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FREE | Friday, April 8, 2016

Cecile Richards

Planned Parenthood maintains trans, HIV services with fewer government funds

by James Russell, Page 12



Holland Taylor
on being
Ann Richards

Page 26



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

Brief Summary of Patient Information about ODEFSEY

ODEFSEY (oh-DEF-see)
(emtricitabine, rilpivirine and tenofovir alafenamide) tablets

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

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

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

ODEFSEY can cause serious side effects, including:

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

What is ODEFSEY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Who should not take ODEFSEY?

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

- carbamazepine (Carbatrol[®], Epitol[®], Equetro[®], Tegretol[®], Tegretol-XR[®], Teril[®])
- dexamethasone (Ozurdex[®], Maxidex[®], Decadron[®], Baycadron[™])
- dexlansoprazole (Dexilant[®])
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- lansoprazole (Prevacid[®])
- omeprazole (Prilosec[®], Zegerid[®])
- oxcarbazepine (Trileptal[®])
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- rifapentine (Priftin[®])
- the herb St. John’s wort or a product that contains St. John’s wort

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking ODEFSEY?

Before taking ODEFSEY, tell your healthcare provider if you:

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

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

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

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

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

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

How should I take ODEFSEY?

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

What are the possible side effects of ODEFSEY?

ODEFSEY may cause serious side effects, including:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Keep ODEFSEY and all medicines out of reach of children.

Issued: March 2016

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emtricitabine 200mg/rilpivirine 25mg/
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Planned Parenthood's Cecile Richards.
Photo by Steve Foxall Photography;
design by Kevin Thomas

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Activists Patti Fink and Erin Moore celebrated their marriage with a "political rally" at the Round-Up Saloon on April 2.

Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant signs 'religious freedom' bill

You would think that what is happening in North Carolina — boycotts, etc. — after Gov. Pat McCrory signed into law discriminatory legislation would have served as a lesson to other states considering similar laws. But apparently not. It seems that — at least in some places — bigotry continues to outweigh fairness, business sense and common sense. Case in point, Mississippi:

"Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant signed the state's religious freedom bill [April 15], according to a statement tweeted to his account. Watchdog groups have decried the bill as discriminatory against the LGBT community, while proponents say it's intended only to protect those with strongly held religious beliefs. Bryant said he signed the law 'to protect sincerely held religious beliefs and moral convictions of individuals, organizations and private associations from discriminatory action by state government.'"

— Tammye Nash

Threats turn real in N.C.

PayPal has announced it will not open a new global operations center in North Carolina because of the state's new LGBT discrimination law, according to NBC Charlotte-affiliate WCNC.

The company announced plans for the new facility just a few weeks ago. The center was to have been located in Charlotte, which had just passed a nondiscrimination ordinance, and would have employed 400. After that city passed its new law, the legislature met in special session and passed a law that would force trans men to use ladies restrooms and allow any business claiming "deeply held religious beliefs" to fire or refuse to do business with an LGBT person.

A number of companies threatened to withhold business from the state after Gov. Pat McCrory signed the bill into law. Cities, states and a number of companies have limited travel to the state.

PayPal has become the first company to withdraw business and jobs from North Carolina.

— David Taffet

Mississippi loses same-sex adoption case

The same day an LGBT discrimination bill worked its way through the Mississippi legislature, same-sex couples won an adoption lawsuit in the courts.

Attorney Robbie Kaplan, best known as Edie Windsor's attorney in the case that overturned the Defense of Marriage Act, announced via Twitter, "We just won Mississippi adoption case! So proud of our brave clients!"

Mississippi's gay adoption ban was declared unconstitutional.

"And while plaintiffs must undergo the adoption process to fully remedy their injuries, the current law imposes an unconstitutional impediment that has caused stigmatic and more practical injuries," the U.S. District Court judge wrote in his decision.

He called the state's defense of its statute "tepid."

One of the plaintiffs is Donna Phillips, a woman who serves in the National Guard. She has a daughter with only her name on the birth certificate. She worries her wife, Janet Smith, wouldn't be recognized as their daughter's parent if something happened to Phillips or to their daughter while Phillips was deployed with the Guard. Allowing Smith to adopt, which is prevented by Mississippi law, would alleviate those concerns.

In the last line of the decision, the state is prevented from enforcing the legal code stopping the adoption.

— David Taffet



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Irving Penn: Beyond Beauty is organized by the Smithsonian American Art Museum with generous support from ART MENTOR FOUNDATION LUCERNE, Sakurako and William Fisher, The William R. Kenan Jr. Endowment Fund, The Lauder Foundation - Leonard and Judy Lauder Fund, Edward Lenkin and Roselin Atzwanger, The Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation, Margery and Edgar Masinter, The Margery and Edgar Masinter Exhibitions Fund, The James F. Petersen Charitable Fund in honor of Tania and Tom Evans, The Bernie Stadium Endowment Fund, and the Trellis Fund. The C.F. Foundation in Atlanta supports the museum's traveling exhibition program, Treasures to Go.

Generous support for the local presentation is provided by the Gay and Lesbian Fund for Dallas.

Generous support for Irving Penn youth education programs provided by the Heart of Neiman Marcus Foundation.

The Dallas Museum of Art is supported, in part, by the generosity of DMA Members and donors, the citizens of Dallas through the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

IMAGE: Irving Penn, Issey Miyake Fashion: White and Black, New York, 1990, printed 1992, gelatin silver print, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Gift of The Irving Penn Foundation, © The Irving Penn Foundation

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THE GAY AGENDA

Have an event coming up? Email your information to staff writer James Russell at russell@dallasvoice.com by Thursday at 10 a.m. for that week's issue.

- **Weekly: Lambda Weekly** every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM with this week's guests are Carter and Espy Brown of **Black Trans Advocacy**; **United Black Ellument** hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at 3116 Commerce St., Suite C; **Core Group Meeting** every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.; **Fuse game night** every Monday evening but the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space in the Treymore Building, 4038 Lemmon Ave, Suite 101; **FuseConnect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski at 214-760-9718 ext 3 or Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org.

APRIL

- **April 8: Magical Woodlands Teen Prom** For LGBTQ and ally youth from ages 14-18. From 5-11 p.m. at Interfaith Peace Chapel, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Free but limited to 100 youth.

- **April 8: High Tech Happy Hour** Texas Instruments Pride, the LGBT and ally diversity group, hosts its monthly High Tech Happy Hour to increase professional and social contacts between groups and individuals and to foster community. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Taboo Lounge, 1418 N. Riverfront Blvd. For more information e-mail Paul von Wupperfeld at pavw@ti.com.

- **April 9: Pups and Pints Benefit for Paws in the City** Benefit for adoption and animal welfare group from 3-6 p.m. at Deep Ellum Brewing Company, 2823 St. Louis St. \$20 per person gets you a pint glass and 3 beer tickets.

- **April 9: No Tie Dinner** Progressive dinner benefits AIDS Services Dallas that concludes with a desert course and silent auction at 7 p.m. at Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave. \$75. NoTieDinner.org.

- **April 9: Walk a Mile in Her Shoes** Canceled.

- **April 9-May 30: Scarborough Renaissance Festival**

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



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- **April 10: Oak Cliff Earth Day**
Booths, exhibits, demonstrations. Free. Noon to 5 p.m. in Lake Cliff Park in the Demonstration Rose Garden, Colorado and Zang boulevards. The Oak Cliff Street car is free and runs every 30 minutes from Union Station to Lake Cliff Park.
- **April 12: East Texas PFLAG meeting**
At 6:30 p.m. in Genecov Room, Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce, 315 N. Broadway, Tyler.
- **April 15: North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce Celebration of Excellence**
Eleventh annual event honors awards in business excellence and to legislative champions at Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 N. Stemmons Fwy.
- **April 16: Gaybingo**
Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place 6-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information, call 214-540-4458 or email Bscott@myresourcecenter.org.
- **April 16: Oak Lawn Band presents 'Storytellers'**
Music from movies, theater, children's folk tales and more. 3 p.m. at Oak Lawn United Methodist Church, 3014 Oak Lawn Ave.
- **April 17: TCGPWA general meeting**
Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association holds a general meeting at 3 p.m. at Barron House, 516 College Ave, Fort Worth.
- **April 19: Stonewall Democrats of Dallas meeting**
Resource Center CEO Cece Cox is the speaker. 6:30 p.m. at Vixen Lounge at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St.
- **April 21: Rainbow LULAC officer installation**
6:30 p.m. at Havana Lounge, 4006 Cedar Springs Road.
- **April 21: Light Up Oak Lawn screening**
USA Film Festival premieres Steven Pomerantz's documentary about last fall's Oak Lawn attacks. 6:30 p.m. at Angelika Theater, 5321 E Mockingbird Lane.
- **April 22: FashionCited turns 10**
Designers Jonathan Aparicio, Petit Atelier, Edo

Popken of Switzerland, Mario Alberto and others showcase their collections on celebrity models benefiting Legal Hospice of Texas. From 8-11 p.m. at Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave.

- **April 22: 10th Annual FashionCITED Show**
Annual fashion show and fundraiser for Legal Hospice of Texas. 8 p.m. at Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave., Dallas. For additional information e-mail Kamesha Gibson at kamesha@legalthospice.org For tickets and more information visit Bit.ly/1DGaphZ.
 - **April 25-May 1: National Black Transmen Conference**
Fifth annual National Black Trans Advocacy Conference and awards gala. The Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum, 14901 Dallas Parkway. BlackTrans.org.
 - **April 30: Steve Grand in concert**
Steve Grand appears in concert. Chris Chism, who's been in the studio working on his first single "Don't Stay There," also performs. Concert begins at 7 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope 5901 Cedar Springs Road.
- MAY**
- **May 1: A Privileged Encounter: My Unique Experience with President Bill Clinton, 1987-2000.**
Congregation Beth El Binah welcomes Rabbi Gene Levy of Little Rock who discusses his new book at 7:30 p.m. at Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Preston Road.

- **May 6-8: The Grace Project**
The world's largest conference for women living with HIV takes place at a hotel in the Coit/LBJ area. For more information contact Angela Huddy at Legacy Counseling Center at angela@legacycounseling.org or 214-520-6308 ext. 384. Information at legacygraceproject.org.
- **May 12: Outrageous Oral 20**
The Dallas Way's oral history project welcomes Dickie Weaver, Mary Mallory and Michael Doughman at 7 p.m. at the Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. (New location because of construction in the Rose Room).
- **May 13-14: Contemporary Relationships Conference**
Learn and discuss ways to strengthen LGBTQ dating, relationships, and parenting with over 30 international and national speakers from 8 a.m.-5:15 p.m. on May 14. Pre-conference institutes take place May 13. Both events are held at St. David's Bethell Hall, 301 E. 8th St., Austin. For more information and to register

April 9-May 30: Scarborough Renaissance Festival



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visit Bit.ly/1tZKykeor e-mail info@contemporaryrelationships.com.

- **May 14: TAG'S Annual Ball**
"007: A Night With Bond," Tyler Area Gays' 2016 Annual Ball, features casino tables, cash bar, live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres, silent auction and more. Tickets are \$40 in advance, \$45 at the bar; student tickets are \$35. For tickets and more information visit TylerAreaGays.com. For information email info@TylerAreaGays.com or call 903-312-2081. 6 p.m.-midnight, at Holiday Inn Tyler South Broadway, 5701 S. Broadway Ave.
- **May 14: MetroBall Winstar Casino Party Bus Trip**
Buses leave Sue Ellen's parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and Collin Creek Mall at 9 a.m. Arrive Winstar Casino at 10:30 a.m. and depart Winstar at 2 p.m. Arrive Plano at 4 p.m. and Dallas at 4:30 p.m. \$75 for one person, \$125 for two and \$150 for three. Proceeds benefit the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund and

MetroBall. Tickets at MetroBallExpress.BrownPaperTickets.com

- **May 21: AIDS Outreach Center Evening of Hope Benefit Gala**
Benefits AOC's services and programs. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Dinner at 7:30 p.m. at Worthington Hotel, 200 Main St., Fort Worth. For tickets and more information call 817-916-5224.
- **May 21: Orange is the New Bingo**
Monthly fundraiser for Resource Center takes place 6-9 p.m. the third Saturday of the month at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information, call 214-540-4458 or email Bscott@myresourcecenter.org.
- **May 21: Public grand opening LGBT Community Center**
Resource Center holds an open house at its new building from 10 a.m.-noon at Cedar Springs and Inwood roads.



“Nothing left to throw at us”



In the face of criticism, Planned Parenthood is expanding services, including services for trans people

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Last year, a day after Thanksgiving, Robert Dear Jr., a self-described “warrior for babies,” killed three people and injured nine others at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs. Around that same time, Republicans in Congress threatened but ultimately failed to shut down the government if the reproductive health organization was not defunded.

Last December, Texas cut HIV prevention funding for Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast.

But you wouldn’t know the organization was suffering, judging by the crowd at Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas’ annual Dallas luncheon Monday, April 4 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The luncheon attracted 1,400 people and raised more than \$870,000 for the organization, which services the Central and North Texas regions, including Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Paris, Tyler, Waco and surrounding communities.

Featured speaker was Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America and Planned Parenthood Action Fund. A Dallas native and daughter of the late, revered Texas Gov. Ann Richards, she joined the organization in 2006.

In an interview before the luncheon, Cecile Richards was frank about her organization’s op-

ponents, who have targeted it because some of its clinics provide abortions.

“What we have seen over and over again is that when anyone — an organization or politician — puts politics ahead of folks’ healthcare, the outcome is disastrous,” Richards said. Her home state was not immune from criticism either.

The assaults on the organization after the state decided to not renew Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast’s federally-funded contract did not stop; there’s always more to scapegoat if it means an elected official can fundraise off it.

In February, Rick Allgeyer, Texas Health and Human Services Commission’s director of research, stepped down after facing criticism from state leaders because of his involvement in a study that found a 35 percent decline among women accessing the state’s women’s health program after Planned Parenthood was kicked out in 2013.

Researchers from the Texas Policy Evaluation Project at the University of Texas and other agency employees conducted the study, and the report was published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Agency officials said Allgeyer violated agency policy by contributing to an outside study. But that does not mean the report’s conclusions weren’t accurate, Richards said.

“It’s incredible to me you could have important piece of research that is factually based [and] the state doesn’t own up to the impact of [cutting our services]. The impact was immediate and was felt most acutely on populations with least access to affordable healthcare,” Richards said.

And it wasn’t just women that were impacted by the cuts, she added.

Locally, 11 percent of all Planned Parenthood patients are young men, Richards noted. And LGBT people use clinics too.

“I think it’s important to know we are a LGBT-welcoming healthcare provider and extremely proud of not only being a healthcare provider but a community leader. We welcome LGBT patients who are looking for services they can’t find elsewhere in the community or may not find without the sort of shame and stigma they feel when looking for reproductive healthcare,” Richards said.

Ken Lambrecht, CEO of Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, knows first-hand that Planned Parenthood is a welcoming place.

“As a gay man, [I know] the cornerstone of Planned Parenthood is that we are a nonjudgmental organization that provides comprehensive reproductive healthcare to women, men and teens,” Lambrecht said. “We try to keep people healthy and teach individuals to live responsible lives. Everything we do is fight for equality for all individuals.

“You recognize decisions you make are supportive of where you want to be in life,” he added. “Our priority is you and to empower individuals to make personal choices. And we help them do so without judgment.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the HIV infection rate among transgender people is about four times as in the national population. Transgender people of color are at especially high risk for contracting HIV.

The reasons vary: fear, stigma or lack of affordable health insurance.

According to the National Center for Transgender Equality, one in three transgender people, and 48 percent of transgender men, have either delayed or avoided preventive health care out of fear of discrimination or respect.

Autumn Keiser, senior marketing and communications specialist for Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, said the organization keeps an eye on trends and disparities in all communities, including the LGBT community. Clinic staff and volunteers, for instance, are trained to listen to and work with people so they are not afraid to talk about their sexual activity with doctors.

“Planned Parenthood believes that reproductive rights are deeply connected to LGBTQ rights,” Keiser said. “Our healthcare and education services are built knowing that, in addition to health impact of systemic harassment and discrimination, the LGBTQ community faces low rates of health insurance coverage, high rates of HIV/AIDS and cancer, and frequent discrimination from medical providers. LGBTQ people of color are at an even higher risk for these disparities.”

She continued, “All incoming staff at Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, including health center employees and administrative staff, receive training on [gender and sexuality], so that our patients and health center guests are served in an environment of inclusivity and care,” Keiser



Cecile Richards, far left. Stephanie March, middle. Above, Gloria Compos, left, and Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson. (Steve Foxall Photography)



said.

When curricula are not inclusive of LGBT people, Planned Parenthood adapts the language to make it more inclusive and relevant.

"We often add a lesson using The Gender Unicorn graphic available online from Trans Student Educational Resources," Keiser said.

Their marketing also removes barriers that make services seem inaccessible to transgender people, Keiser said.

"Simple changes in health messages — such as stating that 'All people who have a uterus and

cervix need to get screened regularly for cervical cancer,' rather than saying 'Women need to get screened regularly for cervical cancer' — can make a difference in how welcoming and relevant trans people perceive these messages," she said.

Nationwide, Planned Parenthood clinics have focused on other efforts to reach the LGBT community.

An estimated 32 and counting clinics nationwide now offer hormone replacement therapy and other preventive services, although none in Texas do so currently.

Recently, Planned Parenthood Federation of America launched Spot On, a period and birth control tracking application designed for any person who gets a period regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

In Texas, services are expanding once again after a few years of consolidation and cuts.

"Now the state has nothing to throw at us," Lambrecht said, "we're expanding and focused this year on ensuring access. We recognize we have a governor, lieutenant governor and Republican legislature hostile to choice, so we have to innovate."

While Richards knows the damning criticism will continue, she is optimistic the tides are changing.

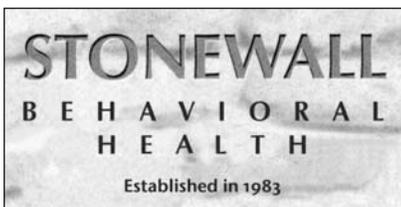
"There is a reckoning day coming," Richards said. "The rhetoric against us and LGBT people is not going in favor of those folks." ■

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Brian Smith

Honoring equality

GLBT Chamber awards honor businesses, advocates

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

North GLBT Chamber of Commerce hosts the 11th annual Celebration of Excellence awards honoring businesses and individuals who for LGBT equality on Friday, April 15. In addition to presenting the 2015 Business in Excellence Awards, the chamber will also honor four legislative advocates for LGBT equality.

"The dinner pays tribute to our annual Business Excellence Award recipients, businesses, organizations and individuals who have distinguished themselves through positive business practices, business growth and community involvement," Chamber President and CEO Tony Vedda said.

"It is difficult to make business sound exciting, however the dinner gives us a chance to have some fun and shine the spotlight people and businesses that are truly great," he noted.

Among the recipients are out state Rep. Mary Gonzalez, D-Clint, former Dallas City Councilman Jerry Allen, Plano Mayor and straight ally Harry LaRosiliere and the Texas Association of Business.

Whether at the statehouse or at city hall, each recipient defended LGBT equality in the face of pressure from its opponents, Vedda has said.

Gonzalez said it is "truly an honor to be recognized by the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce. I am proud to stand with the chamber as we work to create a more socially just and humane world and tackle LGBT justice issues."

LaRosiliere is being honored for his passionate defense of his city's LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination ordinance in 2014. On the night of the vote, which passed 5-3, LaRosiliere told the crowd they were going to pass the ordinance because it was the right thing to do.

"I am proud and honored to accept this award on behalf of the entire city. Our efforts on diversity and inclusion are simply an acknowledgment of who we are," LaRosiliere said in a written statement.

Likewise, Allen, who served as a Dallas city councilman from 2007 to 2015, is being recognized for his advocacy on council. As chair of the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee, Allen steered a number of changes in city policy that were recommended by the LGBT Task Force through the committee and the full council.

But the Texas Association of Business, the state's largest business trade group, is a perhaps unexpected ally.

Seen as traditionally conservative, Vedda said, "they don't normally step into social issues" like LGBT equality. But as LGBT rights become mainstream, the business community is realizing that discrimination hinders economic growth and drives away potential employers. ■

The Texas Association of Business, for instance, during the most recent session of the Texas Legislature, "came out in full force," alongside Equality Texas and the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas, against a proposal that would have allowed business owners to deny services and goods to LGBT people and others based on the business owners' "sincerely-held" religious beliefs.

The resolution, originally filed by Dallas Republican Rep. Jason Villalba, would have enshrined the state's existing religious liberty bill in the Texas Constitution.

While Villalba dropped the proposal after hearing concerns from TAB leadership and others, Rep. Matt Krause, a Fort Worth Republican, then filed his own bill. The senate sponsor, Sen. Donna Campbell, a New Braunfels Republican, rebuffed the criticism and defended her bill.

The bill died last session, but bills in Arkansas and Indiana passed despite similar pushback from LGBT rights and business groups.

"It was a big step for them to come out against an anti-LGBT bill," Vedda said of the business organization.

Other recipients represent an array of LGBT-run and allied businesses across the Dallas/Fort Worth area and individual LGBT advocates.

Fantastic Moves and AIDS Arms are recipients of this year's Business of the Year awards.

Tori Hobbs, director of development for AIDS Arms, said this is the first time a community group has received the Business of the Year award.

"AIDS Arms has been a member of the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce for many years, sharing similar values of diversity and inclusiveness. We are honored to be selected as the first community based organization to receive this award," Hobbs said.

Other recipients include Jaime Duggan of Duggan Noriega who won the Emerging Leader Award, David Gifford-Robinson who won the Supplier Diversity Champion award sponsored by the Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Sheraton Dallas that won this year's corporate ally award.

David Mack Henderson, president of Fairness Fort Worth, and Rainbow Roundup are this year's community service recipients.

"For those of us who commit so many years to LGBT advocacy without a paycheck, a thank-you like this one from the NTGLBT Chamber means the world," Henderson said. "There are days when sincere gratitude is the crucial element that keeps me grounded and resolute. Folks who persistently carry it forward inspire me. I'm humbled and honored to be recognized among such distinguished company."

Marsha Thomas of TNT Promotions, recipient of the Member Service Award sponsored by Pride Pharmacy, said she is also honored "to be recognized by my peers and the GLBT chamber. I will continue to serve the chamber and members. It's a pleasure." ■



Harry LaRosiliere - top left
Marsha Thomas - top right
David Henderson - left
Mary Gonzalez - above

No tie, please

The 11th annual No Tie Dinner benefiting ASD takes place at Frontiers of Flight Museum

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
taffet@dallasvoice.com

The James Bond film *You Only Live Twice* provides the theme for this year's No Tie Dinner.

No Tie raises money for AIDS Services Dallas, the agency that provides housing for people living with AIDS. Development Associate Alex Sanchez said ASD gives people a second chance — a chance to recover and get back on their feet — making this year's theme so appropriate.

But the problem with the theme, especially from the early Bond films, is that look always included a tie. Sanchez said, "Oh, no! Don't wear ties." Casual remains the rule no matter the theme.

No Tie Dinner returns to the Frontiers of Flight Museum on Lemmon Avenue on Saturday, April 9 for the 11th annual ASD benefit. The name was created as a play on Black Tie Dinner, but organizers said it was never meant to poke fun at the formal fundraiser. In fact, ASD has been a beneficiary of Black Tie for years.

Instead, ASD CEO Don Maison said, the name simply implies the casual atmosphere of the

evening that targets a wider audience than its formal fundraising cousin.

Over the past decade, the event has grown substantially. About 225 people attended the first No Tie held at Southside on Lamar. This weekend, Maison expects about 1,500 people at the Frontiers of Flight Museum. Attendees at some 50 private parties and dinners will converge on the museum at 7 p.m. for a dessert party and live and silent auctions.

No Tie raises quite a bit of cash each year for ASD. Last year, Maison's own private party was top contributor to No Tie's total, but he said he's already heard that the other dinner hosts have beaten the \$27,000 he expects his efforts will raise this year.

Sanchez said the rules have even eased up since the original party. Most party hosts hold their pre-event just before the dessert party at the museum. Others have an after-party. A few are getting organized late and will attend with their friends and hold their private party at a later date.

It doesn't matter, Sanchez said, because it all raises unrestricted funds for the agency.

Honorary chairs Angel and Marie Reyes are from the new reality show *Real Housewives of Dallas* premiering April 11 on Bravo TV network.

Vacation packages being auctioned off live include a stay in a five-bedroom, 13th-century villa in Tournon d'Agonais in southwestern France, a



No Tie Dinner Chair David Nelson, from left, honorary chairs Angel and Marie Reyes and AIDS Services of Dallas Board Chair Don Beubauer are ready for the 2016 No Tie festivities. (Photo by Kim Grubbs)

visit to Belize Maruba Resort Jungle Spa, a West Hollywood package, a Steamboat Springs ski resort stay and a vacation at Hotel del Coronado Resort in San Diego.

Other featured live auction items include a Louis Vuitton chaise lounge valued at \$8,500 and

a Lady Gaga autographed book.

Sports tickets, spa packages, custom jewelry, furniture and home accessories are among the silent auction items. Silent auction items can be viewed and bid on before the event by visiting NoTieDinner.org.



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Black Tie Dinner unveils 2016 beneficiaries

JAMES RUSSELL | Staff Writer
russell@dallasvoice.com

Black Tie Dinner revealed this year's 16 local beneficiaries at an announcement party Thursday, April 7 in Fort Worth.

This year's beneficiaries include AIDS Interfaith Network, AIDS Outreach Center, AIDS Services of Dallas, Cathedral of Hope, Celebration Community Church, Congregation Beth El Binah, Equality Texas Foundation, Lambda Legal, Legacy Counseling Center, Legal Hospice of Texas, Northaven

United Methodist Church, Resource Center, Turtle Creek Chorale, Uptown Players, The Women's Chorus of Dallas, and Promise House.

"Year after year, the Black Tie Dinner beneficiary announcement shines a light on incredible organizations that are crucial to the health and strength of our local community," said 2016 Black Tie Dinner Co-Chair Nathan Robbins.

"After our impressive fundraising effort on behalf of last year's beneficiaries, I truly believe that the positive impact of our 35th Annual Dinner will enable this year's beneficiaries to make significant

progress toward fulfilling their respective missions," Robbins added.

Dallas-based Promise House for homeless youth is new to the list of beneficiaries this year, but has been on the board's radar for a while," Robbins said. "They approached us. Their focus on finding homes for youth, including LGBT youth, who may have been kicked out of their homes, made them a good fit."

This year's theme, "Believe," emphasizes a positive attitude: that believing in hope, optimism, courage and much more, fuels progress and equal-

ity, said BTD Co-Chair Mitzi Lemons.

"The LGBT community has made some incredible strides in recent years, and we still have many more ahead," Lemons said. "This year's theme is meant to inspire us to believe in both the progress we've made thus far and the great milestones still to come as we continue our journey."

Black Tie Dinner is set for, Oct. 1, at the Sheraton Dallas hotel. For more information, visit blacktie.org. Raffle tickets and sponsorship tables are currently available at Blacktie.org with general table sales slated for June. ■



Scenes from the Black Tie Dinner beneficiary reveal party. (Photos by James Russell)



Gay man attacked inside strip club

Victim claims waiter broke his jaw, assailants yelled anti-gay slurs

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
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Cory Weddington said that he and his two female friends had been inside a North Dallas strip club for only a few minutes on Friday night, April 1, when he was attacked by a waiter and security personnel, who yelled anti-gay slurs as they assaulted him.

Police are investigating the altercation and Weddington has retained an attorney as he considers legal action against the club. The waiter from the club allegedly filed a report against Weddington on Tuesday, April 5, only after learning that Weddington plans to file charges.

Weddington said that as soon as he and his two friends walked into the XTC straight strip club, the two women went to the restroom. He waited outside the bathroom door for them, and when they came out, the three went downstairs and found a table with two chairs near the stage. The women sat, Weddington said, and he stood between them.

That's when a woman tapped Weddington's

friend Kim on the shoulder, and said, "You can't sit there." They ignored her, he said, but she persisted, telling him the table was reserved.

Weddington said someone he first thought was a bouncer but later discovered was a waiter came up to him from behind and slapped him hard on the chest, saying, "Hey, you can't be there."

Weddington said he responded, "If you don't want me there, that's fine. Don't slap me on the chest."

But before he and his two friends could get up to leave, Weddington said, the waiter shoved him to the floor, then kned him in the jaw. Then others joined in.

"One of the security people jumped on me," Weddington recalled. "Another guy started punching and kicking me."

Before it was over, Weddington said, four or five men were attacking him. He tried to protect his face during the attack that lasted, he estimated, for five to seven minutes.

"I pretended to be knocked out," he said.

Then as Weddington was leaving the club, he said, the waiter that initiated the attack shouted, "Get that faggot out of here."

Once outside, security — who represented themselves as police officers, Weddington said,



Cory Wedding spent a day in Parkland's emergency room after being attacked at XTC.

were of little help. One of the supposed officers told Weddington's female friends that if they didn't get him off the XTC property, he would be taken to jail. A Dallas police spokeswoman has

said that Dallas PD officers are not allowed to work off-duty as security at XTC.

Weddington said he suggested to one of the

ATTACK, Page 19



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Briefs

10th FashionCITED is April 22

The 10th annual FashionCITED, a fundraising event for Legal Hospice of Texas, is set for Friday, April 22, from 8-11 p.m. at the Frontiers of Flight Museum. Tickets are \$60, available online at mkt.com/legal-hospice-of-texas.

This year's theme is "To Spy or Not to Spy."

FashionCITED began as a "thank you" to Legal Hospice from Jeff Cook, one of its clients, for the organization's help after he was diagnosed with HIV and had to battle a former employer for insurance coverage. Cook explained, "My out-of-pocket expenses for care, which continued to skyrocket every year, forced me into bankruptcy. Legal Hospice of Texas took away that debt, allowed me to keep my home and get my benefits reinstated."

Cook's husband Francisco Flores produces FashionCITED. He partners with longtime friend and associate Cathy Garcia each year to select up-and-coming designers in the Dallas area to create the show. This year's co-chairs are Leah Frazier and Vanessa Lua. Host for the event is Alison Volk of Volk PR. The event will also feature lawyers from the DFW community, celebrity models, a silent auction and "spy" goodies for the "Spy on Fashion" theme.

Designers for the 10th anniversary show include Jonathan Aparicio, Petit Atelier, Edo Popken

of Switzerland, Mario Alberto and others. All proceeds from FashionCITED benefit Legal Hospice of Texas, a non-profit law firm providing legal services at no charge to low-income individuals who are terminally ill or HIV positive in the DFW area.

Dallas lawyer named Lambda Legal's national co-chair



Tracey R. Wallace

Tracey R. Wallace, labor and employment partner with Schiff Hardin LLP in Dallas, has been named national co-chair of Lambda Legal. She and her co-chair, Stephen Winters, are serving two-year

terms that began in February.

"For more than 40 years, Lambda Legal has advocated tirelessly for LGBT people and those living with HIV," Wallace said. "I am proud to co-chair this vital nonprofit as we continue to influence litigation, education, and public policy across the nation."

Kevin Cathcart, Lambda Legal's executive, said he is "delighted that Tracey has agreed to serve as co-chair of our national board. She has demonstrated a keen commitment to equality for LGBT

people and people living with HIV throughout her career, including as a Lambda Legal board member and, before that, serving on our Dallas Leadership Committee.

"I look forward to the energy and perspective she will bring as co-chair," Cathcart said.

According to a statement released by Schiff Hardin, Wallace has been involved with Lambda Legal for more than four years and has served as a national board member for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund since 2012. She has also served as co-chair of the local Dallas Leadership Committee.

In addition to her work with Lambda Legal, Wallace is an active member of the Dallas Bar Association, the Fifth Circuit Bar Association, the J.L. Turner Legal Association and the National Employment Law Council. Her legal practice includes labor arbitrations, labor negotiations, employee relations, complex class action litigation, wage and hour class and collective action litigation, Title VII, Section 1981, ADA, ADEA, and non-compete litigation.

Wallace has also conducted investigations, drafted personnel policies and procedures, and provided training for lawyers and human resource personnel.

Lambda Legal is the nation's oldest and largest legal organization advancing the civil rights of LGBT people and people with HIV/AIDS. Last year the organization increased its focus on southern states and other regions of the country where LGBT people and people with HIV face discrimination and violence with fewer legal protections.

Schiff Hardin LLP is a general practice law firm representing clients across the United States and around the world, with offices in Ann Arbor, Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Lake Forest, New York, Palo Alto, San Francisco and Washington.

Changes to Coalition for Aging, LGBT board announced

Cannon Flowers, chairman of the board for the Coalition for Aging, LGBT — North Texas, recently announced some changes in the board's makeup.

"The board of directors continues to evolve and grow," Flower said. "The committed efforts and high level of professionalism of those serving on the board contributes to a positive evolution process as we continue to fine tune roles and responsibilities with the individual interests, skill-sets and vision to the leadership positions required of the board."

The changes became effective April 1.

Mike McKay has moved into the position of co-chair of the Legislative and Advocacy Committee, leading the committee with Shelly Skeen. Candace Thompson is now chair of the Social Services Committee, and Samuel Tornabene takes the leadership chair of the Marketing and Public Relations Committee.

McKay had served as chair of the Social Services Committee since the board was formed last fall. Under his leadership, the committee made significant contributions in a very short period of time," Flowers said.



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ATTACK, From Page 17

The move to co-chair of the Legislative and Advocacy Committee "is a normal and natural move for Mike and the organization will benefit greatly with this transition," Flowers said.

McKay has been southwest regional manager for the Peace Corps since September 2011, overseeing the agency's recruitment efforts in a 10-state region. Prior to his work with Peace Corps, he spent more than 30 years in various executive management positions with nonprofit organizations, healthcare, banking and public service agencies.

McKay holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Angelo State University and a master's degree in public administration from Southern Methodist University. In 2000, McKay received an award from the city of Fort Worth Human Relations Committee in recognition of his role in getting the city council to amend the city's anti-discrimination ordinance to include protections based on sexual orientation.

McKay will remain as co-chair of the Social Services Committee with Thompson through April 30 to insure a smooth transition.

Thompson has focused her work and history in the areas of social sciences and public administration. She is currently the director of outreach at Jubilee Park and Community Center, working as a catalyst to bring about community revitalization in southeast Dallas. She leads and facilitates the programming and activities of the Public Health Task Force by promoting healthy lifestyles, remov-

ing barriers to healthcare and resourcing community members with the tools and service providers to determine their health needs.

Thompson is also responsible for engaging community members in the decision-making process for neighborhood planning and activities, as well as spearheading programming and initiatives for the senior community.

Prior to working at Jubilee Park, Thompson was a program manager at Housing Crisis Center where she provided case management services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in transitional housing. She also networked with local human service organizations to assess and evaluate the needs of client case load and worked closely with the city of Dallas to implement and evaluate the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program.

Thompson holds a master's degree in social work and a master's degree in public administration.

Tornabene worked more than 23 years with Edison Electric Institute in the role of senior director of communications services, and has provided consulting in this field since leaving Edison. He has also become very involved in advocacy and leadership in LGBT equality in Texas and is involved in many advocacy and community leadership efforts, including a recent stint as chair of Equality Texas.

Tornabene has a bachelor's degree in advertising from Michigan State

"police officers" that they "call me an ambulance," but instead, his friends drove him home.

Weddington, who lives with his grandmother and brother, said his brother didn't like the way he looked when he got home. But it wasn't until Weddington began having a seizure, that his brother drove him to Baylor Scott & White Hospital Irving. Because he has no insurance, Weddington said, Baylor seemed anxious to transfer him to Parkland Hospital, but he had another seizure before changing hospitals.

Parkland kept Weddington for a day, and he has follow-up appointments scheduled with specialists there. He's seeing a neurologist for an MRI to look for the cause of the seizures and make sure there's no bleeding in his brain. He's also being treated for a broken nose and a hairline fracture in his jaw.

On Wednesday, he spoke to Dallas Police detectives who said this is an ongoing investigation.

Kasey Krummel is acting as Weddington's attorney. She said there's more to the story than she knows, "but I'm not sure any of it could justify broken bones."

On Tuesday, April 5, Krummel put a litigation hold on video footage from inside and outside XTC. She said she wants to see everything that went on, although she expects the loud music and other noise will prevent her from hearing the specific altercation that preceded the attack or even the attacker calling her client as faggot as he was leaving.

Krummel said there were a lot of witnesses, though, so she expects someone to come forward.

Krummel said she also expects an arrest in the case, but she said it depends on how Weddington chooses to pursue the matter.

Whether or not hate crime charges are filed or pursued as part of civil litigation, Krummel said Weddington definitely has a personal injury claim against the club and its employees. Compensation would include pain, suffering and mental anguish and payment of medical bills that are already in the tens of thousands of dollars.

If hate crime charges are added to any assault charges, Krummel said, that would add leverage to any claims for punitive damages.

Krummel also filed a cease and desist against the club and its employees for harassing Weddington on social media.

XTC Cabaret Dallas is owned by a publicly-traded firm, RCI Hospitality Holdings, headquartered in Houston. XTC operates without a liquor license, which allows the club to operate until 5 a.m. and have full nudity. The XTC brand has clubs in Austin, Houston and San Antonio. The corporation operates under 12 other names as well, including Rick's with eight locations including in Dallas and Fort Worth and out-of-state in New York and Minneapolis, and Club Onyx in Philadelphia and Charlotte as well as Dallas and Houston.



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The victory of *Evenwel*

Why preserving 'one person, one vote' matters to the LGBT community

Earlier this week, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a unanimous decision, turned back efforts to reinterpret the constitutional rule of "one person, one vote" in the *Evenwel v. Abbott* case.

Had the Supreme Court ruled otherwise, the case would have changed the processes Texas uses to draw districts that represent the people living in them. The Supreme Court said that districts may continue to be drawn based on the number of residents that live within a district rather than only counting adult registered voters, as those who had brought the suit sought.

By seeking to narrow who is counted in districting to only eligible or registered voters, instead of including the general population, the challengers sought to strip representation from a broad swath of people who may be precluded from registering to vote or who may face challenges doing so, especially in light of restrictive voter ID laws.

Those who most likely would have been negatively affected include transgender people, immigrants, people of color, families with children, low-income individuals and families, the formerly incarcerated, seniors and those living with disabilities.

So why is this victory so important for all LGBT people?

Our community is made up of many threads that interweave with all other communities. While people of color and immigrants would have been the largest group affected by a negative ruling, LGBT people are disproportionately represented among those and the other groups that would have been denied proper representation in the legislature.

Conservative forces in Texas and other states would have been allowed to reduce the amount of representation of urban cores where large numbers of immigrants, people of color and LGBT



Omar Narvaez
Special Contributor

predictable results.

Such outcomes would have made it even easier for states to continue to pass anti-LGBT laws.

Nearly 200 such bills have been introduced into state legislatures just this year. These include laws enacted in Kansas (allowing taxpayer-supported religious clubs at schools to exclude LGBT students, even if those clubs are also funded by mandatory student fees paid by the very students being excluded), North Carolina (prohibiting transgender individuals from using restrooms in public schools and government buildings that match their gender identity and barring local governments from protecting LGBT people against discrimination in employment or public accommodations) and Mississippi (which this week passed a so-called religious liberty law that encourages businesses, taxpayer-supported agencies and government employees to openly discriminate against LGBT people by protecting those discriminators against any action against them by the Mississippi government).

In September 2015, Lambda Legal joined an amicus brief submitted to the Supreme Court in the *Evenwel* case by a coalition of civil and voting rights groups, highlighting the impact that reversing this key principle would have on under-represented populations. This week's ruling affirms the principle that it is "one person, one vote" that counts, not "one voter, one vote."

It holds that, when it comes to redrawing legislative districts, everyone is entitled to represen-

people tend to live due to the prevalence of welcoming employers, safety and community building.

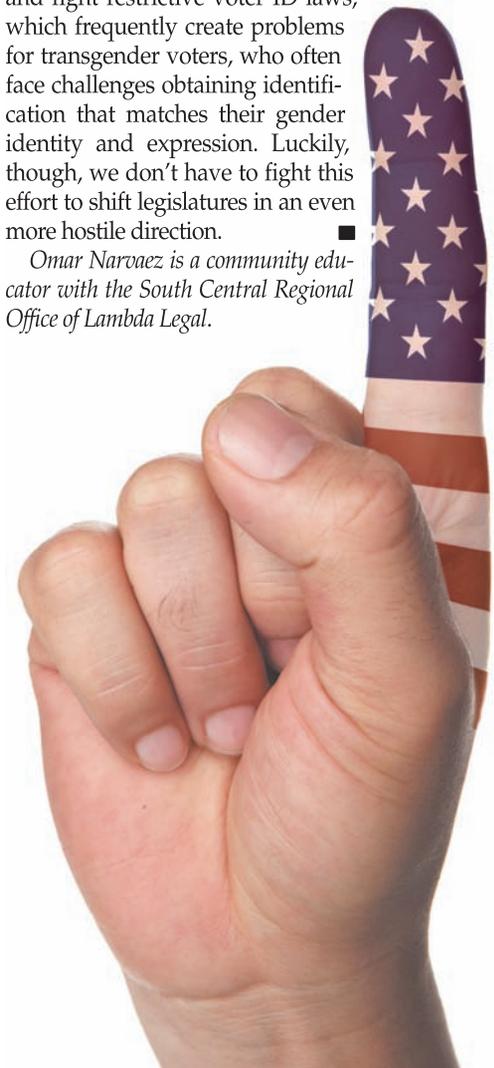
Conversely, they would have been allowed to increase the number of representatives from suburban and rural communities, with

tation — because our elected officials represent us all, not just those who have the right to vote.

Following the decision, Lambda Legal Legal Director Jon W. Davidson said, "Today's Supreme Court ruling is a big victory for democracy and voting rights. For as long as a person is subject to the government's laws, sends their children to public schools, or walks or drives to work on public roads, they are entitled to representation in government."

Much more work remains to ensure fair and inclusive representation, and to prevent cynical attempts to suppress voter participation across the country. We must restore the Voting Rights Act and fight restrictive voter ID laws, which frequently create problems for transgender voters, who often face challenges obtaining identification that matches their gender identity and expression. Luckily, though, we don't have to fight this effort to shift legislatures in an even more hostile direction.

Omar Narvaez is a community educator with the South Central Regional Office of Lambda Legal.



How I live

A revealing behind-the-scenes look at the real lives of transgender women

I was asked recently by a dean at the UT Southwestern Medical School to come speak to a group of medical students about LGBT issues. In my case more specifically, about being transgender. She said I ought to help the students understand how I live my life.



Leslie McMurray
Accidental Activist

issippi and a bunch of other places feel the need to pass legislation to keep me from using a public

I think that's important. Much to my surprise, how transgender people live their lives seems to be shrouded in mystery and intrigue. Apparently, there is even a fair amount of fear, since places like Houston, the states of North Carolina and Mississippi and a bunch of other places feel the need to pass legislation to keep me from using a public

restroom in order to protect women and children.

Kansas even added in the extra bonus of a \$2,500 bounty payable to students who turn in transgender classmates trying to use the bathroom.

So I think maybe helping people understand how I live my life might change their minds about wanting to isolate or punish us just for existing.

I've been giving a lot of thought to "How I Live."

I live in a northern suburb of Dallas County with my girlfriend Katie, my border collie "Breezy" and my girlfriend's three kitties. I work for a non-profit helping low income Texans pay their health insurance. My girlfriend is an attorney.

I drive a car that I love, but it's 14 years old and has more than 237,000 miles on it. I'd love to buy a new one, but that's not in the cards anytime soon.

I love to cook and people tell me I'm good at it. I also love to bake things from scratch. As a hobby, I make scented candles, mostly around the holidays. I enjoy golf and playing Frisbee with Breezy.

Katie and I get up about 6:30 every morning and I make coffee, let Breezy out and update my journal. I play with Breezy for a while, then I wash my face and put on my make-up and fix my hair. I get dressed and head for work, along with a few thousand of my closest friends on I-35E.

I love the people I work with and the people I'm able to help during the day. My job is a difficult one with plenty of challenges, but rewarding.

I get off around 5 p.m. and head home in traffic. I give Katie a big hug and a kiss, change out of my work clothes and try to find time to play Frisbee with Breezy a bit before heading in to fix dinner. We usually watch Netflix; *House of Cards*, *Archer* and various movies are our current favorites. We both love live theater.

I have a Facebook account and I am pretty well connected in the transgender community nationwide. I do a fair amount of media and public speaking on the subject. I read a lot of what is written about us — both good and bad.

It can be exhausting and demoralizing to see

the constant barrage of lies being told about us by those with an agenda or an axe to grind against the LGBT community as a whole, because transgender people are easy targets. It seems to me that marriage equality has angered a fair number of people, especially from the religious and political extreme right, and they are taking out their frustration on me.

I also read articles of support from transgender allies. Believe me, we need all of you that we can get. I am so grateful for every word of support, and I urge you to stand up and help fight this injustice.

Katie and I love to shop and to go out to eat, especially on weekends. We each ride Harley Davidson motorcycles. I'm not sure if we face more judgment because we are women, because we are bikers, because we are lesbians or because we are trans women. Frankly, I'd prefer you just treat us like anyone else.

We don't make our dinner decisions based upon safety issues. We go where we want. We have several favorites around the DFW area and we've never had a problem — anywhere. We are friendly and outgoing and we tip well. A few places recognize us as regulars and refer to us as the "tall girls" — and that's fine by me.

A project we have going now is putting in a flower garden at home and that's a work in progress. A few more trips to Home Depot and the nursery ought to do it.

I have two daughters, and they each live a full day's drive away from here. But we make the drive to see them when we can. They are each super supportive of me and the relationship we have now is better than it was before I transitioned. I love them dearly. It makes me sad to think of them reading some of the horrible things said about transgender people — but they know the truth.

Seeing my physician has been interesting. I have had to help educate him on transgender healthcare. I have also had to pick and choose when I see him because I haven't had medical insurance for more than three years.

A lot of that has to do with being transgender, because what I needed done wasn't covered by insurance. It was very expensive being discriminated against, but I was one of the lucky ones — I had the resources to pay for my transition. But I also no longer have money saved for my retirement.

Life is full of tradeoffs.

Katie and I hope to go to Europe one day. We also want to see Washington, D.C. I also hope we can get married.

I'm optimistic things will get better, but it still hurts me deeply to see the hate focused in our direction. We aren't perverts and we aren't dangerous. We love life, we love each other and we love our country.

That's how I live my life. It's really nothing

Letter

A true asset

I am truly saddened to read of the death of Neil Emmons. Neil was a true asset to the Dallas LGBT community. When I joined the Oak Lawn Committee in the late 1990s, Neil took me in as my mentor and showed me the ropes with neighborhood associations and city government. He remained a friend all these years and continued to work for Cedar Springs and Oak Lawn.

He was a friend to the Oak Lawn businesses, the Stonewall Democrats and City Plan Commission, and served honorably with the city of Dallas.

He will be missed.

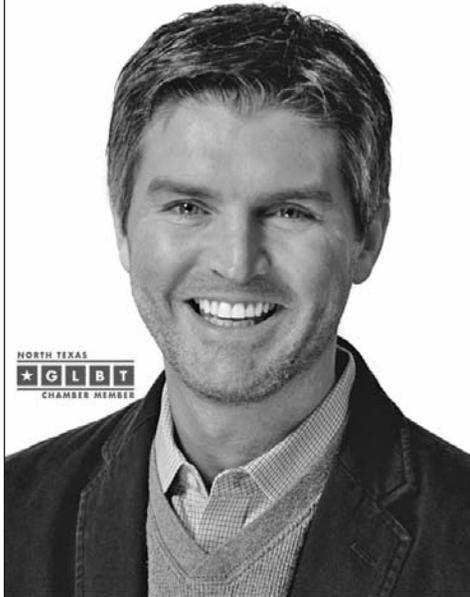
Alan Pierce,

Round-Up Saloon, Cedar Springs Merchant Association and Dallas Tavern Guild

spectacular. I'm pushing 60, my joints ache sometimes and my hair is pretty grey so I get it colored every three months. It's a good life. I'm finally at peace and finally truly happy. ■

Leslie McMurray, a transgender woman, is a former radio DJ who lives and works in Dallas. Read more of her blogs at lesliemichelle44.wordpress.com

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Royale (with cheese)

LIFE+STYLE

profile

'Drag Race' fan favorite **Latrice Royale** joins her fellow queens for Divas of Drag, a nationwide tour that proves drag is bigger than Latrice herself

As anyone who has ever seen her perform could tell you, Latrice Royale is larger than life — in a multitude of ways. Although she began performing drag in the '90s, it wasn't until 2012 when she chose, on a whim, to audition for Season 4 of *RuPaul's Drag Race* that she became a star. Her deep baritone, huge frame and saucy attitude kept her in contention through the Top 4, alongside Phi Phi O'Hara, eventual winner Sharon Needles and Chad Michaels, who himself went on to win the first-ever *All Star* edition. When Royale was cut from the competition, *Entertainment Weekly* called the elimination "shocking." (Royale was later voted Miss Congeniality by the show's fans.)

Fans also know that life hasn't always been easy for Royale, who spent time in prison for possession of marijuana and prescription painkillers. But she managed to survive the experience. "My size helped. The other prisoners didn't mess with me. They knew who I was on the outside and gagged at my splits. The worst part of prison life was losing my mother," she says. "It was the most alone I ever felt."

She sings about the tragic loss in "I Need You Now," a gospel song by Smokie Norful, on her new full-length album *Here's to Life*. "It was the hardest song to record. It really speaks to how alone I felt at that moment, grieving in isolation," she says.

The album reveals another surprising fact of Royale: She can sing, not just lip-synch. Unfortunately, unless you buy her album you'll just have to take her word for it when she's in Dallas Thursday at the House of Blues as part of Live Nation's Divas of Drag Tour, which reunites her with fellow Racers including Alyssa Edwards, Kennedy Davenport and more.

"Because we all travel so much, we are bound to bump into each other, so I've grown to love a lot of these women," she says. "As we were putting this together with Mimi, we were brainstorming on who we wanted to work with. It's been amazingly fun, and a learning process — I've never done anything like this before."

The resulting show is "a mixture of duets, groups live singing and powerhouse drag numbers with a lot of eclecticism," Royale says. "You have Milk, who is very avant garde, and then you have the likes of Yara Sofia who dances, and Jujubee who is beautiful and gives you goddess — everybody gets something out of this show."

And there's what Latrice herself has to offer: A towering disco ball of sassy femininity with a *basso-profundo* voice. She often jokes how her deep baritone voice sounds like Barry White in drag, which she embraces on her album. "I'm not trying to sing like a woman," she says. "My goal is to be authentic to myself, my voice and my experience."

Her style is so distinctive among the cast, it's something she almost can't get away from. While some queens can go incognito by dressing in boy-drag, Latrice admits, "I can't hide this no matter what!" She loves the chance to interact with her fans, though.

"When you're trying to eat [at a restaurant], it's a little awkward sometimes, but still I'm gracious because you don't know what kind of day that person has had — so why not? We're all going to



DIVAS OF DRAG

House of Blues,
2200 N. Lamar St. April 14,
9 p.m. LiveNation.com.

have bad days, but a rule for me is to always be gracious when they recognize you ... cuz if they *don't* recognize then you're not doing something right!"

Latrice concedes that the success of *RuPaul's Drag Race* has created some tension in the drag community between pageant queens, club queens and those in the middle who simply want to be on the show, but in general, the impact has been incredibly positive — not just for Royale, but for the culture at large.

"It has really elevated the art as a whole and put us in a place where we are exposed to the world," she says. "Before, it wasn't so easy. The show has afforded us the opportunity to travel the world — it's what you *do* with that opportunity that matters. But now people have something to aspire to that is greater than what we've had before." ■

— Arnold Wayne Jones
with additional reporting from Shane Gallagher

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Action Jackson!

Out actor Cheyenne Jackson is ready for his closeup

Has Lady Gaga touched *your* butt lately? It's a box Cheyenne Jackson can happily check off after his recent run on *American Horror Story: Hotel*, playing a bisexual fashion designer who, by the grace of Gaga, got felt up by Mother Monster herself. Of course the screen and stage singer-actor's resume is far more extensive: Jackson has starred in a wide range of projects including *30 Rock*, HBO's Liberace biopic *Behind the Candelabra*, *Glee* and the 9/11-inspired *Flight 93*, portraying late gay hero Mark Bingham.

Jackson's latest is *Day Out of Days*, directed by Zoe Cassavetes, the daughter of filmmaker John Cassavetes and actress Gena Rowlands. In the film, now streaming via Digital HD and VOD, he plays a gay dermatologist lending his expertise to friend Mia (Alexia Landeau) as she tries to survive age-obsessed Hollywood. As an out gay man, Jackson knows the struggle, but he's stopped caring.

In our interview with Jackson, the actor discusses his "fuck it" attitude at 40 (no more Botox for him), the butt-grab GIF Lady Gaga sent him and his passionate feelings on the Hollywood closet. ■

—Chris Azzopardi

Dallas Voice: You've played just about every variation of gay. How do you know if a gay character is right for you? Cheyenne Jackson: I never pick something based on if it's gay or not. I just pick something if the character's right for me. I play a pretty healthy mix, although these days I've been playing a lot of bisexuals. I was bisexual on *Horror Story* and then I just finished a film where I also played bisexual, so I'm in a bi phase right now. Honestly, just the part has to appeal to me. I really do love that there's such a broad spectrum I've played: gay guys who were more straight down the middle, and — though I hate this phrase — "straight-acting," and all the way to *Behind the Candelabra* where I was just, you know, super cunt-y.

When it comes to roles in general, how many scripts do you end up passing on? I make no bones about it: I'm not in a world where I just get offered all of these movies by any means. I've never put a number on it. I would say maybe five to seven offers a year and I'll do a few. It just depends. Doing a movie, especially an indie movie, you really have to love the subject and you really have to love the writer / director. It's such a labor of love — and I know it's an overused phrase — but it is if you're gonna be putting your blood, sweat and tears into it. And also, I don't wanna take time away from my husband and my home and my family just to do a little thing.

While shooting *Love Is Strange* with Alfred Molina and John Lithgow, it was said that you informed them on gay vernacular, such as what it means to be a "bear." As the gay guy on set — maybe sometimes the only one — do you find yourself schooling your straight co-stars on everything gay? Oh, well, I've never been *the* gay actor on set — maybe I'm the only *openly* gay actor. But yeah, listen, I'm happy to be the go-to if people wanna know what shit means. I've been out since I was 19, so I gotta do something with all this information I have!

You suggest that you've worked with many closeted gay actors, and we talk a lot about the Hollywood closet. Where do you stand on that? It's a personal thing. I mean, everybody should do their own thing, what is right for them. I hate it when people try to pull people out of the closet — who wants that? It's not good for them, it's not good for us; for whatever their own reasons are, they're not

ready. Just leave people to do their own thing on their own time. I fully believe that. I mean, I came out when I wanted to because it was my time, and I hate the whole witch-hunt aspect. Just mind your own business.

Regarding *American Horror Story*: Can we expect you in future seasons?

I hope so. We don't know yet. I think we'll all be finding out in the next few months.

How aware are you that you've made just about every gay man jealous by having your butt touched by Mother Monster? Oh, I knew! I knew as we were shooting it. We got to that scene, and it wasn't in the script exactly like that. But Gaga is so playful and comfortable with scenes like that and with her body. She was really fun and she put me at ease because I had never done a scene like that. So, we were just kind of playing around and she and I have such a comfort with each other, so between set-ups I laid down for a minute and she just started, you know, rubbing my butt and I'm like, "Ooh!" The director was like, "Oh, great; let's just do that," and that became a thing and I thought, "Oh, shit. I can see the screen caps now."

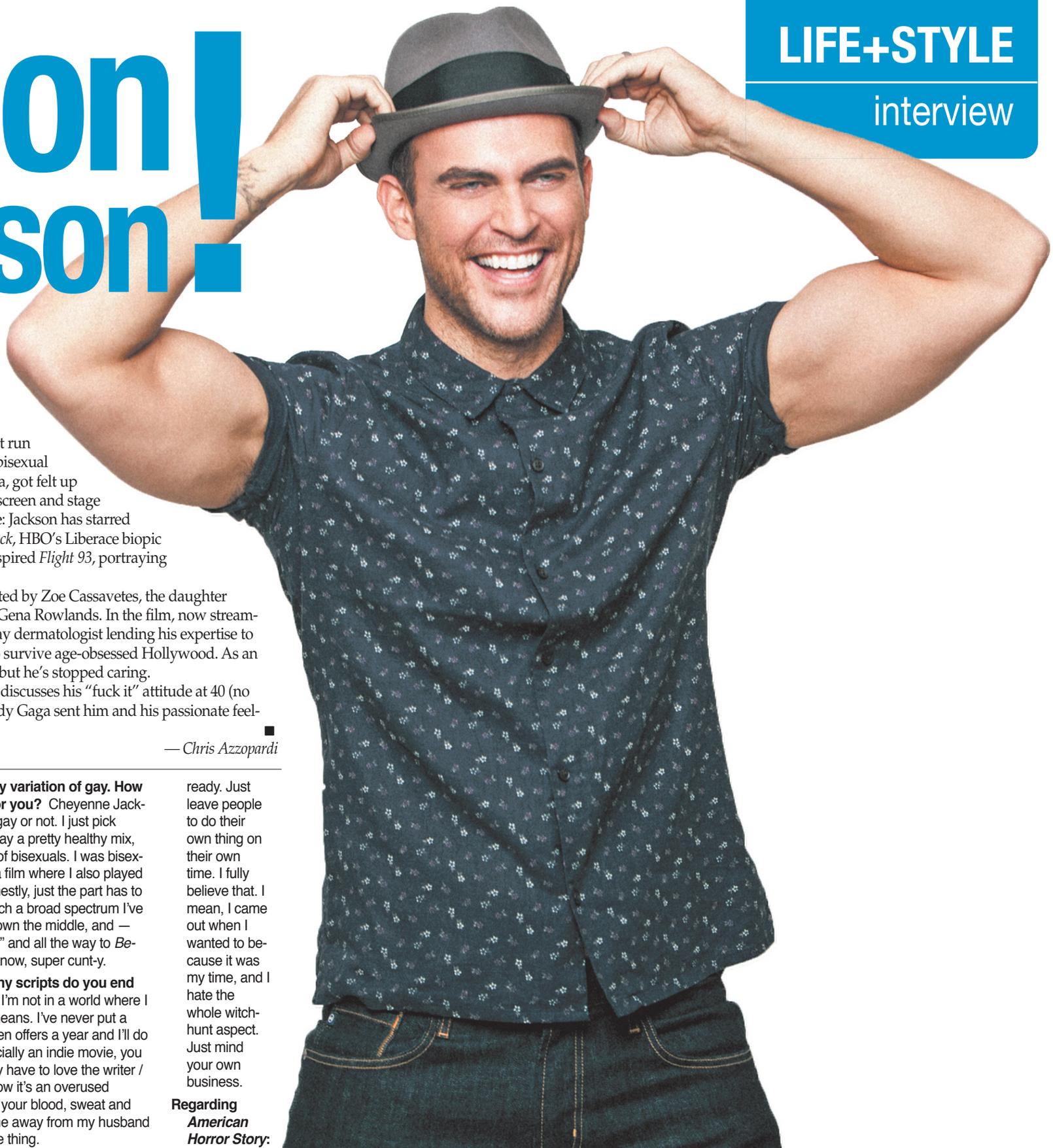
You know, there's actually a GIF out there. I know. She sent it to me

that night.

Who was guiding you during that sex scene? It was definitely a give and take. I was nervous going into it because I had never really done nudity onscreen, but she's just great. I echo what everyone else says about working with her: She's a total pro.

I was surprised to hear that you hadn't done a sex scene up until that point. I mean, I've done kissing scenes and I've done post sex scenes and pre sex scenes, but nah. I'm definitely not shy about it. I'm totally into it. And since *Horror Story*, I've already done a film where I have sex with a woman and *then* I have sex with a man. So, I'm hitting it.

What's the film? It's called *Hello Again* by Michael John LaChiusa — it's based on his musical. Really great cast: Rumer Willis, Audra McDonald, Martha Plimpton and Tyler Blackburn.



What's next for you? I have a couple of things in the works. Right now I'm in New York doing *The Secret Garden* at Lincoln Center and I have a couple of other things lined up but can't talk about them because they're not signed on the dotted line. And I'm actually recording [a new album] in March in New York. I don't know if I wanna talk about what's on it yet, but it's definitely some covers and new stuff — stuff I've kind of been touring with the last few years, but I don't wanna say some of the names just yet.

Like Mia in *Day Out of Days*, you're also 40. Have your experiences in Hollywood been similar or different from Mia's? And in what ways? Yeah, definitely different, because I'm a man. It's a different thing for women. Aging in Hollywood, as we all know, can be brutal, especially if you're a woman. It's a subject that people have talked about before and even made art about, but I like this particular story that Zoe's telling just because it's from one woman's perspective, and I thought it was pretty great. Personally, I like getting older, and as a man, I like what's happening to my face. Yeah, sometimes it's hard to see more wrinkles and grey hair, which I'm totally getting, but it's way easier for men — way easier.

I've been thinking about this since doing this movie, when you do see the occasional actress who doesn't do anything to her face, like Kate Winslet — I saw something recently, and we're the exact same age — and she has some wrinkles and she looks gorgeous and I loooove it. Oh my god do I love it. It's so beautiful.

While we're on the topics of ageism and sexism, I recall your nude leak. I wonder if there's a

gender disparity when this sort of thing happens like it did to you a few years ago, when a video surfaced. Do you think there's a difference in the way the public reacts to a male celebrity's leak — in this case yours — versus a woman's? I'm not gonna speak to that at all.

Fair. Let's move on. As a gay man, what kind of effect has sexuality had on your career?

That's a good question, but there's really no way to know what would have happened. I have been out my whole career. I came out during my very first big job in *All Shook Up* [2005] on Broadway. It was in *The New York Times*, and I just decided to get it out of the way so it wasn't a thing. What effect has it had? I have no idea. Do I think I have missed out on things because I am gay?

Maybe. *Probably*. But there's no way to prove it. And if that's really how something would go down, I wouldn't want that [project] anyway. But things are definitely changing, and it's funny that you say "as a gay man" because I find pressure on gay men, especially in our society, to look young. It's almost like it is for women now. I see all these guys at the gym and everybody's — well, not everybody, but a lot of guys — have a lot of stuff going on with their face.

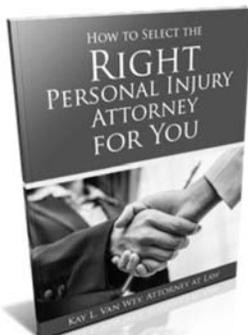
Do you feel like you've been pressured to look a certain way? Of course I feel the pressure — and I succumbed to it. I'm not against saying I used to do Botox and fillers for about three years. I got really into it.



Why did you decide to stop? I looked crazy. I didn't look like me. I think especially on men, Botox and filler doesn't make you look younger — I think it makes you look like you have Botox and fillers. It changed the shape of my eyes. I didn't

have any wrinkles on my forehead, and it was crazy. And then I started to obsess about every little thing. Then three years ago I was like, "Fuck it. I'm just gonna let my face do what it's gonna do," and I'm so happy I did.

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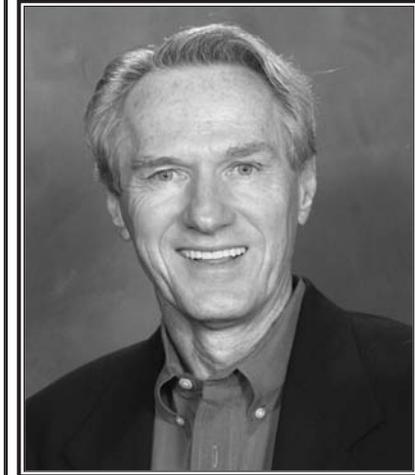
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L+S stage

Holland ahead



Emmy-winning actress Holland Taylor came out at 72, just as her career was at its peak. A look ahead for the woman who became Ann Richards

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
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The last few years have been a whirlwind of attention and acclaim for Holland Taylor — not so unusual for a starlet on the rise, but when you're a woman "of a certain age" (she recently turned 73), it's something of a watershed.

Taylor is best known to contemporary audiences for her withering role as America's least empathetic mom Evelyn Harper, which she played to arch perfection on 12 seasons of *Two and a Half Men*. Even before that show ended, she was already taking New York by storm in *Ann*, her one-woman show (which she also

wrote) about the late firebrand Texas governor Ann Richards, which netted her a Tony Award nomination in 2013. And she made news again just last fall, when she came out as gay and revealed, initially, only that she was dating a much younger woman. Her paramour turned out to be TV star Sarah Paulson (*The People vs. O.J. Simpson*), making Taylor one of the most envied lesbians in America. (She politely declined to discuss her relationship with Paulson.)

But she's not done with Richards quite yet. She's playing the role again, appearing at the Zach Theatre in Austin through May 15. So what keeps bringing her back to the role as Texas' most notoriously colorful liberal politician ... or

A TEXAS HOMECOMING | Holland Taylor returns to the Lone Star State with 'Ann,' where she first launched it nearly six years ago. (Photography courtesy Ave Bonar)

think she could do it in the first place?

"Right away, I knew I was in the ballpark physically to have a shot at *seeming* like her, and, of course, I knew that was essential," Taylor says. "When I realized it should be a play, because of her aliveness and her potency as a person interacting with the public, I was off and running. I have seen a thousand plays and been in a hundred. I know what works and what doesn't. I determined that I had to do the research myself anyway, so why not write it myself? I still marvel at my nerve, but I never felt cocky about it — on the contrary, I always felt like a vessel. I would bring the good news. I would serve at the pleasure of the governor."

Feeling the draw to do the show was one thing; having her general appearance was a bonus. But embodying a character as singular as the great icon of Texas politics — herself a giant in a state known for its outrageous characters? That was something else altogether.

"I had to mash myself all out of shape quite a bit over the years [to get the character down, including] my face," Taylor says. "I had no feel for the central Texas twang of hers, no feel for *any* Texas sound, and I'm not a good mimic, particularly. So the dialect was very daunting to learn, and my face and mouth had to work in ways they never had. Sometimes it was hard to get my face in line with the sounds I needed to make with ease, and rapidly."

She's had quite a while to perfect it. *Ann* got its first public performance in Galveston's historic opera house ("one of the loveliest theatres it has ever been my pleasure to play," Taylor gushes) almost six years ago, and she's taken it to other Texas cities as well, before moving to Broadway (where she received a Tony nomination as best actress in a play).

"My first run of the play, when it was called *Money, Marbles, and Chalk*, was in Galveston. We had an invitation for it all to begin there from its prescient director, Maureen Patton. As intimidating as the prospect was, we figured we would learn the most from Texas."

That was May of 2010, and audiences loved it; it was "received just as warmly that winter" in San Antonio, and then moved on to Austin the following spring. And she admits: Playing it in Richards' old stompin' grounds, where it opened again this week for a six-week run, can be the most exhilarating ... and worrisome.

"There are people [in the audience] who actually knew her!" she gasps. "[The first time I was in Austin with it], I was not terrified, but very keyed-up. Austin surely would be the most exacting audience, but also, as it turned out, the most wildly enthusiastic. Our run at the Paramount was gangbusters, sold out totally and riotously fun to do. But I felt an enormous sense of responsibility to get it right. It seemed everyone in the house either worked for her, was a good friend, was an absolutely loving fan or was a



member of her family. I wanted to please them very much."

After delighting audiences as far back as TV's *Bosom Buddies*, and through her role as a cougarish judge of *The Practice* (which won her an Emmy), *Ann* might be a capstone for her career.

"'Capstone' is the right word for it," she says. "Some reviewer said it was the 'performance of a lifetime.' I find it very satisfying to hear those words. It gives me a sense of accomplishment that almost brings tears to my eyes. I think I feel that way, because I could just as easily be at my age — with the career I've had thus far [not including *Ann*] and generally people would assume I was content, and certainly fortunate considering how dicey it is to have a life-long career in show business. I have been lucky. But the arrival of the vision and the drive to create this work, has given me the chance to give my all, to knock myself out in a sense, to expend a vast amount of my time, my heart, my mental capacity, my gifts, my resources, and my just plain physical strength to make something ... something of value. Something that exists in people's memories, something that stands free of me. I guess that's as close to giving birth as I got, and I'm blessed in that achievement. An achievement made with the help of many — so I have new friends and associates in my life, permanently, who have made everything so much richer."

With such a high point professionally does she feel — at 73 — she has more to give?

"We must all believe that of ourselves, don'tcha think?" she winks. ■

Holland Taylor appears in *Ann at the Zach Scott Theatre*, 1510 Toomey Road, Austin, through May 15. For tickets and additional information, visit TheAnnRichardsPlay.com or ZachTheatre.org.

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L+S stage

A star is born

Janelle Lutz and company send audiences over the ‘Rainbow’



ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

When Janelle Lutz, as Judy Garland in the last months of her life, strides onto the stage of the Kalita Humphreys Theater, the audience can’t help but spontaneously cheer. Like Garland, Lutz has that most mysterious quality of a star: charisma. She’s full-bore, don’t hold back, give-it-all-ya-got gumption. Garland probably learned its value as a kid in Vaudeville; I don’t know Lutz’s excuse.

And she holds that level of captivation for the more than two-and-a-half hours of *End of the Rainbow*, playwright Peter Quilter’s rendering of Judy’s last major concert in London, when pills, booze and a lifetime of failed relationships had really taken their toll. “There’s nothing left,” she sighs in Act 1, realizing that the toughest role she ever played was living up to the legend of Garland herself.

That spunk is what made Judy the glamorous avatar for gay men for several generations: If she could do it, so could we. That her death, at age 47, helped trigger the modern gay rights movement seems almost inevitable. “What is it with you people? The more she falls apart, the more you adore her,” Judy’s boyfriend Mickey (Alex Ross, good as always) hisses at her gay accom-

panist (Christopher Curtis, who nails his role). He was wrong, but it was easy to see why he — or she — felt that way. The audience kind of does, too — you can’t help but stare at her, wondering what comes next.

Like the play *Piaf*, *Quilters* combines dramatic scenes with concert footage, which allows director Cheryl Denson to turn the Kalita into an exquisite cabaret — foggy with stage smoke that suggests a faded memory, a last breath of life. And Lutz delivers there as well. She’s a deft interpreter of the music, giving her own twist to “The Trolley Song” while staying true to Judy’s version. But by the time she wails out “The Man That Got Away” in a plaintive, heartbreaking emotional breakdown set to music, you realize: She could be even better.

End of the Rainbow exudes desperation from every syllable, sweating out its forlornness like a marathon runner, and the anchor is Lutz’s magnificent portrayal. In the hotel scenes, she embodies the junkie’s hairpin turns of mood, but also the genuine need to always try to live up to being Judy Garland. “You could have shoved cables in me and powered Manhattan!” she oddly brags about how lit she has been. Stars burn bright, after all. The brightest ones die out in a blaze that sends worshippers to their knees, aware they are basking in the presence of something magical, something divine. ■

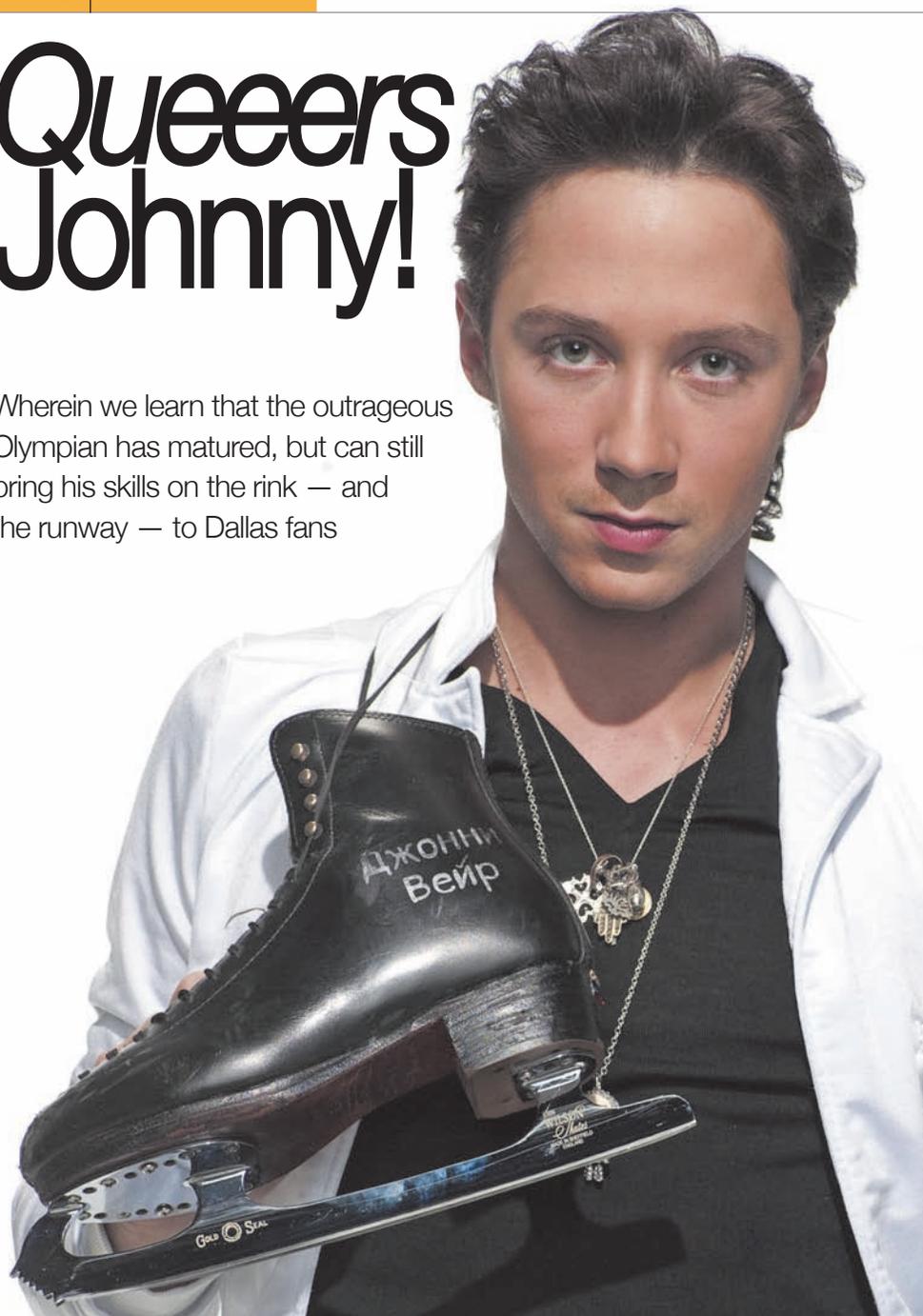
END OF THE RAINBOW

Kalita Humphreys Theater,
3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through
April 17. UptownPlayers.org.

GET HOPPY | Janelle Lutz and Alex Ross give powerhouse performances in Uptown Players’ production of ‘End of the Rainbow.’ (Photo by Mike Morgan)

Queeers Johnny!

Wherein we learn that the outrageous Olympian has matured, but can still bring his skills on the rink — and the runway — to Dallas fans



ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

I have to admit: I approached my interview with Johnny Weir seized by a cocktail of eager anticipation and dread. Here was one of the most iconic American figure skaters of his generation ... but also a lightning rod for controversy. He was a talented Olympian, but also a fashionista. Would he be more jock or mean girl? A diva or a dude?

As it turned out, a little bit of both ... but also a frank and thoughtful man who has matured into his role as senior statesman of skating.

"I know Americans really do appreciate figure skating, and what skaters like myself do," he says from his car outside of New York City. "But as with most Olympic sports, skating has been in and out of fashion. In the 1990s and early 2000s, the skating business was booming, there hasn't been a great ladies skating star in the

United States for quite some time, and the American public looks [for that]. Without a Tara Lipinski or Michelle Kwan, it's difficult for them to latch onto it."

It accounts, Weir explains, for why he spends most of his time, when on the ice, overseas — China, Japan, Russia. It means he travels a lot to carve out the career he wants.

"I don't really live full-time anywhere," he sighs. "I'm on the East Coast a lot but rarely at home. Last year, I spent 13 nights in my own bed. There are such limited opportunities in the U.S., I'm still hustling and working hard to pay my bills and my taxes. I work a lot."

Which makes it all the more exciting that you can see him Sunday at the Galleria, in an exhibi-

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■ WEIR Next Page



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L+S fashion

■ **WEIR**, From Previous Page

tion performance that also combines his other great passion: fashion.

"Fashion really is a big part of my daily life — more important to me than food on a daily basis!" Weir says. "There are occasions when I have on sweat pants and a ball cap and am just rushing [to get somewhere], but for the most part I dress by mood. What I put on my skin every day really reflects how I feel."

"How he feels" helped spread the image of Weir for being somewhat capricious and controversial, especially when he's doing his reality TV show.

Weir acknowledges that, for a time, his attitude about how people perceived him was a polite invitation to suck it.

"That is it!" he laughs. "When I had my own reality show, it was a different story. I was on Sundance and then Logo, and while they were popular, they have a niche market. When I started to work on NBC as a commentator, reporting on some of the biggest sporting events in the world, a different level of respect and appreciation came to me. I [cared] more about being respected for being thoughtful and not for being crazy and young."

Now 31, he says he has lived a lot ("more than my contemporaries I think"), but that his image "is probably the last thing I think about at the end of the day." But his twin careers — as an athlete and as a trend-setter — create a kind of schizophrenia.

"After I went professional and stopped competing, there [arose] this big divide in my fan bases — those who loved me for my skating, and those entertained by my on-air personality," including his often outrageous fashion choices. "I never wear clothes for shock value, but I think I should look nice with the hair and makeup for television. But it really is something that flows through my veins."

And of course that means if you ask Weir about the state of fashion, he'll happily offer you his opinion.

"It's an interesting time now, because pretty much anything is acceptable," he says. "You can wear almost anything, anytime. So when people are showing up at the fanciest restaurants wearing ripped jeans and a blazer, all rules are out the window."

Weir himself is a great believer in personal style over mainstream fashion. He admits one of his childhood heroes was Oksana Baiul ("That pink feather costume! She was my initial hero ... and she came from a small town like me"), so he has always loved "mixing the high with the low. We didn't [come from a family of



LOOK SHARP | Johnny Weir may be as well known for his fashion sense as he is for his skating career ... and say-anything attitude.

means] as a kid, so I found ways to be artistic and fashionable without spending a lot. I love a big luxury brand — an expensive shoe or handbag — but I also love picking up a vintage piece, or something from a random street corner in Taiwan. [I'll pair] a 30-year-old pair of leather pants with a brand new Chanel blazer."

The hardest part, he says, is controlling his intake with the closet cleaning.

"I have a hard time getting rid of things — I have to buy bigger homes [to hold my stuff]," he jokes. "But I don't have an unseen cat carcass in my closet, so I'm not a true hoarder."

It's a comfort, though, that he will always have fashion even when he does — eventually — hang up his skates.

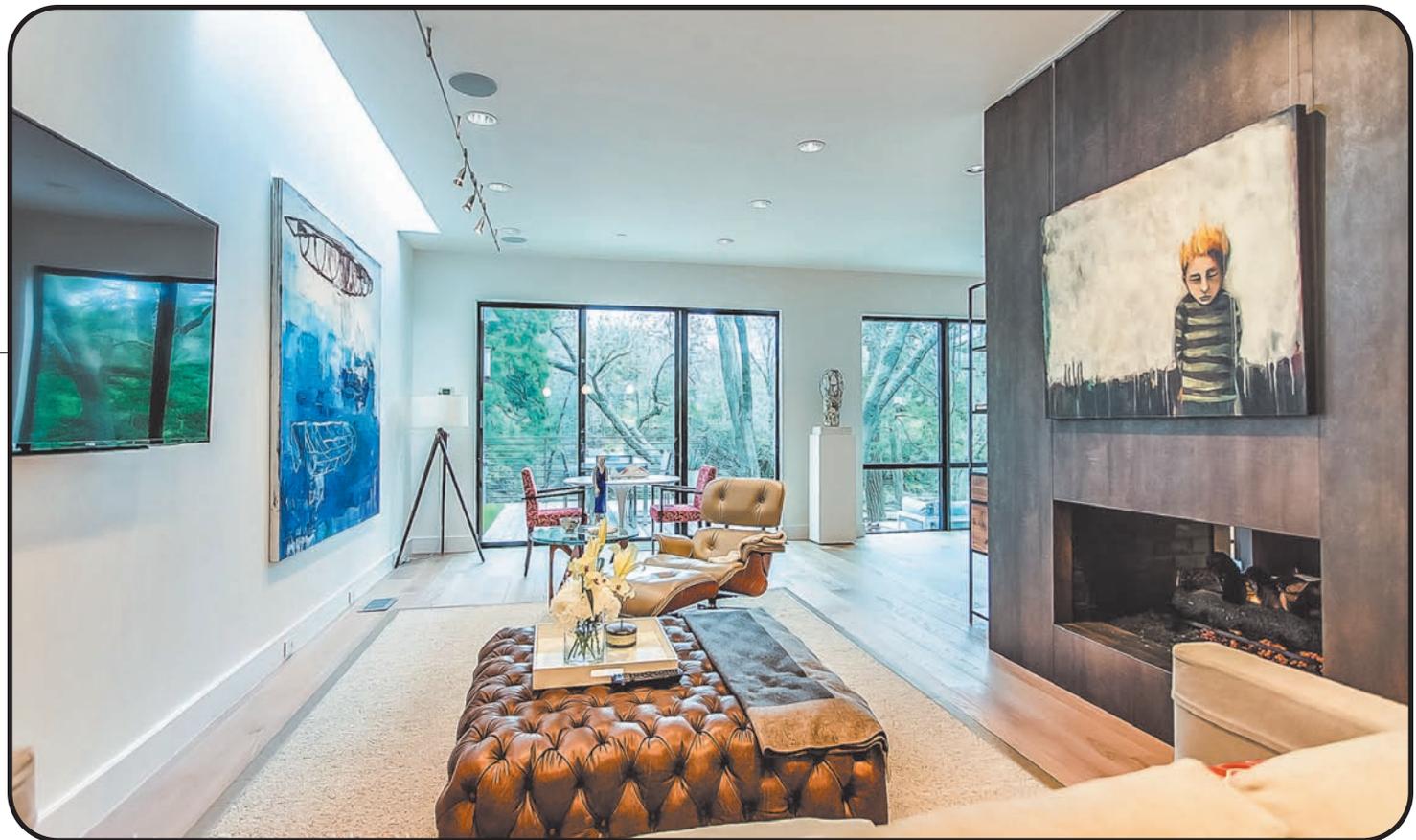
"Whether in a stadium or a mall, I really do take my crafter seriously," he says. "It happens every spring that I am in my slim-down mode — I can't look like the old fat guy [next to these younger skates]. But there's only so long my body will be able to hold up to all the jumping and spinning and dieting. It does get very taxing to mix a training schedule with the rest of my life. But I'll do it as long as I can do it. And I still love it." ■

Sunday 04.10

See how the other half lives during annual Turtle Creek Home Tour

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Friday 04.08 — Sunday 05.01

2 big stars portray 2 big stars in 'Empress/Pearl'

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Saturday 04.09

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calendar highlights



The antics of Don Juan and Miguel are annual draws at the Scarborough Faire Renaissance Festival, which kicks of this weekend and runs through Memorial Day.

ARTSWEEK

THEATER

Buyer & Cellar. Playwright Jonathan Tolins took a real fact — the mall underneath Barbra Streisand's home, loaded with the mementos she has accumulated over the decades — and turned it into a fictional story about the young gay guy assigned to attend it. Doug Atkins stars in this hilarious one-man show. *Final weekend.* The Studio at Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd. StageWest.org.

Dante: Paradiso. The third installment in Dante's Divine Comedy is also the third world premiere adaptation from MBS Productions, following the company's acclaimed versions of *Inferno* and *Purgatorio*. *Final weekend.* Stone Cottage Theatre, 15650 Addison Road. MBSProductions.net.

End of the Rainbow. Janelle Lutz plays Judy Garland in the waning months of her life. *Reviewed this week.* Kalita Humphreys Theatre, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd.

Through April 17. UptownPlayers.org.

God's Trombone. A revival of the hit gospel musical. Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth. Through April 24. JubileeTheatre.org.

I'll Eat You Last: A Chat with Sue Mengers. Bette Midler had a recent Broadway smash in this one-woman show about the powerhouse agent. This limited run performance features B'way veteran Karen Murphy as the excoriating Hollywood legend. Milburn Theatre, 120 S. Main St., For Worth. April 7–9 at 8 p.m., April 10 at 2 p.m. AmphibianStage.com.

The Lady, The Empress and The Pearl, Part One: The Empress and the Pearl. Local favorites M. Denise Lee and Marisa Diotalevi team up for this world premiere play about Bessie Smith and Janis Joplin. In Theatre 3's Theatre Too space, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. April 7–May 1 (in previews through April 8). Theatre3Dallas.com.

The Mighty Valkyries. A world premiere popcorn-

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tossing melodrama from Pocket Sandwich Theatre, about a city run by butch female superheroes. Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane. Through May 14.

The Realistic Joneses. A quirky comedy about neighbors in the suburbs — two couples with the same last name. *Final weekend.* Studio Theatre of Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

DINING

Savor Dallas. The weekend-long Dallas foodie event returns, with the Arts District Garden Party Thursday, plus a grand tasting and reserve tasting on Saturday and “waffle wars” breakfast Sunday. Participating restaurants include The Common Table, Parigi, Salum, Lark on the Park, Public School 214, Madrina, Luck, Ida Claire and more. Visit SavorDallas.com for complete lineups and locations, plus tickets.

FINE ART

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

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

SATURDAY 04.09

FUNDRAISER

No Tie Dinner and Dessert Party. Even if you can't find a host for a dinner, you're invited to support ASD at the dessert party and silent auction at the Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave. 7–10 p.m. NoTieDinner.org.

FESTIVAL

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

BROADCAST

Nothing Left Unsaid: Gloria Vanderbilt and Anderson Cooper. A documentary about the famed mother-son relationship. HBO at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY 04.10

DIGS

15th Annual Turtle Creek Association Home Tour. An annual look inside the showplaces of Dallas' Uptown residents. 1–5 p.m. For tickets and information, visit TurtleCreekAssociation.org.

FASHION

Beauty Live. Out skater Johnny Weir appears onstage and on the ice for this event. Galleria Dallas, 13350 Dallas Parkway. Runway show at 1 p.m., skate at 4 p.m.

MONDAY 04.11

CABARET

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

BROADCAST

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

Real Housewives of Dallas. The new reality show, featuring Dallas women, premieres on Bravo. 8 p.m.

TUESDAY 04.12

FILM

Paper Moon. On the heels of Ryan O'Neal onstage at the Winspear last week, he's onscreen in this charming comedy as a Depression-Era con-man saddled with his young daughter (played by his actual daughter, Oscar winner Tatum O'Neal) in a comic series of adventures. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series at Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Sponsored by Dallas Voice. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

THURSDAY 04.14

CABARET

Judy Chamberlain Jazz. The jazz vocalist's weekly cabaret performance in the back room of Zippers Hideaway, 3333 N. Fitzhugh St. 9 p.m.

DRAG

Divas of Drag. Recent drag icons like Alyssa Edwards, Tatianna and more appear at this show. Read the interview with Latrice Royale, Page 22. House of Blues, 2200 N. Lamar St. 9 p.m. LiveNation.com.

FILM

10th Dallas International Film Festival. The 11-day festival of film returns, with plenty of gay content. The opening night event takes place at City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St., while most of the screenings take place at the Angelika Film Center Mockingbird Station, 5307 E. Mockingbird Lane. April 14–24. For a complete schedule and list of films, visit DIFF2016.DallasFilm.org.

this week's solution

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AIDS OUTREACH CENTER
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1936 Amelia Court | 214-590-5647 | AOC.org

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HealthNTx.org

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LEAP
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LGBTQA PROGRAM at UT ARLINGTON
Arlington | 817-272-2099 | UTA.edu/lgbtqa

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POLITICAL

DALLAS STONEWALL YOUNG DEMOCRATS | DallasSYD.org

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF DALLAS COUNTY | LPDallas.org

LOG CABIN REPUBLICANS OF DALLAS
LogCabin.org/Chapter

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MetroplexRepublicans.com

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817-834-2119 (Fort Worth)

outreach@coda.org | CoDependents.org

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GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE OF NTX
GALANorthTexas.org

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(Gender, Education, Advocacy & Resources) | 214-540-4498

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214-358-0517

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PFLAG-Fort Worth 817-428-2329

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STONEWALL GROUP OF NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
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Girl on Girls

Jenny Block explores: Is dating an older woman such a bad thing?

My last three girlfriends were all 11 to 17 years my junior. I was with one of them for eight years. Dated the other two for a year apiece. At the time it worked for me, for us. But I always wondered why I sought out women so much younger than I. Which got me thinking: Is there such a thing as “age-appropriate dating?” Does age matter?

I chalk some of it up to coming out late. I identified as bi from my 20s, and into my early 30s. But it wasn't until my mid-30s that I identified as I do now: as lesbian. Did *that* have an impact?

I can't help but think that perhaps I was wanting to experience a sort of lesbian adolescence. I wanted to

be their age and I wanted to do the things I did when I was their age, not the things I imagined “women my age” did.

Those relationships worked for me, obviously. At least for a while. But when my last relationship ended, I wanted to try something different. I wanted to see if perhaps I hadn't found my match because I was looking in the wrong age bracket.

Once I realized that femme girls were not my cup of tea, it seems like I should have figured out that young girls weren't really brewed to my taste, either. I can be a bit old-school — I relish the femme role for myself. Now, I want an equal when it comes to things like intellect, respect and the like. But when it comes to being the “top,” for lack of a better expression, I want my partner to be in that role ... in all senses of that word.

So a woman who was a bit older than I — but not too much older so as to recreate the same imbalance in the opposite direction — made sense. And that is exactly what I was thinking when I swiped right



on my now-girlfriend. She is seven years older than I.

I don't mind telling you, it was a little nerve-wracking at first. She said she liked Sinatra and “classic movies.” She has a high-powered job and is generally the boss of things. She has no interest in after-hours clubs or waking up on the floor of a friend's apartment. I may be old-school, but I was worried she was just *old*.

Would it be bye-bye Sunday Funday and hello mah jongg? Was it going to be sayonara vodka and howdy Ensure? Hasta la vista stilettos and nice to meetcha slippers? And what about the sex? And her friends? Would we be spending the weekends bringing flowering plants to Shady Pines? Are we talking making doilies instead of taking shots? I confess, after dating a 28-year-old, 52 seemed, well, ancient.

Then we met in person. And I realized what a dumb ass I was. Am.

I'm 45. I am not 25. And all of the things that I thought I didn't like or, rather that I was fighting because I don't want to be “old,” I actually do like. And 52 is not old. At all. I'm just, yes, a dumb ass.

On our very first date, we went to a fabulous dinner, followed it with Alexandre's for drinks and then shut down the Round-Up, leaving the dancefloor only to go to the loo. If I'm being honest, I love Frank Sinatra and not much makes me happier than dancing to the Rat Pack in the “ballroom” as we call her sunroom.

She and her friends do Sunday Funday better than — or at least as well as — any 20somethings I know. And I have yet to spot a ball of yarn or a crochet hook anywhere among her possessions.

Truth is, I have more trouble keeping up with her than vice versa. And I love being the spring chicken — the hot, young girlfriend. (Insert winky-face emoji here.) Not to mention that she gets my jokes and I get hers. We watched the same TV shows and movies growing up. And we finish classic lines like, “Slowly I turned. Step by step...” and “I am serious... . And don't call me Shirley” with ease.

I don't feel embarrassed when my back hurts or the red peppers from the salad repeat on me. We have sex in the morning as often as we have marathons at night because, yes, we need to get some sleep.

We talk on the phone like teenagers instead of texting — a very new thing for me. Here's an upside: the misunderstandings that arise from texts as compared to actual talking are few and far between. And the fact that we both travel a lot and live in different cities is far less of an issue than it might otherwise might be.

We're at the same point in our lives and our careers. We want the same things and enjoy the same kind of people. I loved the girls I was with. I wouldn't have been with them otherwise. But I often felt old and (*ugh*) maternal in our relationships. I'm the whole me, the real me, the me I am and want to be in this relationship more than I ever have been before.

All of it has to do with me coming to terms with getting older and becoming comfortable with what I really like and want, instead of clinging to the past in a painfully failing effort to stay forever young. I actually feel younger and sexier now. I'm not racing to keep up. I'm enjoying how far I've come.

I don't have to feign allergy symptoms to explain why I can't read the menu. I can just pull out my readers or borrow my girlfriend's. I don't have to Google the band we're going to see. I already know all the words to their songs. And I don't have watch *Bad Grandpa*. I can sing along with Streisand or bawl my eyes out at *An Affair to Remember*.

Is there such a thing as age-appropriate dating? Yes. But it's different for everyone. “Age-appropriate” is not about a certain number of years that divide two people. It is about dating someone with whom you don't have to pretend or hide or be ashamed of things that come along naturally with age. It's dating someone with whom you find comfort and acceptance. It's about dating someone who not only doesn't mind finding your bite guard under the pillow but also loves finding every possible way to have mind-blowing sex. Still.

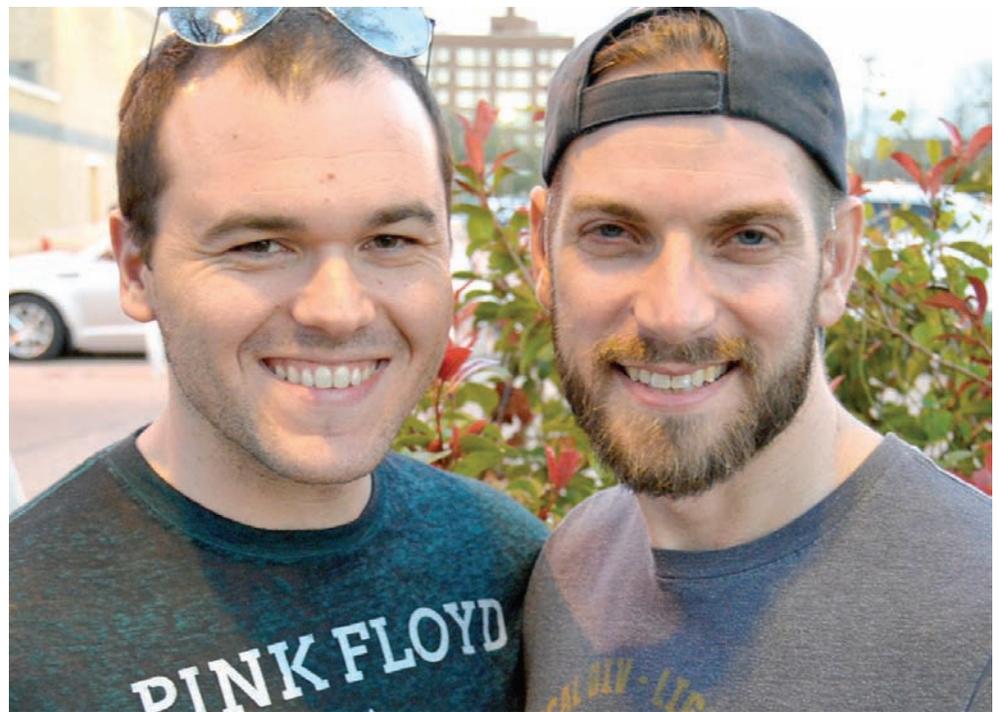
I was enjoying an excellent sex life before. But let's just say there's something to be said for experience...

Jenny is the author of the upcoming book *The Ultimate Guide to Solo Sex* (Cleis Press), coming in May.

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



Friends and fun at JR.'s Bar & Grill



Making the scene on The Strip.



Working the pole at BJ's NXS



Guys' night out at The Round-Up Saloon



Dannee and friends at The Brick

Making the SCENE the week of April 8-14:

- **Alexandre's:** *Girls Night Out* with Jennifer Martin on Friday. *Mi Diva Loca* on Saturday. *Chris Chism* on Wednesday. *Alicia Silex* on Thursday.
- **Brick/Joe's:** Adam Beale's birthday extravaganza with ChiChi DeVayne, Dax and Naysha Lopez benefiting Lifewalk's Sugarstix team on Saturday. *Real Housewives of Dallas* watch party at 8 p.m. on Monday.
- **Club Changes:** *Cowtown Leathermen* meets at 7 p.m. on Monday. *Fort Worth Treehouse* meets at 7 p.m. on Tuesday.
- **Club Reflection:** *Texas Gay Rodeo Association* cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** *Discipline Corps* club night at 10 p.m. on Friday. *National Leather Association – Dallas* club night at 7 p.m. on Saturday. *Match Game* with *Mama Payne* at 7 p.m. on Saturday. *Boot Lab* for those interested in the craft of bootblacking from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** *Cassie's Freak Show* with Bleach, Bianca, Stefani and Marissah Starr on Monday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** *King and Queen of the Rodeo* at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Dedicated to *Memory Lane* with emcees Frank Thompson and Heather Thomas.
- **Sue Ellen's:** *Ciao Bella* on Friday. *Ashley Bradberry* on Saturday. *Kathy & Bella* at 3 p.m. and *Bad Habits* at 6 p.m. on Sunday. *T&A Karaoke* on Monday.
- **The Rose Room:** Closed for remodel. The shows this weekend are in the *Granite Bar*.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** *Extra Innings* from 4-7 p.m. on Sunday.

Scene Photographers: *Kat Haygood.*



Alice chills out at Alexandre's



Friends at Sue Ellen's



Leaving happy hour at JR.'s



The friendly staff at S4

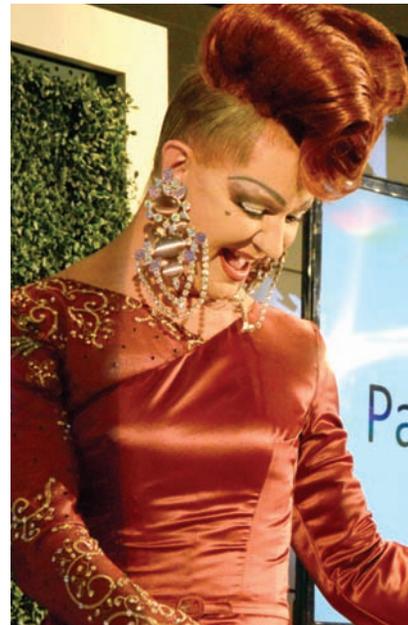


The staff at JR.'s is all smiles



Alice and Rebecca at Sue Ellen's

Project Ruffway: Pooches on Parade



Get ready for the Renaissance!



Scarborough Renaissance Festival opens Saturday, April 9, and runs through Memorial Day. Go early, go often to see all the 16th century sights.





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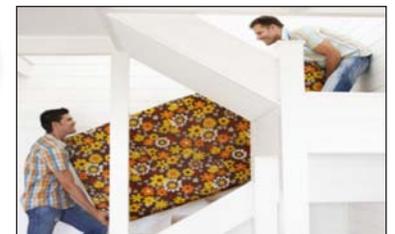
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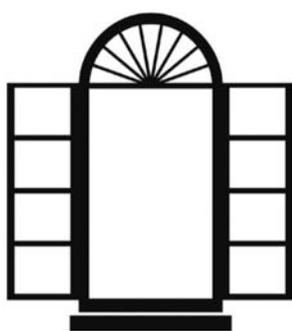
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62						63					64			
65						66					67			

American Horror Story

Solution on page 33

Across

- 1 Put a head on cappuccino
- 6 A man named Connie
- 10 DeGeneres voice role
- 14 Sinister-looking Peter
- 15 Pertaining to most students
- 16 Sherman Hemsley religious sitcom
- 17 *She played Amazon Eve
- 19 k.d. lang record label
- 20 Feeling of hitting rock bottom
- 21 Haul ass
- 22 Thomas of "That Girl"
- 23 Trick
- 24 *Sarah, who played Billie Dean Howard
- 26 Anne Frank account
- 29 Producers of rainbows
- 31 *Man ___ Mancha*
- 32 Atmospheric prefix
- 33 Place for a light meal
- 38 *He played Will Drake
- 41 It helps you go up and down with your partner
- 42 Fruitcake
- 43 Shakespeare's foot
- 44 Big-top employee
- 46 Do a facial in a porn film, e.g.
- 47 *Quinton, who play Chad Warwick
- 51 Part of YSL

- 53 One that lies on the bottom
- 54 Hangout for Natalie Barney
- 56 *The Advocate*, briefly
- 59 Village People's "In the ___"
- 60 *He played Larry Harvey
- 62 *Frasier's* response to a client
- 63 Lodge members
- 64 Beat off
- 65 Game groups, to Mauresmo
- 66 "___ first you don't succeed ..."
- 67 Come together

Down

- 1 Killed, to King James
- 2 Mower brand
- 3 Canal traveled by New York ferries
- 4 Boat with a pair of bears
- 5 Pathetically small
- 6 Robin's gay guys
- 7 Edison's middle name
- 8 Lab primates
- 9 Family
- 10 Like a pair of orifices
- 11 Eastern positions
- 12 Tennessee Williams' lover Frank
- 13 "There's a single runner" to Billy Bean
- 18 *The Name of the Rose* writer
- 22 Area of the boys in the band

- 23 Asks for it on one's knees
- 25 Chance to get a hit
- 26 *Before Stonewall* and others
- 27 "___ Walked Into My Life" (*Mame*)
- 28 Protected, to seamen
- 30 Cara of *Fame*
- 32 Nobelist Sadat
- 34 Bounds gaily
- 35 Peter the Great, e.g.
- 36 Caesar's city
- 37 "Walk ___" (Warwick hit)
- 39 Patronize, as a Rubicon restaurant
- 40 Roster for those who may be really hung?
- 45 Threesome member, with "me" and "I"?
- 46 Frida Kahlo's woman
- 47 Pueblo builders
- 48 Bring down
- 49 Want thy neighbor's ass, for example
- 50 Sean of *Will & Grace*
- 52 Your, to Proust
- 55 "Diana" singer
- 56 Alec of *Desperate Housewives*
- 57 Deity on *Xena*
- 58 Gets hard
- 60 Opus ___ (*The Da Vinci Code* group)
- 61 Line of Todd Oldham dresses?

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