LGBT Texan(s) of the year

LUPE VALDEZ

and The Rainbow Wave
39th Anniversary Celebration!
Thursday Dec. 13, 2018

Well Drinks & Domestic Beers $1.00
12 oz Well & Premium Beers $2.00
Dallas Blonde / Deep Ellum IPA $3.00
Call Liquor Shots & Drinks $1 Off

OPEN TO CLOSE
Complimentary Buffet
Begins 7:30 PM

Welcome Old Friends & New!
Come Check Out the New Heated Patio!
5025 Bowser Ave • Dallas, Texas 75209 • (214) 526-0620 • hiddendoor-dallas.com
headlines

- **TEXAS NEWS**
  9  Celebrating the Rainbow Wave
  10  Black Tie hands out checks
  12  Bobrow Trust funds Hope Center
  13  Pastor wins Justice Seeker award

- **LIFE+STYLE**
  18  Mi Diva Loca preps for championship
  22  REVIEWS: ‘Judy Christmas,’ ‘Carol’
  24  Cuaron goes retro with ‘Roma’

- **ON THE COVER**
  LGBT Texan of the Year Lupe Valdez
  Photo by Richard W. Rodriguez/AP

departments

- 6  The Gay Agenda  27  Best Bets
- 8  News  31  Ask Cassie
- 17  Voices  32  Scene
- 18  Life+Style  36  MarketPlace

dallasvoice.com
The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas
Maison leaving ASD in February

Don Maison will be stepping down from his position as president and CEO of AIDS Services of Dallas effective Feb. 1, 2019, according to a post the agency made to its Facebook page Thursday, Nov. 29.

Traswell Livingston III, the agency’s current chief operating officer, will serve as interim CEO, and Board Chair Sam Etheridge is forming a search committee to find a new president and CEO.

AIDS Services of Dallas was founded as the PWA Coalition of Dallas on April 28, 1987, to provide housing for people with AIDS. The newly-formed agency retained Maison as its lawyer that May. Maison was hired on in the position then known as executive director and which is now president and CEO, on Dec. 1, 1988, and has led the organization ever since.

The dba AIDS Services of Dallas was formed in May 1989.

Watch for more about Maison, his career and his future plans in next week’s Dallas Voice.
— Tammye Nash

Dallas marks World AIDS Day

World AIDS Day commemorations in Dallas this year included one at Central Congregational Church in North Dallas on Nov. 30 and one at Cathedral of Hope on Dec. 1.

Robert Suttle spoke at the Nov. 30 event organized by C.U.R.E. that also included a remembrance by Alpha Thomas of the AIDS crisis in Dallas, especially in the black community.

Suttle is a victim of HIV criminalization. After a relationship that lasted several months, his ex-boyfriend charged him with not disclosing his HIV status. He was arrested and charged in Louisiana under an HIV criminalization law.

That law still doesn’t take into account that those in compliance with their drug regimen and are undetectable will not transmit the virus.

Originally, Suttle had a plea bargain for a two-year probation sentence. When he questioned being registered as a sex offender, the judge ruled he would have to spend six months in prison. Since his release in 2011, he has been fighting his sex offender status. His argument is that sending notification to everyone living within a certain radius about his sex offender status violates the law by releasing his confidential medical information.

At the event at Cathedral of Hope on Dec. 1, about 40 members of the Turtle Creek Chorale sang, and those lost to AIDS were remembered.

Prism Health CEO John Carlo talked about information released at the World AIDS Conference. Among the most important studies was one on U=U, or “undetectable equals untransmittable.” One of the most dramatic and promising statistics is from New York City where over the past four years, there has been a 60 percent drop in the number of new HIV infections directly related to U=U and use of PrEP.

The goal among AIDS activists is elimination of HIV as a global health threat by 2030.
— David Taffet

Theater Jones wins Press Club award for Lee Trull exposé

On Saturday night, Dec. 1, the second annual Hugh Aynesworth Awards for Texas Journalism were presented by the Press Club of Dallas (of which, full disclosure, I am a board member) at a ceremony at the Irving Convention Center. Winners and finalists were honored in 17 categories, including newspapers, magazines, radio, TV and digital media. It was in the later that our colleague Mark Lowry, who co-founded TheaterJones.com 10 years ago, walked away as a two-time winner. Lowry won for digital criticism for his review of Hit The Wall, a play about the Stonewall Riots that was the first directorial effort, in 2017, of WaterTower Theatre’s then-new artistic director Joanie Schultz, who was recently let go from her post.

Lowry was also the co-recipient, with Shelby-Allison Hibbs and Katy Lemieux, for investigative journalism for their December 2017 piece revealing how Dallas Theater Center administrator Lee Trull has been accused of serial sexual harassment.

The ceremony was marked by a number of meaningful moments, including a Q&A with veteran journalist Hugh Aynesworth (a witness to the Kennedy assassination) and speeches that emphasized the value in — and difficulty of — practicing legitimate journalism in the current environment.

Congrats to Mark and all the winners.
— Arnold Wayne Jones
We are proud to be a beneficiary of the 2018 Black Tie Dinner. We can’t thank you enough for your support and look forward to 2019.
Tacky sweater competition and toy drive

• Dec. 8: Lost Souls Toy Drive
  #167. $50 and a 24” teddy bear.
  p.m.-midnight at the F.I.G., 1807 Ross Ave.
  for children at Children’s Health from 8

• Dec. 8: The Teddy Bear Party
  Old Red Museum, 100 S. Houston St.

The Mistletoe
Dallas Public Library.

GreenDallas.net or for assistance go to any
a tree at no cost. Register online at
The City of Dallas will provide residents

• Through Jan 11: Branch Out Dallas

DECEMBER

• Weekly: Lambda Weekly at 1 p.m. on
  Sunday on 89.3 KNON-FM with David
  Taffet, Lerone Landis and the late Patti
  Fink. Core Group Meeting every 1st and
  3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.; Fuse
  game night every Monday evening except
  the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse
  space in the 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; Fuse-
  Connect every Wednesday from 7 p.m.
  For more information call or e-mail Ja-
  lenzski at 214-760-9718 ext. 3 or Jalenzski@
  myresourcecenter.org; LGBT square dancing
  group Pegasus Squares meets every
  Sunday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Grace Unit-
  ed Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St. For
  more info, email pegasusssquares@gmail.
  com; Dallas Frontrunners meet for a walk
  or run on the Katy Trail at Oak Lawn
  Park, Turtle Creek and Hall Street, every
  Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. and every Satur-
  day at 9 a.m.; Leadership Lambda Toast-
  masters practices and develops speaking
  and leadership skills from 6:30-8 p.m. on
  Tuesdays at First Unitarian Church, third
  floor of the Hallman Building, 4012 St.
  Andrews; Gray Pride support group from
  11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. followed by mixer every
  Monday at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar
  Springs Road; Lambda AA meets at 7 a.m.,
  noon, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. and has a
  men’s meeting at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and
  meets at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday
  at 1575 W. Mockingbird Lane #625. Call
  214-267-0222 for details; LGBT Sex Ad-
  dicts Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. every
  Friday at 1919 Independence St., Room
  19, Plano. 972-316-9188 for details; Lead-
  ership Lambda Toastmasters gay-identi-
  fied 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); Unite-
  ed Black Ellument hosts discussion on
  HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE
  Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Thursday
  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.

• Dec. 7: An enchanted Evening Under
  the Mistletoe
  Federal Club party from 8-11p.m. At the
  Old Red Museum, 100 S. Houston St.

• Dec. 8: The Teddy Bear Party
  Annual party that collects teddy bears
  for children at Children’s Health from 8
  p.m.-midnight at the F.I.G., 1807 Ross Ave.
  #167. $50 and a 24” teddy bear.

• Dec. 8: Lost Souls Toy Drive
  Tacky sweater competition and toy drive
  benefits Adelfa Callejo Elementary School
  from 6-9 p.m. at the Round-Up Saloon,
  3912 Cedar Springs Road.

• Dec. 8: Bells, Baubles & Babtist Women
  Holiday celebration featuring the Austin
  Babtist Women with proceeds benefiting
  the Texas Red Ribbon Wish Network at 7
  p.m. at the Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs
  Road. $10.

• Dec. 8-9: Pet photos with Santa
  Photos of the family and your pets in
  holiday attire with Santa includes one
  framed and a flash drive of the others for
  $25 benefiting Operation Kindness from
  10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Pet Food Pantry, 3955
  Belt Line Road, Addison.

• Dec. 8: 8-9: Pet photos with Santa
  Holiday annual auction benefits Legacy
  Counseling Center from 7-10 p.m. at
  Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs
  Road.

• Dec. 9: Stocking Auction
  Annual holiday auction benefits Legacy
  Counseling Center from 6-9 p.m. at
  the Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs
  Road.

• Dec. 10-23: Wrapping for Kindness
  Workshop at Reunion District, 310 S. Houston St. $10 in
  advance. $20 at the door. Free to Chamber
  members. GLBTChamber.com.

• Dec. 11: Resource Center tour
  Resource Center CEO Cece Cox leads a
  behind-the-scenes tour of the center’s
  community center from 11 a.m.-noon at 5750
  Cedar Springs Road. RSVP to development@
  myresourcecenter.org.

• Dec. 11: Grief support group
  LGBT grief support group for people
  who have lost a same-sex partner from
  7-8:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar
  Springs Road.

• Dec. 11: GLFD holiday party
  The Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas
  presents a holiday party from 6:30-8:30
  p.m. at Musume, 2330 Flora St.

• Dec. 15: Gray Pride Holiday Party
  Food, drinks, ornament making, games
  and prize for best holiday attire from
  5-7 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar
  Springs Road.

Have an event coming up? Email your infor-
information to Managing Editor Tammye Nash at
nash@dallasvoice.com or Senior Staff Writ-
er David Taffet at taffet@dallasvoice.com by
Wednesday at 5 p.m. for that week’s issue.
Meet Donald, a 3-year-old Lab mix weighing 49 pounds. He knows how to sit on command and is working on “wait” and “down.” He would be a great adventure buddy, and would love to go on lots of walks and hikes and do other outdoor things with his new owner. Donald is a little picky about his dog friends; he would prefer a doggy buddy who is his size so they can play together. Just bring them by the shelter to do a meet and greet.

Donald has been neutered and microchipped and has received all age-appropriate vaccinations. #142956

Donald is waiting for you at the SPCA of Texas’ Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center in Dallas, 2400 Lone Star Drive (near I-30 and Hampton Road). Hours are noon-6 p.m. Sun-Wed and noon-7 p.m. Thurs-Sat.

Regular adoption fees are $100 for puppies and kittens aged 0-6 months, $50 for adult dogs and cats aged 6 months or older, $25 for senior dogs or cats aged 7 years and older and $25 for VIP dogs and cats (available for adoption for 30 days or more.) Fee includes spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, a heartworm test for dogs six months and older and a FIV/FeLV test for cats 4 months and older, initial flea/tick preventative and heartworm preventative, a microchip, 30 days of PetHealth Insurance provided by PetPlan, a free 14-day wellness exam with VCA Animal Hospitals, a rabies tag and a free leash. Call 214-742-SPCA (7722) or visit today.

For the HOLIDAYS!

Overnight Lodging, Daycare, Bathing & Grooming
6444 E. Mockingbird @ Abrams • 214-823-1441

BOOK NOW
Lupe Valdez didn’t win her bid for governor, but her campaign was a transformative moment in Texas history.

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

There were four openly-LGBT gubernatorial candidates across the U.S. running in this year’s mid-term elections. Dallas County’s former sheriff, Latina lesbian Lupe Valdez was one of them. While Valdez did not succeed in her bid to oust Republican incumbent Greg Abbott, she brought in nearly 43 percent of the vote — an amazing feat for an openly-LGBT Democrat in a state-wide race in such a deep red Republican stronghold.

Valdez’s campaign signaled a huge step forward for LGBT candidates — indeed, for all progressive candidates — in Texas. And for that reason, Dallas Voice names Lupe Valdez as our LGBT Texan of the year.

Valdez’s race was, “transformative,” said LGBT Victory Fund CEO Annise Parker, the former mayor of Houston who is herself a history-making LGBT candidate in Texas. And, she added, Valdez knew “when she got into it” that her run for governor was a long shot, a total uphill race.

Still, Parker said, Valdez is “an experienced candidate” with a compelling personal story.

Valdez is the child of migrant workers. She grew up in San Antonio, in a neighborhood without paved streets. On the campaign trail, she often told the story of commuting across town to attend a better high school and stopping in the bathroom when she got to school each morning to wipe the mud off her shoes.

After she graduated from high school, Valdez paid for her own college and earned a masters degree in criminology from UT Arlington.

Valdez joined the U.S. National Guard, reaching the rank of captain. She then went on to work as a federal agent, investigating fraud and abuse in the U.S. and working undercover in South America to gather information about drug traffickers and money launderers.

In 2004, Dallas County Sheriff Jim Bowles, who had been in office for 20 years, was fighting allegations of corruption. A 30-year veteran of the sheriff’s department defeated Bowles in the Republican Primary, and Valdez won the Democratic Primary. The Latina lesbian was all but written off in the general election, but she surprised just about everyone by winning. With that victory, Valdez joined a handful of other Democrats to become the first Democrats to win county-wide office in Dallas in years. It was the year that Dallas County turned blue.

When she took office, Valdez knew that very few people in the sheriff’s department supported her. So she spent quite a bit of her first year as the county’s top cop winning over the support of her staff — and then replacing those who refused to accept the leadership of the country’s first lesbian Latina sheriff.

One of her biggest challenges as sheriff was bringing the county jail up to standards. Poor sanitation, an inadequate smoke evacuation system and substandard medical and mental health care plagued Lew Sterrett Justice Center. And the number of guards at the jail fell below a legally mandated guard-to-inmate ratio.

In 2010, the jail finally passed state and federal inspection for the first time in years. In 2016, Valdez hit the national stage when she was a prime-time featured speaker at the Democratic National Convention, and rumors that she was planning a run for higher office began to fly. But Valdez remained as sheriff until 2017, when she officially declared her candidacy for governor.

At that time, Kate Brown, who identifies as bisexual, had been governor of Oregon since 2015. The country’s only other LGBT governor was New Jersey Gov. Jim McGreevey, who came out in 2004 and immediately resigned from office amid scandal.

This year, in addition Valdez here in Texas and Brown, who won her re-election in Oregon, transgender candidate Christine Hallquist ran for governor of Vermont and Jared Polis, who is gay, ran for governor of Colorado. Hallquist lost in Vermont, but in Colorado, Polis made history as the first gay men elected governor of a U.S. state.
Candidates up and down the ballot stepped up and stepped out in Texas this year

DAVID TAFFET  |  Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

In North Texas, you did great,” Equality Texas CEO Chuck Smith said the success that LGBT candidates had in the midterm elections this year. Even those who didn’t win their races made huge inroads into the political arena for the LGBT community, and we celebrate the Lone Star Rainbow Wave by honoring those candidates for their efforts, naming them honorary LGBT Texans of the Year.

This year, Democrats came closer to winning and raised more money than ever before in the GOP stronghold of Collin County — and it was two LGBT candidates leading the way. In a Republican Tarrant County district, a trans man put on a very credible campaign for the state Legislature — one that didn’t revolve around bathroom bills. And in Dallas County, two lesbians were elected and will join returning incumbent Reps. Mary Gonzales, Celia Israel and newly-elected central Texan Erin Zweiner in Austin.

Smith said having 30 LGBT candidates who made it through the primaries and onto the November ballot around the state was an historic accomplishment. “I hope it’s a trend that continues,” he added.

Just to be part of the political conversation in Texas, Smith said, LGBT candidates must be elected at state and local levels to legislative, judicial and executive positions. Having five LGBT people in the Legislature will make a difference when negative legislation is introduced.

Julie Johnson was elected to the Legislature in a northwest Dallas County district, defeating bathroom bill author Matt Rinaldi in a sweet victory for the LGBT community. “Last session we wasted an inordinate amount of time on bullshit bathroom bills,” Smith said.

But, Smith said, Johnson wouldn’t have been elected if bathroom bills were her focus. She addressed real issues that affected people, centering her campaign on fully funding education to improve schools, which would result in a cut in local property taxes.

Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance President Patti Fink said Johnson is an incredibly successful attorney “who gets it about everyday people in one of the most diverse districts in the country.”

Jessica Gonzalez’s first run for office resulted in a surprise upset over incumbent Rep. Roberto Alonzo in the Democrat Primary, and she had no opposition in the general election. Some described her win as a battle between old guard and new guard. Others said she won because she simply worked that hard.

In the months before the election, Gonzalez knocked on doors throughout her Oak Cliff-Grand Prairie-Irving district, asking people for their vote and talking to them about their concerns.

“She won,” Fink said, “because she worked her ass off.”

Finn Jones was the first trans man to run for the Texas Legislature, and he ran in a very red Tarrant County district. Still, Jones’ gender identity wasn’t an issue in the race, although he was open about who he was.

When the subject did come up during the campaign, Jones said, it was more in the context of people asking him where he stood on women’s issues. His answer was that he could relate to those issues personally — and they’d both laugh about it, he said.

Jones’ candidacy and his respectable showing in a conservative district — he

Texas Senate candidate Mark Phariss, right, with his husband Vic Holmes

Celebrating Texas’ Rainbow Wave

Thank you

37th Black Tie Dinner & congrats to all the honorees.

With your help, we keep on fighting.

Lambda Legal

making the case for equality

WAVE, Page 15
Ofﬁcials with the Black Tie Dinner distributed a total of $1,185,000 to 19 beneﬁciaries Thursday evening, Dec. 6, at the organization’s 2018 Wrap Party and Beneﬁciary Distribution event at the Winspear Opera House.

“With the help of our 2018 sponsors, table captains, and supporters, the Board of Black Tie Dinner is excited to distribute well over $1 million to the work of our beneﬁciaries in the LGBTQ community,” said BTD Co-chair David Gifford-Robinson.

“Giving away these checks tonight makes the thousands of hours our board and volunteers contribute throughout the year worth every second.”

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation, BTD’s national beneﬁciary, got a check for $569,375. The two local organizations receiving the largest amounts were Resource Center, which received $48,906, and Rainbow Roundup, an LGBT family organization, which received $48,030. The third largest local check went to Equality Texas, which received $47,181.

“We are always grateful” for Black Tie’s donation to Resource Center, said the center’s CEO Cece Cox.

“Every nonproﬁt always likes cold, hard cash. We do have bills to pay and programs to run and services to offer,” she said. “But the opportunity for engagement with the community is very important to us, too. It gives us exposure to a large local audience, and that is very valuable to us.”

Cox also noted that BTD’s donation to the Resource Center comes in the form of “unrestricted money,” which can play a vital role in the center’s budget.

“Much of the money we get through other sources, like government funding and grants, is restricted to speciﬁc programs and speciﬁc purposes. But no grant ever completely covers the cost of that program. So we always have to ﬁll the gap, and unrestricted money [such as the BTD donation] allows us to ﬁll those gaps.”

Kimberly Kantor, executive director of Rainbow Roundup, said Black Tie’s dona-
A simple and subdued THANK YOU to...
The Anthony Bobrow Trust this week donated $100,000 to Dallas Hope Center, a shelter for homeless LGBT youth ages 18-24 that is operated by Dallas Hope Charities. The donation makes the Bobrow Trust Dallas Hope Center’s anchor donor.

The Anthony Bobrow Trust was established following the death of Anthony “Tony” Bobrow, longtime philanthropist and owner of The Hidden Door, in February this year. On May 1, Harvey Meissner, president and general manager of The Hidden Door Inc., presented checks totaling $250,000 to three community organizations — Resource Center, Legacy Counseling Center and AIN — in the first outlay of funds from the Bobrow Trust.

In announcing the donation this week to Dallas Hope Center, Meissner, said, “Anthony Bobrow, for 35 years a leader of the GLBTQ community in Dallas, left his entire estate in trust to provide resources for projects like this. Through the decades, The Hidden Door, under Tony’s leadership, supported efforts vital to us. He left instructions [that] we’re to continue” that tradition.

“Most of the annual net revenues of The Hidden Door are being returned to non-profits serving GLBTQ people in Dallas,” Meissner continued. “In our first six months, the Anthony Bobrow Trust has contributed almost $400,000. We thank the customers of The Hidden Door for making that possible, and we look forward to continuing doing that in 2019.”

Meissner said officials of the trust chose to donate funds to Dallas Hope Center because “we’ve all heard the horror stories of young adults being kicked out of their homes and onto the streets.” He noted that an estimated 40 percent of homeless teens self-identify as GLBTQ. In fact, he said, the Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance counted, in one week, 179 young adults experiencing homelessness.

“And many of them tell the same story: They’ve been kicked out by parents who...
The Rev. Neil G. Cazares-Thomas, senior pastor of Cathedral of Hope United Church of Christ, was among the local leaders who received awards at the Dallas Peace and Justice Center’s annual Peacemaker Awards Banquet, held Thursday night, Dec. 6, at the DoubleTree Campbell Center.

Dallas Peace and Justice Center presented Cazares-Thomas with a “Justice Seeker of the Year” award in recognition of his efforts in promoting peace and justice since his arrival in Dallas.

“This is huge honor, and I am humbled to receive this award,” Cazares-Thomas said. “I am only the public face of Cathedral of Hope United Church of Christ, a congregation that has long been involved in the work of peace and justice. I receive this in honor of the past, present and future Cathedral.

“The work of justice and peace and matters of our faith are vital to the Cathedral, and we are commanded to make this world a more peaceful and just place,” he said.

Cazares-Thomas was joined at the event Thursday by members of the Cathedral’s Board of Stewards.

Others honored at the event were Hadi Jawad, Julio Acosta, Green Source DFW, Force for Immigrant’s Rights and Empowerment (FIRE) and Jan Sanders, widow of U.S. District Judge Barefoot Sanders, who received the Lifetime Peacemaker award.

Those honored in memoriam were the Rev. Dawson Tunnel, Isabelle Collora and George Crawford.
While Valdez didn’t win the governor’s seat in Texas, her campaign still has some victories to claim: Valdez closed the electoral gap between herself and Abbott by 6 percent compared to the 2014 election when Abbott defeated popular and high-profile Democratic state Sen. Wendy Davis. Valdez got more than 1.7 million more votes than Davis did, and almost 800,000 more votes than Abbott did in his first governor’s race.

In addition to being the first lesbian to run for governor in Texas, she was the first Latina to run for the office. And she was only the fourth woman to receive a major party’s nomination for governor in Texas.

Had she won, Valdez would have been only the third Catholic governor in Texas — Abbott is Catholic, as was Francis Lubbock who served from 1861 to 1863. But Valdez would have been the first Texas governor to have been born Catholic rather than converting after marrying a Catholic.

All of those factors figured into making her election a long shot in red Texas. But Valdez addressed that the night she won her runoff against Andrew White, son of former Gov. Mark White: “I am constantly hearing this is going to be such an uphill battle,” she told a crowd of supporters gathered for her runoff. “Please, tell me when I didn’t have an uphill battle.”

Parker said Valdez connected to everyday people across Texas.

“Lupe is Texas,” Parker said. “She built bridges. She connected to kids facing their own challenges. Win or lose, she was inspirational.”

While she doesn’t expect Valdez to run another statewide race, she said she hopes she stays engaged, especially with the state’s growing Spanish-speaking population. She can, Parker predicted, “be an amazing bridge-builder” with that community.

Valdez has been part of the Victory Fund family since her first campaign, and Parker said she expects the former sheriff will remain involved, teaching a new generation of candidates across the country how to run for office.

For Equality Texas CEO Chuck Smith, Valdez’s story is compelling. “She’s who we are as Texans,” he said. She demonstrates “our grit; our resourcefulness. We persevere through anything. She speaks to many people.”

And incoming Stonewall Democrats President Brandon Vance called Valdez an inspiration. “Her race was great in that way, especially to black and brown children,” Vance said, noting that young minority children can look at Valdez and said, “I can serve the public. She just did it.”

Vance said she inspired him to become the first African-American president of Stonewall and to run for public office himself. Most recently, Vance was a candidate in the Dallas City Council District 4 special election in November.

Vance also praised Valdez for being openly LGBT, too. “Over the years, she’s been open about who she is,” he said, noting that the first time he met Valdez, he was at the Round-Up Saloon.

A friend told Vance, “Hey, there’s the Dallas County sheriff,” and he responded, “What’s she doing here?” His friend answered, “Just enjoying herself with friends.”

So Vance walked over and introduced himself to the sheriff who was, he said, warm and gracious. Vance said he told her then that she made him proud.

Resource Center CEO Cece Cox praised Valdez’s gubernatorial campaign for raising visibility. “In Texas, it’s no small feat to run as an openly gay candidate,” Cox said.

“We know she didn’t win, but her race was an act of bravery in itself.”

And, Cox said, Valdez inspired other people to run and be involved during her tenure as sheriff. “What I have noticed is that she showed up everywhere,” even though she could have played it safe by staying on the sidelines of the LGBT community, Cox said.

“But a lot of organizations would ask her to do things and she would show up every time,” Cox said. “She was engaged with the community.”

There are very few female sheriffs, Cox said. So “having an out, elected official in a position traditionally held by a man, that again opens up those doors and conversations and opportunities for people who come after her. Maybe someday we’ll get to a place where sexual orientation doesn’t matter, a time when what matters is what kind of person we are and how well we do our jobs. But we aren’t there yet.”

Mark Phariss, who ran for a state Senate seat in Far North Dallas and Collin County, called the Valdez campaign historic.

“I went block walking with her and she’s a hard worker,” Phariss said. “She very savvy. I respect her as a campaigner and like her as a person. I enjoyed spending time with her.”

Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance President Patti Fink said Valdez has given people in the community hope.

“She’s been elected four times,” Fink said. “She’s shown you can be LGBT, elected and out.”

She called Valdez an amazing leader in the past and expects her to continue to be a role model for the LGBT community in the future.
won 44 percent of the vote against the incumbent, right-winger Tony Tinderholt, Libertarian Jessica Pallett — shows that trans candidates can run good campaigns in Texas, and in the future will win.

Mark Phariss raised more money and came in closer than any Democratic candidate ever has in Collin County. He ran for a state senate seat, and he won a majority of votes in the Dallas portion of the district, in Plano and in unincorporated portions of Collin County.

Phariss had a good showing throughout the district but lost McKinney by about the number of votes by which he lost the race. Angela Paxton, wife of the incumbent Texas attorney general, won, but only by 2 percentage points over Phariss.

As with most of the LGBT candidates running, Phariss was a first-time candidate who hasn’t decided whether he’ll run again — but he is not ruling it out.

Lorie Burch ran about as well as Phariss, and she raised about as much money as he did, in her bid for a U.S. congressional seat. The district is redder than Phariss’ state senate district because it doesn’t include any portions of blue Dallas County.

Burch did especially well among many of Collin County’s rapidly-growing number of Texas newcomers. She outperformed Hillary Clinton’s 2016 campaign in the district: Clinton lost to Trump by 27 points in 2016, and Burch closed that gap against Republican Van Taylor by 17 points. To do that in just one election cycle, she said, is something “we really feel positive about.”

Burch said this week she now sees her loss as a “blessing in disguise,” because this first time around no one on her campaign had any real political experience, but this race did allow her to build a solid foundation for what she intends to be a future victory.

“There’s been a lot of lessons learned,” Burch said. “I would never say anything is easy, but we’d definitely have a strong shot at winning it all in 2020. At first, I didn’t think I would even contemplate running again. But the minute we saw the numbers coming in on Election Night, I couldn’t think of a reason I wouldn’t.”

Brandon Vance was one of two LGBT candidates who ran in a special election to fill a vacancy on the Dallas City Council. He called his experience fascinating.

“With 13 candidates, it turned into a positive race,” he said. “We all became friends.”

He said the campaign was “cordial and kind.” So kind, in fact, that eight of the candidates went out to dinner together after the election. And only scheduling prevented more of them from joining.

The seat will be up again in May, but Vance isn’t going to throw his hat in the ring that quickly. In January, he’ll start his term as president of Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, which will keep him busy.

Although he plans to run for office again, he hopes to run in a race where he had time to “put in the work to run a successful campaign.”

But as Smith said, we did very well in North Texas. In January, we’ll have more out lesbians from Dallas County serving in the legislature than some counties in Texas have out lesbians.

“This,” Burch said, “is how we change hearts and minds,” adding that “what changed this election cycle is that we did have candidates running. We had choices. And there was a concerted effort to get out the vote.”

With the success of these candidates, and that of other LGBT candidates around the state, Burch said, “All people who feel marginalized and un-represented will feel inspired to step up and run for office. We need to have a seat at the table. This is how we will get that seat.”

And that is why our Rainbow Wave candidates — those who won and those who didn’t — join Lupe Valdez as our LGBT Texans of the Year.
We are expanding in both our space and staff!
A medical practice with more than 30 years experience
in the heart of our community

New Saturday PrEp Clinic
Primary Care | HIV Specialists
Gender Affirmation | Cosmetic Procedures
Concierge Medicine offered by
Steven M. Pounders, MD

Call Today 214.520.8833
3500 Oak Lawn, Ste. 600 | drpounders.com
‘Tis the season

(for condemning the Salvation Army)

What would the holidays be without the annual ranting about the Salvation Army? Already the traditional social media postings have begun making the rounds — each one delivered in the hope that it will go viral.

Most everyone is aware of that religious-based agency’s well-documented history of discrimination towards the LGBT community. We’re also not finding much credence in the double-speak issued by the national headquarters’ public relations department trying to challenge this reality.

We are justified calling out the Salvation Army. In the past, LGBT advocates have demanded a written apology in the midst of what Salvation Army calls its efforts to be inclusive. But getting an apology from any organization for its ill treatment of LGBT people is extremely rare; having a religious entity admit that we deserve their concern is even more of a pipe dream.

But I just don’t know if the LGBTQ folk direly in need of shelter share our activist concerns. A warm place to sleep safely overrides the demand for justice and inclusion that many of us dish out from our own positions of privilege.

Last year, about this same time, I lobbed my most scathing — and now final — salvo at the Salvation Army. And then a few days later, a longtime friend and former employee challenged my viewpoint.

Kira Bergman Casimir had gotten her college degree and had become a family violence counselor at the Dallas Salvation Army shelter. She asked me to meet her there so she could introduce me to the Dallas operations director, Blake Petterman.

I agreed, and I ended up spending a long time talking to these two women.

My takeaway was that Blake is the real deal. She has a firm grip on the realities of homelessness. She made the effort to help me move away from my own personal level of comfort so that I could begin understanding the issue. She also has a very developed insight into the LGBT community. The shelter under her watch has been criticized. So she listened. And she made changes.

Today, in 2018, the Dallas Salvation Army is, in my opinion, the safest and most accepting of all the area shelters. It’s not perfect. But it is what’s available. And it serves well the needs of the homeless in this community.

These are needs of which we more privileged types have only surface knowledge. Leaders in our community, including transgender advocates, support Ms. Petterman and her staff’s commendable efforts. In Dallas, at this moment, the Salvation Army is fulfilling its mission of providing shelter in a dignified manner for the homeless, including LGBT people.

Let us hope this continues.

I have seen and worked with a few Blake Pettermans during my time as an activist. They are gold. They have a vision that transcends the organizations that employ them.

It seems to always involve a religious entity sworn to service for the higher good of everyone. But beneath the surface of their lofty goal is the nagging reality that keeping their promise includes accepting and helping a group that they, in their moral superiority, deem sinful and thus, unworthy.

But somehow, progressive individuals like Blake Petterman managed to find rules within these agencies supporting their vision of truly working for the good of all. Their work is brilliant, and it allows them good leverage.

But change is inevitable. The day arrives when that progressive person is no longer at the helm, and assumptions have a tendency to quickly revert quickly when they are gone. When that happens, our LGBT community is so often left scrambling.

The maddening part is these organizations insist on trying to maintain the illusion of inclusiveness, even though they’ve made their real position very clear through their actions. And their message to LGBT people is always the same: We will let you in, but only if you stay quiet about your identity.

That way, they convince themselves they are delivering on the promise of their mission, while at the same time not letting us sinners taint their piety.

I am feeling good about Blake Petterman. Between her incredible work and the national body’s bumbling efforts to make it totally clear they embrace LGBT people, there is an optimism that the services they provide in Dallas will be maintained and serve as a constructive model for the rest of the country.

Add into this conversation Oak Lawn United Methodist Church, a church in the heart of the gayborhood that at one time turned its back on the LGBT community. Today, the two lead pastors at the church, Rachel Baughman and Heather Gottes, are making strides to develop their ministry for the homeless of the Oak Lawn area. They initiated an emergency shelter effort during a bad freeze last winter and were so moved by what they experienced that today they are creating a real program.

Since the early 1990s when Oak Lawn UMC closed its doors to the LGBT community, a faction of the UMC has become all-inclusive and welcoming. This church is part of that movement and does broad outreach to LGBT people. They have also apologized for abandoning their LGBT neighbors in the past.

Both of these organizations deserve our praise and financial support. Now is the time for the Dallas LGBT community to establish services that concentrate on the needs of homeless LGBT. Housing is incredibly difficult to establish. This is our best hope.

We are a community that has proven it can accomplish the near-impossible. But we have to abandon our uninformed high ground and commit to doing the work if we hope to make that happen.

We all want to say we are concerned about the homeless. But the unfortunate truth is that few of us really want to get that close. So we have to choose between joining an effort already underway or abandoning the notion that we actually care.

And choosing to be involved means setting aside our preconceived notions about homelessness and actually listening to what homeless people tell us they really need to survive.
Local divas (and Divas Loca) Mel Arizpe and Laura Carrizales prepare to go international at the world finals of karaoke.

Mel Arizpe and Laura Carrizales are widely known in the Dallas club scene by their group name Mi Diva Loca. But before too long, the entire world may know who they are. And they are as surprised by that possibility as anyone.

Six months ago, neither Arizpe nor Carrizales were really aware of the international singing competition known as the Karaoke World Championship, though they probably should have been. Their lives — separately and together — have been inextricably linked to music.

The two first met 11 years ago, when...
called us and said, 'If you wanna get some musicians together, we have a spot for you [at the old] Sue Ellen’s. If you want, you came come to build off that,’” Carrizales recalls. “That’s how Mi Diva Loca came about — they made us choose a group name. It had never occurred to us in our own world. We both have full-time jobs. We would have never come up with that idea” to turn singing into a side gig.

Arizpe now hosts karaoke at the Round-Up Saloon, and they continue to perform several times a month around town, often at Alexandre’s. But taking it to the next level was — once again — something someone else had to foist upon them.

Robert Olivas, another karaoke host and VOP contestant, told them this summer about auditions for the Dallas level of Karaoke World Championship (KWC) and suggested they try out. At that level, duets aren’t permitted, so Arizpe and Carrizales both entered… again facing off against each other.

“We like to compete, and we’re very competitive with each other,” Arizpe says. (Adds Carrizales: “I like to compete whenever money is involved.”)

Before they knew it, both had advanced — Carrizales by winning first place, Arizpe second.

“I remember it clearly, because it never happens that I beat Mel,” Carrizales laughs. At the Texas state championships in Plano later in July, Arizpe won, and was flown to nationals in Las Vegas in August. Carrizales accompanied her, with the plan that Arizpe would try to be the top female vocalist, and together they could try for top duet. Arizpe lost the soloist set, but the pair became, once again, the top duetists in the land. And that meant a trip to the world finals in Helsinki, Finland from Dec. 19–21.

The prospect of singing north of the Arctic Circle in December didn’t exactly thrill them at first — the event was originally going to be held in Spain — but they figured out a compromise: Fly to Barcelona for four days, then go on the Helsinki.

There are 26 teams, representing 26 countries, and the competition is what you’d expect for people on the world stage. They’ve heard that the pair from Brazil is the favorite, but they aren’t focusing too much on the other teams (“you mean like karaoke warfare?” Carrizales asks), only on themselves.

“The trick is not to make any unforced errors,” Carrizales says. That means, finding outfits to perform in that are comfortable and eye-catching (they are looking for something white to stand out against the many black gowns they anticipate from other contestants), good song choice and
Thank you for being VISIBLE and helping us distribute $1,185,000 to our 2018 beneficiaries!

BLACK TIE DINNER

@blacktiedinner | #VisibleTogether
Judy Garland gave us one of the most enduring holiday songs, “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas,” and she hosted some of the iconic “evening with” TV shows of her era, so it doesn’t seem too far-fetched that a revue built around her catalogue of songs would be a good fit for December. But when Uptown Players is involved, you know they won’t tackle that chestnut head-on with just a playlist of carols… especially with a mischievous elf like B.J. Cleveland behind the scenes as writer and director, and Janelle Lutz — whose performances as Judy are still indelibly seared on our collective theatergoing experience — adding her touches of wit and tragedy.

And so the world-premiere of A Very Judy Christmas, coming down the chimney of the Kalita through Dec. 16, is not merely a collection of two dozen songs (though there is that), but a charming and occasionally emotional glass of holiday cheer.

It’s putatively 1963, on the faux living room set of a TV Christmas special (though tons of anachronisms elbow the audience about the artifice of it all), and Judy Garland is welcoming guests to her nog-flowing party — among them, celebrity pals Marilyn Monroe (Grace West), Pearl Bailey (Dana Harper), Ethel Merman (B.J. Cleveland), Frank Sinatra (Jeff Wells) and Mel Torme (Christopher Curtis). They come, tell some anecdotes, drink a
most of all minimizing the ways things can get screwed up.

Because it is a karaoke event, there will be projected lyrics for all the singers (though most, of course, will have committed the words to memory). But there is still room for mess-ups on the pre-recorded tracks, where the wrong version of a song is used, or it is set in a different key or arrangement than they expect. (That plagued Arizpe during one of her solos at nationals in Vegas.)

They will get to sing at least two songs, with the top five cumulative scores going on to the final round and a third, deciding performance. And frankly, the number of duets written for two women are few and far between. So they went with one of their go-to selections: “Does He Love You,” popularized by Reba McIntire with several co-stars (Linda Davis, Carrie Underwood, Kelly Clarkson). “We’ve used it before. We wanted something we’re super comfortable with, and it’s already a duet,” Carrizales says. They will also do a version of Adele’s “All I Ask.”

If they make it into the top 5, they have made the conscious decision to go with Ike and Tina Turner’s “River Deep, Mountain High.”

“We decided, everyone’s gonna be singing ballads — what will make us stand out? So let’s do something upbeat,” Arizpe says. They considered leading off with that one, actually but decided to save it for the close... if they make it there.

Which, in the end, makes it all come down to a bit of luck: Will their voices sound OK in the cold air? Will they follow the Brazil team — or some other unknown frontrunner — and be psyched out?

Carrizales says all these factors turn it into something akin to Survivor Karaoke.

“Ultimately, we are facing the best singers in the world,” she says. “The people are from all over the world, and many will be singing in English because most pop songs are in English. So even if we don’t win, we’ve already won. It sure would be nice, but this will be an adventure from beginning to end. And hey, if we lose, we have four days to hang out and enjoy ourselves!”
Tech-Mex

Visionary filmmaker Alfonso Cuaron goes retro with the amazing ‘Roma’

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

Alfonso Cuaron is probably as responsible as any current filmmaker, other than Spielberg, Cameron and perhaps Ang Lee, for helping steer us toward the limits of moviemaking. With Children of Men, which combined a documentary style with seamlessly processed long takes, and then Gravity, the near-space thriller that won him an Oscar, he has in just a handful of films demonstrated a forward-looking sophistication.

So you might be surprised to realize his newest film, Roma, is actually by him. It looks backward in almost every way: It’s in black-and-white in the first instance. It doesn’t rely on any stars. And its lopey, studied slowness vigorously conjures the films of the Italian neorealists (De Sica, Rossellini, early Fellini and Visconti). And it is brilliant.

It comes as a shock to me, too. Critics think of classical neorealism, which arose as a reaction to fascism in the wake of Italy’s devastation in the years immediately following World War II, as a point in time — one that paved the way for future movements (the French nouvelle vague, India’s “parallel cinema,” Britain’s “kitchen sink” dramas, and less directly, the American cynicinema of the 1970s), but which ended. Maybe mockumentary and found-footage films owed a nod to neorealism, but no one has seriously attempted to capture that moment again?

But Roma does it. (Even the title is almost certainly a nod to the neorealist classic Rome, Open City.) Cuaron lulls us into the situation. The film opens with a still shot of what we eventually realize is a tile floor. As the camera begins to move, you subtly realize it almost never stops moving in rich, wide-screen panoramas, while action takes place within the mise-en-scene. We’re...
literally immersed in the world of an upper-middle-class family living in the once-tony-but-still-elegant Roma neighborhood of Mexico City in 1970. The live-in maid and nanny, Cleo, takes care of the four children of Sofia and her absent, controlling husband Antonio. Cleo quietly endures the demanding expectations placed on her and the minor assaults on her dignity, and carves out dates with Fermin, an ambitious young man. When Cleo becomes pregnant, it triggers a flood of regret, hope and confusion, as her own pending role as a mother contrasts with her role of de facto maternal figure to the young kids.

But Cuaron doesn’t broadcast to us what his point is, or even his point of view (that moving camera helps). When you think it will be a coming-of-age story, it changes gears; as you settle into the idea that it will become a melodrama, he inserts sly political commentary. In each frame, he painstakingly creates moments, played out with unrushed verisimilitude and long shots that breathlessly conjure a period of personal and social unrest, played out over one year, that is both universal and specific. As plot-heavy potboilers go, there’s not much going on here. But for fans of serious cinema, it’s a staggering achievement.

Now playing at the Magnolia; Roma will debut on Netflix on Dec. 14.
hot toddy or six, and sing a few songs. At first it has the structure of a Saturday Night Live sketch (or a drag show), where the cast show their versatility at impersonations ... and the impersonations are pretty stellar. But as the show progresses, Cleveland-the-playwright throws in sly historical references, digs at contemporary society, gags about alcoholism and pill-popping, and, ultimately, a poignant appreciation for the significance Garland plays in the gay firmament.

Until then, we are treated to a breathy Marilyn singing “Diamonds Are a Girl’s Best Friend,” a silken-voice Harper killing it as Pearl Bailey, Cleveland as a blowzy Ethel (and later as an older Liza) chewing up the scenery as only he can and Trevor Wright, a stand-in for all the gay boys who loved (and often married) into the Minnelli clan.

But it’s largely Lutz’s show. She sings only two solos — the lead-off “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” and the closer “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas” — but duets on many others, and there are long stretches where you’re certain you’re watching the reincarnation of Judy. The tone of her voice is spot-on, and her expressive eyes capture the sadness and genius of Garland. An especially memorable moment is the mash-up duet of “Happy Days/Get Happy” between Lutz and Sarah Elizabeth Price as a young Liza. Then she improves banter with the actual audience with a bitchy camp sensibility that Uptown Players’ exceeds at. In fact, it’s such a delightful sleigh ride of song and sentiment that I hope this becomes an annual tradition in North Texas. We need a little Christmas, right this very minute... and at least until the next election.

Since the Dallas Theater Center moved its annual staging of A Christmas Carol to the Wyly Theatre about a decade ago, it has employed artistic director Kevin Moriarty’s adaptation of Dickens’ story of holiday redemption — an industrial, bleak world that ends with Scrooge keeping the season in his heart. The theater has gussied up each year’s version with tweaks — new director, new leading actor, sometimes super-imposing social critique as well, such as making Scrooge a woman two years ago. But I think it’s finally time for the DTC to do something more radical.

The version now playing through December casts Alex Organ as probably the youngest Ebenezer yet, and while Scrooge was probably much younger than the shriveled curmudgeon he’s often played as (after all, his older sister, Fanny, died giving birth to his nephew Fred, who couldn’t be more than about 25; Scrooge probably hasn’t left his 40s yet), the casting of Organ doesn’t quite work... and points out the weaknesses in the script and design.

If you’re one of those who sees the production every year, you could probably recite every line from memory, and it feels like Organ is so intent on breathing a different sensibility into the lines, he doesn’t project the same style of black-hearted misery that makes his transformation feel meaningful. There’s also the gnawing disconnect of how Scrooge soured sooooo quickly on the holiday spirit (in one scene, he’s laughing it up with Mr. Fezziwig; in the next, he’s plotting his ruin) that you wonder if he was ever a good person in the first place, or a predator lying in wait for his mentor to slip up. Sure, by the end, your cockles are properly warmed — I like Jahi Kearse as Bob Cratchit, and director Tiffany Nichole Greene’s casting of the Ghosts of Christmas Present as a pair of Thing 1/Thing 2 scamps — gives a lovely jolt of energy. But the sewer-like set is cumbersome and ultimately a distraction. After 10 years, it seems a humbug to continually trot out this warhorse for one more campaign. Here’s hoping that the new year, the regifting will end and something fresh will come about.
Saturday 12.08

Teddy Bear Party returns to make holidays happy for kids

Since 2009, the Teddy Bear Party has held a big seasonal blowout that’s not only fun but brings some joy to underprivileged children by requiring a plush teddy bear for admission. It returns this Saturday to the Fashion Industry Gallery. DJ Blacklow spins, with a musical performance by Brian Justin Crum.

DEETS: FIG, 1807 Ross Ave. 8 p.m.–2 a.m. $50 plus 24-in. teddy bear required for admission / $75 at the door. TeddyBearParty.org.

Tuesday 12.12 — Sunday 12.16

Ralphie sings in musical of ‘A Christmas Story’

In the 1940s, a boy from the Midwest longs for a BB gun but suspects his parents won’t approve. That sense of longing, and the nostalgia of family during the holidays from the POV of a child, form the basis of the hit film A Christmas Story, which was adapted as a stage musical by the team of Pasek and Paul (Dear Evan Hansen, The Greatest Showman), which has a limited run at the Winspear this week.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. ATTPAC.org.

Thursday 12.14

‘The Nutty Nutcracker’ makes fun of the holiday staple

You get many chances to see the traditional version of The Nutcracker, but once every year, Texas Ballet Theater pulls out all the stops to go more comic than heartwarming with The Nutty Nutcracker. Imagine how different Christmas morning would be with Edward Scissorhands rather than the Rat King! This zany parody dances into Bass Hall for one night only.

THANK YOU!

BLACK TIE DINNER

JOIN US TODAY.
WWW.BBBSTX.ORG/LGBTQ

INTRODUCING OUR NEW LOGO

Proud Beneficiary of the 2018 Black Tie Dinner

Uptown Players

We are proud to be a beneficiary of the 2018 Black Tie Dinner!

We can’t thank you enough for your support and look forward to 2019!
**ARTSWEEK**

**THEATER**


*A Christmas Carol.* Dallas Theater Center’s annual holiday tradition, this year with Alex Organ as Scrooge. Reviewed this week. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Dec. 31. DallasTheaterCenter.org.


**The Great Distance Home.** Return of last season’s story about the holidays. Written and directed by Kelsey Leigh Ervi. Terry Martin Main Stage at the Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Dec. 16. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

**Jacob Marley’s Christmas Carol.** A retelling of Dickens’ story from the perspective of Scrooge’s business partner. Emily Scott Banks stars. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Dec. 6–23. StageWest.org.


**Solstice: A New Holiday Adventure.** Characters from last year’s holiday hit return for a new play from Jonathan Norton about the magic of winter. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Dec. 6–30. Theatre3Dallas.com.


**FILM**

**A Christmas Story, the Musical.** Stage adaptation of the hit film about holiday nostalgia. Final weekend. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. ATTPAC.org.

**TUESDAY 12.11**

**THURSDAY 12.13**

**THEATER**


**Slavery at Jefferson’s Monticello.** Archaeological exhibition that details life for possessed peoples who worked the plantation of the third president of the United States. African American Museum at Fair Park. Through Jan. 21 (extended).

**MONDAY 12.10**

**CABARET**

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

**FILM**

**Auntie Mame.** Rosalind Russell’s flamboyant, heartfelt performance is the cherry on this delightful sundae of a movie about a young boy and his Bohemian guardian. 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.

**THEATER**

**Jacob Marley’s Christmas Carol.** A retelling of Dickens’ story from the perspective of Scrooge’s business partner. Emily Scott Banks stars. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Dec. 6–23. StageWest.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**

**THANK YOU!**

**BLACK TIE DINNER**

**EQUALITY**

We are proud to be a beneficiary of the 2018 Black Tie Dinner!

We can’t thank you enough for your support and look forward to 2019!

---

**Holiday Fiestas? BOOK’ EM PRONTO**

mattitos.com/catering

Let Mattito’s cater this holiday season. Our party drop-and-go service is as low as $8.99 per person. Or, pick up a party size Bob Dip for $39.99 for your queso lovers.

---

**Holiday Sale!**

30% OFF ENTIRE STORE!

All-Natural, High Quality Alternative Solution to Pain Management for All Ages.

Health products for you and your pet!

Holistic Health

424 S. Main Street • Grapevine, TX 76051 • DFWHolistic.com • 469-955-8218
Cassie Nova
Cassie gets in (and out) of the holiday season

Hello, my pretties! ’Tis the season of good tidings, mistletoe and other cliché Christmas crap. I am not saying I am a Scrooge or a Grinch, but when you all start playing Christmas music the day after Halloween, by the time Christmas actually gets here, I just want it to be over. When I was a kid, I never in a million years thought I would say anything close to that, but as an adult I feel I have been ass-raped by Santa’s candy cane by the time the joyous day actually arrives.

To be honest, I love Christmas, but I only have a good two weeks of Christmas cheer in me … that have to be split up into about seven weeks’ worth of celebrations. I love (non-Hallmark Channel) Christmas movies — you know, the classics: A Christmas Story, Christmas Vacation, Die Hard and Scrooged. I remember seeing Scrooged in the theater with my mom, and at the end, when they sing, “Put A Little Love In Your Heart,” I swear the entire theater was clapping and singing along — so corny, but I got emotional. That was a great Christmas memory.

Have you watched The Christmas Chronicles on Netflix? It’s goofy and sweet and awful and wonderful all at the same time. Perfect kids movie, but I will say: Kurt Russell as Santa Claus … damm, he looked fine AF. His beard did something to me. Hot daddy alert! My fat ass would like to sit on his lap and talk about the first thing that pops up. Now I feel dirty.

I actually like some Christmas music. Jessie J, Kelly Clarkson and Cyndi Lauper all have kick-ass Christmas albums. But none of them are as good as the best damn Christmas album of all time: Kenny & Dolly’s Once Upon A Christmas from like 1986. One song, “A Christmas to Remember,” talks about hooking up and having sex after just meeting then right into a song about the blessed birth of Jesus. I love it. Seriously, it is a great album.

The best Christmas gift I ever received was from my mother: a Pomeranian puppy I named Dax. That gift changed my life forever. I owe every bit of happiness I have in my life today to that dog. He took away so much loneliness and desperation I was feeling at the time and opened my heart up to love and be loved. I know I have probably written about that before, but I will share that story every chance I get. There is nothing like the love of a furbaby.

Oh, shit. I just realized I am doing the same thing I was just bitching about: forcing Christmas down your throat … and it is just the first week of December. Oh well, at least I waited until December. I’m talking to you Wal-Mart. Now let’s see if we can help some folks out!

Dear Cassie, I have been a fan of yours for several years now. I no longer live in Dallas, but I read your column all the time. I could use some advice. I separated from my partner a few years ago and have since gotten a divorce. I’m almost 30 now, and I don’t feel like I belong anywhere anymore. I’m very shy and have an extremely hard time meeting people. My past relationships have destroyed my self-esteem and my trust in people. I have been cheated on many times. I’m not sure I can ever trust again. So do you have any advice to make help take away this feeling? Thanks, Signed Lonely in Houston.

Dear L in H, First off, thank you for being a fan. I truly appreciate it. Now do I have any advice that can take away what you are feeling? No, I am not some godlike being, regardless of what you have heard. Have you tried alcohol? Just kiddin’. Being cheated on sucks big time and, unfortunately, can have a lasting effect on your emotions. Men can be the most horrible creatures on the planet, but they can also be the most wonderful; you just gotta give them the chance. Easy to say, harder to put into practice.

Earlier I talked about how getting a dog helped change my heart. Do you have a dog? You should think about getting one if not. Taking a dog to the dog park is a great way to start talking to guys. It’s hard to be shy when you have a dog as your wing-man. Make sure he or she is well trained. Your dog is a reflection of you — if they don’t like your dog, they won’t like you.

Volunteer at some place that means something to you. It’s a great way to meet like-minded individuals that could lead to great friendships or more. Stop putting so much pressure on yourself to meet a guy and hurry into a relationship. Desperation looks good on no one ever.

I know you are shy but you have to take risks. Force yourself to smile at someone you don’t know just to be friendly. Send a message to someone you are interested in on Facebook or Insta, just asking if they want to hang out sometime. I know it’s hard and uncomfortable to put yourself out there, but where there’s no risk there’s no reward. Good luck and chin up. Don’t self-sabotage. You can’t fill your heart with love if you don’t open it up. Love, Cassie.

Dear Cassie, I have been doing drag for almost a year now, and I love it. I need some advice on what to do when you know someone is sitting in the audience and they hate you and talk shit about you all the time. It makes me uncomfortable. What should I do? Thank you, New2dis.

Dear New2dis, Bitch please, if you ain’t hated you aint doin’ it right. Doing drag, either you develop a thicker skin or quit. I get it though — you want love and adoration, but when you know someone is in the audience reading you, it can affect you in one of two ways. Either you get in your head too much and it keeps you from enjoying yourself, or you can use it as fuel and kill it onstage.

I guarantee you that every performer has dealt with this: it is just part of the game. But there is no greater feeling than succeeding at your craft while your haters look on. Always do your best and let them read you from where? There is no greater feeling than succeeding at your craft while your haters look on. Always do your best and let them read you from where? The audience… while you are in the spotlight!

Remember to always love more, bitch less and be fabulous! XOXO, Cassie Nova.
Making the SCENE the week of Dec. 7–13:

• 1851 Club: Barbie Davenport, Sapphire Davenport and Dantel McKim at 10:30 p.m. on Friday. Tara St. Stone, Candi Carroll and Rochelle Roulette at 10:30 p.m. on Saturday.
• 515 Bar: Karaoke Party at 9 p.m. on Wednesday.
• 515 Bar: Poker Night at 7 p.m. on Friday. Drag on Tap at 9 p.m. on Monday. Geeks Who Drink at 7 p.m. on Tuesday.
• Club Reflection: Imperial Court Show at 7 p.m. on Sunday.
• Dallas Eagle: United Court presents "Anything Under the Tree" on Friday. Discipline Corps Club Night on Friday. TFDFW presents the "Warm Hearts, Warm People" Coat Drive on Saturday. Twisted Party on Saturday. Miss Gay Texas Benefit Show on Sunday.
• The Rose Room: The Austin Baptist Women with Linze Serell, Patti Le Plae Safe, Sable Alexander, Lippa LaRue, Celeste Martinez and Victoria Weston in "Bells, Baubles & Baptist Women," benefiting Texas Red Ribbon Wish Network, at 7 p.m. on Saturday. Gay Kickball presents Bases & Faces Drag Contest, hosted by Jada Fox, at 7 p.m. on Thursday.
• Urban Cowboy: RuPaul’s Drag Race Holly-Slay Spectacular Watch Party at 7 p.m. on Friday.
• Woody's Sports & Video Bar: Dallas Lonestar Basketball League raffle during the Cowboys–Eagles Watch Party from 3-6:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Scene Photographers: Kat Haygood and Chad Mantooth
Cassie’s Freakmas Show
Benefitting Sam Houston Elementary’s Secret Santa Program • Photos courtesy of Chad Mantooth, Justin Dean Davis, Roger Huffman and Jeremy Pierce
World AIDS Day @Cathedral of Hope & @C.U.R.E.

Photos by David Taffet
Don Maison practices being retired

Max and his Mom on The Strip

Hale tries to convince Santa she's been a good girl

Impulse Dallas: World AIDS Day 365 @S4

NOW SERVING
MIMOSAS, BEER, WINE!

PROUDLY serving the LGBT community since 1976!
Now Open For Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
THE ORIGINAL IN HOMESTYLE COOKING
4434 Harry Hines Blvd near Market Center 214-521-0992

Open 7 Days a Week
Mon-Sat 6am - 9pm
Sun 7am-3pm
originalmarketdiner.com
Choose Who You Love And Call Us Today!
Diverse Inclusive Mortgage Experts

THE PAINTER
Specializing In Interior Painting
25 Years Experience
Free Estimated
Extremely Meticulous
TONY R.
972-754-1536
TonyRThePainter@netscape.com

Licensed
CNA/Caregiver/Companion
$14/Hr. Contact Rick
214.244.2253

Real Estate

NOW LEASING

All One Bedroom Community
With Immediate Move In

$125 OFF
Move In with this ad

214-520-0282 www.ParkfordOaks.com

Employment

NOW HIRING

Plaza Car Wash is looking for a friendly individual with great customer service skills to fill a cashier position for the afternoon and weekend shifts.

Please send resume to:
plazawash@yahoo.com

214-219-9274
5220 Lemmon Ave.

Home Services

DFW Concierge Cleaning Service
EASY BOOKING, PAYMENT OPTIONS AND LIVING

Valet MAIDS
VALETMAIDS.COM • 214-438-4804

Legal

Covell PC
ESTATE PLANNING • PROBATE • BUSINESS LAW

Wills • Probate of Wills
Powers of Attorney
Trusts & Asset Protection
Advanced Directives
Business Law

Rebecca S. Covell
The attorney who’s not married to straights.

3710 Rawlins Street, Suite 950
Dallas, TX 75219 • covellpc.com
(214) 443-0300
rebecca@covellpc.com

Home Services

Jade Air
AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING SERVICE • SALES • INSTALLS
ALL MAJOR BRANDS
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Goodman
PROMPT EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE!

Visa, MasterCard, American Express

JadeAirDallas.com | 214.522.2805
214.923.7904

Legal

Stephanie Hall
Attorney at Law

Family Law
Cohabitation Agreements, Adoption, Child Custody, Divorce, Property Division, Child Support

Estate planning and Probate
Wills, Medical & Durable Powers of Attorney, Guardianship, Litigation

4514 Cole Ave. • Suite 600 • Dallas, TX 75205
214-522-3343 • ladylawsah.com

Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Real Estate

GP Theriot IV
Brook抯 Min.
NMLS# 236978
214.789.5888
GP@TheriotMortgage.com
www.TheriotMortgage.com

SS Baugh
Business Development
214.709.7669
SS@TheriotMortgage.com
www.TheriotMortgage.com

Justin Rogers
Licensed Production Partner
NMLS# 1480721
214.674.9021
Justin.Rogers@Fairwaymc.com
www.TheriotMortgage.com

6060 N Central Expressway Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75206

Employment

Personal Care

Licensed
CNA/Caregiver/Companion
$14/Hr. Contact Rick
214.244.2253

Employment

Personal Care

Licensed
CNA/Caregiver/Companion
$14/Hr. Contact Rick
214.244.2253
MarketPlace
Your calling card for LGBT Texas business
For information on advertising, call us at:
214-754-8710 ext. 110. Visit us online at:
dallasvoice.com/marketplace

dallasvoice.com
The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

Insurance
Ken Southerland
Account Manager
1919 S. Shiloh Rd., Suite 520
Garland, TX 75042-8212
Bus. 469.326.3335 Fax 469.326.3340
ken@myteamnguyen.com
www.myteamnguyen.com
Thinh Nguyen, Agent
The greatest compliment you can give is a referral.

Discover...
Love, Romance & Friendship
DVSingles, the premier gay and lesbian dating site for North Texas.
Find a Match within minutes on your mobile phone or desktop!
Hosted by Dallas Voice

Target Marketing
Rates starting as low as $34 a week!
Contact
Stephen Mobley
Today to place your business in the Dallas Voice Marketplace
214.754.8710 X 123 • mobley@dallasvoice.com

Fantastic Moves
Experience Counts!
20+ Years Supporting the Community
www.FantasticMoves.com
10610 Metric Drive, Suite #175 Dallas, TX 75243
**Across**

1 Erection supporter
6 Like recently cut leaves of grass
10 Janis Ian’s “At Seventeen,” e.g.
15 Owen of Closer
16 Fortune-teller’s opening
17 Short story writer and poet Bret
18 Dog-___ (shabby)
19 Cabbage salad
20 Doubleday of balls and strikes
21 Start of what Freddie said to an upset Roger in Bohemian Rhapsody
24 Tooth care org.
25 Wine info, for Antoni Porowski
26 Direction from Rick Rodgers
30 You bend them in gay bars
33 Hustler from Minnesota
37 Coin in Lorca’s pocket
40 Rent sign
41 More of what Freddie said
44 Lucy’s gal pal
45 Mandela org.
46 Anderson Cooper, to CNN
47 Queens ballpark of old

**Down**

1 Johnny Mnemonic actor
2 Vanilla
3 Land of Sinead O’Connor
4 Declare firmly
5 Greek sorceress
6 Prayer book, to Father Mychal Judge
7 Capital of Norway
8 Get off the breast
9 Either wife, right after the nuptials
10 Butler’s burden on the Tara stairway
11 Working stiffs
12 James Bond opponent
13 Bit from Michael Musto
14 Suffix with musket
22 Head set?
23 “Thumbs up!”
26 Undercover agents
27 First extra inning
28 “Grease ___ word!”
29 Run-throughs on Broadway
31 Mark on the rear of a steer
32 Cup fraction
34 It comes with a lei
36 Private Parts author Howard
38 “Shop ___ you drop”
40 Great deal
42 What homophobe Trump got from Access Hollywood, e.g.
43 Glenn Close’s ___ Attraction
48 Fruit sugar ending
49 Orgasms, e.g.
52 Up ___ (stuck)
54 Young pigeon
55 Sexologist Shere
56 Role for Bela
57 Confession of mendacity
58 Leave marks on the back
59 “Render therefore ___ Caesar…”
60 Bus. major’s study
61 Patron of people in the navy
62 Untouchable head
63 St. Louis clock setting

---

**Bohemian Rhapsody**

“Is this the real life? Is this just fantasy?”

---

**q-puzzle**

15 18 21
24 25 26
27 28 29
30 31 32
33 34 35
36 37 38
39 40 41
42 43 44
45 46 47
48 49 50
51 52 53
54 55 56
57 58 59
60 61 62
63 64 65
66 67 68
69 70 71

---

**Bohemian Rhapsody**

At Dallas Voice, we pride ourselves on delivering in-depth, comprehensive coverage of news and life+style information for the LGBT Texan. We work hard to make sure our news is timely and our features are contemporary, we want you to get them while they’re still hot. That’s why we send our subscriptions FIRST CLASS MAIL. Order your subscription today by calling 214-754-8710 ext. 10 or mail the form below.

I want the news while it’s still HOT! Please send my subscription to:

Name___________________________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________Apt.#________
City____________________________State__________ZIP_______________
Phone __________________________________________________________

Please charge to my credit card
Card Number______________________
Expiration Date_____________________
CVV Code________________________
Signature__________________________

Mail to:
Dallas Voice Publishing
1825 Market Center Blvd. Ste. 240
Dallas TX 75207

Dallas Voice subscriptions are mailed FIRST CLASS each Friday. Listed rates are for U.S. destinations only. www.dallasvoice.com
PrEP and You’re Ready!

Pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, is a way for people who do not have HIV but who may be at high risk of getting it to prevent HIV infection by taking a pill every day.

AOC PROUDLY ANNOUNCES ITS FREE PrEP PROGRAM.

*Our PrEP Navigator provides assistance with the free PrEP medication program. Call us for more info.