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emtricitabine 200mg/rilpivirine 25mg/ tenofovir alafenamide 25mg tablets

New Odefsey® is now available





One small pill contains rilpivirine, emtricitabine, and tenofovir alafenamide (TAF).

Ask your healthcare provider if ODEFSEY is right for you.

To learn more visit

ODEFSEY.com

Please see Brief Summary of Patient Information with important warnings on the following pages.

Brief Summary of Patient Information about ODEFSEY

ODEFSEY (oh-DEF-see)

(emtricitabine, rilpivirine and tenofovir alafenamide) tablets

Important: Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with ODEFSEY.

There may be new information about ODEFSEY. This information is only a summary and does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

What is the most important information I should know about ODEFSEY?

ODEFSEY can cause serious side effects, including:

- Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis). Lactic acidosis may happen
 in some people who take ODEFSEY or similar medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious
 medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify
 early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems.
 Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following
 symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:
 - feel very weak or tired
 - have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
 - have trouble breathing
 - have stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
 - feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
 - feel dizzy or lightheaded
 - have a fast or irregular heartbeat
- Severe liver problems. Severe liver problems may happen in people who take ODEFSEY.
 In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large and you may develop fat in your liver. Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:
 - your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
 - dark "tea-colored" urine
 - light-colored bowel movements (stools)
 - loss of appetite
 - nausea
- pain, aching, or tenderness on the right side of your stomach area
- You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you
 are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking ODEFSEY or a similar
 medicine for a long time.
- Worsening of Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. ODEFSEY is not approved to treat
 HBV. If you have HBV and take ODEFSEY, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop
 taking ODEFSEY. A "flare-up" is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse
 way than before.
- Do not run out of ODEFSEY. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your ODEFSEY is all gone.
- Do not stop taking ODEFSEY without first talking to your healthcare provider.
- If you stop taking ODEFSEY, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking ODEFSEY.

What is ODEFSEY?

ODEFSEY is a prescription medicine that is used to treat HIV-1 in people 12 years of age and older:

- who have not received HIV-1 medicines in the past and have an amount of HIV-1 in their blood ("viral load") that is no more than 100,000 copies/mL, or
- to replace their current HIV-1 medicines in people who have been on the same HIV-1 medicines for at least 6 months, have a viral load that is less than 50 copies/mL, and have never failed past HIV-1 treatment.

It is not known if ODEFSEY is safe and effective in children under 12 years of age or who weigh less than 77 lb (35 kg).

When used to treat HIV-1 infection, ODEFSEY may help:

- . Reduce the amount of HIV-1 in your blood. This is called "viral load".
- Increase the number of CD4+ (T) cells in your blood that help fight off other infections.

Reducing the amount of HIV-1 and increasing the CD4+ (T) cells in your blood may help improve your immune system. This may reduce your risk of death or getting infections that can happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

ODEFSEY does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. You must keep taking HIV-1 medicines to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.

Ask your healthcare provider about how to prevent passing

HIV-1 to others. Do not share or re-use needles, injection equipment, or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them. Do not have sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

Who should not take ODEFSEY?

Do not take ODEFSEY if you also take a medicine that contains:

- carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Epitol®, Equetro®, Tegretol®, Tegretol-XR®, Teril®)
- dexamethasone (Ozurdex®, Maxidex®, Decadron®, Baycadron™)
- dexlansoprazole (Dexilant®)
- esomeprazole (Nexium®, Vimovo®)
- lansoprazole (Prevacid®)
- omeprazole (Prilosec®, Zegerid®)
- · oxcarbazepine (Trileptal®)
- pantoprazole sodium (Protonix®)
- phenobarbital (Luminal®)
- phenytoin (Dilantin®, Dilantin-125®, Phenytek®)
- rabeprazole (Aciphex®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®, Rimactane®)
- rifapentine (Priftin®)
- . the herb St. John's wort or a product that contains St. John's wort

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking ODEFSEY?

Before taking ODEFSEY, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- · have liver problems including hepatitis B or C virus infection
- · have kidney and bone problems
- · have had depression or suicidal thoughts
- · have any other medical conditions
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if ODEFSEY can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking ODEFSEY.

Pregnancy registry: there is a pregnancy registry for women who take HIV-1 medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk with your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.

- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed if you take ODEFSEY.
 - You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
 - At least one of the medicines in ODEFSEY can pass to your baby in your breast milk.
 It is not known if the other medicines in ODEFSEY can pass into your breast milk.
 - Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Some medicines may interact with ODEFSEY. **Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.**

- You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a list of medicines that interact with ODEFSEY.
- Do not start a new medicine without telling your healthcare provider. Your healthcare
 provider can tell you if it is safe to take ODEFSEY with other medicines.

How should I take ODEFSEY?

- Take ODEFSEY exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it. ODEFSEY is taken by itself (not with other HIV-1 medicines) to treat HIV-1 infection.
- · Take ODEFSEY 1 time each day with a meal.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking ODEFSEY without first talking with your healthcare provider. Stay under a healthcare provider's care when taking ODEFSEY.
- · Do not miss a dose of ODEFSEY.
- If you take too much ODEFSEY, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.
- When your ODEFSEY supply starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider
 or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may
 increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop
 resistance to ODEFSEY and become harder to treat.

What are the possible side effects of ODEFSEY?

ODEFSEY may cause serious side effects, including:

- See "What is the most important information I should know about ODEFSEY?"
- Severe skin rash and allergic reactions. Skin rash is a common side effect of
 ODEFSEY. Rash can be serious. Call your healthcare provider right away if you get a
 rash. In some cases, rash and allergic reaction may need to be treated in a hospital.
 If you get a rash with any of the following symptoms, stop taking ODEFSEY and
 call your healthcare provider right away:
 - fever
 - skin blisters
 - mouth sores
 - redness or swelling of the eyes (conjunctivitis)
 - swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat
 - trouble breathing or swallowing
 - pain on the right side of the stomach (abdominal) area
 - dark "tea-colored" urine

- Depression or mood changes. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms:
 - feel sad or hopeless
 - feel anxious or restless
 - have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself
- Change in liver enzymes. People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus infection
 or who have certain liver enzyme changes may have an increased risk of developing
 new or worsening liver problems during treatment with ODEFSEY. Liver problems
 can also happen during treatment with ODEFSEY in people without a history of liver
 disease. Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your liver enzymes
 before and during treatment with ODEFSEY.
- Changes in body fat can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicine. These
 changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo
 hump"), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs,
 arms and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of
 these conditions are not known.
- Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen
 when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and
 begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your
 healthcare provider right away if you start having any new symptoms after starting
 your HIV-1 medicine.
- New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure. Your healthcare
 provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before you start and
 while you are taking ODEFSEY. Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking
 ODEFSEY if you develop new or worse kidney problems.
- Bone problems can happen in some people who take ODEFSEY. Bone problems
 may include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your
 healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your bones.

The most common side effects of rilpivirine, one of the medicines in ODEFSEY, are depression, trouble sleeping (insomnia), and headache.

The most common side effect of emtricitabine and tenofovir alafenamide, two of the medicines in ODEFSEY, is nausea.

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

- These are not all the possible side effects of ODEFSEY. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.
- Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

This Brief Summary summarizes the most important information about ODEFSEY. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about ODEFSEY that is written for health professionals.

For more information, call 1-800-445-3235 or go to www.ODEFSEY.com.

Keep ODEFSEY and all medicines out of reach of children.

Issued: March 2016





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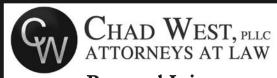
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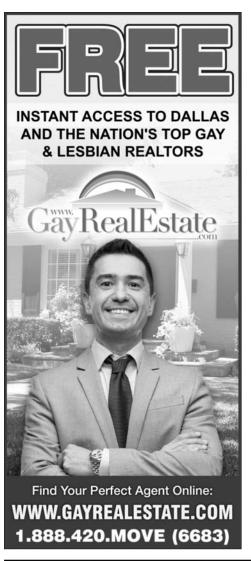
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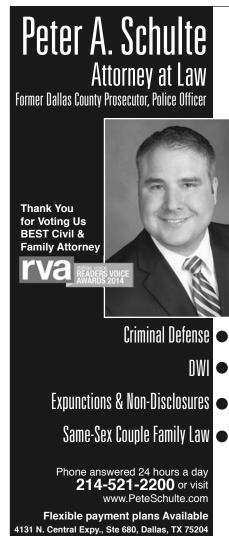


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Food pantry to remain closed another week

The Resource Center Food Pantry will remain closed at least another week.

Spokesperson Rafael McDonnell said in what center officials had hoped would be a final inspection on Wednesday, April 20, there were a few minor issues remaining. He said those have already been corrected, but the soonest an inspector can schedule another visit is Wednesday, April 27.

"We understand what a burden this has been on our clients," McDonnell said. "We're working as quickly as we can and we'll have an update next week.'

He said the issues were minor, but without the green light from the city, the pantry can't open.

If the food pantry gets its permit on April 27, it should be open on May 2.

- David Taffet



Colbert extradition delayed a month

Christopher (aka Christian) Colbert's extradition from Los Angeles County to Dallas has been delayed, possibly for as long as a month, according to a court clerk in L.A. He has a new court date set for May 18.

A clerk at Men's Central Jail in Los Angeles confirmed on April 19 that Colbert was still being held at that facility.

Colbert has been indicted on murder charges in connection with the death of Ronald Shumway last April. After killing Shumway, Colbert is accused of burying the body in cement in the backyard and then falsifying IDs to sell Shumway's house. Colbert then withdrew the money from Shumway's bank account and fled to L.A.

David Taffet

Kim Davis in the news one last time, hopefully

A federal appeals court has dismissed a lawsuit brought by County Clerk Kim Davis against the state of Kentucky for forcing her to issue marriage licenses with her name on them. Davis made the news when she refused to issue li-

censes to same-sex couples despite the Supreme Court ruling in favor of marriage equality last summer.

Names of county clerks were removed from Kentucky marriage licenses by executive order when Republican Gov. Matt Bevin replaced his Democratic predecessor in December. Davis was horrified her name would be required to go on documents issued by an office she presumably wasn't forced to run for.

In dismissing the suit, the court ruled Davis has not suffered irreparable harm.

The ACLU filed suit on behalf of four couples two gay and two straight — to whom Davis refused to issue licenses. So actually, she'll be in the news once more when that lawsuit is settled.

David Taffet



DA Hawk schedules another Oak Lawn **Town Hall**

Dallas County District Attorney Susan Hawk will hold a second Oak Lawn Town Hall meeting on Monday, April 25, at

6 p.m. at the Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Hawk held the first town hall in mid-December to address the rash of attacks happening in the gayborhood and to hear residents' concerns and questions.

In a press statement, the D.A. said she is holding the April 25 meeting because, "I wanted to meet with Oak Lawn area community members, again, to follow up with them regarding the safety concerns they presented at our December Town Hall meeting, Our office wants to remain a consistent resource for our community, and to do that we can't just show up once. We have to keep the lines of communication open and continue to have a presence."

Hawk said she will update the community on office initiatives and on programs and resources in place to help the LGBT community and Dallas County in general. She will also address ongoing concerns about the attacks last fall. No arrests have been made yet in any of those assaults.

- Tammye Nash

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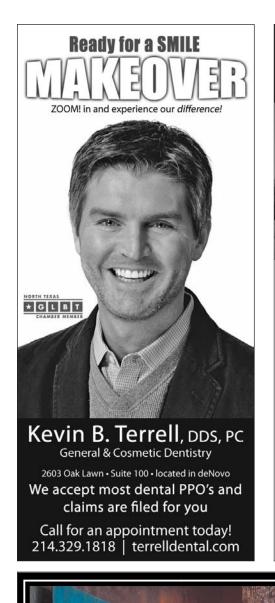
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HE <mark>gay</mark> agenda

Have an event coming up? Email your information to Managing Editor Tammye Nash at nash@dallasvoice.com or Senior Staff Writer David Taffet at taffet@dallasvoice.com by Wednesday at 5 p.m. for that week's issue.

• Weekly: Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM with this week's guests are Cd Kirven and Michael Dominguez discussing racism in the LGBT community; 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 3116 Commerce St., Suite C; 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 Treymore Building, 4038 Lemmon Ave, Suite 101; FuseConnect every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski at 214-760-9718 ext 3 or Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org.

APRIL

• Through May 30: Scarborough

Renaissance Festival

Scarborough Faire features 200 quaint shoppes, food and grog from around the world, swordplay, comedy, birds of prey, magic and more. Weekends from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at Scarborough Village, 2511 FM 66, Waxahachie.

• April 22: 10th Annual FashionCITED Show

Annual fashion show and fundraiser for Legal Hospice of Texas. 8 p.m. at Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave., Dallas. For additional information e-mail Kamesha Gibson at kamesha@legalhospice.org For tickets and more information visit Bit.ly/1DGAphZ.

- April 22-24: Earth Day Texas 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Fair Park, 1121 1st Ave. EarthDayTX.org.
- April 23: Waggin' Tails Vaccination Clinic The Petropolitan Oak Cliff, 2406 Emmett St. (at S. Hampton Road), hosts its monthly vaccination clinic for dogs and cats, with special discounted prices on individual vaccinations and vaccination packages and





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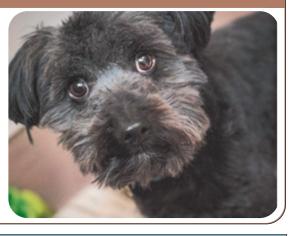
SIX DAYS ONLY: April 27, 28, 29, 30, May 2 & 3.

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pet of the week / TOBY

Toby is a male Shih Tzu mix that is about 3 years old and weighs about 15 pounds. He loves playing with balls and stuffed toys, walks well on a leash and plays well with other dogs. But he does not share food with others, so he needs to be fed in his crate, and he would prefer a calm home with experienced adult pet owners.

Other pets are available for adoption from Operation Kindness, 3201 Earhart Drive, Carrollton. The no-kill shelter is open six days: Monday, 3-8 p.m.; closed Tuesday; Wednesday, 3-8 p.m.; Thursday, noon-8 p.m.; Friday, noon- 5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. The cost is \$110 for cats, \$135 for kittens, \$150 for dogs over 1 year, and \$175 for puppies. The cost includes the spay/neuter surgery, microchipping, vaccinations, heartworm test for dogs, leukemia and FIV test for cats, and more. Those who adopt two pets at the same time receive a \$20 discount





other services for adult dogs and cats as well as puppies and kittens. From noon-4 p.m. For information call 214-462-3351.

• April 23: It's My Park Day

Celebrate the renovation and rejuvenation of Maria Luna Park in Oak Lawn and hear about plans for additional changes to the park. From 9-11 a.m. at Maria Luna Park, 4500 Maple Ave.

• April 23: Frontrunners

Meets at 8:30 a.m. at Robert E. Lee statue in Lee Park, 3333 Turtle Creek Blvd.

• April 24: Second night Passover Seder Congregation Beth El Binah celebrates the second night of Passover with a seder at 5:30 p.m. at Deli News, 17062 Preston Road. \$60 members, \$65 non-members.

• April 25-May 1: National Black Advocacy Conference

Fifth annual conference of Black Transmen and Black Transwomen and awards gala. The Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum, 14901 Dallas Parkway. BlackTrans.org.

- April 26: Stonewall Young Democrats Meets at 7 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St.
- April 27: Dallas PrEP Summit

Black AIDS Institute. BTAN, African American HIV University and AIDS Arms present discussions on PrEP issues. Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Event from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Lunch provided. Meadows Conference Center, 2900 Live Oak St. Register at DallasBlackPrepSummit.eventbrite.com.

• April 27: Frontrunners

Meets at 8:30 a.m. at Robert E. Lee statue in Lee Park, 3333 Turtle Creek Blvd.

• April 28: *I Am Jazz* Book Reading and Discussion

Youth First and LEAGUE at AT&T will host a book reading and panel discussion to support transgender youth, at 7 p.m. at Youth First. Open to the public but registration encouraged at Evite.me/VGn7ZzEk2H.

- April 29-May 2: Purple Party Weekend
- April 29-30: Lesbian Film Festival

Qcinema presents its fifth annual Lesbian Film Festival with the films Clambake, Vickie Shaw: I'm Not Your Role Model and ToY. Andrea Meyerson and Vickie Shaw will be in attendance. 7 p.m. at Fort Worth Community Arts Center, Sanders Theater, 1300 Gendy St., Fort Worth.

• April 30: Turtle Creek monthly clean up Join Turtle Creek Association's monthly cleanup of the shores of Turtle Creek. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Beasley steps at Hall Street and the Katy Trail. clarke@turtlecreekassociation.org.

• April 30: Steve Grand in concert

Steve Grand appears in concert. Chris Chism also performs. Concert begins at 7 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope 5901 Cedar Springs Road.

• April 30: Free day at the zoo

Free day at the zoo for residents of council districts 1, 2, 7 and 14 (council members Adam Medrano, Philip Kingston, Scott Griggs and Tiffinni Young). Proof of residence required. Begins at 1 p.m. at Dallas Zoo, 650 S. R. L. Thornton Freeway.

MAY

• May 1: Sandcastle Sunday with Rainbow Roundup

Rainbow Roundup celebrates International Family Equality Day with its annual Sandcastle Sunday, 1 p.m. at Little Elm Park on Lake Lewisville, 704 W. Eldorado Parkway in Little Elm. Pack a picnic lunch and bring your sand tools. Prizes awarded for the best sandcastle. For information email info@rrup.org.

• May 1: The Rev. Mona West at Cathedral of Hope

Former senior pastor Mona West will preach on the Holy Spirit in preparation for Pentecost at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road.

• May 1: Miss Big Thickette 2016

Turtle Creek Chorale hosts the 2016 Miss Big Thickette Pageant, a comedy pageant to raise funds for AIDS Arms' LifeWalk, emceed by Jada Pinkett Fox and featuring live talent rather than lip sync. 6 p.m. at The Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road.

• May 1: A Privileged Encounter: My Unique Experience with President Bill Clinton, 1987-2000.

Congregation Beth El Binah welcomes Rabbi Gene Levy of Little Rock who discusses his new book at 7:30 p.m. at Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Preston Road.

- May 3: Classic Chassis Car Club Meets at 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Ojeda's, 4617 Maple Ave.
- May 4: LifeWalk Kickoff Party A silent auction and hors d'ouevres are featured at 2016 LifeWalk's kickoff from 6:30-9 p.m. at 3015 at Trinity Groves, 3015 Gulden Lane.
- May 6-8: The Grace Project
 The world's largest conference for women



Black Trans Advocacy presents its fifth annual national convention April 25-May 1 at the Marriott Quorum in Addison. Keynote speakers are Mister Cris, executive director and co-founder of Community Kinship Life in the Bronx, and Dora Santana, a black Brazilian trans woman currently working on her PhD in African and African Diaspora Studies at the University of Texas Austin. Workshops are scheduled Tuesday though Friday. Saturday is family day with a picnic and events planned at Circle R Ranch in Flower Mound. Workshops topics include dating, employment, health and dealing with stress, gender confirmation surgery and more. Black Trans International Pageants will be held on Thursday evening. Black Transman and Black Transwomen are national organizations based in Dallas and created by Carter and Espy Brown, pictured. The groups have chapters in cities around the country.

living with HIV takes place at a hotel in the Coit/LBJ area. For more information contact Angela Huddy at Legacy Counseling Center at angela@legacycounseling.org or 214-520-6308 ext. 384. Information at legacygraceproject.org.

• May 7: Red in Wonderland Party Dallas Red Foundation, Clay Cooley Auto Group and Stoli Vodka present "Red in Wonderland," a silent and live auction party to raise funds for Dallas Red Foundation. Features a DJ, dancing, a peformance by Miss Red Raquel Blake and a live musical performance by Chris Chism. Tickets are \$35 in advance at

performance by Chris Chism.
Tickets are \$35 in advance at
RedInWonderland.EventBrite.com, and
\$50 at the door. From 8-11 p.m. at Seven for
Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd., Ste. 107.

• May 10: Awareness about the care needs of LGBT older adults

Light dinner, the film Gen Silent and a panel discussion about challenges of LGBT aging in our culture presented by Ed-U-Care. 6 p.m. at The Senior Source, 3910 Harry Hines Blvd.

• May 12: Outrageous Oral 20

The Dallas Way's oral history project welcomes Dickie Weaver, Mary Mallory and Michael Doughman at 7 p.m. at the Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. (New location because of construction in the Rose Room).

• May 13-14: Contemporary Relationships Conference

Learn and discuss ways to strengthen LGBTQ dating, relationships, and parenting with over

30 international and national speakers from 8 a.m.-5:15 p.m. on May 14. Pre-conference institutes take place May 13. Both events are held at St. David's Bethell Hall, 301 E. 8th St., Austin. For more information and to register visit Bit.ly/1tZKykeor e-mail info@contemporaryrelationships.com.

• May 28: Turtle Creek monthly clean up Join Turtle Creek Association's monthly clean-up of the shores of Turtle Creek. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Beasley steps at Hall Street and the Katy Trail. clarke@turtlecreekassociation.org.

JUNE

• June 3: Metroball

Debbie Gibson and Tiffany headline Metroball, the annual fundraiser for the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund. S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road.

- June 11: Longview Pride
- June 18: Beach Blanket Gaybingo Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place 6-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information, call 214-540-4458 or email Bscott@myresourcecenter.org.
- June 18: Turtle Creek monthly clean up Join Turtle Creek Association's monthly clean-up of the shores of Turtle Creek. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Beasley steps at Hall Street and the Katy Trail. clarke@turtlecreekassociation.org.

How does your garden grow?

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TAMMYE NASH I Managing Editor nash@dallasvoice.com



etables in the backyard? Maybe some herbs? Or perhaps you're aiming to win the coveted "Yard

of the Month" honors in your neighborhood?

Whatever your goal, said Rusty E. Allen, North Haven Gardens has not only the supplies and the plants you need, but the information as well.

Allen is now in his third year as the education and outreach coordinator for North Haven Gardens, an independent garden center that has been situated on Northaven Road, just west of Central Expressway, since 1951. It's his job to create and coordinate the classes and workshops that NHG's customers need to get the results they want, and to coordi-

nate training for the garden center's staff.

want to do." Wanna grow your own veg-

North Haven Gardens holds four major events a year — spring open house, summer open house, fall open house and holiday open house — each tied to a different season and each with its own theme, Allen said. The spring open house begins today (Friday, April 22) and runs through Sunday, April 24.

outreach coordinator. The position was created,

he explained, specifically to "allow us to develop

programs here according to the needs of our cus-

tomers. That's our number-one goal — to have

our customers be successful in whatever it is they

Allen said each open house is usually themed around plants that are either grown or harvested in that season. For instance, for the spring open house this week, the garden center is celebrating Herb Weekend, with special prices of certain herb plans and classes presented throughout the day on Saturday.

Saturday, April 23, starts at 9:30 a.m. with a class on "What to do with the herbs you grow" presented by The Herb Society of America, followed by a tour of North Haven's herb sections led by Allen, a workshop on herbal oils, a second workshop on healing herbs and species and a second tour of the herb sections. The day ends with a class on Creating International Herbal Tastes, presented by Greater Dallas Organic Gar-

There is a difference, Allen noted, between the "classes" and the "workshops" offered at North Haven. Classes are usually free, whereas workshops involve a fee. The essential oils workshop is \$30, and the healing herbs and spices work-

The reason "workshops" involve a fee, he explained, is that workshops last longer, are more "hands-on," have special instructors and require supplies, the costs of which are covered by the fees. Workshop participants also receive a "certificate of completion" and a \$10 gift certificate they can use toward purchases at North Haven.

Saturday's schedule also highlights another advantage of North Haven's programming: A variety of instructors lead the classes and workshops. While Allen leads many of the classes, he said that experts on various topics are often brought in to lead classes and workshops. North Haven's cooperation with local gardening organizations helps guarantee that diversity and the quality of the instructors.

Allen said that the North Haven classroom and other facilities are available to rent for club meetings and events. And often, when one of the clubs is planning a special program or bringing in a special speaker or instructor, those meetings are opened up to the public.

"All of that together helps us offer a very well-

doesn't just end with the usual types of gardening programs. "We are expanding our offerings," he said.

North Haven Gardens wants to be "a hub for gardening and everything related to gardening," Allen said. "Everything related to gardening," he continued, means the inspiration that individuals can draw from gardens and gardening in art

About a year-and-a-half ago, Allen said, North Haven opened The Gallery at NHG, which features photography, painting, sculpture and more, all focused on gardens and plants. At the first of March, he added, the garden center opened The Café at NHG. All of it, he said, is intended to draw customers into the garden center, entice them to stay longer, enhance their appreciation for gardens and gardening and entice them to improve and enhance their own spaces.

The café and the gallery have also prompted Allen to broaden the spectrum of classes and workshops even further: on May 7 NHG offers a Painting the Garden Workshop focusing on hydrangeas, and then on May 14, there is a Photography in the Garden workshop.

While a large part of Allen's job is to improve and enlarge the garden center's educational programs for its customers, he is also tasked with overseeing ongoing training for its staff.











Prepping for Prep

Black AIDS Institute brings summit on PrEP regimen to Dallas

TAMMYE NASH I Managing Editor nash@dallasvoice.com

The Los Angeles-based Black AIDS Institute brings its national PrEP Summit tour to Dallas on Wednesday, April 27, in a day-long gathering intended to "start a conversation that needs to be had" about how to increase understanding and use of the HIV prevention regimen called pre-exposure prophylaxis.

AIDS Arms cohosts the event, taking place at Meadows Conference Center, 2900 Live Oak St. Breakfast starts at 8:30 a.m., followed by the summit, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

"We've been doing this tour since last September. We've made 13 stops so far, and we have seven more scheduled for this year," noted Erica Lillquist, the institute's senior mobilization coordinator.

"We are reaching lots of providers and we are getting a great response. We're starting a conversation that needs to be had," Lillquist said. "We've been getting a great response. A lot of the recommendations we are hearing are included in our 'AIDS in Black America' report that just came out this week."

While the summits in different cities are based on the same framework, each one is tailored to meet the specific needs of the specific host city, Lillquist said. Mukamtagara Jendayi, a fellow with BAI's African American HIV University — Science and Treatment College, is the local organizer for the Dallas event.

"We have different activities scheduled throughout the day, and we have recently added a component whereby attendees can get [continuing education] credit for being here," Jendayi said, explaining that while the summit is geared primarily toward HIV service providers, organizers also want to reach out to service providers in other fields who are likely to "serve or encounter our at-risk populations," and community leaders and HIV activists, especially those living with the

"We want to attract a multidisciplinary audience," Jendayi said. "It's meant primarily for people in the HIV field, but we want to also bring in people in fields that intersect with HIV, like women's shelters and domestic violence shelters. Planned Parenthood. And we are reaching out to peer advocates. We want them all to be informed on PrEP.



Jendayi said the day will start with breakfast and an overview of the summit's agenda, and an explanation and overview, delivered by the institute's outreach and communications coordinator, Gerald Garth, of the new Black Treatment Advocate Network — or B-TAN — program. She said that North Texas currently has no B-TAN chapter, but that she hopes to raise enough interest to initiate one soon.

"We have the people here who can take leadership roles in that, and I hope within a month of the summit to have an interest meeting on starting a B-TAN here," she said.

The rest of the morning session will be devoted to the bio-medical aspects of PrEP in the black community. Daniel Ramos, a community liaison for Gilead Sciences Inc., the biopharmaceutical AIDS Arms CEO Dr. John Carlo, left, and Abounding Prosperity CEO Kirk Myers, opposite page.

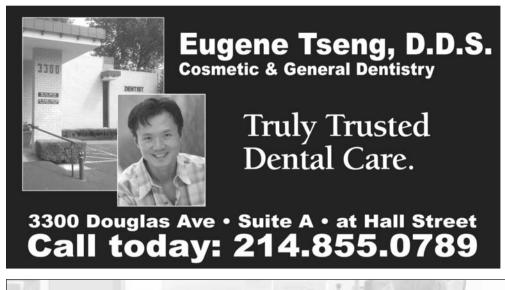
company that manufactures Truvada, the primary drug used now in the PrEP regimen.

Courtney Sherman, a nurse practitioner and clinical supervisor with Tarrant County Public Health Adult Health Services, will be on hand to "broaden that perspective and talk about the PrEP studies that have led [Black AIDS Institute] to really push it, and about the future of biomedical intervention in HIV. There are other PrEP [medications and regimens] coming down the pipe."

The biomedical portion of the summit will also address the black community's mistrust of the medical establishment and concerns over medical racism, Jendayi said.

"There are been plenty of historical injustices, unethical practices, that have planted the seeds of that distrust," she noted. "Ashley Innes with AIDS Arms will be talking about that distrust and about how things are changing."

AIDS Arms CEO Dr. John Carlo will participate in a panel discussion on accessing health insurance and financing the PrEP regimen, along as many as five other experts on that topic, including Corey Legendre, senior account executive for Avita Pharmacy, a PrEP distributor that already has programs in place to help customers get insurance coverage and/or financing for PrEP treatments. Also on the panel with be Sherman, and Kenya Woodruff, partner and co-chair of the Healthcare Practice Group Haynes and Boone.









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Lunch panels will focus on best practices in teaching about, prescribing and taking PrEP, Jendayi said, with a range of speakers including AIDS service providers, pharmacists, teachers – "the people working on the front lines" of the AIDS epidemic. Speakers are Abounding Prosperity CEO Kirk Myers, Kimberly Parker, associate profession in the Department of Health Studies at Texas Women's University, AIDS Arms Medical Director Dr. Gene Voskuhl, and Legendre.

After lunch, those attending will break out into four different groups, each focusing on a specific target group — gay, bi and same-gender-loving black men, led by ADODI DFW chair and cofounder Louis Henry; black women, led by Afiya Center co-founder and Executive Director Marsha Jones; black trans people, led by AIDS Services of Austin Testing and Linkage Programs Manager Carmarion Anderson; and black heterosexual men, led by AIDS Arms behavioral intervention specialist Larry Alexander Jr.

Best practices for improving and increasing PrEP usage depends on the specific target audience, Jendayi said.

"So with these breakout sessions, what we're trying to do in each one is come up with a list of things people need to know about PrEP and how to increase PrEP uptake in that specific population. The leaders of each session will correlate the information they get and then bring it back to the

large group at the end of the day and report on what they have heard and learned," she explained.

"The whole purpose is to improve and increase the use of PrEP," and in doing so, decrease the HIV infection rate in the black community, which is among the populations hit hardest by the AIDS epidemic.

For information or to register, visit Eventbrite.com/e/Dallas-Black-Prep-Summit-Tickets-23060352134. For information on continuing education credits through Tarrant Community College, call Raytosha Jones at 817-515-6190 or email her at raytosha.jones@tccd.edu. Deadline for CEU registration is Tuesday, April 26.

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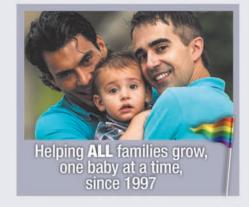




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Returning

After Legal Hospice of Texas got Jeff Cook's retirement benefits reinstated, he and his husband found a way to say thank you

DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com

"Legal Hospice of Texas gave me my life back," Francisco Flores said.

Although LHT usually focusing on helping people with a terminal illness or HIV with their legal needs, Flores has neither. But his husband, Jeff Cook, was diagnosed with AIDS in 1990.

Cook and Flores lived in Houston where Cook worked for an airline and Flores worked as a hair-dresser. In January 1990, they were both tested for HIV

In 1989, Cook was taking a medication that he couldn't miss. During the time, Houston was hit with

a massive flood and he got stuck in his office without the drug. That resulted in his breaking out in shingles. "Should I be

tested," he said he asked three different doctors. Each said no.

Finally, in 1990, they went to Montrose Clinic where Cook received his positive diagnosis. His doctor told him not to do anything about it for a year. Finally, he began taking AZT, the only drug available to treat to HIV at the time.

Flores was sure their time together was limited. At the time, most of his friends diagnosed with AIDS lived two years or less. He said when he received his negative diagnoses, clinic staff offered some "counseling" he wasn't happy to hear: They told him he'd leave Cook soon, but Flores knew that was simply wasn't going to happen.

And then there was the stigma. Flores told no one about Cook's diagnosis, especially at the salon where he worked. "I couldn't tell anyone because [the clients] would have stopped coming," he said.

Flores said he found that ironic, since many of the other hairdressers at the salon were positive and some had already died of AIDS. But as long as they didn't talk about it, customers kept coming.

In June 1994, Cook the airline transferred to Dallas. In September that year, he was forced to retire. "I had people tell me, 'This is a Christian company,'" he recalled. Ironically, from the time Cook was diagnosed until the day he was forced out of the company, he never took a day off. So while he was having some medical problems and was losing weight, it didn't affect his work.

Cook received retirement pay and benefits from his company, while Flores continued to work. Still, Cook was afraid that if anything happened to him, his family might challenge his will and try to take away the house he shared with Flores. He wanted to give his partner something that couldn't be taken away.

Flores had earned an associate's degree in Houston. After moving to Dallas, Cook encouraged him to enroll at University of North Texas. Flores did, earning his bachelor's degree from the Denton school. It was a gift, Flores said, that "his family couldn't take away."

Their life in Dallas was going well. Cook was retired and Flores had begun working in the fashion industry.

Cook continued to receive his health benefits through the airline and HIV medications were expensive.

Then came the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The airline industry was hit hard, and airlines were suddenly looking to cut expenses. Cook's benefits turned out to be one of those expenses.

"They sent me to a doctor in Fort Worth who was afraid to touch me," Cook recalled.

He was sent to a psychiatrist. Ironically, he had seen that doctor a year earlier and he told Cook he was taking the right steps to manage his illness. This time, on the payroll of the airline, he reported there was nothing wrong with him.

And since nothing was wrong, the airline was able to cut his benefits.

"That was the equivalent of being fired," Cook said.

For a year, the couple struggled to pay for COBRA insurance coverage. Cook qualified for disability with the federal government, which helped but didn't cover all his

the favor



Jeff Cook, left, and Francisco Flores in front of the Allen Courts Building where they married on June 26, 2015.

healthcare costs. The men found themselves facing a frightening future.

"We didn't know what to do," Cook said.

"You don't think you have legal rights," Flores said. "We had friends who lost their cars, lost their houses."

To help maintain his health, Cook attended Immunocize classes at Resource Center. Someone there told him about Legal Hospice Texas. So he called the office and spoke to Pete Flores, client services director for the agency.

"We can help," Pete Flores promised, setting an appointment.

LHT staff attorney Joel Lazarine collected

Cook's medical records — a stack he said that was thick as a phone book — and went through every word, Cook said. And although the case took a year, the airline was required to make all back payments for lost pay and Cook maintains his retirement pay through today.

After the case settled, Pete Flores called Francisco Flores and mentioned a fashion show fundraiser for Legal Hospice that was being held at the Belmont Hotel. "As a way to say thank you," Francisco Flores said, "I went and did hair and make-up." But the show, Francisco Flores

FAVOR, Page 19



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Carlyn Ray and her assistants offer classes and create custom glass items at her studio on Irving Boulevard.

Artist Carlyn Ray found her passion in creating colorful art out of glass

DAVID TAFFET I Senior Staff Writer taffet@dallasvoice.com



"Find what you love and do it," advises glass artist Carlyn Ray. Those are words to live by — and she does just that.

Ray likes having as many pieces of her glass artwork on display in her Irving Boulevard showroom as possible. The problem is, she's just about sold out, despite the long hours she works every day with three assistants in her Design District stu-

A former student of glass master Dale Chihuly, Ray set up shop in the Design District in 2013. Since then she's been using her talent to combine a number of her passions.

Ray loves working with at-risk kids. So she's bringing to her studio the girls who permanently reside at Jonathan's Place because the foster system has failed them. She's working with them to create their own bowls, screens and eventually, well, who

Shaping molten glass taken out of her morethan-2,000-degree-hot kilns into woks of art certainly builds confidence these girls have never had

Ray enjoys when groups come to her workshop for company team-building exercises or children's birthday parties (available for kids ages six and up). The cost starts at \$50 per person depending on how complicated a piece each person will create.

Commissioned pieces for homes are Ray's second market. She said often customers come in with a fabric or rug from the room the glass art will live in so she can suggest colors. Sometimes she visits the home to get a better feeling for scale as well as

Often, if she's going to create something like a bowl for the customer, Ray said she will create two or three pieces. Each one will turn out a little differently, even when she uses the same colors and same amount of glass. This method, Ray said, let's her give her clients offer a choice.

"What doesn't sell, goes on the shelf," she said. Next, Ray uses her glass to create an environment on a larger scale. She created a chandelier that will be on display at NorthPark Center in June. And, she said, she would like to create large scale pieces for display in an airport or hospital.

One piece in her studio this week is one of her signature glass weavings. In this piece, she has welded together tubes of glass that will be installed over the client's window, providing privacy after a next-door neighbor built their home close to the client's house, with windows facing the client's windows. Ray's woven glass art will allow light into the room while still providing the privacy the homeowner needs.

Before coming home to Dallas to create her studio, Ray apprenticed with Chihuly for two years. She then had the opportunity to work at the Corning Museum of Glass in upstate New York and before sailing around the world on a cruise ship where she entertained travelers with her glassblowing skills.

HEAT, Next Page



added, was a mess: models were jumping in the hotel's pool and it all seemed more like a porn show than a fashion show.

So he told Roger Wedell, then the Legal Hospice's executive director: "If you want a fashion show, we'll do a fashion show." It wasn't long before Wedell called him back with the go-ahead.

That first fashion show featured celebrity models, including Sheriff Lupe Valdez wearing pink pajamas. Francisco Flores said he knew he was in it for the long haul when Wedell described the event as the "first annual."

This year FashionCited's marks its 10th anniversary. The event has gone from being staged on a small runway set up in an Oak Cliff restaurant to a runway at the Frontiers of Flight Museum. This year's show features the work of 19 designers and professional models from the Campbell and Clutts agencies.

Model moms fight to get their kids in the show. El Centro College sends dressers from its fashion program to support the event. Lawyers of Style, who support the work of LHT by relieving its two staff attorneys of some of the agency's cases, and area fashion companies volunteer for the event as well as buying tables to support the work.

Francisco Flores said producing the event each year has gotten easier, even though it's grown larger and more complicated. He said he takes the time to arrange the clothing for each model and post storyboards so each model knows how much time there is for costume changes. That results in everyone having fun at the event, he said.

And Cook said he says thank you to LHT for what they did for him by volunteering in the office once a week.

Today, Cook continues to have chronic medical problems as a result of his AIDS diagnosis. But after 30 years together, he and Francisco Flores were married the day of the Supreme Court's marriage equality decision and no longer fear anyone from either family ever taking anything away from them.



HEAT, From Previous Page

While she makes working with glass look easy, creating her studio in the 3,000-square-foot former warehouse of a welding company wasn't.

"I still had to find, purchase, and set up all the equipment, gas lines, and obtain all necessary permits," she said. That included transporting and installing a \$50,000 furnace that she found in California for half the price. The furnace heats

Ray buys glass 6,000 pounds of glass at a

time, which comes in 50-pound bags from which she melts and scoops.

Then there's her astronomical insurance costs and gas that costs her about \$1,000 a month, even at today's low price. But the amazing results were worth the effort.

Ray's work can be seen at her studio, Carlyn Ray Glassworks, 1820 Irving Blvd. She will also have an installation at a show from 6-10 p.m. on May 21 at the Lawley Art Group Gallery, 1507 Dragon St. and her chandelier can be seen at NorthPark Center in June.





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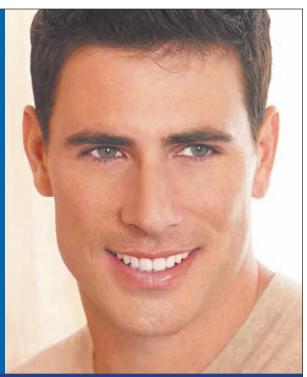




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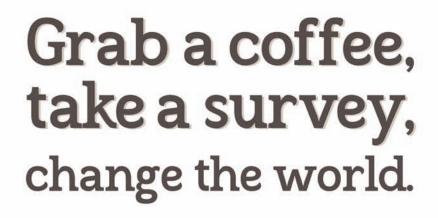
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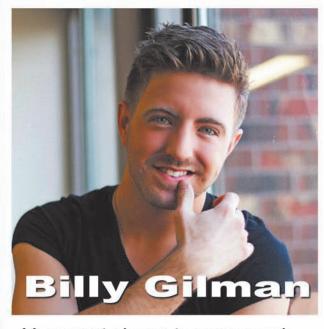
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Telling ugly lies to hide a simple truth



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McCrory

1 he easiest sale on any political issue is to frame it as critical to the safety of children, and that could become key to a civil liberties battle brewing nationwide that pivots on transgender equality.

It's a discussion that most Americans simply can't understand because they have never met a transgender individual. They misunderstand the nature of transgender people and can easily fall victim to the conservative argument that the "innocence of children" is at stake.

The inclusion of children's safety to the debate came to my attention just recently when I saw a post on Facebook by a relative who had shared a graphic by Political Insider saying "men do not belong in the bathroom with girls.'

I realized then that the battle over transgender equality in North Carolina had spread in a particularly ugly way.

Conservatives, still smarting from losing the marriage equality fight, seized on the transgender issue in North Carolina, where state lawmakers recently passed House Bill 2, commonly known as the "bathroom bill." It bans transgender people from using public restrooms corresponding to their gender identity.

A transgender woman wearing feminine attire will be forced to use men's restrooms under the provisions of the law that also prohibits cities and counties in North Carolina from adopting anti-discrimination laws. Transgender men would correspondingly use the women's restroom.

The North Carolina General Assembly hastily met in a special session after the city of Charlotte passed an ordinance protecting transgender people. The state Assembly passed the controversial bathroom bill in one day. Gov. Pat McCrory signed the bill that night.

McCrory appeared on Meet the Press April 17, saying the legislature had acted quickly to prevent the Charlotte ordinance from going into effect April 1. The governor defended the action, saying transgender issues represent a "new social norm" that will require more discussion before transgender people



David Webb The Rare Reporter

be using women's restrooms if voters allowed the ordinance to remain in place. "This is a national debate that has literally come on in the last three months," the governor said.

It was a tough interview by host Chuck Todd, and McCrory failed miserably in his attempts to justify North Carolina's stance.

McCrory's critics view his reasoning as disingenuous, and they note he is battling to remain governor, an office also being sought by Attorney General Roy Cooper. Immediately after he left the news program's set, McCrory, who has remained largely out of sight in his home state since signing the bill, sent out a contribution request saying he had "defended North Carolina against the coordinated campaign of attacks and selective outrage from out-of-state special interests."

McCrory blames the Human Rights Campaign and its influence over corporate America for a loss of an estimated \$40 million in business opportunities since the passage of the law. Various corporations are either threatening to boycott the state over the new law, or they have already pulled the plug. Some estimate North Carolina could lose billions in revenue in the future.

The controversy is getting a lot of attention all over the country, as a transgender woman from Dallas returning from an HIV seminar recently learned when she got bumped up to first class on a flight home because a passenger objected to sitting next to her.

That amused me because she is one of the least

threatening people I've met in the world of activism. I doubt that the passenger would have made such a comment without feeling emboldened by the conservative argument.

Now, lawmakers in seven other states are considering legislation similar to that enacted in North Carolina: Illinois, Kansas, Massachusetts, Missouri, Mississippi, Tennessee and Wisconsin.

It might be that conservative activists feel the need to escalate their attacks to include scare tactics involving children because of the financial backlash in North Carolina and the support of high profile supporters like actor George Clooney and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

My response to the fears about children is: Who in their right mind would allow a child under the age of 13 to go into a restroom for the general public alone in the first place? Given the sort of ghastly crimes involving assaults and abductions we learn about every day, why would anyone not exercise the greatest vigilance when it comes to children? Attacking people who are merely trying to live their lives as they feel destined instead of exercising due caution to protect children seems absurd.

Transgender women do not identify as men, and society has never viewed them as "real men" — not until it became politically expedient to do so to back up conservative issues. In the privacy of a stall, why would anyone care?

Even Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said this week on the Today show he advocates allowing people to use whatever restrooms they choose. He noted there appeared to be little if any concern about such practices until North Carolina politicians made an issue of it.

I've encountered a lot of women in men's rooms over the years because of long lines for women's rooms. It really didn't bother me. People generally go into restrooms for only one reason. Any speculation beyond that is a little kinky.

David Webb is a veteran journalist with more than three decades of experience, including a stint as a staff reporter for Dallas Voice. He now lives on Cedar Creek Lake and writes for publications nationwide.

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I never imag-

As the Oak Lawn community struggles to address violence from without, we must fight hatred from within

his is an article I've been meaning to write for some time. I sat for weeks mulling over exactly what I wanted to say and how I wanted to say it. The fact is, there are so many issues that the Dallas community and the LGBTQ community at large needs to address that it's difficult to pick a starting point — issues like racism, sexism, agism and our own internalized homophobia.

But the issue that seems to hit me and so many people that I have come to know the last few months the hardest is our community's — specifically, the Dallas community's — utter lack of empathy or human dignity in the face of tragedy.

When I moved here at the end of October 2014, I didn't know anyone. Making friends and meeting people was difficult. The Dallas LGBTQ community doesn't exactly have a reputation of being warm and fuzzy to new people.

I moved to Oak Lawn because I figured that I might have an easier time if I was in the middle of everything. I began going out, and as time went on, I slowly began forming a circle that I clicked with.

I visited Austin less and less and started spending more time with my new friends. Life seemed to begin to normalize, and I settled into a normal, boring routine. And I was quite happy with my obscurity.

Then on Oct. 2, 2015, a little more than two weeks from my one-year anniversary of living in Dallas, everything changed.

I left S4 at about 1 a.m. for the three-block walk back to my apartment. I remember being hit with something in the back of my head, and I remember feeling a wave of immense heat rush over me. Then I woke up in the trauma unit, with doctors crowded around me stitching up my face, my neck and my side. They told me I suffered a fractured skull and a fractured eye socket. My orbital wall was blown out, resulting in an orbital fracture, and I had a laceration to my temple, and stab wounds to the left side of my neck, my left rib cage and my left arm.

I had not one single memory of being at-

I hadn't really ever been in the spotlight of the media before. I never really had a desire to be front and center of anything, save for a few school plays growing up. So when this happened, it never really occurred to me that put-



Michael Dominguez
Special Contributor

Special Contributor sions to speaking truth to a situation and trying to get help from the community to fill in pieces of an event I had no recollection of.

Boy was I wrong.

Almost immediately my Facebook Messenger was inundated with messages from people I never met. My chat apps were blowing up with messages from guys who never had a single word to say to me.

In the beginning, the messages were polite well-wishes and condolences. It was over-whelming, but I was happy that the word was getting out to so many people.

A week and multiple news stories later, and there was still no word and no witnesses had come forward. I changed my profiles to a photo that the media was using and a brief description of what had happened in hopes that people would contact me directly with info. That's when everything began to go south.

The well-wishes disappeared and were replaced with vitriol and accusations of showboating. I began to hear that maybe I got what I deserved because I was probably a "stuck-up faggot like everyone else in that neighborhood." I was told that everyone was "tired of seeing my ugly face on TV" and I should "stop trying to get attention."

More time passed. Ever the hard-headed Leo, I continued doing what I had been doing. I gave more interviews. My ugly face was on the TV many more times. I even helped co-found a nonprofit, Survivors Offering Support, which works with other survivors of violent crimes to help them navigate everything that happens after — including the media and potential fallout.

And boy, has there been fallout.

As more and more attacks happened and more of these brave men came forward, I was horrified to see that the hate and callous attitudes I had encountered in the privacy of chat apps were migrating to more public social media forums. Guys that I knew personally through our shared experiences were now having the validity of their accounts questioned, their character destroyed and their past mis-

takes brought to light and used as public fodder against them.

And all of it done by people in our own community, cowards hiding behind the safety of their computer screens, ill-informed and overentitled. People who lacked empathy and human decency were spouting words and views with no regard to how they might actually be affecting survivors of violence, to how they were only adding fuel to the blaze that is fear of reporting, fear of humiliation, fear of being ostracized.

Local businesses also jumped on board the community idiot train. General managers of some gay bars poured more salt onto not-yethealed wounds by proclaiming "the Oak Lawn community is safe. This is a media firestorm. If people make responsible decisions then they won't have anything to worry about."

Another posted on Facebook, "If people would just stop walking home drunk and watch their surroundings ..." to suggest that the victims of these crimes were to blame for almost being murdered; that their own actions led to them being left on darkened streets and alleyways with their blood pouring onto the asphalt.

The victim shaming that came to light at a time when our community should have banded together was shocking and disgusting. At a time when survivors needed the support of their community, we were instead met with ridicule, doubt and shame.

For six months now, I have talked with local activists, friends and fellow survivors at great length about the issue of callousness in our community. When did this start?

Our community was built on the backs of trans women of color, fearless warriors who led the charge against police brutality in the Stonewall Riots. Yet we fast-forward nearly 50 years to today, and our community now disregards the plight of our trans brothers and sisters almost entirely. They're ornamental, token girl-friends that we parade around on our arms at bars, but hardly anyone stands up and has honest conversations about how difficult it is for them to find employment, or have access to healthcare, or walk safely in public or have their murderers brought to justice.

We boast in our chat profiles that we have no interest in "blacks or Asians," rationalizing that it's "just a preference." Or we fetishize minorities to the point where they are dehumanized and seen as nothing more than a sex toy that should be happy that they're receiving attention.

The "I-don't-really-date-black-guys-but-you're-cute" line isn't a compliment. When you tell me that "you absolutely love Latin guys,"

what you're telling me is that you have no interest in my personality, opinions or journey and are instead only basing my worth on the color of my skin.

It's not a compliment; it's an age-old form of systemic racial oppression, and our community, as an oppressed fringe group of society itself, should be fighting against it, not perpetuating it.

We are all entitled to our opinion. We all live in a country where we have the right to voice those opinions, to question things that we don't believe or don't understand. The issue here is whether or not it's responsible to voice those opinions publicly during a time when we should be helping each other heal.

We have to endure so much idiocy and hatred and misunderstanding from a society that doesn't understand us and has no desire to, why would we then want to turn around and continue that cycle of shame and bigotry?

At what point did we as a society reach the point that we would rather see someone succumb to circumstances than come out stronger and thriving. When did we become people that would choose to not only delight in, but also aid in their downfall?

For survivors of violent crimes, sexual assaults or domestic abuse, the overwhelming feeling of isolation that comes from not being able to find someone that understands what you're going through further complicates our already fragile emotional state and for many leads to a life long battle with depression. Whispers around town used to hurt, but today a whisper is available for hundreds of people to see immediately.

I want to live in a world where violence, bigotry and hatred have no place. I want a community that holds its head high, that knows its history and is proud of its lineage. I want a community that stands together to fight any outside force that threaten its survival.

I want a community that doesn't take its own and attempt to destroy them at their weakest moments. I want a community that is a community, one that takes care of itself, edifies and encourages, teaches and mentors.

We used to be a great community. We have unlimited potential in us. If we stopped tearing each other down and instead focused that on tearing down the walls of misinformation and fear and bigotry just imagine where we could be in 10 more years. Equality may actually mean something that point. And we can proudly say that we had a hand in bringing that ideal to reality.

Michael Dominguez violent crime survivor and cofounder of Survivors Offering Support.

Designs for living

Billy Milner and Jerod Dame are living the Life of Riley — their Deep Ellum shop of funky furnishings that is as much about life as style

J. DENTON BRICKER | Contributing Writer dentonbricker@gmail.com

Billy Milner first met Jerod Dame on the dance floor at a club in Deep Ellum seven years ago, and they have been dancing through life ever since — with the edge-of-Downtown neighborhood figuring prominently in their lives. Not only did they meet in Deep Ellum, the couple also courted there, and eventually ended up settling down when they purchased a loft together there ... and now, have opened a storefront called the Life of Riley.

The "lifestyle store," as described by Miler and Dame, represents a certain carefree approach to living through home décor and personal care. Their style — reflected in the products, merchandising and placement —is magazine-worthy, but also very livable. For Miler and Dame, when it comes to picking inventory (whether for your home or store), it's all about comfort and positivity.



"Billy is an interior designer and he creates these rooms, these settings and whenever we go to clients' houses, people will actually sit in the living room and talk as opposed to hanging around the kitchen," Dame says. "These amazing spaces make no one want to leave."

They know something about creating livable spaces that are both functional and fabulous. They parent three children (a girl and two boys) from Dame's previous marriage and recently introduced two puppies into their family. Milner advises that, when designing a low-maintenance lifestyle, keep it light and fun.

"This is kind of cheeky and fun," he says. "We don't really take anything too seriously. We have some soaps [for sale] — one called Filthy Cock, one Filthy Balls.... We're out of Filthy Pussy. Actually, they are really good soaps made in Hawaii — we've used them all and it's not just packaging. I know people that come in and buy 15 bars at a time because they use them."

The little things are important when it comes to life but also when it comes to decking out your space — candles, throw pillows and blankets should all be there for a reason.

"Everything has a story or there is a destination or reason why it was picked," says Dame. "We even have our own private label, all soy candles of seven different fragrances made by a local candlemaker." They also offer one of the largest collections of travel candles, allowing patrons to take their scents on the road. Milner used to own a store in Atlanta called the Candle Room, which primarily offered candles, but he quickly realized the name



why it was picked," says Dame. "We even have our own private label, all soy candles of seven different fragrances made by a that speaks to an urban lifestyle for the modern homeowner. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

was restricting and began to offer a wider variety of items ... and not just candles.

Life of Riley does sell tchotchkes, but larger items, like furni-

ture, wall décor and more. Many of their pieces are rare, vintage finds that Milner modifies personally to create a unique fusion of old and new which provides flair and also gives an antiquated gem a new life.

"There is a coffee table/side table that is a dressmaker's case from France," Dame explains. "Years ago, some ladies would order their dresses from Europe and there wasn't cardboard at the time, so they shipped the dresses in cases like this."

While some of the bigger furniture pieces aren't huge sellers, they keep them in the store to inspire their customers and help shoppers visualize a redo of their own homes ... or to allow a husband a place to sit while his

Taking care of the neighborhood

The concept of bringing together life and style for Dame and Milner extends beyond their four walls — the entrepreneurial pair also believe in investing in their community. They wanted to start an activity or event that would drive pedestrian traffic to the streets and help the neighborhood grow so Dame put his head together with another business owner.

"A couple of months later, when we realized there wasn't a lot of traffic, we create the Wine Walk," he says.

"The same thing happened if we had a big party here — they would have a great time but wouldn't walk down to Kettle Art Gallery. It's almost like they needed permission to walk around the neighborhood and still need that permission," says Milner. The Deep Ellum Wine Walk has grown from four participating merchants to a burgeoning 25 and inspired the relatively new mimosa walk which began with a smashing success after Thanksgiving and has continued into 2016.

— J.D.B.

wife shops. The wall art Life of Riley sells is all made by local Dallas artists; many wall hangings are rare gems, like old signs from New York, vintage ad posters and European school maps.

"When I first started collecting maps, I just kind of collected all of them because I've always liked maps," says Milner. "I quickly narrowed it down to just European ones because the colors on them are just so much better. You didn't see maps with those colors growing up in the United States. These colors are a lot richer and more unusual."

Sometimes there is just an emotional attachment to an item that may not necessarily make sense, but there is usually a story behind it.

"We had these two guys come in — cute as can be — and there was this red tricycle on the dining room table," says Dame. "One of the guys said, 'Oh I want that tricycle!' and his partner said, 'You don't need that.' But they ended up buying it." The backstory, it turned out, was that as a kid, one of the men could never quite make it to the playground in time to get on the few, treasured red tricycles, and ended up with a blue trike. In the end, he finally got to take a red tricycle of his own home.

And that's what makes a lifestyle store about more than style, but also about living.

Life of Riley, 2636 Main St. Open Wednesdays–Sundays. LifeOfRileyHome.com.

UNCOMMON SCENTS | You can 'decorate' your home with fragrances — walking into Life of Riley is an olfactory as much as a visual delight. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)







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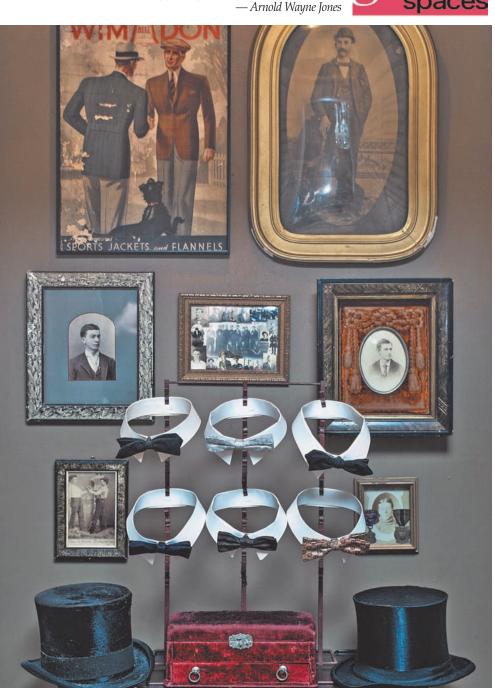


Indoors, outdoors

Area homeowners show off vignettes that distinguish their homes & gardens

What, exactly, makes a space great? We asked some folks in the community — some who design, some who collect, some who garden and some who just like customizing their environments — to share with us the parts of their homes that add a sense of uniqueness or grandeur, sophistication or comfort, to their lives. Here are some ideas you can consider for transforming your space into a Great Space.





VICTOR OF VICTORIAN | Rob Bradford celebrates bygone elegance in his home, which oozes the sophistication of the Victorian and Edwardian eras. "That's pretty much everything I have," he says. "A few things up to the 1920s. I've been buying it for 30 years and keep buying." The color and tone throughout is decidedly masculine; for instance his dressing area, above, is a tribute to men's fashion with collapsible top hats, collars and bow ties. Bradford lived in Oak Lawn for 22 years, but moved to Munger Place Historic District, which suits his vintage sensibility. He also enjoys the early days of photography, and even oil paintings, opposite, which "keep piling up. I have an obsession with Victorian and Edwardian portraits - good ones, bad ones. Everything is in some stage of decay ... like me." (Photos courtesy of Cody Kinsfather)



TIME FOR A FIESTA! | Mark Knight remembers when, as a boy, he told him mother he would set the table. He picked up a stack of her Fiestaware — the iconic, earthy-pastel-colored dishware that began being manufactured in 1936 — and promptly dropped it, shattering several pieces. "I don't recall Mom being too upset," Knight says. "She would just go to the store and buy some more." Ever since, though, Knight has collected the dishes, from soup bowls to S&P shakers to chip-and-dips, which are now considered among the most highly prized of American folk memorabilia (a set of vintage nesting bowls can cost upwards of \$5,000). But just like his mom did, Knight and his partner, Russ Reiger, don't treat them as precious items to be hidden on a shelf. They use it as their daily dishware, and pop it in the dishwasher. "What's the point of [not using them]? If it breaks, I go to eBay to buy more... though I might not be as forgiving as my mom was if someone dropped them." (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)







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Race | Color | Religion | Sex | National Origin | Handicap (Mental or Physical) | Familial Status (Children Under 18) | Sexual Orientation

The actions that are covered by the City Ordinance are:

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SALES, including brokers, sales agents, lenders, mortgage brokers, insurance agents and sellers;

ADVERTISEMENT, including brokers, sales agents, lenders, mortgage brokers, insurance agents and sellers:

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PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION, service in restaurants, theaters, retail store, and nongovernmental public services (relative to sexual orientation only).

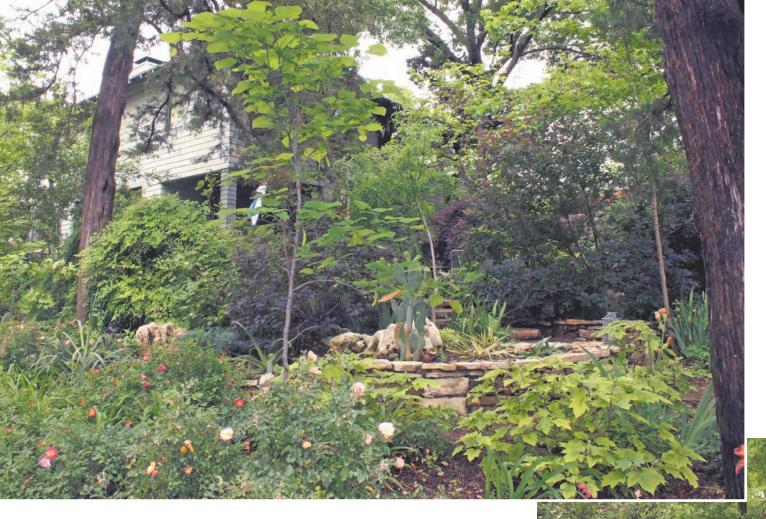
If you suspect discrimination in these areas and wish to file a complaint call: 214-670-FAIR (3247)



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cityviewantiques.com





WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE | It took Tom and Patrick Boyd-Lloyd more than a year to get their Kessler Park home in livable condition once they bought it in 2002 ("Have you seen 'Grey Gardens?"" Patrick asks), but ever since, they have tinkered and tweaked their space into an urban oasis on the far side of Oak Cliff. Patrick, a registered landscape designer, has been especially active in experimenting with various beds, plants and designs, using their massive yard as a kind of arborological laboratory, with plants, trees, flowers and decor to complete the soothing, inviting space. The back includes two sitting areas with fireplaces for entertaining; the couple have even hosted several weddings in their backyard... some of whom were even straight! Hey, heterosexuals deserve the right to marry, just as much as anyone else. (Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)



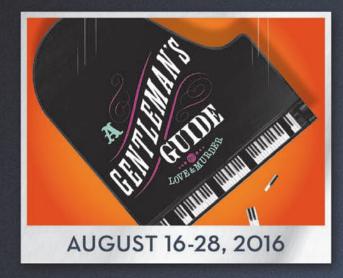
WHAT A DIFFERENCE THE DAY MAKES | In the daytime, below, the backyard of Jef Tingley and Jerrett Morris' Oak Cliff house is a shaded picnic area - a floral oasis behind their privacy fence perfect for morning coffee or afternoon al fresco dining. When the sun goes down, bottom opposite, it transforms into an inviting and festive cocktail patio (Photos courtesy of Jef Tingley)





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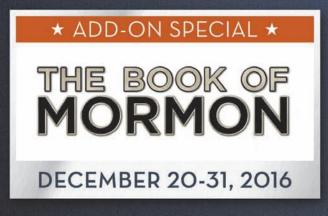
















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Hoarders: Museum Edition

How to go from obsessive pack-rat to museum-grade collector in just 20 years ... and thousands of dollars



eedie Rose is among the most fashionable of Dallas socialites, but when the arts philanthropist walks the red carpet, she's just as likely to be wearing trash bags as she is diamonds, as comfortable in a necklace made of wishbones as she is Swarovski crystals. Rose is a collector of artfully repurposed jewelry — sometimes made of eggs or egg cartons, no Faberge in sight — which she proudly wears out. Only through September, you can see much of it, and a whole lot else, at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in its exhibition Eye of the Collector.

Ten prominent collectors are featured in the show, which ranges from the world record-setting accumulation of Star Wars memorabilia (more than 350,000 pieces in total, though only a fraction are on display, such as a hand from C-3PO, left) to an impressive amount of Dallas Cowboys trinkets (including Tom Landry's legendary fedora) to culturally-significant African-American dolls and an eye-poppingly exhaustive lineup of Pez dispensers, pictured right).

The folks who amassed these collections have spent countless years (as well as dollars) self-curating, often

renting out enormous storage units and hiding acquisitions from their families. Hoarders always feel a little shame ... until a museum comes calling and makes you a star.

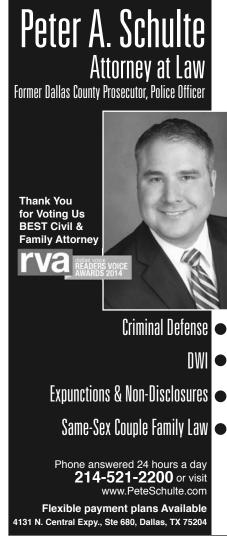
So maybe all those jelly jars and fridge magnets your spouse has been whining about actually do have some value (you can even submit them



to the museum). Just goes to show that the adage is right: One man's trash is another man's treasure.

Eye of the Collector at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, 2201 N. Field St. Through Sept. 5. Submit your collection online at PerotMuseum.org.





Even Kevin Spacey can't salvage this lame sitcom about a real-life meeting between a President and the King

ELVIS & NIXON

Michael Shannon, Kevin Spacev.

Rated PG-13. 80 mins. Now playing at Landmark's Magnolia

and the Angelika Plano.

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor jones@dallasvoice.com

Elvis & Nixon opens with the back of President Richard Nixon's head, as he listens to his morning briefing in the Oval Office. A few seconds later he spins around and we see Kevin Spacey, instantly realizing how, with a minimum of makeup, he is able to trans-

form effortlessly into Tricky Dick. He's a dead ringer. The action then cuts to Elvis Presley, played by Michael Shan-

non (about a decade too old, 40 pounds too light), and that's where we spend the next 30 min-

utes ... sans Spacey. It's as if Beyonce came out to sing a song and you had to spend the next half hour with Coldplay. (Oh... right.)

Elvis & Nixon — which, at barely 80 minutes, would be more suited for a long episode of TV

— never recovers from the short tease of Spacey followed by the long reality of Shannon, woefully miscast as the King of Rock 'n' Roll. There's no meaningful way in which Shannon evokes Elvis. Certainly not in terms of charisma, of which he is sorely lacking. He does have intensity, but that's a different thing than what Elvis embodied, as least as translated in Shannon's Method-y, Less Strasberg-ish acting choices.

> There's no levity, no wit. The comedy (and it is a comedy) falls totally flat. When we finally get back to Spacey, the movie is almost half over, and he simply cannot salvage it at that point.

The story is basically true; in 1970, Elvis Presley — then already

beyond his chart-topping years, descending into the rattled, drugged-up state that would take his life within seven years, at age 42 — decided he wanted to "go undercover" for the Feds, acting as a kind of spy in Hollywood to rout out the



OVAL ACTING | A humorless Michael Shannon, left, is hopelessly miscast as Elvis Presley, though Kevin Spacey tries gamely to rescue the misguided 'Elvis & Nixon.'

pushers and dealers selling narcotics.

Of course, he didn't need to go undercover they were all on his speed-dial. Nope, Elvis just wanted a cool-ass badge.

The movie fails, and fails big-time, because it never posits any concrete reason why Elvis was seized by this fit of misplaced patriotism, why the badge meant anything to him. Indeed, Elvis whines to his lackeys (Alex Pettyfer, who is good; and Johnny Knoxville, who isn't) that no one sees him, the man — they see the image he creates. That's a lazy psychological trope of most

wannabe celebrity biopics, and makes even less sense here; by its nature, a badge is precisely intended to make people see what is represents, not the person individually. It's a damning bit of self-defeatism.

If director Liza Johnson, or Shannon, or the script (co-written by, of all people, Cary Elwes) bothered to work toward explaining this conundrum, there might have been something dramatic to latch onto; or, they could have done

■ ELVIS Next Page











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■ ELVIS, From Previous Page

what Spacey does, and say, "Hey, this is a comedy — let's overplay and have fun." They never do. Spacey is swimming against the tide here; he hints at the caricature underneath his jowly, Nixonian tics. Shannon has no similar sense of lightness in his performance — he's all dour selfreflection. (Maybe they should have called it *Elvis or Nixon* — it's like two separate films.)

Shannon has sniffed in interviews that he carefully studied Elvis for the role, but such evidence is missing from his performance. There are a few minutes, especially from a distance, where he seems to have Elvis' swagger, but it feels like it's from the wrong era. The famous photo of Nixon and Elvis together reveals Elvis as already overweight and tired, his eyes hooded from drug abuse, a blank expression looking like a fleshy death mask. He's a shell of a

man, but still more attractive in the face than Shannon, with whom he shares no resemblance. Shannon barely moves his face when he speaks, other than his lips — it is like watching a serpent hiss its lines.

Director Johnson also presents a visually uninteresting piece of film for us to get lost in. The cinematography has a flat, TV-quality brightness to it, which is then edited in with archive footage of a completely different film stock that looks as if it might have been shot by Abraham Zapruder and stored under an outhouse for 40 years. The Oval Office set, especially when compared against the lush verisimilitude of Spacey's House of Cards, looks cheap and unfinished to the point of being embarrassing.

You watch Elvis & Nixon with a peculiar blend of bemusement and disappointment, sadly wondering how so much potential for a stinging satire went so wrong, in so many ways.

A BRUNCHING OF GAYS: **Back to Uptown at State** & Allen Kitchen+Bar

"They have the only bloody mary bar in Uptown!" Valentine exclaimed while scouring the web for online menus, looking for our next target restaurant for A Brunching of Gays

"Oh," I said, "I didn't realize you were such a fan of bloody marys."

"I'm not," Valentine deadpanned.

And thus began our hotcold relationship with State & Allen Kitchen+Bar.

First the hot elements. There's a definite energy to the place, even on a rainy Sunday afternoon. The crowd is a mix of gay-straight, groups and couples, hipster and homebody. And it's in the emergingly cool Uptown enclave of State-Thomas.

And the food we tasted gets good marks ... so far as that goes. We opted for a build-your-

own pizza, loaded heavy with Italian sausage, spinach, black olives and jalapenos. The combo worked well, and the crisp crust held up to our toppings. The molten chocolate cake hit the spot predictably well, and the mimosas which were light on O.J., powerful with bubbly left us happily dazed.

But then there's the cold: We got the pizza specifically because the brunch-specific offerings were sparse. Valentine is not much of a consumer of eggs, and brunch here is literally infested with them. Of the more than two-dozen items on the weekend bill-of-fare, only two the French toast and the chicken and waffles do not feature egg or egg white as the central component. That's like a cocktail menu made up nearly entirely of vodka drinks.

Perhaps worse, the service was, by most standards, appallingly unattentive. Our water glasses were never refilled, placing our initial



food order required just shy of sending up a signal flare and getting our check at the end bordered on a diplomatic mission to a remote

All these issues, finally, struck us as lukewarm: The space is strangely cavernous, with multiple rooms that all have windows opening on the street, but can evoke a speakeasy vibe with unmarked doors and low-key signage. The gastropub-style food we tried was a selling point, and the rest of the menu posited some intriguing possibilities. Heck, we might consider going back to check out the nighttime appeal. But brunch? Just for the mimosas, please.

Arnold Wayne Jones

2400 Allen St. Sunday brunch served from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. StateAndAllen.com.

To recommend for a brunch place we should check out, email it to jones@dallasvoice.com or tweet it to @criticalmasstx.



'16 MX-5 MIATA CLUB

Mazda. 155 horsepower, 2.0 liter

Inline-4. 27/34-MPG city/hwy.

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CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer

autocasey@aol.com

When the Mazda MX-5 Miata debuted at the 1989 Chicago Auto Show, it was a sensation. Here was a lightweight two-seat, rear-drive roadster inspired by classic British and Italian sports cars, but built to exacting Japanese standards. There was something pure and elemental about the driving experience that it became the heart and soul of Mazda.

Four generations on, the little car from Hiroshima returns to its roots while finally expressing itself.

Styling advances from cute to dynamic, starting with eagle eye headlamps flowing back into flared fenders, canvas roof, and round LED taillamps. Our Club model — designed to start owners down the path of track days — adds 17-in. black BBS alloy wheels, black front air dam, ground affects and lip spoiler. An aluminum

hood and trunk lid keep it light. It's every inch a Miata, but looks a little angrier — no longer the playground pushover.

Designers conjured an interior that retains the car's historic simplicity while adding luxuries. There's no need for a power top — just flip the handle and throw it over your head. Light shines on a simple horizontal dash with round air vents, piano black

trim and stitched lower covering. The view ahead is dominated by a leather-wrapped steering wheel and instrument cluster with large center tachometer flanked by an analog speedometer.

You'll wish your elbows had fingers when you reach for the cupholders, but there's a roomy cubby between the seats. And, the 9-speaker Bose audio system insures your favorite tunes shine top up or down. Infotainment, including navigation, is controlled with Mazda's console joywheel that works in conjunction with a dash-mounted screen. Bluetooth calling and audio streaming are included — as are power



windows, keyless entry and push button starting. Miata advances.

Striking the balance between performance and efficiency is a 2.0-liter 4-cylinder engine delivering 155 horsepower, 148 lb-ft. of torque, and 27/34-MPG city/hwy. It's best revved through a snick-snick 6-speed manual transmission. If you can find a better shifter, buy it. You have to rev the engine like a turbine to get power out of it, but when you do, the car scats. A limited slip rear differential puts it to pavement evenly.

The track-leaning Club's sporttuned suspension, fortified with Bilstein shock absorbers, is on the stiff side for daily use. It's not brutal, but drive the car over broken pavement and you'll wish

for a touring-tuned chassis. On Interstate pavement or an asphalt two-lane, nirvana. Under hood shock tower braces stiffen the body for performance and to reduce cowl shake. True to Miata tradition, steering is quick and light.

Over the past two and a half decades, Mazda could have corrupted the Miata in any number of ways. It didn't. The MX-5 remains a lightweight, elegantly styled, reasonably comfortable, notoriously reliable roadster that lets drivers indulge in the passion of driving. In the ultimate student-becomes-the-master, this slayer of European convertibles hosts the new Fiat 124 roadster (built by Mazda).

A base price of \$24,915 (\$8k more as tested) puts it against cars as varied as the Nissan 370Z, BMW Z4, Mercedes-Benz SLC, Scion FR-S, Subaru BRZ and Smart ForTwo Cabrio.





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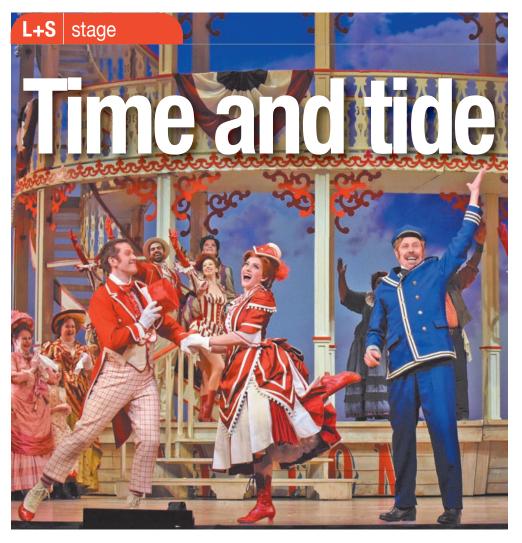
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'Show Boat,' 'Big Meal,' 'Empress' movingly portray the full landscape of life

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor

jones@dallasvoice.com

Theater is a matter of life and death in North Texas this month — literally.

At WaterTower Theatre, the entire life-cycle is at issue in *The Big Meal*, a tender, funny, painfully real portrait of a family from courtship to death. It starts with two 20somethings Nicki and Sam (Kia Boyer and Garret Storms), meeting for an awkward first date or two, usually over dinner and drinks. With the chime of a bell, it's now at least a decade later, with Nicki and Sam now played by Sherry Hopkins and Jakie Cabe. They reignite their relationship, and to the surprise of both, agree to marry ... just so long as they don't have children. A chime later, and two rug-rats (Kennedy Waterman and Alex Duva) come running in — apparently the call of biology was too much to resist.

The play continues on that way, with abrupt changes of setting and time ... as well as cast. At first, John S. Davies and Lois Sonnier Hart play Sam's parents; by they end, they are portraying Sam and Nicki themselves, now great-grandparents of pairs of kids (Cabe and Hopkins), grandkids (Storms and Boyer), etc.

Sound confusing? It's really not, though it does demand your attention, something you willing give over as you become inextricably rapt by the authenticity of the lives of this family, which include dating, divorce, infidelity, cancer and of course death — the "big meal" in playwright Dan LeFranc's construct. Each time the stage manager steps onstage with a full plate of

food and a napkin-wrap of silverware, it's someone's turn to eat ... and walk off-stage forever. Dinner becomes a form of Russian roulette.

Initially, the speed of the transitions, and the unmiked voices, force you to strain a bit to catch everything. And then you realize that director Emily Scott Banks is doing that intentionally, making you lean forward and engage. It's a crafty way to rope you in, and for 100 uninterrupted minutes, she makes you laugh and breaks your heart. By the end, with Sam quaking from Parkinson's, his mind fading as Nicki feeds him one last time, you're wrecked. (Damn her montage of couples — gay and straight — and exquisite use of music to pluck at our emotions!)

The cast ably serves Banks' vision. Storms is a protean actor who, better than anyone on North Texas stages right now, fluidly transforms from one type to another (a scene where he portrays every boyfriend Boyer's character ever brought home is a subtle tour-de-force). Waterman — barely a teen — wowed audiences in *Harbor* and *Daffodil Girls*, and cements her rep as a "kid" actor with mature talent. Of all local theater companies, WaterTower seems the one most consistently occupied with telling the human experience with kitchen-sink verisimilitude. *The Big Meal* adds to that catalogue, a kind of modern-day *Our Town*. Come prepared to cry.

You might well cry throughout *Show Boat*, too — the final production of the Dallas Opera's

current season and the first time the company has produced an American-style musical, not a traditional opera (though it's actually more of an operetta). The songs — "OI' Man River," "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man," "Bill" — are firmly ensconced as charter entrants in the Great American Songbook, and as delivered here, wrenching arias as well-honed as Mozart's "Porgi amor" or Offenbach's "Barcarolle." Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II may not have reputations

as "opera composers," but their work stands with some of the greats.

It helps that the Dallas Opera has assembled a cast that not only sings with the strength of opera, but can act up a storm. The story revolves around Magnolia Hawks (soprano Andriana Chuchman), a young girl touring with her parents about the Cotton Blossom, a moving river boat that wanders the Mississippi at

the turn of the last century, performing overwrought melodramas for residents of the port towns. She meets the gambler Gaylord Ravenal (baritone Michael Todd Simpson), a tall and impressive dandy who sweeps her off her feet, giving her and their daughter a good life until his losses pile up, and Magnolia is forced to work for a living, becoming a celebrated singer.

Chuchman and Simpson have real chemistry, which you feel during their duet "Make Believe." But it's soprano Alyson Cambridge as the tragic Miss Julie LaVerne, a half-black actress "passing" for white in the segregated south, who delivers the show's major knockout punch. "Bill" sounds like a novelty song — a sweet, goofy ballad about a woman infatuated by her seemingly average boyfriend — but Cambridge turns it in a breathtaking torch song of an alcoholic has-been, giving her all at the end of her career. And basso-profundo Morris Robinson brings it for his (and the show's) signature song, "Ol' Man River."

As is often the case, the comic role of Cap'n Andy is a scene-stealer, and the limber dancer Lara Teeter commits grand theft. It's a joyously upbeat performance in a show filled with as many dour moments as colorful bustles — the prototype for the modern musical, conducted with brio by Emmanuel Villaume.

Music is essential to another downbeat story about life and death. It's Oct. 4, 1970, and Janis

ON THE BOARDS

SHOW BOAT at the Winspear

Opera House, 2403 Flora St.

Through May 1. DallasOpera.org.

THE BIG MEAL at the Addison

Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison

Road. Through May 8.

WaterTowerTheatre.org.
THE EMPRESS AND THE PEARL

at **Theatre Too**, 2900 Routh St.

in the Quadrangle. Through May 1.

Theatre3Dallas.com.

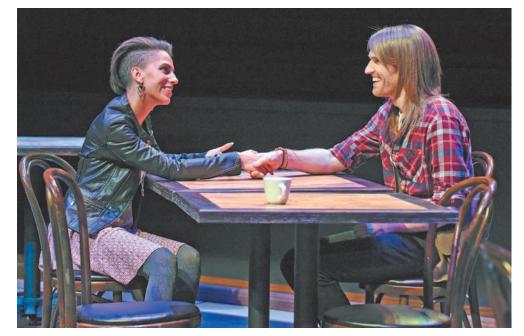
Joplin (Marisa Diotalevi) is drowning her sorrows in an L.A. hotel room when her idol — the late blues great Bessie Smith (M. Denise Lee) — seems to step out of the album she's listening to and enters Janis' world. Janis has died of a drug overdose and is just beginning to realize it; Bessie apparently is there to ease her transition into the afterlife.

The meeting of these musical greats, both cut down at the

peak of their skills (Joplin at age 27, Smith at 43), forms the crux of Dianne Turner's reverie on American Music *The Empress and the Pearl*, now at Theatre 3's downstairs space. Through songs (mostly Smith's), conversation and some theatrical exposition, Turner delineates the similarities between the performers, but also their differences as people and artists.

It's not a balanced portrait. Joplin comes off as the more ungrateful and self-destructive of the two, a self-indulgent narcissist who ruined her raspy voice by burning out her soulfulness too recklessly, as well as ill-conceived romances with men and women. That's something she shared with Smith, a sexually voracious singer who truly lived the blues.

Neither Lee nor Diotalevi look or sound much like their avatars, but it hardly matters; Lee in particular has the rich vocal chops to turn the small underground space into a Depression-era speakeasy. You can practically smell the gin in this cabaret.



Lara Tetter, opposite right, steals scenes in Dallas Opera's 'Show Boat;' Kia Boyer and Garret Storms, above, begin a romance that becomes an entire lifetime in WTT's 'Big Meal.' (Photos by Karen Almond)



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calendar highlights

ARTSWEEK

The Big Meal. A romantic comedy about a modern family, from first date to old age. Reviewed this week. Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through May 8. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Deferred Action. A world premiere from David Lozano and Lee Trull about Dream Act-ers. A co-production with DTC and Cara Mia Theatre Co. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through May 14. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

The Great God Pan. The second show in Second Thought Theatre's current season is this drama by Amy Herzog about child sexual abuse and recovered memories. Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys campus, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through May 14. 2TT co

I'll Eat Your Last: A Chat with Sue Mengers. Bette Midler had a recent Broadway smash in this onewoman show about the powerhouse agent; written by John Logan (Red). This limited run performance features B'way veteran Karen Murphy as the excoriating Hollywood legend. Milburn Theatre, 120 S. Main St., For Worth. Through May 1. AmphibianStage.com.

Feather and the Tempest. An allegorical play about a youth (at times a boy, at others a girl) in a hostile, everychanging world. Teatro Dallas, 1331 Record Crossing Road. Through May 1. TeatroDallas.org.

Jonah. A world premiere from Len Jenkin, a contemporary retelling of the biblical myth. Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. Through May 7. Undermain.org.

The Lady, The Empress and The Pearl, Part One: The Empress and the Pearl. Local favorites M. Denise Lee and Marisa Diotalevi team up for this world premiere play about Bessie Smith and Janis Joplin. Reviewed this week. In Theatre 3's Theatre Too space, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through May 1. Theatre3Dallas.com.

The Mighty Valkyries. A world premiere popcorntossing melodrama from Pocket Sandwich Theatre, about a city run by butch female superheroes. Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane. Through

Wicked. The return of the mega-hit by Stephen Schwartz, which Dallas gets but North Carolina won't now! Music Hall at Fair Park, 901 First Ave. Through May 22. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

OPERA

Show Boat. For the first time in its 57 year history, the Dallas Opera performs a musical which basically is an early American operetta — Kern and Hammerstein's socially aware romance. Reviewed this week. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through May 1. DallasOpera.org.

Fort Worth Opera Festival. The Fort Worth Opera returns with its 16-day festival, including the world premiere JFK (April 23, May 1 and 7), Rossini's popular The Barber of Seville (April 30, May 6 and 8) and two one-act operas, Embedded and Buried Alive (April 24, 26, 29, 30, May 3 and 7). Performances at Bass Hall, 525 Commerce St., and the Scott Theater, 1300 Gendy St., Fort Worth. FWOpera.org.

FINE ART

Rebecca Warren: The Main Thing. A mid-career retrospective of the British visual arts and sculptress. in 20 diverse pieces. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through July 17. DMA.org.

Vermeer Suite: Music in 17th Century Dutch Painting. A lovely original Vermeer (one of only three dozen in the world) is among the seven paintings in this intimate exhibit that explores themes in Dutch art. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Aug. 21.



Eye of the Collector. An exhibition of the quirky tchotchkes and unusual trinkets of nine people prove the axiom that every object tells a story. Perot Museum of Nature and Science, 2201 N. Field St. Through Sept. 5. PerotMuseum.org.

FILM

46th Annual USA Film Festival. Gay content and guests distinguish this year's lineup. Angelika Mockingbird Station, 5307 E. Mockingbird Lane. Through Sunday. Visit USAFilmFestival.com for a complete list of screenings and events.

10th Dallas International Film Festival. Most of the screenings take place at the Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station, 5307 E. Mockingbird Lane. Through Sunday. For a complete schedule and list of films and events, visit DIFF2016.DallasFilm.org.

FRIDAY 04.22

COMMUNITY

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

DANCE

Kidd Pivot. The Canadian dance troupe combines movement, design, text and rich visuals in a compelling production. . City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. April 22-23. ATTPAC.org.

CONCERTS

Tony Bennett. The legendary singer, most recently paired with Lady Gag, performs. McFarlin Auditorium on the SMU campus, 2405 Boaz Lane. 8 p.m. \$78-\$153. TonyBennett.com.

FUNDRAISER

Fashion CITED: Spy on Fashion. 10th annual runway show and party benefit Legal Hospice of Texas. Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave. 8 p.m.

SATURDAY 04.23

FESTIVAL

Scarborough Renaissance Festival. The annual trip to Medieval Europe, including dancers, musicians, food, crafts and cosplayers. This weekend is also the Ale Festival. Faire Grounds, FM 66, Waxahachie. Through May 30. 10 a.m.—7 p.m. \$25. SRFestival.com.

SPORTS

Dallas Elite Women's Football. Dallas' successful young women's team meets in-state rivals Arlington. Bishop Lynch High School Field, 9750 Ferguson Road. 7 p.m. \$10. DallasEliteFootball.com.

COMEDY

The Bitch Is Back: Joe Posa as Joan Rivers. Crossdressing comedy with Posa asking "can we talk?" while riffing on the legendary late comedian and queer icon in this tribute show. The Brick, 2525 Wycliffe Ave. 7 p.m.

MONDAY 04.25

CABARET

Mama's Party. Local singer Amy Stevenson hosts her ongoing cabaret series, always with special guests and a good time. Uptown Theatre, 120 E. Main St., Grand Prairie. \$10.

BROADCAST

RuPaul's Drag Race. The eighth season continues. Logo at 8 p.m.

Real Housewives of Dallas. The new reality show, which features Dallas women (and a regular appearance by Steve Kemble). Bravo at 8 p.m.

Gay for Play Game Show. A new panel show a la Match Game with celeb contestants like Todrick Hall and Carson Kressley; RuPaul hosts. Logo at 9 p.m.

TUESDAY 04.26

FILM

The Seven Year Itch. Marilyn Monroe stepps over a subway grate in a white dress and billowed into Hollywood legend in this sex comedy by Billy Wilder. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series at Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West



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



To submit an item for inclusion in the Community Calendar, visit Tinyurl.com/dvsubmit.

Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Sponsored by Dallas Voice. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

CONCERTS

Bonnie Raitt. The funky rockers performs. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. 7:30 p.m. ATTPAC.org.

WEDNESDAY 04.27

WORKSHOP

Verbatim Theatre Playwrighting. Gay British playwright Paul Kalburgi holds a free workshop to teach the "verbatim" technique of crafting true-life stories onstage. Presented through the office of cultural affairs. Oak Cliff Cultural Center, >>>> Jefferson Blvd. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. To register or for more information, visit PaulKalburgi.com/workshops.

APPEARANCE

David Sedaris. The queer memoirist and humorist settled in for three shows at City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. April 27–29. ATTPAC.org.

THURSDAY 04.28

THEATER

Memphis. The Tony Award-winner for best musical and best score is this nostalgic but racially-aware portrait of the early days of rock 'n roll. Co-written by Joe DiPietro. Stars Kyle Igneczi (*Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Aida*) and Ebony Marshall-Oliver. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. April 28–May 22. Theatre3Dallas.com.

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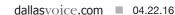
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Ask Howard How to do the wrong thing right

Dear Howard.

My new man is a Virgo bear, I'm a Pisces cub. We've only dated two months, but he's asked me move in already, and is even hinting at marriage the day I pass my GED. I probably do love him, I guess, but here's the rub: Papa Carson is, like, 25 years older than me, plus his track record's not so great when handing out wedding rings. All his four former "marriages" to dudes also near my own age — failed after less than about three years. Papa's awesomely hot, though — I worship his salt-n-pepa Caesar. Best of all, he sure does have some monumentally gigantic "hands." Hail Caesar, my hung furry conqueror! What should a cub Pisces say to a Virgo grizzly when he's proposed to? - Saul

Dear Saul,

Jackie Stallone I am not, you hormone-enraged, Pisces pup... cub, I mean, excuse me. (What's with the animal metaphors?) How you've managed to mix up my meretricious gay advice column for an astrology byline, I can't imagine; regardless, it has been dear Howard's indurate observation that an age difference of no more than a maximum of about one decade is all that's actually bridgeable for starry, long-term success. Regarding the astrological chances of you having fatefully aligned with your lovematch/soul-mate everlasting, all I collectively know about Virgo and Pisces is they both are,

handily, the very dullest two signs of the entire zodiac. Who knows, though: maybe it'll work out for you two ... despite your marrying a narcissist, as low self-esteem serial husband Papa Caesar clearly is. Saul, my Pisces pup —cub, I mean, why do I keep doing that? — if you ask me (which you did) you're too idealistically naïve yet for the likes of a slickster like Carson. Translation: Papa Bear's taking you to be more country than an okra sandwich. Your bucolic, boy-toy libido is working against you here. At wedlockbest, a "monumentally gigantic" bedroom boner only takes precedence the first couple of years. All successful relationships metamorphose, Saul, beyond merely the orgasmic ecstasy of bouncing atop a Louisville slugger man-ramming your pooter. Moreover, neither of us needs necessarily be astrological prophets here to know that Carson's four previous "marriages" were also to arm-candy boi-studs many years younger than himself whom he, I guarantee you, neither respected nor even particularly liked, say nothing of loved. Howard's unadulterated advice: Do not marry this freak-hung, Virgo chickenhawk... ear, I mean: Such is dear Jackie Stallone-Howard's verdict.

Dear Howard,

I'm not proud admitting this, but as a transgender female I can't stand Caitlyn Jenner. Her vainglorious, atrociously pandering "reality" show's second season manages to both bore and disgust me. Ms. Cait, for all intents and purposes, should be my idol; why, then, do I literally loathe her so much? — Arianna

Dear Arianna,

You are not alone in your Caitlyn-enmity: In this past year, I've received several perplexing variants of your question, but have yet mastered quite how to decorously respond ... in lieu of my typically facile, low-road route (selfrighteously superior, pandering and campy). Fortunately, however, I've located you some high-ground clarity here that, I think, encapsulates your feelings in relation to the real reason Jenner is alienating her natural audience: It comes courtesy of renowned advertising executive, Tim Maleeny. Here's his condensed say:

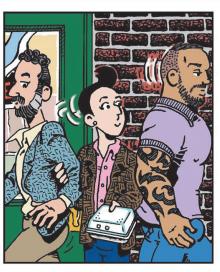
"Successful television shows only come in two flavors: optimistic or voyeuristic. Optimistic television includes morning news programs, daytime talk shows and most family sitcoms ... designed to trigger the endorphins that make us feel happy, hopeful and closer to our fellow humans. Voyeuristic TV includes the nightly news, reality TV and heavy drama; viewers want it tawdry, titillating or tragic ... a funhouse mirror bearing no resemblance to ourselves, an es-















capist glance into a much darker world than our own, and after it's over, the [our] world feels lighter by comparison. And that's why, despite being a celebrity, Caitlyn Jenner doesn't have what it takes to be a reality TV star. Because when we watch her on the small screen, we're actually on her side. Caitlyn, like Bruce Jenner before her, is someone who people want to succeed. There's no entertainment in ridiculing her, because she's demonstrated too much dignity. The Kardashians belong on reality TV. They are the flip side of the optimistic-voyeuristic coin ... if you insist on putting Caitlyn Jenner on TV, make her a guest anchor on a morning news program or the host of a daytime talk show. That's where she belongs."

Oh, and if it's of any cold-revenge comfort to you at all, proud Arianna, I Am Cait has now been canceled —complements of Ms. Cait's atrociously plummeting ratings. So you're clearly not alone.

Dear Howard,

Can you name any obviously gay, world-famous celebrity, living or dead, who possibly might never have crossed my very imaginatively queer mind before as actually being someone who's rock-solid homosexual? - Skeet

Dear Skeet,

Jesus: Does this answer solidly work for you, imaginative Skeeter; or, were you hoping for, perhaps, someone even more obviously/actually gay and world-famous? minus your jealousy.

- Howard Lewis Russell

Do you have a question — about etiquette, love, life or work — that needs an answer? Send your problem to AskHoward@DallasVoice.com and he may answer it.

Artwork by Mark Stokes



Chillin' at TMC: Throckmorton Mining Co.



Fun times at The Round-Up Saloon

Making the SCENE the week of April 22-28:

- Alexandre's: Filter Kings on Friday. No Label on Saturday. Chris Chism on Wednesday. Ilumin on Thursday.
- Brick/Joe's: The Bitch is Back with Joe Posa as Joan Rivers with special guest Tony Tripoli at 8 p.m. on Saturday. Real Housewives of Dallas watch party at 8 p.m. on Monday.
- Club Reflection: Trinity River Bears meeting at 2:30 p.m. and cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday.
- Dallas Eagle: South Central LeatherSIR, Leatherboy and Community Bootblack contests on Friday and Saturday. United Court of the Lone Star Empire presents Nina's Birthday Show at 8 p.m. on Sunday.
- Rainbow Lounge: Nia Courtland hosts The Comedy T Dance Show at 5 p.m. on Sunday.
- Sue Ellen's: Cami Maki and the Conspirators on Friday. Youth and Beauty Brigade and Megan's birthday bash on Saturday. Kathy & Bella at 3 p.m. and Bad Habits at 6 p.m. on Sunday.
- The Rose Room: Cassie, Layla, Kelexis, Dominique Sanchez and Krystal on Sunday.
- Urban Cowboy Saloon: Imperial Court buffet at 5 p.m., investiture at 6 p.m. and show at 8 p.m. on Saturday.
- Zippers: DJ Ellz on Wednesday.

Scene Photographers: Kat Haygood and Chad Mantooth.



All the pretty colors at Scarborough Renaissance Festival



Slingin' drinks at the Rose Room



Cassie Nova enjoying the new Rose Room



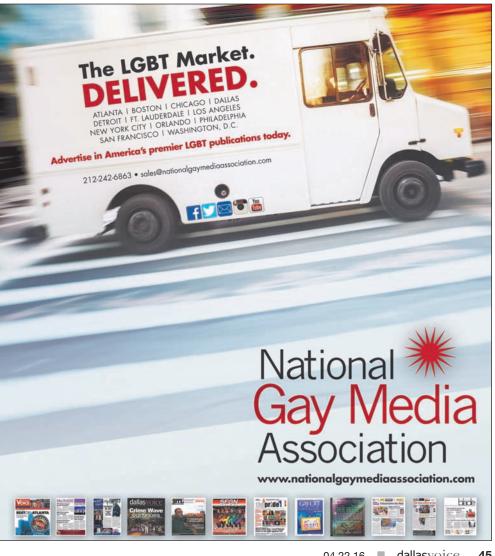


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Dancer shenanigans at Marty's Live.



LIFE+STYLE

scene



Do ya think I'm sexy?



Dancer showing off at TMC



Guys' night out at The Round-Up Saloon



Getting friendly at Marty's Live



Singing karaoke and meaning it at The Round-Up Saloon



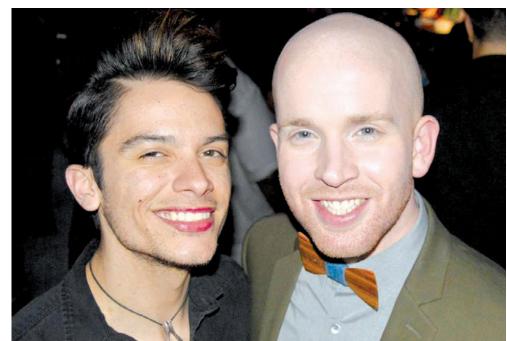
Hanging at Havana's



More Rose Room fans on opening night



Susan and Lacey make the scene on The Strip



Rose Room fans checking out the remodel



Out and about on The Strip



Getting close on The Strip

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AIDS Arms, Inc.

is looking for a Compliance Officer. Candidate should have a Master's degree. Interested candidates should complete on online application at https://aidsarms.companycareersite.com

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> Club Dallas 2616 Swiss Ave No phone calls please

apply in person at.

EMPLOYMENT



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Dallas non-profit agency

seeks full-time, motivated professional to provide outreach services to those at risk of HIV. Nights, Evening, and Weekend work required. Salary 31-33K + benefits.

Send resume: hr@dallascouncil.org

EMPLOYMENT

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AIDS Arms, Inc.

is seeking a Medical Assistant (MA) with clinical experience. Candidates must have Hepatitis B vaccination prior to hire date. Interested candidates should complete an online application at https://aidsarms.companycareersite.com

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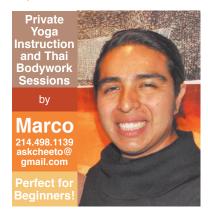
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Millions of people of all ages struggle with eczema and the social and emotional toll it causes.

In severe cases, eczema can cause severe physical discomfort disrupting your work and home life.

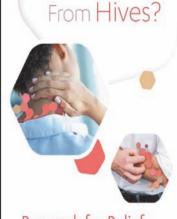
Dermatology Treatment and Research Center is currently looking for men and women aged 18 and older who suffer from eczema (atopic dermatitis) to participate in a research study evaluating a study medication for relief of the itchiness associated with eczema.

If you qualify you will receive study medication and study-related medical care at no cost to you.

You may also receive compensation for your time and travel to the Research Site.

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Pegasus Squares,

an LGBT Square Dance Club, meets every Sunday from 2:30pm-4:30pm at the Dallas School of Burlesque, 2924 Main St. Dallas. Beginner lessons start in October. Contact Rob Miller at 682-238-3442 for more info. or visit pegasus-squares.com.

Volunteer Needed!!

Be part of an exciting team and make a difference in someone's life. Volunteers will be trained to conduct HIV outreach in the GLBT community working along side of trained Risk Reduction Specialists. For more information contact

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q-puzzle

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Canvas Cans

Solution on page 41

Across

- 1 t.A.T.u. or R.E.M.
- 5 Eat out
- 10 Violates an old military rule
- 14 Anthropology, to Margaret Mead
- 15 Desi's daughter
- 16 Nickelodeon explorer
- 17 This artist's work was recently stolen from the Springfield Art Museum
- 19 One of Bernstein's strings
- 20 Be a sugar daddy to
- 21 Start of a conclusion
- 22 One who studies Loewe's partner?
- 25 With 47-Across, type of art that was stolen
- 27 Games that surprise
- 28 Cincinnati gay bar
- 30 La Dolce _
- 31 Rock Hudson movie with James Dean
- 32 Words on the stolen canvases
- 38 Em and Mame
- 39 Straight-laced
- 41 Goes wild at Barneys
- 45 Drawn-out campaigns
- 47 See 25-Across
- 48 John Travolta, in *Hairspray*?

- 49 Kind of IRA
- 50 Italian sculptor Pisano
- 52 Capable of performing
- 53 Genre of 17-Across
- 57 Foster role
- 58 Stallion's sound
- 59 Rubber-stamp
- 60 Jennifer of Dirty Dancing
- 61 Parts of floats
- 62 Director Norman of Prelude to a Kiss

Down

- 1 What ewes say
- 2 Prince Valiant's boy
- 3 Beatty of Roseanne
- 4 Think about Ryan Gosling, perhaps
- 5 Log Cabin and Stonewall candidate lists
- 6 Doctor, hopefully
- 7 Eight for Lorca
- 8 The ___ in Winter
- 9 Martin of the Daughters of Bilitis
- 10 Commercial, to Britten
- 11 Do in the evening
- 12 Big name in groceries
- 13 Hangouts for Natalie Barney
- 18 "I ___ Grow Up"
- 22 Candy heart word

- 23 Spartacus or Ben-Hur
- 24 Hammett hound
- 25 Our ___ (movie about AIDS)
- 26 Where one sleeps with privates
- 28 River deposits
- 29 Dutch painter Frans
- 31 Drag queen ___ Pool
- 33 Say "So Long, Farewell"
- 34 Computer glitches
- 35 Lily Tomlin's Ernestine, for one
- 36 Early indicator of orientation
- 37 Sneaky and others
- 40 Submissions to an editor: Abbr.
- 41 Freed from the slammer
- 42 Fitting partner
- 43 Like a Merry Christmas in St. Louis
- 44 Far from sacred
- 45 "Morally straight" boys
- 46 "___ put hair on your chest!"
- 48 Capital of Ghana
- 50 Denial for Nanette
- 51 Apple that isn't a fruit
- 53 They go at the bottoms of letters
- 54 Islands instrument
- 55 Turned tail
- 56 Optimist's place for a cock?



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