LGBT classic car club, Classic Chassis Car Club of Dallas, will display 14 of their vintage cars at the State Fair, too, although they won’t be there with the new cars.

Classic Chassis will display 14 cars in Corral A, near Gate 8 off Fitzhugh Avenue. That’s the opposite side of the Midway from the Automobile Building where the new cars are exhibited. They’ll be sharing space with the North Texas Mustang Club on the opening Saturday of the fair.

On other weekends, different car clubs from around north Texas will exhibit their classic vehicles.

Classic Chassis Activities Director Patty Irizarry said she wasn’t worried about scratches and dings fairgoers could inadvertently cause: The cars and exhibitors will be inside the corral, and visitors will be outside the corral. But, she said, visitors will be close enough to get a good look, and Classic Chassis members will be on hand to answer questions and relay personal experiences.

Irizarry, who coordinated the exhibit at the State Fair, said the relationship between her group and the fair dates back long before she became involved. In fact, she said, she became involved in Classic Chassis only four or five years ago when she and her partner, Kris, went to an auto auction held in Dallas and ran into longtime Classic Chassis member Paul J. Williams.

Irizarry and her partner have three classic cars: a fully restored 1978 Volkswagen Beetle, 1969 Ford F150 short bed in the process of being returned to its original state and, their newest, a 1966 Plymouth Fury 3 convertible that they plan to start restoring next year.

Not everyone goes into collecting classic cars with the same goals. “Some people want a car as original as possible,” Irizarry said. “Some redo theirs with modern brakes and radios.”

Irizarry said she tries to keep a balance between original and updated.

Classic cars always bring back memories, no matter what the make or model. While cars with fins or other special and iconic details are always eye-catching, Irizarry said she always gets lots of comments about her beetle. “Everyone has a Bug story,” she said.

Irizarry said there’s some discussion about what makes an auto a classic. Does it have to be 20 years old or 25? Then there’s antique car status. Some count that category at 25 years and older, while others say it must be over 100.

Irizarry said those interested in finding their classic should start the same place many people start when buying new cars — online. She said eBay Autos is a good place to start, and she also recommended BringATrailer.com, where bids for a 1987 Porsche Turbo topped $65,000 with three more days of bidding to go while a 1973 Jensen Healey was going for just under $4,000 with just three hours left earlier this week.

Irizarry said those who want to see cars in person should check out Leake Auto, which has events at Dallas Market Hall on Stemmons Freeway, as does Mecum Auctions at the Dallas Convention Center. In Fort Worth, she recommended Streetside Classics, just north of downtown at 5400 Sandshell Drive. That’s where she found her Plymouth Fury.

Irizarry said that Classic Chassis is a great starting place and resource for those interested in buying their first classic car. Classic Chassis members are always willing to help, she said. Some can help judge how sound a car may be mechanically, while others can help with car value or how difficult it may be to get replacement parts for certain vehicles.

Irizarry said she’s learned a lot about classic cars herself from attending club meetings.

Irizarry said she is excited about Classic Chassis members once again having the opportunity to show off their cars at the State Fair. “The fair was very gracious to bring us back,” she said, adding that an exhibit like this is a great place to go just to admire the cars “appreciate the lines.”

Especially those cars that were designed with those wonderful fins. And grilles. And hood ornaments. And in such a variety of colors.

Today, most cars come in white, black or gray, sometimes a shade of beige or red. But in the 1960s, Irizarry said, car buyers could choose from not just one shade, but a variety of greens, blues, yellows and reds and sometimes even an orange or purple.

And chrome wasn’t just for bumpers — at least not on the fancier vehicles. But, Irizarry said, her Beetle was just the standard classic Bug. But even the standard classic is cooler than a fancy new car, right?

Classic Chassis Car Club meets the second Tuesday of every month (except December) at Ojeda’s on Maple Avenue at 6 p.m. Members gather in the back parking lot to look at the cars before going inside for dinner and discussion.
A grand jury in Ellis County has no-billed Robert Wayne Mosher in connection with the murder last year of his daughter, Gwynevere River Song, 26.

Mosher shot his daughter to death at his house in Waxahachie on Aug. 12, 2017. She was the 17th transgender woman murdered last year.

Song’s mother, Marcy Sutton, said Ellis County Sheriff’s Office Investigator Dennis Clay sent her a short email explaining the grand jury’s decision: “Marcy, the Grand Jury No-Billed Robert,” Clay wrote. “That means the case does not move forward.”

Everyone agrees on several details in the case: An argument took place between Song and her father at the door of his house. She was holding a knife, and he shot her four times. But that’s where the agreement stops.

Mosher claimed he killed his daughter in self defense after she came to his door with a knife and began stabbing him. That’s when he got his gun and shot her four times.

But Sutton doesn’t believe his account of the shooting.

Sutton said none of the evidence she sent Clay’s office was introduced to the grand jury, and she still wants to know where the knife — a military knife with a sheath — came from.

“I have no idea where that knife came from,” Sutton said, suggesting that perhaps it belonged to Mosher, who is ex-military, instead of her daughter.

“We have pocket knives around the house,” Sutton said, “not military knives.”

Sutton also questions her ex-husband’s stab wounds. Police reports said he was stabbed 11 times, but since he was released from the hospital the next day, she suggested, the wounds couldn’t have been very severe.

Sutton said that from her perspective, her daughter’s death was a murder motivated by hate. She said she understands it isn’t against the law to simply hate someone for who they are. “But,” she added, “you would think it would be against the law to hate someone so much you can kill them.”

Song graduated from University of Texas in 2015 with a degree in radiation physics. She began hormone therapy while she was at school. Sutton said at that time, Song was still welcome in her father’s house, and she even visited him with a partner, who is also transgender.

Song moved to California in 2016 and continued her transition. She moved back to Texas early in 2017. Sutton said her daughter’s visit to her father that day in August was the first time she had seen him since she had returned to Waxahachie.

Sutton said Mosher told police Song — who was in self-defense — was the one who stabbed him.
35th Annual Dallas Pride Weekend

Photography by Chuck Marcelo and Kat Haygood
35th Annual Dallas Pride Weekend
Pride parade trophy winners are named; Steering Committee members, others recognized at reception

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Dallas police estimated that approximately 10,000 people attended the Miller Lite Music Festival in the Park on Saturday, Sept. 15, the first day of the Dallas Pride Weekend. And, police said, between 40,000 and 50,000 packed Cedar Springs Road on Sunday, Sept. 16, for the 35th annual Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade.

Jeremy Liebbe, a Pride Steering Committee member, 18 Dallas police officers worked the festival Saturday, while 66 worked the parade on Sunday. Liebbe said that there were no arrests in the park during the festival, and officers made only one arrest at the parade.

This year’s Pride theme was “Vote NOH8 in the Lone Star State,” a nod to honorary grand marshals Adam Buska and Jeff Parshley, founders of the NOH8 Campaign. A total of 90 organizations and businesses — not including the VIP entries — participated in the parade, and nine parade entries were recognized with awards. They are:

• Best Performance — Oak Lawn Band
• Best Walking Group — PFLAG Dallas
• Best Costumes — Caven Enterprises
• Best Social Commentary — OUT@NBCUniversal:
• Best Theme Presentation — Kaliente Dallas
• Best Overall Entry — Rieles Dallas
• Best For-Profit Entry — American Airlines
• Best Non-Profit Entry — Resource Center

• Judges Choice — JJ’s Out & About.

Dallas Pride organizers honored their colleagues and recognized outstanding community members at a reception Thursday evening, Sept. 13, at the Hilton Anatole Hotel.

Michael Doughman, retiring after 18 years as Dallas Tavern Guild executive director and Pride coordinator, was also honored at the event. Tavern Guild officials have established a scholarship for LGBT students in Doughman’s name.

Doughman recognized the 2018 parade grand marshals, Wayne Davis and the Rev. Neil Cazares-Thomas, and the honorary grand marshals, Bouska and Parshley. Davis is known as a fundraiser for a number of organizations including Dallas Bears. Cazares-Thomas is senior pastor at Cathedral of Hope. Parshley and Bouska created the NOH8 campaign after Proposition 8 repealed marriage equality in California in 2008.

Doughman presented longtime Steering Committee member and community activist Betty Neal with the Executive Director’s Award for all of her assistance in staging Pride through his 18 years as head of the organization.

Mark Cuban was given the Humanitarian Award. The Dallas Mavericks were a new sponsor of Pride this year and had a float in the parade for the first time. But Doughman also recognized Cuban for standing up for equality, including his $1 million donation to pay for increased police protection after a series of attacks against gay men in Oak Lawn.

Jimmy Bartlett received the Exemplary Community Service Award. Among other things, Bartlett has helped preserve Dallas’ LGBT history by recording each of The Dallas Way’s Outrageous Oral events.

The Outstanding Community Support award went to longtime sponsor Andrews Distributing, and Outstanding Corporate Sponsor was awarded to new sponsor Walmart.
The LGBT generation that created a new world for itself now needs to create a new way of growing old.

Those of us in the LGBTQ community who have been fortunate to arrive at our senior years are in a unique position. Being old and queer has never been so appealing, and for so many reasons.

Younger ones who come behind us won’t quite experience this matchless state of affairs. Every generation feels that the fleeting moment of their own existence is singular in its nature, but this truly is distinctive.

Everything that defines modern queer culture was achieved in the time frame of our own lives. When we were born, the culture did not exist. Trans folk along with bisexuals, lesbians and gay men were persecuted, labeled as mentally unsound, preyed upon and murdered with impunity.

But we refused to live such broken lives. We began to push back in large numbers. We found our voice. We announced to the world that we were homosexuals. We rejected binary gender roles. We were proud of ourselves for those very reasons.

We would no longer have the truth of our very natures weaponized against us.

This stance unleashed an avalanche of bias and hatred. Long-standing laws that denied us equal treatment were upheld. New legislation was created to set us back further.

Yet slowly, those unjust laws have begun to be overturned due to the efforts of some very brilliant members of this community and our allies.

Many of the people that chose to identify as members of this community have never contributed to the actual struggle, for their own personal reasons. But they, too, have had great influence on the larger society. Every one of us that lives authentically, that is open about our sexuality and gender identity, influences the world around us.

Our unwavering commitment to our truth has allowed the people that share this world to get to know us. Inhabiting our skin has allowed people to be comfortable sharing this planet Earth.

We did not get here on our own. So many good people in this movement have passed on. They were not given the chance to arrive at the end game.

Those younger got here as fast as they could. They have wasted no time in getting involved. The generation that came into their adulthood as AIDS began to obliterate the men in this community had little time to enjoy being young and irresponsible. They are some of today’s brightest stars in the business world and our own organizations. They had to grow up fast.

The young people that are now coming out continue to express the voice of the LGBTQ community to bring the world a bit of a sense of entitlement due to the progress achieved by their predecessors. I think this is very healthy.

Seeing younger people that feel that their sexuality and gender identity should be acceptable represents progress. It’s the fulfillment of my generation’s dream. What are really impressive are their fresh perspectives. They address issues that are major concerns in a manner that is innovative and so smart. They have a natural sophistication and practicality that is very necessary in today’s world.

The challenge that the remainder of my generation’s lives hold is figuring out what old age means in queer lives. There were no guide books left for us. This is only now being addressed.

As it was in the beginning so it is today. We will continue to make this up as we go along. That reality is beginning to soak into our awareness. We have no guarantee that we will be afforded a life that insures dignity as older members of this community.

This is the last frontier to explore. It is exciting to participate in its settlement.

There are a lot of people concentrating on housing to accommodate us as we move through the advancing stages of our eventual decrepitude. Others are making advancements to insure that we receive healthcare that is respectful and geared towards the specific concerns of LGBTQ individuals.

There are many challenges to be overcome in those areas. Elder care in general is a low priority, and elderly LGBTQ people are particularly marginalized.

All the issues of aging are important, but there is another area that doesn’t seem to receive much attention. Many of us have arrived at the golden era of this existence, and for the most part the gilt is still intact. A certain patina has undoubtedly settled, but, the sun still shines in our worlds. We are fortunate to remain in solid good health. We are active and engaged because we still work, we volunteer or we are financially able to travel.

Some of us have it all. Yet, progressively we are being marginalized from the rest of the LGBT community because of our age.

Ageism is not unique to the LGBT community. We see it in the way women are treated and experience it ourselves in the job market. It is entrenched in a flawed culture based on a place in time and history that saw retirement as the end road.

In those bygone days, women who had no access to modern-day hair dyes donned their old housedresses and mulls. Men put on their plaid shorts, brown socks and Hushpuppies to mow their perfect lawns.

But we are not our grandparents. The built-in cushions of our society are long frayed. We do not have the luxury of a comfortable retirement enjoyed by past generations.

At the same time, modern medicine has given some of us greater longevity. We simply don’t have the choice to spiral into irrelevancy. Creditors may be the only entities in today’s society that are blind to the aging process.

But I digress. Back to the issue of LGBTQ people and aging.

What is unique in this community and among those of us of advanced years is the fact that we defined the standards for age, although of course, the social discourse greatly contributed.

We took it to heart. We determined what was desirable. We determined what was and what wasn’t hot. The defining moment...
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knocked on his side door and there was a confrontation as soon as he opened it. She stabbed him repeatedly, he told police, so he went for his gun and shot her.

But for Sutton, the story doesn’t add up. She said she is upset the grand jury didn’t get to look at documents she had turned over to investigators, including documentation on gun violations by Mosher; CPS reports against, stalking violations and let-ters from his family saying that his violent behavior began before he and Sutton were ever married. Sutton said she also has tapes of phone calls he made to her, and of calls between Mosher and Song.

Sutton said Mosher was discharged from the military after just a year-and-a-half of service, and that he was “jailed in Belton [near Fort Hood] for child endangerment when he caught a kid stealing from a store and took it upon himself to spank the child.”

Now that the Ellis County grand jury has failed to indict Mosher, Sutton said she is considering filing a wrongful death law-suit. And, she said, even a year after her daughter was killed, she still is harassed by people who sit in cars outside her house. When she goes outside to see who they are and to take pictures of their license plates, she said, they take off.


As for the grand jury’s no-bill, Sutton was more frustrated than angry: “He has gotten away with murder,” she said.

Before AIDS ravished our world, before the right-wing co-opted this community’s sensibilities with its family values attack, we had our own unique sexual and gender narrative. In recent years, we have begun to reclaim those values. I think at the same time we should re-examine the concept of age as well. This is an important dialog for our community to have.

I don’t say we pretend we aren’t aging; dying your hair platinum and slipping into a tight pair of cutoffs will only accentuate the fact that you are getting older. But I do think we need to begin looking at ways to create spaces for ourselves where being older is acceptable and even desirable. Let’s concentrate on creating age-appropriate social outlets, and to do that we need to think/color outside the lines.

Bar gatherings have their place; howev-er, there is an entire city that begs for an older, more assured hand to imprint a specific LGBTQ sensibility. I am rejecting the notions of daycare centers and well-intentioned senior events. Again, many of us are not retired. Socializing remains mostly an evening pursuit.

You want sex? Great! Plenty of folks your age are also looking for that. You’d like someone younger? It happens that we’re living in a unique time. A lot of young men and women are genuinely drawn to older partners. It’s actually a kind of fad.

Good for us, huh?

If you don’t think you will attract a younger person, you still have options. Professional escorts are very accommodat-ing to an older clientele. You spend the money upfront to get exactly what you are seeking delivered in a safe way.

Today’s takeaway is to own your age. Stop apologizing for the number of birth-days. Age is a gift, one that continues to provide for your community and your city.

It is still your time. We created a world that didn’t exist before, now let’s create more of a realistic world.

There is a world that is coming that ac-cepts age. It’s a world that acknowledges a person’s responsibility and involvement no longer ends at 60. Like it or not, the game is still being played. Don’t choose to sit it out. Many are forced to be sidelined because good health was not on their side. You got a winning ticket so use it. You’re lucky. Damned lucky.

Gary Bellomy is a longtime Dallas activ-ist working on issues of LGBT equality, HIV/ AIDS services and family violence prevention.

He is a war resister and a Trump resister.
It was just a little locker room talk

Once again, a victim becomes the villain and a villain may get confirmed

It seems like it was just last week that I was writing about how Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh is a nightmare for LGBTQ people. That's because it was just last week.

And now we find that he is a nightmare for women, too. Who would have thought? I mean, besides anyone who pays even a fleeting bit of attention to the contemptuous way Republicans treat women, of course.

Christine Blasey Ford has bravely come forward to accuse Kavanaugh of attempted rape while they were in high school. Yep, that's right. High school. Which was a long time ago for them. But so what? Conservatrices have been tying themselves in knots arguing, essentially, that what happens in high school stays in high school, especially if what happened in high school was their pet SCOTUS nominee getting drunk, pushing a girl onto a bed, trying to take off her clothes and covering her mouth with his hand when she tried to scream.

This behavior, many would like to believe, is just “boys being boys.” Which is bullshit.

And then, of course, there are people — including Kavanaugh himself — saying that Ford is a lying liar. Which just shows how little so many men understand about sexual assault and how our society treats accusers.

As Candace Owens of Turning Point USA put it on Twitter, “Brett Kavanaugh should be confirmed IMMEDIATELY. It is time for Americans to send a STRONG message to the anarchist Democrats that we will no longer tolerate their disgusting, corrupt, low-bar antics. The #MeToo Witchhunt needs to come to an END once and for all.”

And I agree! The #MeToo thing should totally come to an end. But, spoiler alert, it can only end when MEN CHOOSE TO STOP SEXUALLY HARASSING AND ASSAULTING WOMEN.

Until then, women must keep coming forward to try to stop it. They will, of course, be accused of being liars, like Ford has been, even though it is a huge risk to come forward.

As @OhNoSheTwitnt, the Best Tweetter on the Tweeternet, put it: “Hello, I am an opportunistic woman. I make up decades-old sexual assault accusations against rich and powerful men because my lifelong dream is to get death threats from strangers calling me a lying whore.”

And as she points out, yeah, that’s as ridiculous as it sounds.

So Ford is lying and/or Kavanaugh was just practicing a little “locker room talk.” Republicans are hot to confirm Kavanaugh as fast as possible so that the court can finally repeal Roe v. Wade and Republicans can prove once and for all how much they hate women.

But Ford’s accusation is credible. And we need to take a step back and ask ourselves how in the hell we got to this place. We don’t have to look very far.

We’ve seen this story played out over and over. And one popular fable is of the powerful man who is accused of sexual assault by more than a dozen women, calls them all liars after bragging about grabbing women “by the pussy” and becomes president of the U.S.

Trump, of course, is very concerned about Ford’s allegations and is taking the matter very seriously. Just kidding.

He sees it as merely a little bump in the road: “If it takes a little delay, it’ll take a little delay,” Trump said. “It will, I’m sure, work out very well.”

And who knows? Maybe it will. There are a lot of people fighting like hell against this nomination — which is heartening.

But I keep thinking of the one person who could have stopped this whole mess before it started. If more American men respected women we would have a President Hillary Clinton nominating Michelle Obama to the Supreme Court right now.

I don’t know y’all, it’s almost like steeping American boys in a mixture of rape culture and toxic masculinity has been bad for, well, everybody.

D’Anne Witkowski is a poet, writer and comedian living in Michigan with her wife and son. She has been writing about LGBT politics for over a decade. Follow her on Twitter @ MamaDWitkowski.
Leslie Jordan is having a moment. “I don’t know if it gets any better,” he purrs in that distinctive Tennessee twang that oozes sweet tea. “Just all of this out of the blue.”

“All of this” is his starring role in a new sitcom, *The Cool Kids*, which debuts on Fox Sept. 28. But it’s also the bread-and-butter of his career lately: Crisscrossing the country doing his live one-man, gossipy show. “I’m going all around the country doing my show — it’s up to 44 venues a year! It’s still what I love doing — performing in front of a live audience.”

His next live performance will be right here in Dallas on Sept. 22 for his annual appearance in support of Legacy Counseling Center. But for the moment, he’s busy on a TV soundstage… for the first time as a regular on a broadcast sitcom since 1993, when *Hearts Afire* went off the air.

It all started nearly a year ago when his agent sent word that there was a sitcom he might want to audition for. “They said it was from the boys who did *It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, and I said, ‘Oh, they’re cuuutttte! I’d love for them to be my bosses!’” Jordan laughs.

*The Cool Kids* started as a pilot, written by Charlie Day, about three old men in a retirement home. “They told me I was going in to read for a 73-year-old straight man from Brooklyn — but, honey, I’m none of the above! I said I’ve got to put a different spin on it.” Needless to say, he not only got the role, but the part was rewritten to suit his unique attributes.

The pilot was filmed over Thanksgiving...
k.d. lang returns to the album that made her famous
for the Ingenue Redux Tour

To this day, more than 30 years since her major-label debut Angel With a Lariat and just over 25 years since her Grammy Award-winning commercial breakthrough album Ingenue, there is still no one who can compare to k.d. lang. Her powerful and emotive voice and her distinctive performance style have yet to be matched. Whether she’s performing the country music of her early career, her pop-oriented mid-career work or her distinguished interpretations of standards, k.d. lang is a singular performer and artist of the highest order.

On tour to commemorate the 25th anniversary reissue of Ingenue, which comes to McFarlin on Sept. 23, she answered a few questions about the impact of the album, what’s next for her creatively and what to expect from her tour.

Dallas Voice: Did you realize at the time you were recording it that Ingenue would have such an impact, including winning a Grammy Award? lang: No, I really didn’t. I may have had an instinctual negative reaction to recording “Constant Craving” because I thought it was a real strong pop song; I don’t know what it is about me [laughs], but I wasn’t keen on having a pop song at the same time I really wanted a pop song. When I made Ingenue, I thought it was extremely different than what was happening in pop music. Nirvana had just broken big. Madonna had Erotica. Mariah Carey was big. Bjork had just come out. All these things and I was going in a completely different direction. I thought, “I’m going to get killed by the critics.” Which I did for the first few reviews; they were just abominable. But momentum started happening. A DJ in Atlanta started spinning “Constant Craving.” I did The Advocate interview which built profile and controversy which is...
It is a muggy autumn evening, a few weeks before a contentious national election, and eight actors — Marianne Galloway, Pam Dougherty, Garret Storms, David Lugo, David Meglino, Kyle Igneczi, Walter Lee and Emily Scott Banks — have gathered in a rehearsal space inside the Kalita Humphreys Theater to begin working on a play that resonates as much today as it did when written in the early 1990s. The play, by Tony Kushner and set during the Reagan Era of the 1980s, is about fascism and AIDS and politics and, in a roundabout way, faith... not just in a Creator, but in America itself.

We are talking, of course, about *Angels in America*. And the year is 2016. But also 2018. Go figure.

Because Uptown Players — which brought Kushner’s seminal, two-part epic, subtitled “A Gay Fantasia on National Themes” back to the Kalita for the first time since the Dallas Theater Center’s controversial production in the late 1990s — has finally gotten around, after two years, to completing its cycle. And what a difference a couple of years can make.

When *Part One: Millennium Approaches* opened in 2016, America was on the brink of electing its first female president, of continuing the empowering transformation of American political life, of passing the torch of the chief executive of the country from a black man to a white woman. Only that didn’t happen, midway through the run, the unthinkable happened. President Cheeto shuffled his tacky band of self-interested neophytes into the halls of power.

The development — just the election, mind you; the shitstorm of tweets, scandals and tell-alls was still months from starting — changed the pallor of those remaining performances. Now, with 23 months of hindsight, they have begun the process of reconnecting with their characters (the entire main creative team, including director Cheryl Denson, producers Jeff Rane and Craig Lynch and all the designers are back) in *Part Two: Perestroika*. *Part One* — with its wide-winged angels crashing through the ceiling in a fury of Old Testament bombast to end the play — is the better known of the show, the more often produced; doing them in repertory, as they did on Broadway last season, is a rare sight. And possibly one that would have proven too taxing even for this cast.

We sat around with all eight, just as rehearsals for *Perestroika* were starting, to get their insights into coming together to do Part Two together in the age of Trump.

Dallas Voice: What was it like, that first time you got together to rehearse Part Two after nearly two years ago?
The cast of both ‘Millennium Approaches’ and ‘Perestroika,’ opposite: Pam Daugherty, Walter Lee, David Lugo, Emily Scott Banks, Garret Storms, Kyle Igneczi, David Meglino and Marianne Galloway; above, Storms’ Prior Walter, suffering from AIDS. Photos by Mike Morgan.

Pam Dougherty: Everyone one of us was 30 minutes early. We all hugged.

Kyle Igneczi: It has been surreal. For the last two years, we have seen each other in the lobbies of other theaters and said, ‘Is this happening? Are we doing this thing?’ And yesterday we said how lucky that is that we could be here.

Emily Scott Banks: When we saw each other in the parking lot it was super-exciting. It feels real. We would message each other and ask ‘Have you heard anything?’ There was much of that angst!

PD: I thought I was the only one with angst!

David Lugo: We all turned down other work — paying jobs and longer runs than this — to be here.

Marianne, it’s double-deja-vu for you. About a decade ago, you did Part One as a director [with Emily also as the Angel] at the Bath House with with Risk Theatre Initiative, but didn’t get to do Part Two. Marianne Galloway: We were supposed to do Part Two with the original cast coming back, but that was around the same time Risk was shuttering and I went to the cast and said ‘We can’t do it.’ So we all went to my living room and read through it and it was like a little funeral for the dream. And so I was like Perestroika just doesn’t happen.

What was it like during the production of Part One when, midway through, Trump was elected? How did it impact those remaining performances? ESB: I have very clear memories of the Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday of that week. We were in a national depression [over the election of Trump]. And when we [went back to perform the first Thursday performance], every line that was said I was like “Fuuuuuuuukkkkk.” The play took on so much more depth and power and prescience; it was so frighteningly true. The whole Roy Cohn/Trump thing.

MG: I thought, how am I supposed to go out in front of these audiences and say these lines on this day. Go out there because you’re supposed to do this now. ESB: It was amazing. It was a different reaction. They laughed more but there was that potent silence that was so charged. The audience was very engaged.

David Meglino: Their ears were tuned into the political content more.

DL: When we started rehearsing and opened the show, we looked at it as something that happened, after [the election] we looked at it as something that could happen again; now it feels like it is happening over.

KI: When the first one happened, we were all in a very hopeful spirit. So we entered into it with this hope where the outcome was better. But now we are coming into it with bleak outlook on real life and trying to tell the most

**PERESTROIKA** Page 25
last year, with Jordan and his co-stars, a triumvirate of some of the most celebrated comedic talents of the past 50 years — Vicky Lawrence (The Carol Burnett Show, Mama’s Family), Martin Mull (Clue, Roseanne) and David Alan Grier (In Living Color, The Carmichael Show). Remarkably, Jordan — while a fan of all their work — hadn’t performed with most of them before.

“Vicky was already attached when I was hired, I said, Oh wonderful! Two old show ponies,” Jordan says. “I had only met her one time, in the airport in Puerto Vallarta. Then I heard David Alan Grier was attached, and him I had never met. And oh! He’s the gayest straight man I’ve ever met. I keep saying ‘Do Antoine Meriweather for me! Do Antoine Meriweather for me,’” a reference to Grier’s hilariously flamboyant ILC film critic. “But he won’t do it! He says that’s in the past.”

Mull was Jordan’s lone link to a past job. “Martin and I had worked together on this movie years ago called Ski Patrol — it was supposed to be Police Academy on skis, but it never went anywhere.”

Jordan wasn’t sure The Cool Kids would go anywhere, either. Networks film far more pilots than they can ever put on the air; even with its pedigree, it could have disappeared into oblivion. And in a way, it had — after filming it in November, Jordan basically heard nothing about its status until last May. Then, while filming a show for Britain Sky channel in Malaga, Spain, he got a frantic phone call from his management.

“They said, ‘Fox is picking up the show and you need to fly to New York to be there for the up-fronts tomorrow’ [where they announce their season and trot out the casts and creatives for TV critics],” he says. “I told them I couldn’t — I was filming a show! They said well, you’re contractually obligated to be there, so they flew me from Spain to New York and right back the next day. It was exhausting.”

The sudden change in circumstance meant Jordan had to cancel some of his personal appearances … but he made it clear to the producers that the Legacy gig was not one of them.

“I had to cancel a lot of my shows — there was no way I could go to P’town in August. But I’ve done the show in Dallas for many years now, and it’s a charity, and I love that it’s at the Cathedral of Hope this time. I’m just gonna have to do it.”

The Cool Kids has a 13 episode order, with an option for eight more if it’s a hit, something Jordan feels might happen, based on the response so far.

“I love the multi-cam format — you rehearse on the sound stage all week and you roll in an audience right there. We were getting Will & Grace laughs — I’ve been doing sitcoms for 30 years and I’m usually the funny guy brought in to do the zinger. Vicky and I will do a line and the audience will howl — we have to hold until the laughter dies down,” he says. “It is the biggest, broadest slapstick — I say it’s The Golden Girls on crack. We had an episode where they wanted me in drag — I said I knew it would happen, I just didn’t know it would happen on episode 2!”

As we talk, Jordan is on a brief hiatus from filming The Cool Kids — they film three episodes in three weeks, then get a week off. The next hiatus frees him up both for his Dallas performance and to film a guest spot on another TV: playing Beverly Leslie, the sassy socialite on Will & Grace that won Jordan an Emmy Award.

“We film The Cool Kids on Friday night, I fly into Dallas Saturday morning for Legacy, then back to Will & Grace on Monday,” he says. “I sometimes wish this had happened to me 20 years ago, but then I think no, I would have messed it up.”
always a double-edged sword, but a good thing. It started happening.

One of my favorite things from the time it was originally released was the “Miss Chatelaine” dance remix. If you didn’t want to be a pop star, how did it feel to be a disco diva? It was really exciting because my music was so far from that. At that time, dance remixes were something that you did. We did a lot of remixes. I even would be asked to go to clubs and just say hi when they were spinning the record, which was a whole new thing. It was kind of fun. It was a coming of age for me, but also for the gay community. It was a turning point.

The bonus material on the expanded Ingenue reissue includes previously unreleased tracks from your MTV Unplugged set. What did it mean to you that time to perform on such a prestigious show? Obviously it was the pinnacle. If you were doing well, you got an Unplugged TV show. It was a huge opportunity. We decided not to release the MTV stuff. In the back of my mind, I always knew that we had it. It seemed like we had the opportunity to release the anniversary album.

In June, “Constant Craving” was included on Pitchfork.com’s list of 50 Songs that Define the Last 50 Years of LGBTQ+ Pride. What does that mean to you? I’m just so happy to be a part of our history. To be a brick in the road that has paved the way and continues to pave the way for our liberty and equality.

Speaking of honors, you are scheduled to receive the 2018 Americana Trailblazer Award. What does that mean to you? Whoa! Well, it’s incredible. I was going to say I worked hard, but then I had to correct myself because it wasn’t work. I had a lot of fun and a lot of obstacles creating a new type of country music at the time that I did. I fell in love with country music. I never liked country music as a kid, but then I started to understand the beauty and the depth and the kitsch and the irony of country music in my late teens. Then I got obsessed with Patsy Cline and created this homage genre. It was a labor of love and respect and appreciation for country music and certain country singers. Minnie Pearl and Patsy and Loretta [Lynn], people I had close proximity to. It feels amazing that I would be recognized this long after my time with country music.

It’s definitely well-deserved. You have a long history of being a good collaborator, from playing with the Reclines and the Siss Boom Bang, to singing with the Honky Tonk Angels on Shadowland to the duets album you recorded with Tony Bennett, and more recently the Case/lang/ Veirs album. What is about you that makes you play well with others? I like fitting in to others’ music. For instance, I loved singing with Tony Bennett or Roy Orbison because I love to shadow someone else’s music. I love the supporting role. It fits me. I love to put my voice into situations where I shadow someone else’s voice and vibe. That feels really good to me. That, to me, is the ultimate education. It’s like I’m always going to school when I sing with other people. I have a thirst for that and maybe that’s what the draw to collaboration is for me.

Is there a new album in the works? There is not. No. [Laughs] k.d. lang is in a drought and has been for a while. But you know what? I feel very positive about it. I don’t always feel positive about it, but I have to respect the winds of creativity. I have to respect the muse. If the muse is taking a sabbatical from me, I have to respect that [laughs].

Please know that we miss you. Thank you!

What can the audience expect from the Ingenue Redux concert tour? We do the record in its entirety in sequence right off the top of the show. It sets the tone and pretty much stays there. We do a few of the songs very true to the record. In the mid-to-later half of the record we get into some new arrangements and we open up the songs a little bit. It’s my favorite part of the show, where the musicians have a chance to stand out.

Finally, would you mind saying a few words about what it’s like to be Canadian during the age of Trump? [Long pause]... Well [longer pause]... I guess it’s kind of like seeing your sibling have cancer. In a way, it’s devastating. But in a way, there’s a means to the end. I think to have the cancer come so clearly and so aggressively to the forefront, one can only hope it means you can find the systemic issues and eradicate them.
Kristen Stewart and Chloë Sevigny share an intimate moment in the speculative biopic ‘Lizzie.’

**Liz-bian icon**

Indie queen Chloë Sevigny continues her string of queer-friendly roles in the Borden bio ‘Lizzie’

_Choë Sevigny knows the power of words, so she’s very careful with them, warily tip-toeing to the end of an answer when asked about the influence of her landmark trans film _Boys Don’t Cry_. The 1999 dramatization of the murder of real-life Nebraskan transgender teen Brandon Teena (Hilary Swank) garnered the now-43-year-old style icon (who played Teena’s girlfriend Lana) an Academy Award nomination, but she was already a budding indie queen. Director Larry Clark’s 1995 film _Kids_ came first, with Sevigny portraying an HIV-positive teen. But Sevigny would go on to amass a body of LGBTQ films and roles, including _If These Walls Could Talk 2, Party Monster, Will & Grace_ and _Broken Flowers_, playing Jessica Lange’s lesbian assistant. In 2012, she portrayed trans contract killer Mia in _Hit & Miss_, a part she would go on to amass a body of LGBTQ films and roles, including _If These Walls Could Talk 2, Party Monster, Will & Grace_ and _Broken Flowers_, playing Jessica Lange’s lesbian assistant. In 2012, she portrayed trans contract killer Mia in _Hit & Miss_, a part she

_Dallas Voice_: What has led you to so many LGBTQ characters? Sevigny: The marginalized, the misunderstood, the outcast... you know, I grew up super-sensitive as a child, and my brother and I were really rebellious in a small town and were really into just questioning the status quo. I have a lot of older peers who are gay, and knowing the struggle and what they fought through, and having so much respect and admiration for the times that they've lived through... not that the struggle is over by any means, but just the perspective that I think gets lost. Post Trump, with all the conversations that are being had, and everyone’s like “oh god, it’s so horrible; I can’t watch the news,” but thank god everyone is talking about political the systems are. I really feel like change is happening.

Why do you think you didn’t experience the same backlash that _Scarlett Johansson_ did for signing on to play a trans role? It was just a different time then. When they came to me with that role I said, “I don’t understand why you don’t cast a real trans person,” and they said, “We can’t get the funding because we can’t find anyone that has a big enough name, in all honesty.” And I just felt like it was an important story to tell, and I loved the writing and I loved the creators and I wanted to be a part of it. If that opportunity came to me today, I would pass, for sure, 100 percent. It was just, unfortunately, what was acceptable then, I think it wasn’t as challenged, and it should be.

What are your thoughts on whether LGBTQ actors should exclusively be playing LGBTQ roles? And with that in mind, how did you approach Lizzie’s sexuality? Well, I want to respect [the community] and their stories and who they are as people, and I feel like [Lizzie and Bridget’s] love was born out of the confines of the environment they were in at the time; they were looking for escape in one another. I feel like it's kind of beyond the boundaries of queer, straight, you know? We had a good writer, we had lots of out cast members who really respected the story and wanted to be a part of telling it, and I admire them all for being out and for coming forward and supporting the project. I mean, I feel if gay men or women can play straight, I don’t know if it’s fair to do the reverse. But I just hope that there’s more opportunities, for everyone... especially the people who are marginalized.

Did it mean something to you to have someone who is not heterosexual, Kristen Stewart, play Bridget, who is also not heterosexual? It did, but she was also my first choice just as an actor, not the person. I have so much respect for her choices, and I could go on and on about her performances, but I like her persona. For me, I’ve always been attracted to directors or other actors that I feel like have more than just that going on — that aren’t just, like, theater nerds [laughs]. Not that there’s anything wrong with theater nerds! But I feel like she really represents something to a lot of generations, with _Twilight_ and beyond.

You’ve said what you had in mind for this film didn’t align with director Craig William Macneill’s finished feature. How about Lizzie and Bridget’s sexuality — was that explored as deeply as you had hoped? I think when I said that I was more talking about the process because we had been through so many different incarnations of the script. Things were changing even until the last moment. It’s the power of the edit, things you have to let go of. There was more between our relationship, kind of questioning it, and deciding she doesn’t want to go any further and then coming back. And probably in the overall course of watching the movie it would’ve muddled things, so you kind of have to accept in the edits how things work and how some things don’t, and that’s just the process of filming.

There’s an intimate scene where Bridget and Lizzie almost kiss, but trepidation holds them back. How were you reading Lizzie in that moment? She was starved for recognition; she just wanted to be seen as she was and she felt really that she didn’t have a voice, and I think she wasn’t valued by her family or her community and she found somebody who valued her and could hear her and who wanted to listen to her and talk to her. There was so much physical attraction between them, but also just what that person was for her. She was on a quest for freedom, and she goes to the most extreme thing you can do and in the end kind of loses it all.

As someone who’s known for her queer roles, when you get stopped by an LGBTQ person on the street, which film do they tend to most recognize you from? _Boys Don’t Cry_, for sure. They say every actor has one thing that they get recognized or known for, and for me it’s _Boys_, but from the gay community it’s probably _Boys Don’t Cry_. I think there are just a lot of references for that movie and it meant a lot to a lot of people.

Next year marks 20 years since _Boys Don’t Cry_. How do you reflect on the effect that movie had? Just like... I just think that at that time when it came out there just wasn’t a lot of representation of that community, on screen or on television or anywhere — oh my god. So sensitive around this subject. [Laughs] I’m always like, I’m gonna get taken down for anything I say — it’s just a hotbed. It feels like it’s almost hard to talk about this without feeling under the gun, for some reason. Because it’s like, you can’t say the right thing.

But I feel like it was important to the world. Not even one community in general. As far as building tolerance and acceptance and educating people and portraying a person and seeing the violence acted out against them and how heart-wrenching it is and humanizing a story, it was a really important thing to be a part of. I had read all the articles about Brandon Teena and was already obsessed with the story before being offered the audition and I wanted to be a part of telling that story.
Garret Storms: I wish I had this one to balance myself off of [back then]. Both plays ground each other. It would have been a different thing to do this then [instead of now]. Allowing the world to be present in our storytelling. Spectacular, wonderful miraculous things happen in this play and we need to allow those things to be present [despite] the ugliness happening [in the world right now].

It’s reductionist to call particular characters villains, but I think obviously Roy Cohn is the real-life villain of the piece, but Louis is also kind of a bad guy…. DL: You have to advocate the character completely. You have to do what Kushner says and what Roy actually did. He’s a real person and a suffering person. You have to play that whether the audience likes it or not. I loved playing this character. My dream role is Richard III. But this is the blessing — it’s so much better than Richard III.

DM: I was familiar with this play in high school and when I read it as a teenager I remember thinking Louis [who I play] was just a bad guy. When I reread it prior to this production I was an adult and had a journey similar to Louis’ and I realized what he did was really, really awful but really, really human. I had to say what if what he does is wrong, but I see it as so wrong I can approach his humanity? At one point I have to approach him as wrong but not completely fallible.

GS: The two [villains] are so self-aware. Louis knows he’s being awful.

KI: Kushner does a remarkable job of treating all the characters, including Roy, with such reverence.

DM: In the end Kushner looks at Roy and says he has a place in the cycle of violence and says, you’re a human being, too.

DL: He brings Roy back to Joe to say Love will take you places — don’t give up on love.

Is Kushner hard to perform? PD [resting her head with a sigh]: I’ve been working on my monologue for six months! But I don’t understand it! I hope the understanding comes before the show.

DL: Everyone has a speech where the integrity of prose is broken somehow. You just have to keep moving.
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Friday 09.21

Troye Sivan kicks off national tour at Toyota Music Factory

The singles have been slowly releasing all summer, and the full album dropped just two weeks ago, but Troye Sivan’s follow-up major-label LP Bloom really gets rolling this week, when he opens his national tour at Toyota Music Factory. The young, dreamy, gay balladeer’s Bloom Tour includes trans artist Kim Petras as his special guest. Be the first to see it!

DEETS: Toyota Music Factory, 300 W. Las Colinas Blvd., Irving. 8 p.m. Tickemaster.com.

Friday 09.28 — Sunday 10.21

Big Tex says 'Howdy!' when the State Fair opens

If it's fall in Dallas, that means two things: Pride in full swing, and Big Tex yellin' “Howdy, folks!” from under a 10-gallon hat. The State Fair of Texas kicks off this month for four weekends of cattle, corndogs, carnival games and calories. Check out the fried food winners, the auto show (the first of its kind for the new models each year), musical performances, National Coming Out Day and much more.

DEETS: Throughout Fair Park. Complete information at BigTex.org.

Friday 09.28 — Sunday 10.21

DTC launches season with ‘Steel Magnolias’

If you want to come out to friend or family but don’t know how, try this: “My favorite movie is Steel Magnolias.” They will know. And if you have never seen the six-woman stage production, now is your chance. Joel Ferrell directs this classic of campy comedy and heartbreaking melodrama, set in a beauty parlor in Louisiana and focusing on women who know how to survive in the face of adversity. The show kicks of Dallas Theater Center’s 2018–19 season.


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09.21.18 dallasvoice 27
It’s only September, but in Addison, that’s close enough to October for the annual Oktoberfest, taking place all this weekend.

**ARTSWEEK**

**THEATER**


*An Octoroon*. Stage West presents the regional premiere of this controversial satire based on a 19th century play about a white man who falls for a woman who is one-eighth black. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Sept. 30. StageWest.org.


*Once*. The Tony Award-winning musical, based on the indie Irish film about a tentative romance between a busker and a shy girl. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Oct. 7. Theatre3Dallas.com.

**FINE ART**

*An Enduring Legacy: The Eugene and Margaret McDermott Collection of Impressionist and Modern Art*. The recent death of Dallas arts patron Margaret McDermott, at age 106, led to a bequest of 32 works from her private collection, housed in her own home until recently, and now on display with three previously-donated works to the DMA. Dallas Museum of Art 1717 Harwood St. Through Feb. 17, 2019. DMA.org.


*Dali: Poetics of the Small, 1929–1936*. Before he was an acclaimed surrealist of monumental work, Salvador Dali was a craftsman of small, classic (and modernist) paintings. Meadows Museum of Art on the SMU campus, 5900 Bishop Blvd.

**EXHIBITIONS**


**FESTIVAL**


**FRIDAY 09.21**

**COMMUNITY**

*FrontRunners*. Gay jogging/walking group meets weekly at 9 a.m. in Oak Lawn Park at Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard for a run along the Katy Trail.

*Leslie Jordan Exposed*. The actor and raconteur performs his one-man show as a benefit for Legacy Counseling. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 8 p.m. $35–$100. LeslieJordanDallas.com. See story Page 18.

**SATURDAY 09.22**

**COMMUNITY**

*FrontRunners*. Gay jogging/walking group meets weekly at 9 a.m. in Oak Lawn Park at Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard for a run along the Katy Trail.

*Leslie Jordan Exposed*. The actor and raconteur performs his one-man show as a benefit for Legacy Counseling. Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. 8 p.m. $35–$100. LeslieJordanDallas.com. See story Page 18.

**SUNDAY 09.23**

**CONCERTS**

*K.D. Lang Ingenue Redux Tour*. With Mak Grgic. McFarlin Auditorium on the SMU campus. 8 p.m. AXS.com. See story Page 19.
WEDNESDAY 09.26
COMMUNITY
The Queer Off!! Weekly variety show with 14 contestants, 12 weeks and one eventual winner. Sue Ellen’s, 3014 Throckmorton Road. 10 p.m.

THURSDAY 09.27
CABARET
Glitterbomb Denton. Weekly queer variety show with a new lineup every Thursday, now at a new locale and new time. Andy’s Bar, 122 N. Locust St., Denton. 8 p.m.

PRIDE

FRIDAY 09.28
STAR FAIR

THEATER

BALLETT

An exhibition focusing on the influence of the arts known as Jean (Hans) Arp continues at the Nasher Sculpture Center.

MONDAY 09.24
CABARET
Mama’s Party. Weekly cabaret night with special guest performances. Uptown Theatre, 120 E. Main St., Grand Prairie. 7:35 p.m. $10.

TUESDAY 09.25
FILM
Bringing Up Baby. One of the classic screwball comedies, with Katharine Hepburn and Cary Grant raising a tiger. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series, which now includes a matinee. Landmark’s Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Screens at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Ask Howard

How to do the wrong thing right

Well, kids, somehow we miraculously skip-to-mah-Lou’d, through the whole summer without atomic Armageddon after all; knock on the wooden handle of Oracle L’Orange’s nuclear football. Hell, even The New York Times (that “fake media” witches’ covet!), designed to smear a gloss of lipstick on our Bovine-in-Chief, expounding in one of its summer’s finale editorials that at least the Big Krumquat’s regime hasn’t calcified into outright “catastrophic,” merely “corrosive” (for now).

But me thinks the Times dost see through the CLR-cleaned glasses the scum-buildup of a metastasizing acutocracy. Invariably, despotic madmen’s regimes always start out (against all logical comprehension) with an economically ascendant first few years: Mussolini famously got Italy’s trains running on time, Hitler opened Germany’s universally-copied Autobahn and even Stalin trumped the triumph of his first Five-Year Plan’s “success” by showcasing his blackened teeth and his one good arm with a proud wave from atop a picturesque tugboat’s helm, chugging through the miraculously-constructed White Sea Canal.

As all you Arctic trivia buffs well know, that canal served about as functionally useful then to the U.S.S.R. as, oh, the Erie Canal does for us; Stalin ordered his battalions of arrested slave laborers to build the canal so quickly that its width was too narrow to accommodate even so much as a wooden barge. Its obsolescence was instantaneous… then again, functionality was never the point anyhow. The point was for little Stalin’s mug — airbrushed from all reality of its success-flushed pockmarks, crevices, craters, bloodshot-insomniac’s eyes and alcoholism splotches — to be internationally emblazoned above the frontpage folds of every newspaper on the planet… coincidentally, Drumpf’s sole motives for everything he does. Everyone knows in their gut something’s going to happen on Mr. Tangerine Tan’s watch — something elusively beyond all sanity, hideously gruesome, if not globally gory. Nonetheless, having safely somehow crossed over the Rubicon of summer’s official end, into the territory now of Halloween paraphernalia, the only unanswerable at this spooky juncture of limbo is… when?

History is larded with these agonizing waits. Miraculously, even Caligula lunched his lunatic tenure through four sadistic years of meretricious depravity before his Pretorian Guard simply snatched up his daughter by the ankles and smashed out her brains against one of his palace’s rare, lovely, lemon-colored marble columns. Fast-forwarding a couple millennia down this ignoble pike, at least those Teutonic debarcathers, the Goerings, allowed their children to suffer ignorantly the hidden cyanide capsules swallowed in the family’s final meal down in the bunker. The fleeing lackeys hitched to our modern-day Romanov clan, now all but forced to fortess themselves inside 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue’s bomb-proof ramparts during the week and “The Southern White House” on weekends, are already cutting leniency prison-sentence terms, if not outright immunity deals. Thus, we all know exactly why the caged birds sing: Questions, questions everywhere, and not a strutting drop of thought does His Naked Highness think.

One must always be braced for reality to forever reside in fantasy: Let’s all just give a relieved “Whew!” that we rode it out safely through this nail-biter season. If you want my cordial suggestion — which, of course, you do — I think we’re all due a bit of fun with this issue’s column, sweet readers: I’ll be the one asking you the questions, and you get to provide me the answers. (Helpful hint: They’re all multiple choice, so if stumped, kidz, then by all means, please just cheat — the answers are located at the end of the page.) You game, class? Everyone have a writing utensil handy? All-righty, then, we’re gonna start out here nice and easy; but, we’re gonna end thang nice and rough. So lick your no. 2 lead pencil tips, bitchez, and let’s just get right downtown to it.

1. In our land of enchantment called Gayville, what are the letters BBC acronymic of? a. Bitch Be Crazy; b. Bare-Back Cock; c. British Broadcasting Corporation; d. Big Black Cock.

2. How many calories does the average ejaculation contain? (Translation: bois: your first BJ of the day, not your fifty?) a. Not enough for even a caged sex slave to survive exclusively on, regardless of how many feedings he’s permitted; b. 25 to 50; c. 50 to 100; d. I couldn’t begin to even fathom a guess, as masturbation/fornication/adultery are violations of morality, and ejaculate is solely intended for procreation; hence, upon hooking a hose up to the tailpipe of my running car in the garage tonight, I fully intend to wank my Johnson raw until the very gates of hell rise up euphorically before me.

3. Grand Marshal in this year’s N’Awlins’ Mardi Gras Parade was led by which most fabulous gay icon of all? a. Miss Piggy in drag as Kermit in love with Cookie Monster; b. RuPaul surrounded by each Drag Race winner from every season to have emerged as fellow superstars from her smash hit show (translation: a gaggle of one waving radiantly from atop Lady La Rue’s float); c. That one and only time-reverser herself, Cher; d. A svete and stunning Susan Boyle impersonating Cher.

4. In the fetish world of BDSM, “figging” necessitates the use of what particular food? a. One large “hand” of fresh ginger root peeled into the shape of a butt plug; b. An extra-large eggplant generously lubed-up with Bengay; c. Duh, a bucket of fresh figs steeped overnight in stinging nettles’ juice; d. One very fresh, unpeeled pineapple fonded in a large pan of freshly drained Diesel.

5. Describe sexual pleasure from “water, thunder and lightning” exhorts a life-in-the-fast-lane-friendly acquaintance with what? a. Water sports and explosive flatulence; b. Outdoor pool sex during severe thunderstorm warnings; c. Being electro-stemmed while bound helpless and unrated upon by a banging gang of male admirers; d. Stamping a triple-x-elixir of gamma hydroxybutyrate, a.k.a. G (water), with an abominably salivating Dr. Phibes’ chaser of heroin, a.k.a. smack (thunder) and crystal methamphetamine, a.k.a. Tina (lightning).

6. Which of the following is least necessary in order to blissfully master the rapture of “blowing clouds”? a. A handy glory hole; b. A penis in one’s mouth; c. A glass pipe/torch lighter combo; d. A marble-sized rock of crystal meth.

7. Match these five gay porn legends with their decades: Jack Wrangler, Ken Ryker, Dawson, Joe Dallesandro, Jeff Stryker ‘60s, ‘70s, ‘80s, ‘90s and 2000s.

8. What is a rainbow kiss? a. Any spur-of-the-moment marriage proposal resultant from the serendipitously lucky sudden appearance of a rainbow in the sky; b. Kissing back into your sex partner’s mouth a delicious, swirled mixture of fresh sperm and menstrual blood you fetched; c. The kaleidoscopic smudge on one’s face resulting from a kiss by some sneaky kid wearing every shade of lipstick they could pilfer; d. An homage paid to Gayville’s greatest, most treasured icon ever, sung by every drag performance artist via introducing her encore while kissing all ten rainbow-painted, three-inch talons up to Heaven, trembling. “And now, all you precious darings at mine here tonight, this one’s for our girl, Judy.”

I’ve already answered this stupifying nonsense once, if not several times, in previous columns; thus, whatever you didn’t catch the first time around, you’ll unlikely comprehend any better this repeat. Blame it on a long, hot, exhaustive summer; regardless, sweet readers, dear Howard here is plumb frazzled. Fall couldn’t have arrived soon enough. As promised, here are the answers: 1. d; 2. b.; 3. c.; 4. a.; 5. d.; 6. a.; 7 In order, ‘70s, ‘90s, ’00s, ’10s, 8. b.

— Howard Lewis Russell

Do you have a question — about etiquette, love, life or work — that needs a special spin from Howard? Send your problem to AskHoward@DallasVoice.com and he may answer it.
Making the SCENE the week of Sept. 21-27

- Alexandre's: Stephanie Sallie on Friday, Anton Shaw Band on Saturday, Wayne Smith on Sunday, K-Marie sings Broadway on Tuesday, Vero Voz on Wednesday, Chris Chism on Thursday.
- Club Reflection: Texas Gay Rodeo Association, Imperial Court and Trinity River Bears at 7 p.m. on Sunday.
- Dallas Eagle: South Central Leather from 6-10 p.m. on Friday, United Court from 6-10 p.m. on Saturday, Dallas Diablos Cookout from 5-9 p.m. on Sunday.
- Deja Vu: Precome — The Party Before Pride on Sunday.
- Havana: Showtime at 11 p.m. on Thursday.
- Hidden Door: The Men Are Cooking hosted by the United Court from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday.
- JR.'s Bar & Grill: Cassie's Freak Show at 11 p.m. on Monday.
- Marty's Live: Karaoke night on Thursday.
- Round-Up Saloon: Mancandy at 8 p.m. on Sunday, Boys! Boots! Boxer Briefs! on Monday.
- Sue Ellen's: The Thin White Dukes: A David Bowie Tribute on Saturday, The Southpaw Preachers and Droo's Peace Crush on Sunday.
- The Rose Room: Miss Gay USofA at Large 2018 finals. Doors open at 8 p.m. Pageant at 9 p.m. on Friday.
- Woody's Sports & Video Bar: Jada Pinkett Fox at 11 p.m. on Thursday.
- Zippers: Erotica at 10 p.m. on Thursday.

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Young and full of Pride

Showing off their Pride at the parade
Todrick Hall gets friendly with a fan at the Alan Ross Texas Freedom ....

.... and at The Round-Up Saloon.
Chanel and the boys at the parade

Asia O’Hara with Troye Sivan earlier this year in D.C. Troye performs tonight (Sept. 21) in Dallas.

REBA McENTIRE in A Night to Remember

Reba is still “Fancy” (Photo by Chad Mantooth)

Jeremy with Reba (Photo Courtesy Danny Campbell Photography)

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Solution on Page 29

Across
1 Tuft of pubic hair, e.g.
5 Butler’s burden on the stairway
10 Oakland’s ___ Bears bookstore
14 Something to think about
15 Von Trapp title
16 Greek who stuck it in some Trojans
17 Dramatist Williams, for short?
18 Totally absurd
19 Six Feet Under character
20 California coastal city
23 Building featured in Pee-Wee’s Big Adventure
25 Reposed
26 Holder for a gyro sandwich
30 K on Lesbos
34 Singer DiFranco
35 In view
36 Upshot
37 Corporate VIP
38 Toklas of expats
40 Inked decoration, for short
41 Recently deceased gay icon whose name appears in the circles
44 Marching band member
46 Carousel’s “You’re a Queer ___”
47 Race site in Britten’s land
48 Stores of information
50 Melville tale
52 Minimum amount
53 Heart rate reducers
58 Seamen
59 Aquarium buildup
60 Birth state of Langston Hughes
63 Gypsy’s “___ Need Is the Girl”
64 Become wife and wife, e.g.
66 Fox comedy with Jane Lynch
67 Fields of interest
68 Props for frat hazing

Down
1 Margaret Edson play
2 Chemical suffix
3 Hayley Kiyoko’s feelings, for example
4 Colun locale
5 Memorial column
6 First name in Czech tennis
7 Gaza Striper, e.g.
8 Dancer Reagan’s father
9 “The end of ___”
10 “Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow,” to Lorca
11 Showing a tiny opening
12 ___ Hari of espionage
13 Tin Woodsman’s tool
21 Bigwigs, to Britten
22 Ten-speed, e.g.
23 Attack helicopter
24 Where to find the usual suspects
27 Admiral’s position?
28 Slippery one
29 West Side Story girl
31 Fake it, on Broadway?
32 Parts of a woody erection
33 Bear witness
36 C&W’s McEntire
39 Chatroom stat
42 Dustin Hoffman role in a dress
43 Stone of Easy A
45 Highly competent
48 Susan B. Anthony coin
49 It needs oxygen
51 Most recent competent president
53 Cinderella’s coming-out party
54 Gardner of mystery
55 Fairy-tale monster
56 Italian honey
57 Peter Nero’s 88
58 Running game
61 Feminizing suffix
62 Takes too much, for short
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