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By Arnold Wayne Jones, Page 18

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Bernadette Peters

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instanTEA

Virginia approves the Equal Rights Amendment

The Virginia House of Delegates just voted to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution of United States of America, according to Virginia state Rep. Danica Roem.

He amendment is short and to the point. It reads: "Equal rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of sex."

The first state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment was Texas.

When Congress approved the amendment, sending it to the states for ratification, they set a deadline of March 22, 1979. By 1977, the amendment had 35 of the 38 votes needed to add the amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Then Phyllis Schlafly founded the Eagle Forum and made a national name for herself campaigning against the amendment.

Since then five states — Idaho, Kentucky, Nebraska, Tennessee, and South Dakota — voted to rescind their ratification. Nevada voted in 2017 to approve the amendment.

Where the amendment stands is unknown. Are the approvals and revocations that occurred after the congressional deadline legal? Litigation is sure to follow.

— David Taffet

[DallasVoice.com/Category/Instant-Tea](https://dallasvoice.com/Category/Instant-Tea)



TWCD receiving National Endowment for the Arts grant

The Women's Chorus of Dallas has been approved for a \$10,000 Challenge America grant to support Voices of Women VI: Travelin' Voices. This project will be presented on March 5 in conjunction with Women's History Month, and will be TWCD's sixth annual celebration of women composers, putting 200+ singers onstage at Moody Performance Hall in Dallas Arts District.

"The arts are at the heart of our communities, connecting people through shared experiences and artistic expression," said Arts Endowment chairman Mary Anne Carter. "The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support projects like Voices of Women."

"The Women's Chorus of Dallas is absolutely thrilled to receive our first NEA grant in support of Voices of Women" said TWCD Artistic Director Melinda Imthurn said. "We look forward to presenting an exciting event celebrating the voices of women in choral music."

At VOW VI: Travelin' Voices, which will feature guest artist Moira Smiley and VOCO — an ensemble known for experimental sonic offerings — members of TWCD will sing alongside choirs from Texas Woman's University, led by Dr. Joni Jensen, and Dallas Independent School District. This multi-generational collaboration will showcase the transformative power of women singing together. TWCD will be providing up to 200 free tickets to partner social service agencies and heavily discounted tickets for Dallas ISD students and families. Concert information and tickets may be purchased online.

— David Taffet

Black Tie opens 2020 beneficiary application process

Applications are now open for organizations interested in becoming beneficiaries of the 2020 Black Tie Dinner, BTD officials have announced. Applications and more information are available online at BlackTie.org/beneficiaries, and completed applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14.

To be eligible, organizations must have

tax-exempt status as determined by the IRS, must be able to demonstrate significant service to the North Texas LGBTQ community and must use a majority of the funds received from Black Tie Dinner for direct community programs and services.

BTD also offers a "First-Year Beneficiary" program, which targeting smaller or newer organizations and open only to first-time beneficiaries. This program has fewer requirements in terms of volunteer hours and tables sales, and in exchange, first-year beneficiary organizations receive a smaller overall share of the funds distributed.

BTD Co-chair Jeremy Hawpe said, "We are always excited to learn about all the different ways our applicants are making an impact in the North Texas community. Our beneficiaries inspire our board members to work hard all year and raise as much as we can to support their efforts."

Black Tie Dinner holds several fundraising events throughout the year across the DFW area leading up to the annual dinner gala in downtown Dallas. This year's dinner, the 39th annual, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel.

In 2019, the organization distributed a record-breaking \$1.44 million to its beneficiaries and has distributed over \$25 million since its inception in 1982.

For additional information about Black Tie Dinner, visit blacktie.org. Questions regarding the beneficiary application process may be emailed to corela@blacktie.org.

— Tammye Nash

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Black Tie Dinner is proud to begin its 39th year in partnership with, and in support of, the North Texas LGBTQ community.

We are pleased to announce the 2020 beneficiary application and selection process is now open. We invite North Texas, LGBTQ-inclusive 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations to apply.

Applications are available online now and more details regarding the application, qualifications, requirements and selection process, visit: ***blacktie.org/beneficiaries***

The deadline for receiving completed applications is **Friday, February 14th, 2020.**

SAVE THE DATE

The 39th Annual Black Tie Dinner
October 3, 2020

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BLACK TIE DINNER

THE GAY AGENDA



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

JANUARY

• **Through Jan. 19: Creating Change**

The annual LGBTQ activist conference. The first two days are all-day institutes. Friday-Sunday are workshops, plenaries, entertainment and plenty of time to visit with activists from around the country at the Sheraton Dallas, 400 Olive St. CreatingChange.org.

• **Jan. 17-19: Women Lead**

Human Rights Campaign presents Women Lead Summit: Leading into the Future at Westin Dallas, 1201 Main St.

• **Jan. 18-19: Reconnecting Through Art**

Reunidos en arte includes visual artists from The Stewpot, Dallas, and Jonathan Palant's Credo Choir perform on Saturday from noon-4 p.m. at El Punto, Ciudad Juarez and on Sunday from 1-5 p.m. at El Paso County Coliseum, 4100 E. Paisano Drive, El Paso.

• **Jan. 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

• **Jan. 20: MLK Day of Service with HRC DFW**

Volunteers will help by sorting donations and cleaning up around the shelter from 8 a.m.-noon at Jonathan's Place, 6065 Duck Creek Drive, Garland.

No photography. volunteersignup.org/WLJWH.

• **Jan. 20: Messy's Chili Cookoff**

Awards for the Best Chili, Fan Favorite, the Hottest Chili, Best Presentation, and Better Luck Next Year as well as auction items from 2-5 p.m. at The Hidden Door, 5025 Bowser St.

• **Jan. 21: DIVA new member clinics**

Dallas Independent Volleyball Association holds new member clinic for anyone interested in playing volleyball, learning about volleyball or joining the league from 6:30-9 p.m. at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane. DIVADallas.org.

• **Jan. 22: PrimeTimers**

Lunch at 12:30 p.m. at Cheddars, 700 W. I-635, Irving. RSVP at 214-218-0912.

• **Jan. 22: DIVA new member clinics**

Dallas Independent Volleyball Association holds new member clinic for anyone interested in playing volleyball, learning about volleyball or joining the league from 6:30-9 p.m. at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane. DIVADallas.org.

• **Jan. 23: Toast to Life mixer**

Learn more about Resource Center's signature event Toast to Life from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Mama Tried Deep Ellum, 215 Henry St. MyResourceCenter.org.

• **Jan. 23: THRIVE Discussion Group**

Let's Talk peer-led discussion group for LGBTQ adults 50+. This week's topic is Navigating Aging from 6-8 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road. Questions to THRIVE@myresourcecenter.org.

• **Jan. 23: DIVA new member clinics**

Dallas Independent Volleyball Association holds new member clinic for anyone interested in playing volleyball, learning about volleyball or joining the league from 6:30-9 p.m. at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane. DIVADallas.org.

• **Jan. 24: Educare**

Educare presents Becoming Visible: LGBTQ+ Care from Theory to Practice with keynote speaker Tim Johnson from SAGE discussing serious and unique health challenges due to historically unfair and cruel treatment from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, 9200 Inwood Road. Register at EduCareDallas.com.

• **Jan. 26: PrimeTimers**

Game night at Nick's in Rockwall from 2-5 p.m. Info at 214-218-0912.

• **Jan. 26: DFW Trans Kids and Families fundraiser**

Wine tasting and scholarship fundraiser for DFW Trans Kids and Families of Texas from 2-6 p.m. at the Wine Therapist, 1909 Skillman St. Tickets at Events.Eventzilla.net.

• **Jan. 27: DIVA new member clinics**

Dallas Independent Volleyball Association holds new member clinic for anyone interested in playing volleyball, learning about volleyball or joining the league from 6:30-9 p.m. at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane. DIVADallas.org.

• **Jan. 28: Get Centered tour**

Tour Resource Center and learn about its programs from 5-6:30 p.m. at 5750 Cedar Springs Road. MyResourceCenter.org.

• **Jan. 28: DIVA new member clinics**

Dallas Independent Volleyball Association holds new member clinic for anyone interested in playing volleyball, learning about volleyball or joining the league from 6:30-9 p.m. at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane. DIVADallas.org.

• **Jan. 28: Same-sex partner grief group**

Grief group for those who have lost a same-sex partner through death from 6:45-8 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• **Jan. 28: PrimeTimers**

Dinner from 7-9 p.m. at Maracas, 2914 Main St. RSVP at 214-218-0912.

• **Jan. 29: DIVA new member clinics**

Dallas Independent Volleyball Association holds new member clinic

GAY AGENDA, Page 13

• Weekly: Lambda Weekly at 1 p.m. on Sunday on 89.3 KNON-FM with David Taffet, Lerone Landis and the late Patti Fink with this week's guests Sharyn Fein and Vivienne Armstrong from Ed-U-Care; Silver Pride Project Coffee and Convo for LGBTQ+ seniors meets Mondays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road, Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Grauwylar Park Branch Library, 2146 Gilford St. Wednesdays for Breakfast Club from 10 a.m.-noon at Reverchon Recreation Center, 3505 Maple Ave. and Thursdays for Rainbow Rec from 10 a.m.-noon at Reverchon Recreation Center, 3505 Maple Ave.; Unwired Group of Crystal Meth Anonymous meets

Sunday at 5:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. First Monday is birthday night at 5750 Cedar Springs Road; 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@myresourcecenter.org; LGBT square dancing group Pegasus Squares meets the second and fourth Sunday from 2-4 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 at Oak Lawn Park, near the intersection of Turtle Creek and Hall Street, every Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. and every Saturday at 8:30 a.m.; Leadership Lambda Toastmasters practices and develops speaking and leadership skills from 6:30-8 p.m. on Mondays at First Unitarian Church, third floor of the Hallman Building, 4012 St. Andrews; Thrive, program of Resource Center for LGBTQ adults 50+ support group every Monday from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. followed by free lunch at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road; Lambda AA meets at noon, 6:30 p.m., 7:45 p.m. and 11 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church,

6525 Inwood Road. Call 214-267-0222 for details; LGBT Sex Addicts Anonymous meets at 6 p.m. every Friday at 1919 Independence St., Room 19, Plano. 972-316-9188 for details; Leadership Lambda Toastmasters gay-identified Toastmasters group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at the First Unitarian Church, 4015 Normandy Road (does not meet on Mondays that are holidays); United Black Ellument hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; DVtv in Spayse, news and entertainment discussion live streaming every Friday, 4-5 p.m., on the Spayse Station YouTube channel.

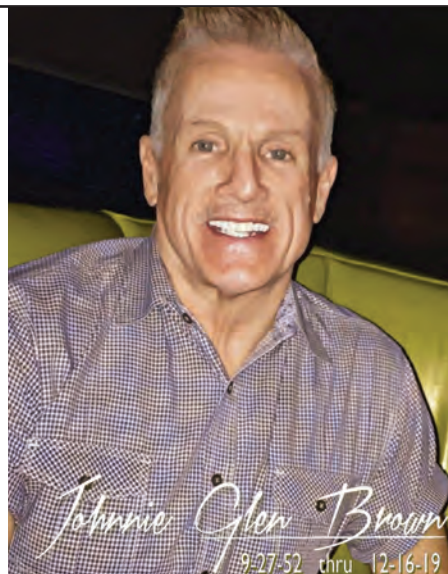
Johnnie Glen Brown, 67, passed away on Dec. 16 after a valiant battle with cancer.

The youngest of eight siblings, Johnnie was always the joy of the family and the life of the party. From singing through the halls of Arlington High School to telling stories of his roller disco and dancing days, it is certain that he lived his life to the fullest.

Johnnie graduated from John H. Reagan High School in Austin. He traveled the world throughout his 34-year career at American Airlines/Sabre and enjoyed many years of playing volleyball with the Dallas Independent Volleyball Association.

He loved to help others and volunteered often for organizations such as Hug It Out and Jonathan's Place. He was also a loyal and supportive son, brother, nephew, uncle and friend. His kindness, positivity and ability to light up a room will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Brown was preceded in death by his father, Lloyd W. Brown; his mother, Ruby Brown, and his sisters Peggy Bentley, Shirley Howard and Merry McClanahan. He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law Gaylon and Nancy Brown; his brother Garry Brown; his sister and brother-in-law Wanda and Dennis Cox, and



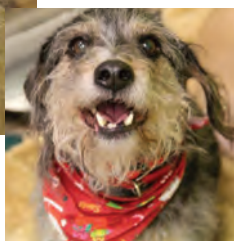
his brother and sister-in-law Stan and Diane Brown, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, great-nieces and nephews and a family of friends who loved him dearly and whose lives are just a little darker without the light that was Johnnie Brown.

A memorial/celebration of life was held on Jan. 11 at Cathedral of Hope Peace Chapel. Family visitation/dinner at Ojeda's followed.

pet of the week / RITA and ZEDD



Rita



Zedd

Meet **Rita** and **Zedd**, two 5-year-old Terrier mixes. Rita is a female tan-and-white pup with a scruffy coat. She weighs 30 pounds. Zedd is a male with a wiry, black, grey and white coat. He weighs 20 pounds. The two of them are best friends and absolutely love each other. **Rita** is the energetic one; she loves to play, go for walks and explore. **Zedd** is more laidback, and

enjoys tagging along with Rita on her adventures, cuddling and taking it easy. This petite pair are so attached, they must be adopted together. They do great in the car, walk well on their leashes and love meeting new people. If you're looking for an adorable set of pups to spend time with, they're the ones for you!

Rita and **Zedd** are waiting for you at the SPCA of Texas' Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center in Dallas, 2400 Lone Star Drive (near I-30 and Hampton Road). Hours are noon-6 p.m. Sun-Wed and noon-7 p.m. Thurs-Sat. Regular adoption fees are \$150 for puppies and kittens aged 0-6 months and \$75 for adult dogs and cats aged 6 months or older. Fee includes spay/neuter surgery, age-appropriate vaccinations, a heartworm test for dogs six months and older and a FIV/FelV test for cats 4 months and older, initial flea/tick preventative and heartworm preventative, a microchip, 30 days of PetHealth Insurance provided by PetHealth, a free 14-day wellness exam with VCA Animal Hospitals, a rabies tag and a free leash. Call 214-742-SPCA (7722) or visit today.

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Acting on mass incarceration

LGBT prisoners make up a disproportional number of people in the penal system

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Evie Litwok, the lesbian daughter of Holocaust survivors who ended up in federal prison, doesn't think her story is that important. What she wants people she meets to focus on is her work on mass incarceration since her release.

But her own story is fascinating, and her work with the formerly incarcerated is important.

First, a little about Litwok's background: Her father was rescued when U.S. troops liberated Dachau concentration camp. Her parents made it to the United States. In college, she majored as a concert pianist and eventually became a Wall Street money manager. She said her musical ability carried over into her ability to see rhythms in the stock market.

In 1997, Litwok was arrested on mail fraud and tax evasion charges. The problems started when she hired someone who stole millions from her. But her employee went to police first, got immunity and left Litwok vulnerable for prosecution. Prosecutors took 12 years to bring her to trial.

"They wait until you're out of money," she said.

Then they threatened that if she didn't take a plea deal, they'd go after her parents — even though her parents had nothing to do with her business. Three prosecutors refused to take the case, but a fourth finally did. He knew he had a weak case but still got a conviction. But after almost two years in prison, Litwok was exonerated. But one charge remained, and she was rearrested after her release. That case was dropped but only after she spent another year in prison, including time in solitary confinement.

"I didn't think I was going to live through solitary," she said.



Evie Litwok

Stats

Litwok said that according to Williams Institute, 10 percent of incarcerated men and 42 percent of women report being sexual minorities. Currently, 2.3 million people are in confinement. Another 6 million people are under mass supervision — some form of parole that restricts their movement and even prevents people from getting jobs.

According to a study in New York City, it costs \$337,000 to house a prisoner, and New York spent \$420 million to re-arrest and re-incarcerate 35,000 people on technical violations.

Re-entry

Re-entry, Litwok said, is the important thing to concentrate on. Work on facilitating a prisoner's re-entry into society needs to begin while they are still in prison. Once she got back on her feet — with the help of a well-known LGBT activist — Litwok decided to help other people leaving prison. Based on her own experience, she knew people needed a place to live; until another person stepped in to help, Litwok was living in shelters.

People coming out of prison also need

phones, so if they apply for a job, they can be contacted. They also need food and they need clothing.

Litwok said when she was released, she was given a bus ticket back to New York and \$30. After struggling for a year, Litwok got a studio apartment. She said it was a luxury to lock the door and feel safe.

That's when she was able to start helping other women.

From one of the first women she helped, she learned they also needed documents. Without a birth certificate, you can't get a picture ID, and without a picture ID, you can't get a job.

Litwok said getting an in-state birth certificate was no problem, but no one was helping people coming out of prison get out-of-state birth certificates. The woman Litwok was working with was from Dallas, and getting her documentation from here took months.

Another problem is the stigma of having been in prison, even if it was for a non-violent crime or, as in Litwok's case, unfounded prosecution. So Litwok does what she's always been doing as a lesbian: She comes out as having been in prison.

When she's introducing herself, she says, "Hello. I'm Evie Litwok, and I'm

formerly incarcerated." She said that makes many people uncomfortable, while others are fascinated.

Litwok has started a new non-profit organization called Witness to Mass Incarceration and is working on what she calls the Suitcase Project. A "suitcase" contains tools people need to survive their first year out of prison — a computer, a phone with minutes for a year, gift cards for food, clothing and public transportation and a place to live.

She said when people meet her, they want to know what they can do about mass incarceration. Going to a protest or calling your elected officials might make you feel good, but in truth that changes nothing. She tells people to donate to a suitcase, because those items make a difference in people's lives.

After helping her first three women, Litwok got requests from 135 others. That's when she realized she couldn't just help one person at a time and needed more people involved.

She has spoken to a number of New York City council members about diverting some of their discretionary funds to her suitcase project. New York's own figures show it costs more than \$300,000 for just one incarceration, and millions of dollars are wasted each year confining people who hadn't committed another crime, just made a technical violation like showing up late for a parole visit.

So she's asked for just \$30,000 each for 12 suitcases and has identified a dozen trans women of color she said are vulnerable and would benefit.

Another component Litwok is working on is a job bank. When Litwok was released, the only job offered to her was in construction. Those jobs are great for people in their 30s, but for a woman in her 60s who has trouble standing for long periods — not a possibility. "It takes out-of-the-box thinking," she said, to find the right job for each person.

Litwok is in Dallas this week and presented a day-long institute on mass incarceration at the Creating Change conference taking place through Sunday, Jan. 19 at the Sheraton Dallas hotel. ■

For more information on Evie Litwok's work, visit WitnessToMassIncarceration.org.

Phyllis Guest made a difference

Friends have fond memories of the former Stonewall Democrats of Dallas officer who passed away last week

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

Phyllis Guest was everyone's best friend. Pamela Curry said when she needed a ride home from the hospital, Phyllis was there for her.

"She was like a great aunt to everyone that walked into a room and welcomed them with a huge Phyllis smile and a big hug," said Dallas City Councilman Omar Narvaez. "Everyone loved Phyllis."

Guest passed away Jan. 8 after months of declining health. She was 82. She was a long-time board member and secretary for Stonewall Democrats of Dallas. More recently, she was active in Park Cities Democrats. She also worked for years as a member of Friends of the Oak Lawn Library, raising money for the library and encouraging library usage.

She was an advocate for women's rights, healthcare, and senior and environmental issues as well as LGBT equality.

In 1969, Guest was living in New York and was at the Stonewall Inn the day the riot broke out that birthed the modern LGBT rights movement. But she left the bar early that evening, before the police raid. She remained in New York another decade before returning home to her native Texas.

Michael Amonett owns Alchemy Salon in Bishop Arts. Guest was his client for more than 20 years and became his friend. When she stopped driving a few years ago, he began going to her house.

"I always loved being with her and talking with her," Amonett said. "She was up on every current political topic, and we would run out of time talking."

He said when she was coming to his shop, at the end of every visit he would load her car with old magazines that she'd take to the Oak Lawn Library to sell.

Guest was born in Salado and graduated from high school as her class valedictorian. She earned a bachelor's de-



Phyllis Guest

gree in Home Economics at Texas Tech, according to her sister, Patsy Wilson.

After graduation, Guest lived in Boston for a short time, where she worked as a demonstrator for a utility company. From there she moved to New York City, where she began editing and writing for a travel company. She also worked for American Airlines and its in-flight magazine American Way, doing interviews and articles.

When the airline moved its headquarters to Fort Worth in the late 1970s, Guest returned to Texas with them.

In Dallas, Guest continued to write and edit, and she earned one master's degree at Southern Methodist University and another from St. John's College in Santa Fe.

One thing everyone mentioned about Guest, whether it was the man who cut her hair or people holding elective office. Everyone contacted to share their thoughts about Guest remember that she spent hours and hours registering voters.

State Rep. Jessica Gonzalez said when she joined the board of Stonewall, Guest was glad to see another woman on the board, and she was excited when Gonzalez agreed to take over as board secretary. She said Guest was always volunteering to do voter registration and was one of the people who encouraged her to run for office.

Amonett said he already misses Guest terribly, and, as he ages, he wants to be more like her. "She made a difference," he said.

Guest is survived by her sister, who lives in Salado, and nephews Tracey Sanford of Fort Worth and Jim Sanford of San Marcos, as well as a number of great-nephews and a niece.

Her sister said she didn't want a funeral service held in her memory, but would like to get friends together to remember her. Those plans are pending.

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IMPORTANT FACTS FOR BIKTARVY®

This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and your treatment.

(bik-TAR-vee)

MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- ▶ **Worsening of Hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you have both HIV-1 and HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking BIKTARVY. Do not stop taking BIKTARVY without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.

ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults. It can either be used in people who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before, or people who are replacing their current HIV-1 medicines and whose healthcare provider determines they meet certain requirements.

BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS.

Do NOT take BIKTARVY if you also take a medicine that contains:

- ▶ dofetilide
- ▶ rifampin
- ▶ any other medicines to treat HIV-1

BEFORE TAKING BIKTARVY

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- ▶ Have or have had any kidney or liver problems, including hepatitis infection.
- ▶ Have any other health problems.
- ▶ Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if BIKTARVY can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- ▶ Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, antacids, laxatives, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- ▶ BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- ▶ Those in the “Most Important Information About BIKTARVY” section.
- ▶ **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ▶ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ▶ **The most common side effects of BIKTARVY** in clinical studies were diarrhea (6%), nausea (6%), and headache (5%).

These are not all the possible side effects of BIKTARVY. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking BIKTARVY.

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.

Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with BIKTARVY.

HOW TO TAKE BIKTARVY

Take BIKTARVY 1 time each day with or without food.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- ▶ This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more.
- ▶ Go to BIKTARVY.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5.
- ▶ If you need help paying for your medicine, visit BIKTARVY.com for program information.



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Please see Important Facts about BIKTARVY, including important warnings, on the previous page and visit [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.biktarvy.com).



No clear winner in latest debate

Buttegieg holds his own against other candidates

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
lisakeen@mac.com

Political observers gave U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren high marks in the Tuesday night, Jan. 14 debate, the last debate before the primary voting begins at the Feb. 3

Iowa caucuses.

Warren adeptly deflected a question aimed at eliciting a fight between her and Sen. Bernie Sanders over whether a woman can be elected president. She also skillfully responded to a question of whether her qualifications to be “commander-in-chief” might suffer from a “weakness” when it comes to being able to “lead the military.”

Openly gay presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg took a soft hit when businessman Tom Steyer noted that Buttigieg was the same generation as Steyer’s four children and should be “standing up more” to oppose the destructive forces of climate change. When asked what he would do to help farmers and factories that can’t relocate to avoid the record flooding in Iowa, he rambled on about Indiana and Australia before offering a “national project to do something about it.” When pressed again, he offered “federal funds.”

No one asked Buttigieg whether his being gay might be an obstacle to winning a general election against President Trump. But after more than a year in the campaign mix, Buttigieg has succeeded: He is still one of the top four candidates with a chance to win in Iowa next month and still one of only six candidates who raised enough support to be on the stage for this week’s national Democratic debate — and he’s still openly gay.

Some pundits — including CNN, which hosted the debate with the Des Moines Register — said Buttigieg, Warren and Sen. Amy Klobuchar were among

the “winners” of the debate. Other media suggested other winners. Fox News said Sanders, Vice President Joe Biden and Klobuchar. Scoring by 14 New York Times opinion writers suggested Warren did best, followed by Sanders then Klobuchar. (They put Buttigieg in fifth place.) Three Politico.com campaign reporters picked Biden.

What matters now is volunteers, dollars and perceived electability in Iowa. Winning the Iowa caucuses requires having supporters — as many as possible — show up at 7 p.m. to their local caucus site — one of 1,681 precincts — and express their preference of candidate. If some candidates get very few supporters, those supporters can then express their support for another candidate. Once groups have the minimum number of members, each can elect delegates to the county caucus based on the number of supporters in the group.

During a state Democratic convention in New Hampshire in September, Warren and Buttigieg demonstrated their campaigns had strong ground games.

Dollars and data

The latest data from the Federal Elections Commission shows Sanders to be the top-dollar-raising Democrat, with \$74 million raised thus far. Warren is in second place with \$60 million, Buttigieg in third with \$51 million, businessman Tom Steyer with \$49 million, Biden with \$37 million, and Klobuchar with \$13 mil-



Photo AP

lion.

President Trump’s campaign has raised \$165 million.

A RealClearPolitics.com average of the latest national polls, as of Wednesday, Jan. 15, showed Biden with 27 percent, Sanders 19, Warren 16, Buttigieg 7, and former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg with almost 7 percent.

The RCP average of the latest polls in Iowa show Biden with 20.7 percent, Sanders 20.3, Buttigieg 18.7, Warren 16, and Klobuchar with seven.

Buttigieg has rarely polled above single digit nationally, but his polling in Iowa suggest he has a chance to do well there.

With less than three weeks before the first voting, things could change quickly. Whoever wins Iowa will almost certainly get a big boost in the polls and in New

Hampshire’s primary on Feb. 11.

Fivethirtyeight.com, the data analysis website created by openly gay statistics guru Nate Silver, calculates that, as of Tuesday morning, Biden had a 39 percent chance of winning a majority of delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

“He’s followed by Bernie Sanders with a 23 percent chance, Elizabeth Warren with a 13 percent chance and Pete Buttigieg with a 10 percent chance,” said fivethirtyeight.

The statisticians used their newly created model to forecast, but Silver presented the forecast with a mountain of explanations and caveats and said it is subject to revision as the primaries and caucuses unfold.

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GAY AGENDA From Page 6

for anyone interested in playing volleyball, learning about volleyball or joining the league from 6:30-9 p.m. at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane. DIVADallas.org.

• Jan. 31: Business and Community Excellence Awards

Awards luncheon from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N. Stemmons Freeway. LGBTChamber.com.

FEBRUARY

• Feb. 1: PrimeTimers

Potluck from 5-9 p.m. at Sean's in Plano. RSVP and address at 214-218-0912.

• Feb. 6: Casablanca screening

The Texas Theatre presents a pre-Valentine's Day screening of the 1942 Humphrey Bogart-Ingrid Bergman classic Casablanca at 8 p.m. at the Majestic Theatre, 1925 Elm St. Tickets at prekindle.com.

• Feb. 6: Brewing Up Business

Develop new business relationships from 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Crickles, 4000 Cedar Springs Road Suite E. Free to LGBT Chamber members, non-members \$10 in advance, \$20 at the door. LGBTChamber.com.

• Feb. 8: Dallas Bears monthly meeting

Monthly membership meeting begins at noon at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road.

• Feb. 11: Same-sex partner grief group

Grief group for those who have lost a same-sex partner through death from 6:45-8 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• Feb. 11: Simply Fondue with the Dallas Bears

A four-course classic from 7-10 p.m. at Simply Fondue, 2108 Greenville Ave.

• Feb. 15: Heart On Gaybingo

From 5-9 p.m. at The Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. MyResourceCenter.org.

• Feb. 15: Love Equality

An event benefitting Equality Texas is a night of celebration and dancing with drinks and light food from 8-11 p.m. at Seven for Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd. Suite 107. Tickets at Secure.Everyaction.com.

• Feb. 16: Dallas Bears Teddy Bear Auction

Auction benefits AIDS Services Dallas. Item drop off begins at 3 p.m. and auction starts at 7 p.m. at the Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road.

• Feb. 17: President's Day

Honoring our presidents who haven't been impeached.

• Feb. 21: Toast to Life Sponsor Party

MyResourceCenter.org.

• Feb. 21: LGBTQ Global Symposium on Equality and Human Rights

A coalition of Dallas-based organizations presents a symposium on equality and human rights. A diverse

group of LGBTQ and ally presenters will highlight Dallas' rich history of moving from openly opposing to vocally championing human rights and equality from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Southern Methodist University. Tickets at DFWWorld.org.

• Feb. 22: Turtle Creek Chorale gala

Idina Menzel performs at a gala benefiting the Turtle Creek Chorale at 7:30 p.m. at The Statler, 1914 Commerce St. TurtleCreekChorale.com.

• Feb. 25: Get Centered tour

Tour Resource Center and learn about its programs from 5-6:30 p.m. at 5750 Cedar Springs Road. MyResourceCenter.org.

• Feb. 25: Steve Grand

Steve Grand performs benefiting the Suicide and Crisis Center at 7:30 p.m. at the Bob Hope Theatre, Owen Arts Center, 6101 Bishop St. \$75-150. Tickets at SteveGrandDallas.com.

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New year, new gig, new approach

David Estrada's Axer Strategies approaches marketing in a new way

MATHEW SHAW | Contributing Writer
mathews.yb@gmail.com

It's a new year and a new gig for Oak Lawn businessman David Estrada. The 31-year-old has begun a marketing firm in the heart of the gayborhood and is operating it with a largely LGBTQ staff, including project director Evy Camacho. Axer Strategies, founded in October, is a cost-effective company focused on creating individualized marketing solutions for clients' businesses. Estrada said this can be done through video calls, allowing him to reach people anywhere in the United States.

Estrada has gone into his new venture

with his eyes wide open. Any business, he stressed, must accept the possibility of failure, and his goal is to help his clients avoid that possibility.

"The first thing that any business needs to sort of accept is there should be room for failure," he said. "To learn and to experiment with how to get to the right solution."

Axer explained that his strategy is to constantly make tweaks to every plan to reach a solution that works. For example, a hair salon can make more money by switching up their services, he suggested.

"A local hair salon might be fully booked with hair appointments for men. Those hair appointments take about 45 minutes or an hour. In a day they're only going to get to 8, maybe 10," he said. "But if you were to replace those hair appointments with, maybe, hair extensions or hair dye, then you're increasing the value of that person that's in your seat."

"Now you're making more money per hour."

Estrada said the way Axer is set up is unique. He meets with a client to discuss their business problems then develops strategies to help the client's business. Then he connects with vendors across the world who can help with the business, and they create a playbook that Estrada or the client can execute.

"It's sort of a very, very customized way of approaching the marketing and executing that marketing plan," he said. "You can also think of me as sort of a contractor. I am the architect and also the contractor with a situation."

Estrada said that being marketing co-chair for Black Tie Dinner helps him sharpen his marketing skills.

"I'm Hispanic and I focus on diversity," he said. "I'm also on the younger side of the board members. I'm focused on being more inclusive with other people in our community, and so all of that goes into marketing."

Estrada said he helps Black Tie reach more people for their annual dinner at the end of the year.

"It's everything about, 'What kind of faces are you seeing in the advertisement?'" he suggested. "Are they multicultural? Are they old and young? There's the voice and tone in how you market our events."

Black Tie broke records with their fundraising last year, he added.

"I've been very fortunate to have that sort of client, if you will, but not really," he declared. "They're not paying me."

Estrada has worked with Verizon, Dallas Morning News and several sports teams across the metroplex and wants to work with medium to large businesses, he said. He also wants to connect with the LGBTQ businesses in the area, which is why he hosted a marketing meetup Jan. 16 at Cedar Springs Tap House.

"I'm promoting LGBTQ talent, people who have skills in marketing and also helping LGBTQ business owners and help them with their marketing," he stated.

"This is my home. Every day that I walk my dog down my neighborhood, I think this place is very important to me." ■

For information, visit AxerStrategies.com.



Be you; be-you-tiful

ALEX GONZALEZ | Contributing Writer
alexgonzalez@localprofile.com

In order to live your best life, you have to look the part. As Todrick Hall said, you've got to let the people see your nails, hair, hips and heels, and one new lounge in uptown allows customers to step up the first of the two components. Beyoutiful Nail Lounge first opened in uptown Dallas this past April, and although it is not located in the gayborhood, it is targeted toward members of the LGBTQ+ community who want to get glammed up.

Beyoutiful Nail Lounge is completely LGBTQ-owned and operated. Alex Pham, Kobe Nguyen and Sophie Tran came up with the idea, as they saw a need for it in the community. They wanted to create a relaxed environment where people from all walks of life can receive a variety of aesthetic services.

"We're focusing more on reflexology," says Pham. "Whenever you come to get your nails done, it also includes either a foot massage or a shoulder massage. We're focusing more on the quality of the service, versus the quantity."

Beyoutiful Nail Lounge offers manicures, pedicures, massages and waxes. Guests at the lounge can enjoy complimentary beverages and cocktails, including the cranberry mule. In addition for being a safe place for LGBTQ+ customers, Beyoutiful Nail Lounge is also com-

mitted to providing job opportunities to people of all genders and sexualities. Lily Tran, Beyoutiful's lash and nail technician, feels that working at Beyoutiful has allowed her to fully utilize her talents and live an authentic life.

"I lived in South Florida for eight years," Lily says. "I didn't [face discrimination] until I moved to Houston. As a transgender woman, I experienced people who tried to look for reasons to fire me. I feel a lot more comfortable here. This is one of the main reasons why I moved to Dallas. I feel at home here."

Lily has more than 15 years of beauty industry experience, and Beyoutiful Nail Lounge has provided her with a space to help others feel beautiful, as she does every day.

"We love to be beautiful," Lily says. "I always wanted to work in the beauty industry. I love to make myself look pretty, and I love to make other people feel pretty."

Pham first moved to Dallas from Los Angeles in 2017. He claims that Dallas has afforded him the opportunity to bring his vision to life.

"I had always planned to do something to serve the community," Pham says. "I realized, when I was visiting a friend, that Dallas is going to be booming. This is a very commercial city, and one of the biggest in the nation. Plus, the LGBTQ community here is very friendly."

Beyoutiful Nail Lounge is open in uptown Dallas at 2702 McKinney Ave #102.



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Philip Burton Proofreader

Contributors: Chris Azzopardi, Gary Bellomy, Jenny Block, J. Denton Bricker, Alicia Chang, D'Anne Witowski, Lawrence Ferber, Hardy Haberman, Scott Huffman, Lisa Keen, Mark Lowry, Joey Moreno, Cassie Nova, Josh Robbins, Mikey Rox, Howard Lewis Russell, James Russell, Alex Gonzalez, Terri Schlichenmeyer, Leslie McMurray, Mathew Shaw, Brandi Amara Skyy, Mark Stokes, Jef Tingley, Casey Williams
Photographers: Chuck Marcelo, Cassie Quinn
Intern: John McClanahan

advertising

Chad Mantooth Advertising Director ■ 131

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National Advertising Representative

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Kevin Thomas Art Director ■ 119

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The problem with life today — and how we can change it

In this day of instant gratification, fake living through social media, a dearth of useful life skills and coping mechanisms due to a failing public educational system and real mentors, it is a wonder if any of us manage to live a full, happy and fulfilled life.

Social envy and self-deprecation based on fabricated public personas published by strangers we compare ourselves to, help to fuel discontent and depression. This, coupled with societal pressures from the heteronormative mainstream telling us what we should do, what we should have and who we should be, adds to that discontent. Then add a dating culture of on-demand, app-driven, single-experience encounters fulfilling carnal needs without deep emotional connection, and we have a generation of neurotic, depressed people searching for — but never finding — fulfillment. Take all that, then factor in religious pressures that do not line up exactly with our life, and in some cases religious leaders like Robert Jeffress and others who spew hate and fearmongering instead of love and acceptance, as Christ would, and you have a recipe for disaster. And to top it all off, we have a selfish, self-absorbed imbecile in the White House who has surrounded himself with the actual worst people humanity has to offer, and they are running this country in a way that physically, emotionally or financially hurts, kills or drains almost everyone in the world except for a very small group of his own supporters and sycophants. Last year, 2019, was indeed a year to throw into the dustbin of history alongside a match and walk away with a plan for change. So plan for 2020 to be your year to change, and let's see if we can make 2020 the turning point that we will look back on in December with pride.

I am but a simple man, experiencing the same life you are. But here is my plan for 2020. I hope you will borrow part or all of it for yourself: 1. Enjoy social media for what it is: entertainment. Tell yourself each time you view it that it is not real; it is a fabrication, and the photo you are seeing is the best one out of 20 or 30.

That person is also living this hard



CLINT THOMSON
Guest Columnist

life, and if they are a celebrity, they are likely surrounded by yes men and cling-ons that don't actually love them and just want to use them. They probably have very few actual friends, and when they fall (think Lindsey Lohan; Lindsey I love you, and I'm glad you're making a great comeback), all of their so-called friends will abandon them. So in that regard, you are wealthier and have more real friends. (P.S. most of them will only ever find this out after the fall.) 2. Ignore societal pressures to be someone you are not. You don't need children at a certain age — or at all. You don't need a spouse unless you want one, and you don't need to own a home unless you want one. These things can come later when you are ready — or not at all.

Many successful people, including celebrities, go without those things, and they have very happy and successful lives. The list of happily single people includes Coco Chanel, Beethoven, Diane Keaton, Sheryl Crow, Oprah, Al Pacino, just to name a few. Marry for real love. Wait until you find that someone special that you can't live without, and if that person never comes along, so be it. Be content with that decision. Don't chase someone just because you think you must; it will end and leave you broken. Love comes naturally when you're not looking, and you'll know it when you find it. 3. Meet people; form connections; make friends; make friends with benefits; have sex.

Life is short, and by now, you are likely more than a third of the way through it, probably half for me. Enjoy sex, and don't feel bad about any part of it. Sex is a natural part of your existence and a gift to be shared.

Sometimes sex is just sex, and that's ok. But remember that it's just sex, an itch to scratch, a quick fix. Don't read too much into it. Our bodies are wired for it, and the drive can be overwhelming.

Sometimes sex is more, and when it is, it is a glorious thing to experience. Revel in it. Occasionally, sex coupled with love is a transcendent experience, and very few people find it frequently — or at all. But you should try at least once in your short life. 4. Ignore organized religions that espouse hate, marginalize groups of people or spew hate. Ignore their leaders. These people cherry-pick their religious tests to be bigots and hatemongers, and the architects of their religions would be appalled by them.

I lack the knowledge to speak on religions besides Christianity, but I can say with absolute certainty that Christ would brand Robert Jeffress and his ilk as Pharisees. They are a complete anathema to the teachings of Christ and have aligned themselves with an evil man, abdicating all moral and religious high ground. True Christianity and the teaching of Christ is good, so if you are religious, find a church that supports the true teachings of Christ and not the idolized worship of a political parties agenda and it's evil leader. You will be much happier. 5. Be kind to everyone around you. Everyone is living the same hard, short life just with different challenges. Compassion and understanding help make everyone's existence easier. 6. Finally, vote! Vote this monstrous, criminal, self-absorbed, bombastic, self-aggrandizing, megalomaniac, lying piece of human excrement out of office.

Vote to punish the people who supported him, put him in office, supported his deplorable actions that killed innocent children, polluted our air, water and natural resources. Vote to punish the GOP so that they can change back to a party of reason and fiscal responsibility. Vote to punish the party that espouses racism and hate and the leaders that turn a blind eye to it. And vote to end the religious zealots hold on the GOP.

Vote to punish all liars who hold office. Lying by public media and public officials should be illegal. Then let's convene again this time next year and see how we did.

Clint Thomson is a Dallas businessman and active in the LGBTQ community.



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The songs of Bernadette

Legendary performer Bernadette Peters sings the songs that make the whole world listen

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

My conversation with Bernadette Peters begins with me mentioning that the last time we spoke for a story was almost exactly 12 years ago, also when she was coming to town for a concert at the Meyerson Symphony Center.

"Well, we'll have to do it again in another 12 years!" she chirps in. "I plan to still be singing then."

Somehow, that seems entirely possible. After all, this is a performer who started onstage at the age of 3 ("three-and-half," she corrects, as if to imply she shouldn't be given undue credit for precociousness). The suggestion that by the time she reaches her 80s she would still be belting out showtunes to rapt audiences doesn't seem far-fetched at all. Bernadette Peters was born to be in

front of an audience.

Still, a concert schedule is one thing; touring in a show? No thank you. She famously has not done it — at least, not since she became a star.

"When I was 13 years old, I was on tour with the second national company of *Gypsy*. It's very, very hard — traveling, performing... and promoting! I remember I was some-

where in the Midwest doing a morning talk show and performing a song from the show, and there was Carol Channing, [on the same show] promoting *Hello Dolly*. And I thought, 'How the hell does she do it?' Up early for [TV], then a performance that night... So I did it once and I don't ever want to do it again."

Not that she needs to. After more than a dozen Broadway shows — including originating the roles of The Witch in *Into the Woods* and Dot/Marie in *Sunday in the Park with George*, and starring in acclaimed revivals like *Gypsy*, *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, *Annie Get Your Gun* and most recently *Hello, Dolly!* (taking home three Tony Awards in the process) — Peters has earned the right to pace herself. Nevertheless, she still gets great joy out of bringing her concert show to cities across the U.S.

"What's nice, which I have learned from my concerts, is when you go to places [around the country] there are people who never get to see Broadway performances and

are so appreciative. Especially when they have a theater arts program [at a local college], it's really a treat. So coming back to Dallas is great — the audiences are very receptive. And there's nothing like the Meyerson. I usually stay for three performances and get to be with great musicians. The acoustics are amazing, and I bring my own sound people, so they love being in a beautiful hall. The hall is so alive and vibrant. I have really wonderful orchestrations, and the audience gets to appreciate the music and the songs but also what I'm saying."

Another advantage of a concert over a musical is Peters being able to curate what she sings.

"I choose my songs carefully. I do 'Fever,' I do 'Nothing Like a Dame,' which is usually a man's song, but I sing it anyway. And I've added two songs from *Hello, Dolly* — I had no idea I was

■ BERNADETTE Page 24

BERNADETTE PETERS

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One club to read them all

25 years and 300 books later, One True Book Club remains lit

JOHN CARDER MCCLANAHAN | Contributing Writer
john.mcclanahan91@gmail.com

On a cold January evening in 1995, about eight friends gathered in a house in the Chapel Downs neighborhood Northwest Dallas to discuss the latest best seller over drinks and food. Little did they suspect at that time that 25 years later, they'd still be going strong.

Almost every month since then, members of the One True Book Club have met at each other's homes to discuss works by various authors. Over the course of these decades, they have read, discussed and explored books of all kinds, including gay fiction, general fiction, nonfiction, plays and even the occasionally cookbook. And that figure has just rolled over to 300.

But more so than reading books, One True Book Club became an opportunity for gay men to forge camaraderie and friendships in Dallas.

Most of the club's current 18 members meet for dinner after reading the month's selected work, usually rotating the meet-up spot. Jim Garnsey, an original member who moved to Dallas from New York City in 1990, recalls meeting at founder John Rogers' house to discuss that first selection.

"Till this day, I consider it the worst book we ever read," Garnsey says. "It was *The Celestine Prophecy* a sort of New Age book a lot of people were reading back then. I thought it was trash, but the very next book we read was called *Gay New York*. It was a history of gays from New York from about 1890 until 1940. And I loved it."

About nine months later, Garnsey's partner Lawrence Ballou joined the group. At the next meeting late this month, Garnsey and Ballou will serve as hosts for the club's milestone, Garnsey gave the group a list of every selected book since the first meeting.

"They've been told to pick from any of those 300 books whether they want to re-read something or read something they missed or something from the club's first 10 years or whatever," Garnsey says. "Everybody will read the book and then at the meeting, each one of us will tell the club what we read and what we want to say about it."

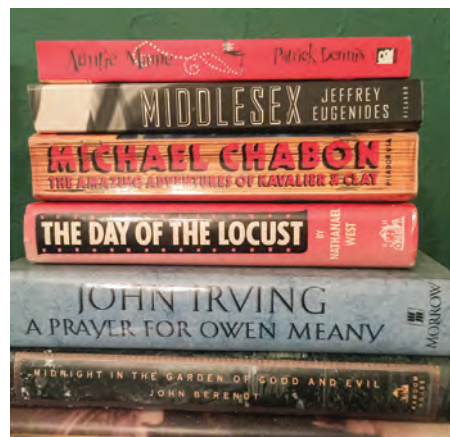
Although the members are all gay

men, they consider membership open. Last year, they invited a woman author to discuss a short book she wrote about her cat. And after reading a book penned by member David Baldwin's sister, the group Skyped her during a meeting to chat about the material she wrote. When Dallas Opera did a production of *Moby Dick*, a member suggested the group read the book. "The guy who chose it ended up reading all the book but refused to read the last four pages because he hated it so much," Ballou says with a laugh.

Baldwin, who joined the club shortly after he moved from Boston in 2006, tries to cook meals to match the theme of the month's selection if possible. When he recommended the club read *City of Thieves*, a story set in St. Petersburg, Russia, he served beef stroganoff with caviar, wine from the Russian River Valley and offered attendees vodka shots.

Whether one's a heavy reader or more interested in the club's social aspect, the One True Book Club aims to give its members chances to read regularly and learn from a broad spectrum of subjects, while enjoying each other's company in a laidback environment.

"The book club has really strived to be, not disorganized, but have little organization," Ballou says. "We don't have a president. We don't have any fees. The discussions just sort of happen. Even the night of the book club is very off the cuff in a way. We'll chat for a while, and then we'll sit down for dinner. And it just turns into a discussion."



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We should all be Mirandas

Country queen on being a 'very proud' ally, crying with her gay brother at Pride and her queer-loving God

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Although she wasn't named after Miranda Hobbes, the character played by out actress Cynthia Nixon on *Sex and the City*, Miranda Lambert shares a lot in common with her namesake. In June, the queen of modern country music stood alongside her gay brother, Luke, his husband and her own cop-husband, Brendan McLoughlin, at WorldPride in New York City. She beamed as brightly as the rainbow-colored PRIDE lettering on her neon-green cap. In another pic, Lambert smirked, appearing delighted as her hand proudly called attention to a fella's shirt that read, "We should all be Mirandas," a nod to two very gay-loved things: Lambert and *Sex and the City*. The photos, which she hashtagged "ally" and "family," were posted to her social media feed with the caption, "Happy Pride y'all!"

Picture a name like Miranda Lambert, as pure country as country artists are in the genre's modern era, documenting their immersive Pride adventures for all the world to see. Picture it 15 years ago. Picture it five years ago. Can't? That's because it wasn't happening.

The 36-year-old East Texas native is as country-bred and country-honored as they come, with 13 Country Music Association Awards and 33 Academy of Country Music Awards, more than any artist in the award show's 54-year history. Seven solo albums in — and 10 altogether, counting the three she recorded as part of girl-group Pistol Annies — Lambert's music still packs a sassy, emotional, freewheeling punch on her latest, *Wildcard*.

After releasing one of the best albums of 2016, her double-disc divorce opus *The Weight of These Wings*, Lambert lets her hair down on *Wildcard*, turning the page on a rough patch. With newfound hope, she sings sweetly about the

"bluebird in my heart," and with fellow country artist Maren Morris, ultimately decides it's best they let a hitman handle the cheating man they want to murder because "the way those jumpsuits wash us out, we're way too pretty for prison." Since her 2005 debut album *Kerosene*, and much like the LGBTQ allyship that has crept into her lyrics, Lambert has let her homespun ruminations on heart-break, booze and setting things ablaze speak for themselves.

But on a recent call, Lambert opened up about the emotional experience she shared with her brother at her first Pride, wishing she had spoken up for the LGBTQ community sooner and how leaving her small Texas town opened her mind. Also, an epiphany: the country superstar has realized that, compared to a drag queen, she's actually got it pretty damn easy.

— Chris Azzopardi

Dallas Voice: What was special to you about being at WorldPride? Miranda Lambert: It was the happiest day. I've never seen that many people in that great of a mood in one place in my life. It was so cool, and there was glitter and rainbows everywhere. It was kind of like a little fantasyland, and I got to watch the parade with the NYPD from the best view ever behind a barricade, so I felt really special doin' that! It was just lighthearted. Everybody had wings that day and I loved it.

Had you ever been to a Pride event before WorldPride? I'd never before. It was my first time. And in New York City! So I did it big. And it was WorldPride, too, and I just went straight for it. It was like, go outside and laugh and look at people and be happy, then go drink and then go back outside and laugh and look at people be happy. Then go drink. One of those days.

You also partied at the New York City gay country bar Flaming Saddles Saloon.



Photos courtesy Ellen von Unwerth.

I love Flaming Saddles. It's one of my favorite places.

Had you thrown back a few at gay bars before Flaming Saddles? No, that was my first real experience, and actually my hairstylist told me about it. I walked in the first time and they were doing a dance to "Only Prettier" on the bar and they didn't know I was coming or anything. It was a coincidence and I was like, "Yes, I like this place. It's awesome."

You chronicled your day at Pride and Flaming Saddles on your social media, which still, in 2019, feels like a statement, especially when it's coming from a major country artist

like yourself. Why was it important to show your support for the LGBTQ community? I didn't even realize it was making a statement 'cause I just thought it was normal, and I guess what I mean by that is, I didn't think it was stepping out of bounds or anything because to me it's all the same, it doesn't matter. And I was just there celebrating with my brother and his husband and having a great time. But if it makes somebody happy that I'm a supporter, I'm glad.

I didn't realize it was that big of a deal, but I am glad that hopefully that made some people's day 'cause like I said

■ MIRANDA Continued on next page

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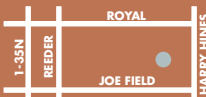
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■ MIRANDA From page 21

earlier, it was one of the happiest days. Almost every single person just felt like being exactly who they were and I felt comfortable. In a city full of strangers, it was like this community bond, and I've never experienced anything like that.

Some people's comments on your posts said they were no longer fans because you pledged your LGBTQ support. I

feel like the people who commented negatively weren't my followers. When people say "unfollow," they weren't following me to begin with! Also, I don't understand why people have time to get on social media and be negative. I think they should get a hobby or a job, or both. So I just don't let those affect me. But I also know that if you're polarizing, you must have an impact. Can't be loved by everybody. So I try to take the good and run with that.

I can tell you that as a gay country music fan who grew up with very few artists in the country community who acknowledged our community, even though you may not realize it, you did make a statement. Well, I'm glad. And I'll make it every day. I have no shame about that. I'm very proud of it.

Why didn't you declare solidarity earlier in your career? Was it just that you hadn't had the experience? Yeah. And I didn't *not* declare it, you know what I mean? I guess I didn't think it would matter that much if I did or not. But I

also recorded a song called "All Kinds of Kinds" that was a single and there was a person [named Thomas in the song] who was a cross-dresser, so I kind of did but I just didn't stand on a pedestal and wave a flag. I just kind of am who I am and sang about it. I didn't get backlash for that either, because that song is amazing and it's about anyone being whoever they wanna be.

That's the first time I thought you might be an ally, but still, it's sometimes hard to know which country artists are on our side. It kind of makes me sad that I didn't [speak up] earlier if that's how people feel. I just didn't know that it was that big of a deal. But I'm glad to know that, hearing that from you.

Did having "All Kinds of Kinds" on the radio feel like LGBTQ progress was being made in country music? To me, that was me making a huge statement but doing it through music, which is kind of how I make all my statements throughout my whole life and career. I kind of just tell everybody my truth through the lyrics, so I guess in a way "All Kinds of Kinds" was my way of stepping out and saying what I needed to say.

You sing the line, "Some point the finger and let ignorance linger." What kind of ignorance were you referring to? Oh, just judgment people. You know, with your community, the LB... I can't ever say all the letters. I always mess it up.

Ha! It's LGBTQ. LGBTQ! ... Everybody has a judgment. I grew up in the Bible Belt in a small town in East Texas, and I grew up

in church, but the second I started to sing country music I was kind of shunned for doing secular music. So, to me, that song kind of encompassed all of that: circus freaks, or what some people call "freaks." But they were just being themselves. And then the cross-dressing congressman. And the girl that failed geometry. It was all of us. To me, it was just ignorance in any way when people are small-minded and judgmental.

Did you know a Thomas? No ... But I want to! I also want to know Phyllis, 'cause she has all the pills.

Honestly, if you have a Thomas and a Phyllis, who else do you need, really? Exactly. Just the circus people. We're good.

"All Kinds of Kinds" was released in 2011. I would like to think that now Thomas might be out and proud and wouldn't have to live with, as the song's lyrics go, "closets full of skeletons." I would hope you were right. And I hope for anyone who reads this interview maybe it'll set 'em free because me and you are talking about it freely and happily. You know, I read about this guy somewhere that he was on the corner and had a [shirt] that said "Free Dad Hugs" for anyone whose dad won't hug them during Pride week and 700-and-something people hugged this guy. When I was reading about it, I was crying. I thought it was the coolest thing I'd ever heard.

Growing up in Lindale, Texas, in a conservative, Baptist community, did you have any LGBTQ friends? I guess I did and I didn't, because everybody was still afraid at that time. I mean, I'm 36 now, so in that town in that time frame it was still not the best, and the few kids I did know would confide in my mom, because my mom worked in our youth group and she was a really cool mom. You could kind of tell her everything.

But they weren't really out about it yet, except for some of the kids in drama, which was my first experience with the absolute sweetest, coolest, most creative people who were a couple of the gay guys in drama. I was kind of a band nerd and drama nerd. I didn't make cheerleader, so I was kind of in that group, which I'm thankful for now 'cause it's my living. I didn't think anything of it, I guess. I didn't judge it and I don't judge it now. I just didn't think it was a big deal in my mind 'cause I was raised to accept everybody.

What kind of support did you offer your brother when he came out to you? I support him 100 percent in whatever he does. He is a brilliant individual and the most amazing person, and just so genuine. Growing up in the same household, we're way different. He has no accent, he doesn't really like country music. But he did call me and tell me he loved this record, which meant a lot coming from him. We grew up in the same house, but we grew up differently because I'm still pretty much a country girl at heart, and he lives in Austin and he's way cooler than me.

What was it like to share the Pride experience with him? It was so special, and when he was giving me permission to post about it, we both cried because it was such a big moment. I see now, talking about it, why it's a big moment for other people: because it was a big moment for us too. So I'm just glad that he was OK with that, and we could share that moment and be supportive of each other no matter what we're doing or who we are.

Your song "Heart Like Mine" makes me think your God is one who loves everybody, including the LGBTQ community. Is that true? A hundred percent. You know, I think that "Heart Like Mine" is another good example, just like "All Kinds of Kinds," that says, "I am who I am." We're all flawed in some way, but I don't think your sexuality is one of those things you should be judged by ever. You know, Catholics drink wine and I always thought that was cool, 'cause Baptists don't. It's like, Jesus did, y'all! It's in the Bible!

I just think you should be who you are and try to be a good person in whatever that means for you. I think the negative people and the people that are like, "Believe like me," or, "Your vote doesn't count," I don't understand that mentality. Especially being in this business and being around all kinds of different people, it's really even opened my eyes more. I'm so thankful for that, because I love the town I grew up in — they are so supportive of me and

always have been — but it definitely is good to get out and see other views.

How has being a part of the music business opened your mind? I think it's easy to get wrapped up in small-town mentality if you want to, but I know a lot of people in my hometown and in small towns across America that are just as open as anybody and just as supportive of any lifestyle you choose. I guess it's just up to the person to be willing to push their boundaries.

To promote your newest album, you've been posting shirtless photos of your husband on Instagram. Yeah, you're welcome.

Ha! Yes, thank you. What's hotter, though, is a straight, married man who's comfortable enough with his sexuality that he can go to a gay Pride parade. Are you drawn to men who share the same diverse and open-minded views that you do? I think I am now more than ever because of my brother and because of all the things that we've been through together. It just kind of opened my mind even more. And Brendan, when I met him and started Googling him, of course — who's not going to? You can Google anybody these days — his video had gone viral for dancing at Pride and he knew he was probably going to get in trouble for it, but he did it anyway. That makes me love him even more, because he's just that person.

■ MIRANDA Continued on next page



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gonna love that show so much. What a fabulous show it is — beautifully constructed.” (She waxes fondly about the show’s composer, Jerry Herman, who passed away the day after Christmas.)

“I do have an arc to the show. You want to sing something that [engages the audience]. You can do that in so many ways — you can be fun, light-hearted, serious. I’m there to connect with a song and hoping that they connect with it, too. I know I’m there to entertain. Hopefully, I take the audience on a journey. I’m not out there singing

to hear my voice.”

Peters is the only one who’s not there “just to hear the sound of her voice.” Although she’s appeared extensively on television and film, often in comedic or dramatic roles, it is for her work in Broadway musicals that Peters is most rabidly fan-boyed over.

“There are different worlds of people who know me,” she notes. *Sunday in the Park with George* and *Into the Woods* were both recorded for PBS and you can buy the DVDs; some theater teachers will show those [discs] to their classes, so there are people who have grown up

watching the videos.”

Nevertheless, her fans will often be surprised by some of the choices she makes for her concert repertoire — yes, she does “In Buddy’s Eyes” which her character in *Follies* sings, but for *Into the Woods* it’s not “Last Midnight” or “Children Will Listen” or other numbers she performed as The Witch, but “No One Is Alone,” which she would hear other people sing and which stuck with her.

What draws her to any given song “is a curious thing,” she says. “Years ago, when I first started out [doing concerts], songs used to come into my head — a

lot of Irving Berlin, though that hadn’t happened to me in a while, though it is happening again. Then I went to a time where I did a lot of Stephen Sondheim, and I stayed there for quite a while — I’m still doing it. And then Rodgers & Hammerstein [she recorded an album of R&H standards in 2002]. But lately my mind seems to be hearing other things. I think life just moves you along. But you have to really want to do it. I have to connect to it. If I can’t connect to it, what’s the point?” ■

■ MIRANDA From page 23

I’ve put some thought into a “Way Too Pretty For Prison” video, and what about casting a Miranda and Maren drag queen? I would love that! I think that is amazing. In fact, during Pride week I went to a club, which I don’t go to clubs anymore. I didn’t think I ever did go to clubs, but I was like, “I’m all in, I’m doing the whole bit,” and I met Sabel [Scities] and she’s amazing. She’s from Austin and [laughs] she had on the heaviest earrings and had to wear a fishing line to hold them on because there were so many rhinestones on them. The earnings were amazing, and I was like, “How are you keeping them on, ‘cause they’re clip-ons?” and she was like, “I have fishing wire in my weave” and I was like, “What?!” It was crazy.

And I mean, just the makeup! I think I have it bad to get ready for shows — this shit is legit. I mean, so much effort and so cool, and I feel like I got an inside track into what all goes into the drag and I think it’s amazing. I have much more appreciation now (for drag queens) than I ever did before. So yes, I’m gonna work on your concept. I think Taylor [Swift] kind of stole that, but we could just go ahead and go on her heels.

Looking back on your videography, you’ve served some real looks. Where would you recommend a drag queen turn for some inspiration? I would say “Mama’s Broken Heart” has some pretty good inspiration. It’s just all too much!

To end: What does it mean to you knowing that as a visible ally now, you’re making young small-town LGBTQ country fans, maybe even ones in your hometown of Lindale, feel like they’re OK? It means a lot that you kind of opened my eyes to that, to be honest. And that we talked about it, because I just kind of maybe didn’t make a big enough deal about it because I didn’t realize it would make an impact. But I do have a platform and I try to use it for the better. I save dogs, and if this is what I use my platform for, just to push something positive, if this can be added to that, then I’m all about it, I’m all in. And now I realize that I need to be a little more present and vocal at times when I need to be, so thanks for that. ■



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**Friday 01.17 —
Sunday 02.09**

Stage West kickstarts new year with 'Ada'

Technology and friendship meet in *Ada and the Engine*, Stage West's first production of 2020. Set during the British Industrial Revolution, young mathematician Ada, daughter of flamboyant figure Lord Byron, befriends an older man dedicated to technological innovation. While her mother hopes to remarry, Ada explores her analytical curiosities as she helps build the world's first mechanical computer with her likeminded friend.

DEETS: Stage West, W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. StageWest.org.

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Saturday 01.18

Drag bingo for a benefit back in 2020

After its usual December skip, Resource Center's Gaybingo returns for the first night of the year. For those looking to do something new in 2020, the center hosts this drag-themed bingo night monthly, with the Roaring 20s as January's theme. Flappers and crooners hope to get lucky during this night benefiting the center's programming, so bob up your hair, pick up a Tommy Gun and get ready to do the Charleston for this unique take on everyone's favorite shout-it-out-loud game.

DEETS: The Rose Room inside Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 6 p.m. MyResourceCenter.org.

Friday 01.24 — Saturday 02.22

Cowtown theater show celebrates life of black playwright

Fort Worth's Jubilee Theatre launches its first 2020 show with Lorraine Hansberry's *To Be Young, Gifted and Black*. Jubilee's productions mostly highlight African American experiences, with Hansberry's play detailing events based on her life as a black lesbian playwright. And although *A Raisin in the Sun* is considered her best-known work, *To Be Young* similarly examines deep racial disparities and even inspired singer Nina Simone's song titled the same.

DEETS: Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. JubileeTheatre.org.



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Ada and the Engine. Regional premiere of Lauren Gunderson's play about the real-life woman, daughter of Lord Byron, who in the mid-19th century pioneered the first computer. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through Feb. 9. StageWest.org.

Broadway Our Way. Uptown Players' annual fundraiser and revue, which previews the upcoming season and also accumulates local talent to sing and dance and make you laugh. Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Jan. 16–19. UptownPlayers.org.

Blue Man Group. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Sunday. ATPAC.org.

Hello, Dolly! The national tour of the Tony Award-winning revival returns to North Texas, this time at Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Through Sunday. BassHall.com.

Slide By a premiere written by Thomas Ward. Part of the Elevator Project. Presented by Jack Nice. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Jan. 26. ATPAC.org.

The Color of Death! Pegasus Theatre, known for its In Living Black & White plays, goes outside the box for this first-ever three-act comedy spoof, in which the second act is in full color. Through Jan. 19. Eisemann Center for Performing Arts, 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson. Through Sunday. PegasusTheatre.org.

Pride and Prejudice. Shakespeare Dallas presents this adaptation of the Austen novel. Moody Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. Through Sunday. ShakespeareDallas.org.

Puffs! Imprint Theatreworks opens its third season with this comedy for Harry Potter fans. Stomping Ground Comedy, 1350 Manufacturing St. Through Jan. 25. ImprintTheatreworks.org.

FRIDAY 01.17

COMMUNITY

DFW Pride Happy Hour. Monthly LGBT mixer sponsored by the LGBT Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Crab House Seafood and Oyster Bar, 2508 Maple Ave. 5:30–7 p.m.

SATURDAY 01.18

COMMUNITY

FrontRunners. Gay jogging/walking group

meets weekly at 8:30 a.m. in Oak Lawn Park at Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard for a run along the Katy Trail.

Gaybingo. The event returns for 2020 with this month's theme The Roaring '20s at this game and fundraising party benefiting Resource Center. Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. 5 p.m. doors, 6 p.m. curtain. \$25–\$45. MyResourceCenter.org.

TUESDAY 01.21

FILM

The Killers. Director Robert Siodmak introduced the world to Burt Lancaster in this acclaimed film noir, which also stars Ava Gardner. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series, which now includes a matinee. Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Screens at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 01.22

COMMUNITY

FrontRunners. Gay jogging/walking group meets weekly at 7:15 p.m. in Oak Lawn Park at Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard for a run along the Katy Trail.

The Queer Off All Stars: The Winter Games. Contestants from season 1 and 2 return for this elimination-style talent show for the queer community. Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. 10:30 p.m.

this week's solution

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River Cruise from Lyon
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10-Night

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Cassie Nova

Bitch session: medical bills and pet peeves

Hey y'all. I know I close my column with my "love more, bitch less" stuff, but this week, I gotta bitch. I know I am not saying anything you all don't already know, but our healthcare system is fucking ridiculous. First of all, I have really good insurance. I know how lucky I am to be a drag queen AND have insurance. A drag queen that only does drag for a living — and has insurance — is like Bigfoot. People claim to have seen one, but most folks don't believe they exist.

But I also pay a lot of moola to have the insurance I have.

So, as most of you know, back in November I had a problem with serious vertigo. I couldn't walk; I was throwing up and felt seasick 24/7 for like three solid weeks. It was awful, but to make it all worse, I just got my bill from the hospital/insurance. My one-hour-and-40-minute trip to the ER — in which I learned absolutely nothing or got any help in any way — cost \$17,556.36. So thank God I have insurance!

After insurance takes care of most of it, I am left having to pay \$5,332.16. OOOOHHH! Thank God for insurance! Mutherfucker! Then add in the \$500 copay for going to the emergency room, which ended up being \$556 with tax, and whatever other bullshit they charged me for. Praise Baby Cheebus that I didn't call for an ambulance!

This was my first major health episode, and I'm getting older, so I know it won't be the last. But fuck! This is horrifying. Ain't nobody got time for that! I feel like I'm gonna be broke forever because I got dizzy. (Yes, I am being slightly dramatic, but have you met me?)

My regular doctor told me, "Just send them 10 bucks a month, and you will be fine." Sounds great — except for the crushing weight of knowing that I still owe so much money. I gotta start buying lottery tickets.

I know there are so many people out there dealing with so much worse and who are being screwed by the system so much worse than I am, and I am horrified for y'all, too. The thoughts running through my head right now range from depressing to violent. If I am feeling this way over \$5,000, I can't imagine how some of you deal with hundreds of thousands of dollars in medical bills.

Since I have opened this can of bitchy, let me go ahead and vent about a few other things: Like, can y'all please stop getting offended about things that honestly don't concern you? I had a gay guy get upset with me during a show a few weeks ago because I was "mean" to the straight people. Not one straight person had an issue with my jokes, but this little overly-woke homo felt the need to defend the defenseless. Look QWEEN, if you could take a joke as well as you take a dick, the world would be a better place! Especially since the joke wasn't even about you.

(I actually may have written about this a few weeks ago, but I just thought about the "take

a dick" part, so I figured it deserved to be repeated. I'm petty like that.)

Oooh I'm liking this so let's stay on this bitch train. Next stop: Pet peeves.

I hate it when someone, while driving, has to make a complete stop before turning.

I hate when bitches sit in the front row of a drag show and then just stare at their phone. It's so damn rude. To give you an example, a bunch of years ago, Khloe Kardashian came to the show in the Rose Room; she was actually there with Perez Hilton who was booked for like Bear Dance, I think, for some reason. Any who: She sat staring at her phone the entire night, and not once did she look up to watch a single one of our show-girls. Bitch, don't go to a show if you ain't gonna watch it! She left a few minutes after I said on the mic, "In all fairness, I don't watch her show either!"

I hate when you're at a grocery store, or any place with shopping carts, and two people stop to talk loudly to each other with no regards for the people trying to move past them. You can still gossip about how much weight Barb has gained or how big Billy has gotten if you move your bitch ass over few steps.

So just now, I leaned into the other room and asked my husband, "Hey, what are some of my pet peeves?" Without missing a beat he went into a 15 minute monologue spouting out a list of things I hate or thing that annoy me. Like a real list. I was like, damn dude! Did you have that just locked and loaded just waiting for me to ask?

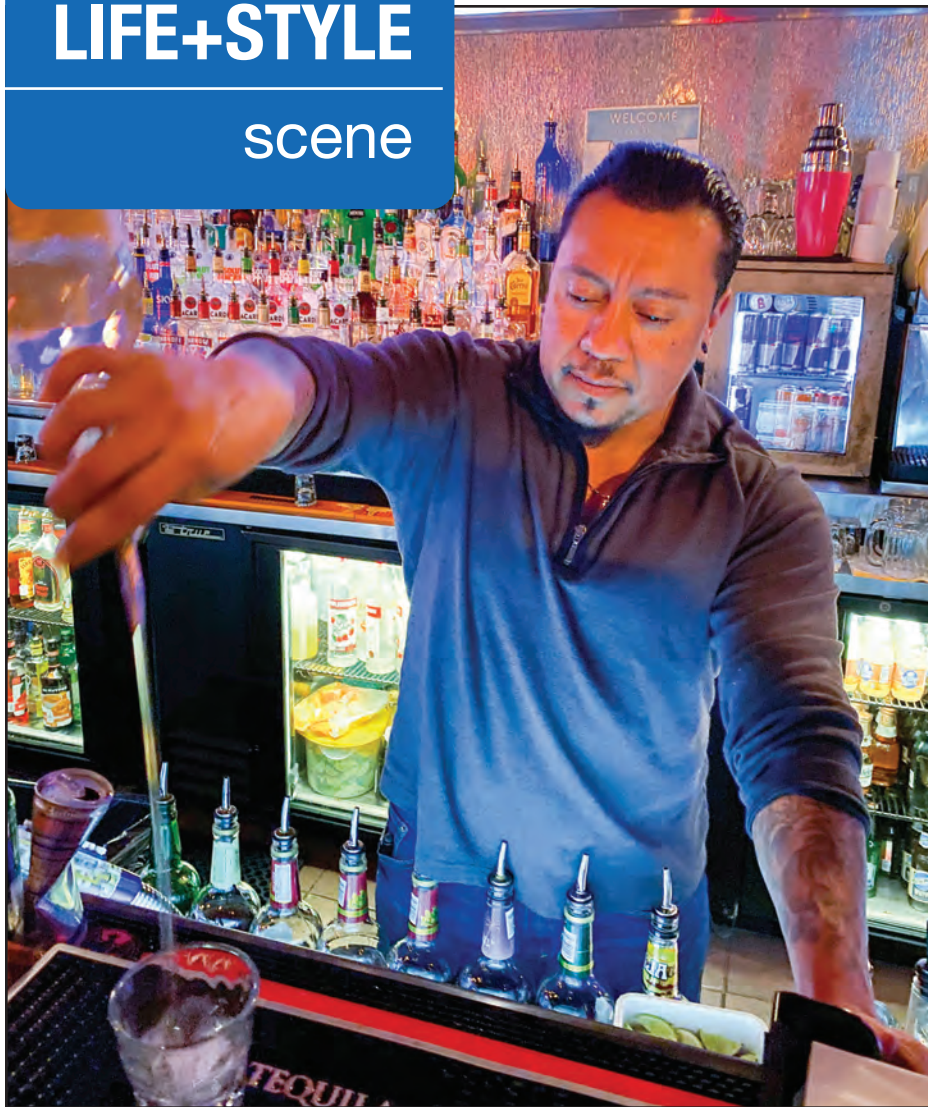
On an unrelated note, I also hate when people walk across freeways, talk to me when I'm sleepy or ask me the same question over and over, interrupt me when I am speaking or when someone asks you a question and they don't let you answer. But I came up with those on my own. That was all me.

I think that is enough bitching for one day. Soooo — remember to always love more, bitch less (shut up!) and be fabulous. XOXO, Cassie Nova



LIFE+STYLE

scene



Making the SCENE the week of Jan. 17-23:

- **1851 Club:** Kiana Lee hosts an all-star cast at 10:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.
- **515 Bar:** Tap TV Trivia for Cash from 8-10 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Alexandre's:** Diminished Fifths on Friday. Three Drunk Monkeys on Saturday. Wayne Smith on Sunday. K-Marie on Tuesday. Vero Voz on Wednesday. Chris Chism on Thursday.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House:** The Thirsty Games with Kilo Kikii, Sissy Pop and DJ Darlin Clementine on Monday.
- **Club Reflection:** Win cash prizes at Karaoke with a Spin hosted by Tucker from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. on Sunday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** DIVA Night with DJ C-Rail. Onyx: Central Southwest Chapter Club Night at 10 p.m. on Saturday. Back to the '80s from 5-9 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Havana:** Funk-e celebrates his birthday with guest DJs Jesse Jam and Rob V on Friday.
- **Hidden Door:** Messy's Chili Cook-Off with awards for the best chili, fan favorite, hottest chili, best presentation, and better luck next year, as well as auction items from 2-5 p.m. on Monday.
- **United Court of the Lone Star Empire Club Night** from 7-10 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **JR's Bar & Grill:** Cassie's Freak Show featuring Fantasha, Raquel, Ariel and Rolla at 11 p.m. on Monday
- **Magnum:** Throwback Thursday with early Top 40s, pop, hip hop, house and Reggaeton at 9 p.m.
- **Marty's Live:** MLK Weekend begins with Rudeboy Dallas, Nicole O'Hara Munro and DJ C Wade and Hypeman Dupree on Friday. Stop Light Party with Kennedy Davenport, comedian Ida Mae Watergate, MC Daddy Dee and DJ Shy Trotter at 10 p.m. on Saturday. Miss Wanda hosts I Am King with Prodygi at 9:30 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** Bear Happy Hour at 6 p.m. on Friday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** Faron and the Mescaline Americans on Sunday. Comedy Open Mic from 8-11 p.m. on Monday. Sign up by 7 p.m.
- **The Rose Room:** Rita Andrews appears on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The Miss Gay USofA Newcomer 2020 Top 5 Tour comes to Dallas at 11 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Urban Cowboy:** Texas Reign at 10:30 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** Playoffs on the big screen all weekend.

Photos by Chad Mantooth and Nicholas Gonzalez









q-puzzle

Queer Pop Culture Moments

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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66						67					68			
69						70					71			

Solution on Page 26

Across

- 1 The sound of music
5 Women live together here
10 Sally who rode into space
14 Nat. counterpart in MLB
15 “Scary Movie” Cheri
16 River in Nureyev’s homeland
17 The first openly transgender person to appear on the cover of *Time*, in 2014
19 Where to vote against Trump
20 Scene with Mary
21 Olympic diver Greg
23 Reagon of the Big Lovely band
25 Aetna rival, for short
26 Thigh-length skirts
29 Old Spanish queen
31 *Full House* twin name
35 Of a rear entrance
36 California city
38 *In Cold Blood* writer, to pals
39 Monae, who came out as pansexual in 2018
41 Apple CEO who just came out in 2014
43 *Xtra*’s prov.
44 Production
46 Locale of valuable stones
47 Pee-wee or Della
49 Granola lesbian’s bit

50 Maupin stories

- 51 Blow away
53 Picture puzzle
55 Homes of women who don’t do guys
59 Dwell (on)
63 Marlene’s role in “Blue Angel”
64 She wore a Pride Flag to the Met Gala in 2018
66 10 C-notes
67 Leave your lover in bed
68 Cock’s cry
69 Strip a fruit
70 Push forward
71 Game groups, to Billy Jean

Down

- 1 It might go right to the bottom
2 Barbra’s *Funny Girl* guy
3 Campbell of *The Company*
4 Type of dysfunction
5 Puts an edge on
6 Piggied out
7 Get ready for sex in an easy chair
8 Switch suffix
9 Snafu
10 Drag queen of *Drag Race* which premiered in 2009
11 Branding tool
12 Lover of Lorca, perhaps

13 Pipe elbows

- 18 Greek consonants
22 One who handles your horse
24 From ___ *Eternity*
26 Ursa ___ (nighttime bear)
27 Bananas
28 “Divine Comedy” poet
30 Penetrating
32 Seat at the Stonewall Inn
33 Lose ground
34 Cooks in a hurry
36 Sore throat producer
37 Mar. basketball tourney
40 *My Fair Lady* composer
42 *Moby Dick*, et al.
45 Edible root
48 Dan, cofounder of “It Gets Better” in 2010
50 Biggest brass instrument
52 Big name in Chinese history
54 Something you have when you have guts
55 Hoofbeat of a stallion
56 Eugene O’Neill’s daughter
57 NY Met or LA Dodger
58 School year division
60 Verb of Verlaine
61 I ___ *Andy Warhol*
62 Works under Edith Head, perhaps
65 Org. for bears

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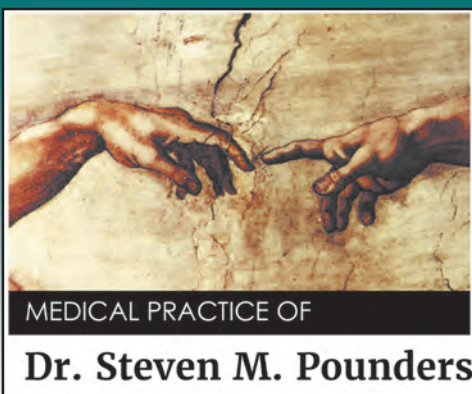
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