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An Evening of Hope

AOC's annual gala
looking to 'unmask
the stigma of HIV'

by Tammye Nash, Page 8



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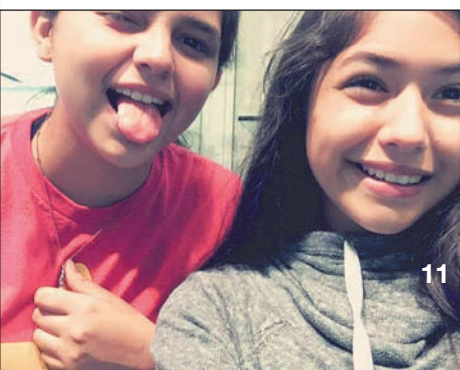
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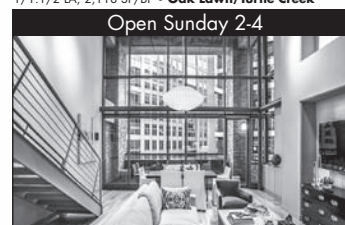
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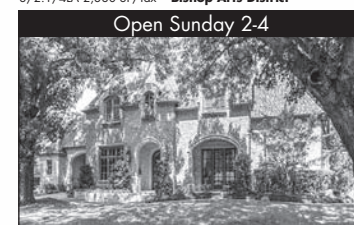
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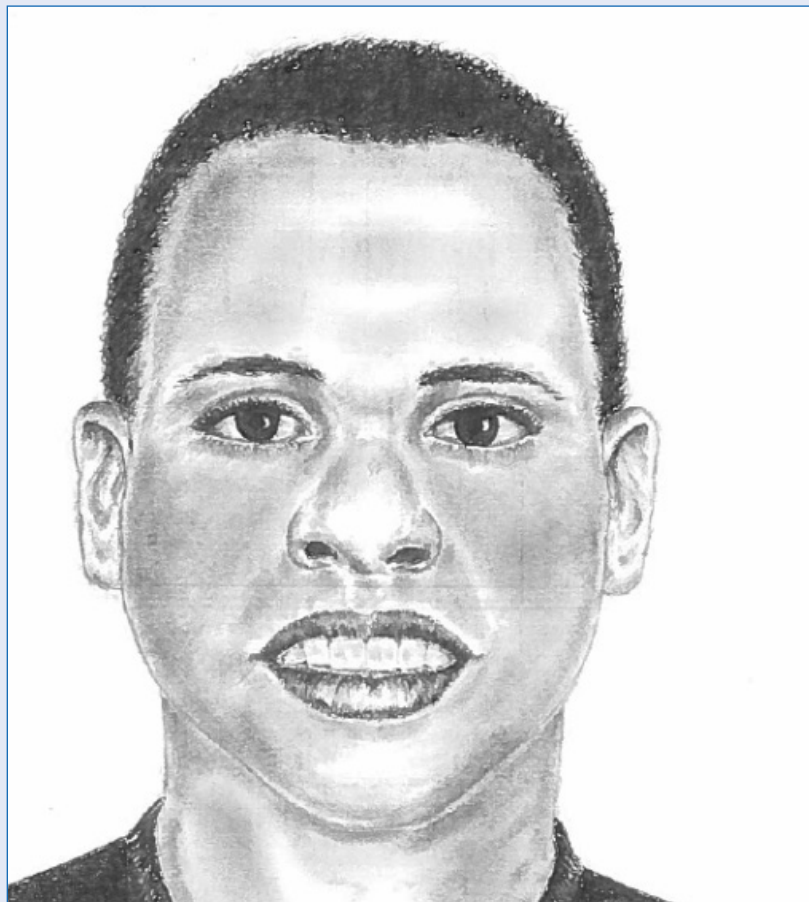


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Arrest made in 1 murder; sketch released in second

Jimmy Eugene Johnson III was taken into custody during a traffic stop in Walker County in connection with the May 9 murder of Carla Pavon.

DPD Deputy Chief Thomas Castro said investigators from Dallas traveled to Walker County to interview Johnson. Robbery was the motive for the murder and Pavon's stolen property was recovered after the arrest. There's no evidence Pavon was targeted because of her transgender status.

Police believe Johnson is the person seen leaving Pavon's apartment shortly before police arrived.

Castro said Johnson and Pavon met on a chat app.

Charges may be upgraded from murder to capital murder at a later time. Johnson remains in Walker County jail on \$500,000 bond.

Police continue to investigate the death of a second trans woman.

Kayakers found the woman's body on Saturday, May 12, in the creek in the 6900 block of Merriman Parkway, and called police. The woman was in "a severe stage of decomposition," but is described as a black trans woman, about 5-foot, 3-inches tall and weighing

about 130 pounds. She was wearing a black shirt and black scrub suit pants, and has no tattoos or other "identifying markings," police said.

Dallas police need help identifying the body of a transgender female found floating in White Rock Creek. On Wednesday, May 15, they released a sketch of the woman in asking for information.

Cause and manner of death haven't been determined, and we are awaiting a report from the medical examiner. But injuries were found on the body, according to Deputy Chief Thomas Castro. If you have information, please contact Detective Chaney at 214-671-3650.

— David Taffet

Prism Health wins marketing award

Prism Health North Texas has won an American Marketing Association award in the nonprofit category for its successful name change marketing campaign.

The former AIDS Arms worked on a name change for several years before revealing its new identity in 2017. The award recognizes the name change as well as the marketing campaign to

create awareness for the new brand. Edelman Dallas, the local office of the global public relations and marketing firm, helped with the challenge.

In addition to rebranding the agency name, the agency's two clinics have been renamed Oak Cliff Clinic and South Dallas Clinic. The clinic in South Dallas moved from an older facility to a modern office on Dolphin Road in Pleasant Grove this winter.

— David Taffet

Parker and Johnson honored by Red

Community leaders Dr. Mark Parker and Eric Johnson will be honored as 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award recipients at the Dallas Red Foundation's Red Dragon: Forbidden City on Friday, May 18. This dynamic duo is no stranger to the Dallas charitable giving scene, serving on countless boards and generously supporting many organizations such as Human Rights Campaign, Black Tie Dinner, Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, Resource Center, Legacy Counseling, and Dallas Red Foundation since its inception

— David Taffet

"Our choice for Constable is Michael Orozco"



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Hon. Omar Narvaez



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Eric Johnson, left and Dr. Mark Parker

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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.

MAY

• May 17: HRC Federal Club Happy Hour

The Thursday HRC Federal Club Happy Hour will be held from 6-8 p.m. at Daniel Padilla Gallery, 2629 N. Stemmons Freeway, # 104. For information email cochairs@dfwfederalclub.org.

• May 17: Meet Lupe

Gubernatorial candidate Lupe Valdez appears from 5:30-7 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• May 17: Third Thursday Happy Hour

GALA gathers from 5:30-8 p.m. at Bonnie Ruth's Bistro, 916 Garden Park Drive, Allen.

• May 18: Red Dragon

Dallas Red Foundation presents Red Dragon: The Forbidden City from 8-11 p.m. at The Empire Room, 1225 N. Riverfront Blvd. Tickets \$45-125 available at z2systems.com.

• May 19: V.A. LGBTQ Community Resource Day

The Dallas Vet Center and Resource Center host vendors and community stakeholders who will provide information to LGBTQ vets and their family members from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• May 19: AOC Evening of Hope

AIDS Outreach Center of Fort Worth hosts its annual Evening of Hope gala at the Hilton Hotel Fort Worth, 815 Main St. Single tickets are \$200. Sponsorships are available. For information visit AOC.org/eoh.

• May 19: Marvel vs. DC Gaybingo

Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place from 6-9 p.m. at the Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 214-540-4458. MyResourceCenter.org/gaybingo.

• May 19: GLAAD Media Institute

Equality Texarkana presents Engagement 101: Telling Your Story: Messaging and Media Tools for Today's Activist from 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. at Texas A&M Texarkana, 7101 University Ave., Texarkana. Tickets at GLAAD.org/institute/courses.

• May 19: LGBT Senior Prom

Gray Pride's Senior Prom from 7-10 p.m. at J. Erik Jonsson Library, O'Hara Hall 7th Floor, 1515 Young St. \$12. Free parking in lot under the library.

• May 19: Black Tie Dinner Spring Brunch

Black Tie holds its second annual Spring Brunch with cocktails, live entertainment and guest speaker Dale Hansen, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Renaissance Dallas Hotel — City View Room & Terrace. Tickets are \$125, available online at BlackTie.org. Seating is limited.

• May 19: Chief on the Beat

Dallas Police Department presents Chief on the Beat in the East Patrol Division with Buckner Terrance, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 5000 Berridge Lane, with Police Chief U. Renee Hall and Councilman Kevin Felder. This is a free family-friendly event with a bounce house, photo booth, health screenings and more.

• May 19-20: Bishop Arts Festival

About 100 local artists and craftsmen display their work from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sunday in Bishop Arts District, N. Bishop Street at Davis Avenue.

• May 20: TAG Picnic

DATE CHANGE: The Tyler Area Gays annual picnic will be held from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Southside Park in Tyler. Volunteers are needed. Watch TylerAreaGays.com for information.

• May 21: Promise House Golf Classic

Tee off for homeless youth. The 20th annual golf classic at 1 p.m. at Bent Tree Country Club, 5201 Westgrove Drive. To register, please email mimi.lewis@promisehouse.org.



Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall will speak at a Town Hall meeting Thursday at Resource Center. See listings for details.

• May 22: Gay Not Prey

Town hall meeting and candid community discussion about predatory sexual violence moderated by Will Kolb from 7-9 p.m. at Resource Center, 3750 Cedar Springs Road.

• May 22: Primary runoff election

Vote in your precinct polling location only.

• May 22: Resource Center tour

CEO Cece Cox leads a behind-the-scenes tour of Resource Center from 5-6:30 p.m. at 5750 Cedar Springs Road. RSVP to kfields@myresourcecenter.org.

• May 22: Family Night at Durkins

GALA holds Fourth Tuesday at Durkins for family-friendly networking and socializing from 5-8 p.m. at Durkins Pizza, 8930 SH 121, Suite 594, McKinney.

• May 22: BEN After Hours

The GLBT Chamber of Commerce presents a casual networking program from 5:30-7 p.m. at Two Corks and a Bottle, 2800 Routh St., Suite 150.

• May 23: GLFD happy hour check presentation

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly** at 1 p.m. on Sunday on 89.3 KNON-FM with David Taffet, Lerone Landis and the late Patti Fink. **Leslie McMurray** and **Katie Sprinkle** are this week's guests; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** gay-identified Toastmasters group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at the First Unitarian Church, 4015 Normandy Road (does not meet on Mondays that are holidays); **United Black Ellument** hosts discussions on HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; **Core Group Meeting** every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.; **Fuse game night** every Monday evening except the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the **Fuse** space in the 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; **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. LGBT square dancing group **Pegasus Squares** meets every

Sunday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St. For more info, email pegasussquares@gmail.com; **Dallas Frontrunners** meet for a walk or run on the Katy Trail at Oak Lawn Park, Turtle Creek and Hall Street, every Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. and every Saturday at 9 a.m.; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** practices and develops speaking and leadership skills from 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesdays at First Unitarian Church, third floor of the Hallman Building, 4012 St. Andrews; **Gray Pride** support group from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. followed by mixer every Monday at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road; **Lambda AA** meets at 7 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. and has a men's meeting at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and meets at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday at 1575 W. Mockingbird Lane #625. Call 214-267-0222 for details; **DVtv in Spayse**, news and entertainment discussion live streaming every Friday, 4-5 p.m., on the Spayse Station YouTube channel.

Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas presents a check to Green Tie beneficiary Shared Housing Center at its spring happy hour at 6 p.m. at CiboDivino Marketplace, 1868 Sylvan Ave. #D100.

• **May 24: DPD LGBT+ Town Hall Meeting**

The Dallas Police Department Office of Community Affairs presents a town hall meeting from 6-7:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road. Chief U. Renee Hall will speak.

• **May 24: Drag Makeup workshop**

At this interactive, hands-on workshop, attendees will learn the tricks of the trade from DFW's very own Queen, Dallas Sheraton (a.k.a. pro makeup artist Michael Moran). We're hoping members of the DFW Drag community (or those interested in being a part of it) will come play and create their fierce alter egos from 4-7p.m. at Camera Ready Studios, 14203 Proton Road. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Tickets at Eventbrite.com

AGENDA, Page 14

• **pet of the week / BENNI**



Meet **Benni**, a 1-year-old, black-and-white Boston terrier/boxer mix weighing 30 pounds. She's a happy-go-lucky gal who loves everything and everybody. She was transferred to the SPCA of Texas when a city shelter was unable to treat a skin condition she had. After going to a foster home, she is all better and is ready to find a forever home. Could that be with you? She adores humans and loves to cuddle. She also loves to play with all kinds of toys and is always up for a game of fetch. In her foster home, she got along with other dogs, cats and children. She even slept with her foster parents every night! She is a sweet, gentle girl who will make a great addition to any family. She loves to go on adventures, and will curl up and sleep during car rides. Benni has been spayed, microchipped and has received all age-appropriate vaccinations. She is heartworm positive, but her treatment will be FREE once she's adopted. Come meet this great girl today! #162786

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Leading with Hope

AOC's Evening of Hope gala aims to raise vital funds while 'unmasking the stigma' around HIV/AIDS

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

“With hope, anything is possible.” That is the theme of this year's Evening of Hope gala

dinner benefitting AIDS Outreach Center in Fort Worth. And organizers say this year's masked ball event is aimed at helping “un-mask the stigma surrounding HIV and AIDS.”

Evening of Hope takes place Saturday, May 19, from 6:30 p.m.-midnight at the Hilton Fort Worth, 815 Main St. Single tickets are \$200, available online at AOC.org, and include admission and dinner for one.

Co-chairs for this year's event are Dr. Di Ann Sanchez and Scott Green. Emmy winner Barry Phillips is the emcee for the evening, and a group from the Turtle Creek Chorale will perform, with Trey and the Tri-Tones ending the evening with music for dancing.

The Rev. Carol West, pastor of Celebration Community Church, will be the keynote speaker for the evening, and she will receive the Individual Service Award. Samaritan House, which provides housing and resources for people living with HIV/AIDS, will receive the Community Service Award. Dawn Shepard will also speak at the dinner, sharing her personal story of living with HIV/AIDS.

Green said organizers chose West as keynote speaker and as the Individual Service Award recipient based on her inspirational story and the years she has dedicated to serving the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities.

“About a year or so ago, I heard Carol speak at a private gathering of a group

formed to combat homophobia in organized religion,” Green said. “And in the early days of the HIV/AIDS epidemic here in North Texas, she worked for [what was then Metropolitan Community Church of Dallas and has since become Cathedral of Hope UCC], ministering to people with HIV and AIDS. She was there for people when their family and friends wouldn't even go to see them.

“Her story really moved me,” the Evening of Hope co-chair and AOC advisory board vice president continued. “What she did, what she does now — it goes to the heart of what we are called to do here at AIDS Outreach Center. It speaks directly to our mission,” which is “to serve people living with or at risk for HIV with dignity and respect.”

Shannon Hilgart, executive director of AOC, added that West “used to be employed here [at AOC] for a couple of years, as director of prevention services.” And her church, Celebration Community Church, has filled six tables at the Evening of Hope. “We have just gotten such an amazing outpouring of love and support from Celebration,” Hilgart added.

Samaritan House was established in 1991 to provide housing to persons living with HIV/AIDS, at the time when AIDS was a terminal diagnosis that left people needing intensive medical care and support during their final days. Over the years, as advances in medicine have turned HIV/AIDS into a chronic but manageable illness, Samaritan House has “realigned its mission to help clients establish goals, improve life skills and work toward self-sufficiency.”

Samaritan House now provides housing and support services to individuals and families impacted by HIV/AIDS and other major health issues who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Green said that Evening of Hope is AOC's major fundraising event, with some 350 to 400 people turning out each year to help raise “as much as \$210,000” in one evening. “This year,” he added, “it is costing us less money to put on the event, so we'll net a lot more for the agency.”

And that money, Hilgart said, is unrestricted funding, meaning that AOC can



Clockwise from above, Barry Phillips, Carol West, Dawn Shepard, Dr. Di Ann Sanchez and Scott Green

use it wherever and however it is needed.

“Evening of Hope doesn't raise near our annual budget. But that money is so very important,” Hilgart said. “The government money we get is certainly important, but those dollars are usually very targeted, and there are other things that we need to take care of for people. That's why these unrestricted funds are so vital to what we do.”

For example, she said, while there are programs that help people find housing, there isn't a program to help them come up with the deposits and first-and-last-months' rent they might need to move in. And then there's AOC's Geissel-Morris Dental Clinic, which costs about \$100,000 a month to operate.

AOC also offers a wide variety of other services, from testing, prevention and outreach, to case management, support groups, a nutrition program and food pantry, mental health service, youth services and community resources.

Plus, the agency just launched two new programs: A new health program that includes hormone replacement therapy for transgender clients as well as PrEP treat-



ments, STI treatments and more; and a new drop-in program, called MPACT, for young gay and bisexual men.

Hilgart said that programs that engage, especially, young gay and bisexual men are vital, since in recent years the trend has been a rise in HIV infections in those populations.

“If things don't change and soon, it is predicted that at least half of all gay and bisexual African-American men will be in-

Vet Center holds LGBT Health Awareness Day

VA's counseling center reaches out to LGBT vets to deal with additional community concerns

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Providers from the Veterans Administration, speakers and other stakeholders are holding a health awareness day on Saturday, May 19, at Resource Center to specifically address the needs of LGBT vets.

Jeremy Fusco, a readjustment counseling therapist with the Dallas Vet Center on Greenville Avenue, helped put the event

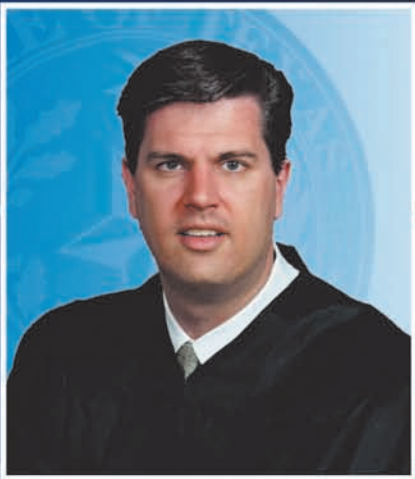
together. He said attendees will learn what is available and will receive help with eligibility, enrolling in and accessing benefits.

"Historically, the VA has a good record of reaching out to the LGBT community," Fusco said.

That's true not just today but even during Don't Ask, Don't Tell, he said. During that period, LGBT enlisted personnel weren't supposed to talk about their sexual orientation, nor were they supposed to be asked about it. But once discharged, they were always entitled to equal benefits.

Fusco's organization, Dallas Vet Center, is one of about 300 vet centers scattered around the country, with four in the DFW area. The services provided are confidential and even though it falls under the Veterans

VETERAN, Page 13
Jeremy Fusco



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A portrait of a middle-aged man with a friendly smile, wearing round black-rimmed glasses and a bright green polo shirt. He is positioned in the foreground, with his head and shoulders visible. The background is a vibrant, scenic view of a coastal area. To the left, a steep, rocky cliffside with sparse vegetation rises from a sandy beach. The ocean is a deep blue, with white foam from waves breaking onto the shore. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few wispy white clouds. The overall composition is bright and positive, suggesting a healthy and active lifestyle.

"There are a lot of elements to the job, but

10 dallasvoice.com ■ 05.18.18

people skills are really primary. You can be taught some of the other things, but people skills are something you either have or you don't have," he said.

Doughman said he and the Tavern Guild members will spend the rest of this year interviewing applicants and narrowing down the field. They hope to have decided on someone by the end of the year and then have that person hired on as assistant director by next February, so that he or she can shadow Doughman through the process of organizing the 2019 Pride events.

"We have to make sure that I am comfortable and the membership is comfortable with whomever we choose," Doughman said.

Making the move

Doughman has been just as meticulous in planning his retirement and his move South of the Border as he is being in finding his replacement at the Tavern Guild. He has, he said, already put in about a year-and-a-half's worth of work in making the decision.

"Most of the legwork I've done on my trips to Mexico — things like living and functioning in PV, banking, phone service, healthcare — everything you need to know to live in PV full time."

Plus, Doughman said, he has been vacationing in Puerto Vallarta regularly for about eight years. "So I know I like the people there. There are a lot of former Dallasites living there, a lot of folks I know. There are a lot of members of our [LGBT] community who own property there, either for vacationing or living there full time. And I have already met a lot of locals.

"I won't be starting over."

Doughman said he started thinking about moving about three years ago "when I realized I was not going to be able to retire and stay in Dallas. The rising costs of living here, health care costs now and the future of my health care were all of great concern. And my goal has certainly never been to have to work until I dropped dead at my desk one day."

As he started asking around, he said, he started hearing a lot of good reasons for retiring to PV. "They have socialized medicine there. I have already taken a list of the medications I take and the health conditions I have to a doctor in PV, and he says all my medications would be covered there under their socialized medicine program," Doughman said. "That was a big step. And then, the cost of living there is so much lower. An apartment the size of my condo here — a comfortably-sized two-bedroom,

two bath condo — is about \$800 to \$1,200 a month in the more affordable parts of town. I can live in the same space in Puerto Vallarta for under \$200 a month.

"With my Social Security income and a two-or-three-day-a-week part-time job," he added, "I can live there quite comfortably."

Doughman said he has already chosen the area he wants to live in there. It is within walking distance of the Romatica District, where most of the gay nightlife and restaurants are located, as well as within walking distance of an open-air market and a supermarket.

"And I could go to work with a friend there who has a business in the tourism industry, helping him with marketing, and I could walk to his offices, too," he said. "And if I want to go further than I can walk, taxi and uber services are very affordable."

Doughman continued, "It's all sort of come together very easily, really. I have found very few things I would consider deterrents to moving to PV." And while he knows he will miss his friends and colleagues in Dallas — "The Pride steering committee has become like a big family to me" — he also knows it will be the best decision for him.

"I have been so involved in so many different areas of the community — Oak Lawn Band, Turtle Creek Chorale, Cathedral of

Hope and of course the Tavern Guild and the Pride steering committee — and those things won't be there any more. It will be hard. But I know, realistically, if I want to have any kind of quality retirement left, it's the best move.

"I have already started three different books," he continued, "And I will definitely finish at least one of them when I retire. There is a small [LGBT] community theater group in PV, kind of like our Uptown Players here. I have met a lot of those folks, and I am looking forward to getting involved in theater again, acting some and maybe even directing. I am really looking forward to a post-work life full of things that are important to me."

Doughman also acknowledged that taking his time in planning and ultimately making the move will help take some of the sting out of what he might be losing. "It's almost two years away. I'm doing my Elton John final tour," he laughed. "That length of time takes a lot of the emotion out of it. I will have plenty of time to say goodbye, and that should make it much easier to ease out of this life and into my new life."

Anyone interested in applying for the job of executive director of Dallas Tavern Guild should contact Doughman via email through the "Contact Us" link on the DallasPride.org website.



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Silver Pride prom moves downtown

Organizers invite Tyler teen couple denied a chance to attend their HS prom to Silver Pride

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

School officials at John Tyler High School in Tyler denied Merary Melchor and Sydney Aparicio prom tickets four times. Each time they had a different reason — the “best” of those reasons being that they didn’t want gang fights.

Because Melchor and Aparicio belong to the gay gang?

When Dallas Silver Pride organizer Portia Cantrell heard the story of the high school girls, who’ve been dating for two years but couldn’t attend their prom, it reminded her of her own high school experience.

Cantrell said a friend of hers showed her the story from a Tyler TV station, suggesting to Cantrell, “Why don’t you invite them to our prom?” (Silver Pride is holding a senior prom for older folks on May 19 at the Erik Jonsson Library in downtown Dallas.)

So Cantrell decided to try to track down the Tyler couple. She contacted the Tyler television station reporter who broke the story, who then put Cantrell in touch with the mother of one of the girls. The girls’ mothers thought it was a great idea, so the girls will be in Dallas over the weekend, along with their moms.

“We’re going to help them have their dream prom,” Cantrell said.

Singer Ari Kornell and DJ Ruben will perform at the prom. State Rep. Rafael Anchia had hoped to attend to crown the king and queen, but he has a wedding to attend that night. So he’ll crown the prom royalty by video.

The prom takes place on the newly-renovated seventh floor of the Ohara Hall and Ballroom at the J. Erik Jonsson Library. The floor is home to items such as an original copy of the Declaration of Independence — one of about 25 surviving copies printed in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776 — and Shake-



Top, Tyler teens Merary Melchor and Sydney Aparicio are attending the Senior Pride Prom. Above, Portia Cantrell, left, and her wife, T'Any Carter at last years prom. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)

speare’s First Folio — one of 250 surviving copies of the bard’s complete works printed in 1623 after his death.

In addition to the entertainment and the collection of historical documents, there’s the view. Doors from the ballroom open to the balcony that overlooks Dallas City Hall.

Singles are welcome, and so are couples and groups.

“Dress up, dress down, dress drag, just come,” Cantrell said.

“Senior isolation is a big thing,” Cantrell

said, explaining why she started the Senior Prom a year ago and why she’s planned several weekly activities for Silver Pride.

Currently, she’s working on arranging a library to host coffee and convo.

“That’s where we sit for an hour and just talk over coffee and donuts,” she said. “We’ll talk about news or about our aches and pains.”

She was about to launch some activities at the Samuell Grand Recreation Center, but said the staff needs to have some train-

ing first. The parks department has more contact with seniors than any other city department, and they get no LGBT competency training.

She said she wouldn’t be comfortable bringing her group to the center before they’ve had some training but loves the facility. She plans movie screenings and using its gourmet kitchen for cooking demonstrations and nice meals.

“As we get older, our income decreases,” she said. “I’d like to provide an occasional nice meal.”

Silver Pride also regularly visits two assisted living communities. That started when Cantrell met two women who have been together for 45 years and now pretend to be sisters in order to live together safely.

“We don’t want to out people,” Cantrell said. But her group hosts “gay bingo” with prizes that always include rainbows.

The games are for anyone who would like to attend and Cantrell tells them she and her friends are gay.

“Everyone wins a prize,” she said. “And the activity directors love it, but sometimes we get looks.”

But Cantrell remains undeterred.

“I’m gonna change your mind,” she said.

She said all of these activities give her a reason to get up and get out.

As word of Silver Pride gets out in the community, other organizations are turning to Cantrell for help. Job Corps of North Texas approached her to start a mentoring program for their young LGBT clients.

“Kind of like the sage and wise grandparents motivating the young whippersnappers and showing them if we can make it after all we’ve been through in our lives, they can too,” Cantrell said.

Cantrell said she retired six years ago because of an injury at work. But now she’s at the age when she would have retired without the injury. So as she thinks about how she’d like to spend her older years, she said it’s with the community she loves doing activities people enjoy doing and that’s keeping her busier than ever. ■

Silver Pride Senior Prom takes place from 7-10 p.m. at J. Erik Jonsson Library, 1515 Young St. Tickets are \$12 and free to anyone who can’t afford or is over 70 years old.



VETERAN, From Page 9

Administration, personnel at VA hospitals can't access Vet Center records.

Fusco's specialty is helping vets readjust to civilian life. One of the groups he leads is Open Alliance, a group for LGBT veterans. While other groups meet at the Vet Center office, this group is moving to Resource Center to become more accessible and more comfortable for LGBT vets.

Vet Center deals with a variety of issues including military sexual trauma, PTSD and anger management. Fusco said each of these issues may have an added dimension for vets who are LGBT, especially those who served under Don't Ask, Don't Tell or those who served even earlier when gays or lesbians servicemembers could be prosecuted for being LGBT in the military.

The center has been around since the 1970s, and Fusco works with a large group of Vietnam vets. He said the services were actually originally designed to deal with their issues, including not being welcomed home when they returned from Southeast Asia because the country was so divided over the Vietnam War.

LGBT service personnel had to live a double life, either withholding who they were or receiving a less than honorable or even dishonorable discharge. For those who didn't receive honorable discharges because of their sexual orientation, Vet Center helps get their cases reviewed for upgrades.

Fusco said the Open Alliance group is multi-generational and is beginning to include vets who enrolled after the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. The younger vets are good at keeping the group up on social events that get the older vets engaged in the community.

"That's what I love about the military," Fusco said, describing how group members work as a cohesive unit as they learned to do while serving.

More recently, military sexual trauma has become a major issue for Vet Center counselors. The VA recognizes that post-traumatic stress syndrome has a variety of causes — but not all are battlefield-related. Sexual trauma may lead to PTSD as well.

Any service member may have experienced military sexual trauma, but the extra element for gay and lesbian troops include men who are raped because of their sexual orientation or women attacked by men because of their sexual orientation or who have sex with men to hide their sexual orientation.

The VA relaxed the evidence that needs to be provided to make a PTSD claim, and

cases that were previously rejected may be re-evaluated. Vet Center can help vets re-open those claims, and all vets would be eligible for free counseling at the center, whether other VA benefits were awarded from that claim or not.

Other groups offered are bereavement groups for families of servicemembers killed on active duty and civilian adjustment groups.

"Some people have trouble adjusting to the civilian world," Fusco said. "Others feel a loss of identity."

The LGBT Health Awareness Day is the first the Dallas office is doing specifically for the LGBT community ■

LGBT Health Awareness Day is May 19 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road. Free and open to all vets or family of vets.

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AGENDA, From Page 6



Dallas Red Foundation presents its spring party, Red Dragon: The Forbidden City Friday, May 18 at The Empire Room. See listings for details.

• **May 28: HRC Mondays**

HRC Mondays series continues with a program on "Access to Healthcare" from 6:30-9 p.m. at Chino Chinatown at Trinity Grove, 3011 Gulden Lane, # 110. For information email; cozette.kosary@gmail.com.

• **May 29: Grief support group**

LGBT grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex partner from 6:45-8 p.m. at Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road.

• **May 31: Comedy Kicks Cancer with Tig Notaro**

Cancer Support Community North Texas presents comedian Tig Notaro in Comedy Kicks Cancer, 7:30 p.m. at the Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive in Richardson. For tickets visit EisemannCenter.com.

• **May 31: GALA Spring Movie Event**

Gay and Lesbian Alliance of North Texas hosts a screening of two LGBT films at the Angelika Film Center, 7205 Bishop Road in Plano, at 6:30 p.m. The films are Sisak, "India's first silent LGBTQ love story set in Mumbai," and Real Boy, "an intimate story of a family in transition." Tickets are \$12 in advance online at Galantx.org and \$15 at the door.

• **May 31-June 3: TBRU**

• **May 31: Real Boy screening**

GALA North Texas presents the film Real Boy and the short film Sisak with a lobby reception at 6:30 p.m., screening at 7 p.m. and raffle and wrap at 8:30 p.m. at Angelika Film Center, Shops at Legacy, 7205 Bishop Road, Plano. \$12.

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HOPE, From Page 8

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fected with HIV, as will 1 in 4 Latino gay and bisexual men and 1 in 11 white gay and bisexual men," she said. "We have to do something now to stop that trend."

And it is that dire need, Green said, that keeps him involved at AOC, trying to help the agency raise the funds it needs to keep its programs and services going.

"I've done a lot of work with a lot of different organizations, but I feel like I really found my home when I came on board at AOC," he said. "The work we do here has a direct impact on people. It has a real and positive impact on their lives. That's why this is the most important thing I have ever been involved with."

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PTSD: Healing is possible ...

... but don't stay in a relationship that makes it necessary

Something has shifted inside of me. The change was gradual, spanning the course of some two years. But all along I felt it. At times, I had to really focus to even be aware something was changing.

I gave it many names, none of which accurately described what was happening to me. I tried accepting what those close to me understood it to be. I thought it was one thing. Then it was another. I both applauded and cursed myself.

That shifting has settled. The cycle ended. Without much thought, I seemed to have relaxed. I had not really expected to identify what that was. I took it for some aftershock resembling a post mid-life crisis.

Today, the answer finally came to me.

I have healed. In the same manner that a bone mends itself, my body has been healed. A bone from a clean break heals in a few months; my recovery spans many years. The injury I sustained I have periodically blocked out by ignoring it or through a dose of self-condemnation. Those two approaches enabled me to push on and have a productive life.

A level of sternness was required. I became somewhat of the man in the wheelchair who no longer has use of his lower extremities but has over-developed his upper body, allowing him to maneuver.

I have struggled with post-traumatic stress disorder a very long time. No, I'm kidding. I lost that battle.

It really is a cruel affliction. The heart and the mind are so involved. It took quite a bit of time to admit it was a problem, time that allowed a level of malignancy to settle in. Understanding the emotional trauma was the easy part. That allowed me to fixate on getting the demons out. I did do that. If anyone can cure themselves from PTSD through this approach, I commend them. It certainly relieves the suffering. But it is not a cure.

I incurred this disorder due to physical violence in a relationship. I fell in love with a man who almost immediately displayed an intense level of rage that he directed towards me. I experienced head trauma and bruising, although none of it too severe. But



Gary Bellomy
Contributing Columnist

the blunt, everyday objects that were weaponized against me truly threw me off center. Those, like the actual acts of violence, I never saw coming.

Between the violent outbursts I would gaze around the apart-

ment, trying to figure out what could possibly become a lethal weapon. I was never able to predict that any better than I could figure out when or why he would attack. To be clear, the incidents were extremely violent. Each time I resolved that I would be murdered.

The physical wounds healed quickly; however, after one bout, I had to go to my job with my face shredded by scratches. I waited tables with a bunch of women. They didn't even ask; they knew. So that kind of humiliation was added to much more of the same. It became emotional baggage that, at another point in my life, I would unload.

In time, the physical violence ended. He, like every perpetrator, would have done well in a profession that involved breaking horses. Like a horse, he broke me completely on every possible level.

It is often assumed that victims are weak individuals. Thus, they are easy targets. That is so far from the truth. Perpetrators are extremely selective. They choose the most independent and spirited as targets. It is an extreme thrill for them to break someone that was strong.

The torture to the mind and spirit I have had the good fortune to address. I am clear about those things. I thought that gaining an accurate perspective would resolve the issue. It did not. It has deeply affected my emotional and family life.

I've had a partner the last 25 years who has created a new life and a home for me. His return is small; he has received little from me emotionally. While I am close, in a sense, to my siblings I am aloof. I have few friends. I have perfected the art of superficiality. There just wasn't much of me to share after my abuser died.

Most of all, I did not understand that my

body was unable to process the trauma he had inflicted. It remained closed off and guarded. That was how it rewired itself to survive. My body insured I was safe by guaranteeing nothing would touch me on an intimate level. Nothing I could do could change that basic instinctual response.

That need for protection is what has been shifting during the past couple of years. My body no longer has the need for the armor it created. Slowly, springtime has been returning. During this time, I've made some bad missteps. All the movement has led me to today.

I just never comprehended the effect trauma plays in PTSD. My injuries were mild; however, the body remembers. The trauma and shock I experienced during the violence never disappeared — until now.

I know now that every story has an ending. The good, when it ends, saddens us. The bad, when its ends finally arrives, brings happiness. Yin meets Yang.

I am a survivor of family violence. I am told the average readership of Dallas Voice is a young demographic. It is the young that are the most at risk for partner violence. Young perpetrators are just beginning to perfect their skill. Their intact hormones fuel their need to control. They are extremely dangerous.

Please listen to me if you are in a situation similar to what mine was: It never ends well. If you are not murdered, it may still take years to mend. It did for me. Thirty-five years ago, the physical abuse ended for me. Will you have the same fortune to survive that long?

If you are allowed that time, can you survive as a near empty shell that tries to pass as human?

Staying in that environment only benefits the perpetrator. There is nothing good for you there. Get out now.

I know how tough that can be, but it is your only solution. Figure out a plan to leave. Contact your local shelters. Every agency in the field of domestic violence welcomes and helps members of the LGBT community. I know this is a fact. I have worked with all of them. They can all be trusted. ■

Gary Bellomy is a longtime Dallas activist working on issues of LGBT equality, HIV/AIDS services and family violence prevention. He is a war resister and a Trump resister.

Up and Adam!

LIFE+STYLE

sports

Olympian, role model, BDSM icon — Adam Rippon does it all... proudly

What a difference a gay makes. Back in January, Dallas Voice spoke with out skater Adam Rippon prior to the Winter Olympic Games; within a few months, he was a national — even international — celebrity... not only for his impressive performance on the ice (he won bronze), but for his unapologetic stance on his own values — for example, he refused to meet with Vice President Mike Pence's due to his anti-gay policies, and his in-your-face Tweets from Pyeongchang. And he doesn't couch his gayness in vagueness, but is as out-and-proud as he can be, like his iconic Folsom elegance at this year's Oscars, where he wore BDSM gear.

"Yes, this is an interview," a school-girl-giggly Rippon deadpans to fellow figure skater Charlie White who, naturally, is curious about the current topic of conversation: sex and harnesses, and how both come together to inspire his uniquely nontraditional collection of on-ice ensembles. Rippon is chatting while putting on his performance makeup in a locker room inside a Rhode Island arena, about to serve a graceful two-song solo during a Stars on Ice stop, featuring his Olympic peers.

"[Charlie is] like, 'I've never done an interview like this before,'" Rippon tells me. "He said he's never been honest and open." Rippon takes a long, very "Adam Rippon for dramatic effect" pause, the kind you know and love if you've been obsessing over every fabulous, filterless turn of phrase our self-proclaimed "glamazon bitch" has turned: "You should try it out!"

The 28-year-old champion's mere existence as a brazenly gay global inspiration with a tongue as sharp as the blades on his skates has been celebrated for his "faggy magic," as coined by journalist Peter Moskowitz. And at a recent Stars on Ice show in Detroit, he elicited the wildest applause, from suburban moms to girl tweens and a squadron of genuinely proud queers. Reese Witherspoon loves him. So does Elmo. And like any good mother, Sally Field tried to set him up with her gay son.

Then there's the little matter of a TV show called *Dancing with the Stars*. Rippon made his debut slaying a voguing cha-cha to RuPaul's "Sissy That Walk." But before he competed against Tonya Harding with partner Jenna Johnson during the ABC dance-off — the pair will now face each other in the finale — the skater opened up about how booze kills his wit game and

what he tells guys on Tinder who want a second chance with him and inspiring suicidal queer youth, all the while, being his irresistible self. That's all you can really ask for — and in Rippon's case, want. ■

— Chris Azzopardi

Dallas Voice: I want to give you a phone hug and say thanks for giving this 35-year-old man a new level of realness to aspire to.

Adam Rippon: I'm hugging you back.

You stood next to Britney Spears at the GLAAD Media Awards. I heard she liked the way you smelled. Yes, she did. It's just, like, weird — you've seen somebody your whole entire life, and then you walk up to them and you're like, "Oh, you're real." But she was really nice. We just congratulated her on her award and she was like, "You smell really nice," and I was like, "Thank you so much, 'cause that's so important to me."

Is it weird that now I want to know how you smell? I smell nice.

Like primrose? Yes.

And that night was special because gay Olympian Gus Kenworthy kissed you onstage. How exactly would you describe your relationship with Gus at this point? Umm, so, I mean, we're just friends, obviously. His boyfriend was backstage laughing at him, and so he was just trying to be funny. Gus is a nut.

But you're so close. And both of you being gay Olympians, it seems you've really bonded. Oh, absolutely. We're just like brothers. I guess brothers who kiss. But no, I love him, he's so nice, and we're very good friends.

You seem like the kind of person who likes a few nice things in his dressing room. What was on your Stars on Ice tour rider? I try to keep it super simple so I don't forget a lot of things. So, when I am traveling I literally just have my skates, my costume, and that's basically it. I try to keep it so super simple or I'm gonna lose all my shit.

Don't you have people who can remember this stuff for you? An entourage? It's getting there. Slowly. But I still want to, like, be able to be self-sufficient, you know what I mean?

For a while, at least. At least for the rest of the month.

I think that's a lofty goal. You know, dream big.

So, *Dancing with the Stars*: Can you even believe that you're competing against Tonya Harding? [Sighs] Ah, I cannot.

What is that like? It's not a super big deal, but



I think she's got a lot going on, so I'm just gonna let her do her own thing, probably. Probably best.

You've met? I did meet her. She's very pleasant.

Team Tonya or Team Nancy? Well, I mean, Tonya tried to kill someone, so I'm Team Nancy, probably.

Honestly think that's probably the safe choice to make. I think it's probably the right choice.

What did you think of *I, Tonya*? I loved it. I thought Margot Robbie was great — amazing.

Who would you cast as Adam in *I, Adam*? Well, Margot did so well, so maybe just Margot Robbie is a safe bet.

Who inspires your on-ice style? The skating world inspires it a little bit, and then... you're just gonna know that I'm trashy. I look at like, um, sex stuff and stuff people wear — harnesses and stuff — and the design is quite amazing. I will bring them to my costume designer and we will make them more appropriate for a competition.

For a PG audience? Yes. But actually, it's not for that audience. But I make it for them.

That harness you wore to the Oscars in March: Where is it? It's in [fashion designer] Jeremy Scott's office. The suit was by Moschino, and so it was from Jeremy's office and he lent it to me. I'm obsessed with Jeremy. He's amazing.

Do you get to keep these costumes? I keep my own costumes. Because, like, I bought them, outright. But the Oscars outfit was for the runway — from the carpet back to the office.

Hard to give that up. So many opportunities to wear something like that. I know! Like to a wedding.

Or a funeral. Yeah, anything. The grocery store.

What's the biggest difference between 12-year-old Adam Rippon and the Adam Rippon I'm talking to right now? I think the biggest difference is all of the things that I've been through. I think now I have a better idea of who I am, and I think I had a lot of self-discovery to go through when I was young. I was just as trashy — but now I'm just older.

More comfortable with the trash? Yeah, I'm just more comfortable being trashy.

Were you a sassy kid? I don't think I realized how sassy I was till I was at the Olympics and people were like "Ahahaha, you're so sassy" and then I was "Ahahaha... you think so?" And they're like, "Oh yeah, you're, like, sassy." And I was like, I just thought I was fresh. Like, "No — you're sassy." Oh, OK.

Who inspires your sassiness? The person who inspires me to be sassy is my mom.

So it's in the blood. Yeah, it's definitely in the blood. It's something I can't control. You know how you're born — you sometimes have curly hair or blue eyes, and I have curly hair, but I don't have blue eyes. But I also have my mom's sassy attitude.

Born this way. Born this way, for sure. Genetically.

Your future: What's off the table? Where do you draw the line? Like, I'm not gonna do porn. That's drawing the line, I guess.

A reality show? I don't think I would do a reality show — I mean, I'm doing *Dancing with the Stars*. That's a reality show. I'm not gonna do, like, *Big Brother* or anything.

Are you getting a lot of offers? Yeah, I'm getting a lot of offers to do stuff. A lot of it's ghetto.

What percentage of these offers are you turning down? I'm talking a little bit to everybody, and honestly my schedule's so crazy right now I don't even know who. I barely even know where I am right now.

You've been asked to do a lot of things you may not have done if it weren't for the Olympics, such as getting custom-made condoms from Thrillist because you thought the condoms in South Korea were "generic." The New York Times also basically wrote an entire feature on your abs. What is the most ridiculous request that's been asked of you? I don't know if I've had a super ridiculous request, one that I can really think that I took seriously. I think people have asked me to do crazy things and I'm like, "Hahaha. And then I forgot about it a minute later."

The media loves getting you drunk. Here's the thing: I don't drink a lot. Barely anything. And so everyone's like, "Haha, come on the show and just have drinks!" And I'm like, "OK." So, I'll have one or a little bit, but I feel like I'm way funnier not drunk. I'm not as sharp, I'm not as witty; I'm not myself when I'm drunk. I mean, I feel like I like to be in the moment, and if I'm in the moment, I can focus and then I can be quick and witty.

This wild ride: If you could relive any part of it, which part would that be? I don't know, because I still feel like I'm in the middle of a wild ride. I haven't had a moment to really be like, "This Olympics experience is over," 'cause right now I'm still skating a bunch with *Stars on Ice*, and I think when I finally have a day off, I'll be like, "Oh, wow, there's a lot going on." But I haven't had a day off, which I actually think is amazing and great, and I'm trying to enjoy every single second. I think one thing that saved me is, I don't really know what my schedule is. I just kind of plan a few days in advance; I don't feel overwhelmed. I'm just having a good time with it.

How will you spend that day off? Um, probably napping.

The whole day? The whole day.

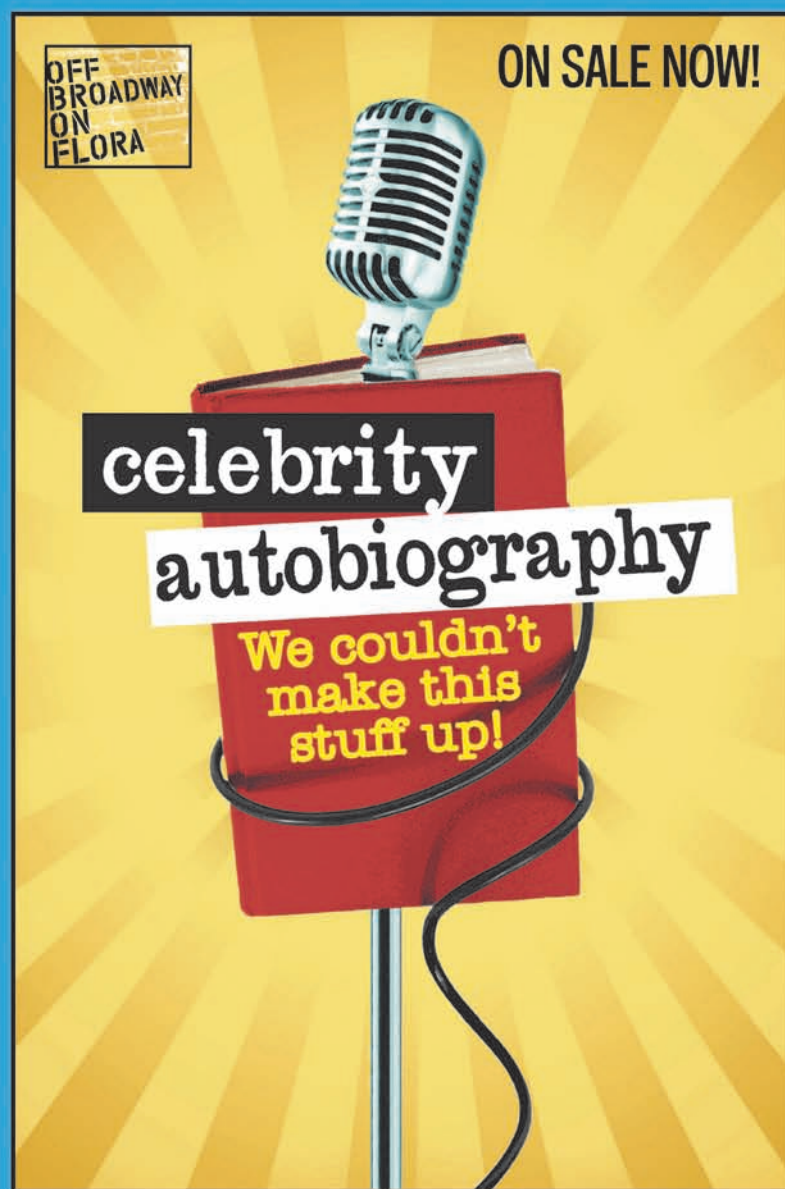
Anything you haven't been able to do since you've been on this all-consuming ride? Honestly, the only thing I haven't been good at doing is sleeping.

There you go: a 24-hour nap. A recharge, yup, exactly.

Reese Witherspoon is one of your biggest fans. Which Reese movie do you most

■ ADAM Page 23

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The dawning of the Age of Aquaria

Season 10 'Drag Race' diva is
ready to show Dallas her inner star

SCOTT HUFFMAN | Contributing Writer
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community



I am definitely not going to sleep tonight!" Aquaria exclaims over the telephone.

The New York City drag queen is deep in the throes of packing teased wigs, stiletto heels, dazzling sequins and spidery eyelashes. It is the evening before her morning departure for RuPaul's DragCon in Los Angeles. The unfinished task hangs ominously overhead when I jokingly ask about the number of steamer trunks she intends to take on the journey.

"That's a fabulous question that I don't think I can answer now," Aquaria replies in all seriousness. "I wish I could, but I'm not going to know until I leave the door."

As a contestant on the current cycle of VH1's *RuPaul's Drag Race*, Aquaria has found that participating in a reality TV show is no more predictable than the number of bags she will pack. Things were especially rocky for the diva at the season's outset. She immediately clashed with rival NYC queen Miz Cracker over copied looks. Later, castmates chided the exuberant queen for being overconfident if not downright arrogant. On the phone, however, Aquaria comes across as level-headed and grateful. (OK, maybe with a touch of ego, but that's prerequisite for a drag queen.)

"It's fabulous to have this opportunity so early in my life," Aquaria, 22, says of her *Drag Race* tenure. (At press time, Aquaria and five other contestants, including Dallasite Asia O'Hara, remain.) "I go in with a little less knowledge and experience than some of the girls, but, at the same time, I have a bit of a fresher take on some things. I think that works to my benefit sometimes."

Fortunately, Aquaria has enjoyed a couple of *Drag Race* triumphs to counterbalance the early adversity. The youthful queen's winning performance during the now-iconic Snatch Game challenge has been a Season 10 highlight. Aquaria's tongue-in-cheek impersonation of First Lady Melania Trump — one we hope she reprises when she appears at Marty's Live in Dallas on May 26 — was both charming and funny. Aquaria considers this win to be one of her most memorable achievements. Furthermore, she was flattered when fans petitioned NBC's *Saturday Night Live* to feature her in character as FLOTUS.

"I did see that once, and it had a lot more signers than I was expecting," Aquaria says of the petition. "I would love it. That would be fabulous. *Saturday Night Live* is down for the queens. If they were ever so interested" — Aquaria suddenly shifts into character as Melania, replete with a heavy accent — "it would be a wonderful experience to perform on the *Saturday Night Live*."

Aquaria describes her *Drag Race* experience as an unlikely fusion of camps:

summer, boot and kitsch. Contestants inevitably emerge from the rigorous competition forever changed and with a deeper understanding of themselves. In Aquaria's case, the outcome has been nothing short of positive.

"Everything I learned from *Drag Race*, I put to use in my everyday life ... ways that I can be a better drag queen ... ways that I can become a better human being ... ways I can be a better friend ... ways that I can be a better son," Aquaria says. "As with any experience, there is plenty to learn and take away from it. This is one of the craziest experiences I will have in my life. If I didn't learn or take anything away from it, [it would be] a horrible thing."

Aquaria is also supportive of her castmates. Like sorority sisters unified by a secret initiation ritual, the competing queens share a special permanent bond. After all, no one better knows the things they have been through than each other.

"I don't have any beef with anyone," she says of her drag sisters. "I like to be supportive when girls put out new content or if there is something I can share or I can help with when they are in town. We all stick together because, as this *Drag Race* fandom has gotten crazier, it is very easy to feel alone. Our best bet is at least to have each other."

While Aquaria's *Drag Race* appearance has certainly increased the ranks of her social media followers, the diva has yet to see a financial windfall from the television exposure. She continues a daily hustle in order to earn a living and to keep her wardrobe fresh. But for her, pursuing a dream is worth the paycheck-to-paycheck existence.

"To this day, I'm still paying back college loans," Aquaria, who dropped out of NYC's famed Fashion Institute of Technology at the beginning of her second year, says. "I'm still struggling to pay rent and to afford drag. It's a big sacrifice and a big commitment for many queens. I don't think I am any different than that."

As for the future, the hard working diva intends to broaden and strengthen her personal brand. Aquaria refuses to be pigeonholed as a certain type of queen and fully intends to keep her options open. With a little luck, she will also manage to entertain her fans along the way.

"Ever since a young age, my friends, my parents and everyone in my life have been very supportive of me and seen a star in me," Aquaria says. "When you are little, you start to believe it. Once you get older you have to figure out, 'How am I going to work for this?' I continue every day building a fan base and my image and just trying to be the best me I can be." ■

Aquaria appears at Marty's Live, 4207 Maple Ave., on May 26. \$20. For more information, visit www.onenightinbangkok.org.

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Unlocking the 'Beast'



Moll (Jessie Buckley) alibis Pascal (Johnny Flynn), but is he a serial killer?

Low-budget British drama is more psychological mystery than crime thriller

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

Moll is 27 but still lives at home under the oppressive thumb of her mother. She's considered high-strung — she once attacked a classmate in a fit of rage — but we're not sure what's the cause and what's that effect: Does Mom keep her bad instincts in check, or is she turning baby girl into Norma Bates?

There's evidence for both. A series of murders of local girls on the remote British island where they live has panicked the community. We're pretty sure Moll had nothing to do with them — despite her disturbing visions — but what about her new bad-boy paramour, the gruffly handsome Pascal? He's got a temper, though he seem protective and fond of Moll. So when the local constabulary question her about his alibi, she lies for him. He would never escalate his passions to the point of being a serial killer ... would he?

Beast is the feature directorial debut of Michael Pearce (he previously wrote and directed the queer short *Rite*) and what a debut it is. Its name and tense atmospherics seem to peg it as a horror film, or at least a violent thriller, and while there are occasional scenes of mild but

unnerving gore, its execution is both more polished and more sinister. Though clearly low-budget, Pearce milks every suspicion, every deep recess of his characters, with a blend of Hitchcock and *Blair Witch*. Moll is clearly an unreliable protagonist — easily caught in lies, deceptively troubled — but also a sympathetic one. And we understand what she sees in Pascal, who seems to want nothing from her but her affection. It all unfolds like an episode of *Dexter*, if you didn't know which character *was* Dexter.

Pearce also exploits the rough beauty (the cinematography or gorgeous) of the wind-swept locale, creating a sense of claustrophobia and foreboding that approximates the uneasy with which the residents — mostly small-minded, small-town yokels — experience the unexpected interference in their daily lives. They are like modern-day villagers in a *Frankenstein* movie; if they had torches, they'd wield them. Moll and Pascal — played with volcanic stillness by Jessie Buckley and Johnny Flynn — seem better than them, and they all know it.

The mystery, and how it is resolved plot-wise, is undeniably an essential component of what makes *Beast* so watchable. But the *why* more than the *who* fuels it. It's a meditation on what darkness invades us, how our humanity rests on the surface of an animal heart. ■

Now playing at Angelika Film Centers in Dallas and Plano.

Bianca blast!

A book, a tour, a movie
— Del Rio does it all



When you hear that Bianca Del Rio — the comedy queen and *RuPaul's Drag Race* champ — has written a book, you'd be forgiven for sniping, "Wrote? I didn't even know she could read!" Cue rimshot. But why would anyone be surprised by the multi-hyphenate — drag queen, standup, film star, now comic advice columnist — venturing into uncharted territory? She's nearing the end of a live tour that brought her to Dallas recently, has a new advice book, *Blame It on Bianca Del Rio*, dropping on May 22 and just launched a roll-out of her feature film *Hurricane Bianca: From Russia With Hate* (produced by Texas native Ash Christian). Bianca is a blast.

— Gregg Shapiro

Dallas Voice: As someone who is just now publishing an advice book, what's the best advice you ever received? Bianca Del Rio: It was really good advice, but I didn't take it. Which was "Don't do drag. It's a trap." I found out later, they were right.

What's the worst advice you ever received? "Do drag!" No. Advice is an odd thing, because you always think you know better yourself. In fairness, I think the best advice I truly did get was "Always laugh. Laugh at yourself. Don't take yourself too seriously and keep moving." I think for me, in particular, when I was much younger I would get hung up on things for a long period of time. Now, it's like, "Fuck it! You'll live. Get over it! Have a drink.

Life's too short!" In the end, it's that it's not that serious. Or it shouldn't be that serious.

What's your own take on advice columns? I grew up without having social media. I'm old enough to remember that world. It's quite fascinating to me how much of their business people put out in the real world. Whether it's Facebook or Instagram. When I was doing this book — obviously I'm doing it as a joke to give the worst advice possible, because if you're seeking advice from a 42-year-old drag queen, something's wrong with you — but I'm fascinated by the stuff people would share. I don't know if they're doing it for attention purposes or if it was actually real. It was fascinating to see how people's minds work. People have no shame at all, none, I must say.

How does your humor transform from the stage to the page? I think it's a lot harder, as I realized when I was doing the book. There's also an audio version. When I started to read it aloud, I started to get nervous about a couple of things. I thought, "This in print comes across differently than my stage show." I think you can get away with murder on stage, in a moment, by delivery. Whereas when you have something in print and someone is reading it for the first time, it may come across a little differently. There are some things I fixed in the end where I thought, "Maybe this won't translate," unless you got the audiobook. My first reaction was, "Whoa, this seems too far or a bit much." Usually, for me, it's no hold barred. Everything is funny. But I thought, "In print, it's a little serious." Some things I was like, "Go with it! You asked a ridiculous question, you

■ BIANCA Next Page

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deserve a ridiculous answer!”

You mention “insightful prying” in the author’s note. In what ways can that be a useful tool? I think sometimes the answer is usually there and people know in their hearts what the truth is. Of course, what I’m doing here is comedy. In fairness, there is a lot of truth in comedy. Usually the funniest stuff is what you can really relate to. A lot of people are attention whores at this point in the world and they put things out there that they know are wrong. Or they have an idea of what the truth is, but they fail to recognize it. I thought that if I could give it to them in some inspirational way, it might actually help them. If it’s a real question. You never really know. When I posted stuff saying that I was interested in doing a book of this nature and “Send me your questions,” we had several duplicates. Usually drag-related. Everything from “What is RuPaul like?” to “What color is your eye makeup?” That kind of shit. Some of them, I was like, “This is insane! The answer is right there in your question!” But I had to point it out for them because they’re probably not smart enough to figure it out themselves.

Some of the more colorful and amusing parts of the book are the wonderful photos. How did you come up with some of the concepts? Basically, the publisher said they would also like to include photos. But we live in a social media world and I post a lot of photos. Back in my day, you

had to have a photo and you had to have it printed and you had to wait a week! This was a different process. I had to create new content for the book. I had to make myself appear a lot more established than I am. And also push the joke home, make it fun. Over four days, we did a photo shoot here in Los Angeles with a friend of mine who is a New York photographer and we hit the road. We thought, “What are the most ridiculous things we could do?” From that is where we came up with the captions and dialogue. I truly didn’t want to do a vanity project and write a book about myself. I thought this would be a good way to slide in my sense of humor, that I’m also making jokes of myself as well.

Do you think you might have another book in you, perhaps a novel? I am not opposed to it. Friends of mine who have read the book have looked at me and said, “What is wrong with you? You are absolutely insane!” Which I think is great. I guess that works for books. No one has ever said, “Stephen King’s a normal person.” HarperCollins has been extremely supportive, even discussing things in the future. I’m like, “Sure, sure, sure! But let me get through this week first [laughs]”. When I have a minute to collect my thoughts, I would totally do it. Why not?

On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate the experience of your recent return as a guest on RuPaul’s Drag Race? I would say it was a 10 for me. I filmed the show originally

in competition almost five years ago. It was like going back to high school. All the feels and smells were the same. When you film on the soundstage, there’s one side where the contestants are during filming. The other side is where the staff and Ru and guest judges stay. It was interesting to be on the other side of the wall. I didn’t realize how fabulous it was until Audra McDonald was in the dressing room next door. That made up for it. My little gay heart got excited and I realized that this is some legitimate shit!

What’s the single best piece of advice you would offer this season’s queens? Oh! In seriousness, the best advice would be to be as honest and as real as you are. Even though we’re wearing wigs. Just be yourself. I think the audience, especially with a reality show, gravitate to people that are real. Knowing the pattern of *Drag Race* in particular, now that they’re in their 10th season, some of the most notable characters were people that were true to themselves. It’s very easy to get lost in the madness. It’s easy to get lost with cameras around you. To think, “I need to be this. I need to be that.” Shockingly, the audience can usually see through it.

In addition to your first book hitting bookstore shelves, your new movie *Hurricane Bianca: From Russia With Hate* is opening in theaters. What can you tell the readers about it? It’s our second feature, which I’m excited about. The first film actually dealt



with gay rights and a schoolteacher who was fired for being gay, which is completely in America in 29 states, which is insane! He loses his job and then gets it back. My nemesis in the film is the brilliant Rachel Dratch. In the second film, we pick up where we left off. I ruined her life and now she’s determined to ruin mine. And I end up in Russia! So, it’s topical and fun. We have some great cameos and supporting players. The fabulous Janeane Garofalo, Cheyenne Jackson and Wanda Sykes. We were lucky to gather a bevy of talented people. I’m really looking forward to it!

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identify with? *Legally Blonde*. It's true. It's the first Reese movie that I ever watched and how I always still think of her, which isn't fair cause she's done so much. But yeah, I adore her.

What is it about the character of Elle Woods you most identify with? That she just thinks she can get into Harvard and it's not gonna be a big deal, and she does. And I, in my life, am like, "It's not a big deal, I can do it, and I can make it happen."

You have a new man, named Jussi-Pekka Kajaala. He's very good-looking. I do. He's super cute, but more than that, he's super nice and funny and everything that everybody should be.

Before you met, what criteria did you have for a boyfriend? So, I've known him for a little over half a year, and really wasn't looking for anybody. I mean, I was on Tinder for just fun. You know how if you've ever been on Tinder you swipe left and right and it basically turns into this game?

Oh yeah, I have Tinder. So you know the game.

It's like the new Hot or Not. It's absolutely that. So we just started chatting and basically I was looking for some — my criteria for a good boyfriend would be somebody who has passion. Passion is super important to me because no matter what you do, if you have passion for it, then that's kind of what life is all about — that you have passion for something. I think that it's important to stay

motivated, to always want more for yourself — yeah. I'm being serious. Usually when I get asked this question, I'm like, a job, goes to the gym — which is also important.

When you were on Tinder, how many people actually thought you were really Adam Rippon? I think when I was on Tinder nobody really gave a shit that I was Adam Rippon. But I can tell you that everyone I've ever matched with who's ghosted on me has messaged me since the Olympics. My favorite is, "Oh, it's been a while. How ya doing?" And I'm like, "Bye."

You give them more than they deserve, honestly. Usually I don't answer.

What's a place you wish you could go where you wouldn't be recognized? I don't mind being recognized at all. I don't mind it. But if I could go somewhere right now, I would wanna go to Maui. Just a vacation. Get some sun. Doing *Dancing with the Stars*, it definitely changed my skin tone — due to, like, sprays, not sun.

Do you expect there will be a day when an openly gay figure skater can just be a figure skater? Yeah. And I think more than that, I hope there's a day that an openly gay Olympian will just be an Olympian. But I think that right now it's important to share your story. It's important for everybody to share your story, especially in a day and age when an athlete can go to the Olympics and you can be like, oh, let me know a little bit more about that athlete. You go on their social

media page, you know what their likes are, you know what they're doing, you know where they are, you know what their interests are; you can just so easily find out information about everybody that I think it's important to show the world who you are, what you stand for, and what's important to you.

For me, it's not being gay that I share — I share my coming out because it was really liberating for me, and when I came out, when I was able to share that, that's what I found so much power in. It wasn't like, "Oh, I'm gay and I'm powerful" — which is, like, so true — but it was my coming out experience of when I started to really own who I was and that's where I found a lot of power. I was always me, but I didn't always own it. And when I owned it, that's when I found that I was my strongest.

Have you had any particularly moving exchanges with young queer fans? Yes. There have been many. I've run into a few young people who told me that they tried to kill themselves at one point, which is incredibly hard to hear, especially from really young



kids. It's incredibly bizarre to be thanked for just being who you are, and for someone to tell you that you really helped them. It's incredibly humbling, but I can tell you that I was not expecting that kind of response after the Olympics.

Is there a responsibility or pressure on you to act or be a certain way because of that? No more than the way that I've been acting.

Good. To end, which Golden Girl are you? Probably Blanche. Isn't everyone Blanche? And I'm a little — OK, I'm mostly Dorothy.

It's the snark. It is the snark.

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Friday 05.18 — Sunday 06.17

Taylor Mac's gender- and genre-mixing comedy 'Hir' opens at Stage West

A disgraced and traumatized soldier returns from a war zone, where he collected human remains from the battlefield, only to discover his family has become even more outrageous than his military adventures: His sister is transitioning to his brother, his father has become addled by a stroke ... and that's the good news. Queer playwright Taylor Mac is known for his subversive, genre-defying comedies, and *Hir*, which opens as a regional premiere at Stage West this weekend, is no exception. The cast features Bob Hess, Cara Statham Serber, Blake McNamara and genderfluid actor Zander Pryor and is directed by Garret Storms.

DEETS: Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd. Fort Worth. \$31-\$35. StageWest.org

Tuesday 05.22 — Sunday 05.27

'Jersey Boys' returns for a one-week engagement at the Winspear

The original Broadway production of *Jersey Boys* had one of the longest runs in theater history, racking up 4,642 performances, four Tony Awards and countless fans. It was an unlikely hit with critics as well, shedding light on the doo-wop group The Four Seasons and revealing, unexpectedly, how most of the groups lyrics were written by a gay music



producer, Bob Crewe. The national tour returns to Dallas this week, for eight performances only. It's a hoot-and-a-half — a musical you can enjoy with mom and dad or anyone else.

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

Friday 05.18 — Sunday 05.20

An embarrassment of riches for North Texas foodies

Foodies often look forward to food-and-drink festivals, but North Texans have access to two of them this weekend, so better plan ahead! From Friday through Sunday, both the Dallas-based Savor festival and the Addison-centric Taste Addison pull out all the stops to delight your palates with an assortment of local chefs, purveyors and beverage experts. Savor includes reserve and grand tastings, and Taste Addison is outdoors with live music and tons of tastes. Consult the websites for each to see a full line-up of locations, schedules and prices.

DEETS: Savor at SavorDallas.com. Taste Addison at TasteAddisonTexas.com.



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Pulse III

calendar highlights



Irving audiences are getting to see 'The Full Monty' through May 26.

ARTSWEEK THEATER

The Humans. Richard Thomas and Daisy Eagan are among the cast in this national tour of the Tony Award-winning modern comedy about a family at Thanksgiving. *Final weekend.* Winspear Opera House 2403 Flora St. ATPAC.org.

Hir. A twisted take on the modern American family from gender-bending playwright Taylor Mac. A regional premiere. Stage West, 2900 Routh St. inside the Quadrangle. Through June 17. StageWest.org.

Self-Injurious Behavior. Local actress Jessica Cavanaugh wrote and stars in this autobiographical play about dealing with parenting a child on the autism spectrum. Directed by Marianne Galloway. Theatre Too, 2900 Routh St. inside the Quadrangle. Through June 10. Theatre3Dallas.com.

The Full Monty. Terrence McNally-David Yazbek musical based on the Oscar-winning film about out-of-work schlubs who decide to raise money by doing a strip tease show. Dupree Theatre at the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving. Through May 26. IrvingArtsCenter.com.

The Last One Nighter on the Death Trail Starring the Disappointment Players. Theatre 3 revives a Vaudeville originally created more than a decade ago by the now-defunct Our Endeavors Theatre Collective. *Final weekend.* Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. inside the Quadrangle. Theatre3Dallas.com.

Footloose — The Musical. Presented by Theatre Arlington, 305 W. Main St., Arlington. Through June 3. TheatreArlington.org.

FESTIVALS

Taste Addison. Weekend foodie event with live music, drink and bites. Through Sunday. Visit TasteAddisonTexas.com for details.

Savor Dallas. Grand and reserve tastings, plus more, from acclaimed local chefs. Through Sunday. Visit SavorDallas.com for details.

Scarborough Renaissance Festival. The Middle Ages come to life in the 38th annual celebration of European festivities. Scarborough Fairgrounds, FM 66 off I-35, exit 399B, in Waxahachie. Through May 28. SRFestival.com.

FINE ART

Oak Lawn Library Photography Show. Dallas Voice Executive Editor Arnold Wayne Jones is the featured artist at the monthly art show at the Oak Lawn Library, featuring more than a dozen prints of some of his award-winning photography. Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road. Through May 31.

Sign and Symbols: Mobile Tagging Art by Pedro Morales. The gay artist's modernist work continues at the Uptown museum. The Museum of Geometric and MADI Art, 3109 Carlisle St. Through July 15. GeometricMADIMuseum.org.

Laura Owens. The controversial, eclectic artist is featured at a show at the Dallas Museum of Art 1717 Harwood St. Through July 29. DMA.org.

Beauty and Subjugation: From the Goss-Michael Collection. The Goss-Michael Foundation presents this new exhibition curated from international arts advisor Filippo Tattoni-Marcozzi. More than a dozen artists' works are represented. Goss-Michael Foundation,



1305 Wycliffe Ave. Through May 31. G-MF.org.

Memory Mind Matter: The Sculpture of Eduardo Chillida. The work of 20th century Spanish sculptor and artist. Meadows Museum, 5900 Bishop Blvd. Through June 3. MeadowsMuseumDallas.org.

FRIDAY 05.18

COMMUNITY

Dallas Red Foundation Presents Red Dragon: Forbidden City. Fundraiser benefiting local ASO. Empire Room, 1225 N. Riverfront Blvd. 8–11 p.m.
Panoptikon. The weekly retro disco dance party, presented by Lord Byron. Red Light, 2911 Main St. Doors 9 p.m.

FILM

E.T. Free outdoor screening of this new family classic, part of the Downtown Dallas Movie Night. Farmers Market, 1010 S. Pearl St. Arrive by 7:45 p.m.; screening begins at 8 p.m. Free

SATURDAY 05.19

COMMUNITY

FrontRunners. Gay jogging/walking group meets weekly at 9 a.m. in Oak Lawn Park at Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard for a run along the Katy Trail.
Hooch and Pooch 2018: Mod Dog. Annual party and fundraiser for Kitchen Dog Theater. Jefferson Tower, 351 W. Jefferson Blvd. 8–11 p.m. KitchDogTheater.org.

TUESDAY 05.22

FILM

The Last Emperor. The nine-time Oscar winner for best picture (one of a handful of best picture winners to take every award they were nominated for) about the modern history of China. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series at Landmark’s Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

THEATER

Jersey Boys. The Tony-winning musical about The Four Seasons. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through May 27. ATPAC.org

THURSDAY 05.24

CABARET

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

CONCERTS

It’s Our Time: Songs of Faith, Promise and Accord. Credo Choir, Dallas’ street choir led by conductor Jonathan Palant, performs its spring concert at Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. 7:30 p.m. CredoChoir.org

FRIDAY 05.25

FILM

The Incredibles. Free outdoor screening of this new family classic, part of the Downtown Dallas Movie Night. Farmers Market, S. Pearl St. Arrive by 7:45 p.m.; screening begins at 8 p.m. Free.

PERFORMANCE

Celebrity Autobiography. The long-running sensation, where celebrities — in this case, Mario Cantone, Laraine Newman and Robert Wuhl — read from actual memoirs by other celebrities, from Britney Spears to Suzanne Summers. Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. May 25–26 at 8 p.m. ATPAC.org.

this week’s solution

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Girl on girls

Jenny Block explores the Woulds of relationships



You see them all the time on Facebook: “Would you sleep in this haunted mansion for \$10,000?” “Would you give up social media for free vacations for life?” “Would you punch your best friend in the face for \$1,000?” Most of them are silly and irrelevant. But some of them make you wonder, even for just a second: *Would I?*

There’s less than a millionth of a chance that you’ll ever be presented with a haunted mansion or free lifetime vacations. But if you are in a long-term relationship, or in the pursuit of one, you will be presented with all sorts of quandaries that will leave you asking yourself “Would I?”

It’s an important question — really, many discrete questions — to ask before you commit to relationship. Would I be OK if my partner already has children? What if s/he still had a close relationship with the child’s other parent? What if they had a contemptuous or even violent/dangerous relationship with that other parent? What if the child is an infant? What if the child faces severe health challenges?

What about family relationships? Would you be cool with your partner having an aging parent or a wayward sibling living with them? What about parents that your significant other

insisted on consulting for every decision? Or someone who went to their parents as a source of income?

Even the seemingly mundane is vital to consider. Would you move to another city? Another state? Would you give up a pet or take on his eight cats? Are you OK with a television in the bedroom? Would you be willing to live in a house packed with clutter? Would you be willing to leave behind your favorite food? Would you be able to handle a spouse who is always late?

Asking yourself these questions as hypotheticals is far easier than having to face them once you are emotionally entangled. We tend to be more honest with ourselves before we wade into the particulars. But we can also fool ourselves into thinking, “Sure. I could handle that,” even if we can’t (or at least wouldn’t want to). But once we start to *really* like someone, our thinking can get muddled and we can end up in a relationship that is simply not a good fit for us.

The thing is, long-term relationships are about more than love and sex and romance and attraction and magic. Those things are all wonderful. But enduring relationships are about, well, relationships. They are about building a life together. They are about what you

want and need. They are also about what you are comfortable and willing to do, in both good times and bad.

I am a creative. I am a sometimes up, sometimes down, always thinking, always questioning, always learning and seeking and mulling, so I am sometimes happily attached to my computer via umbilical cord and sometimes miserable without sunlight and water and fresh air. I don’t do well in a cubicle or when bureaucracy reigns above all else. I know I need someone who loves me because of all of my peculiarities not in spite of them. Who not only *would* but who wants to.

That is in no small part why I partner well with someone who thrives on plans and schedules and plays well with others. That is why when I met my wife, Robin, I wasn’t scared off by her differences. I was drawn to them. I was inspired by someone who saw the world differently. I knew that I “would” and I knew that I truly want to.

Before I met her, I had dated enough people to know what I was attracted to. More importantly, I knew what I would and would not do. And I knew that I needed someone whose Woulds and Would-nots aligned with mine. The magic is in finding the combination of the two.

The dream and the reality. That’s who she is for me. The someone I crave. The someone I need. The someone who makes me want to say, “I would.”

Here’s the thing: Relationships are about knowing another person. But long before that, they are about getting to know ourselves. They are about discovering what’s a “hard no” in our lives. We have to know what we would do and what we wouldn’t do. We have to know what we are ok with asking our partner to do. We have to know what we are ok with our partner asking us to do.

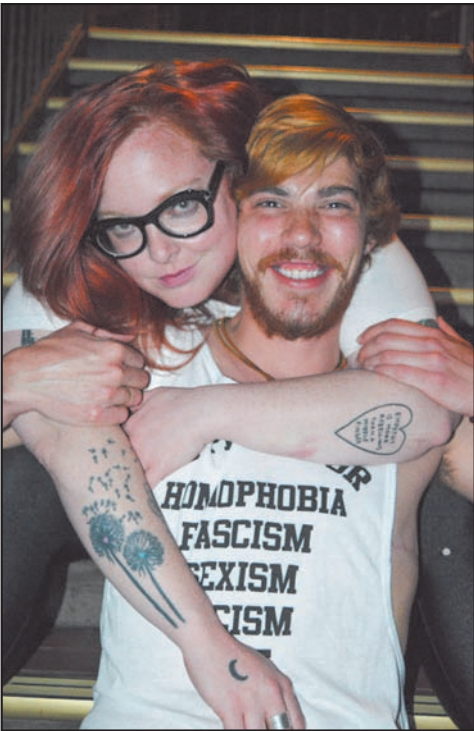
Life is full of change and surprise and disappointment. We can’t ever know what will come our way in the long run. That’s why it’s vital to know at the start that we can at least deal with the here and now and which hypotheticals we love the other person enough to not only put up with but also be happy to wrangle with because we love them. We truly, deeply, madly love them.

Robin is my rock and I am her sky. She will always be there to make me feel safe and I will always be there to help her soar. Because, yes, I would.

Have a question about sex, relationships or life you want Jenny to address? Email it to GirlOnGirlsJenny@gmail.com.



Looking cute at JR.'s



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Tank top time at The Round-Up Saloon



All smiles at The Round-Up Saloon



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Making the **SCENE** the week of **May 18-24**:

- **Alexandre's:** **Walter Lee** on Friday. **Chris Chism** on Saturday. **Wayne Smith** on Sunday. **K-Marie** on Tuesday. **Anna Fredericka Popova** on Wednesday. **Chris Chism** on Thursday.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House:** **Puddin Pop** hosts **Drag on Tap** at 9:30 p.m. on Monday.
- **Club Changes:** **Wall of Food** meeting at 8 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Club Reflection:** **King & Queen of the Rodeo Contest** at 6 p.m. on Saturday. **Cowtown Leathermen** cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** **United Court of the Lone Star Empire** show from 6-10 p.m. on Friday. **Beyond Vanilla:** **Lip Sync Battle** from 6-10 p.m. on Saturday. **Onyx:** **Central Southwest Chapter** club night on Saturday.
- **Hidden Door:** **Messy Monday** at the Hidden Door.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** **Asia O'Hara** hosts a watch party for this week's episode of **RuPaul's Drag Race Season 10** on Thursday.
- **Liquid Zoo:** **Comedy Night Open Mic** at 9 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Marty's Live:** **Chanel Champagne** hosts **Marty's Live Showcase** on Monday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** **Bear Happy Hour** on Friday. **Mancandy** at 8 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** **Mustache Envy** on Friday. **Chix** on Saturday. **Honey Folk** at 3:30 p.m. followed by **The Tuxedos** on Sunday.
- **The 515 Bar:** Celebrate **World Whiskey Day** beginning at 11 a.m. on Saturday.
- **The Rose Room:** **Jasmine Masters** on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. **Miss Gay USofA Classic** on Sunday and Monday. **Miss Gay USofA prelims** Tuesday through Thursday.
- **TMC: The Mining Company:** **Asia O'Hara** on Wednesday nights.
- **Urban Cowboy Saloon:** **Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington** show at 7 p.m. on Friday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** Celebrate the **Memorial Day** kick-off to summer with **Jada Pinkett Fox** on Thursday.
- **Zippers:** **Sip-n-See** with **Nicole** on Sunday at 9 p.m.

Scene Photographers: **Kat Haygood** and **Chad Mantooth**



Star time at The Round-Up with Keith McAndrews, Olympic skier Gus Kenworthy, Pentatonix singer Scott Hoying and a friend.



Only two weekends left for Scarborough Renaissance Festival 2018. Get in on the drama!



It's getting hot on The Strip



Friends out for fun on The Strip



Curtis Green at S4



Kellan on The Strip



Taking it to church with the Round-Up Saloon turnabout show



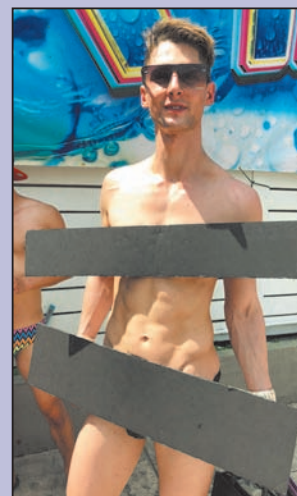
Feeling the love at Hidden Door



Show me the \$ at Hidden Door

Purple Party

photos by Lance Burris





Friends at The Hidden Door



Hugging it out at S4



Turnabout crew at The Round-Up Saloon



Pageant shenanigans at S4





Family time on The Strip



Friends at The Hidden Door

DTC Center Stage Gala



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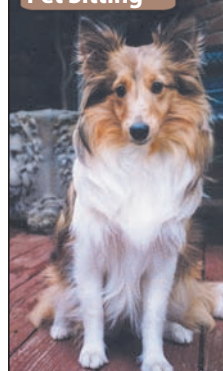
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64						65				66				

Let’s get to the bottom of this

Solution on Page 27

- Across**

1 Liquor source in Gomer’s Mayberry

6 Hoofbeat of a stallion

10 Gay cable network

14 She hoped Gibson was gay in *What Women Want*

15 Org. against pirates

16 Digital rectal, for example

17 How 37-Across jokingly described the meaning of the song “Bloom”

20 They have a top job

21 Water channel

22 Log Cabin pundits do this to candidates

24 Giant outfielder Mel

25 Like a gown at a drag queen wedding

29 McKellen movie *Gods and ____*

34 Greek architectural style

35 Penetrating reed

36 Bloomers worn around the neck

37 With 39-Across, “Bloom” singer

38 Spot for a computer

39 See 37-Across

41 Shakespeare’s dusk

42 Some Christmas trees

43 Cock teaser

44 Detecting Butch cologne

47 Meat treats
- 48 Shooter in Bruce Weber’s field

49 “Movin’ ____” (theme from a Sherman Hemsley sitcom)

51 *Man of La ____*

54 Made possible

59 Actual theme of the song

61 Dull discomfort

62 It keeps a fruit from being exposed

63 Hell of a comedy writer

64 “The ____ the limit!”

65 Part of YSL

66 A pink triangle has three
- Down**

1 Direction from Susan Feniger

2 Friend of Dorothy

3 Britney Spears’ “____ Curious”

4 Focus of an almost nude statue

5 Pianist with a candelabra

6 Outer pie part

7 Aflame

8 Meatheads

9 Umpire Dave

10 Jennifer Love’s last name

11 Veep, e.g.

12 Pink in a steakhouse

13 Letters on an ambulance

18 Like phone sex, in a way

19 Drives from the closet

23 Ban on commercial intercourse

25 Gets a mouthful

26 Composer Ned

27 Phrase after Sheehan’s hole

28 Home improvement letters

30 WNBA sport to Eliza Doolittle?

31 “Jailhouse Rock” star

32 Jerk a knee

33 Goes to the bottom

35 *Brothers & Sisters* producer Ken

39 Web site concerned with HIV

40 SEP, e.g.

42 Angler-supplied cookout

45 Some Mapplethorpe equipment

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In adults with HIV on ART who have diarrhea not caused by an infection



Tired of planning your life around diarrhea? Enough is Enough

Get relief. Pure and simple. Ask your doctor about Mytesi.

Mytesi (crofelemer):

- Is the **only** medicine FDA-approved to relieve diarrhea in people with HIV
- **Treats diarrhea differently** by normalizing the flow of water in the GI tract
- Has the same or fewer side effects as placebo in clinical studies
- Comes from a tree sustainably harvested in the Amazon Rainforest

What is Mytesi?

Mytesi is a prescription medicine that helps relieve symptoms of diarrhea not caused by an infection (noninfectious) in adults living with HIV/AIDS on antiretroviral therapy (ART).

Important Safety Information

Mytesi is not approved to treat infectious diarrhea (diarrhea caused by bacteria, a virus, or a parasite). Before starting you on Mytesi, your healthcare provider will first be sure that you do not have infectious diarrhea. Otherwise, there is a risk you would not receive the right medicine and your infection could get worse. In clinical studies, the most common side effects that occurred more often than with placebo were upper respiratory tract (sinus, nose, and throat) infection (5.7%), bronchitis (3.9%), cough (3.5%), flatulence (3.1%), and increased bilirubin (3.1%).

**For Copay Savings Card and
Patient Assistance, see Mytesi.com**

Please see complete Prescribing Information at Mytesi.com.

NP-390-25

Mytesi[®]
(crofelemer) 125 mg
delayed-release tablets

RELIEF, PURE AND SIMPLE

IMPORTANT PATIENT INFORMATION

This is only a summary. See complete Prescribing Information at Mytesi.com or by calling 1-844-722-8256. This does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or treatment.

What Is Mytesi?

Mytesi is a prescription medicine used to improve symptoms of noninfectious diarrhea (diarrhea not caused by a bacterial, viral, or parasitic infection) in adults living with HIV/AIDS on ART.

Do Not Take Mytesi if you have diarrhea caused by an infection. Before you start Mytesi, your doctor and you should make sure your diarrhea is not caused by an infection (such as bacteria, virus, or parasite).

Possible Side Effects of Mytesi Include:

- Upper respiratory tract infection (sinus, nose, and throat infection)
- Bronchitis (swelling in the tubes that carry air to and from your lungs)
- Cough
- Flatulence (gas)
- Increased bilirubin (a waste product when red blood cells break down)

For a full list of side effects, please talk to your doctor. Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or does not go away.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Should I Take Mytesi If I Am:

Pregnant or Planning to Become Pregnant?

- Studies in animals show that Mytesi could harm an unborn baby or affect the ability to become pregnant
- There are no studies in pregnant women taking Mytesi
- This drug should only be used during pregnancy if clearly needed

A Nursing Mother?

- It is not known whether Mytesi is passed through human breast milk
- If you are nursing, you should tell your doctor before starting Mytesi
- Your doctor will help you to decide whether to stop nursing or to stop taking Mytesi

Under 18 or Over 65 Years of Age?

- Mytesi has not been studied in children under 18 years of age
- Mytesi studies did not include many people over the age of 65. So it is not clear if this age group will respond differently. Talk to your doctor to find out if Mytesi is right for you

What Should I Know About Taking Mytesi With Other Medicines?

If you are taking any prescription or over-the-counter medicine, herbal supplements, or vitamins, tell your doctor before starting Mytesi.

What If I Have More Questions About Mytesi?

For more information, please see the full Prescribing Information at Mytesi.com or speak to your doctor or pharmacist.

To report side effects or make a product complaint or for additional information, call 1-844-722-8256.

Rx Only

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Mytesi comes from the *Croton lechleri* tree harvested in South America.