

NOV. 2016

HOUSTON'S LGBT MAGAZINE

OutSmart

OutSmartMagazine.com

FEELS
LIKE
HOME

Big Plans
for LGBT
Senior
Living

GABE LaDUKE
MODELING WELLNESS

Docu-series **ROAMING GENDER** Exploring Gender-Variant Lives

WE BELIEVE THAT FAMILIES,
LIKE BABIES, COME IN ALL
SHAPES AND SIZES.



aspire[™]
FERTILITY

We create families.

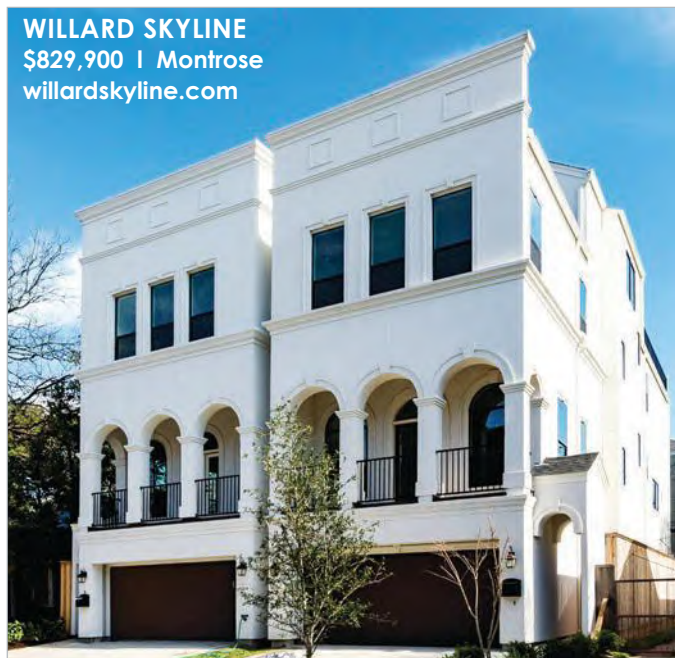
We're changing the way fertility services are provided.
To everyone.

Contact us to learn more:
713.425.3003 | aspirefertility.com

*Our common purpose is to achieve the highest bar in experience,
science, and medicine—no exceptions.*



1720 COLQUITT
\$1,099,000 | Upper Kirby
1720colquitt.com



WILLARD SKYLINE
\$829,900 | Montrose
willardskyline.com



\$649,000
Montrose
StanfordStreetLanding.com



From the \$590's
Montrose
MontroseManors.com



From the \$810's
Galleria
AftonshirePlace.com



\$699,000
Montrose
GraustarkVillas.com



From the \$440's
Rice Military
HartmanCourt.com



From the \$580's
Spring Branch East
WestSideVillas.com



From the \$310's
EaDo
NagleParkPlace.com



\$699,990
Montrose
CrockerGardens.com



713-868-7226
5023 Washington Avenue
www.UrbanLiving.com



Voted Best Realtor 2014-2016
OutSmart Readers' Choice Awards 2013-2016

JEREMY FAIN

Accredited Luxury Home Specialist

Your Friend • Your Family
YOUR REALTOR

LEADING REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD

GREENWOOD KING PROPERTIES

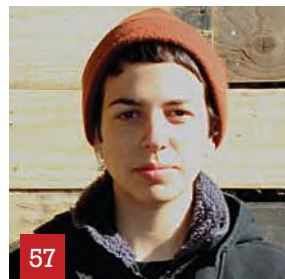
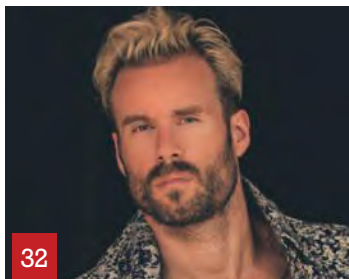
LUXURY PORTFOLIO INTERNATIONAL

jfain@greenwoodking.com
713.677.4337

NOV.2016 FEATURES

VOLUME 23 • NUMBER 10

OutSmart



COVER STORY

32
GABE LADUKE EXPOSED
Prepping for a healthy life

37
SEAN STRUB TACKLES STIGMA
'POZ' founder is the featured speaker at the World AIDS Day Luncheon

40
INSTALLING T.R.U.T.H.
'The Boy that Dreams in Yellow' premieres for World AIDS Day

43
AFTER THE TRAGEDY
An interview with professor Paul Butler on 'Embracing AIDS'

45
BEYOND BELIEF
Daniel Bauer's show is that, and so much more.

47
PREPPING THE WORLD
There's still progress to be made in HIV prevention

49
LGBT SENIORS HOUSING FACILITY
The Montrose Center hopes to open the facility in 2018

53
A LOCAL THANKSGIVING
Takeout that's heartfelt

55
COMPASSIONATE CARE
It's what makes Dr. Swet Chaudhari an ally to everyone.

57
ROAMING GENDER
Creating a library of visibility for gender-variant people

61
'MOONLIGHT' BECOMES HIM
Gay playwright Tarell McCraney's short play turns feature film

65
HOTTER THAN EVER
An interview with out country star Ty Herndon

69
HAIR, MAKEUP, ACTION!
Jeff Knaggs gets creative with the cast of 'The Rocky Horror Show'

73
DESIGNING THE FUTURE
Out for Education hosts fashion show to fund scholarships for LGBT youth

75
THE TEXAS ROVER COMPANY
Gay-owned furniture and leather shop creates Texas-sourced products

77
FLOORED BY POSSIBILITIES
Out businessman Reinel Solano forges a new path in home design

79
WEDDING GUIDE
It was love at first sight for Anna Latham and Jennie Meyer, who are Galveston natives. And John Sweeney and Mike Stargel say 'I do' after 32 years together.



ON THE COVER

GABE LADUKE
(SEE PAGE 32.)

Photo: Alkan Emin Photography
Instagram alkaneminphotography
Design: Alexandre Rosa



Living with a Complex Health Condition can be challenging.
Finding excellent pharmacy care doesn't have to be.

AVITAPHARMACY.COM • 713.489.4362

30 ARTISTS ... 300 COSTUMES
20 ACTS ... "DAZZLING"
-The Washington Post

Cirque Dreams

HOLIDAYZE

THE FAMILY HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR

SPA 

SPAHOUSTON.ORG
713.227.4772

JONES HALL
 NOVEMBER 18 - 20

 /CIRQUEDREAMS
www.CirqueProductions.com

reliant
 an NRG company
 SEASON SPONSOR

H-E-B

UNITED
 OFFICIAL AIRLINE

DR. JULIET FARMER
 Therapeutic Optometrist

Boutique

EYE CARE

 **Voted Best Female Eye Doctor**
 – OutSmart Readers' Choice 2016

2502 Woodhead • Houston, Texas 77019 • 713-528-2010 • boutiqueeyecare.com



NEWS & COMMENT

- 11 > NEWS & COMMUNITY**
- 25 > LEFTOUT**
Mary, Mary, quite contrary
- 26 > MONEYSMART**
Planning for the different phases of our golden years
- 30 > TIMEOUT**
OUTSMART's readers and recommendations

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

- 86 > QUEER QUOTES**
Rachel Maddow, Sara Ramirez, Warren Beatty, Michael Moore, and more
- 88 > DVD**
Hurricane Bianca, The Royal Road, and Front Cover
- 90 > GROOVEOUT**
Dolly Parton, Lydia Loveless, Angel Olson, Liz Longley, cast recordings of *The Robber Bridegroom* and *Red Eye of Love*, and more
- 92 > READOUT**
The Essential RuPaul, Stand by Me: The Forgotten History of Gay Liberation, and Either Way: Story of a Gay Kid

OUT & ABOUT

- 18 CALENDAR** **108 BAR/CLUB GUIDE**
- 94 OUTTHERE** **110 SIGNOUT**
- 102 BUSINESS NEWS** **112 SCENEOUT**

ADVERTISERS INDEX

- 104 Advertisers Index**
- 106 Classified Marketplace**



ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

OutSmartMagazine.com



WEB EXCLUSIVE

12 Minutes Max!
 Galveston's Dixie Monroe (pictured) reclaims her screen crown November 5 when her co-starring role in the first two episodes of an upcoming web series *Walt and Tony Go to Bars*, which premieres at "12 Minutes Max!" at the Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston (the MATCH) Read all about it at OUTSMARTMAGAZINE.com.



THE EYE GALLERY



PROUD TO BE VOTED OUTSMART'S THE BEST PLACE TO BUY EYEWEAR
BLACK FRIDAY SALE NOVEMBER 25 & 26. ENJOY 40% OFF ALL IN STOCK FRAMES



EYEGALLERYHOUSTON.COM

1806 WESTHEIMER RD.-RIVER OAKS
2542 AMHERST ST.-RICE VILLAGE
1700 POST OAK BLVD.(NEXT TO WHOLE FOODS)
POST OAK LOCATION NOW OPEN SUNDAYS!

713.523.1279
832.831.7253
713.622.7470

give them what they really want: total control of everything.

music. From vinyl to digital files, take it to the next level with a performance audio system. Experience music like you have never heard it before- indoor, outdoor, or anywhere around the home.

We provide a higher level of performance, make it beautiful, and make it work seamlessly with your home. We simplify complex systems and make them integrate into designer environments. Make it your home. Interior designers welcome.

media. Movies come alive with a private theater. Design a dedicated space for cinema quality film or build a family area with game room. From projectors to movie server streaming, enhance your viewing experience.

control. Take total control. Access media and music, shades, comfort, security, weather, cameras, and more via a button, custom schedules, or even remotely. We make it all work together.



Vantage Equinox
with music interface

iPort Surface
iPad mounts

Kaleidescape
movie server

kaleidescape

Savant
controls

Vantage
lighting

QMotion
shades

iconic.systems
exclusive dealers of the best.
Two Houston area showrooms.

music . media . control
1707 waugh dr. www.iconic.systems 713.933.0606

Visit the newest lifestyle boutique at 1707 Waugh Dr. to experience performance features, in designer styles, using the best control systems with other fine audio / video products.

NOW PUBLISHING IN OUR 23RD YEAR!

OutSmart
Houston's gay, lesbian, bi, and trans magazine

Publisher/Editor-in-Chief Greg Jev
Associate Publisher Tom Fricke

Creative Director/Entertainment Editor
Blase DiStefano

Assistant Editor Megan E. Smith

Associate Creative Director

Kelsey Gledhill

Graphic Artist Alexandre Rosa

Contributing Writers

Rich Arenschieldt, Susan Bankston, Bradley Donalson, Russell Etherton, Steven Foster, K. Garner, David Goldberg, Marene Gustin, Rebecca Hazen, Josh Inocencio, Ryan Leach, Donalevan Maines, Ernie Manouse, Joanna O'Leary, Lilly Roddy, Terri Schlichenmeyer, Gregg Shapiro, Janice Stensrude, Henry V. Thiel, Megan Wadding, Josh Watkins, Brandon Wolf, John Wright, Grace S. Yung

Photographers/Illustrators

Edgardo Aguilar, Dalton DeHart, Theresa DiMenno, Yvonne Feece, Mark Hiebert, David Eduardo Flores Perez

Marketing Manager Kelsey Gledhill

Account Executives

Jack Berger, PC Douglas, Joanna Jackson

Web Editor Megan E. Smith

National Advertising Representative

Rivendell Media - 212.242.6863

OutSmart Media Company

Publishers of OutSmart Magazine
3406 Audubon Place • Houston, TX 77006
713.520.7237 • 713.522.3275 Fax

Subscriptions: \$30/12 Issues, \$58/24 Issues

E-mail: letters@outsmartmagazine.com

Website: www.OutSmartMagazine.com

OUTSMART is published monthly. Estimated readership in Houston and surrounding areas is 60,000. OutSmart Media Company is not responsible for claims and practices of advertisers. The opinions and views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the staff or management of OUTSMART. Inclusion in OUTSMART does not imply sexual orientation. ©2016 by OutSmart Media Company. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or part without permission of the publisher is strictly prohibited. Unsolicited material is accepted. No manuscript returned without SASE.



Our Houston is electric.

Learn more about Ross, Taylor B. and Taylor D. and
find your Houston at MyGayHouston.com/discover

My Gay
HOUSTON

Location: F Bar, Montrose. Photo Credit: Spenser Harrison.



HoustonBallet

WORLD PREMIERE BY STANTON WELCH AM

THE NUTCRACKER

PRESENTED BY HOUSTON
Methodist
LEADING MEDICINE

NOV.25 - DEC.27

HOUSTONBALLET.ORG | 713.227.2787

Bank of America



ConocoPhillips



UNITED



★macy's



A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

The dangerous rebranding of discrimination in Texas.

By Ryan M. Leach

On October 20, 2016, Texas lieutenant governor Dan Patrick revealed his list of priorities for the upcoming state legislative session that will commence in January 2017. At the top of the list that he shared with the Dallas Regional Chamber was what Patrick has branded the “Women’s Privacy Act.” In reality, the bill will have zero to do with protecting women and everything to do with discriminating against transgender Texans. The “Women’s Privacy Act” is actually version 2.0 of North Carolina’s House Bill 2—the controversial law that, among other things, overturned local nondiscrimination ordinances and required people to use restrooms corresponding to the gender assigned to them at birth.

The rebranding of this legislation will no doubt help Patrick get it across the congressional finish line and onto governor Greg Abbott’s desk. In the past, similar laws have been called “religious freedom restoration acts” or, more colloquially, “bathroom bills.” This rebranding with a focus on women’s safety is the

latest attempt by lawmakers to find a more palatable way to pass discriminatory laws without raising the ire of liberal voters. “It’s not about the transgender issue, it’s not about discrimination, it’s about protecting women,” Patrick said at his Dallas event. But based on Patrick’s description in that speech, the real intent is to create a statewide law that would overturn nondiscrimination ordinances that are already in place in all of the major cities in Texas, save for Houston. Local voters rejected the now-infamous Houston Equal Rights Ordinance (HERO) in November 2015 by a large margin.

Patrick argues that without a law like the one he is proposing, men will be allowed to enter into restrooms designated for women and sexually harass and assault them. That argument erroneously promotes the falsehood that these criminals would use nondiscrimination ordinances as a defense of their criminal activity. Neither one of these descriptions is true. Existing laws make it illegal to sexually harass or assault anyone,

anywhere. Furthermore, the nondiscrimination laws already in place (which have all been enacted with no problems) do not allow people to go into any restroom with the intent to engage in criminal behavior.

It has been proven that laws like the proposed “women’s privacy” or “religious freedom restoration” acts actually do not make women—or men—safer or more protected. What these laws have been shown to do is create political embarrassment and dire economic consequences for the states that have passed them. In 2015, Indiana governor and Republican vice-presidential candidate Mike Pence signed a Religious Freedom Restoration Act into law that got national attention for allowing people to discriminate based on “sincerely held religious beliefs.” After a national firestorm that led to the loss of several major sporting events, conventions, and proposed business expansions in the state, Pence and his legislature tried to re-write and pass a softer version of the law. Unfortunately, the damage to the

continued on page 16

COMMUNITY

Photos by Dalton DeHart



On October 5, HACS/Bering Omega Community Services held a reception for the Camille Zamora Award at BeDesign. Pictured are **Jeff Gremillion, Troy Brooks, Joe Fuentes, Paul Pettie, Sarah Aramburo, Marcelo Saenz Valle, Sandy Stacy, Fernando Aramburo, Ben Carey, and Adrian Dueñas.**



Don Gill of the fundraising PWA Holiday Charity organization presents **Joe Fuentes Jr.** of Houston Area Community Services (HACS) with a check for \$3,000.



On October 7, *Southern Baptist Sissies* was held at Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church. Pictured are the cast and crew.



The Haute Night Out fashion show was held on October 11 at South Beach. Pictured are **Lana Blake** and models.



On October 13, the Montrose Center held its annual Out for Good dinner. Pictured are **Sissy Farenthold, Trish Frye, Phyllis Frye, Mayor Sylvester Turner, and Senator John Whitmire.**



Del Shores visited Guava Lamp following the Houston performance of *Southern Baptist Sissies*. Pictured are Shores with cast members and supporters.

More COMMUNITY on pages 15 and 16

TRIUMEQ is a once-a-day pill used to treat HIV-1. In some people, TRIUMEQ should not be used by itself. Take TRIUMEQ exactly as your healthcare provider tells you.

APPROVED USES

TRIUMEQ is a prescription HIV-1 (Human Immunodeficiency Virus-type 1) medicine used alone or with other antiretroviral medicines to treat HIV-1 infection in adults. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS. TRIUMEQ is not for use by itself in people who have or have had resistance to abacavir, dolutegravir, or lamivudine. TRIUMEQ should not be used in children under the age of 18.

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

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

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

TRIUMEQ can cause serious side effects, including:

• **Serious allergic reactions (hypersensitivity reaction)** that can cause death have happened with TRIUMEQ and other abacavir-containing products. Your risk of this allergic reaction to abacavir is much higher if you have a gene variation called HLA-B*5701. Your healthcare provider can determine with a blood test if you have this gene variation. **If you get symptoms from 2 or more of the following groups while taking TRIUMEQ, call your healthcare provider right away: 1. fever; 2. rash; 3. nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or stomach pain; 4. generally ill feeling, extreme tiredness, or achiness; 5. shortness of breath, cough, or sore throat.** Your pharmacist will give you a Warning Card with a list of these symptoms. **Carry this Warning Card with you at all times.**

If you stop taking TRIUMEQ because of an allergic reaction, never take TRIUMEQ or any other abacavir- or dolutegravir-containing medicines again. If you take TRIUMEQ or any other abacavir-containing medicine again after you have had an allergic reaction, **within hours** you may get **life-threatening symptoms** that may include **very low blood pressure** or **death**. If you stop TRIUMEQ for any other reason, even for a few days, and you are not allergic to TRIUMEQ, talk with your healthcare provider before taking it again. Taking TRIUMEQ again can cause a serious allergic or life-threatening reaction, even if you never had an allergic reaction to it before. **If your healthcare provider tells you that you can take TRIUMEQ again, start taking it when you are around medical help or people who can call a healthcare provider if you need one.**

• **A buildup of acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take TRIUMEQ. This serious medical emergency can cause death. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you** feel very weak or tired; have unusual muscle pain; have trouble breathing; have stomach pain with nausea and vomiting; feel cold, especially in your arms and legs; feel dizzy/light-headed; or have a fast/irregular heartbeat.

• **Serious liver problems** can happen in people who take TRIUMEQ. In some cases, these serious liver problems can lead to death. **You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or serious liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking nucleoside analogue medicines for a long time. Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following signs or symptoms:**

- yellow skin, or the white part of the eyes turns yellow (jaundice); dark urine; light-colored stools; loss of appetite for several days or longer; nausea; pain, aching, or tenderness on the right side of your stomach area

• **Worsening of hepatitis B virus in people who have HIV-1 infection.** If you have HIV-1 and hepatitis B virus (HBV), your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking TRIUMEQ. A “flare-up” is when your HBV suddenly returns in a worse way than before. Worsening liver disease can be serious and may lead to death. Do not stop taking TRIUMEQ without first talking to your healthcare provider, so he or she can monitor your health.

• **Resistant hepatitis B virus.** If you have HIV-1 and hepatitis B, the hepatitis B virus can change (mutate) during your treatment with TRIUMEQ and become harder to treat (resistant).

• **Use with interferon and ribavirin-based regimens.** If you're taking TRIUMEQ and interferon, with or without ribavirin, tell your healthcare provider about any new symptoms. Worsening of liver disease that has caused death has happened in people infected with both HIV-1 and hepatitis C who were taking antiretroviral medicines and interferon.

Who should not take TRIUMEQ?

• **Do not take TRIUMEQ if you:**

- have the HLA-B*5701 gene variation
- are allergic to abacavir, dolutegravir, or any of the ingredients in TRIUMEQ
- take dofetilide (Tikosyn®)
- have liver or kidney problems

What are other possible side effects of TRIUMEQ?

- People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening changes in certain liver tests during treatment with TRIUMEQ. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your liver function before and during treatment with TRIUMEQ.
- 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 new symptoms after you start taking TRIUMEQ.
- Changes in body fat can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicines.
- Some HIV-1 medicines, including TRIUMEQ, may increase your risk of heart attack.

The most common side effects of TRIUMEQ include: trouble sleeping, headache, tiredness

These are not all the possible side effects of TRIUMEQ. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking TRIUMEQ?

• **Before you take TRIUMEQ, tell your healthcare provider if you:**

- have been tested and know whether or not you have a gene variation called HLA-B*5701
- have or have had liver problems, including hepatitis B or C infection; have kidney problems; have heart problems, smoke, or have diseases that increase your risk of heart disease such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or diabetes; drink alcohol or take medicines that contain alcohol
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if TRIUMEQ will harm your unborn baby
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. **Do not breastfeed if you take TRIUMEQ**

• **You should not take TRIUMEQ if you also take:**

- abacavir (EPZICOM®, TRIZIVIR®, or ZIAGEN®)
- lamivudine (COMBIVIR®, Dutrebis™, EPVIR®, EPVIR-HBV®, EPZICOM, or TRIZIVIR)
- emtricitabine (Emtriva®, Atripla®, Complera®, Stribild®, or Truvada®)

Important Safety Information continued on next page

“We’re MOVING FORWARD with TRIUMEQ.”

Peter
Diagnosed with
HIV in 2015

Garland
Diagnosed
with HIV
in 2016

Leopold
Diagnosed with
HIV in 2003

Jeannette
Diagnosed with
HIV in 2011

Jack
Diagnosed with
HIV in 2010



Real patients with HIV-1 taking TRIUMEQ as of 2014 or later. Individual results may vary.
Individuals compensated for their time by Viiv Healthcare.

• **Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements (for example, antacids or laxatives; vitamins such as iron or calcium supplements; anti-seizure medicines; other medicines to treat HIV-1, hepatitis, or tuberculosis; metformin; methadone; or St. John's wort). Some medicines interact with TRIUMEQ. **Keep a list of your medicines to show your healthcare provider and pharmacist. Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your healthcare provider.**

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

Please see Important Facts about TRIUMEQ on the following pages.

Ask your doctor about

 **Triumeq®**

abacavir 600 mg/dolutegravir 50 mg/
lamivudine 300 mg tablets

learn more at **triumeq.com**

IMPORTANT FACTS

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

MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TRIUMEQ

TRIUMEQ® may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Serious allergic reactions (hypersensitivity reaction)** that can cause death have happened with TRIUMEQ and other abacavir-containing products. Your risk of this allergic reaction to abacavir is much higher if you have a gene variation called HLA-B*5701. Your healthcare provider can determine with a blood test if you have this gene variation. **If you get symptoms from 2 or more of the following groups while taking TRIUMEQ, call your healthcare provider right away: 1. fever; 2. rash; 3. nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or stomach pain; 4. generally ill feeling, extreme tiredness, or achiness; 5. shortness of breath, cough, or sore throat.** A list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card your pharmacist gives you. **Carry this Warning Card with you at all times.**
 - **If you stop taking TRIUMEQ because of an allergic reaction, never take TRIUMEQ or any other abacavir- or dolutegravir-containing medicines again.** If you take TRIUMEQ or any other abacavir-containing medicine again after you have had an allergic reaction, **within hours** you may get **life-threatening symptoms** that may include **very low blood pressure** or **death**. If you stop TRIUMEQ for any other reason, even for a few days, and you are not allergic to TRIUMEQ, talk with your healthcare provider before taking it again. Taking TRIUMEQ again can cause a serious allergic or life-threatening reaction, even if you never had an allergic reaction to it before. **If your healthcare provider tells you that you can take TRIUMEQ again, start taking it when you are around medical help or people who can call a healthcare provider if you need one.**
 - **Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis)**, which is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these symptoms:** feeling very weak or tired, unusual muscle pain, trouble breathing, stomach pain with nausea or vomiting, feeling cold (especially in your arms and legs), feeling dizzy or lightheaded, and/or a fast or irregular heartbeat.
 - **Serious liver problems**, which in some cases can lead to death. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these symptoms:** your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice), dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools (bowel movements), loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach pain on the right side.
- You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight, or have been taking nucleoside analogues for a long time.**
- **Worsening of Hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you have both HIV-1 and HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking TRIUMEQ. Do not stop taking TRIUMEQ without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.
 - **Resistant HBV.** If you have HIV-1 and HBV, the HBV can change (mutate) while you’re on TRIUMEQ and become harder to treat (resistant).
 - **Use with interferon and ribavirin-based regimens.** Worsening of liver disease that has caused death has happened in people infected with both HIV-1 and hepatitis C virus who are taking antiretroviral medicines and are also being treated for hepatitis C with interferon with or without ribavirin. If you are taking TRIUMEQ and interferon with or without ribavirin, tell your HCP if you have any new symptoms.

ABOUT TRIUMEQ

- TRIUMEQ is a prescription HIV-1 medicine used alone or with other antiretroviral medicines to treat HIV-1 infection in adults. TRIUMEQ is not for use by itself in people who have or have had resistance to abacavir, dolutegravir, or lamivudine. TRIUMEQ should not be used in children under the age of 18.
- **TRIUMEQ 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.

DO NOT TAKE TRIUMEQ IF YOU

- have a certain type of gene variation called the HLA-B*5701 allele. Your HCP will test you for this before prescribing treatment with TRIUMEQ.
- are allergic to abacavir, dolutegravir, or any of the ingredients in TRIUMEQ. See the full Medication Guide for a complete list of ingredients in TRIUMEQ.
- take dofetilide (Tikosyn®). Taking TRIUMEQ and dofetilide (Tikosyn) can cause side effects that may be life-threatening.
- have liver or kidney problems.
- If you also take: abacavir (EPZICOM, TRIZIVIR, or ZIAGEN); lamivudine (COMBIVIR®, Dutrebis™, EPIVIR®, EPIVIR-HBV®, EPZICOM, or TRIZIVIR); emtricitabine (Atripla®, Complera®, Emtriva®, Stribild®, or Truvada®) abacavir (EPZICOM, TRIZIVIR, or ZIAGEN)

BEFORE TAKING TRIUMEQ

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- have been tested and know if you have a particular gene variation called HLA-B*5701.
- have or had any kidney or liver problems, including hepatitis B or C virus infection.
- have heart problems, smoke, or have diseases that increase your risk of heart disease such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or diabetes.
- drink alcohol or take medicines that contain alcohol.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if TRIUMEQ will harm your unborn baby.
- are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. **Do not breastfeed if you have HIV-1** because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with TRIUMEQ. **Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your healthcare provider**

IMPORTANT FACTS (cont'd)

MEDICINES THAT MIGHT INTERACT WITH TRIUMEQ

- antacids, laxatives, or other medicines that contain aluminum, magnesium, sucralfate (Carafate®), or buffered medicines. TRIUMEQ should be taken at least 2 hours before or 6 hours after you take these medicines.
- iron or calcium supplements taken by mouth may be taken at the same time with TRIUMEQ if taken with food. Otherwise, TRIUMEQ should be taken at least 2 hours before or 6 hours after you take these medicines
- anti-seizure medicines: oxcarbazepine (Trileptal®), phenytoin (Dilantin®, Dilantin®-125, Phenytek®), phenobarbital, carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Equetro®, Tegretol®, Tegretol®-XR, Teril®, Epitol®)
- any other medicine to treat HIV-1, medicines used to treat hepatitis virus infections (such as interferon or ribavirin), a medicine that contains metformin, methadone, rifampin (Rifater®, Rifamate®, Rimactane®, Rifadin®), St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF TRIUMEQ

TRIUMEQ can cause serious side effects including:

- See "What is the most important information about TRIUMEQ?" section
- Changes in liver tests.
- Changes in your immune system
- Changes in body fat
- Some HIV-1 medicines including TRIUMEQ may increase your risk of heart attack.

(cont'd)

The most common side effects of TRIUMEQ are: trouble sleeping, headache, and tiredness

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

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

You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist
- Go to TRIUMEQ.com or call 1-877-844-8872, where you can also get FDA-approved product labeling

COMBIVIR, EPIVIR, EPZICOM, TIVICAY, TRIUMEQ, TRIZIVIR, and ZIAGEN are registered trademarks of the ViiV Healthcare group of companies.

EPIVIR-HBV is a registered trademark of the GSK group of companies.

The other brands listed are trademarks of their respective owners and are not trademarks of the ViiV Healthcare group of companies. The makers of these brands are not affiliated with and do not endorse the ViiV Healthcare group of companies or its products.

©2016, the ViiV Healthcare group of companies. All rights reserved.

April 2016 TRM:4MG

COMMUNITY

Photos by Dalton DeHart



The Houston Pride Band held its *Dances with the Stars* performance on October 15 at the Merfish Teen Center. Pictured are members of the **Houston Pride Band**.



Don Gill, on behalf of the PWA Holiday Charities organization, presents a check for \$2,500 to **Larry Leutwyler** of the Bering Support Group.



On October 19, **Al Farb** and former mayor **Annis Parker** presented Out For Education—winner of Favorite Philanthropic Organization—with a \$5,000 check at the 20th annual OutSMART Gayest & Greatest Awards at Rich's Houston. Pictured are Farb, Parker, **Bryan Cotton**, and **Lisa Hopkins**.



On October 8, the Walk for Mental Health Awareness was held at Stude Park. Pictured are council member **Karla Cisneros**, **Patrick McIlvain**, and Harris County attorney **Vince Ryan**.

state's reputation had already been done.

In April of this year, the North Carolina legislature, in an unprecedented move, convened in special session and passed House Bill 2 through both chambers. Governor Pat McCrory then signed the bill less than 24 hours

are intentionally bringing the spotlight of discrimination back to Texas.

Proponents of these "protection" laws have seen great success when they focus the attention of the law away from LGBTQ discrimination and onto the protection of women and girls from predators. This argument speaks very

clearly, although inaccurately, to the fears of their constituency. By identifying women as the potential victims of sexual assault by trans-

gender individuals, voters unfamiliar with the true impetus for this legislation naturally jump to the conclusion that these laws are not only good, but necessary. Many voters end up having buyer's remorse once campaigns like this are over and they see the consequences, whether that be the loss of economic development throughout the state or possibly the loss of their own jobs.

Businesses in Texas aren't fans of this legislation, either. The conservative Texas As-

sociation of Businesses has come out against this type of discriminatory legislation. They, along with over 1,200 businesses throughout Texas, have created a coalition called Texas Competes in order to push back on Patrick and his new proposal. Texas Competes is a nonpartisan coalition that is sending the message to Texas leaders that these laws are bad for business and are not welcome in our state. The coalition is made up of some of the largest and smallest businesses throughout the state, and its goal is to reach over 2,000 members by January. Ironically, Patrick's announcement of the Women's Privacy Act was made at the Dallas Regional Chamber, an early member of the Texas Competes coalition.

The lieutenant governor can label this offensive, harmful, and discriminatory legislation however he wants, but in the end it's really just about discrimination. It won't do anything to help Texans, and it most certainly will harm them.

If you own a business or know of a business that is interested in joining Texas Competes, you can find out more information at texascompetes.org. ■

Businesses in Texas aren't fans of this legislation, either. The conservative Texas Association of Businesses has come out against this type of discriminatory legislation.

later. That bill has lead to hundreds of millions of dollars of revenue fleeing the state, a major sporting organization relocating large events, companies halting plans for job expansions, and a contentious gubernatorial race. Late-October polls indicated that Governor McCrory would not be re-elected.

Despite this clear evidence that these laws will only hurt Texas and do nothing to make Texans safer, legislators like Dan Patrick and his ilk are still focused on passing them. They

COMMUNITY

Photos by Dalton DeHart



PMT Pop Up held its Disney Cabaret on October 23 at Guava Lamp. Pictured are **PMT Pop Up singers**.



On October 22, Chippendale Eastlake Antiques in the Heights held its closing party. Pictured are **Arlene Denmark, Darald Jaynes, Carolyn Basden, Jimmy McLaughlin, and Patty Adams**.



On October 23, **Tony's Corner Pocket** celebrated their 10th anniversary. Pictured are some of the performers and supporters of the club.



Danny Richmond and John Merle held the Book Swap Kickstarter success party on September 11. Pictured are Merle, Richmond, and supporters.



On October 23, **Homeless Gay Kids-Houston** held the grand opening of their drop-in center. Pictured are Homeless Gay Kids-Houston's board of directors, Tony's Place staff, and council member **Robert Gallegos**.



On October 22, the Houston Spirit of Leather Awards were held at the Montrose Center. Pictured are **Wes Lavergne, Charles Hendricks, Charlie Craft, Loyd Powell, Judy Reeves, and Robert Conn**.



On October 11, the Montrose Center held a film screening of *Love Is All You Need*. Pictured are **Roger Palomino, Kim Rocco Shields, Kristian Salinas, and Stephanie Saint Sanchez**.



Del Shores performed his one-man comedy show, *Singularly Sordid* for National Coming Out Day on October 9 at Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church. Pictured are **Dan Lindquist, Shores, and John Dye**.

mbusa.com/slc



Together, rain & shine.

Introducing the new 2017 SLC: a sporty roadster which appeals to both the heart and the mind. The SLC is an ideal blend of passion and innovation. A dream combination.

#TogetherWeDream

Mercedes-Benz
The best or nothing.



Calendar of Events

Compiled by Marene Gustin

#Free2B

Who would you be if you could be anyone?



Sara Speer Selber



Would you be an astronaut, a zoologist, or maybe a ballerina or painter? That's the concept behind Writers in the Schools (WITS), a program that pares writers and educators with school programs to teach creative writing to students.

"I can't think of a better organization to change the education of our children and communities where we live, work, play, and create," says Sara Speer Selber. Selber is

this year's honoree at the 2016 WITS Gala on November 10 at 6 p.m. at The Astorian in the Washington Avenue Arts District. Gala participants will celebrate stories of children, hear poetry performances and Houston's new Youth Poet Laureate, play games together, and honor Selber with the Free to Be Award for her astounding body of work. Selber partnered with WITS to launch Camp Hope, the first camp for HIV-positive children. She was

president and chief executive officer of AIDS Foundation Houston from January 1994 to January 2001. She is also a former WITS parent, collaborator, social-justice advocate, and passionate poetry promoter. The gala promises to be loads of fun while raising money for this important program for our children. —Marene Gustin

2016 WITS Gala
November 10
witshouston.org

📻 Radio ★ Performing Arts 📷 Art & Photography 🔄 Ongoing + Other Things 📅 Save The Date

1

5th Annual Haunted House +
thru 2 Family-friendly scares.
nmfh.org
Robert Earl Keen & Lyle Lovett ★
thru 2 The famous singer/songwriters
perform together. **thegrand.com**

2

Addams Family: The Musical ★
thru 6 This scary family takes the stage
in Conroe. **crighton-theatre.com**
Best If Used By 📅 thru Jan. 15
Exhibition investigates the intersection
of craft and food. **craftthouston.org**

3

Dry Land ★ thru 5 Abortion, female
friendship, and resilience in high school.
mildredsumbrella.com
A Walk in the Woods 📅 last day
Featuring landscapes by Harold Joiner.
archwaygallery.com

4

Five by Ten 📅 thru 12 Short plays by
Tennessee Williams.
dirtdogstheatre.org
Pablo Helguera 📅 thru 19
A conceptual artistic exhibit.
diverseworks.org

5

LHI Health Fair + Free screenings for
LBT women. **lhihouston.org**
Houston Heart Walk + Walk to save
your health. **heart.org**
Hands-on Family Festival + Free cele-
bration of clay artists. **craftthouston.org**

6

Walk MS: Greater Houston Area +
Help end MS. **855.372.1331**
Remote Houston ★ thru 18 A unique
experience. **alleytheatre.org**
DASH + last day Home décor market.
dashhouston.com

7

Three New Exhibits at CAMH 📅
thru 27 Houston-based artists Amy
Blakemore, Thedra Cullar-Ledford, and
Susie Rosmarin have shows this month.
camh.org

8

HOVER: Terrel James 📅 thru 19
Art League Houston's artist-of-the-year
exhibit.
artleaguehouston.org

9

Degas: A New Vision 🖼️ thru Jan. 16
Don't miss the most significant international survey in nearly 30 years of the work of Hilaire-Germain-Edgar Degas. mfah.org

10

2016 WITS Gala + Free to Be gala honoring Sara Speer Selber. (See *opposite page*.) witshouston.org
Houston Cinema Arts Festival ★ thru 17 Blue Velvet screening, more. houstonscinemaartsfestival.org

11

2016 Annual Gala + Party for a cause. tejanocenter.org
I Love a Piano ★ thru 13 (See page 21.) houstonsymphony.org
Songabout Himself ★ thru Dec. 3 (See page 21.) catastrophictheatre.com

12

Festival of Lights & Ice Land Sculptures at Moody Gardens + thru Jan. 8 It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas... galveston.com/holidaymagic

13

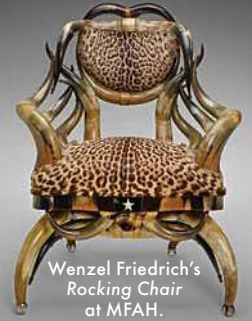
Elf, The Musical ★ Family-friendly holiday fare. thegrand.com

14

Picasso: The Line 🖼️ thru Jan. 8
A collection of the artist's line drawings. menil.org

15

The Jersey Boys ★ thru 20 "Oh What a Night" it will be to see this toe-tapping musical. thehobbycenter.org
Two Exhibits 🖼️ thru Jan. 2
Highlighting early Texas history. mfah.org



Wenzel Friedrich's
Rocking Chair
at MFAH.

17

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service + Prayers of thanksgiving at the Rothko Chapel. rothkochapel.org
Come and Take It Comedy Takeover 2016 Festival ★ thru 20 Laugh out loud. comeandtakeitcomedy.com

18

Cubicle 🖼️ thru Dec. 4 A new installation. ricegallery.org
WHAM + Winter Holiday Art Market preview party. fresharts.org
Winter Wonderettes 🖼️ thru Dec. 10 Holiday songs. islandetc.org

19

Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer, the Musical ★ Holiday fun at The Grand. thegrand.com
Alan Parsons' Live Project ★ Parsons' live symphonic project comes to Houston. mildredsumbrella.com

20

Winter Holiday Art Market + last day Shop Winter Street Studios for holiday gifts. fresharts.org

22

Unconscious Conscious 🖼️ thru 30
New paintings by Lindsay Peyton at The Jung Center. junghouston.org

23

Ubiquitous 🖼️ thru Dec. 1
An art exhibit by Liz Conces Spencer and Gene Hester. archwaygallery.com

24

Pearland Turkey Trot +
Get your run in before you feast! pearlandturkeytrot.com

25

Galveston Holiday Lighting Celebration + Tree lighting at the Hotel Galvez. galveston.com/holidaymagic
A Mozart Thanksgiving + thru 27 An all-Mozart program with the Houston Symphony. houstonsymphony.org

26

Home for the Holidays Gift Market + last day Shop at Moody Gardens. galveston.com/holidaymagic

27

Priests ★ Irish tenor priests perform. thegrand.com



More CALENDAR →

29

Dwight Yoakam ★ Performs at Houston's theater in the round. arenahouston.com

30

Wishes Do Come True Gala + Fundraising for better mental health. samaritanhouston.org
Walking Tours + thru Dec. 31 Architecture Center Houston and AIA Houston's fall walking tours. aiahouston.com

December 1

World AIDS Day 🗓️ AIDS Foundation Houston hosts its annual luncheon at the Hilton Houston Post Oak. aidshelp.org
(For more AIDS Day-related events and articles, see pages 32-47.)

LGBT CRUISES & TOUR EVENTS

aquafest

Oct 21 - 28, 2017

Norwegian Cruise Line - Norwegian Pearl

16th Annual - 7 Nights HALLOWEEN CRUISE

**from
\$699 pp**

+
FREE

Roundtrip from **NEW ORLEANS**
sailing to Cozumel, Roatan,
Harvest Caye, Costa Maya

FREE Beverage Package for 2
FREE Prepaid Gratuities for 2

Private Group Event Includes:

- \$1,000 in Costume Prizes
- Top LGBT Entertainment
- Private Gay Disco with DJ Michael Kessler
- Group Dining
- Optional Beach Party
- Nightly Shows & Gatherings & much, much more...

Join our post cruise New Orleans Hotel Stay for the official
Halloween Parade & Parties Held on October 28th in New Orleans!
Ask For details!!!



More 2017: Alaska, Caribbean, Cuba, European River, Southeast Asia

(800) 592-9058 / AquafestCruises.com

Calendar of Events

continued from page 19

I Love a Piano

November 11-13

11-13

The Houston Symphony and pianist Tony DeSare roll out the piano for a tribute to tickling the ivories. Celebrated pianist and modern-day crooner DeSare will showcase classic piano pop repertoire, featuring Gershwin's jazz-influenced hallmark work, *Rhapsody in Blue*. He salutes songs from great piano composers like Cole Porter and Irving Berlin, as well as Billy Joel and Elton John. If you love the sound of the upright or baby grand, you won't want to miss this concert. houstonsymphony.org

Song about Himself

November 11-December 3

11-Dec. 3

An exciting new play starring one of our favorite actresses, Tamarie Cooper, and directed by Jason Nodler. In this dystopian future drama, the Internet, now called "The Weed," allows human beings to communicate in only the most banal and fragmentary ways. It is contemporary theater with minimalist staging that will ring true for anyone following the demise of the current electoral system and Facebook and Twitter rampages.

catastrophictheatre.com



Come and Take It Comedy Festival

November 18-20

18-20

Laugh out loud for the second year of this event, back by popular demand. The festival mixes the best of national comics with Lone Star homegrown talent. Held at the Secret Group Bar & Comedy Club downtown, where you can stop by and be amazed by local artists almost all the time. Definitely worth checking out. comeandtakeitcomedy.com



Winter Wonderettes

November 18-December 10

18-Dec. 10

The girls are back, and this time Missy, Suzy, Betty Jean, and Cindy Lou help you ring in the holidays with all your beloved Christmas classics. The sequel to *The Marvelous Wonderettes* is set during a holiday party in 1968 at Harper's Hardware store. It's a toe-tapping holiday treat for the whole family! islandetc.org



YOUR
COMMUNITY
LENDER

832.541.1103

Experience. Knowledge. Dedication.
Everything you need is right here
to **purchase** your new home or
refinance your existing.



BEST MORTGAGE
COMPANY



LO NMLS #293460

TX Office #366638 | Corp NMLS #3113

CODY GRIZZOFFI
MANAGER/NMLS#293460



601 Sawyer St, Suite 660, Houston, TX 77007

Lawyers You Know, A Firm You Can Trust

KATINE & NECHMAN L.L.P.
Attorneys at Law



MITCHELL KATINE
LGBT Pride Grand
Marshal, 2001

JOHN NECHMAN
LGBT Pride Grand
Marshal, 2013

ASHLEY SCOTT
Family Law
Attorney

IMMIGRATION
Same-Sex Marriage Green Cards to Asylum

17 years of helping LGBT couples and individuals
find solutions for all immigration needs

Real Estate Disputes • Homeowner Association Law • Immigration
Criminal Law • Family Law • Adoptions • Insurance and Disability Claims
HIV/LGBT Law • Estate Documents • Employment Law

Katine & Nechman | 1834 Southmore Blvd. | Houston, TX 77004
713-808-1000 | info@lawkn.com | www.lawkn.com

What is TRUVADA for PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis)?

TRUVADA is a prescription medicine that can be used for PrEP to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 infection when used together with safer sex practices. This use is only for adults who are at high risk of getting HIV-1 through sex. This includes HIV-negative men who have sex with men and who are at high risk of getting infected with HIV-1 through sex, and male-female sex partners when one partner has HIV-1 infection and the other does not.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to prevent getting HIV-1. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about TRUVADA for PrEP?

Before taking TRUVADA for PrEP to reduce your risk of getting HIV-1 infection:

- ◆ **You must be HIV-negative.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1 infection. Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-negative.
- ◆ **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** If you have flu-like symptoms, you could have recently become infected with HIV-1. Tell your healthcare provider if you had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting TRUVADA for PrEP or at any time while taking TRUVADA for PrEP. Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin.

While taking TRUVADA for PrEP to reduce your risk of getting HIV-1 infection:

- ◆ **You must continue using safer sex practices.** Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.
- ◆ **You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.**
- ◆ **To further help reduce your risk of getting HIV-1:**
 - Know your HIV-1 status and the HIV-1 status of your partners.
 - Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months or when your healthcare provider tells you.
 - Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV-1 to infect you.
 - Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior.
 - Have fewer sex partners.
 - Do not miss any doses of TRUVADA. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
 - If you think you were exposed to HIV-1, tell your healthcare provider right away.
- ◆ **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.

TRUVADA can cause serious side effects:

- ◆ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious medical emergency. Symptoms of lactic acidosis include weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, nausea, vomiting, stomach-area pain, cold or blue hands and feet, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, and/or fast or abnormal heartbeats.
- ◆ **Serious liver problems.** Your liver may become large and tender, and you may develop fat in your liver. Symptoms of liver problems include your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach-area pain.

◆ **You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or serious liver problems** if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking TRUVADA for a long time. In some cases, these serious conditions have led to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any symptoms of these conditions.

◆ **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you also have HBV and take TRUVADA, your hepatitis may become worse if you stop taking TRUVADA. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider. If your healthcare provider tells you to stop taking TRUVADA, they will need to watch you closely for several months to monitor your health. TRUVADA is not approved for the treatment of HBV.

Who should not take TRUVADA for PrEP?

Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP if you already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status. If you are HIV-1 positive, you need to take other medicines with TRUVADA to treat HIV-1. TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.

Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP if you also take lamivudine (EpiVir-HBV) or adefovir (HEPSERA).

What are the other possible side effects of TRUVADA for PrEP?

Serious side effects of TRUVADA may also include:

- ◆ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider may do blood tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with TRUVADA for PrEP. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking TRUVADA for PrEP.
- ◆ **Bone problems,** including bone pain or bones getting soft or thin, may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.
- ◆ **Changes in body fat,** which can happen in people taking TRUVADA or medicines like TRUVADA.

Common side effects in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP are stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or do not go away.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking TRUVADA for PrEP?

- ◆ **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis virus infection.
- ◆ **If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.** It is not known if TRUVADA can harm your unborn baby. If you become pregnant while taking TRUVADA for PrEP, talk to your healthcare provider to decide if you should keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.
Pregnancy Registry: A pregnancy registry collects information about your health and the health of your baby. There is a pregnancy registry for women who take medicines to prevent HIV-1 during pregnancy. For more information about the registry and how it works, talk to your healthcare provider.
- ◆ **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. The medicines in TRUVADA can pass to your baby in breast milk. If you become HIV-1 positive, HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk.
- ◆ **All the medicines you take,** including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. TRUVADA may interact with other medicines. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.
- ◆ **If you take certain other medicines** with TRUVADA for PrEP, your healthcare provider may need to check you more often or change your dose. These medicines include ledipasvir with sofosbuvir (HARVONI).

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

Please see Important Facts about TRUVADA for PrEP including important warnings on the following page.



Have you heard about
TRUVADA for PrEP™?

The **once-daily prescription medicine** that can help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 when used **with safer sex practices**.

- TRUVADA for PrEP is only for **adults who are at high risk of getting HIV through sex**.
- You **must be HIV-negative** before you start taking TRUVADA.

Ask your doctor about your risk of getting HIV-1 infection and if TRUVADA for PrEP may be right for you.

visit **start.truvada.com**

 **Truvada**® 
200 mg emtricitabine • tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg

IMPORTANT FACTS

This is only a brief summary of important information about taking TRUVADA for PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 infection. This does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your medicine.

MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP

Before starting TRUVADA for PrEP to help reduce your risk of getting HIV-1 infection:

- **You must be HIV-1 negative.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1 infection. Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-1 negative.
- **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include flu-like symptoms, tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin. Tell your healthcare provider if you have had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting TRUVADA for PrEP.

While taking TRUVADA for PrEP to help reduce your risk of getting HIV-1 infection:

- **You must continue using safer sex practices. Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.**
- **You must stay HIV-1 negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.**
- **Tell your healthcare provider if you have a flu-like illness while taking TRUVADA for PrEP.**
- If you think you were exposed to HIV-1, tell your healthcare provider right away.
- **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.
- **See the “How to Further Reduce Your Risk” section for more information.**

TRUVADA may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Buildup of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, nausea, vomiting, stomach-area pain, cold or blue hands and feet, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, and/or fast or abnormal heartbeats.
- **Severe liver problems,** which in some cases can lead to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these symptoms: your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach-area pain.
- **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you have HBV and take TRUVADA, your hepatitis may become worse if you stop taking TRUVADA. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.

You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight, or have been taking TRUVADA for a long time.

ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP (PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS)

TRUVADA is a prescription medicine used with safer sex practices for PrEP to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 infection in adults at high risk:

- HIV-1 negative men who have sex with men and who are at high risk of getting infected with HIV-1 through sex.
- Male-female sex partners when one partner has HIV-1 infection and the other does not.

To help determine your risk, talk openly with your doctor about your sexual health.

Do NOT take TRUVADA for PrEP if you:

- **Already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status.**
- Take lamivudine (Epivir-HBV) or adefovir (HEPSERA).

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF TRUVADA FOR PrEP

TRUVADA can cause serious side effects, including:

- Those in the “Most Important Information About TRUVADA for PrEP” section.
- New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.
- Bone problems.
- Changes in body fat.

Common side effects in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP include stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight.

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

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

BEFORE TAKING TRUVADA FOR PrEP

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis infection.
- Have any other medical conditions.
- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
- Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed if you become HIV-1 positive because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with TRUVADA for PrEP.

HOW TO TAKE TRUVADA FOR PrEP

- **Take 1 tablet once a day, every day,** not just when you think you have been exposed to HIV-1.
- Do not miss any doses. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
- You **must** practice safer sex by using condoms and you **must** stay HIV-1 negative.

HOW TO FURTHER REDUCE YOUR RISK

- Know your HIV-1 status and the HIV-1 status of your partners.
- Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months or when your healthcare provider tells you.
- Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV-1 to infect you.
- Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior.
- Have fewer sex partners.
- Do not share needles or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- This is only a brief summary of important information about TRUVADA for PrEP to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 infection. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more, including how to prevent HIV-1 infection.
- Go to start.truvada.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5
- If you need help paying for your medicine, visit start.truvada.com for program information.



Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary

How does Oklahoma governor Mary Fallin's state grow? Apparently, with an Oilfield Prayer Day.

The downside to writing a monthly column for a big-time journalism outfit is that my deadline is a few weeks before OUTSMART comes out each month, and likely a full month before you get around to reading it. That means it's possible that Donald Trump will have done something else so stupid that it defies seven laws of physics, the canons of four major religions, a couple of base tenets of good etiquette, and the fishing laws in several states.

It also means that we finally have a new president. (Too bad we can't just keep the old one, which would be dandy by me.)

Honey, if Donald Trump won, don't tell me. I'd rather play poker blindfolded than think about him being president.

But my Schaden is gonna have a heap of Freude if Donald Trump gets beat by a girl. I hope she beats him so hard that he has to unzip his pants to see out. And that his zipper rusted with the tears of humiliation.

So, to entertain you for now, I have an absolutely guaranteed-certain-true-fact story to tell you while you're contemplating how presidential politics got so tied up with pussy.

I know this story I'm fixing to tell you sounds like it came from one of those satire websites, but it didn't. I checked it out every which way, and I have come to discover that it's dead-solid-perfect true.

Remember when Texas ex-governor Rick Perry held a giant ol' 10-buggy prayer meeting in Houston's football stadium to pray for rain? Well, as rain is apt to do, it did indeed rain—about four months later—and he took a bow and claimed his prayer was answered.

Meanwhile, Rick Perry got to pray in front of about 10,000 people, which tilted the ex-governor sanity scale toward the "One Goofy Sumbitch" side.

I also wanted to tell you that Rick Perry was featured on *Dancing with the Stars*, but that wasn't dancing. I've seen dancing. Rick Perry



Governor Mary Fallin

She's like a bass drum: she makes a lot of noise, but there ain't much inside.

was not dancing. Hell, that was hardly even walking.

Anyway, I'm trying to get to my story.

There's an old saying around here that goes, "The only thing that keeps Texas from falling into the Gulf of Mexico is that Oklahoma sucks."

It's true. I have proof.

Oklahoma governor Mary Fallin, a Super Deluxe Brand Ravidly Antigay Christian who does her exercise by toting around a ton of damn sanctimony, has decided that Jesus gave us gas. Well actually oil, but it's the same thing.

Mary and her friends in the Belles of Heaven Republican Women's Club understand that without oil, Oklahoma just might as well be Mississippi. People in Oklahoma look down on people in Mississippi because of . . . well, oil.

It seems that the oil industry isn't doing too well in Oklahoma because oil doesn't grow on trees, and since Republicans can't possibly raise taxes on oil gazillionaires to make them pay their fair share, the governor decided to issue a proclamation in Jesus' name.

Honey, the bleach in Governor Fallin's "blonde" hair has gone way too deep. Not to mention that her perfume has been marketed under the name of Eau de WhatTheHell.

Hold on. I'm gonna let you read most of her proclamation, because I believe—yes, I believe—in the power of crazy on a platter. *Whereas, Oklahoma is blessed with an abundance of oil and natural gas, allowing the state to be a prosperous producer of these valuable resources; and Whereas Christians acknowledge such natural*

resources are created by God; and Whereas Oklahoma recognizes the incredible economic, community and faith-based impacts demonstrated across the state by oil and natural gas companies; and Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 13, 2016, as "Oilfield Prayer Day" in the state of Oklahoma.

Oilfield Prayer Day. Honey, I have no idea why it wasn't called "Jesus, Send Us Some Magic Money Day." Or even "Jesus, Give Us Gas Day."

Holy fried okra, y'all. I guess Oklahomans weren't impressed by that water-into-wine or raising-the-dead stuff in the Bible. After all, that crap doesn't pay worth a flip or start the air conditioning unit. No, Jesus needs to be doing something useful.

I don't know if the governor is aware of this, but Oklahoma has become earthquake central due to all of the fracking in that state. On the upside, I guess when the earthquakes bring everyone to their knees, the governor can swear they're praying.

Hope your Thanksgiving is blessedly thankful!

See a special election column by Susan Bankston on November 9 at OutSmart Magazine.com.

Susan Bankston lives in Richmond, Texas, where she writes about her hairdresser at The World's Most Dangerous Beauty Salon, Inc., at juanitajeans.com.



A Fourth Retirement

Planning for the different phases of our golden years.

Although many of us regularly set money aside for “retirement,” the reality is that retirement isn’t necessarily just a single period of our lives. In fact, due in large part to the fact that today’s retirees are living so much longer, “retirement” can actually consist of a number of different phases. Because of that, it is important to plan ahead for what each of these phases may bring.

Many of us will likely go through four phases of retirement, where we will:

- **Manage Ambiguity** – For generations, people simply considered retirement to be those years “after they no longer worked.” But retirement is so much more than that. It can also be a time where you shift responsibilities and even pursue new and exciting interests. Because life spans are longer now, there are many more possibilities during this first retirement stage.
- **Make Decisions** – The next phase of retirement may find you having to make decisions about healthcare, as well as developing financial strategies to ensure that your money will last as long as you do.
- **Navigate Complexity** – As health and wellness become more of a concern, the third phase of retirement could very well be comprised of navigating the options that will help you endure, both physically and financially. This might include finding appropriate living arrangements, depending on your needs (and perhaps the needs of your partner).
- **Live Alone** – In the fourth phase of retirement, maintaining your health will typically take most of your time, effort, and resources. Because of this, pre-planning will be essential, since without a strategy already in place, assets can be quickly depleted. Many seniors who were in committed relationships will also be adjusting to life as a widow or widower.



Preparing Now Can Potentially Make Things Easier Later

For those who have been married or partnered, one of the biggest changes that occurs in the fourth retirement phase is going from a two-person to a one-person household. This transition can bring about numerous changes—emotional, physical, and financial.

Even if you enjoyed an active-singles lifestyle in the past, living alone after the death of a partner is not nearly as simple. It can become burdensome, as well as extremely lonely. Many in the LGBT community do not have children to rely on for companionship or long-term care, and home healthcare or assisted-living facilities can be costly.

Based on Genworth’s 2015 Cost of Care Survey, last year’s national median monthly rate for an assisted-living facility was \$3,600, and the national median hourly rate charged for home health aide services was \$20². These costs can really add up, quickly depleting any savings that you may have.

So how can you go about preparing financially for your potential needs in a fourth retirement? There are several strategies that can help.

Long-Term Care Insurance

Certainly, one way to help cover the high cost of long-term care expenses is to purchase long-term care insurance. Today’s policies will

typically provide you with coverage for care that you receive in a skilled-nursing facility, an assisted-living facility, or from a healthcare provider in your own home.

There are many different types of policies available in the market today, so it’s important to know exactly what it is that you are getting and how the coverage will work. For example, one way to make things easier on yourself down the road is to have a long-term care policy that pays benefits on an “indemnity” basis rather than on a “reimbursement” basis. This is because a policy that “reimburses” you will require that you provide receipts from each one of your care providers. An indemnity policy, however, will simply pay out a certain amount of benefit dollars to you, regardless of the cost of care that you receive.

Power of Attorney

In preparing for the fourth retirement phase, you will also want to ensure that you have various legal documents in place. For example, drafting a power of attorney will give another individual the authority to act on your behalf and handle whatever legal and financial matters you specify, if you are unable to do so.

Living Will

You should also consider drafting a living will. Here, you can state your desire to pass away without the application of specific →

Creating extraordinary
spaces since 1984.



9889 Westheimer Road, Houston, TX | 713.787.9494
cantoni.com | info@cantoni.com | f t i @cantonidesign

cantoni®



Jim Benton of Houston LLC
Catering and Event Planning

2811 Eastman Street
Houston, Texas 77009
713-802-2860

Visit our Website:
www.jimbentonhouston.com



Holiday Booking Dates
Still Available

Call our Event Specialist
Today
713-802-2860

Call Us Today!

Join Our Team...

Life of the Party since 1991

life-prolonging artificial measures. You can also state your preferences for specific treatments and/or pain-relief options.

Having plans in place before an illness or injury takes place can be crucial. That way, your loved ones will know which steps are needed to move forward in terms of care, as well as with regard to your financial resources.

Be Sure to Stay Connected

If you live alone—or even if living alone in the future is a possibility—then it is essential that you maintain an active social network. Having other people to rely on can be key, not just for emergency situations, but also for maintaining your mental health.

Some organizations in the Houston area that provide assistance to the LGBT community include:

- **SPRY** (Seniors Preparing for Rainbow Years) - The SPRY program provides LGBT seniors with a variety of social services, including counseling, therapy, and peer support. It can also help you navigate through various healthcare and assistance programs like Social Security and Medicare. For additional details, go to programsforelderly.com/health-spry-therapy-gay-seniors.php.
- **AssistHers** - AssistHers is an organization that supports lesbian women who are struggling with life-threatening or debilitating illnesses, in order to help them live as normally as possible. For more details, visit the AssistHers website at assisthers.org.
- **The Montrose Center** - This LGBT community center offers numerous programs for Houston's LGBT seniors, including health and wellness programs, education, and therapy. Considered to be the "cultural hub" of Houston's LGBT community, it is home to dozens of social and civic programs. For more information, visit montrosecenter.org.

The Bottom Line

Planning for retirement is important, and knowing that there are various phases of this time in your life can be the key to having a successful retirement. Working with a professional who is not only knowledgeable in the area of the four retirement phases, but who also focuses on the LGBT community, can be extremely helpful in getting you closer to your ultimate goals.

Personal finance-related questions may be emailed to grace.yung@lpl.com.

Grace S. Yung, CFP, is a certified financial planner practitioner with experience in helping domestic partners plan their finances since 1994. She is a principal at Midtown Financial LLC in Houston and was recognized as a "Five-Star Wealth Manager" in the 2014 September issue of Texas Monthly.

“Houston Fertility Specialists helped create OUR MIRACLE and we will forever be grateful and thankful.”

- Marissa and Meagan Davis*



*ACTUAL PATIENTS

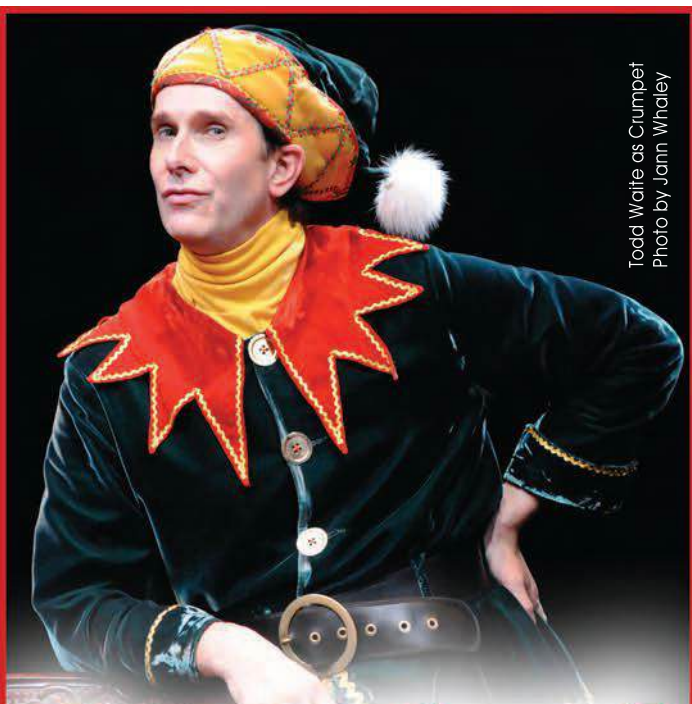
Wow, what a beautiful family!
We're here to help you start yours.

Call today. 713-512-7900.



Texas Medical Center | Katy | Sugar Land
Clear Lake | Kingwood | CyFair

www.fertilityspecialists.net



Todd Waite as Crumpet
Photo by Jann Whaley

The Santaland diaries

By **David Sedaris**
Adapted for the stage by **Joe Mantello**
Directed by **David Cromer**

DEC. 1 – DEC. 31

**Buy Your
Tickets Today!**

ALLEY THEATRE

alleytheatre.org
713.220.5700

UNITED 
Official Airline of Alley Theatre

TIMEOUT

with

OutSmart

Special Promotions and Advertising

Show Us Your OUTSMART



📍 TimeOut in Budapest

Carlos Campos with OUTSMART aboard the Amadeus Silver II, cruising down the Danube River in Budapest, Hungary, on a Brand g Vacation booked through Concierge Travel.

GOING OUT OF TOWN?

Take OUTSMART along. Snap a high-res pic of yourself with the magazine and send it to us. Send to: Letters@OUTSMARTMAGAZINE.COM.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Check out these fabulous events co-sponsored by OUTSMART and our marketing partners.



November 5: LHI Fall Health Fair
at Houston Area Community Services.
INFO: lhihouston.org/the-lhi-health-fair

SAVE THE DATE

December 1: World AIDS Day Events. See page 32-47 for details.

December 3: HIV and Aging Coalition 2016 Holiday Party.
Montrose Center. No RSVP required.
INFO: montrosecenter.org

December 3: Houston Pride Band
presents *Yule Tide Ride* concert at Match-Houston. INFO: houstonprideband.org

December 4: Bayou City Performing Arts presents *Ring!*
A holiday concert. INFO: bcpahouston.com

December 8: Out@TUTS Night
presents *Into the Woods*. Join us the first Thursday performance of each show. After the performance, mingle with the cast and listen to fabulous cabaret music with your LGBT friends at Artista Restaurant.
INFO: tuts.com/out

December 9: Out For Education
presents *Couture for a Cause* at Studio A Salon. INFO: outforeducation.org

Be social! Connect with us!

Twitter: @outsmarthouston

Facebook.com: [outsmartmagazine](https://www.facebook.com/outsmartmagazine)

Instagram: @outsmartmagazine



BIGGEST

SALE OF THE YEAR



SAVINGS UP TO 75% THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE STORE,
INCLUDING ITEMS UNDER OUR FABULOUS TENT.

See store for details.

NOEL
HOME
Luxury Living

Luxury has its Rewards

2727 SW FREEWAY • 713.874.5200
NOELHOME.COM





Gabe LaDuke

Prepping for a Healthy Life

by Ernie Manouse

Photos by Jade Young

His hair may be brunette, or blond, or at other times it may be pink or purple. He may be clean-shaven, or sporting a beard that any mountain-man would be proud of. But there is always something in the eyes, in the tilt of the head, that tells you, unmistakably, that you are looking at international model Gabe LaDuke. “Sometimes I’ll be asked to grow my beard long, or shave it,” says LaDuke, “but usually I just change my look for fun.”

Or maybe it is just the tattoos—lots and lots of tattoos! “The tattoos started when I was 19. It was mostly because of skateboard-ing culture that I was hyped about them,” explains LaDuke. “I found they always looked

so cool on the other dudes. Then a really good friend of mine started training as a tattoo artist, so I had very easy access. It’s still an ongoing project for me—I’m not sure when I will be finished. I’m currently working on my back piece.” A lot of people have deep, sentimental ties to the body art that they have, but for LaDuke, “my tattoos are mostly for decoration. They don’t have a deep meaning behind them, but they remind me of the time and place when I got them done.”

LaDuke’s time and place began in a very small town outside of Montreal. “I grew up in the woods, with my mom and her girlfriend, and my sister . . . and a lot of dogs. My mom bred bulldogs, so there were always dogs

around.” As far as being raised by a lesbian couple in the mid ’80s, LaDuke says, “I knew it was different, but people never bugged me about it.” Gabe’s father also played a part in his upbringing. “My father lived only 10 minutes away, so I got to see him every second weekend.”

LaDuke was a well-behaved kid “for the most part,” adds LaDuke. And like a lot of kids, he wasn’t very interested in school, but loved sports. Growing up in the Montreal area, where more than 50 percent of the population speaks French, the English-speaking LaDuke went to a French school for the first half of his education, but then finished up his studies at an English school. →



**VOTED BEST
BRUNCH**



Try Our Thursday and Friday Lunch Buffet

Join us for **Black Friday Brunch**
November, 25th • 10am - 3pm



2607 Grant Street | 713.522.0042 | BabaYega.com

black friday weekend sale

Friday & Saturday, November 25–26



Gift Certificates

—
Flex Accounts
Accepted

DISTINCTIVE EYEWEAR • CONTACT LENSES • EYE EXAMS

spectacles
ON MONTROSE

4317 montrose blvd • 713.529.3937
www.WearUsOut.com
Evan Mapes OD
Optometric Glaucoma Specialist

GABE LADUKE

continued from previous page



“I grew up in the woods, with my mom and her girlfriend, and my sister . . . and a lot of dogs. My mom bred bulldogs, so there were always dogs around.”

Then at 16, skateboarding came into his life, and things began to change.

“At 16, I started skateboarding and got consumed by it. I moved to Montreal when I was 19 with some friends—finding work along the way, and skating!” At 24, LaDuke was ready to take the next step. “I went into business, opening an indoor skate park with a skate shop. I operated it for four years, closed it, took a year off, and then opened another, smaller one,” which he ran for an additional three years. But another change was coming.

“My boyfriend at that time had an art gallery that was hosting some of the works of photographer inkedKenny, who had just moved to Montreal. I was helping out, serving wine at the preview party, and got to hang with Kenny.” Kenny saw what the rest of the world would eventually notice—that special something about Gabe that allows him to command attention in any photograph. “After that evening,” adds LaDuke, “he asked if he could shoot me, so he definitely was the one who got me into modeling.”

Together, Kenny and LaDuke would produce a number of amazing shots that would become part of the art book *The Men of inked-Kenny* (Bruno Gmuender, 2014), with an extreme closeup of LaDuke gracing the cover. And with that, his new career was born.

"It kinda just took off from there. Different photographers started contacting me to model for them. I was getting to travel and meet and work with amazing people. The part I enjoy the most is working with new people and seeing new places. It also keeps me motivated at the gym to keep my body looking good. There is a lot of work involved."

But it isn't always easy. LaDuke also enjoys bartending at L'Aigle Noir (Black Eagle) in Montreal's gay village. "Waking up at six in the morning after working all night is always tough. The toughest time was when I was scheduled to do an interview with Kenny. I had worked the whole night and also drank a lot. I got three hours of sleep and had to wake up to go do a live morning TV show at six. My head hurt so badly, but somehow it all turned out okay."

Don't let that story fool you. LaDuke is dedicated to doing what he has to do to produce great art. "I go to the gym almost every day, and I'm also very disciplined with my diet. I wake up and make my morning shake—fruit, coconut milk, and some protein powder—then I'll eat two eggs. I get coffee on the way to the gym, and then I am ready for my workout. After the gym I usually go to eat right away—vegetables and chicken or fish. I don't usually eat supper after that; I'll just snack on some sliced meat, endless amount of veggies, and pickles—I'm addicted to pickles." And what about carbs? "I'll have carbs like once a week." Discipline! "To look good on camera," adds LaDuke, "there is a lot of prep. I usually will not eat much for two to three days before a shoot, so my stomach looks flatter—which is tricky because you still need food to have energy, especially when you're working out. Rest is important, but rather tricky when you are flying somewhere to shoot. Also, drinking water is important so your skin is not dehydrated. But at the end of the day, it's all about angles, good lighting, and a photographer with a good eye."

As his body of work grew, so did the attention, "I guess people do recognize me.

"As soon as you put yourself out there, you are inviting that kind of attention."

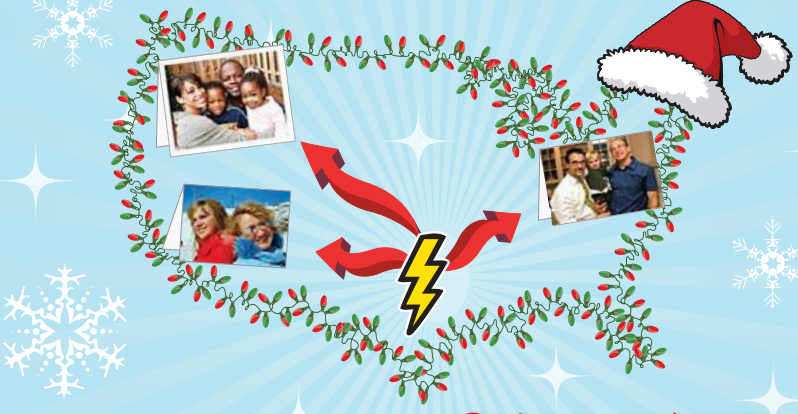
Personally, says LaDuke, "I choose to embrace it. I say bring it on. I know who I am, so think what you want."

Usually they will say something nice, or sometimes they say which look they prefer on me."

Being recognizable can also create difficulties with living life in the public eye and choosing how much to share. "I'm very open about my lifestyle.

continued on page 98

A Card Can Go a Long Way During the Holidays



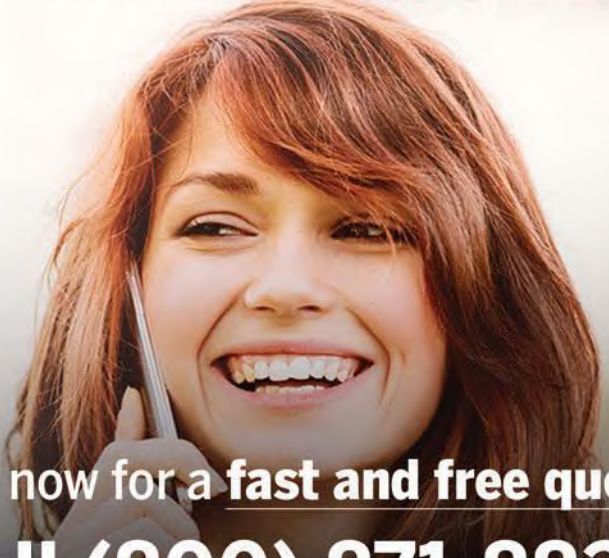
copy.com
COPY CENTER/COMPUTERS/INTERNET BAR

*Pick out your favorite photo,
personalize your message,
and leave the rest to us.*

WE HAVE A VARIETY OF STYLES AND SIZES TO CHOOSE FROM
Prices as low as \$14.95 | Envelopes included
713.528.1201 • 1201-f westheimer • www.copydotcom.com

J.G. WENTWORTH.

**Get CASH NOW for your structured
settlement or annuity payments.***



Call now for a fast and free quote!
Call (800) 871-8832

*All payment purchases are at our sole discretion and are subject to meeting applicable underwriting and other requirements. Contact us for further terms and conditions.



Stewart Title - Heights



Parker Witt
Branch Manager
Escrow Officer

Michael Caballero
Escrow Officer
OFFICE: 713.401.1850

CONVENIENT
HEIGHTS LOCATION
720 W. 11th Street
Suite 200

Contact us to see how
a reliable ally can help
increase your business and
improve your transactions.

stewart title



*We Repair All
Makes and Models*

*We treat all customers
like they are family!*

**24 HOUR
TOWING**
281.332.8671



495 Coryell • League City, TX 77573 | 281.338.8777
www.clearlakebodyshop.com



River Oaks • 1950 W. Gray St
713•527•8000
www.the-g-y-m.com

FALL IS FOR

FITNESS

WANNA CUDDLE?

KEEP YOUR SUMMER BODY
HOT FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Longtime Activist Sean Strub Tackles Stigma

'POZ' magazine founder is the featured speaker at this year's World AIDS Day Luncheon.

By Rich Arenschieldt

Activist Sean Strub has spent three decades at the center of the HIV epidemic. In that time, he has run for congressional office (the first openly HIV-positive man to do so), founded *POZ* magazine, and is now executive director of the "Sero Project," a nonprofit organization that addresses HIV criminalization and stigma reduction. Strub, who was last in Houston two decades ago, is looking forward to being the featured speaker at the annual AIDS Foundation Houston World AIDS Day Luncheon on Thursday, December 1.

"I'm happy to be invited," Strub says. "I had a very nice call with the organizers who gave me great information about the event and its audience; my message will relate to stigma and its implications for controlling the epidemic."

In 2014, Strub wrote *Body Count*, a comprehensive, highly personal retrospective of his life during the earliest days of the AIDS crisis. "I've been involved since 1981," Strub says. "Upon hearing the first reports of gay men with immune suppression, I knew those events were in some way connected to me."

Strub, who began his advocacy work with several New York-based organizations, founded *POZ* magazine in 1994. Known for its cutting-edge treatment information, advocacy, and social commentary, *POZ* was a publication that many found liberating, especially during the darkest days of the epidemic.

"In the early years, concern revolved around transmission," Strub recalls. "The public had an irrational fear of 'casual contagion,' which triggered intense stigmatization. However, for those of us who've had HIV for a long time, the stigma now feels worse than

ever—albeit more subtle, but at the same time much more discriminatory.

"Responding to the epidemic was a collective responsibility," Strub continues. "In the 1980s, a diagnosis, though devastating, provided an entrée into a specific (and welcoming) sect of the LGBT community that offered love and support. You were often advised *not* to disclose until you'd developed a strong network of caring [HIV-positive] people, just in case you were confronted with negative 'consequences of disclosure' from friends and family."

"With new therapeutics, the world thought that we were going to 'treat our way out of the epidemic,' a mindset that impacted resource allocation," Strub says. "Funding [has disappeared] for LGBT-centered support groups that coalesced around the issue, [as well as for many] related services. As a result, in many ways, today it's a much 'lonelier' diagnosis.

"Previously, the disease was seen through

a 'lens of human compassion,'" he adds. "With the advent of effective therapy and normal mortality, the public 'consciousness' of HIV changed. People with HIV are now viewed as a 'dangerous population,' especially because they are living longer [and more sexually active] lives. Some public-health and law-enforcement officials believe that HIV-positive individuals need to be sought out, tracked down, identified, tested, reported, and, in many cases, criminalized.

"The current paradigm," Strub says, is that "we have extraordinarily effective treatment, but no cure for 'stigma'—now worse than ever." Much of that surrounds the issue of transmission, since every new infection results from an existing one. The public-health and justice systems have begun to define people with HIV differently—as vectors for disease.

Strub's view on the criminalization of HIV transmission is nuanced. "I think this issue →



COURTESY SEAN STRUB. INSET: BEATRICE MORITZ



A Lifelong Flight

Activist Sean Strub (l) currently serves as the executive director of the "Sero Project," a nonprofit organization that addresses HIV criminalization and stigma reduction. He is pictured here with his partner, Xavier Morales, in 2008. INSET: Morales (far left) and Strub meeting with President Obama in 2015.

TRADE YOUR CAMERA FOR CASH!

TEXAS' BEST SELECTION OF NEW & USED CAMERAS

Canon Nikon SONY and all major brands



Online @ hcehouston.com

5900 Richmond Ave. (at Fountainview) Houston, TX 77057

Store Hours: Mon-Fri: 10am-7pm; Sat: 10am-6pm

713-789-6901 1-800-CAMERA-5

LONGTIME ACTIVIST SEAN STRUB . . .

continued from previous page

speaks to the intent of the individual," Strub says. "If someone has malicious intent to harm another person with any sort of weapon—a gun, their fists, or a virus—then they should be subject to some sort of criminal sanction. Absent that intent, it should not be criminalized.

The degree of responsibility and ability to make healthy sexual decisions varies dramatically from one person to another. Some individuals are so damaged or uncaring that they become a 'one-man epidemic.' The principal illness in those cases isn't a viral one, it's a mental one, often from someone dealing with addiction or other mental-health issues who is not getting appropriate treatment and care."

Strub's justification for his view is predicated more on public health policy than on jurisprudence. "Many states passed punitive statutes, believing that HIV transmission would be reduced; however, there are no studies that support this premise," he says. "In actuality, a rapidly growing body of research evidences the exact opposite—that because of these statutes, the epidemic is worsening."

An unintended consequence: "If you don't know your status, you don't get prosecuted," Strub says. These laws discourage people from being tested, essentially punishing responsible behavior (i.e. knowing your status) and providing those unaware of their status with legal cover. This is particularly applicable to gay men of color—many of whom have already had unpleasant interactions with a criminal justice system that they inherently distrust. Why should they get tested and, in so doing, assume additional legal risk?

"There are other sexually transmitted diseases that don't carry criminal statutes, in spite of the fact that, if left untreated, they can kill someone," Strub says. "I suspect that more women have died as the result of cervical cancer from various strains of the human papilloma virus than have died of AIDS. Yet, there are no criminal statutes for HPV; it isn't stigmatized the way HIV is. This points to an inherent hypocrisy in the law.

"The state, and our society, need to take some responsibility for implementing policies that discourage HIV testing and disclosure," Strub says. "The Sero Project encourages policymakers to use science, rather than stigma, to accomplish that."

What: AIDS Foundation Houston's annual World AIDS Day Luncheon

When: December 1, 11 a.m.

Where: Hilton Houston Post Oak, 2001 Post Oak Blvd.

Details/Tickets: aidshep.org

Rich Arenschioldt was a certified HIV counselor during his 20 years working in the HIV/AIDS field.



United in the Fight Against AIDS

Commemorate World AIDS Day with these Houston-area events.

World AIDS Day Luncheon

DECEMBER 1, 11 A.M.–1 P.M.

Hilton Houston Post Oak, 2001 Post Oak Blvd.
AIDS Foundation Houston will host the annual World AIDS Day Luncheon, generously presented by Chevron. The World AIDS Day Luncheon raises funds to support the organization's goal of "Getting to Zero"—zero new infections, zero AIDS-related deaths, and zero stigma.

Bill Baldwin and Ernie Manouse are returning for their second year as co-chairs of the World AIDS Day Luncheon. Together they welcome writer and HIV activist Sean Strub as the keynote speaker.

Through this annual event, AIDS Foundation Houston raises critical funds that support ending new HIV/AIDS infections and helping those who are infected. Individual tickets start at \$150 per person, with corporate and individual underwriting opportunities available from \$1,500. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.AIDSHelp.org.

World AIDS Day: A Celebration of Life

DECEMBER 1, 7–8:30 P.M.

Discovery Green, 1500 McKinney St.

Black Lives Matter Houston hosts this celebration of life as a way to face the harsh reality that HIV and AIDS still affect communities of color and the rest of the nation in ways that must be addressed. These issues center on the lack of knowledge and education on HIV and AIDS, the stigma that comes from that lack of education, and the lack of testing in our communities. If we are to proclaim that #BlackLivesMatter, then we must matter to ourselves and on every level.

World AIDS Day Prayer Vigil

DECEMBER 1, 12 P.M.

Resurrection MCC, 2025 W. 11th St.

In solidarity with others around the world, we will come together to remember all of our loved ones who have passed on due to the complications of HIV/AIDS, and provide an opportunity to witness our solidarity with those who are living with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers who extend compassionate care. We will unite in the call and advocacy for "Getting to Zero" with others from around the world.

Houston Campus Takeover

DECEMBER 1, VARIOUS TIMES

Houston-area college campuses

For this year's World AIDS Day, the Houston Area Community Services (HACS) team will be focusing on youth. Youth have the right to lead healthy lives. Providing them with honest and appropriate comprehensive sexual education is a key part of helping them take personal responsibility for their health and well-being. The HACS Health Promotions team will be providing free rapid HIV testing and safer-sex education through its "Houston Campus Takeover," a World AIDS Day initiative focused on providing testing services at various Houston college campuses.

Free HIV Testing Schedule:

- **Houston Community College—Southeast Campus**
6815 Rustic Dr.
11 a.m.–2 p.m.
- **Lone Star—North Harris**
2700 W.W. Thorne Dr.
Email testing@hacstx.org for times.
- **Lone Star—Victory Center**
4141 Victory Dr.
Email testing@hacstx.org for times.

• Lone Star—Greenspoint Center

250 North Sam Houston Pkwy E
Email testing@hacstx.org for times.

• Texas Southern University

3100 Cleburne St.
Email tsushapeinitiative@tsu.edu for times and location.

• University of Houston

4800 Calhoun Rd.
Email uhsmartcougars@central.uh.edu for times and location.

World AIDS Day Film Screening

DECEMBER 1, 7 P.M.

The Montrose Center, 401 Branard St.

The Montrose Center will host a free film screening in room 106. Doors open at 7 p.m., followed by the film at 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit montrosecenter.org.

World AIDS Day Vigil

DECEMBER 1, 6–7 P.M.

Legacy Community Health—Montrose, 1415 California St.

Legacy Community Health will hold a World AIDS Day vigil at their Montrose clinic location. There will be a brief program with guest speakers, followed by a reading of names and a walking candlelight vigil.

World AIDS Day Fundraiser Featuring Gabe LaDuke

DECEMBER 1, 7–10 P.M.

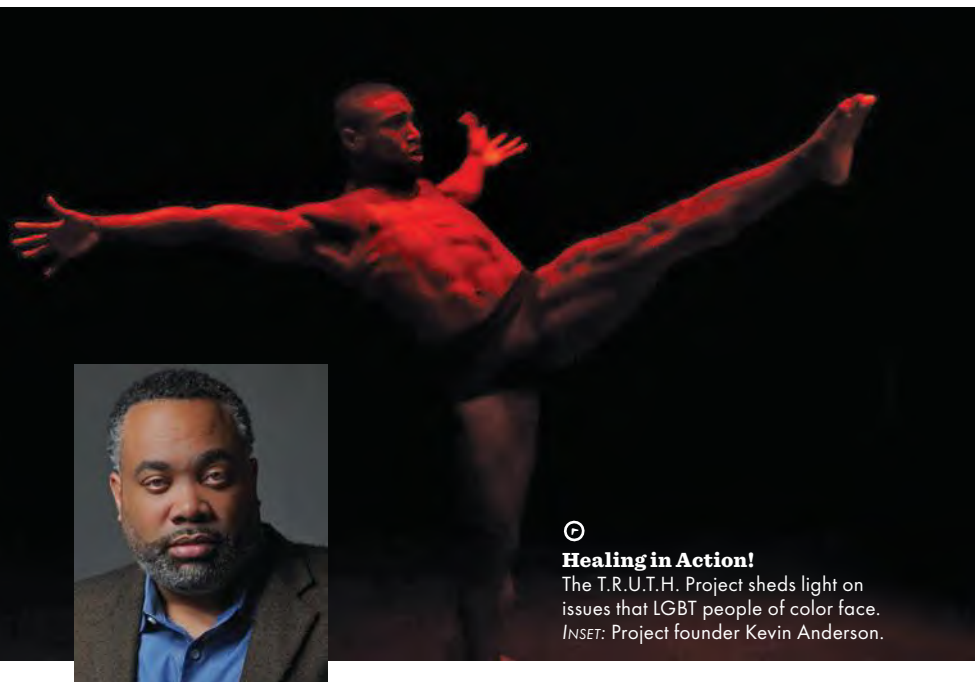
Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh Drive

Celebrate World AIDS Day with AIDS Foundation Houston and international model Gabe LaDuke for a vendor fair and fundraising raffles. All proceeds will go to AIDS Foundation Houston. Plus, free HIV testing starting at 7 p.m. No cover; 21 and up; free on-site parking. ■

Installing T.R.U.T.H.

'The Boy that Dreams in Yellow' premieres for World AIDS Day.

By Josh Inocencio



Healing in Action!

The T.R.U.T.H. Project sheds light on issues that LGBT people of color face. INSET: Project founder Kevin Anderson.

“Baby, have you planted your seed lately?” Kevin Anderson’s grandmother would ask him when he was younger.

While Anderson, a local performer and curator, may not have known what she meant back then, he certainly took her advice to heart by founding The T.R.U.T.H. Project, a Houston nonprofit organization that produces performance “installments” centered on issues that LGBT communities of color face. Continuing their annual World AIDS Day tradition, The T.R.U.T.H. Project will premiere *The Boy that Dreams in Yellow* on December 2 at the Midtown Arts and Theater Center Houston (MATCH).

“We create spaces of healing for individuals,” says Anderson. “Our whole goal is to mobilize and educate the community through utilizing social arts for social health, mental health, and sexual health.”

The underlying idea for The T.R.U.T.H. Project—an acronym that stands for “Telling

Real and Unapologetic Truth through Healing”—is rooted in Anderson’s college days at Prairie View A&M, where he sought out and eventually created a safe, nondiscriminatory space to express himself through art. After returning to Houston, he developed a similar space at Taft Street Coffee in Montrose where people could discuss stigmatized issues facing queer communities of color.

“People were disclosing HIV status, and same-gender-loving women were telling us about former husbands taking away their children,” remembers Anderson. Realizing the community’s needs, he got a board together, reached out for funding, and eventually founded what is now The T.R.U.T.H. Project, which received its nonprofit status last year.

As a spoken-word artist, Anderson curates performance installments for The T.R.U.T.H. Project that feature local poets, dancers, and other artists in order to devise pieces relevant to communities of color and their allies. Typically, the performances are topical and politically

charged, drawing from themes that communities of color throughout the country are experiencing. For example, over the last year, he has recruited Houston artists to address the issue of self-esteem in the face of police brutality.

To begin, Anderson sketches central ideas he wants the performance to focus on, and then brings local artists together to discuss these crucial points. He guides the storytelling and overall concept while the artists create the pieces in the production.

“We’ve gone from open-mic [sessions to] full-run shows,” says Anderson.

After the one-hour performances conclude, he hosts community discussions, or talk-backs, to engage audience members and expand his own awareness of how the community is receiving the pieces. Because of that positive feedback over the years, Anderson has a growing subscriber base of both LGBT individuals and allies, allowing the discussions to continue.

“The community began to shape [the installments] with their feedback, thoughts, inbox messages, text messages. What I see is a heightened sense of awareness. People say, ‘I now know that other people have dealt with HIV. I now know that I’m not alone.’”

For *The Boy that Dreams in Yellow*, Anderson is using a similar artistic process. “I work with the artists very intensely because of the subject matter,” says Anderson. “I do not create any of the art—it’s all created by the artists. I curate and bring it together to tell the story. I’m the link, and I counsel them through this whole process to make sure that their mental health is in check, that they’re not having an emotional overload. They’re going through their own healing experience. They’re exposing the depths of their story for many.”

The upcoming December performance of *The Boy that Dreams in Yellow*, featuring dance pieces from Nick Muckleroy’s Statements Dance Company, will seek “to break down some of the stigmas around HIV [and enable] a transition from stigma to living your life—going from red to yellow.” →

WE FOCUS ON HIV
TO HELP YOU FOCUS ON
TODAY

Ask your doctor if a medicine made by Gilead is right for you.

onepillchoices.com



Real People— Real Results!

Unlike the big box gyms, we know your name and your goal.

Most of our clients dread working out, but consider Body3 their second home because of the community. If you've tried other weight loss or fitness programs in the past but felt alone and neglected in the journey call us at **713.864.1231** or watch the video on our website at **www.Body3Fit.com**.



3562 W. TC Jester Blvd
713.864.1231 | www.Body3Fit.com

INSTALLING T.R.U.T.H.

continued from page 40

"I have a mental-health counselor at every installment, because if anyone has an emotional breakthrough, they know who's in the room," says Anderson. "At our World AIDS Day installments for the last four years, I've had an HIV counselor there, and we provide testing."

By producing pieces like *The Boy that Dreams in Yellow*, Anderson is reaching a diverse community with stories that have the power to change his audiences, especially by creating environments that go beyond discussion to engender action.

"Awareness is really important to me, and having new audience members that are able to experience and become involved and tell the story is really important [to us] as an organization," Anderson emphasizes. "I just want people to walk away [looking] at their own biases and stigmas in their personal lives."

For more information on *The Boy that Dreams in Yellow*, follow *The T.R.U.T.H. Project* on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, or check out their website at truthprojecthtx.org.

Josh Inocencio is a playwright and freelance writer. A Houston-area native, he earned a master's degree in theater studies at Florida State University and produced his first play, *Purple Eyes*, before returning to Texas last year.



Pizzeria

SOLARIO

Fresh NEAPOLITAN Unique

Hand-crafted pasta and wood fired neapolitan style pizzas.
- Pure & simple

3333 Wesleyan • 77027
713-892-8100

WWW.PIZZERIASOLARIO.COM



Finalist
BEST PIZZA




LAST WISHES

COMPASSIONATE END-OF-LIFE PET CARE






Find us on
facebook



Voted the
BEST FEMALE
Veterinarian
by OutSmart
Readers



Say Goodbye in the comfort of Home...

- In-home consultation
- Hospice Care
- Euthanasia
- Clay Paw Memorial Keepsake
- Grief Support
- Pain Management
- Acupuncture
- Laser Therapy

Dr. Christie Cornelius
1111 West Loop S. Houston, TX 77027
Ph: 713.452.0474 | info@lastwishes.com
www.lastwishes.com

The one that moves you!



Alexander Song
REALTOR®
832-533-5308
alex@mralexsong.com
www.har.com/alexsong



After the Tragedy

An interview with professor Paul Butler on 'Embracing AIDS: History, Identity, and Post-AIDS Discourse'

Story and illustration by K. Garner

“A few years ago, as I found myself packing for a move to upstate New York, I came across a set of address books, collections of names and phone numbers that I could never bring myself to throw away. As I flipped through the pages, I saw Dallas’ name and phone number penciled in lightly under ‘D.’ I also found other entries: Henny and his partner; Andy, who was going blind when I saw him last in Long Beach; Chris, known for his barbecues and bonfires at an old country farm, who seemed completely healthy before he suddenly succumbed to dementia and moved to a hospice; David, who blurted out his diagnosis over breakfast at a Louisiana diner, his hair now gray, his face now old and anguished. I remember so many men—smart men, young men, strong men, with sunken cheeks and hallowed eyes, the dead, the almost dead, the dying. What has become of their memory? Who is, or will be, left to bear witness to their lives, to those they loved, to the suffering they experienced? How many more people might become exposed to HIV because they have not heard these stories or known of these lives?”

This excerpt from Paul Butler’s moving essay “Embracing AIDS: History, Identity, and Post-AIDS Discourse” was published in the quarterly *JAC: A Journal of Rhetoric, Culture, and Politics*. The essay sheds light on one of the most difficult episodes in LGBT history. Paul Butler is a phenomenal composition and rhetoric professor at the University of Houston and a prolific writer. Additionally, he is the author of *Out of Style: Reanimating Stylistic Study in Composition and Rhetoric*, and his work has appeared in many scholarly journals

and edited collections. I had the privilege of being his student and getting this wonderful opportunity to interview him about his essay.

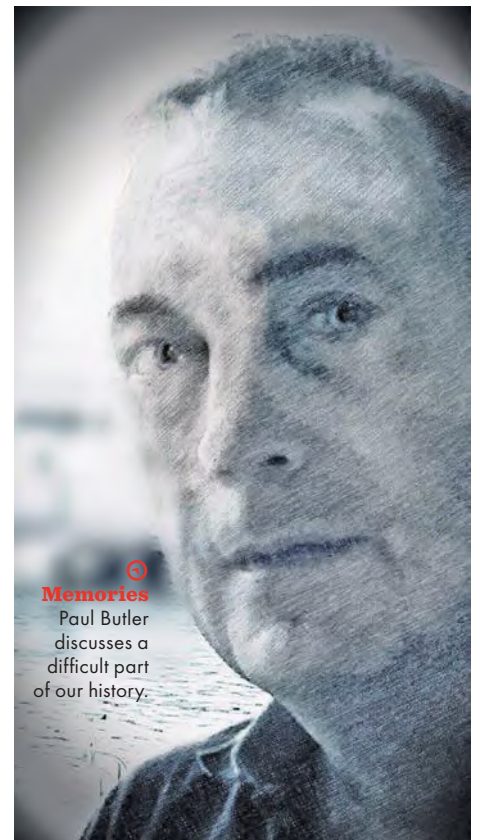
K. Garner: You state that “a crucial part of gay history has seemingly disappeared from the radar screen, mentioned only occasionally by the media.” You discuss “normalization” as a reason for this “cover-up.” What is the cause?

Paul Butler: I wrote the article 12 years ago.

New treatments have been developed, yet there is still no cure for the disease. AIDS continues to be stigmatized, and people living with the disease are often subject to discrimination. The LGBTQ community is disproportionately affected by the AIDS epidemic today. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), more than a million Americans are now living with HIV. Each year, more than 50,000 new infections are reported, and nearly two-thirds of new infections are among gay and bisexual men. In addition to these sobering statistics, it’s important to note that relatively few states have laws to guard against discrimination in employment or housing based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The defeat of HERO [in Houston] is an example of the recent phenomenon of so-called “bathroom bills.” In North Carolina, the Public Facilities Privacy & Security Act, signed by the governor, bans individuals from using public bathrooms that do not correspond to their biological sex. The bill also says that [this new state law will] preempt any local [civil-rights] ordinances. All of these reasons contribute to the relative invisibility of AIDS, still today. Those living with the disease often feel shame that accompanies the discrimination they experience.

Your essay does such a good job of discussing a difficult part of our history. What do you think is the best way we can record it well?

In my article, I tried to honor everyone who has been affected by the AIDS epidemic—from those who died to those living with the disease, and those who made valiant efforts to fight the disease and for the rights of those infected and those being cared for. I think the best way to honor [these people] is to never forget the past and current history of the epidemic. One way to honor them is through films like *The Normal Heart* [2014], documentaries like *How to Survive a Plague* [nominated for an Oscar for Best Documentary] and *We Were Here*, and books like *And the Band Played On* by Randy Shilts, *Borrowed Time* by Paul Monette, and *Tell the Wolves I’m Home* by Carol Rifka Brunt. These are just a few examples of the many works of fiction, nonfiction, and art about the AIDS crisis. In the future, I feel we can continue to honor those who have died, as well as those on the front lines fighting against all aspects of the epidemic, by creating a national museum of AIDS and HIV. I feel it would be a significant way of honoring, remembering, and continuing the fight against the biggest plague of our recent history. It would honor the memory of those who have died of AIDS and those who continue to struggle. →



Memories
Paul Butler discusses a difficult part of our history.



Tim Foteh



HATEM FOTEH INSURANCE AGENCY

12603 Southwest FWY Ste 565
Stafford, TX 77477
281.565.4800

ONE STOP SHOP FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS, INCLUDING:
Home, Auto, Life, Business, Renters, Landlord & Vacant, Flood and so much more.

www.facebook.com/fotehfarmersinsuranceagency



Jessica
Flores-Loya

AFTER THE TRAGEDY

continued from previous page

The way you honored the memory of your friends and loved ones who fought the AIDS epidemic was beautiful and emotional. Before we close, tell us more about that.

I wrote about some of those I knew most closely in my article. To honor them, I used their real first names, though I omitted their surnames. These men were vibrant, outstanding parts of their communities. They had friends, families, and partners they loved. They had jobs. They were taken from us much too soon at a time before antiretroviral therapy (ART) was available to help them fight the ravages of the disease. They were my friends. I want to honor their memory, along with everyone fighting the disease today—those still with us, and those taken from us far too early.

K. Garner is a queer interdisciplinary artist and University of Houston creative writing student. Garner's spoken word and film has appeared at Aurora Picture Show. Garner's first contribution to OUTSMART discussed a personal journey with gender dysphoria during pregnancy. In light of that, Garner's most proud creation, Stormy Garner, just turned three. This interview hit close to home because Garner's cousin, Robert, passed away from AIDS when he was only 21.



SOUTHBYSOUTHVETS.COM

713.987.3237



Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest
Win Prizes!!



You're invited...

**Join us for food, door prizes
& lots of holiday fun!!**

HIV & AGING COALITION

2016

Christmas Party

Montrose Center
401 Branard Street
1st Floor
Houston, TX 77006

**Over 50
& HIV+**

Sponsored by:



Beyond Belief

Daniel Bauer's show is that, and so much more.

By **Marene Gustin**

Photo by Alina Oswald

"My chief task has been to conquer fear. The public sees only the thrill of the accomplished trick; they have no conception of the tortuous preliminary self-training that was necessary to conquer fear." —Harry Houdini

For Daniel Bauer, whom the *Woodstock Times* calls "the Generation-X Houdini," conquering his fear has meant a new life and a new purpose.

As a child, Bauer got a Harry Blackstone Jr. magic kit when he was eight years old, and loved doing magic tricks. But then he went on to be a high-school teacher of math and American Sign Language before succumbing to his childhood dream and heading to New York City to practice his magic act in clubs and bars around town.

"I was discovered by someone from the LGBT community who saw me doing magic in a downtown bar. It led to a magazine doing a feature on me, and that was it," Bauer recalls.

"The next thing I knew, a major corporate sponsor offered me \$1.5 million to create an escape act from a tank with 1,000 piranhas," he says. He was ecstatic. He and his boyfriend celebrated with unprotected sex and champagne. They had just moved into a new apartment in New York City and were over the moon. But the sponsor requested a major physical exam before the contract was signed. Bauer thought nothing of it until he came home one day and his partner was gone. And then the corporate doctors called and told him he was HIV-positive.

That was the beginning of a downward spiral. In 2002, the sponsor withdrew. His family, who had already basically disowned his younger brother for contracting HIV, abandoned him. Gigs dried up. He developed a meth habit, got evicted from his apartment, and attempted suicide—twice. Finally, an intervention by friends pulled him out and back to his magic.

"What if you could believe in magic in your own life once again," he muses. And that's how he created *Beyond Belief: Escape to Survival*,



Conquering Fear

After discovering he was HIV positive, Daniel Bauer spiraled downward. But thanks to an intervention by friends and a renewed interest in performing, Bauer has found magic in his life once again.

a 90-minute live performance that combines his life story with magic and amazing escapes. Bauer is bringing the show to Houston, his part-time home, this December.

"I tried a comeback in 2009, and it failed," he says. "It just wasn't authentic, so I created this new show about the story of my life." And the reviews have been just as amazing as his recovery. Bring tissues—and a sense of awe—to his December performance.

In addition to performing this very personal show that inspires, thrills, and motivates, Bauer is a motivational speaker for groups, schools, and private events. He also works with youth organizations, both to inspire them and to help connect youth with Alzheimer's patients).

The former teacher who now works with youth reveals that it was actually an encounter with a child that helped him believe once again in the power of magic. On an airplane, while he was trying to sleep, a mother and child behind him tapped on the back of his seat. "She asked if I was that Houdini guy, and when I said yes, she said her little son was a huge fan and wanted to show me a magic trick," Bauer laughs. "Well, I thought, Great, some kid wants to show me a magic trick!"

But being a nice guy, Bauer relented and watched as the kid produced two rubber bands

and performed something akin to the Chinese linking-rings magic trick.

Bauer was blown away. He asked the kid to tell him how the trick was done, because he had never seen it before. And the kid replied: "Magicians never reveal their secrets."

"I really wanted to strangle him!" Bauer exclaims. "It took me two years to figure out that trick, but that little kid taught me the best lesson in wisdom: to not get caught up in your own world. You just have to believe in the magic and in yourself."

And, yes, he is still working on that escape from the piranha-filled tank, as well as releasing his book *Beyond Belief: Escape to Survival* on December 1, World AIDS Day.

What: Daniel Bauer's *Beyond Belief: Escape to Survival*

When: December 9–11 (Part of the December 10 show will be live on Facebook; by purchasing a ticket you are agreeing to be filmed. There will be a surprise magic trick that evening.)

Where: Classical Theater, 4617 Montrose Blvd.

Tickets/Details: \$30 • danielbauer.us

Marene Gustin is a regular contributor to OUTSMART magazine.



1301 Market Street \$1,350,000



4502 Avenue N 1/2 \$675,000



2323 Avenue O \$499,000



1914 Avenue M \$779,000



3524 Avenue O \$349,000



1815 Sealy Street \$489,000



**VACATION
RENTAL!**

**COMING TO DICKENS & NEED
A VACATION RENTAL?**

For info about this
Historic Coastal Cottage
vacation rental go to:
galvestonhistoriccottage.com



TALK TO
TOM!

Tom Schwenk, Realtor

713.857.2309
tomsgalvestonrealestate.com



**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 12**

\$13 for 3 Cards / Game • \$24 for 9 Cards / Game
Doors Open at 5 pm. Games Start at 6 pm.

FOOD, BAR, PRIZES

10 Fabulous Games of Bingo and Chance
with your Favorite Drag Kings and Queens!
Child Care available for Age 3 and Under



Sunday Worship 9 & 11 am • Nursery • Handicap Accessible
11 am - Spanish & Deaf Interpretation, Youth & Teen Program
2025 West 11th Street, Houston, Texas 77008 • 713-861-9149
www.ResurrectionMCC.org



TRANQUILITY POOLS



WHETHER YOU WANT
SOMETHING

SIMPLE OR EXOTIC

We have the talent and experience
to achieve your design and budget!



New Construction

Plaster, Tile, Coping & Deck Replacement
Water Features, Outdoor Kitchens, Pergolas. Complete renovation.

Houston, Texas 713.447.9201 | tranquilitypoolco1983@gmail.com

PrEPing the World

There's still progress to be made in HIV prevention.

By Russell Etherton

Since 1988, when it was first recognized by the World Health Organization, the December 1 World AIDS Day observance has helped us unite around the fight to end AIDS and commemorate those whom we've lost worldwide since the beginning of the crisis. In the years since, medical science has made serious advancements in treatment and prevention medications that have been proven to block disease transmission about 90 percent of the time. This has prompted some to ask if these advancements—especially with Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), the single Truvada pill taken once daily to help prevent HIV transmission—will eventually eliminate the need for World AIDS Day. The answer, unfortunately, is no.

Over the last decade, the annual number of new HIV diagnoses has declined by 19 percent in the United States, according to the Center for Disease Control. Globally, the cases of new transmission have remained static, giving hope for an AIDS-free generation within our lifetime. But at the local level, Houston's transmission rate has slowly increased, and we now have over 22,000 people living with HIV in Harris County.

With condoms and access to powerful prevention medications like PrEP, we now have the tools necessary to combat the spread of the disease and, in theory, to eliminate the need for an annual day of awareness to beat the drum for HIV prevention. But three key issues still stand in the way progress with global disease prevention:

Stigma: The "Truvada whore" label is real. Be it in conversation among friends at a bar, or a doctor making a snide comment, the stigma around HIV and the Truvada PrEP regimen is real. Some of this can be attributed to a lack of education and training on the part of the prescribing physician, but most of the problem lies with the misinformation regarding what it means to be positive, or how to

stay negative. Fear and shame foster stigma, and not having open, educated conversations where a person can ask questions related to sex and HIV creates a closed environment. Fortunately, a bigger conversation around stigma has begun nationally, as evidenced by the fact that articles like this are being published regularly.

Education: Let's talk about sex. No, really... *let's talk about sex.* And let's also be honest: current sex education is a joke. In Texas, over 90 percent of Texas school districts use "abstinence only" as their sex-education message—discouraging the use of condoms and other forms of contraception. Since 1997, the federal government has spent some \$1.5 billion dollars on abstinence-only, leaving a huge void of information at a time when we—and especially young students—need it the most. Texas ranks third in the nation for teen pregnancy, and second for repeat teen births. And Texas teens are reporting more frequent participation in high-risk behaviors, as well as not using a condom during their last sexual interaction.

Access: PrEP is not widely available. Pending regulatory measures and cost barriers for the consumer put PrEP out of reach for large populations. Currently there are

only a handful of countries where Truvada is approved for HIV treatment, and even fewer where it's approved for prevention. Unfortunately, areas with the highest transmission rates and HIV-positive populations (Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean) also have little or no access to PrEP.

With this situation in mind, Houston's local leaders are beginning to take action. Working with state and national leaders, advocates, public officials, and the Ford Foundation, Legacy Community Health is leading a groundbreaking five-year strategy to dramatically reduce new HIV cases in Houston. This "End New Diagnoses" (END) campaign is the first of its kind in Texas.

We have the science and the tools to treat and prevent the spread of HIV. What we don't have is the collective national will to end the epidemic. Social factors like stigma and shame hinder conversation and prevent us from eradicating HIV. It's time for this country, the State of Texas, and the City of Houston to get serious about ending the spread of HIV—and there's no better time to start than on Thursday, December 1.

Russell Etherton is a community-relations manager for Legacy Community Health.



Aid in the Fight against AIDS

While the number of new HIV diagnoses has declined by 19 percent over the past decade in the U.S., Houston's transmission rate has slowly increased.



Community

HepC Clinic

We Have
FibroScan 502
An Non-Invasive Way To Test Your Liver

BE FREE OF
HEP C

Who should be tested:

- Infection with HIV
- A history of illicit injection drug use or intranasal cocaine use (even once)
- Chronic Hemodialysis
- Children born to HCV-infected mothers
- Current sexual partners with HCV infection
- Elevated ALT
- Received blood/organs before 1992
- Needle stick or mucosal exposure to blood
- Received clotting factors made before 1987

Our clinic is open to anyone who has reason to believe they have been exposed to Hepatitis C. These services are provided irrespective of an individual's ability to pay. We work with all insurance companies, non-profit foundations, as well as indigent patients.

communityhepcclinic.com • (832) 831-7770

7700 Main Street Suite 400 • Houston, Texas 77030 (Located in the Texas Medical Center)



Download Our App

BEP_rEPARED

Questions About Starting PrEP? Call us or ask your doctor to send us your RX

Services Include

- Free Local Confidential Delivery
- Refill Reminders
- ADAP Program
- Copay Assistance
- Pharmaceutical Patient Assistance
- Competitive Cash Prices

We Accept Over 350 Insurance Plans

6 HOUSTON AREA LOCATIONS

Texas Medical Center • Museum District
Sharpstown • The Woodlands • Katy
Sugar Land • Baytown • Galveston

South Side

(713) 660-8888 | www.ssr.x.com



Follow Our Blog
southsidehealthcare.org



The Montrose Center Hopes to Open LGBT Seniors Housing Facility in 2018

By Brandon Wolf



RENDERING - MIKE STRIBLING, SMITH & COMPANY ARCHITECTS

Welcome Home

A rendering of the LGBT seniors housing facility that the Montrose Center hopes to build at 2222 Cleburne. The complex covers a city block, and will provide 112 one- and two-bedroom apartments. At right are the housing units, and at left are the common areas that will house SPRY programs, a Legacy clinic, group meals, and other resident amenities.

“Jack was never one to hide the fact that he was gay, but it became a secret again once he reached his 80s and his health began declining. Also secret were his living conditions—he had no air conditioning and had become physically and mentally unable to keep up his home. Jack remembered a time when paramedics refused to treat gay men. Now Jack was resistant to senior-care providers because he would have to put his publications and artwork away. When Jack’s sense of isolation became acute, he reluctantly agreed to allow a staff member from the Montrose Center into his home.”

“Ralph lived with the love of his life from 1995 until his partner died in 2000. Deep in grief, Ralph stopped socializing until an LGBT-affirming church offered him a job and a renewed purpose as a minister. When Ralph retired at the age of 84, he was in need of skilled nursing care. Due to his financial situation, a facility on the outskirts of Houston was his only option.

Ralph was forced to leave behind the home he had shared with his partner, as well as keepsakes and photos that he feared might “out” him to his new neighbors and caretakers. After 60 years of being “out and proud,” Ralph was back in the closet. Ultimately, friends became aware of his circumstances, and because of his career in ministry, Ralph was placed in a Mon-

trose hospice. Had it not been for the hospice, the community he so faithfully served might not have learned of Ralph’s passing.”

Are Jack and Ralph fictional characters, used for marketing purposes? No. Jack Jackson and Rev. Ralph Lasher are two men widely known throughout Houston’s LGBT community. While the Montrose Center does not use their last names in publicity materials, they allowed OUTSMART to identify them in order to humanize the problems faced by LGBT seniors.

Seniors Preparing for Rainbow Years (SPRY)

Jackson was the inspiration that prompted the Montrose Center to begin their innovative Seniors Preparing for Rainbow Years (SPRY) program in 2005. Over the past decade, it has continued to grow in size and scope. In 2015, it served 2,721 meals in their Montrose Diner free-lunch program on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for those over age 60. Over 2,000 people attended 45 SPRY outreach events last year.

The SPRY program includes men’s and women’s support groups, professional counseling, case management, social and recreational activities, health and wellness education, and the Montrose Diner drop-in center and congregate lunch program.

Ann Robison, executive director of The

Montrose Center, speaks about Jackson with great fondness. Every year, Jackson served as the perennial “leprechaun” at their annual “Bringin’ in the Green” fundraiser, encouraging guests to pin money to his green-sequined outfits. When Robison heard about Jackson’s emotionally detached state, she became determined to do something to change his living circumstances.

The LGBT Seniors Facility Begins as a Dream

Robison says she and clinical director Chris Kerr started talking about a facility for LGBT seniors at least six years ago, and continued to revisit the subject often.

On January 26, 2012, the Center screened the newly released and critically acclaimed documentary *Gen Silent*. The film follows six LGBT seniors in their struggle to survive in our country’s inadequate eldercare system.

The film surprised and troubled viewers. Many LGBT seniors are so afraid of discrimination by caregivers (or bullying from other seniors) that many simply go back into the closet. The film’s subtitle is *The Generation that Fought the Hardest to Come Out Is Going Back In—To Survive*.

The next year, at the Center’s “Big Gay Block Party,” on September 20, 2013, Robison first talked with then-mayor Annise Parker about building an LGBT senior facility. They had only a few minutes to talk, but Parker was extremely interested in the concept, because →

“Knowing that I would have a stable place to come home to at night and be living amongst ‘family’ would be so wonderful.”



ANDREA BOCELLI

In Concert

EUGENE KOHN
Conductor

KATHARINE MCPHEE
Guest Artist

ANA MARIA MARTINEZ
Soprano



DECEMBER 11TH
TOYOTA CENTER

BUY TICKETS AT HOUSTONTOYOTACENTER.COM
CHARGE BY PHONE AT 1-866-4-HOU-TIX
ANDREABOCELLI.COM

PILATES

BY LESLIE

ENHANCE CONFIDENCE
IMPROVE PHYSIQUE
FEEL MORE DESIRABLE

281.546.0040
CERTIFIED PILATES INSTRUCTOR AND PERSONAL TRAINER

CONTACT US
FOR A FREE
CONSULTATION!




LGBT SENIOR HOUSING FACILITY

continued from previous page

she had just visited an LGBT-focused housing facility, Triangle Square, for low-income seniors in Los Angeles.

Parker remembers: “When I toured Triangle Square, I was convinced Houston had the resources to make a similar LGBT residential facility happen.”

Parker reconnected with Robison after the block party event to get an update on the Center’s internal discussions about the lack of affordable senior housing. Then, assisted by Texas state representative Garnet Coleman, Parker worked with the Midtown Redevelopment Authority on a commitment of land. The city’s housing department made a commitment of several million dollars, through Tax Incremental Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) financing.

The Center then developed a financing strategy and began a design process. A capital campaign was launched. The total project will cost about \$23.6 million.

An Affirming LGBT Senior Environment

The property, at 2222 Cleburne, is about a mile and a half east of the Center in the historic Third Ward. The finished facility will feature 112 one- and two-bedroom independent-living apartments spread out across two interconnecting four-story buildings. At the ground level, the complex will include parking spaces, a dog park, a gardening area, a water feature, courtyards, and a shade structure. A privacy fence will enclose the complex.

The buildings are situated on the lot at an angle, which breaks the monotony of complexes that look like big boxes. That angle will also orient the buildings so that direct east-west sunlight can better illuminate the apartments. The apartment buildings’ outside staircases will be covered with mesh bearing the traditional colors of the rainbow—purple, blue, green, red, orange, and yellow.

Two-story structures at the north end of the complex will house a group dining area, computer and fitness rooms, a resident library, and a lounge area. Management offices and a geriatric primary-care clinic run by Legacy Community Health will also be located in those structures.

The apartment buildings will have limited access, and when the administrative offices are closed, the entire complex will become a gated community accessible only by residents.

When the complex is completed, the Montrose Center’s SPRY activities will be consolidated at the new facility. New programming will be developed to include job placement and skills training, social and recreational services, expanded group meals, and community-facilitated peer interaction.

Two Metro bus lines have stops right across the street from the northern end of the facility, and MetroRail’s proposed University

Line plans to have a rail station across from the complex's west side.

Although this housing project cannot be limited to only LGBT residents, the Montrose Center will place a strong emphasis on marketing the facility throughout Houston's LGBT community. Approximately 9 percent of the units will be designated for individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

The Center will contract with Covenant Community Capital to provide property management services, while the Center will provide the social services. A leasing agent has not yet been identified. Both Covenant and the Center will ensure that the facility is LGBT-affirming. With seniors in the Third Ward being priced out of their homes, just as LGBT seniors in Montrose are, the facility will work to serve these two communities together.

Applicants must be 62 years of age and older, and rental rates will be on a sliding scale to help those with low incomes.

Stories from Potential Residents

Debra Letchworth, 62, moved to Houston two-and-a-half years ago from Phoenix, Arizona. She came out as a lesbian in her 40s and is proud of her 22 years of sobriety.

Life threw her some curveballs when she relocated to Houston and the living arrangements she was promised fell through. She ended up homeless for two months and lost all of her possessions. She now lives on disability income of \$14,000 per year at New Hope Housing, a supportive housing facility for low-income residents near Minute Maid Park.

She has a small bedroom, bathroom, and kitchen at New Hope, and she uses public transportation to go to Lambda Center meetings, the Montrose Diner, and to do her shopping. Letchworth is not out to her fellow New Hope residents.

The planned LGBT facility is great news to her. She says, "Knowing that I would have a stable place to come home to at night and be living amongst 'family' would be so wonderful."

John Richardson, 70, says, "The most important thing we all hold dear is our freedom. I love the thought of living in an environment where I am not judged for who I am or for who I am with. Being with 'my people,' especially at my age, would greatly enhance my quality of life."

Dana Hinton, 61, came out as a transgender woman in 2011. "I'd lived my life for other people, and felt it was finally time for me to be authentic." She is out and accepted at work, but she knows that as the economy changes, layoffs can be "just a paycheck away."

As a non-degreed professional, Hinton says it has been nearly impossible to save for her retirement. Social Security will probably be the only income she will have to live on. "I live day by day," she says. "It would be wonderful to have the security that the new facility can provide for someone with a low income."

Seniors in general have their difficulties, and the rise in Montrose property values has forced many LGBT seniors to move to cheaper areas that may not be as accepting. The defeat of the HERO ordinance last year means that LGBT Houstonians can still be legally discriminated against in housing.

Financing the Facility

Although Kent Loftin, chief development officer for the housing project, says that "the financing is complicated," he seems to be confident that the numbers can be made to work. Of the \$23.6 million needed to build the facility:

- 10 percent is the land, an in-kind contribution by the Midtown Redevelopment Authority
- 11 percent is from the city through tax increment reinvestment zone financing
- 30 percent comes from the federal low-income housing tax credit program
- 22 percent is through traditional financing
- 27 percent will be private contributions raised through the Montrose Center's current capital campaign.

The Hollyfield Foundation, the Brown Foundation, and The LTR Lewis Cloverdale Foundation have generously anchored the capital campaign. But in order to qualify for the Midtown land contribution, the capital campaign must still raise \$1 million by December 31, 2016.

Once that amount is raised, the final ar-

chitectural plans can be prepared. Organizers are hoping for a fall 2017 groundbreaking and a summer 2018 grand opening of the facility.

Robison says that one way Houston's LGBT community can help is by inviting the campaign development team to holiday parties to chat with guests. The team's prepared presentation *There's No Place Like Home* lasts only a few minutes. Team members can mingle with the guests and answer questions, but they will not make direct solicitations. It's a nice way to make a party meaningful and help spread the word about this important community initiative.

Reflecting on the plans for the new facility, Robison is pleased with the way so many people have come together to help to make this dream come true. Whenever she remembers her friend and colleague Jack Jackson and Rev. Ralph Lasher, she is reminded that the task is well worth the effort.

And with each passing day, it's becoming easier for Robison to relate to the senior's experience. "Next year, I'll be eligible to apply!" she says.

To view a variety of initial renderings of the proposed facility, and to see preliminary apartment floor plan ideas and more, an online slide show is available at outsmartmagazine.com.

Brandon Wolf is a frequent contributor to OUTSMART magazine.

THURSDAY NOV 3 | 2016



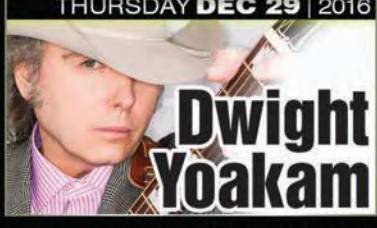
Air Supply

SATURDAY NOV 5 | 2016



THE TEMPTATIONS / THE FOUR TOPS

THURSDAY DEC 29 | 2016



Dwight Yoakam

FRIDAY NOV 4 | 2016



TONI BRAXTON

SUNDAY NOV 6 | 2016



JESSE & JOY
UN BESITO MAS TOUR

SATURDAY JAN 28 | 2017



SCOTTY MCCREERY

arenatheatre

7326 SOUTHWEST FREEWAY [US HWY-59 / I-69]

BETWEEN BELLAIRE BLVD & FONDREN RD AT ARENA TOWERS

[f /arenatheatrehouston](https://www.facebook.com/arenatheatrehouston)
[@arenatheatre](https://twitter.com/arenatheatre)
[#arenatheatre](https://www.instagram.com/arenatheatre)
[arenatheatre](https://www.youtube.com/arenatheatre)

BUY TICKETS VIA BOX OFFICE | ARENAHOUSTON.COM | 713.772-5900

**USE IT
— OR —
LOSE IT!**

**Make sure you utilize
remaining insurance
benefits before you lose
them at end of year.**

713.942.0101
www.polishDENTISTRY.com

FLOSS Midtown is NOW... POLISH DENTISTRY

DIANNA WILDE, DDS
Owner
Treating Midtown
For Over 7 Years!



One of the Best
Female Dentists
2016

Same Great Staff, Same Great Service & Same Great Location,
we've just polish'd up our name a little.

Dear OutSmart reader,
Thank you for your support and
acknowledgement in voting us the
"best place to buy cell phones"
in the G&G Readers Choice
Awards again in 2016!

Lisa Bosh



To express our thanks, we are giving
you a **FREE Samsung U headset**.

Just mention OutSmart & activate a new line
or upgrade your existing Sprint phone. This is
an **EXCLUSIVE** OutSmart readers' promotion.

*New line activation or qualified upgrade required. Credit approval
and some restrictions apply. Expires 12/31/2016. Call for details.

When you buy 2 or more Galaxy
J3 smartphones with Sprint service,
get all of them for free.

From 8/14/2016-11/10/2016. Some restrictions apply.
Call us or see store for details.



FREE
w/ purchase of
2 or more



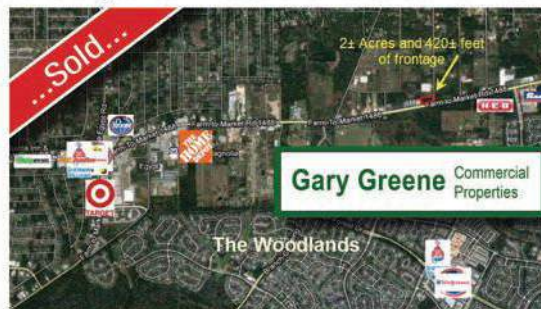
(281) 575-8500

12220 Murphy Rd
shop.premierwireless.com



Buying, Selling and Investments

Available for all your Commercial and Residential Real Estate Needs



Gary Greene Commercial
Properties



Lynette Lew • 713.582.2202

Residential and Commercial Realtor
Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Gary Greene
Gary Greene Commercial Properties

Lynette@LynetteLew.com | www.LynetteLew.com

A Locally Curated Thanksgiving

Takeout that's heartfelt.

By Joanna O'Leary

If the idea of cooking an entire Thanksgiving dinner makes you break out in a cold sweat, hives, or both, you can rest easy this month. Many Houston restaurants and food purveyors understand that not everyone is eager to channel their inner Martha Stewart on Turkey Day and, to that end, are eager to help you create (or rather, *curate*) a customized feast. The following are our picks for the best appetizers, mains, sides, desserts, and drinks available for large-scale takeout. Yes, you'll probably spend an hour or two driving around to assemble your meal, but look at the bright side: that's two fewer hours you'll be with the in-laws.

For a cheese plate to end all cheese plates, go to **Houston Dairy Maids**. With over 150 cheeses, including many varieties made in Texas, this premier cheese shop can help you put together a spread of soft, hard, smelly, and/or tangy fromages to suit all tastes. We're especially partial to the "June's Joy" (goat cheese infused with honey, pepper, and thyme) and the "Baby Caprino" (a bloomy blue cheese with a brie-like consistency). All platters also include complementary accoutrements like fresh fruit and dry-roasted hazelnuts. And for a sweet contrast, don't forget to add some black Mission fig and balsamic confit, made in-house at **Urban Eats**. It's available by the jar (\$8), so it can also be a great send-off gift for your out-of-town guests.

Everyone knows that the so-called "sides" are actually front and center on the Thanksgiving table, often overshadowing the meager masterpieces. Eschew boring old dinner rolls for **Hugo's** slightly spicy, moist mole cornbread, which is just about perfect for sopping up all that excess gravy. Houstonians of Mediterranean lineage should consider adding an Italian inflection to their holiday repast with a pan of umami meat lasagna and parmesan mashed potatoes from **Tony Mandola's**, or a family-size order of earthy fettuccine



Feastable Fare

Enjoy a mouth-watering turkey and a sampling of wild game from the Rainbow Lodge. For your sweet tooth, indulge in housemade Mission fig and balsamic confit from Urban Eats.

with black truffles from **Amalfi**. And because it's Thanksgiving, you could further expand your collection of carbohydrates with some stuffing (or dressing?) from **Mockingbird Bistro**, whose novel version includes andouille sausage and molasses sweet potatoes. If you must add a little greenery to the table, rest assured that eating your vegetables is deliciously easy when they come in the form of **Kenny & Ziggy's** spinach kugel and creamy carrot soufflés. Swapping out traditional Southern macaroni and cheese for **Backstreet Cafe's** cauliflower au gratin (made with real cream, buttery bread crumbs, and gobs of cheese) is another terrific way of adding some botanical balance. We promise it's just as decadent.

Your protein pièce-de-résistance can be procured at **The Rainbow Lodge**, which, in addition to selling fully cooked turkeys, also offers tender whole-roasted ducks, pheasants, geese, and game hens. If fowl is not your fancy, a juicy giant roasted suckling pig or pork tenderloin adorned with apple spätzle and radicchio will also be a crowd-pleaser.

Isn't the human stomach amazing? After a rousing walk (or, more likely, a lengthy nap), you'll be ready to eat again. Halloween may be all about candy, and Christmas means cookies, but Thanksgiving is pie time. With a hearty

dulce de leche pumpkin pie from **The Dessert Gallery**, a rich chocolate fudge pecan pie from **3 Brothers Bakery**, and a Dutch apple pie crowned with cinnamon and sugar crumble from **Flying Saucer Pie Company**, you can assemble a buffet of traditional flavors with a local twist.

And for all the liquid lubrication you'll need to make it through a dinner with Uncle George recounting the glories of his high-school football career for the zillionth time, go to **The Nice Winery**. Cordon Bleu-trained chefs and certified sommeliers (not to mention partners in life as well as business) Ryan Levy and Ian Eastvold can advise you on the best cabernets, pinots, chardonnays, and bubbles to pair with each course. And should you run out of fermented beverages at any point, who you gonna call? **Top Shelf Delivery** is an app-based service that will bring your favorite beer, vino, and spirits to your door.

Tip: Inquire early with all of these vendors for their Thanksgiving ordering deadlines and pick-up hours. Some restaurants are only open for a few hours on Thanksgiving morning.

Joanna O'Leary is a freelance food and travel writer based in Houston. Her exploits are chronicled on brideyoleary.com.

Thanks for your vote
"Outsmart" Readers!



Karen Derr
Broker
713.875.7050
karen@karenderr.com



6403 Westcott St • Camp Logan

\$699,900 • \$3900 p/m lease • 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths • 3396 sqft

Cool contemporary with clean lines! Walk to Memorial Park from this 2013 constructed home. Features exquisite smooth finish on walls, high ceilings, spacious rooms and ample backyard.

HOUSTON • AUSTIN

1135 Heights Boulevard
Houston, TX 77008
KarenDerr.com • 713.875.7050



Voted Best Real Estate Agent

Right now is the perfect opportunity

- * TO BE PROUD OF WHO YOU ARE
- * TO BE COMPASSIONATE TO YOURSELF AND OTHERS
- * TO SHOW GRATITUDE TO THOSE YOU LOVE AND TRULY APPRECIATE



Voted BEST ASTROLOGER
by OutSmart Readers

LILLY RODDY



ASTROLOGER

- * Personal astrological sessions
- * Relationship readings - personal / business
- * Presentations & lectures to organizations

**CONSULTATIONS BY
APPOINTMENT ONLY**

GIFT CERTIFICATES • CREDIT CARDS

713.529.5842

lillycath@aol.com • www.lillyroddy.com

THE EYE GALLERY



PROUD TO BE VOTED OUTSMART'S THE BEST PLACE TO BUY EYEWEAR
BLACK FRIDAY SALE NOVEMBER 25 & 26. ENJOY 40% OFF ALL IN STOCK FRAMES



EYEGALLERYHOUSTON.COM

1806 WESTHEIMER RD. - RIVER OAKS
2542 AMHERST ST. - RICE VILLAGE
1700 POST OAK BLVD. (NEXT TO WHOLE
FOODS) POST OAK LOCATION NOW OPEN SUNDAYS!

713.523.1279
832.831.7253
713.622.7470

Compassionate Care

It's what makes
Dr. Swet Chaudhari
an ally to everyone.

By Ryan Leach

Dr. Swet Chaudhari has a unique medical practice in Pearland, just south of Houston. Suncoast Plastic Surgery is one of the few practices that offers gender-reaffirming services to both adult and teenage transgender patients. While the services he provides to those patients are not terribly different from his routine plastic-surgery procedures, the outcome helps to bring transgender adults and teens closer to aligning their outer appearance with who they truly are on the inside.

Dr. Chaudhari trained with a plastic surgeon at Galveston's UT Medical Branch who had performed many surgeries for transgender individuals dating back as far as the 1980s. After seeing the positive impact these procedures had on those transgender patients, Chaudhari decided to eventually get more involved after he opened his own practice.

"It was actually [local transgender activist] Dee Dee Watters who first invited me to come to some of the health fairs she was organizing," says Chaudhari. "That was what really got the ball rolling, and it's where I met Ann Elder, an amazing mother and activist in the transgender community."

Elder's son Ben began to identify as male around the time that he was seven and entering first grade. He is 10 now, and about to enter the formidable years of puberty. This is a time of life that is challenging enough, even without the added stress of being transgender. Elder and her family have always tried to provide a supportive and loving environment for their son.

"Ben is adopted and was assigned [to be] a girl when he was born," Elder explains. "Starting as early as age three, he was obstinate about not wanting to wear 'girl' clothes, and about the way he wanted to do his hair. Then



Dr. Swet Chaudhari (r) with Ann Elder and her 10-year-old son, Ben, at the 2016 Houston Transgender Unity Banquet. Ben came out as transgender before entering first grade.

Living Truth

around five, he insisted on being called 'handsome' instead of 'pretty,' and it was virtually impossible to get him to wear even a girl's T-shirt. Then one day I was watching him play, and I noticed a pattern. He would go up to a group of girls and tell them that he was a teenage boy named Max or Jake (or some other typically macho name), and that he was the head of the pirates, or whatever. So I shared this with his pediatrician, and they recommended I take him to a psychologist at Texas Children's Hospital for an evaluation. I made an appointment, and after a three-hour evaluation the doctor came out and told me that my child was gender-variant."

"Gender variant" means that a person is behaving or expressing themselves in a way that does not match the gender norms of the gender they are perceived to be by society. In children, this can either be just a phase or an early indication that the child is transgender.

"The doctor recommended that we just go with it and see what happens, because there was no harm in changing hair or clothes at such a young age. If he was transgender then he will feel like he finally owns his own world, and we would do another evaluation," explains Elder.

"So we went home and I took him to Target and he picked out all of the stuff he wanted, [including] a pair of camouflage briefs. When we went home, he went to his room and he changed and came out in these briefs and exclaimed, 'Look, Mom, I'm here!' And I had never seen him so happy. I realized that this whole time he was stifling himself. When our doctor did the reevaluation, it was confirmed that Ben was transgender."

Elder's family legally changed Ben's name and gender marker, and he has been living as Ben since the first grade. Now, as Ben approaches puberty, Elder's family has a few other things to consider. This is where Dr. Chaudhari can assist.

Chaudhari's procedures for transgender patients are limited to those done above the waist. This includes facial surgery (the feminization or masculinization of facial features), body contouring, tummy tucks, breast removal, and liposuction. While many of these procedures are relatively standard for any plastic surgeon, doctors operating on transgender patients need to be able to identify the proportions necessary to accurately capture the aesthetic that aligns with the patient's gender identity. →

COMPASSIONATE CARE

continued from previous page

"The key is finding a physician that understands how to successfully achieve the different ratios between masculine and feminine proportions," Chaudhari explains.

Chaudhari's practice also serves teenage transgender patients. Despite Houston's size, there are very few plastic surgeons serving transgender adults, and even fewer serving teenagers. Many of his teenage patients have always lived as the gender that they identify as, but as they grow older and puberty occurs, they face new challenges that they must deal with

in order to live authentically. His teenage male transgender patients face a special challenge when they start developing breasts at age 13.

"Many of my patients get to a point where they are no longer able to bind their breasts, and this can cause them to be distraught," Chaudhari says. "Many of these patients have been on hormone therapy for years, and there is a real need for them to be able to address this issue through surgery. Once these obstacles are gone after successful surgical treatment, these patients are tremendously happy."

Dr. Chaudhari's dedication to being an ally of the LGBTQ community has set his practice

apart from many doctors who either serve transgender patients quietly or not at all. Although his practice currently only focuses on plastic surgery, he hopes to eventually expand into hormone therapy so that he can offer an even wider range of services. He recognizes that everyone deserves to receive the health-care they need with dignity and respect. All patients—straight, gay, lesbian, queer, or transgender—are welcome at Dr. Chaudhari's practice.

Ryan Leach is a community activist, lawyer, professor, writer, and humorist. You can email him at ryanleach@outsmartmagazine.com.

Transgender Day of Remembrance 2016

Remember and honor those lost to transphobic violence with these Houston events.

• Transgender Day of Remembrance Memorial

NOVEMBER 16, 7-9 P.M.

Progressive Open Door Christian Center, 3530 Wheeler Avenue

This event will feature a full memorial service, including a reading of the names of those lost to transphobic violence this year, guest speakers, and performances by community leaders and entertainers. Refreshments and conversation will follow.

• Transgender Day of Remembrance Reception and Program

NOVEMBER 19, 6:30 P.M.

University of Houston A.D. Bruce Religion Center, 3800 Cullen Blvd.

The Houston Transgender Unity Committee hosts the city's longest-running Transgender Day of Remembrance event. The evening will feature guest speakers and a reading of the names of this year's victims of transphobic violence. The reception will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the program at 7:30 p.m.

• Transgender Day of Remembrance Service

NOVEMBER 20, 6-7 P.M.

City Hall, 901 Bagby Street

This event, held on the steps of City Hall, will have a candle lighting, reading of the names of those murdered in the U.S. due to transphobic violence, a presentation by transgender veterans, and guest speakers. City Hall will also be lit in the colors of the transgender flag. ■

Same sex visa petitions

WE TAKE PRIDE IN MAKING ALL YOUR IMMIGRATION MATTERS OUR PRIORITY
All immigration cases including courts appeals, bonds, business visas, investors

GONZALEZ OLIVIERI LLC
IMMIGRATION LAW FIRM, HOUSTON, TEXAS

"Mr. Gonzalez filed and USCIS approved our visa, the first gay visa petition in Texas."
-Fred Smith and Isaias Rivas

Raed Gonzalez, JD LLM
Immigration Attorney

GonzalezOlivierillc.com 713-481-3040 EvitaLaDeportacion.com
Hablamos Español

EXCELLENCE
PERFORMANCE
CONFIDENCE

LIFESMILES
by RANDY MITCHMORE, DDS

A Randy Smile Can Be So APPEALING

Continuously Voted One of Houston's Best Dentists since 2003.

No Guilt-Trips, No Judging
Just Compassion and Great Results That'll Have You Flashing That "Randy Smile" and pearly whites in No Time!

Call Today and Mention "Outsmart" to Receive a Very Special Offer on a Comprehensive Dental Evaluation.

713.592.9300
1722 W ALABAMA STREET - HOUSTON, TX 77098

‘Roaming Gender’

Creating a library of visibility for gender-variant people.

By Josh Watkins

Forty-one percent of transgender and gender-nonconforming individuals attempt suicide at some point in their life. Come November 20, we will be marking the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance—a day created to recognize those who have been murdered because of transphobia, and to shed light on the continued violence that is faced by the transgender community.

Scout Fernandez, a gender-nonbinary individual who uses they/them pronouns, is challenging the social stigmas that surround the transgender community. However, Fernandez didn’t easily come to terms with their own gender identity. When they initially allowed their feelings about gender to surface, Fernandez took to the Internet to find similar people. “I had very little luck, resulting in feeling alone in my identity. The lack of understanding of my own gender pulled me into a deep depression, bringing me closer to becoming part of that 41 percent of trans folks that attempt suicide.”

With a desire to prevent others from being ashamed of who they are or feeling that their identity is invalid, Fernandez created and has begun producing *Roaming Gender*, a web series that documents the stories of gender-variant people around the world. “It’s a library of experiences that have never been told,” Fernandez says.

Roaming Gender is meant to show people that they’re not alone on their gender journey. The docu-series is a resource for those who may be exploring gender, as well as those seeking more information about gender identity. “I want it to be used as a source of education for those who do not quite understand what trans and gender-nonconforming people experience in our day-to-day lives,” they say.

After doing some research, Fernandez found that although there are resources for binary trans identities, resources for nonbinary trans identities are lacking. “Gender truly is a spectrum, and I want to offer a platform to everyone who would like to share the story



Artistic director Tori Reynolds (l) and creator Scout Fernandez seek to document the stories of gender-variant people around the world through their new web series, *Roaming Gender*.

Gender Explorers

of their experience with their gender,” they explain.

Season one of *Roaming Gender* revolves around eight individuals in Austin, Texas—including Fernandez. The first episode included simple introductory questions such as: “What is your name? What are your pronouns? What is your gender identity? What is your sexual orientation?” The season continues with explorations of gender expression and identity, gender and age, relationships with one’s body, and the evolution of one’s expression. A new episode is released every Thursday.

The immediate goal of Fernandez and the *Roaming Gender* team is to travel across the United States and Canada to document as many stories as they can. Their long-term goals include gaining nonprofit status, employing the entire *Roaming Gender* team to go on tour, and documenting the stories of gender-variant individuals from other countries and cultures. “It has already developed so quickly, and so many folks are on board to help make it a reality.

Fernandez advises those in the queer community to trust themselves, even though that can be incredibly difficult when they have no role models. Fernandez also explains how awful it is to see people in the trans community judging and hating each other, and deciding who is not trans enough, or not trans at all. “No

one has the right to say who is trans and who is not, other than the person who is experiencing their gender.” Fernandez believes that the last thing the queer community needs is to be torn apart by one another.

The Transgender Day of Remembrance focuses heavily on visibility. To Fernandez, visibility is “being not only seen, but acknowledged. Not only listened to, but heard. Not only accepted, but supported.” It is one thing for people to say that they are accepting of transgender and gender-nonconforming individuals, but it’s another thing to show support and respect for the transgender community. Fernandez also suggests that those who feel safe openly expressing themselves should utilize their privilege as a platform to help those who may not feel safe sharing their stories.

Fernandez is currently on a North American tour with *Roaming Gender*’s artistic director, Tori Reynolds. *Roaming Gender* plans to film in Houston this month, and is looking for submissions from people interested in discussing their journeys with gender. The project accepts all gender identities!

To get involved, stay up-to-date with their tour, and learn more, visit roaminggender.com.

Josh Watkins is a frequent contributor to OUTSMART magazine. He’s passionate about social justice and RuPaul’s Drag Race.

STUDIO A | SALON

Cut | Color | Extensions | 2411 Sunset Blvd.
www.studioAhouston.com

COUTURE *for a Cause*

Neal Hamil Modeling Agency



Benefiting:

**OUT FOR
EDUCATION**

Investing in the Future of Houston's LGBT Youth

Location: Studio A Salon, 2411 Sunset Blvd.

Date: Friday, December 9, 2016

Time: 7pm to 10pm

VIP Reception: 7pm to 8pm

Tickets available: outforeducation.org/tickets

Chairs: David Armendariz, Lily Paxson, Ben Pickell



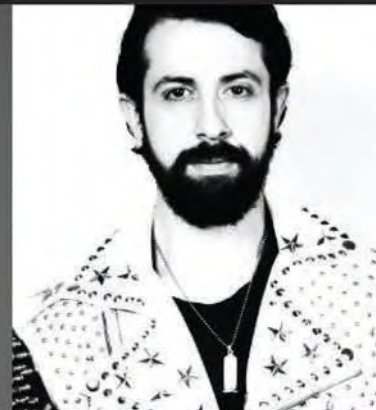
David Armendariz
Award-winning
Hair Stylist/Owner
Studio A Salon



Mondo Guerra
Fashion Designer and
Project Runway
All Stars Winner



Alexandra & Alicia Hamann
Peruvian Designer/Model
Premiering Hera-Concept



Viktor Luna
Fashion Designer and
Project Runway
Season 9

Kick-off Party:

Location: Design Within Reach, 4066 Westheimer Rd.
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 • **Time:** 6pm to 8pm

DO YOU KNOW *Bordeaux?*

Nestled in southwestern France, this ideal growing region produces some of the world's finest wines. And at Spec's, you'll find lower prices on the largest handpicked Bordeaux selection in Texas. Ask a Spec's wine expert for a recommendation.



SPEC'S
WINES · SPIRITS · FINER FOODS

Cheers to Savings!

LOCATIONS ACROSS THE HOUSTON AREA
SPECSONLINE.COM





Sunlight Dental — Group —

Dr. Vince B. Nguyen and Associates

FAMILY, COSMETIC, AND IMPLANT DENTISTRY



- Complete Care for Adult and Kids
- 0% Interest Payment Plans
- Insurance Friendly, In-Network Prices
- Se Habla Español
- Sedation Dentistry
- Open Saturdays

SMILE PROUDLY WITH US!
SERVING PEARLAND & SURROUNDING AREAS

1816 Pearland Pkwy., #190 • Pearland, TX 77581

832-243-1740

SunlightDentalGroup.com • M-F 8am-6pm / Sat 9am-3pm



INSTITUTE OF
HISPANIC CULTURE
OF HOUSTON



NOVEMBER 19, 2016 | 6:00 PM

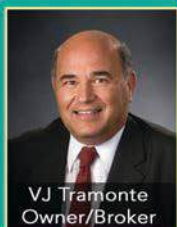
Art Exhibition runs until November 29th, 2016

SUEÑOS, RECUERDOS Y PENSAMIENTOS

by

WOOD FANCHER ANTHONY

AT THE INSTITUTE OF HISPANIC CULTURE OF HOUSTON
3315 SUL ROSS ST. HOUSTON | TX | 77098
INSTITUTE@IHCH.ORG | 713 528 1492 | WWW.IHCH.ORG



Joe Tramonte
REALTY, INC.

(409) 765-9837

TramonteRealty.com



1315 40th Street
2/1.5 966sf \$99,000



TOWNHOME

2807 Mayapan Court
3/3/2 1,664sf \$189,900



CORNER UNIT

7700 Seawall - 9th Floor
3/2 1,298sf \$369,500



424

424 15th - Residency Condos
2/1.5 920sf \$169,900



2012 41st Street
4/2/1 1,791sf \$165,000



178 San Marino Drive
3/2/2 2,405sf \$220,000

BEST CHIROPRACTOR OutSmart Readers' Choice Awards 2016

"Thank you for your vote of confidence."



Chiropractic Care
Soft Tissue Injuries
Myofascial Release
Sports Injuries
Auto Accidents
Rehabilitation
Work-Related Injuries
Personal Injuries



Kenneth W. Lester D.C.

**NOW SEEING PATIENTS AT
OUR NEW LOCATION**

KIRBY
HEALTH & WELLNESS

www.KennethLesterDC.com

1603 Shepherd Drive
Between Eigel St & Inker St
Houston, TX 77019
713.526.5252

‘Moonlight’ Becomes Him

Gay playwright Tarell McCraney’s short play turns feature film.

By Gregg Shapiro

Photo by Jean-Marc Giboux

It’s no exaggeration to say that you haven’t seen anything like *Moonlight*. Written and directed by Miami native Barry Jenkins, *Moonlight* is based on a short play by gay playwright and Miami native Tarell McCraney. Presented in three separate chapters, *Moonlight* tells the heartrending story of Chiron—as a child, a

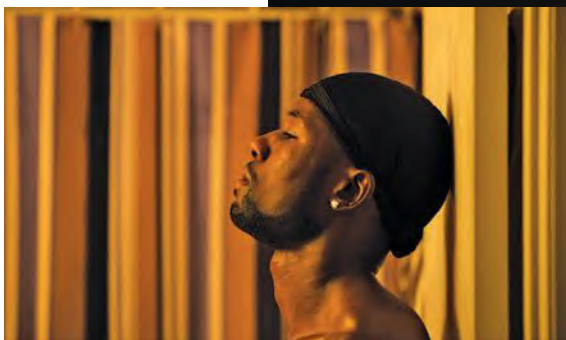
teen, and an adult—growing up gay in Miami’s Liberty City neighborhood. The three actors playing Chiron (Alex Hibbert, Ashton Sanders, and Trevante Rhodes) are exceptional, and the supporting cast, including Mahershala

Ali (drug kingpin Juan), Janelle Monae (Juan’s girlfriend, Teresa), Naomie Harris (Chiron’s mother, Paula), and André Holland (the adult Kevin, the great love of Chiron’s life), are all outstanding. That sound you hear? That’s the well-deserved Oscar buzz about *Moonlight*. I spoke with Tarell McCraney about the movie at The Standard in Miami Beach last month.

Gregg Shapiro: I want to begin by congratulating you on the reception that *Moonlight* has received. What does the favorable response to the movie mean to you?
Tarell McCraney: Thank you, first of all. I don’t think any of us expected the response we’re getting, to be honest.

Really?

Well, a lot of this has been a passion project. I wrote the original script as something that was more of a personal exploration. I think [director] Barry [Jenkins] got involved because he could personally see himself there and



didn’t think past just doing that. I think what’s been great is that people are responding to that personal passion. All of the other stuff is great, too. [Big smile] What’s been exciting is that people have said, “Follow your passion.” Clearly, it resonates with other people.

Can you please say something about the process of adapting your short play *In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue* for this feature-length movie *Moonlight*?

The process was probably a little different than the way most people [think that] adaptations work. The original piece that was sent to Barry was a script that I had been playing with since about 2003. In the version he got, I was trying to figure out whether I could turn it into a limited series or something. I was trying to figure out where it was going to go. We were both working with a group called The Borscht Film Festival here in Miami. They’ve been based in Wynwood, mostly doing underground and indie films and shorts. I sent

wanted to tell a story about Liberty City. We kind of

them *Moonlight* because I graduated from New World School of the Arts [in Miami] with a few of the Borscht people. They asked me if I had anything. It was a little longer than they could use, so they put it away. Then they were working with Barry on a short called *Chlorophyll*, which he was making here at the time. They didn’t introduce us, per se, but they did put the *Moonlight* script in Barry’s hands. He looked at it and thought he could do something with it. I gave him permission to do it.

Was there back-and-forth collaboration on the actual screenplay?

Not really, in terms of a lot of back and forth. He did send me the script when he finished it. Actually, there was no time. Once he actually started working on it, it was fairly swift. He had captured so much of the original piece. I had to go back and reread the original, and I was like, “Oh, yeah, there’s so much of it in there.”

I’m glad you mentioned Barry. As a playwright, you have worked with a variety of gay and straight directors, and Barry happens to be straight. What was it →

Following Passion

Moonlight, based on the short play by Tarell McCraney (pictured), tells the story of Chiron as he grows up gay in Miami’s Liberty City. INSET: Trevante Rhodes plays adult Chiron.

DB STUDIOS in association with IMRU PRODUCTIONS

"SPELL-BINDING!!"
- NPR Radio

"TRULY FASCINATING!!"
-PositiveLife Magazine

**DANIEL BAUER'S
BEYOND BELIEF**

**BASED ON A TRUE STORY OF LOSS, SURVIVAL, AND TRIUMPH
CREATIVELY WEAVED THROUGH THE ARTS OF MAGIC AND DEATH-DEFYING ESCAPE**

The show that **took the nation by storm** comes to Houston, TX

written, produced and directed by Daniel Bauer
music by: various artists
with special guests Michele Fiona DivaShell & John Lazo

DECEMBER 9 - 11
CLASSICAL THEATER
4617 Montrose Blvd

Tickets now on sale
www.DANIELBAUER.us

Kimberly D. Moss
FAMILY LAWYER

Specializing in Family Law
in the greater Houston community.

Divorce • Guardianships • Estate Planning • Probate

Call (713) 574-8626
to schedule your initial consultation.

MOSSLAWHOUSTON.COM



'MOONLIGHT' BECOMES HIM

continued from previous page

like working with him on *Moonlight*?

We work with "the straights" often. [Laughs] We have to work with them. I think one of the things that was important to Barry right away was to preserve the voice of the piece. I think the piece is so specifically about queer identity. He respected that and wanted to keep that there. In that sense, there was never any conversation about diminishing or amplifying it in any stereotypical way. We just wanted it to exist. Also, it's a funny story, because I think most people want to characterize it as a story about a man living on the down-low, which is actually not what the piece is about. It's about a guy who only wants to be with one person. It's kind of a true love story.

Absolutely—his one true love! It's not a down-low story at all.

Chiron is never with anyone else, and I think it's different when you say that someone is living a lie, and going and doing other things. He wasn't—that's the powerful thing about it. It's one of the things Barry wanted to preserve, and so did I.

Most of *Moonlight* is set in Miami. As a Miami native, what can you tell me about the significance of the setting?

I think the significance is that it's a Miami we rarely get to see. What we usually see is the powdered beaches and jiggly things in bikinis, both male and female. I think one of the important things about it is that we show that there is immense beauty to the city, as well as immense poverty and urban issues that other major cities have. Most people come here and they think we don't have the kind of urban problems that other cities have, and we absolutely do. We can't begin to solve them until we see who we really are. That was important to me.

The scene on the beach between teenage Chiron and Kevin takes intimacy to a whole new level. Please say something about that scene.

Again, it's one of the scenes where Barry really preserved the nature of it from the original and left it there, allowing the actors to take it to where it really needed to go. What I love about this process is that everyone came to the table wanting to be as true and authentic to the moment as possible. I think it paid off in that way. Barry didn't shirk the responsibility; he wanted it to be as beautiful as it needed to be. Remember, we have to hold that in our heart for another decade. That is a defining moment of Chiron's life, and it is extraordinarily beautiful. What I appreciated about what Barry did, and what I respect him for, is that he trusted the words that had been written.

How much, if any, of your own personal-

ity is in Chiron?

A lot. Except for when he becomes a drug dealer. [Laughs] A lot of the piece is based on a lot of events in my life. I think many of the ways in which I operated in the world—being very shy and not able to say a lot—are very close.

In addition to the extraordinary performances by the three actors who play Chiron, *Moonlight* features breathtaking performances from Mahershala Ali, Naomie Harris, and André Holland, as well as Janelle Monáe's radiant acting debut. Please share your thoughts about the cast.

I can't say enough about this cast. I love them like family. And I know they get tired of me—I'm always like, "Hey! How are you?" I send them random texts and I hit them up on Instagram, "Guys! Thanks so much!" From Alex Hibbert and Jaden Piner, who are from Miami and in school right now, they're not here with us [at this media event] because they're in class. They're extraordinary, and I love them so much because they remind me so much of me growing up in this neighborhood, in this community. Mahershala is so generous with his time and gave himself to this role. Naomie didn't have a lot of time on-set, but she worked so hard to get it done. André is one of my closest friends, so it's a little disingenuous to say I love André. I mean, I do love André, and I think he's one of the best actors of our generation, but don't tell him I said that. [Laughs]

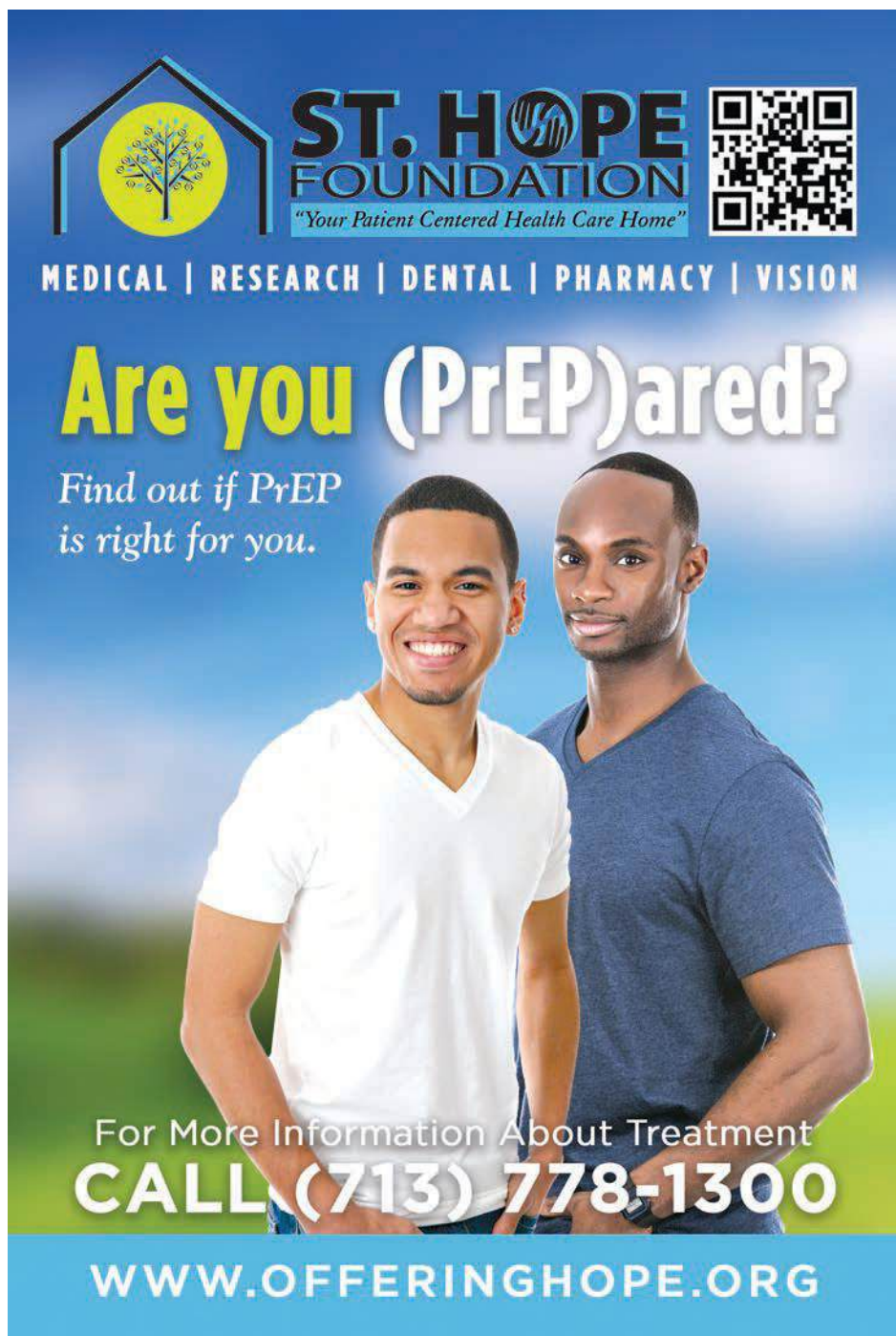
I interviewed you a few years ago when Steppenwolf Theater in Chicago was doing a production of *The Brother/Sister Plays*. I asked you about the possibility of a movie version of *The Brother/Sister Plays*. With that in mind, do you currently have plans to adapt any of your other plays for film?

Not really, no [laughs], because this piece was so difficult for me to find a format for. Barry's a consummate filmmaker. When he came to the script, he was able to find a language to make the words on the page work. I struggled with it because it's not in my wheelhouse. It's like if I choreographed a ballet—I could do it, but it wouldn't be as great as if you had asked Justin Peck to do it. Unless someone wants to come along and make one of my plays into a movie [laughs], I'm like, "They're good the way they are."

Are there any new plays or productions on the horizon?

Not that I've written. My play *Head of Passes* is going to Los Angeles in the summer of 2017, starring Phylicia Rashad. Other than that, I'm teaching my students at the University of Miami.

Gregg Shapiro is a regular contributor to OUTSMART magazine.



ST. HOPE FOUNDATION
"Your Patient Centered Health Care Home"

MEDICAL | RESEARCH | DENTAL | PHARMACY | VISION

Are you (PrEP)ared?

Find out if PrEP is right for you.

For More Information About Treatment
CALL (713) 778-1300
WWW.OFFERINGHOPE.ORG



Where All The Dogs Go To Play!

Choose the Best Doggie Daycare in Montrose Voted by OutSmart Magazine... it's the place doggies want to be seen!

Private Boarding • Doggie Daycare
Grooming • Pet Products

ALL PRODUCTS AT MOLLY'S MUTT HOUSE ARE MADE IN THE USA!

STOP IN TODAY AND GET
20% OFF
ONE NYLABONE TOY

One coupon per family. Cannot be combined with any other discounts.
Offer expires November 15, 2016.

Visit www.MuttHouse.com

3410 North Shepherd • 713.426.6888 • 2755 Vossdale • 281.501.9062 • 3407 Montrose Blvd • 832.581.2453

SAVE WITH MOLLY'S MUTT HOUSE
LIVED, LEARNED & EARNED
65+ DISCOUNT
10% OFF
PRODUCTS & SERVICES
(on your next visit)

MOLLY'S MUTT HOUSE
DOING IT DOGGIE STYLE SINCE 2004

QUALITY DENTISTRY

ONE PATIENT AT A TIME!



ONE OF THE BEST DENTISTS
OutSmart Readers' Choice
Awards 2006 – 2016

VOTED AS ONE OF HOUSTON'S
TOP DENTISTS
2004 – 2014
— *H Texas Magazine*



Cory Logan, D.D.S.

General & Cosmetic Dentistry

713.942.8598

www.CoryLoganDDS.com

530 Waugh Dr. | Houston TX 77019



OCTAVIO BARRIOS, M.D.

ADULT PRIMARY CARE

www.doctorbarrios.com



OCTAVIO BARRIOS, MD

BOARD CERTIFIED
AMERICAN BOARD
OF FAMILY MEDICINE

BY APPOINTMENT
SAME DAY AVAILABLE
FOR ACUTE ILLNESS

**Ask us about
PrEP Today!**

HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis

MOST INSURANCES
ACCEPTED



LUCIA MANGLE ARNOLD,
MPAS, PA-C



BEST PHYSICIAN
2013-2016
FINALIST

Renaissance Family Clinic

517 West Gray St. • 713.942.7546



**Maybe you
can afford
leather
after all.**

E. Bailey Moore Jr., Agent
State Farm Agent
1635 Richmond Ave
Houston, TX 77006
Bus: 713-522-6511

**Get pre-qualified for a car loan
that could save you hundreds.***

Let State Farm Bank® run the
numbers to see if our great
rates might help you upgrade your
new car options.

GET TO A BETTER STATE.®
CALL ME TODAY FOR MORE
INFORMATION.



*Hypothetical savings example over life of loan based on reduced interest rate.
Actual savings amount will vary depending on your individual circumstances.
1303066 10/13 State Farm Bank, F.S.B., Bloomington, IL

— Welcome to —
Laurenzo's Restaurant



*"Serving good
'ol home-style
cooking from
the other side
of our family's
heritage."*

Domenic Laurenzo
Executive Chef & Co-Owner

**Come see why cooking from scratch
simply tastes better!**

Laurenzo's (713) 880-5111
RESTAURANT laurenzos.net

4412 Washington Ave, Houston, TX 77007

Part of the El Tiempo
Cantina family



Hotter Than Ever

An interview
with Ty Herndon.

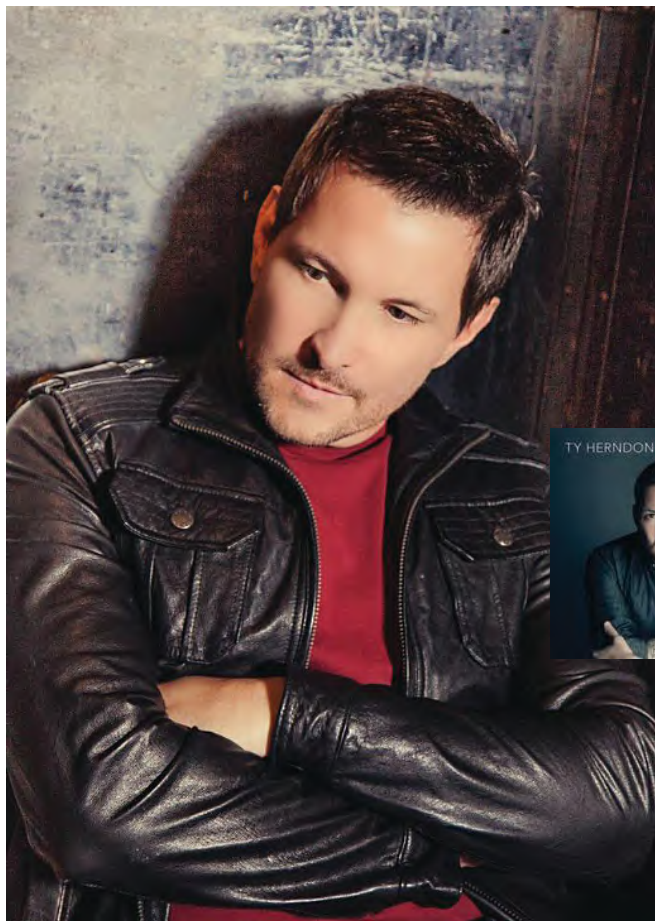
By Gregg Shapiro

House on Fire (BFD/Red), the first full-length album by gay country music artist Ty Herndon since he came out publicly in November 2014, is a sizzling set of tunes that is bound to please his fans, both old and new. Faithful to his country roots, Herndon brings the heat from start to finish with 12 songs that reflect who he is today while also honoring the contemporary Nashville sound. “Sweet Way to Go,” for example, is as sexy as tight-fitting Wranglers on your favorite cowboy. “Just Friends” warmly celebrates making a commitment, while “Go” simmers with the release that comes from sending someone packing. I spoke with Herndon about the new album and his coming-out journey shortly before the album’s release.

Gregg Shapiro: Ty, gay writer Jeff Mann recently had a novel published titled *Country* [Lethe Press, 2016] about a gay country artist’s coming-out experience. One of the book’s dedications reads, “For country music stars Ty Herndon, Chely Wright, and Billy Gilman, who had the courage to come out.” What does hearing something like that mean to you?

Ty Herndon: Number one, I want to read the book. Number two, when anyone calls you out for something you have done in your life and you’re just on a journey to be authentic, to live in your own skin better, man, it makes you feel extremely special. I always say that any time you’re making huge steps in your life, [you] need lots of hugs to feel special. [Laughs] Because when you’re out there on that journey and you feel like you’re alone, I don’t think you get as much done. Any kind of accolade like that, when somebody calls you out, really touches my heart. It’s greatly appreciated.

It’s been a couple of years since I first interviewed you. What has been the most significant event in your life since that time?



On Fire

Out country star Ty Herndon’s new album features 12 Nashville-inspired songs guaranteed to please fans, both old and new.

Just feeling free to walk out on stage and be myself is pretty damn significant. And then having people show up from all walks of life. I call them my “Modern Family” shows—I meet all kinds of people. Being in country music is what I love. It’s who I am. Being able to be a gay man in country music and continue to break down walls and change hearts and minds has been really important to me. I’ve been able to do so much of that in the last two years. This new album [*House on Fire*] has been 18 months in the making. My writing has changed. I think that if I had had an album right off the bat [after coming out], it would have had less of my story in it. This album is just full of my journey, so I’m glad I waited.

I’d like to begin talking about *House on Fire* from the outside in, if you don’t mind. First, what can you tell me about your ink which is prominently displayed on the cover? [Laughs] I call it my “Life in Full Bloom.” It’s

an ongoing story; the two pieces on my arm right now are “Lies I told myself,” which is the beginning of me thinking about what this journey would look like. The flip side is “Journey on,” because I’m still on the journey. There’s a third piece going on, and that will have to be a surprise. [Laughs] Lastly, the watercolor will go on the piece, and it will always represent the part of my journey that’s been so special to me.

The album is titled *House on Fire*, which is the disc’s centerpiece and was co-written by you. Why was that song chosen to represent the record in that way?

I wanted to make sure that people understood that as much as I love music, and as much fun as I’m having on this record, and as much love as there is on the record, there is also a journey of pain and sacrifice and survival. I had a lot of trouble placing the song. At that point in the album, you are starting to get a window into some of my past, with my scars and my spiritual →

CUTTING *edge* CLOSETS

CLOSETS | PANTRIES | HOME OFFICES | WALL BEDS | GARAGES | AND MORE



Schedule your FREE in-home Design Consultation Today!

Call 281.351.2210

- Proudly Serving Houston For 18 Years
- Lifetime Warranty
- Professional Installation & Spotless Clean Up
- Local independent manufacturer



CuttingEdgeClosets.com



30% off SALE
PLUS
FREE Jewelry Drawer**

with a minimum \$1000 purchase.
Sale ends December 1, 2016

**For November 2016 quotes only

HOTTER THAN EVER

continued from previous page

upbringing and my healing. You're peeking in at that point. [Laughs] Then it gets a little deeper. By the end of it, we're into changing hearts and minds and fighting for who you are.

The disc is a mix of songs co-written by you and songs co-written by others. What was involved in the process of selecting the songs that weren't written by you?

We started out writing this album, and I had no idea where I wanted to go with it. I knew I wanted to do two things. I wanted to tell the truth and I wanted to have some fun, because that's what I was feeling in my life. We started by going to the 30A Song Festival in Panama City, Florida. I drove down to Florida—seven hours with my producers and co-writers. We talked it out. We got to the beach. I'm scared to death of heights, but I was sitting on the 28th-floor balcony [laughs], and it was a beautiful. Drew Davis said, "We should write a beach song!" I was like, "No way, I'm not writing a cheesy beach song. It's not gonna happen." Nevertheless, we did end up writing a beach song called "All Night Tonight." It's full of fun little melodies that I've not used before—really current, cool stuff that made it fun for me.

[When we got] halfway through writing this album, we realized we were going gender-free [in the lyrics]. It was a sweet accident, simply because it's important to me that people put their own lives and relationships into this music, their own joy and heartbreaks, and relate to the songs.

Then two months into it, everybody got busy. Drew went on the road. Erik [Halbig] was producing two more albums. I was touring, and we got delayed by about four months. I can't be this busy and finish writing this record, so I needed to dig deep into other people's catalogs. I didn't have to look any further than Drew's and Erik's. Then the songs came quickly. We took some songs that had already been written by these guys and tailored them for this record. It ended up being the right songs and, as they say in showbiz, we were able to "wrap it up!" [Laughs]

The play on words in the song "If You" makes it one of the edgier tunes you've recorded. What can you tell me about it?

I can tell you this—I played it for my very Southern mother, in her house, and she did not quite get the play on words. I said, "Mom, listen again." Then you saw the light bulb come on, and she said, "Very clever, son." [Laughs] I had been so positive and upbeat and full of love for the world, but I never got to write and record anything about the ones that didn't work out, the ones that got away, the ones that might have broken my heart. That's a little anthem to anyone out there—kind of like Toby Keith's "How Do You Like Me Now?"

**Margarita
MADNESS
MONDAYS**

**\$3
ALL DAY**

Best Skinny Margaritas in Town!
150 Calories or Less

*\$3 offer on house margaritas only.



Skinny Rita's Grille
4002 North Main Street
Houston, TX 77009
(832) 831-6895

Skinny Rita's Cantina
607 West Gray St.
Houston, TX 77019
(832) 834-4430



skinnyritascantina.com

I think my favorite track is the love song "Stick With What I Know." What can you tell me about the inspiration for that one?

It was real simple. The inspiration for "Stick With What I Know" is that I know I've got a lot of fans out there that have all 12 of my albums. Reba McEntire told me this a long time ago—"You're going to have moments where you have to reinvent yourself. You're going to do it over and over again. There always has to be an element of you in that reinvention." "Stick With What I Know" is my throwback to something that I think you would have heard on the radio in the early 2000s—something very familiar.

The album closes with the song "Fighter," which is one of the most perfect finales I've ever heard on an album.

[Laughs] Thank you!

What does that song mean to you?

It was the first song we cut for the album almost two years ago. We wanted to hurry and put out a single right after I came out. It didn't work out that way, because we had so many problems with it. We wrestled with it, and finally I just threw up my hands and said, "This song will find its place, just not right now." It sat there and got dust on it until we finished this album. I said, "Ladies and gentlemen, it's time to place 'Fighter,' and it goes at the end of this record." We went back in and added that

big, crazy piece towards the end. I like to say there was just a little bit of heaven in that song, because I had to fight tooth and nail to stay in an industry where I've had a lot of problems. I've gone through a lot in my life and have somehow managed, by my faith and some great people around me, to continue on this journey where I'm at today. "Fighter" was written by my dear friend Annie Bosko, and she sings on it with me. It's an anthem [that reminds] everyone to hang on, hang in there, stay strong, your life will happen.

Is there a concert tour in the works for House on Fire?

Absolutely. The joke in country is that we never stop touring. Once we start, we never stop. You look at great artists like Reba and Dolly, people who do their 15th farewell tour. We will do a very special fair/festival/casino tour next summer for this album. I'm looking forward to that. I love working with other artists. There's been quite a bit of interest for people to come together and put a tour together.

Finally, after what you've been through, what advice would you offer to other LGBT country artists who might be thinking about coming out?

The first thing that happened to me—I walked out on stage about five days after the big announcement was made in *People* magazine

and on *Entertainment Tonight*, and the story was trending everywhere. Then Billy [Gilman] came out, and it was a glorious time. I walked out on stage to 3,000 people and a standing ovation. God kind of gave me the answer that I was right where I needed to be, and to keep singing. On that same night, these parents were there with their 17-year-old son. They said, "Our son just came out to us about a week ago. He wants to be in country music." I looked at the parents, and I was very emotional—all I had to say at that moment was, "You know what? This is the first step. You guys are so accepting of this kid. You're supporting him. You brought him here tonight, and that's awesome. I commend you." I looked at the kid and said, "Dude, okay, so you're gay. You may consider that to be different, but you're not different. You have two jobs. You have to go out there and be the best artist that you can be. You've got to go out there and be the best songwriter that you can be. You simply have to be great at what you do, and then your dreams will fall into place. Who you are is just a part of that dream—a part of your story." I wish somebody had told me that at 17 years old. It's really quite simple. It shouldn't matter what your sexual orientation is—you just need to be great at what you do. If you're an artist, be a great artist.

Gregg Shapiro is a regular contributor to OUTSMART magazine.

Heights Dermatology & Aesthetic Center

We now offer the Hydrafacial Treatment!

Mohs Micrographic Surgery

General Dermatology	Complexion Enrichment
Skin Cancer Detection	Laser Hair Removal
Skin Cancer Surgery	BOTOX/Wrinkle Fillers
Cosmetic Dermatology	Leg & Face Veins
Cosmetic Laser Surgery	Chemical Peels
Mole Removal	Acne

Dr. Alpesh Desai
Dr. Tejas Desai

Board Certified Dermatologist

Phone: 713-864-2659

Fax: 713-864-5577

2120 Ashland @ West 22nd
Houston, Texas 77008



Yuletide
TRide

MATCHouston | Dec. 3, 7PM
3400 Main St | \$10 Online

tickets.houstonprideband.org
houston ★ pride ★ band



**Don't let yourself get bogged down with taxes,
Leave your troubles at my door!!**

- 20+ Years Experience
- Monthly & Quarterly Payroll Tax Returns
- Local & State Government Filing
- Arbitration with IRS
- Preparation of Financial Statements to third parties
- General Ledger packages—Quick Books, etc.
- My office or yours!
- Proud member of EPAH



VOTED
Best Accounting and
Bookkeeping Service

Gary M. Gritz, CPA

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Specializing in Personal & Business Accounting Services

Call (713) 784-3030

230 Westcott, Suite 210 • Houston, Texas 77019
WWW.GARYMGRITZPC.COM • GGYANKSSS@AOL.COM

B | F | G
& ASSOCIATES

**High Quality
Compassionate Care**

Voted One of the Best Psychiatrists
— OutSmart 2011-2016 Readers' Choice



Barry F. Gritz, M.D.
Psychiatrist

Diplomate of the American Board
of Psychiatry and Neurology

Christine Wysong,
RN, PMHNP, BC
Nurse Practitioner
Board Certified

- Saturday Hours
- Male or Female Providers Available
- Centrally Located Office
- Appointments Readily Available

Access to Providers via Cell Phone 24/7
713/869-7400

230 Westcott, Suite 210, Houston, Texas 77007

**BEGINNING NOVEMBER 17
THURSDAYS • 10PM – 2AM
RAGS TO RICH'S TALENT SEARCH**



**HOSTED BY KARA DION, DESSIE LOVE-BLAKE
& LEO KING. DJ UKEMI SPINS.**

**SATURDAYS • 10PM – 2AM
RESURRECTION SATURDAYS W/NEW AFTER-HOURS**



**FEATURING 2016 GAYEST & GREATEST MALE DJ JOE
ROSS, DJ MELLE MEL & DJ JOHNNY VIBE**

**WEDNESDAY
NOV. 23
THANKSGIVING
EVE
OPEN**

**SATURDAY
NOV. 19
10PM – 2AM**



**FEATURING
INTERNATIONAL
DJ TONY MORAN**

**FRIDAYS • 10PM – 2AM
FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE
WITH NEW AFTER-HOURS**



**FEATURING 2016 GAYEST & GREATEST
FEMALE DJ ATHENZ, DJ JOHNNY VIBE
& DJ JOE ROSS**

**SUNDAYS • 5PM – 10:30PM
SUNDAY REVIVAL**



**TEA DANCE W/DJ TAD DVORAK SPINNING
ON THE PATIO AND SING-ALONG-SUNDAY
WITH DJ BRADLEY JANACEK**



2401 SAN JACINTO • HOUSTON, TX
WWW.RICHSNIGHTCLUB.COM

Hair, Makeup, Action!

Jeff Knaggs gets cosmetically creative with the cast of *The Rocky Horror Show*.

By Donalevan Maines

Photo by Thom Culcasi

Fans of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* must be shivering with “antici . . . pation” for this month’s stage production of Richard O’Brien’s 1973 camp cult phenomenon at Theatre Under the Stars (TUTS).

The tension rockets as TUTS plays peek-a-boo with its Rocky, the muscle-bound “man with blond hair and a tan” that cross-dressing mad scientist Dr. Frank ‘n’ Furter has on a slab in his lab(oratory).

Mason Butler, the young actor playing Rocky, is being kept closely under wraps, hidden away from roving reporters such as I. “Wait and see,” teases Jeff Knaggs, the out hair and makeup designer at TUTS since February 2015. “Rocky is going to be tasty. He’s very good-looking—exactly what you’re hoping for, and more.”

As reporters on *Eyewitness News* confide, “I can tell you” that Butler has played Rocky before, in a production at Sam Houston State University (SHSU), where he was set to graduate this year with a bachelor of fine arts degree in musical theater.

At SHSU, Butler also portrayed Jester in *The Arabian Nights* and accompanied Pseudolus in “Comedy Tonight” in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, also playing a chorister slave, citizen, soldier, and eunuch. And we saw him last winter at Stages Repertory Theatre, serving a performance internship in the ensemble of *Panto Snow Queen: Unfrozen*.

A native of Leonard, Texas (in Fannin County, northeast of Dallas), Butler also turned heads at the Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival as studly, smooth “UPS Kyle the Magnificent” in *Legally Blonde: The Musical* (his character enters with the suggestive line, “Hi, I’ve got a package”), in addition to Brick Pig in *Shrek, the Musical* and Lysander in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

TUTS is more forthcoming with what’s up with out entertainer Pierre Alexandre as Dr.



The Road Was Long, But He Ran It

“At six, I knew how to do hair,” says Jeff Knaggs, the out hair and makeup designer at TUTS. He segued from hair to wigs after realizing that “a wig doesn’t talk back.”

Frank ‘n’ Furter. “Our idea is for him to be very androgynous,” says Knaggs. “His style icons would be David Bowie, Marlene Dietrich, and Grace Jones. Pierre is a very beautiful, tall black man with a really resonant, booming voice.”

Along with costume designer Collen Grady, out director Mitchell Greco, and choreographer Kristin Warren, says Knaggs, “We are putting our own spin on it. We are trying to keep him far, far away from the movie,” referring to 1975’s *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, which starred Tim Curry as Frank ‘n’ Furter.

Knaggs grew up enjoying the movie at midnight screenings in California, before he made it to Broadway and worked with Curry on *Spamalot*. “I pretty much geeked out when I met him,” says Knaggs. “I didn’t know what to say to him. He is a huge star to me.”

Knaggs was a thespian in high school, but he also edited the yearbook, played football, and ran track.

Next, he earned a 1993 Bachelor of Arts degree in both costume design and performance at California State University, Chico, while also studying cosmetology. (Chico is the hometown of handsome NFL bachelor quarterback Aaron Rodgers.)

“At six, I knew how to do hair,” says Knaggs. “I don’t know how I did, but I did.”

He segued from hair to wigs after realizing that “a wig doesn’t talk back” and deciding to hone his skills in that direction.

A baritone, Knaggs sang for two years with an opera company in San Francisco before moving to New York City, where he moved up from a hair and makeup gig with the off-Broadway show *Forbidden Broadway* to *Les Misérables* on the Great White Way, followed by *Spamalot*, *The Woman in White*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Dracula*, *Movin’ Out*, *42nd Street*, and *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular*.

Regionally and across the nation, Knaggs was the production supervisor on both *Mamma Mia* and *Young Frankenstein* and a journeyman hair and makeup artist on productions of *Peepshow*, *Kinky Boots*, and *The Little Mermaid*. He has also worked on contestants and/or professionals from TV’s *Dancing with the Stars* and *America’s Got Talent* who appeared in Las Vegas and/or cruise ship performances.

Knaggs and his husband, Thom Culcasi, moved to Houston last year, with Culcasi, a native of Hartford, Connecticut, recently becoming the middle-school choir director at The →

GLORIA'S

RESTAURANTS



Come try our Award Winning
SUNDAY BRUNCH 11am-3pm!



WINNER
BEST BRUNCH

OutSmart
GAYEST
& GREATEST
2016

COME FALL IN LOVE WITH US!

FINALIST
BEST MEXICAN

GLORIA'S HOUSTON

2616 LOUISIANA ST.
SUITE 101 • HOUSTON, TX
OPEN SUN-THU: 11AM-10PM
AND FRI-SAT: 11AM-2AM

WWW.GLORIASCUISINE.COM

From these... To these

One Easy Stop
Only @ Silverlust



OutSmart
GAYEST
& GREATEST
2016

Voted Finalist Best
Jewelry Store
2016 OutSmart Readers' Choice Awards

Silverlust

www.silverlustonline.com
1338-C Westheimer
713-520-5440

Unique Jewelry since 1984

TECH AUTO MAINTENANCE

713-863-8244

OutSmart
GAYEST
& GREATEST
2016

**VOTED BEST
AUTO MECHANICS**
by OutSmart Readers
2013-2016

- 20+Years Experience in Houston
- State-of-the-Art Auto Repair Facility
- Mechanics Specializing in Both Domestic Import Vehicles
- Quality, Reliable and Professional Service at Competitive Rates
- Guaranteed Parts & Services
- Hours: Monday-Friday 7am-6pm
- 24/7 Towing Direct to Tech Auto
Call 281/859-0994

National Institute for
ASE AUTOMOTIVE
SERVICE
EXCELLENCE



BOBBY HARTING, OWNER

37 Waugh Drive • Houston, TX 77007
TechAutoMaintenance.com

HAIR, MAKEUP, ACTION!

continued from page 69

Kinkaid School. The couple also bought a home this month in the Briarforest/Ashford Park area near Culcasi's school.

Among the cast of the TUTS production of *The Rocky Horror Show* are Susan Koozin as the Narrator, Adam Gibbs (Riff Raff), Scott Harrison (Brad), Connor Lyon (Janet), Madison Turner (Columbia), Erin Wasmund (Magenta), Ryan Patrick Smith (Eddie/Dr. Scott), and Brittany Halen, Michael Sylvester, Ragan Richardson, Ashley Lee, Steven Boyd Baker, and Andrew Carson as Phantoms.

Out music director Stephen Jones also joins the "Time Warp," along with sound designer Andrew Harper, lighting designer Christina Giannelli, and scenic designer Ryan McGettigan.

To capitalize on *The Rocky Horror Picture Show's* legendary audience-participation element, TUTS will sell special bags of props prior to each performance. Visit tuts.com to learn more.

What: *The Rocky Horror Show*

When: November 8–20

Where: The Hobby Center, 800 Bagby Street

Details: tuts.com

Donalevan Maines is a regular contributor to OUTSMART magazine.

**I can help you explore
Medicare Advantage plans.**

Justina Chen

Licensed Sales
Representative

10333 Harwin Dr. #537
Houston, TX 77036

713-826-7048, TTY 711

UHCMedicareSolutions.com



T H A N K S
for honoring me as one of the
Best Therapists
for 2010–2016

Robert Snellgrove, LCSW
Counselor | Psychotherapist

4617 Montrose Suite C206
Houston, Texas 77006
713.522.7014 www.robertsnellgrove.com



FLOOR COVERINGS *international*

*We bring the
Showroom to You!*



CARPET • HARDWOOD • BAMBOO
NATURAL STONE • TILES • LAMINATES
LUXURY VINYL • AREA RUGS

832.305.5204

Call Us for a **FREE** in-home consultation.
houstonheights.floorcoveringsinternational.com



**~ DON'T BE A ~
~ TURKEYFISH! ~**

**We have THE BEST
Aquarium Supplies In Town.**



13157 Northwest Freeway @ Hollister • 713.329.9989
WWW.AQUARIUMWORLD.NET

Historic Galveston Beauty – 2626 Avenue O-1/2



Circa 1923 John W. Focke House, outstanding stucco home on extra large fenced lot.

Beautiful floors & woodwork, large rooms, 2 fireplaces & lots of closets, back staircase & classy garage apartment. The style & era of house is illustrated by 25x16 dining room with silver closet and china closet, attached butler's pantry, 13x8, & side screened porch overlooking side yard w/several oaks and Ike sculpture.

Large home office upstairs once covered back porch. Many historical homes on the street. \$659,500



David Bowers, REALTOR®



The House Company

409/763-2800

David@DavidBowers.com

- 2009-2010 President Galveston Historical Foundation
- 2010 President of Galveston Association of Realtors®
- 2011 GAR Realtor® of The Year
- 2013-14 Galveston Daily News Reader's Choice Award

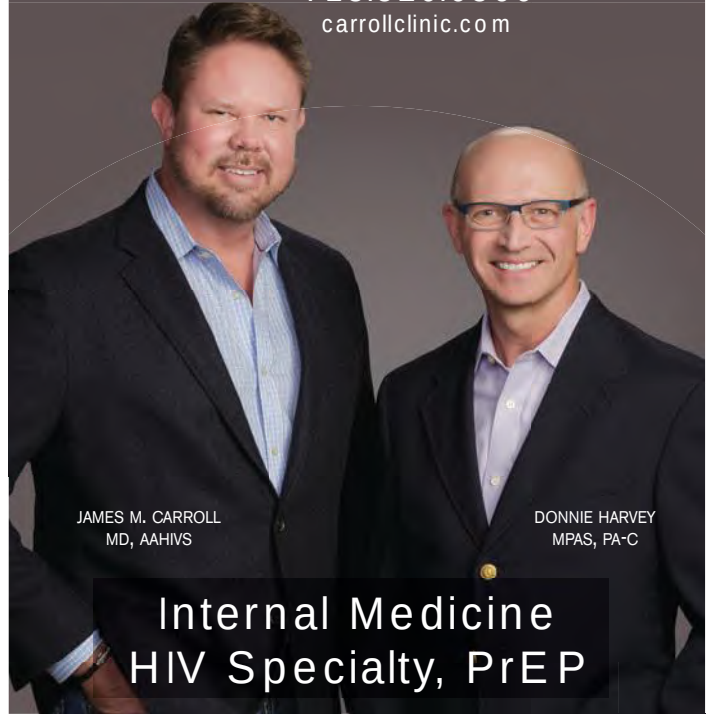
Thank you for voting me Best Realtor® in Galveston -OutSmart Readers' Choice 2013-15

The Carroll Clinic

4101 GREENBRIAR, SUITE 208, HOUSTON, TX

713.520.6360

carrollclinic.com



JAMES M. CARROLL
MD, AAHIVS

DONNIE HARVEY
MPAS, PA-C

**Internal Medicine
HIV Specialty, PrEP**

BAYOU CITY PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 AT 3:00 P.M.

RESSURECTION METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

ADULTS - \$20

CHILDREN (13 AND UNDER) - \$10

FEATURING
BAYOU CITY WOMEN'S CHORUS,
GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF HOUSTON,
HOUSTON HEIGHTS ORCHESTRA,
AND A SPECIAL APPEARANCE FROM
HOUSTON BRONZE



PROUD SPONSOR
OutSmart
HOUSTON'S LGBT MAGAZINE

haa houstonartsalliance

WWW.BCPAHOUSTON.COM

Designing the Future

Out for Education hosts fashion show to fund scholarships for LGBT youth.

By Josh Inocêncio



Couture for a Cause

Fashion stars flock to Houston on December 9 to help Out for Education raise money for LGBT students.

On December 9, Out for Education, which recently won Best Philanthropic Organization at OUTSMART's Gayest & Greatest awards event, is throwing a fashion show at Studio A Salon to raise awareness and college scholarship funds for LGBT students in Texas. Out for Education, formerly known as the PFLAG/HATCH Youth Foundation, has provided scholarships for local LGBT youth over the last 18 years. The upcoming event, Couture for a Cause, will celebrate that success as well as benefit prospective college students.

"Many people don't realize that this charity exists, or what it does," says Ben Pickell, one of the Couture for a Cause event chairs. "This is an opportunity, on a very large scale, to get people to understand what this organization is about, and hopefully get more people involved with this kind of charity."

By organizing the December fashion show, Out for Education is hoping to increase visibility in the community and educate attendees about why scholarships for LGBT students are necessary.

"Out for Education provides scholarships for LGBT youth. Some are kicked out of their homes or have parents who aren't supportive," says Pickell. "Some of the students' stories will make you bawl."

Every April, Pickell hears emotional stories from LGBT students who need scholarship money for college. For example, a gay student from Anahuac, Texas, who received funds via Out for Education, lacked support not only from his small-town community, but from parents who did not even

attend his award ceremony.

"He's really a brilliant kid, and he wants to go to school to be a rocket scientist," says Pickell.

The organization, which is one of the largest funders of LGBT scholarships in the nation, has provided 350 scholarships for students all over Texas. While recipients most frequently attend community colleges and universities in Texas, some have been accepted at schools all over the United States.

The event is also bringing popular fashion names to Houston. According to Out for Education's website, the event will feature former *Project Runway* contestant Viktor Luna and *Project Runway: All Star* winner Mondo Guerra. Tickets for the event range from \$40 to \$250, and there are also sponsorship opportunities starting at \$300. Everyone who attends will also have access to food and an open bar. By combining fashion and fundraising, the event's organizers hope to garner a sizable audience.

"We need to be supporting our youth," says Pickell. "These kids are our future."

What: Out for Education's Couture for a Cause

When: December 9, 7-10 p.m.

Where: Studio A Salon, 2411 Sunset Blvd.

Details/Tickets: outforeducation.org/tickets

Josh Inocêncio is a playwright and freelance writer. A Houston-area native, he earned a master's degree in theater studies at Florida State University and produced his first play, Purple Eyes, before returning to Texas last year.

No Drama
... Just Results



DEBBIE LEVINE

TOP PRODUCER 2002-2015



Voted **BEST FEMALE**
REAL ESTATE AGENT
4 years in a row.

Outsmart Readers Choice
2013-2016

GREENWOOD KING
PROPERTIES

dlevine@greenwoodking.com

713.942.6857

THE RIGHT BROKER MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE



JOE ROSS
713.301.4444
Joe@WoodwayProperty.com



Darren Morris
281.788.2402
Darren@WoodwayProperty.com



We offer premier opportunities for both buyers and sellers. Our relationships give us knowledge that you need to know. We offer a variety of solutions based on your timeline and need.

2500 E T C Jester Blvd. • Suite 130 • Houston, TX 77008



woodwayproperty.com



Thank you
OutSmart Readers
for voting me
2016 Best Attorney!



DEBRA E. HUNT

Family Formation | Estate Planning & Probate

713.522.4282

www.mooreandhunt.com

KITCHEN & BATHROOM SHOWROOM



Just Add Water

Thinking about a remodel? Our showroom features innovative product offerings that are sure to spark your imagination to create the perfect space.

\$50 off



PURCHASES OF
\$300 OR MORE

Cannot be combine with
any other offers.

10% off Entire
Purchase



INTERIOR DESIGN FIRMS
AND CONTRACTORS

Cannot be combine with any other offers.

Proud to be woman-owned!

713-REPAIRS

VILLAGEPLUMBING.COM

Monica Ryan RMP122 TACL834739E



The Texas Rover Company

Gay-owned furniture and leather shop creates Texas-sourced products for the modern adventurer.

By Megan Wadding

When John Humphreys, openly gay founder of the Texas Rover Company, was a child growing up in the small Texas town of El Campo, little did he know that his boyhood passion for tinkering would lead to the career he has today.

According to his website, the Texas Rover Company (which recently relocated from Houston to Austin) produces quality goods for the modern adventurer with an appreciation for the past, while being almost entirely Texas-sourced.

The Start

Humphreys, who calls himself self-taught, said he spent his childhood in El Campo and Austin trying to figure out how things fit together. “As a kid, I was always tearing things apart, rebuilding them, and looking at how they worked,” he explains. “I built some tables on my own out of steel pipes and wood.”

His inquisitive nature continued to grow as he got older and began to apply his talents. He eventually developed his concept for a company that would provide goods to the modern consumer inspired by classic world explorers from the last few centuries.

Humphreys, who was born in Houston, said he found the inspiration for his creations during his own world travels. “I was on a plane, and I just started sketching,” he recalls. “I ended up with about 10 things on the page, which eventually started the line of products that would become Texas Rover Company.”

The Humphrey Chair

In 2005, Humphreys made the move to Houston with the intention of bringing his idea to fruition. The Texas Rover Company was



founded six years later, and the first product they designed and produced was the Humphrey Chair.

Humphreys was originally thinking about creating a portable beach chair when a friend showed him a chair he had found in South Africa years earlier. Humphreys immediately loved its folding design, and he now refers to the Humphrey Chair as a “recreation” of that classic 1800s design. “There are similar chairs on the market, but we’ve made one that is more refined and beautiful than anyone else,” Humphreys says.

Texas-based, Texas-sourced

Alongside the Humphrey Chair, which has been on the market since 2014, the Texas Rover Company currently offers three other products—a leather travel case, a leather kit, and a leather bag.

Humphreys prides himself on the fact that the materials used to create the products are almost entirely sourced from within Texas, and everything is assembled entirely within the state. The wood for the Humphrey Chair is a native Texas pecan wood that has been reclaimed from a large power-line project in Wharton. “I thought it was special to use that [wood] because we are a Texas company,”



KENDALL HANNA PHOTOGRAPHY, INSET - JOSHUA ANDERSON

Texas Talent

In 2011, out entrepreneur John Humphreys founded the Texas Rover Company and started creating quality furniture and leather goods. His first creation, the Humphrey Chair (inset), features a classic foldable design.

Humphreys explains. “It’s very beautiful wood. It has a beautiful pattern that comes from being aged and left outside just long enough.”

The bolts, steel, leather, and other pieces needed for the products also come from the Lone Star State. “We hand-select from a pile of leather hides and decide which can be used,” explains Humphreys.

The manufacturing of the products is a Texas-driven effort as well, with leather work from El Paso, steel from Lockhart, and processed wood from El Campo.

Inspirations

The Texas Rover Company aims to make beautiful products with a “chic, modern aesthetic” that are useful in the modern home, with an emphasis on designs inspired from other cultures he’s experienced through his travels. “I really love the idea of [discovering and interacting with] indigenous cultures, and appreciating who they are and what they do.”

Humphreys calls this a “Texas without borders” attitude.

Keeping in mind that some customers may choose to use the products outdoors, Humphreys finishes the chairs in such a way that the wood is protected against moisture and the leather can withstand exposure to the →



Alfa Romeo FIAT of Clear Lake

We are hosting CHI St. Luke's for a blood drive
on November 19th from 10am – 2pm



\$1,500 off
MSRP

\$500 Rebate plus \$1,000
ebate for owners loyalty



2017 FIAT 124 SPIDER

1-888-784-6717 • 15695 Gulf Freeway
www.clearlakefiat.com
www.alfaromeoclearlake.com

THE TEXAS ROVER COMPANY

continued from previous page

elements. "I think our typical customer will use [our products] indoors," says Humphreys. "But they can get wet and will be fine."

Being touted as "heirloom" products, each of the pieces is designed to last for generations. Humphreys has four of them in his own home.

Goals for the future

Since the move to Austin in September, Humphreys continues to look at the continued evolution of the company. "Texas Rover is a growing company. We're very forward-thinking," Humphreys says.

Humphreys plans on expanding the Texas Rover brand in the future to include many other household products inspired by the world's indigenous cultures, including a sofa, linens, and pillows.

As the company continues to grow and move into uncharted territory, Humphreys remains excited. "[I hope to continue] furthering the vision and hopefully inspire people to be more understanding of the world we live in, and to have a sustainable life," he says.

For more information, visit texasrover.com.

Megan Wadding is a freelance writer and travel addict with a B.A. in journalism. Follow her on Twitter at @meganwadding.

Do you
have the
LOOK?



One of the BEST
Places to Buy Eyewear
ONE OF THE BEST
EYE DOCTORS
(Dr Christine Tyler, OD)

2013-2016 OutSmart Readers' Choice Awards

Eye Contact

2055 Westheimer Rd. @ Shepherd
713-520-6600 | www.eyeccontact.com

Eye Health and Vision Exams, Contact Lens Fittings
Huge Selection of Designer Glasses
Many Vision Plans and Health Plans accepted
Independent, privately owned
Serving Central Houston for more than 18 years



Get **Fit & Healthy**
in the comfort of
your own home
with a Caring,
Motivating Trainer.



Specializing
in ALL forms
of training!

*No gym or equipment required.
As your mobile trainer, I'll come to you!*

Justus Christianson

Lifestyle Fitness • Training in the Loop

832.287.6784

First Session Free!
Call for details.

Certified Trainer & Fitness Nutrition Specialist • National Academy of Sports Medicine

Floored by Possibilities

Out businessman Reinel Solano forges a new path in home design.

By Rebecca Hazen

Reinel Solano, a Houston businessman with a background in the oil industry, has recently started a new career path as a franchise business manager with Floor Coverings International.

Solano, who is openly gay, has been an active member of Houston's LGBT community, including having served as a leader of his former oil company's Pride group.

Originally from Colombia, Solano moved to the United States to attend graduate school at the University of Texas at Austin, receiving a master of science degree in petroleum engineering. "My hometown in Columbia is an oil town," he explains. "I grew up around the industry."

Solano's love of challenging work is what first attracted him to the oil and gas industry. "When I graduated from high school, I was told that an oil career was challenging and difficult," he says. "Well, [I said,] let's go for it."

Many of Solano's co-workers in Columbia had come to the United States to attend graduate school, and he wanted to be competitive and have the same advantages. "I came here with a suitcase and \$9,000 for my tuition, and I made it happen," he explains. "I went to school, got a great job, and succeeded in achieving the American dream."

Solano moved to Houston 15 years ago and ended up working at BP for his entire career, advancing to a team-leader position for the last four years. "I really enjoyed my time in the industry," he says. "It was very interesting."

However, due to the industry's downturn, Solano ended up losing his job at BP. In fact, Solano estimates that 50 to 60 percent of people in the company lost their jobs. "It is very hard to get a job in that field right now," he emphasizes.

After evaluating how the skills he had acquired could be applied to another field, Solano decided to get a franchise business. "I wanted to have a second adventure in my life," Solano

explains.

"I researched different franchises, and Floor Coverings International was the one that I felt had good leadership," Solano adds. "They were always innovating, and there was a lot of potential for growing the company." He has been with their Houston Heights location for six months now.

Solano may be biased, but he believes that his firm is "the best flooring company in North America." They handle the installation of products such as hardwood, carpet, stone tile, laminates, vinyl, and area rugs. "The company offers quality products and great customer service," Solano says. "We help customers with

a consultation, make them feel really comfortable, and find solutions for them. I am proud of the values of the company."

Since a home renovation project can be a disruptive process in someone's life, Solano believes it is important to be close to the customer from the beginning to the end of the renovation.

As a business manager, Solano focuses on marketing and sales, working with two office assistants and a team of installers.

When asked to compare his two career paths, Solano replies, "At BP, I was going to the same office day in and day out, [but now] every day is a new day. I have to create my [own] agenda for the day."

Solano is always networking with designers, real-estate agents, and people who work in the home-services business. He says that he loves meeting so many new people.

While the technical challenges were greater in the oil industry, he points out that every business is a challenge in its own way, and that you are always solving problems.

In his new position with Floor Coverings International, Solano also finds that his friends can now appreciate the kind of work he does. "I relate with people more, because a regular person wouldn't necessarily care about or understand the oil industry," he says.

"But when you talk to people about floors, your friends are more interested! I am able to share that knowledge now."

Solano thinks that it has been a very interesting experience being a business owner in Houston, and he has discovered a completely new group of people who are also business owners. "Before, most of my friends were people within the oil industry, and I didn't know people who are trying to run their own businesses," Solano explains. "You see how much energy and life [Houston entrepreneurs have]. With this business, I am able to represent the company within the community and do things such as sponsor events. It has been very motivating, and we all help each other. It was challenging in the beginning, but it is very rewarding. It gives you determination."

Solano is a member of the Greater Heights Area Chamber of Commerce, and he just became a member of the Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of Commerce. "I was very involved with the LGBT community at BP, [but after losing] a bit of momentum, I need to reengage."

Floor Coverings International Houston Heights is located at 2040 N Loop W #302 and serves customers in the Garden Oaks, Kirby, West University, and Museum District areas of Houston. Solano can be reached at 832.305.5204 and reinel.solano@floorcoveringsinternational.com.

Rebecca Hazen is a journalist and photographer who recently relocated to Houston, originally from rural Pennsylvania. She is an avid traveler, scrapbooker, and history buff.



She Said Yes!

Galveston natives Anna Latham and Jennie Meyer cruise into marriage.



Lighting the Spark
High-school sweethearts Jennie Meyer (l) and Anna Latham were married on May 21, 2016, at The Bryan Museum in Galveston.

Anna Latham and Jennie Meyer were both born and raised in Galveston and are proud to be BOIs (Born On the Island). Even after Hurricane Ike inundated their home, they chose to stay and rebuild.

Latham and Meyer met in Ms. Wolf's 10th-grade biology class at Ball High School. "I still remember what Jennie was wearing that day," whispers Latham. "She was wearing a purple Oxford shirt, khaki pants, and brown boots!"

"Even though we are total opposites of each other—Jennie is outspoken, where I am quiet—I just knew," says Latham. "If you don't believe in love at first sight, I can prove you wrong."

"I knew very early on that I was gay, even if I didn't know the word for it," says Latham, a 49-year-old registered nurse manager. "I realized I would not be able to get married, so I never had the same dreams other young girls have about their wedding day. One thing I did know was that I wanted to share my life with Jennie. Truth be told, I always knew she was the one since the day we met in that biology class."

"Jennie and I had planned an Alaskan

cruise," shares Latham. "She had kidded around forever about not being engaged, so I thought this would be a good opportunity to surprise her. I enlisted the help of a friend (who was the manager of John Ford Jewelers, a very well-known BOI and LGBT-friendly jewelry store) and our daughter.

"Now, I have never been good at keeping secrets, but I was able to get the ring made, purchased, on the plane, then onto the ship

"If you don't believe in love at first sight, I can prove you wrong."

without Jennie knowing," adds Latham.

"Anna proposed to me on our 30th anniversary at the Mendenhall Glacier Waterfall in Alaska," beams Meyer, a 49-year-old integration specialist. "Anna had pre-booked a helicopter tour to a glacier where she planned to propose. However, that morning the tour was canceled due to weather, so we ended up going by bus," she says. "She waited until we got out to the waterfall at the glacier before she

got down on one knee in front of everyone and asked me to marry her." The glee is obvious in her voice as she describes the moment.

"My only regret is that we did not get pictures of any of it, or video. But it was worth every minute," shares Meyer.

"For years, Jennie and I would say to each other 'Have I told you lately how much I love you?' Over the years, this became 'Have I told you lately . . .,' and we would pretty much fill in the blank with: *How lucky I am to have you in my life? What a great mother you are to our kids?* etc. To prepare for the proposal that I read to Jennie, I wrote her a letter stating at the top in big, bold letters, *Have I told you lately . . .* and then listed below were all the things we would usually say to each other, ending with *I want to spend the rest of my life with you, will you marry me?*"

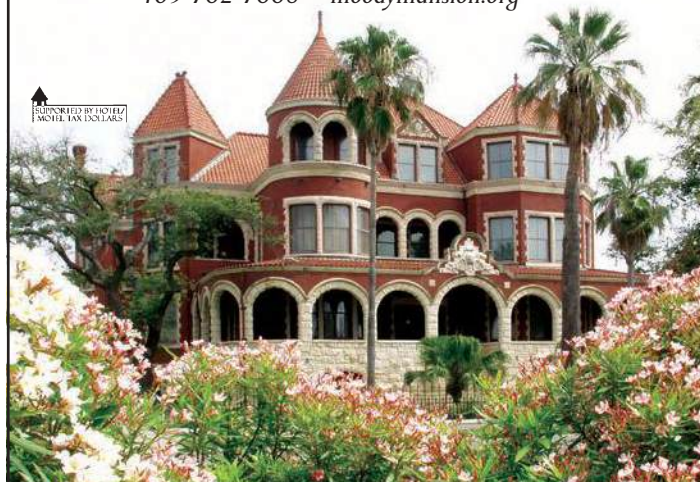
They do have one photo souvenir.

"I had told the kids what I was going to do, and that I would let them know once I popped the question. I had printed out a sign to hold up that had, **SHE SAID YES!** We had someone take our picture with me holding the sign, and I texted it to the kids. As a backup plan, on the →

An elegant choice for weddings, receptions, showers, photography and dinners. This faithfully restored and lavishly decorated mansion was the home of one of the wealthiest families in Texas. A setting for countless occasions a century past, Moody Mansion is remarkably suited for a wedding as memorable as yours.

Moody Mansion

2618 Broadway • Galveston Island
409-762-7668 • moodymansion.org



FOUNTAINS & STATUARY



OPEN 7 DAYS

- Disappearing Fountains
- Glazed Urns
- Fountains
- Birdbaths
- Decorative Precast Rock Waterfalls
- Fiberglass Garden Ponds
- Bowls
- Tables & Benches
- Pumps & Tubing
- Planters
- Pedestals
- Flower Pots
- Fountain Tops
- Religious Statues
- Concrete Animals, Fish, Birds & Reptiles
- Talavera Style Mexican Pottery
- Various Sized Stepping Stones



ASK ABOUT

Metal Carports
Gazebos & Yard
Buildings

713.957.3672

Just Outside the 610 Loop in Houston!
11804 Hempstead Rd., Houston, TX 77092
www.FountainsAndStatuary.com



WEDDING GUIDE

continued from previous page

other side of the sign, I had written, RING FOR SALE,” laughs Latham.

“The only stipulation I put on the engagement was that we would not get married until it was legal in Texas,” Latham points out. “Jennie agreed, and [we] had to wait another three years, but it was important to both of us to get married where we grew up, with our family and friends who have supported our relationship.”

Latham and Meyer were married on May 21, 2016, at The Bryan Museum in Galveston, with Jeff Grieder (aka Jessica Van Shelton) officiating. They are now Jennie and Anna Latham.

Together they visited many venues and attended several bridal shows before selecting The Bryan Museum for their wedding venue. “We loved the space so much that we booked the Conservatory before it was even built,” Meyer notes.

“For our wedding, we had planned on a candle ceremony to include all attendees so that we could all unite as a ‘family.’ Everyone had their candles, but Mother Nature had other plans,” laughs Latham. “We had just enough light rain to wash away the past and let us start anew!”

“When we set the date, I told Jennie I wanted to do something special for the first dance,”

Generations of Love

Jennie Meyer (l) and Anna Latham on their wedding day with their grandchildren.



explains Latham. “I didn’t want us to just stand there and sway back and forth. So we asked Gregory Gudz to choreograph a dance for us, and we practiced a lot at Carolyn Ehman Dance Academy. While Jennie is a very good dancer, I, on the other hand, am terrible. I practiced a lot by myself because I really wanted the dance to be an expression of what this day meant to us.”

For floral arrangements, they used Downtown Blooms of Galveston and Scott Marasckin with Taylor Wholesale Floral. For event planning, they used the conservatory’s own Peter Ochoa and Richard Farnsworth. Rebecca Rivera and Dayaselly Gracia at Total Technique Salon did their hair and makeup.

And since they became engaged on a cruise, the brides took another cruise for their honeymoon.

“Actually, we were invited on the cruise before we had set the wedding date. So we decided to get married the Saturday before the cruise and use the cruise as our honeymoon,” says Meyer. “We took a seven-day cruise with a group of 12 friends to Key West, Florida, with two stops in the Bahamas. It was perfect!”

The Lathams have two adult children, four grandchildren, and three dogs.

Henry V. Thiel is a principal with The Epicurean Publicist. He’s a sweetheart.

DAVID ALCORTA CATERING

CATERING CAKES EVENTS

832.439.0224

**OutSmart
GAYEST
& GREATEST
2016**

Finalist
BEST
CATERING FIRM

let us make your event special!

davidalcorta.net
david@davidalcorta.net

A Day To Remember
LUXURY EVENT PLANNING • DESIGN • STATIONERY

CREATING MEMORIES...ONE WEDDING AT A TIME

National Award-Winning Planning Firm

LUXURY WEDDING & EVENT PLANNING + COORDINATION
EVENT CONCEPTUALIZATION & DESIGN
DESTINATION WEDDING & EVENT PLANNERS
COUTURE STATIONERY DESIGN

CONSULTATIONS
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

713.862.1751
INFO@DAYTOREMEMBER.NET
WWW.DAYTOREMEMBER.NET

Photo Credit: Serendipity Photography

Photo Credit: Joseph West Photography

discover what you
LOVE

We LOVE irresistible products. From smiling skin care to colorful cosmetics, Mary Kay offers products women love, and I can help you find your new favorites!

Contact me to discover more.

Glenita Shelvin Lampkin
832-535-1880 • www.marykay.com/glenita

MARY KAY



Home Is Where the Heart Is

John Sweney (l) and Mike Stargel first met in 1983. The couple was married in their home on their 32nd anniversary.

32 Years and Counting

John Sweney and Mike Stargel say 'I do' surrounded by friends and family.

By Henry V. Thiel

Photos by Barb Mabry

Mike Stargel and John Sweney met at a gay disco in West Orange, New Jersey, in the fall of 1983. Stargel walked in and saw Sweney playing pool for money with women. Skilled women. Stargel thought Sweney was either the bravest man or the biggest fool he had ever seen.

So he hung around to find out.

After Sweney lost the pool game, Stargel

struck up a conversation. By the next spring, they were living together—with two dogs and a cat—and haven't had a dull moment since.

A few years later, the couple moved to Houston, and out of the blue one afternoon, Stargel suggested they go look for rings. That was in the pre-Internet days, so they went to their local mall and looked at "men's rings." They visited several retailers, all of whom touted the quality of their rings by handing the men a loupe to see for themselves.

They chose a handsome five-stone ring from Helzberg Diamonds. "Back in those days, stores didn't stock identical pairs of rings for men," says Sweney, "so we went to another chain store and bought a nearly identical ring for less money."

"We popped back into Helzberg to ask about the big price difference," states Stargel.

"When we asked for a loupe to examine the rings, the salesperson smiled knowingly and nicely informed us that you cannot really see anything with a loupe," Sweney recalls. Indeed, all of the rings looked nearly identical when viewed through the loupe. "Then he pulled out a microscope! You could see everything, deep into the diamonds. The diamonds in his rings were nearly perfect, with just a speck here or there. The diamonds in the rings we had just bought were riddled with imperfections, visible only by microscope. Naturally, we ordered

another Helzberg ring to match, and returned the other store's cheaper ring at once."

A few days later, they picked up the matching ring and returned home. Standing just inside the door, they stopped. "Hardly saying a word, Mike put my ring on my right hand," adds Sweney. "And I put his ring on his right hand. Our dogs were our witnesses." Three decades later they would move those same rings to their left hands.

Sweney and Stargel always felt that if they were to marry, it should be in their own home with friends and family attending, and not in some other state or country. In the summer of 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed with this idea. After the historic court ruling, their friends wanted to hear Sweney and Stargel's verdict on another case: "When are you going to get married?"

It was amusing to be asked this question after 31 years together. Almost as amusing as the answer: "Well, no one has asked me!" the men said, almost in unison.

Eventually, while out to dinner with a married straight couple, the question came up again. But this time, Sweney asked Stargel to remove his 31-year-old commitment ring and hand it over. Sweney then offered the ring back to Stargel, and proposed that they get married in just a few months as the perfect way to mark their 32nd anniversary together. →

Oh

Kale

YEAH!

WE'RE BACK!

ruggles

green

Kirby Dr.

Greenbriar Dr.

West Alabama

NEW LOCATION
Gables Residential Midrise

**RUGGLES GREEN
RIVER OAKS**

NOW OPEN!

2305 West Alabama
Houston, TX 77098
713.533.0777

rugglesgreen.com/riveroaks

**GRAY & ASSOCIATES
EVENTS**

HOUSTON'S
BEST
Wedding Planner

f i s

/grayeventshou

You're not just clients...
...you're family.

OutSmart
GAYEST
& GREATEST
2016

(713) 931-9168

www.number1eventplanner.com

REXBERRY

LUXURY WEDDINGS AND EVENTS

BY DREW REBERRY & SON REBERRY

"Rexberry Luxury Weddings and Events is a full-service company featuring a one-of-a-kind 'Bespoke Wedding' for every client. Our goal is to make you feel like a guest at your own party."

REXBERRY

LUXURY WEDDINGS & EVENTS

9317 B Katy Fwy. Houston, TX 77022
832.799.1449 / 832.788.1843
Tuesday-Saturday • 9am-5pm

Bradley David
- entertainment

WEDDINGS • SOCIAL • CORPORATE

DJ • PHOTO LOUNGE • LIGHTING • STEP & REPEAT & RED CARPET

713.487.6067 | BradleyDavidEntertainment.com
720 Rusk St., Suite 124, Houston, TX 77002

THE IVY LEAGUE
of
Menswear

OutSmart
GAYEST
& GREATEST
2016

Finalist
BEST
MEN'S
CLOTHING
STORE

Your Look,
Your Design, Your Way

Design your custom shirt –
starting at only \$90 – or choose
from any of our designer shirts
and get 10% off of your purchase.

130 Vintage Park Blvd. • 832.559.3535
TheIvyLeagueMensShop.com

f i s

Capturing your engagements,
weddings, and anniversaries.

832.876.1053
YvonneFeece.com

Yvonne Feece Photography

WEDDING GUIDE

continued from page 81

"We got married in suits with matching vests at sunset on our 32nd anniversary in our home in Garden Oaks, surrounded by family and friends," Sweeney states proudly, "with Dora, the rescue dog, at our feet."

The ceremony began with their officiant, Harris County district judge Mike Engelhart, saying: "Today is a celebration—a celebration of love, of commitment, of friendship, of family, and of two people who are in it for forever."

"We chose our home [for the ceremony] because after 32 years, a low-key, intimate ceremony was most appropriate," Stargel explains. Their home has been the focal point for love and friendships, holiday gatherings, birthday parties, and family dinners and brunches.

"Our home was the only place that held true meaning for our wedding," adds Sweeney.

In planning their wedding, the men chose vendors that they had come to rely on over the years, regardless of their sexual orientation.

"We asked our friends who have been a part of our lives, and who have helped us entertain over the years," recalls Stargel. "They were as much a part of the wedding as our other guests."

Indeed, the flowers were provided by florist and decorator Tony Huffman. The food and servers were from Backstreet Café, one of →



World Q Travel

**THIS HOLIDAY SEASON
GIVE THE GIFT OF TRAVEL!**

- Cruises
- Vacation Packages
- Luxury Travel & Customized Itineraries
- Honeymoons & Destination Weddings
- LGBT Specialized Cruise & Resort Itineraries

936.828.4294

info@WorldQTravel.com

www.WorldQTravel.com

HOLIDAY TRUNK SHOW

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

A SWISS WATCH AFFAIR

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

FIVE GOLDEN RINGS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Zadok
MASTER JEWELERS

1749 Post Oak Blvd, Houston | 713.960.8950 Zadok.com



Image by: Mustard Seed Photo

POP UP WEDDING HOUSTON

Your luxury ceremony dream come true.

Have the ceremony you've always imagined and let us take care of the essentials. All you need to do is show up for your I Do's.

What You Get
Private consultation
Legally officiated ceremony
Designer look
Elegant style
Small celebration
Photo shoot
Flowers
Music
Cake
Choice customizations



Finalist
BEST WEDDING PLANNER



Yvette Valdenegro
Senior Consultant

832.816.4475

yvette@popupweddinghouston.com

www.popupweddinghouston.com





ESCAPE TO THE LAKE GETAWAY.

With warm days and cool nights, now is the perfect time to get away to lakeside relaxation. Enjoy beautiful mornings on our 18-hole championship golf course, tranquil treatments at the Spa, and delicious dishes at an array of amazing restaurants. Fall in love with the lake at La Torretta!

PACKAGE INCLUDES*

- 25% off a la carte services at The Spa
- 25% off rounds of golf
- Welcome beverage for two
- Breakfast for two at Restaurant 157
- Guaranteed 1pm late check-out
- Suite Accommodations

Visit www.latorrettalakeresort.com
or call 936.448.4400 to book your stay!



WEDDING GUIDE

continued from previous page

their favorite restaurants. Mark Moore, a classical guitarist, played Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" for the ceremony, and also provided music during the reception. Even Judge Engelhart is a good friend.

"Weddings are about families, and ours was no exception," shares Stargel. "Each of our families welcomed their son's partner with open arms and complete acceptance. Our brothers and sisters were present—aunts and uncles too, as they have been during our entire relationship."

Many traveled from homes in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Wyoming, and California to act as witnesses.

"During the ceremony, we mentioned by name each parent or sibling who had passed, or was not present, so that our immediate families were with us, either in person or in spirit," explains Sweney. "I was very moved when all our guests affirmed, out loud, to support our marriage and continue to participate in our lives."

Both agreed that their favorite moment of the wedding was provided by Judge Engelhart, who said, "By the powers vested in me by the State of Texas, I now pronounce you husbands for life. You may kiss your husband."

Henry V. Thiel is a principal with The Epicurean Publicist. He can't wait to kiss his husband.

*Thank You for voting me your
Favorite Community Photographer!
Here's looking at you, kids.*



Recent event photos on the website:

Montrose Softball League

TGRA

HRC Gala

GMCH & Bayou City Women's Chorus

Out @ TUTS Night at the Hobby Center

Act OUT/Alley Theatre

Black Tie Dinner

Houston Pride Band

Pride Parade

And more!

www.DaltonDeHart.com

Need a professional photographer for your special event? Call Dalton at (713) 622-2202.

D Davis Hardware & Custom Picture Framing

You Name It We Frame It!

Fine Art Prints • Quality Custom Frames

• Shadowboxes • Display Boxes

1028 Studewood St. 713/864-4574

DavisHardware.com

RSVP VACATIONS

Caribbean Cruise - *Holland America Koningsdam*
Alaskan Summer Cruise - *Eurodam*
Danube Explorer Cruise - *Budapest to Bucharest, Emerald Star*

Feb 5 - 12, 2017 *SOLD OUT*
Aug 5 - 12, 2017 *NEW*
Oct 12 - 19, 2017 *NEW*

BRAND G VACATIONS

Golden Myanmar River Cruise - *R.V. Irrawaddy Explorer*
Amazon Discovery Expedition - *Amazon Discovery*
Amazon Expedition II - *Amazon Discovery*
Legendary Danube River Cruise - *Amadeus Silver*
Jewels of Vietnam & Cambodia - *Mekong Navigator*

Jan 30 - Feb 10, 2017
Apr 7 - 19, 2017
May 1 - 13, 2017
Aug 11 - 20, 2017 *NEW*
Oct 20 - Nov 1, 2017

ATLANTIS EVENTS

Allure 25th Anniversary Cruise - *Royal Caribbean Allure of the Seas*
Rio Carnival to Buenos Aires - *Oceania Regatta*
Barcelona to Venice - *Celebrity Constellation*
Amsterdam to Barcelona - *Celebrity Silhouette*
Club Atlantis Cancun

Jan 22 - 29, 2017
Feb 22 - Mar 7, 2017 *NEW*
Jul 4 - 13, 2017 *NEW*
Sep 4 - 14, 2017 *NEW*
Apr 29 - May 6, 2017 *NEW*

***Dates subject to change. Certain restrictions apply.*



www.conciergetravel.cc

Contact us toll free: 877.775.9616

THANK YOU *OutSmart readers for voting us*

- ★ Best LGBT Cruise or Tour Company
- ★ Best Local Travel Agency
- Finalist Best Travel Website



AFRICAN SAFARI

November 18 - 26, 2017
starting at \$7,295 per person



Hire a **SMART** realtor who is looking **OUT** for you!

ehomehouston
the power to move you

HIPSTER QUIZ

Which of these is inside the loop and which is in Sugar Land? Email your answer to julia@ehomehouston.com

JULIA MICKUM
BROKER/OWNER

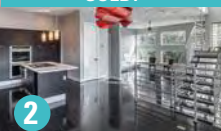
CELL: 281-851-2015
EMAIL: julia@ehomehouston.com
www.ehomehouston.com

FOR SALE-Under \$300K!



1

SOLD!



2

FOR SALE-Under \$300K!



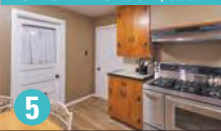
3

FOR SALE-Under \$300K!



4

FOR SALE-Under \$300K!



5



Gifts & Home Décor

355 W. 19th St • Houston, TX, 77008 • 713.864.4411

Tues - Sat: 10am-6pm | Sun: 1-5pm | Closed Mondays



CORPORATE GIFTS | GOURMET GRAPHICS | HOLIDAY DESSERTS

HAND-DECORATED BUTTER COOKIES | CUSTOM CAKES | PARTY FAVORS

dessertgallery.com

Cafe | 3600 KIRBY DRIVE P | 713.522.9999



VISIT
WWW.MONTROSECENTER.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION

401 BRANARD STREET | HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006 | MONTROSECENTER.ORG



Ⓢ
Rachel Maddow
Is she your guy?

▲ Rachel Maddow

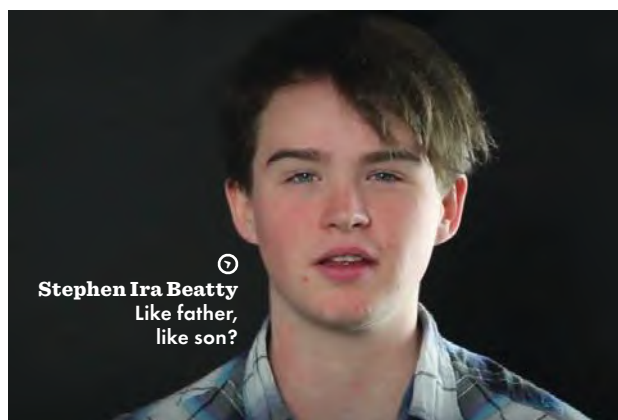
(*Entertainment Weekly*, 10/4/16, Sean Smith)

Sean Smith: You and Susan [Mikula] met in 1999, when you were working on your dissertation and doing odd jobs. She hired you to dig up tree stumps?

Rachel Maddow: Yeah, she needed unskilled, low-wage labor and I was like, "I'm your guy." When we met, Susan had just bought a house out in the middle of nowhere in western Massachusetts. It's really under-populated, but she had assumed that she'd be able to get, like, a high school boy for a whole series of things: lawn mowing, driveway shoveling, thorny-bush removal. But there were no high school boys within 70 miles. So she got me instead—for \$8 an hour.

And you got a whole new life.

I got a whole new life. But we still have a hard time trying to find someone to do the driveway.



Ⓢ
Stephen Ira Beatty
Like father,
like son?

► Michael Moore

(*The View*, 10/24/16)

What I would say to the people who are against abortion is, If you are against it, don't have one. If you are against gay marriage, don't get gay-married . . . you won't like it—it's not for you. But live and let live.

▼ Miley Cyrus

(The Ellen DeGeneres Show, 9/29/16)

In a game called "The 5-Second Rule," Cyrus was asked to name "three things you can't resist," in five seconds:

My cell phone,
cute boys and girls,
and candy.



©
Miley Cyrus
Is she game?

Sara Ramirez ▼

(Twitter, 10/8/16)

The 41-year-old Grey's Anatomy star used her October 8 appearance at the True Colors Fund's 40 to None Summit in Los Angeles, California, to come out publicly. So many of our youth experiencing homelessness are youth whose lives touch on many intersections—whether they be gender identity, gender expression, race, class, sexual orientation, religion, citizenship status. And, because of the intersections that exist in my own life: woman, multi-racial woman, woman of color, queer, bisexual, Mexican-Irish American, immigrant, and raised by families heavily rooted in Catholicism on both my Mexican and Irish sides, I am deeply invested in projects that allow our youth's voices to be heard, and that support our youth in owning their own complex narratives so that we can show up for them in the ways they need us to.

Warren Beatty on His Son Stephen ◀

(Vanity Fair, 11/16, Sam Kashner)

Just as Beatty was something of a sexual revolutionary in the years emerging from the strict mores of the 1950s, so his firstborn child is also a revolutionary. Stephen, who is challenging cultural norms of sexuality, is an activist for the transgender community. Identifying as transitioned at the age of 14, he changed his name from Kathlyn Elizabeth to Stephen Ira. A poet and writer, he posted an "Answer to Seven Questions" about his gender identity on the "WeHappyTrans" website. One is struck by Stephen's insouciant intelligence—he manages to be playful, erudite, and eloquent all at once. [When asked about Stephen, Beatty says] "He's a revolutionary, a genius, and my hero, as are all my children."



©
Sara Ramirez
Queer?



©
Michael Moore
What about gay marriage?

MADDOW - MSNBC; CYRUS - TRAE PATTON/NBC; RAMIREZ - HELGA ESTEB/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM; MOORE - ABC/YOUTUBE; BEATTY - GLAAD/YOUTUBE



'Hurricane Bianca'

Bianca deserves better.

The Royal Road



This film offers up intimate reflections on nostalgia, the pursuit of unavailable women, butch identity, and

Alfred Hitchcock's *Vertigo*, alongside a primer on Junipero Serra's Spanish colonization of California and the Mexican-American War. The film premiered at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival and has won critical attention and awards at festivals throughout the world. Written and directed by Jenni Olson, with a voice-over cameo by Tony Kushner. Wolfe Video (wolfevideo.com). —Suzie Lynde

Front Cover



Ryan is a handsome fashion stylist living in New York City who rejects his traditional Asian upbringing in favor of enjoying an openly gay life. However, that all changes when Ryan is assigned to style Ning, a famous Chinese actor, for an important photo shoot for his firm. Despite a rocky start, a romance develops between the two, leading Ryan to re-examine his roots and consider a new path for his career. Strand Releasing (strandreleasing.com). —Troy Carrington



Payback's a Drag

Bianca Del Rio gets revenge on her homophobic principal and vicious students in *Hurricane Bianca*.

Over the last seven years, *RuPaul's Drag Race* has evolved from a fringe alternative to *Project Runway* into a cultural institution, with this fall's *All Stars* season pulling in record-breaking ratings week after week. While appearances on the show have always been a guaranteed career boon to contestants, the rise of some canny superstars in recent seasons has unleashed new possibilities for drag queens seeking to become brands. Former racers now tour the world, record albums, and sell merchandise at RuPaul's Drag Con. This shift from screen queens to celebrities began with the arrival of delightful anarchist Sharon Needles in season four, and exploded with season six's liberated libra Adore Delano and comedy powerhouse Bianca Del Rio.

With a voice like asphalt, the fashion sense of Barbra Streisand, and a needle-sharp wit, Del Rio dominated her season by trashing

her fellow queens—and RuPaul herself—with the fervor of Lisa Lampanelli at a roast. Since winning, Bianca—known out of drag as Roy Haylock—has become the show's first touring stand-up to produce a televised comedy special on Logo earlier this year. When he announced the Fractured Atlas



crowdfunding effort for his feature film, *Hurricane Bianca*, it seemed that Del Rio was breaking through to the next media stratosphere, proving that RuPaul's understudies could one day match their mentor's popularity and perhaps even exceed it.

Unfortunately, *Hurricane Bianca* isn't the vehicle that Del Rio deserves. Rather than equip himself with a script that plays to his strengths, Haylock goes for a bland fish-out-of-water comedy that mutes the magic of his own drag. When nebbish teacher Richard Martinez gets offered a job in a generic small town in Texas, he shows up ready to change his students' lives. But after getting run out of school by a homophobic

principal (Rachel Dratch) and a classroom full of vicious students, Richard decides to get revenge via his drag alter ego. Once Haylock finally transforms into Bianca and begins serving up bullet-speed barbs, the drab picture picks up. But why did we have to wait?

It's no secret that drag queens know how to chew scenery. And they can certainly work on a tight budget. So when supernova personalities like Del Rio, Willam Belli, Shangela, and Alyssa Edwards are boxed in by pedestrian dialogue and a quiet plot, you can practically feel their frustration. Rather than force them into a turgid script, writer/director Matt Kugelman should have let the queens run wild, in the style of *Borat* or *Billy on the Street*. Del Rio could savage everyday Americans in front of the camera, while her gaggle of girlfriends could dance, drink, and kiki in her tour bus.

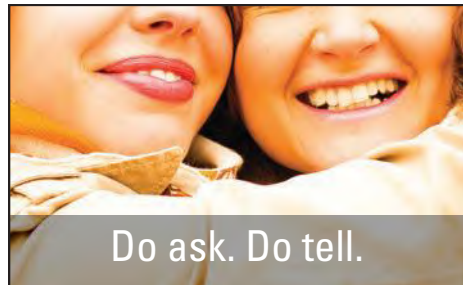
If the queens of *Drag Race* are ready for a real narrative, then they'll need to work on their acting. Why is Haylock (who has worked for years to embody the drag identity of his fantasies) slum-

ming it as a lame civilian for half of the movie? The Bianca Del Rio persona is known too well by millions of Americans, so a plot featuring her fictional civilian alter ego is just confusing. And when the character of Richard finally discovers his power as Bianca, he doesn't enter a fabulous drag fantasy world worthy of the silver screen. Instead, he just catches up with a drag empire we already know.

But considering *Hurricane Bianca's* microscopic budget, it's still a remarkable effort—and a delight to see a gaggle of gay celebrities gather around the burgeoning drag icon. Del Rio has ambitions for a sequel, *Hurricane Bianca 2: From Russia with Hate*. Here's hoping she really gets to let loose.

As they attack the recording industry, conquer the Internet, and book bigger stages around the world, the talented showgirls of Drag Race will inevitably demand to be seen in cinemas. Hopefully they'll be able to command Hollywood budgets worthy of their feminine fantasies, and find scripts worthy of their personalities. However flawed the effort was, Bianca Del Rio broke ground with *Hurricane Bianca*, paving the way to Hollywood for her sisters. With larger-than-life superheroes dominating the silver screen today, can the golden age of drag cinema be far behind?

David Goldberg is a regular contributor to *OUTSMART* magazine.



With me, you have nothing to hide.

I'm here to help you and your partner get the protection you need for less. Bundle coverage for your car with your boat, motorcycle or more and save. Call me today.

**HOME, AUTO &
COMMERCIAL INSURANCE**
LGBT OWNED BUSINESS



Allstate
You're in good hands.



KATHY HUYNH • 713-893- 3914
5151 KATY FREEWAY STE 302
HOUSTON, TX 77007
kathyhuynh@allstate.com

Call me to find out how much you can save.

Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate Fire and Casualty Insurance Co. Northbrook, IL. ©2011 Allstate Insurance Co.

SKIN Renaissance LASER CENTER



Dermal fillers can take years off, even decades; giving a natural, pleasant, and well rested look. Dr. Barrios added volume to patient's upper & lower cheeks and chin to reverse the signs of aging.

- NON-SURGICAL
- IMMEDIATE LASTING RESULTS
- AFFORDABLE

Botox® • Restylane® • Radiesse®
Belotero® • Sculptra®

Wrinkles • Rosacea • Facial Sagging
Acne (active & scars) • Face & Leg Veins
Laser Hair Removal

Call for your FREE Consultation
713.942.SKIN (7546)

517 West Gray St. • Between Montrose and Taft

www.SkinRenaissance.net

Dr. Octavio Barrios, MD is a Fellow of the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery & American Academy of Aesthetic Medicine Member.



VOTED ONE OF THE BEST
Dr. Octavio Barrios
Best Physician 2005-2016
Skin Renaissance
Best Skin Care Center 2005-2016



Weight Loss Clinic

**Your Medical Approach
to Weight Loss**

PERSONALIZED | COMPREHENSIVE | DOCTOR SUPERVISED



OCTAVIO
BARRIOS, MD



LUCIA MANGLE
ARNOLD, MPAS, PA-C

CALL TODAY!
713.942.7546



MEMBER OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
BARIATRIC PHYSICIANS



HERITAGE
TEXAS PROPERTIES



420 AURORA
SUNSET HEIGHTS



DAVID B. ATKINS

dba@davidbatkins.com

713.582.5111

THE NEXT GENERATION
OF REAL ESTATE™



Country Girls Can Survive

Dolly Parton, Lydia Loveless, Angel Olsen, Liz Longley, and more.

2016 Cast Recording The Robber Bridegroom

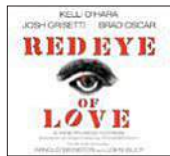


Based on the short story by Eudora Welty, *Robber* transports the audience to the

Natchez Trace in Mississippi, a dangerous corner of the country teeming with the most beguiling con men, hucksters, and charlatans you'll ever meet. Chief among them, Jamie Lockhart (Steven Pasquale)—fair-faced gentleman by day, hard-hearted bandit of the woods by night. When he falls for the daughter of a wealthy planter, his world is turned upside down. Ghostlight Records (sh-k-boom.com/robber-bridegroom).

—Suzie Lynde

2016 Cast Recording Red Eye of Love



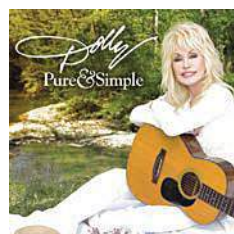
Selma Chergesse (Kelli O'Hara) is torn between her love of great wealth and her passion

for idealism and the two men in her life who offer her one or the other—Wilmer (Josh Grisetti), a naive young dreamer, and O.O. Martin (Brad Oscar), the proprietor of the world's largest meat department store. Could she have both? Ghostlight Records (sh-k-boom.com/red-eye-of-love-studio-cast-recording). —Troy Carrington

If you stick around in the music biz long enough, sometimes you return to the record label where you started. Paul McCartney will be doing just that after inking a deal with Capitol. **Pure & Simple** (Dolly/RCA), the new album from **Dolly Parton**, who recorded for RCA from 1968 until 1985, is another example of an artist returning to the roost. *Pure & Simple* is the absolute right name for this 10-track album that features eight new Parton compositions and two classics from the archives, with production that is respectful of the artist. Famous for timeless love songs ("I Will Always Love You," for instance), Parton is still able to find new ways to express affection in songs such as "Never Not Love You," "Outside Your Door," "Head Over High Heels," and "Forever Love." Parton also puts her own spin on the cheatin' tune with "Can't Be That Wrong." [EDITOR'S NOTE: See Dolly Parton at Houston's NRG Arena on December 5 at 8 p.m. More: dollyparton.com.]

In 1978, as Dolly was reveling in the early years of her mainstream crossover success, she also became something of a disco diva with the 12" dance single "Baby I'm Burnin'" (issued on pink vinyl, no less). Alternative country goddess **Lydia Loveless** may have the next-best thing to that Dolly tune on her new album *Real* (Bloodshot). Even without a DJ-sanctioned remix, the heavenly "Heaven" goes a long way in getting people on their feet and dancing. A country-funk number with a persuasive club beat, "Heaven" soars to new heights. Like Kacey Musgraves, Loveless brings a young, fresh, hip edge to the scene, and songs such as "Longer," "Bilbao," "Clumps," and "Midwestern Guys" are just a few examples.

My Woman (Jagjaguwar) by **Angel Olsen** could be a 21st-century country classic with its woeful portrait of love gone wrong. But there are enough exotic touches, such as the synthesizer on the otherwise acoustic opener "Intern," that



moves the song cycle into a wider-reaching territory. Still, the girl-group mood of "Never Be Mine" veers toward a certain brand of Nashville pop. Regardless, Olsen does some serious palette-expansion here, especially on the visceral "Shut Up Kiss Me," as well as "Not Gonna Kill You," "Those Were the Days," and "Pops," making for a truly unforgettable album.

Remember when Olivia Newton-John was a country singer? In her own way, she helped clear a path for other Australian country artists such as Kasey Chambers and Keith Urban, as well as young singer/songwriter **Julia Jacklin**. Jacklin's debut album *Don't Let the Kids Win* (Polyvinyl) is a fine introduction to a talented new artist. Country-folk hybrid tunes (such as the title track, "Pool Party," "Leadlight," "Sweet Step," and "Same Airport, Different Man") would not be out of place on an alternative country playlist. Jacklin is also unafraid to rock out when necessary, as she does on "Coming of Age."

On *Weightless* (Sugar Hill), **Liz Longley** puts the twang aside in favor of a more pop-oriented sound. It's a wise move, as Longley has the potential to appeal to a broader audience. Opener "Swing" is a perfect example of the middle ground she found between pop and modern country. The same holds true for the title tune and the gorgeous ballad "Rescue My Heart," as well as "Oxygen," "What's the Matter," and "Only Love This Time Around."

Canadian singer/songwriter **Haley Bonar** returns with her sixth album, *Impossible Dream* (Gndwire/Thirty Tigers), and it's a knockout. Rocking a bit harder than any of the women mentioned above, on songs such as "Kismet Kill," "Called You Queen," and "Skynz," Bonar still earns a place here with country-inflected numbers such as "Hometown," "Your Mom Is Right," "I Can Change," and "Blue Diamonds Fall."

Gregg Shapiro is a regular contributor to *OUTSMART* magazine.



CENTRAL HOUSTON CADILLAC

Formerly Stewart Cadillac



Get the Central Houston Cadillac Advantage Plan

- COMPLIMENTARY LOANER CARS
- FREE OIL CHANGES
- FREE TIRE ROTATION & FLUID TOP-OFF
- FREE CAR WASH FOR LIFE

Ask for Tony McClelland



Central Houston Cadillac
 2520 Main Street
 Houston, TX 77002
CentralHoustonCadillac.com

Sales
 832.369.8318
 Mon-Fri 8am-7:30pm
 Sat 9am-6pm

Service
 832.369.8288
 Mon-Fri 7:30am-6pm
 Sat 8:30am-4pm

CentralHoustonCadillac.com



HERITAGE
 TEXAS PROPERTIES



2225 SOUTH BLVD.
 BOULEVARD OAKS



DAVID B. ATKINS

dba@davidbatkins.com

713.582.5111

THE NEXT GENERATION
 OF REAL ESTATE™



MONTROSE CHINESE RESTAURANT

Better Food For A Better Life!



Grub Hub - Montrose Chinese Restaurant

Eat24 - Montrose Chinese Restaurant

MontroseChineseRestaurant.com

MontroseChinese.com

HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 11AM - 9:45PM | SATURDAY - SUNDAY 11:30AM - 9:45PM

FREE DELIVERY: Downtown, Heights, Montrose, Medical Center • \$15 Minimum all day for free delivery • Call to check the delivery location

1952 Montrose Blvd. # B | 713.529.5288 | 713.529.4887



'The Essential RuPaul'

Herstory, philosophy, and her fiercest queens.

Stand by Me: The Forgotten History of Gay Liberation Jim Downs



This story is a wide-ranging narrative revealing that gay life in America in the '70s was far richer and more varied than what many people assume. In short, gay life in that decade was about far more than just sex.

The author shows us gay people, who felt alienated from mainstream American life, standing together to create a sense of community. Yet their accomplishments were largely forgotten, and the results of that have been profoundly damaging. When AIDS erupted in the early '80s, antigay moralizers pointed to the "gay lifestyle"—meaning gay sex—as the culprit. That narrative eventually became the dominant one among doctors, public-health advocates, policymakers, and journalists. By capturing the stories of gay people who have been largely silenced by history, *Stand by Me* shines a bright light on a triumphant moment, and will transform how we think about gay life in America from the '70s to the present day. Basic Books (basicbooks.com).

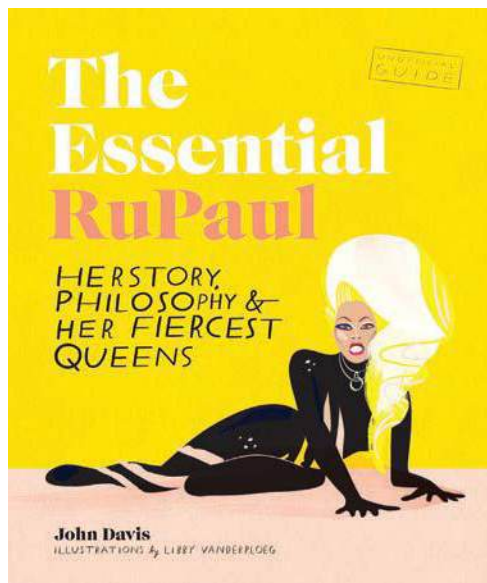
—Troy Carrington

Either Way: Story of a Gay Kid Sandra Levins



This graphic novel (with illustrations by Euan Cook) teaches teens about the history of gay rights in America while emphasizing the theme that "it's okay to be gay. Or not. Either way, it's okay."

Inside *Either Way*, you'll find three stories braided into one: a coming-of-age coming-out story, a lesson on civil rights and marriage equality, and historical fiction about a gay man in the military. Magination Press (apa.org/pubs/magination). —Suzie Lynde



The Essential RuPaul: Herstory, Philosophy & Her Fiercest Queens

by John Davis,
illustrations by Libby Vanderploeg
2016 • Smith Street Books (smithstreetbooks.com)
95 pages
\$14.95

The Queen has spoken. Everyone listens because, well, how can they not? Her bearing, her stature, her very demeanor demand attention from all her subjects, and in the new book *The Essential RuPaul* by John Davis, these queens have a lot to say.

When RuPaul Andre Charles was a little boy, his mother told him that he would be a star someday, and that she had given him an unusual name just so he'd stand out. That's what he did, starting in his teens when he dropped out of the North Atlanta School of Performing Arts and began to "find his calling."

Along the way, he joined a punk-rock band, performed as a go-go dancer, hosted a talk-show, and "hosted numerous local events" in Atlanta. Later, he moved to New York and acted in films. By 1989, after a few pauses in his quest for fabulosity, he became "RuPaul the glamazon" and went on to even bigger fame in fashion, modeling, music, TV, and cosmetics.

Following the 9/11 attacks, RuPaul briefly and "quietly" stepped back from show biz to "take a break." He couldn't stay away long, however, and in 2009 he launched *RuPaul's Drag Race*, a television show that featured snarky judges and competitors in performance, costume production, comedy, and (of course) drag.

In this book, we meet some of them . . .

There's Santino Rice, a *Drag Race* judge whose comments can cut like a razor blade. Adore Delano, whose last-minute debut came on YouTube after her creator, Danny Noriega, appeared on *American Idol*. Alaska, a "Tacky Blonde Bombshell" who hailed from the state she was named after. There's Cameroon native BeBe Zahara Benet, who arrived following a modeling gig from "an unexpected no-show of a female model." Drag housewife BeDeLaCreme has created her own cosmetics line

that features cruelty-free products. Following her appearance on *Drag Race* in 2010, Carmen Carrera became a trans TV star. Cher impersonator Chad Michaels has been fortunate to perform with Cher herself. Manila Luzon's first appearance was as Cruella de Vil, and performer Nina Flowers enjoys her own "day" in the Denver LGBT community.

The Essential RuPaul is one really quirky book.

Despite its subtitle that promises "Herstory" and more, there's really very little here about RuPaul—four pages, to be exact, and one of those is basically an illustration by artist Libby Vanderploeg. The rest of this book, alas, only has a tentative connection to RuPaul by way of the drag queens who appeared on her show.

And that's fine—if that narrow subject is what you want. Author John Davis does a good job in bringing together a bedazzle of performers in this book, but the list is frustrating in its incompleteness, and the mini-chapters with mini-biographies are woefully short and quite repetitious. That, plus the misleading title, may frustrate some readers. Nevertheless, many fans of *RuPaul's Drag Race* probably won't care and will enjoy this book, no matter what.

If that's you, then you'll be happy when you find *The Essential RuPaul*.

And long live the queens.

Terri Schlichenmeyer has been reading since she was three years old, and she lives on a hill in Wisconsin with two dogs and 11,000 books.

REGIONAL PREMIERE

THE Honky Tonk Angels *Holiday Spectacular*

By Ted Swindley



November 9 - December 31, 2016

DIRECTED BY Mitchell Greco and Josh Morrison



The Honky Tonk Angels return in this holiday sequel to the heavenly hit musical! The Angels have been invited to perform a holiday reunion concert in Nashville.

Christina Wells
Winner of *Pride Superstar Season 10*

SPONSOR

C.C. and Duke Ensell / Admiral Transfer and Rigging

TICKETS START AT \$21 BUY TODAY! 713.527.0123 | stages theatre.com



Clairvoyant Tarot Readings By L.A.

Here is what one client has to say:

"As a professional forecaster myself, I can attest to L.A. Brown's remarkable ability to "see" the future. She's as insightful as she is delightful, whether she's amazing my party guests or giving me a personal reading, L.A. is spot-on with her predictions...and she goes out a lot farther than my 10-day forecast!" — Frank Billingsley



To schedule your reading
Call (832) 856-2188
www.ReadingsbyLA.com

Readings • Romantic Relationships • Business • Past Lives • Mediumship • Life Coaching • Party Entertainment

Check out your monthly general reading on YouTube/Readings by L.A.



HERITAGE
TEXAS PROPERTIES



4029 NENANA
WESTWOOD



DAVID B. ATKINS

dba@davidbatkins.com

713.582.5111

THE NEXT GENERATION
OF REAL ESTATE™

OUT THERE

Photos by Dalton DeHart
and Edgardo Aguilar



The Walk for Mental Health Awareness October 8, 2016



Homeless Gay Kids-Houston October 23, 2016



GETTING TO ZERO

ZERO NEW INFECTIONS

ZERO DISCRIMINATION

ZERO DEATHS

[#get2zero](#)

[#WorldAIDSDay](#)

Since the epidemic began in the early 1980s, an estimated 36 million people have died from AIDS related illnesses. More than 30 years later, our world is still fighting to halt and reverse the spread of HIV. Through prevention, treatment, care and education, Legacy Community Health strives to achieve the goal of zero new infections, zero discrimination and zero deaths. [Visit our website to find where you can join us in the global observance of World AIDS Day.](#)

LegacyCommunityHealth.org/WorldAIDSDay

12.1.16 WORLD AIDS DAY

MONTROSE



OUT THERE

Photos by Dalton DeHart
and Edgardo Aguilar



LIVE Consortium
October 16, 2016



FANTASY BALL
October 22



OutReach United
October 8, 2016

A CONDOM ISN'T 100% ...

IT'S TIME TO TALK PrEP.



KNOW YOUR OPTIONS.

A CONDOM ISN'T 100% EFFECTIVE

A CONDOM ISN'T ALWAYS USED

A CONDOM ISN'T ALWAYS AVAILABLE

A CONDOM ISN'T YOUR ONLY OPTION



GORDON E. CROFOOT, MD
MAGGIE WHITE, FNP-BC

VOTED "GAYEST & GREATEST" PHYSICIAN BY OUTSMART 2009–2015

HIV PREVENTION & TREATMENT
TALK TO US. **713.526.0005**



Focusing on themes of isolation, desire, conflict, and empowerment, photographer Ron Amato's series and upcoming book, *The Box*, speaks to human experiences of self-discovery and community building. LaDuke is among the models photographed.

GABE LADUKE

continued from page 35

I'm very out there, which has been problematic for the commercial side of modeling for me. Big brands will look on your Facebook page and do some research on you before they will hire you for a shoot," comments LaDuke. "You represent their brand, so any kind of negative feedback looks bad for them."

What lessons has Gabe learned that he can share? "I suggest to anybody looking to get into modeling to be careful with what they post and what they get tagged in, on all forms of social media. I do find it a little frustrating when people have a negative opinion of you before even meeting you. But, as soon as you put yourself out there, you are inviting that kind of attention." Personally, says LaDuke, "I choose

to embrace it. I say bring it on. I know who I am, so think what you want.

"Growing up," says the openly gay LaDuke, "I was very sheltered from HIV. I am very lucky. I came out to my family and close friends when I was 25, and I didn't start going out to [Montreal's gay neighborhood] until I was 30. By that time, most people that were HIV-positive were on medication, so it was much safer."

As with his diet and workout regimen, LaDuke believes in being as healthy as he can be in all aspects of his life—including PrEP, or pre-exposure prophylaxis, the once-a-day regimen that is 92 percent effective at preventing HIV. "Yes, I am on PrEP. I made the decision to choose to take a pill, rather than run

the risk of contracting HIV and then having to take a pill every day to stay alive. However, PrEP only protects you from HIV, not the rest of the stuff that's out there. So you still need to make educated decisions. For me, it works."

Today, Gabe LaDuke is using his fame and celebrity to reach out and educate people around the concept of "Knowledge Is Power," encouraging people to get tested so they will know their HIV status. "Today, we can all live a full, rich, long life, but to ensure that for all of us, we have to know our status. Getting tested is not just a good idea, it is the way we will eventually eradicate this disease." In support of this mission, LaDuke will visit Houston for the first time to participate



"I was very sheltered from HIV. I am very lucky. I came out to my family and close friends when I was 25, and I didn't start going out to [Montreal's gay neighborhood] until I was 30. By that time, most people that were HIV-positive were on medication, so it was much safer."

in AIDS Foundation Houston World AIDS Day celebration on December 1. "I'm super-excited to come to Houston and be part of this. I love to see new places and meet new people." LaDuke will appear at AFH's World AIDS Day Luncheon at the Hilton Houston Post Oak, and in the evening at Guava Lamp, where AFH will be offering free HIV testing. LaDuke will be signing autographs and taking pictures with those who attend. "I'm super honored," says LaDuke, "to be part of this fundraising lunch and the evening's educational outreach event."

To find out more about free HIV testing, AIDS Foundation Houston's World AIDS Day Luncheon, or the Guava Lamp evening event, visit aidshep.org. Follow Gabe LaDuke on Instagram at @nodigity666.

What: Celebrate World AIDS Day with AIDS Foundation Houston and international model Gabe LaDuke, along with a vendor fair and fundraising raffles. All proceeds will go to AIDS Foundation Houston.

When: December 1, 7-10 p.m. Free HIV testing starts at 7 p.m.

Where: Guava Lamp, 570 Waugh Drive

Details: No cover, 21+, free on-site parking

Ernie Manouse is an eight-time Emmy Award-winning TV presenter, producer, and host of the PBS series InnerVIEWS with Ernie Manouse. Manouse can also be seen touring the country with Al Pacino in their stage interview program Pacino: One Night Only.

Understanding the HIV Care System



FREE classes to help you get the most from HIV services in the Houston area!

Learn how to get good care, find other services you need and how the public and private health care systems work together

Find out how to get assistance paying for medications and health insurance costs and how to get the most from Medicare - all presented in short, easy to understand sessions

Saturday, November 12, 2016

9:30 am	Registration & Light Breakfast
10 am-12 pm	Five classes to choose from
12:00 pm	Networking Lunch

LOCATION:
Montrose Center
401 Branard St, 3rd Floor
Houston, TX 77006

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Ryan White Planning Council
Office of Support
713 572-3724
www.rwpcHouston.org

Please RSVP!

If you need an ASL interpreter, please call at least two days in advance: 713 572-2813 (TTY)
Si necesita un intérprete, por favor llame al 713 572-3724 por lo menos 48 horas antes.



Call me NOW for all of your real estate needs!



TIM SURRATT

713.320.5881
timsurratt@yahoo.com

GREENWOOD KING PROPERTIES



CRIMINAL DEFENSE
Attorney
Clyde Williams
& ASSOCIATES

Board Certified By State Bar Of Texas

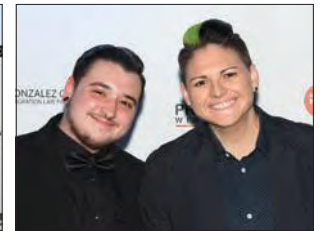
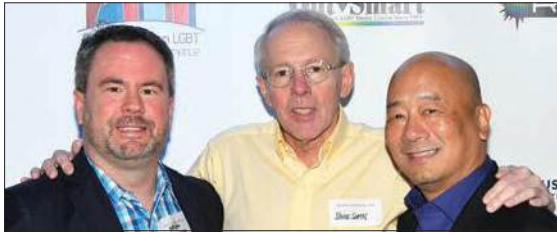
Voted One of the Best Attorneys 2011-2016
OutSmart Readers' Choice

713.236.0064 • chwlaw@earthlink.net

Photos by Dalton DeHart
and Edgardo Aguilar

OutSmart's 20th Annual Gayest & Greatest Awards October 19, 2016

See more at
OutSmart-
Magazine.com



Thank you to our sponsors



Greater Houston LGBT
Chamber of Commerce



HOUSTON HEALTH
DEPARTMENT



GONZALEZ OLIVIERI LLC
IMMIGRATION LAW FIRM, HOUSTON, TEXAS



SIGNOUT

continued from page 110

feel that. Community organizations are a good outlet for you, but only if they have something to make your participation worth it. Friends may seem few and far between. You are holding on to the ones you have, and are cautious about making new ones. Mars (planet of action, anger, and initiation) enters your sign on November 10 and stays until December 19. Get in touch with your power, your physical body, and your stamina. You will take everything more personally, even if it is not personal!

PISCES (February 19–March 20). Although you remain busy planning your future, you are willing to take a break from the action this month and do something just for fun. After the 13th, you are back to your routines. Your career energies remain very strong as you make plans for where you are going. This is a very good time to take on a leadership role, or even to start your own business. You may not feel very holiday-ish, and that may make your gatherings seem like a duty. Do what suits you—start your own traditions! Make sure you have some time to yourself on the 29th and 30th. Keep in touch with your friends—they could be very supportive if you call on them.

Read Lilly Roddy's 2016 forecast at OutSmartMAGAZINE.com. For more astro-insight, log on to lillyroddy.com.



VOTED BEST PERSONAL TRAINER
2006 | 2010 | 2011 | 2015 | 2016

WHETHER YOU ARE TRYING
TO LOSE WEIGHT, BUILD MUSCLE
OR JUST MAINTAIN YOUR
CURRENT LEVEL OF FITNESS.

DWAYNE IS RIGHT FOR YOU!

TRAINING CLIENTS IN
TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS.
CONTACT DWAYNE ASAP FOR
PRICING AND AVAILABILITY

dcooksonfitness.com
dwayne@dcooksonfitness.com
281.960.6301

Nutrition Guidance
Toning & Definition
Muscle Gains • Weight Loss
Balance & Coordination



Commitment to Excellence

FROM CONCEPT TO COMPLETION

Complete Home Renovations | Kitchen & Bath Remodel
Room Additions | New Construction
Roofing, Decks & More

Call today to
schedule your **FREE**
consultation!

713.263.8138 | www.UBTexas.com

Licensed & Fully Insured 2 Year Written Warranty



FINE LIVING GROUP

WEST HOUSTON REAL ESTATE



Jenny Schneider
832.247.1402

Cynthia Berry
713.705.3047

April Maestri
832.264.5419

FINELIVINGGROUP.COM

Better Homes
GARY GREENE
REAL ESTATE



**ANDY'S ALL-STAR
PEST CONTROL**
713-732-7742

Complete Pest Control Service
6 Month Warranty - on Standard Pest Control
*This is Termite Swarming Season
Call us to Protect your Investment*

**Call
Andy**
for a free quote




Andy Sassie - Owner
TPCL# 13558

danilo Novoa, lcsw **dn**
Counselor • Psychotherapist



most insurance plans accepted

EMDR • CBT • Pain Management
Mindfulness Based CT • PTSD
Bipolar Disorders • Depression • Anxiety
Body Image • Bilingual

4318 Stanford St. • Houston, TX 77006
713.992.5010
iwantcounseling.com



*We come directly to your home
and troubleshoot PC issues!*

**Computer Repair | Printers
Other Peripheral Setup | Network Setup
Virus and Spyware Removal
Training & Tutoring | New PC builds | More!**

CALL US TODAY!
832.712.7885



2450 Louisiana St., Suite 400-314 • Houston, TX 77006
info@SynAck.Tech
Http://SynAck.Tech



ST. LUKE'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
We Are a Welcoming and Affirming Congregation

Please come experience our church family.
SUNDAY WORSHIP-10 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL (ALL AGES)-9 A.M.

Check out our calendar of events:
www.stlukespres.org
713.667.6531
8915 Timberside Dr. • Hou, TX 77025
Inside Loop 610

Perfection^{PLUS}
SERVICES
A Premiere Cleaning Service since 1989

- Family Owned & Operated
- Move In-Out / Organizing
- Specialists in Detail Cleaning
- Weekly, Bi-monthly, One-time
- Travel in Team with Supervisor*
- Bonded & Insured for Your Protection

**English speaking manager always on site*

*You Owe Yourself
A Professional
Home Cleaning
Service*




John Montgomery
Owner

713.664.9911 • PerfectionPlusHouston.com

PERFECT PAINTERS
COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

**TOP TIER
PAINTING CONTRACTOR**

**RESIDENTIAL POWER
WASHING SERVICE**



DANNY ESCAMILLA **832.248.4281**
paintingcontractorhoustontx.com



**GRIZZLY
PINES**

**CLOTHING OPTIONAL
MALE CAMPGROUND**
Open 24/7

16930 Whippoorwill Road • Navasota, TX 77868
936.894.2030 • **grizzlypines.com**

GLBT CRUISES & TOUR EVENTS

aquafest
a division of CruiseCenter



...family at sea!

(800) 592-9058
www.AquafestCruises.com

EMERGENT PATHWAYS
PSYCHOTHERAPY



Kaden J. Stanley, Psy.D.
LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST

3303 Louisiana St. Suite 260
emergencepsych.com | 346.701.1300
ks@emergencepsych.com

BUSINESS NEWS

Community Hep C Clinic Offers Patients Hassle-Free Care and Treatment

The Community Hep C Clinic (CHCC), located at 7700 Main Street, Suite 376, is a one-stop facility for patients who are suffering with Hepatitis C. Established in 2015, the facility is the result of tireless community work by a dedicated advanced wellness foundation team. CHCC offers easy access to board-certified hepatologists, as well as a plethora of wellness services that include fibroscans for liver health, all basic Hepatitis C labs, pharmacy services with free delivery, and a patient-assistance program. For more information, visit communityhepcclinic.org or call 832.831.7770.

Montrose Psychotherapist Opens New Private Practice

Longtime community servant and psychotherapist Danilo Novoa, LCSW, has opened a full-time private practice at 4318 Stanford Street. Novoa specializes in the treatment of depression, anxiety, sexual compulsion, childhood trauma, and relationship issues. He aims to bring genuine insight and warmth to the therapy process, making each session a relaxed, casual, safe, and comfortable place to share and grow in order to achieve meaningful and fulfilling relationships. Novoa uses an integrative and individualized approach, forming a therapeutic and productive partnership that is tailored to meet each client's needs. Weekday, evening, and weekend appointments are offered. For more information, visit iwantcounseling.com or call 713.992.5010.

Houston Women's Group Member to Be Honored with Mayoral Proclamation

Houston Women's Group member Emma Lou Scott, also known as Scottie Scott, will be presented with a mayoral proclamation on Sunday, December 11, at the First Unitarian

Universalist Church, located at 5200 Fannin Street. Scott has been a dependable, generous volunteer and contributor to numerous lesbian community organizations for more than 20 years. The event will be held on the third floor of the church, with a gathering starting at 10:30 a.m. followed by a program at 11 a.m. For more information, visit houstonwomensgroup.com.

LET'S GET SOCIAL



/outsmartmagazine



@outsmarthouston



@outsmartmagazine



#outsmartmagazine

OutSmart

outsmartmagazine.com

Why would you buy a cake from someone who doesn't want to sell you one?



Don't give your money to a business that does not support diversity.

Whether you're looking for the butcher, the baker, or the candlestick maker, OutSmart can help you find equality-minded businesses that appreciate you and provide vital community support.

Read OutSmart, so you can have your cake and equality, too.

OutSmart

For advertising and subscription information, call 713/520-7237.

www.OutSmartMagazine.com

OutSmart Advertising = More Business & Equality

Appointments & Walk-Ins OK!

Barber Service Available

515 Westheimer 713.524.7858

www.HairSalonHouston.com

Mon. - Fri. 10am - 7pm | Sat. 10am - 5pm | Sun. Closed

THE DOG WALKER

Custom Pet Services!

Mid-Day Dog Walking & Pet Sitting
Bonded & Insured

713.213.7140

ben@THEDOGWALKERHOUSTON.COM

Celebrating 10 Years of Proudly Serving Houston

ACCOMMODATIONS/HOTELS

Elan Heights
ElanHeights.com.....713/861-2700

Elan Memorial Park
ElanMemorialPark.com.....877/514-4863

L'Emerson Corporate Lodging
.....Lemerson.net

The Village of River Oaks
www.villageofriveroaks.com.....713/952-7600

ACCOUNTANTS/BOOKKEEPERS/ CPAS

Gary Gritz, CPA
230 Westcott, Ste 210713/784-3030

ARTISTS/ART GALLERIES/MUSEUMS

Jumper Maybach
238 W 19th St.....832/523-4249

ADULT

Discount Video
730 Hwy. 6 South.....281/679-1797

ADVERTISING

OutSmart Magazine
3406 Audubon.....713/520-7237

AIR CONDITIONING/HEATING

Newport Air
newportair.net.....281/808-8630

ARCHITECTS

Morningside Architects
MorningsideArchitects.com.....713/529-2630

ASTROLOGER

Lilly Roddy Astrology
.....713/529-5842

ATTORNEYS/LEGAL SERVICES

Garate-Cooper, PLLC
garatecooper.com.....713/370-9700

The Guide to Good Divorce
GuideToGoodDivorce.com.....713/932-7177

Gonzalez Olivieri LLC
gonzalezolivieriillc.com.....713/481-3040

Katine & Nechman LLP
1834 Southmore.....713/808-1001

Law Office of Robert Hohenberger
2500 Wilcrest, Ste 300.....713/680-9454

Law office of Kimberly D. Moss
Mosslawhouston.com.....713/574-8626

Moore and Hunt Attorneys at Law
MooreandHunt.com.....713/522-4282

Clyde Williams, Attorney
.....713/236-0064

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS

Clear Lake Body Shop
495 Coryell St, League City.....832/535-2087

Tech Auto Maintenance
37 Waugh.....713/863-8244

AUTOMOTIVE SALES

Beck & Masten Buick/GMC
12820 Gulf Fwy.....888/690-4291

Central Houston Nissan
2901 S. Loop Fwy.....centralhoustonnissan.com

Clear Lake Fiat
15695 Gulf Freeway.....281/617-4923

Central Houston Cadillac
2520 Main St.....832/981-7590

Central Houston Nissan
2901 S. Loop W. Fwy.....713/349-6146

BAKERIES/CUSTOM CAKES

Acadian Bakers
604 W. Alabama.....713/520-1484

David Alcorta Catering
davidalcorta.net.....832/439-0224

Dessert Gallery
DessertGallery.com.....713-522-9999

CAMPING

Grizzly Pines/Navasota
GrizzlyPines.com.....936/894-2030

CATERING SERVICES

Catering by Benno
BennosOfGalveston.com.....409/762-3666

David Alcorta Catering
davidalcorta.net.....832/439-0224

Jim Benton of Houston Catering
2811 Eastman.....713/802-2860

CHURCHES/SPIRITUAL CENTERS

Living Mosaic Church
401 Branard St.....832/971-0364

Resurrection MCC
2025 W 11th.....713/861-9149

St. Luke's Presbyterian Church
8915 Timberside Dr.....713/667-6531

St Paul's United Methodist Church
5501 Main.....713/528-0527

CLEANING SERVICES

Perfection Plus
.....713/664-9911

CLOTHING/FASHION

Crossroads
2317 Montrose Blvdcrossroadstrading.com

The Ivy League of Menswear
TheIvyLeagueMensShop.com.....832/559-3535

Mezlan Shoes
www.mezlan.com.....281/940-3260

COMMUNITY/NONPROFIT

Bering Support Network
.....713-526-1017, ext.20

Diana Foundation
.....TheDianaFoundation.org

Greater Houston LGBT Chamber of Commerce
HoustonLGBTChamber.com.....832-510-3002

Humanists of Houston
humanistsofhouston.org.....901/609-4464

Lesbian Health Initiative (LHI)
401 Branard.....lhihouston.org

Lesbians Over Fifty (L.O.A.F.)
.....www.loafhouston.org

MyGayHouston.com
.....MyGayHouston.com/discover

Out 4 Brunch
out4brunch.com.....832/228-6138

OutReach United
OutReachUnited.org.....832/294-2944

Pet Patrol
.....ThePetPatrol.org

Ryan White Planning Council
rwpcHouston.org.....713-572-3724

COMPUTERS/INTERNET/IT SERVICES

Copy.com
1201-F Westheimer.....713/528-1201

SynAck Technologies
SynAckTechnologies.tech.....832/712-7885

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Houston Community College
.....hccs.edu/diversity

ENTERTAINMENT/NIGHT LIFE

Bayou City Bar & Grill
2409 Grant St.....BayouCityBar.com

Bayou City Concert Musicals
BayouCityConcertMusicals.org.....713/465-6484

Bradley David Entertainment
BradleyDavidEntertainment.com.....713/487-6076

Daniel Bauer's Beyond Belief
.....DanielBauer.us

F*Bar
202 Tuam.....FBARHouston.com

George Country Sports Bar
617 Fairview.....713/528-8102

Houston Eagle
611 Hyde Park.....HoustonEagle.com

JR's/Santa Fe
808 Pacific.....713/521-2519

Lake Charles
Visitlakecharles.org/greattimes...800/456-7952

La Torretta Lake Resort & Spa
600 La Torretta Blvd.....Latorrettalakeresort.com

Miller Outdoor Theater
6000 Herman Park.....Milleroutdoortheatre.com

Pearl Bar
4216 Washington Ave.....pearlhouston.com

RadioPride.FM
.....RadioPride.FM

Rich's Houston
2401 San Jacinto.....RichsNightClub.com

Rudyard's
2010 Waugh.....713/521-0521

Smart Financial Centre/Sugar Land
18111 Lexington Blvd.....smartfinancialcentre.net

South Beach
810 Pacific.....713/529-7623

Stages Theatre
StagesTheatre.com.....713-527-0123

Theatre Southwest
theatresouthwest.org.....713/661-9505

Theatre Under the Stars
TUTS.com.....713/558-TUTS

Tony's Corner Pocket
817 W Dallas.....832/722-7658

FERTILITY/GYNECOLOGY

Aspire Fertility
AspireFertility.com.....713/425-3003

Houston Fertility Specialists
www.fertilityspecialists.net.....713/512-7900

Houston IVF
houstonivf.net.....713/561-3439

FINANCIAL PLANNING/BANKS

Domingo Barrios, MS/Prudential
1233 West Loop South.....832/325-6885

Grace Yung/Midtown Financial
3355 Alabama, Ste 180.....713/355-9833

Wells Fargo Bank
.....www.WellsFargo.com

FITNESS CLUBS/PERSONAL TRAINERS

Body3 Personal Fitness
3562 W. TC. Jester Blvd.....713/864-1231

Club Houston
2205 Fannin.....713/659-4998

D Cookson Fitness
Dwayne Cookson.....281/960 6301

Fit Athletic Club
FitHouston.com.....713/STAYFIT

Fitness by Leslie
Mcneely100@gmail.com.....281/546-0040

Houston Gym
1501 Durham.....713/880-9191

Lifestyles Fitness
Justus Christianson.....832-287-6784

The Gym
1950 W. Gray St.....713/527-8000

FLOORING / CARPETING

Floor Coverings International
HoustonHeights.FloorCoveringsInternational.com
.....832/305-5204

Wells and Son LLC Floorcare
WellsAndSonFloorCare.com.....713/204-8698

FOOD/SPECIALTY & SPIRITS

Bud Light
.....Budlight.com

Dripping Springs Vodka & Gin
.....drippingspringsvodka.com

Spec's
specsonline.com.....888/526-8787

FUNERAL SERVICES

Leslie Bonnie/Dignity Memorial713/725-2006

HAIR/NAIL/MAKE-UP SALONS

Green Apple
719 W. Gray St.....713/521-0500

NU-Cuts Hair Salon
515 Westheimer.....713/524-7858

HEALTH CARE-EMERGENCY CENTERS

Elite Care 24 Hour Emergency Center
2500 Rice Blv.....EliteCareEmergency.com

HEALTH CARE-CHIROPRACTIC

Kirby Health & Wellness/Kenneth W. Lester, D.C.
1603 Shepherd.....713/526-5252

HEALTH CARE-COUNSELING/THERAPY

Brain Health Consultants
brainhealthconsultants.com.....713/489-5000

D. "Woodja" Flanigan, MS, LPA
2600 SW Fwy, Ste 409.....713/589-9804

Dr. Daniel Garza, MD
2323 Shepherd, Set 805.....281/610-8190

Denise O'Doherty, LPC, LMFT, LCDC, RN
3730 Kirby Dr., Ste. 910.....713/524-8525

Dr. Barry F. Gritz, MD
230 Westcott, Ste 210.....713/869-7400

Emergent Pathways
emergentsych.com.....346/701-1300

Ken McLeod, LCSW, ACSW
5909 W Loop S, Ste 480.....713/628-1776

The Montrose Center
401 Branard.....713/529-0037

Danilo Novoa, LCSW
IWantCounseling.com.....713/992-5010

Denise O'Doherty, LPC, LMFT, LCDC, RN
3730 Kirby, Ste 910.....713/524-9525

Robert Snellgrove, LMSW-ACP
4617 Montrose, Ste C206.....713/522-7014

Christine Wysong
230 Westcott.Ste 210.....713/869-7400

HEALTH CARE-DENTISTS

Samuel A. Carrell, DDS/Bruce W. Smith, DDS
1006 Missouri.....713/529-4364

Bayou City Smiles/Marcus de Guzman, DDS
2313 Edwards St., Ste. 150.....713/518-1411

Bayou City Smiles/ Cynthia Corral, DDS
2313 Edwards St., Ste 150.....713/518-1411

Connect Dental Specialists
2902 Shepherd Dr., Ste.C.....713/230-8350

Cory Logan, DDS
530 Waugh.....713/942-8598

Polish Dentistry, Dianna Wilde, DDS
514 Elgin, Ste A.....713/942-0101

LifeSmiles by Randy Mitchmore, DDS
1722 W. Alabama.....713/592-9300

Bruce W. Smith, DDS/Bruce Smith, DDS
1006 Missouri.....713/529-4364

Sunlight Dental Group
SunlightDentalGroup.com.....832-243-1740

HEALTH CARE-OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

Houston Eye Associates/Stewart Zuckerbrod, MD
5420 Dashwood, Ste 101.....713/668-9118

HEALTH CARE-OPTOMETRISTS

Boutique Eye Care
2502 Woodhead.....713/528-2010

Eye Contact
2055 Westheimer.....713/520-6600

Eye Gallery
1806B Westheimer.....713/523-1279

2542 Amherst.....832/831-7253

1700 Post Oak Blvd, Ste 110.....713/622-7470

Spectacles on Montrose
4317 Montrose, Ste. 2.....713/529-3937

HEALTH CARE/PHARMACIES

South Side Pharmacy
ssrx.com.....713/660-8888

HEALTH CARE-PHYSICIANS

Octavio Barrios, MD
507 West Gray.....713/942-7546

7106 Spencer Highway.....281/542-9400

Carroll Clinic/James M. Carroll MD, AAHIVS
Donnie Harvey, MPAS, PA-C
4101 Greenbriar, Set 208.....713/520-6360

Gordon Crofoot, MD
Maggie White, FNP-BC
3701 Kirby, Ste 1230.....713/526-0005

McClung Clinic/Tony S. McClung, MD
1213 Hermann, Ste 520.....713/528-3444

M. Sandra Scurria, MD
6565 West Loop South, Ste 300...281/661-5901

Signature Care Emergency Center
.....ERcare24.com

HEALTH CARE-PLASTIC SURGERY

Camille G. Cash M.D.
Camillecashmd.com.....713/571-0600

HEALTH CARE-SERVICES

Apollo Image Enhancement Center
Apolloimage.net.....713/669-0031

Center of Reproductive Medicine (CORM)
1015 Medical Center Blvd, Ste. 2100
Webster TX281-332-0073
Community Hep C Clinic
CommunityHepCClinic.com.....832/831-7770
Houston Area Community Services/HACS
2150 W 18th St713/426-0027
Legacy Community Health Services
215 Westheimer713/830-3000
Research Access Network
4101 Greenbriar Dr #200.....713/526-7736
Ryan White Planning Council
RWPHouston.org.....713/572-3784
St. Hope Foundation
OfferingHope.org.....713/778-1300

HEALTH CARE-SKIN CARE

Heights Dermatology/Alpesh Desai, MD
2120 Ashland.....713/864-2650
Petite Retreat
1034 Heights Blvd.....713/520-8999
Skin Renaissance Laser/Octavio Barrios, MD
507 West Gray.....713/942-7546

HEALTH CARE-UROLOGISTS

McClung Clinic/Tony S. McClung, MD
1213 Hermann, Ste 520.....713/528-3444

HEALTH CARE-WEIGHT LOSS CLINICS

Dr. B-Fit/ Octavio Barrios, MD
517 West Gray.....713/942-7546

HOME FURNISHINGS/ACCESSORIES

Cantoni
9889 Westheimercantoni.com
Coda
355 W 19th St.713/864-4411
Fountains and Statuary
11804 Hempstead Rd713/957-3672
Iconic Systems Home Audio Store
1707 Waugh Dr.....713/933-0606
Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams
4091 Westheimer.....832/397-5130

HOME REMODELING/RENOVATIONS

Unique Builders
uniquebuilderstexas.com.....713/263-8138

INSURANCE AGENCIES/AGENTS

E. Bailey Moore
1635 Richmond Ave.....713/522-6511
Hatem Foteh Insurance Agency
Farmers Insurance
12603 S.W. Fwy., Ste. 565.....281/565-4800
Kathy Huynh Agency
5151 Katy Freeway.....713/893-3914
McShane Insurance Services
mcshaneinsurance.com.....713/439-7504

JEWELERS

Loggins Jewelers
14015 Southwest Fwy.....281/242-2900
Silverlust
1338-C Westheimer.....713/520-5440
Zadok
Zadok.com.....713/960-8950

LANDSCAPING/GARDENING

A.J.'s Landscaping & Design, Inc.
AJsLandscaping.com.....713/957-0449

MASSAGE THERAPISTS

Ryan Fugate, RMT
RyanMassageWorks.com.....713/269-7926
Joel Leal, RMT
.....713/397-8808
River Oaks Advanced Bodyworks
3330 Audley St281/753-1875
Stan's Hands
1617 Westheimer Rd #17.....832/526-6520

PEST CONTROL SERVICES

Andy's All Star Pest Control
.....713/732-7742

PET SERVICES& SUPPLIES

Aquarium World
13157 Northwest Fwy.....713/329-9989
The Dog Walker
thedogwalkerhouston.com713/213-7140

Last Wishes
www.lastwishes.com713/452-0474
Midtown Veterinary Hospital
MidtownVetHospital.com.....713-528-4900
Molly's Muthouse
3407 Montrose.....832/581-2453
3410 N. Shepherd.....713/426-6888
2755 Vossdale.....281/501-9062

South By South Vets
Southbysouthvets.com.....713/987-3237
Spay-Neuter Assistance Program
Snapsus.org.....713/862-3863
West Alabama Animal Clinic
2030 W. Alabama.....713/528-0818

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Anne Marie D'Arcy Photography
amdarcyphotography.com.....713/240-3479
Dalton DeHart Photography
DaltonDehart.com.....713/622-2202
Yvonne Feece Photography
yvonnefeece.com.....832/876-1053

PHOTOGRAPHY

Houston Camera Exchange
5900 Richmond Ave.....713/789-6901

PICTURE FRAMING

Davis Hardware
1028 Studewood St.....713/864-4574

PLUMBING

U-Plumb-It Plumbing Supply
1424 Montrose713-942-2277
Village Plumbing & Appliance
5403 Kirby713/224-DRIP (3747)

POLITICIANS

Dr. Dakota Carter for State Board of Education,
District 6 DakotaForTx.com.....806/216-0109

POOL & POOL SERVICES

Tranquility Pools
.....713/447-9201

PRINTING/COPY CENTERS

Copy.com
1201-F Westheimer.....713/528-1201

PSYCHIC READERS

Readings by LA
readingbyLA.com.....832/856-2188

REAL ESTATE-MORTGAGE/TITLE

Academy Mortgage/Cody Grizzoffi
601 Sawyer Street, Ste 660.....832/541-1103
Republic Mortgage/Robert M. Spiegel
2121 Sage Road, Ste 140.....713/961-5363
Stewart Title/Michael Caballero
603 W. 11th713/401-1850

REAL ESTATE-REALTORS

David B. Atkins/Heritage Texas
1177 West Loop S #1200.....713/582-5111
Bob Beszborn/Boulevard Realty
1545 Heights.....281/650-2726
David Bowers/The House Company/Galveston
David@DavidBowers.com.....409/763-2800
Carlo Chiochio/Martha Turner
.....713/898-3434
Deldric Comeaux, United Real Estate
.....832-643-8477
Melanie Combs/Boulevard Realty
yourblvd.com.....713/862-1600
Karen Derr/Karen Derr Realty
karenderr.com713/875-7050
Jeremy Fain/Greenwood King Properties
.....713/677-4337
Debbie Levine/Greenwood King Properties
.....713/942-6857

Lynette Lew/Better Homes and Gardens
LynetteLew.com.....713/582-2202
Vinod Ramani/Urban Living Realtors
5023 Washington.....713/868-7226
Realty World Uptown
710 N. Post Oak, Ste 311.....713/936-0779
Richard Ray/John Daugherty Realtors
johndaugherty.com.....713/416-3931
Alexander Song/Keller Williams Southwest
har.com/alexsong.....832/533-5308

Tom Schwenk/The House Company
TheHouseCompany.com.....713-857-2309
Tim Surratt/Greenwood King
.....713/320-5881
VJ Tramonte/Joe Tramonte Realty
1802 Broadway/Galveston.....409/765-9837
Andy Weber/John Daugherty Realtors
520 Post Oak.....713/724-4306

RESTAURANTS/COFFEE/WINE BARS

1308 Annex
322 Westheimer.....713/807-8101
1308 Cantina
1308 Montrose281/807-8996
Acadian Bakers
604 W. Alabama713/520-1484
Baba Yega
2607 Grant Street713/522-0042
Benno's On The Beach
1200 Seawall Blvd409/762-4621
Bollo Woodfired Pizza
2202 A W Alabama St.....bollohoustons.com
Candycious/The Chocolate Bar
1835/1837 W. Alabama.....713/520-8599
2521 University Blvd713/520-8888
Dessert Gallery
DessertGallery.com.....713-522-9999
Elevation Burger
3819 Kirby Dr713/524-2909
Giacomo's
3215 Westheimer.....713/522-1934
Ginger & Fork
gingerandforkrestaurant.com.....713/861-8883
Gloria's
2616 Louisiana.....GloriasRestaurants.com
Laurenzo's Restaurant
4412 Washington713/880-5111
Myth Kafe
1010 Praire St.....mythkafe.com
Niko Niko's
2520 Montrose.....713/528-4976
301 Milam St.....713/224-4976
288 & 518 Inside HEB.....281/449-4976
Rivas Italian Restaurant
1117 Missouri St.....713/529-3450
Rita's Italian Ice & Custard
2802 White Oak .. RitasOfHoustonHeights.com
Rudyard's
2010 Waugh.....713/521-0521
Ruggles River Oaks
2305 West Alabama713/533-0777
Skinny Rita's
607 West Gray St.....832/834-4430
4002 North Main St.....832/831-6895

SPECIALTY RETAIL

Davis Hardware
1028 Studewood St.....713/864-4574
Frazier's Concrete
23200 Hwy 6.....979/921-2906

TELEPHONES/CELL/WIRELESS

Premier Wireless
12220 Murphy281/575-8500

TRAVEL/TRAVEL AGENCIES

Aquafest
Aquafestcruises.com.....800/592-9058
Concierge Travel, Inc
4920 Mimosa713/661-2117
Gayribbean Cruises
GayribbeanCruises.com.....877/560-8318
World Q Travel
WorldQTravel.com936/828-4294

WEDDING SERVICES - BAKERS

Acadian Bakers
604 W. Alabama713/520-1484
David Alcorta Catering
davidalcorta.net.....832/439-0224
Dessert Gallery
DessertGallery.com.....713-522-9999
Who Made The Cake!
Whomadethecake.com.....713/528-4719

WEDDING SERVICES - CATERERS

Catering by Benno

BennosOfGalveston.com409/762-3666
David Alcorta Catering
davidalcorta.net.....832/439-0224
Jim Benton of Houston Catering
2811 Eastman713/802-2860

WEDDING SERVICES-PHOTOGRAPHERS

Dalton DeHart Photography
DaltonDehart.com.....713/622-2202
Yvonne Feece Photography
yvonnefeece.com.....832/876-1053

WEDDING SERVICES - PLANNERS

A Day To Remember
www.daytoremember.net.....713/862-1751
Gray & Associates Events
Number1EventPlanner.com.....713/931-9168

WEDDING SERVICES - SERVICES

BeforeYouAsk.com
BeforeYouAsk.com.....832/221-1414
Bradley David Entertainment
BradleyDavidEntertainment.com...713/487-6076
Pass The Bar Events
passthebareventsservices.com.....832/903-6968
Pop Up Wedding Houston
PopUpWeddingHouston.com.....832/816-4475

WEDDING SERVICES - VENUES

La Torretta Lake Resort & Spa
600 La TorrettaLaTorrettaLakeResort.com
Marriott Houston North
255 N. Sam Houston Pkwy East.281/875-4000
Moody Mansion, Galveston
2618 Broadway409/762-7668

Thank You for supporting OutSmart advertisers!

Want to have your business
listed here? Call 713/520-7237
for advertising rates.

Why give
your money
to a
business
that
does not
support
diversity?



Whether
you're look-
ing for the
butcher, the
baker, or the candlestick maker,
OutSmart can help you find equality-
minded businesses that appreciate you
and provide vital community support.

Read OutSmart, so you can have
your cake and equality, too.

OutSmart

For advertising and subscription
information, call 713/520-7237.

www.OutSmartMagazine.com

OutSmart Marketplace

ACCOMMODATIONS

Fully Furnished Corporate Apartments



www.LEmerson.net

CHURCHES

FIND LOVE

LIVING MOSAIC CHURCH
a place for everyone! livingmosaic.cc

SUNDAY MORNING
9:00 AM: Connection Group
Bible Study
10:00 AM: Worship Celebration

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
7:00 PM: Connection Group
Bible Study

401 Brenner • Houston 77006
832.971.6254

COMPUTER SERVICES

Plain Talk

Real help.

PC HomeTech
In-Home
Computer Services

832.496.9246

www.pchometech.com

Gary Joseph
Owner

Thank you for supporting
OutSmart advertisers!
Please remember
to tell them you saw
their ad in OutSmart!

CLEANING SERVICES

DEXTER'S

FIVE STAR SERVICE
Doing the chores
you hate to do!

**HOME & OFFICE
CLEANING**

DESIGNATED
DRIVER SERVICE

**HOUSE
& PET
SITTING**

BOB SAMORA
832.252.1961

CLEANING SERVICES

Family Owned and Operated Since 1998

Wells & Son

If your carpet Smells, call Doctor Wells!

Someone's keeping a
Dirty Secret!

Call Judy @ 713.204.8698
Call Robert @ 713.201.0861
WellsAndSonFloorCare.com

**Carpet Cleaning
& Floor Care
Specialists**

EMPLOYMENT

OutSmart

NOW HIRING

Advertising Sales Executives

Houston's award winning
LGBT media source
seeks hunter-type sales reps.
Successful candidates must
be organized, self-motivated,
energetic, outgoing, creative
and goal-oriented. If you
are a hunter-type sales
professional that is looking
for uncapped commissions
then this position could be
right for you. Experience
in advertising preferred
but willing to train the right
person. Salary+commission,
health insurance benefits
program included.
Email resume to: Employment @
OutSmartMagazine.com
Attn: Greg Jev, Publisher.

FOR RENT

**MONTROSE
OFFICE SPACE**

Perfect for Psychotherapist,
Personal Coach, etc.
Utilities, Phone, Voicemail
included. 24 hour, 7 day
access. \$700/mo.
(713) 817- 4507
AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY

MASSAGE & BODYWORK

Reward Yourself

A NICE TOUCH, RELAXATION
OF BODY AND MIND BY
LEE

Centrally Located; 7 Days,
Evenings, Out Calls Welcome

832.978.7017

Your "ahhh" moment.
Delivered!



713-240-9598

Ken Claude, LMT

OUTCALL MASSAGE
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

REAL ESTATE

GALVESTON PROPERTIES

1825 25th • Galveston
Two story, circa 1899 Victorian with
separate shop/guest house...\$374,500

1518 25th • Galveston
Raised 1 1/2 story, circa 1923
Craftsman-style with garage
apartment...\$364,500

David Bowers, Realtor

409-763-2800

david@davidbowers.com

SERVICES

**A Sure Cure For
Stress: Reiki!**



David
Reiki
Master &
Teacher

houstonreiki.com

713-240-5508

SERVICES



THE LION'S PAD Upholstery
& Refinishing

713-878-2331 • thelionspad@yahoo.com

Have you ever wanted to throw a
tantrum just like you did when you
were 3? At Tantrums, LLC you can.
Use sledgehammers and smash stuff!
We break things!! (832) 804-8985

Pools by James

Servicing Montrose,
Heights, Pearland,
Jersey Village.
Available for weekly
pool cleaning.
(713) 822-2531

HARDLINE

ALL MALE LIVE CHAT

**ALL ACCESS
FREE TRIAL!**

713.590.9090

OTHER CITIES 1.877.510.3344

HARDLINECHAT.COM

DOWNLOAD NOW
APP

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

TO HELP PET OWNERS WITH HEALTH CHALLENGES
KEEP THEIR COMPANION PETS



WWW.THEPETPATROL.ORG
281.733.7696
PETPATROLPARTNERS@SBGGLOBAL.NET

pet patrol
A PEOPLE PET PARTNERSHIP

MARKETPLACE ADVERTISING RATES

Deadline:
Nov. 18 for the Dec. Issue.
For rates/information
call 713/520-7237 ext. 10.

Thank you for supporting our advertisers!
Please be sure to tell them you
saw their ad in OutSmart!

Buy ANY smartphone, get FREE LG smartphones for your family or business!



That's right. Just pick any phone for yourself and then get up to 10 FREE LG Stylo 2 smartphones for everyone.



(832) 781-1941

12220 Murphy Rd.



We're the **only** gay-owned cell phone store in Houston. Call us today and get **free delivery** with new activation!

LG Stylo 2: Up to 10. \$0/mo after \$10 mo/line service credit. Credit applied w/i 2 invoices. Reqs. 24-Month installment billing agreements for well-qualified customer purchasing at least two devices with at least one new-line activation. Tax due at sale. Early termination results in remaining balance of full price due. Some restrictions apply. Call or see Premier for details.



TONY'S CORNER POCKET

2016 OUTSMART'S GAYEST & GREATEST WINNER
Favorite Place to Watch Male Dancers

THANK YOU HOUSTON FOR 10 YEARS!
There's always something going on at:

TONY'S CORNER POCKET
817 W. Dallas • 713/571-7870

Houston's Hottest Male Amateur
Strip Contest Headquarters!

Nightly Specials - Call for Details
Cold Beverages & Hot Guys!

— A HOUSTON TRADITION SINCE 1978 —

Rudyard's Pub

THOUSANDS OF BANDS
MILLIONS OF BEERS

Delicious Burgers • Succulent Pulled Pork Tacos
Fabulous Fish & Chips • An Array of Craft Beers

2010 Waugh | 713.821.0821 | 11:30am-2am Everyday | www.rudyardspub.com

EAGLE HOUSTON

MON - FRI 4P - 2A | SAT & SUN NOON - 2A

611 HYDE PARK, HOUSTON TX, 77006

HOUSTONEAGLE.COM

OutSmart
GAYEST
& GREATEST
2016

VOTED
HOUSTON'S

FAVORITE
GAY BAR!

If you want to drink, that's your business.
If you want to stop, that's ours.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Hundreds of meetings a week in your area.
Call (713) 686-6300 or visit www.aahouston.org
For general information visit: www.aa.org

FRIDAYS 10-2

DISCO ASYLUM

AWARD WINNING
BILLBOARD REPORTING DJ
JIMMY SKINNER

STRICTLY 21 | NO COVER

SPONSORED BY
SMIRNOFF WELL VODKA
ALL NIGHT

BAR & CLUB GUIDE

Houston

13 ENTERTAINMENT

This comfortable club located in the Heights is a convenient alternate to inner-Montrose haunts. Patrons journey past the comfy seating and romantic lighting to find a spacious patio where they sometimes fire up the barbecue grill. 1537 N. Shepherd • 713.426.1313.

BAYOU CITY BAR & GRILL

This always-fun party bar opens daily (7am-2am Mon.-Sat., 11am-2am Sun.), serving fantastic food (11am-9pm) daily. Fifty-cent wing specials on Tuesday and Thursday pack the house. "Let Us Entertain You" with our Sunday drag performances. Party promotions nightly. 2409 Grant St. • 713.522.2867 • bayoucitybar.com.

BLUR

This multi-level dance club features a patio upstairs lounge and balconies that overlook Pacific St. Ladies enjoy Wet and Wild Wed., 18-year-olds are welcome on Thurs., resident DJ Lorenzo spins Wed.-Sat. nights, DJ Pollo spins Karumba Latin night on Sun. Happy hour 8-10pm; free cover before 11pm. 710 Pacific St. • blurbar.com.

CLUB 2020

Located downtown, this urban club features Clubbers Friday with male and female dancers. Its 6,400 square feet also offers theater-sized viewing screens and VIP rooms. 2020 Leeland • 713.227.9667 • club2020houston.com.

CLUB CRYSTAL

If you miss the now-closed Inergy, you'll find many of its former staff, management, and décor at this two-room Latin/hip-hop club. Sunday evening drag shows rule the roost. 6680 Southwest Frwy, next to Colorado • 713.278.2582 • crystaltheclub.com.

CROCKER BAR

Resident DJ Johnny spins on Fri. and Sat. nights at this comfortably remodeled Montrose nightspot that also offers

karaoke on Tuesdays and Thursdays and extended happy-hour prices throughout the week. 2312 Crocker • 713.529.3355.

F BAR

Award-winning DJs spin nightly at this "boutique nightclub" that offers elegance without arrogance and features a stage, dance floor, VIP area, glass-encased quiet bar, and attractive patio. Tues. and Sun. drag shows feature frequent special guests. 202 Tuam St. • fbarhouston.com • 713.522.3227.

GEORGE

Regulars rule at this comfortable neighborhood sports bar, just like most other neighborhood sports bars in town. Sports Saturdays and Sundays start at 3pm with dart and pool tournaments. 617 Fairview • 713.528.8102.

GUAVA LAMP

This trendy and friendly video and cruise bar gets busy during happy hour and stays busy 'til closing. Karaoke on Wed. and Sun., sometimes offering prizes, always packs the place. 570 Waugh Dr. • 713.524.3359 • guavalamphouston.com.

HOUSTON EAGLE

Part of the Eagle worldwide family, originating in 1970, this neighborhood watering spot is the place to cruise and dance. Featuring DJs on the weekends and the birthplace of the hit remix team Dirty Disco. Multiple patios and always a party. Featuring a 29-degree pour and 12 beers on tap. The inside leather shop is open the same hours as the bar. M-F 4 pm-2am, Sat. & Sun. noon-2am. 611 Hyde Park Blvd. • houstoneagle.com.

JR'S BAR & GRILL

With house emcee Kofi, OutSmart's Gayest and Greatest reigning drag champion, this Montrose standard offers drag and strip shows throughout the week, karaoke Thurs. and Sun., plus pool tables, male dancers, and award-winning cocktails. 808 Pacific St. • jrsbarandgrill.com • 713.521.2519.



Where Everyone
is Welcome!

Helpline: 713-46P-FLAG
www.pflaghouston.org

SUPPORT • EDUCATION • ADVOCACY



Behind the Bar

WHO:
Krystin Hinchliffe

WHERE:
Pearl Bar & Side Bar
4216 Washington Ave.
pearlhouston.com • 832.740.4933
WHAT'S UP: Pearl Bar features DJs almost every night of the week, with Steak Night and bingo on Tuesdays, Latin Night on Fridays, and now a drag show the 3rd Wednesday of every month. With its high-beamed ceilings, fully restored natural brick walls, and polished stone appointments, Pearl is industry meets rustic. The remodeled expansive rear patio bar offers comfortable seating, games, and flat-screen TVs.



MICHAEL'S OUTPOST

Jerry Atwood, Clay Howell, Neil Massey, Steve Wheaton, and Roger Woest take turns at the keys at this comfortable neighborhood piano bar. 1419 Richmond Ave. • 713.520.8446.

NEON BOOTS DANCEHALL & SALOON

Houston's only LGBT country dancehall is located in the historic Esquire Ballroom and opens Wednesday-Sunday. The new outside patio and stage are open. Wednesday features Steak Night and Bingo. Free dance classes on Thursdays and Karaoke. Saturday night the dance floor fills with the best C&W... check their website for all specials, events and times. 11410 Hempstead Hwy • neonbootsclub.com • 713.677.0828.

PEARL BAR

This LGBT-friendly lounge is open under "familiar" management in the Washington corridor. Daily highlights range from open mic night to steak night to appearances by DJ Kittie and DJ Ben Phoenix from KRBE. Drink specials and more. 4216 Washington • pearlhouston.com.

RICH'S HOUSTON

Houston's most iconic and largest LGBT dance club, with multiple levels featuring a video/show bar and a private VIP lounge. Originally built to be the Studio 54 of the South, Rich's boasts world-renowned DJs and entertainers. No cover before 10:30 p.m. 2401 San Jacinto • 281.846.6685 • richsnightclub.com.

THE RIPCORD

This well-kept, multi-roomed leather bar for men and their friends boasts a busy patio, especially on the weekends. The Black Hawk Leather shop is located inside the club, providing BDSM essentials. 715 Fairview Ave. • 713.521.2792.

RUDYARD'S

The eclectic British pub is known for its craft beers as well as for the burgers. Most weekends you'll find up-and-coming local bands rocking the house. 2010 Waugh Dr. • rudyardspub.com • 713.521.0521.

SOUTH BEACH

This mega-dance club is a frequent winner of OutSmart's Gayest and Greatest awards, with DJ Eddie E spinning on Fri., and DJ Joe Ross playing pop & dance music videos on Sat. No cover before 11pm. 810 Pacific St. • sobehouston.com • 713.529.SOBE.

TC'S SHOWBAR

With the longest daily happy hours in Montrose (8am-10pm), it's no wonder this neighborhood watering hole is so popular. Owner Tim Pugh says TC's has built quite a reputation as the perfect spot to celebrate special occasions. Other big draws are the drag shows Wednesday-Sunday and karaoke Monday & Wednesday. 817 Fairview • 713.526.2625 • tcshowbar.com.

TONY'S CORNER POCKET

This comfortable club located close to downtown has one of the friendliest bar staffs in town, both inside & outside at its patio bar. The raised stage where local charities perform also features an amateur dance contest each Thurs., Fri., & Sat. at 11pm. Opens daily at noon. 817 W. Dallas • 713.571.7870 • tonyscornerpocketbar.com.

VIVIANA'S

This club, in a new location, appeals to fans of Latino music and drag alike. 4624 Dacoma • 713.681.4104.

Beaumont

ORLEANS STREET PUB AND PATIO

The place to hang for food, fun, and booze in a newly renovated pub, in good weather or bad. Open every night from 7pm-2am. 650 Orleans • 409.835.4243.

Bryan/College Station

HALO VIDEO BAR

The only LGBT dance club in Bryan/College station, this sleek spot is open Thurs.-Sat. Smack in the middle of Aggieland, "our venue is always packed with the hotties," the owners promise. 121 North Main • 979.823.6174 • halobcs.com.

Galveston

23RD ST. STATION

A new face on the Island bar scene is here. The bar features a neighborhood-bar feel with octane. Drink specials daily and the weekend is filled with pulsing music, hot dancers, drag shows, and a Sunday Tea Dance. 1706 23rd St. • 409.621.1808.

ROBERT'S LAFITTE

A neighborhood bar, the Island institution attracts a colorful crowd of regulars and travelers. The private patio includes a swimming pool. On Sat. and Sun. nights, the Ladies of Lafitte show takes the stage. 2501 Avenue Q (at 25th) • 409.765.9092.

Spring

RANCH HILL SALOON

With its two pool tables, 52-inch plasma televisions, and large dance floor, this popular northside spot also offers DJs Thursday-Saturday. 247041 I-45N Suite 103 • 281.298.9035 • ranchhill.com.

THE ROOM BAR AND LOUNGE

One of only two LGBT hangouts in North Houston/Spring, this bar and video lounge has a laidback atmosphere where everyone is welcome and everyone is friendly to each other. The Room Bar and Lounge offers something for everyone, including daily drink specials, karaoke, free pool, drag shows, and live DJs several nights a week. 4915 FM 2920 • roombarspring.com • 281.907.6866. ■

★GEORGE★

Your Country Sports Bar

HOURS: Mon-Sat 7am-2am
Sunday 12pm-2am

GAME TIME SPECIAL

ICED BUCKET

ANY 5 DOMESTIC BEERS*

\$10



*ONLY SERVED TO A PARTY OF 2 OR MORE

617 Fairview • Houston, Texas • 713.528.8102

#1 PARTY BAR IN MONTROSE

MON-SAT 7AM-2AM
SUN 11AM-2AM

KITCHEN OPEN
FOR LUNCH AND DINNER
2409 GRANT ST.



PROUDLY SERVING THE
LGBT
COMMUNITY
SINCE 2009
BAYOUCITYBAR.COM

BEST SUNDAY PATIO PARTY



JR's Bar & Grill's
New Orleans Style
Courtyard & Patio



804-808 Pacific Street | 713.521.2519 | jrshouston.com | fb.com/jrshouston | twitter.com/jrshouston

BLACK FRIDAY SPECIAL

Nov 25th - Half Price 6 Month Memberships

DJ SPINS!

Saturday Night, Nov 19th

Friday Happy Hour Special

Half Price Rooms

from 4pm to 7:45pm

SUNDAY BUFFETS

at 1:00pm

1/2 PRICE LOCKERS

Wednesdays 4pm-11:45pm

1/2 PRICE ROOMS

Tuesdays 4pm-11:45pm

always open • steam • sauna • whirlpool • huge outdoor pool & patio
private dressing rooms • lockers • full gym • guest memberships available • 18+ only



THE CLUB[®] HOUSTON
Good. Clean. Fun.

A PRIVATE MEN'S CLUB
2205 Fannin Street • Houston • (713)659-4998 • www.theclubs.com



Holidays

... could be tense this year.

With Election Day this month, it will be an interesting time for all of us. Neptune goes direct on the 19th, and this should help the oil and gas industry here in Houston. This will also help to get us out of the sluggish mood we have been in for most of the year. • Thanksgiving could be tense this year, and we may have higher-than-normal expectations for the holidays. Try not to overcommit for the holidays. • The sun moves into Sagittarius on the 21st, marking the beginning of our approach to the Winter Solstice. The daylight hours get shorter as we consolidate our projects and focus on the events in front of us.

ARIES (March 21–April 19). Your core issues for this month are reassessing your relationships, working on creating greater trust, and formulating a plan to either take your relationship to the next level or bring things to an end. Trust and emotional safety will be at the top of that list. If you are single, this is a good time for new relationships since you will be going in with your eyes wide open. You are also putting more energy into your career, changing positions, or even starting something on your own. We take a more laid-back approach in the latter part of the month. Step away from your routines and enjoy a short vacation.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20). Relationships and partnerships top your list as the month begins. You will be setting new goals for your associations. If you are single, this is a good time to be out looking! Business and career activity increases, especially after the 9th. Be ready to take a leadership role there. Continue to focus on improving your financial condition and getting debt out of your life. Your temper will be shorter than usual. You can use this energy to develop a better health regimen or to confront the people who need to hear you clearly.

GEMINI (May 21–June 21). Getting things organized and put in their proper place is your primary ambition as the month begins. Your work environment will be the place you begin to get more organized. Another item on your list of things to improve is you! This is a great month to pay attention to your overall health through eating better and adding regular exercise to your agenda. By the middle of the month, your attention shifts to your relationships. You are setting new long-term goals for all of the partner-

ships in your life—and perhaps bringing some of them to an end. Your need to be clear about your intent is especially strong, so words will count more this month.

CANCER (June 22–July 22). As the month begins, you are interested in being more creative and playful. This is a better time to get out with your partner or friends and have some good times. Put some energy into your relationships—they need to be renewed. Your partner won't get tired of hearing about how much you love them. If you are single, this is a good time to be putting yourself out there. You have really been working on getting your life, your work, and your health in shape. Although that slows down some at the beginning of the month, by midmonth that drive should return and be even stronger than before. Pay attention to your finances after the 9th, when you will need to take some action.

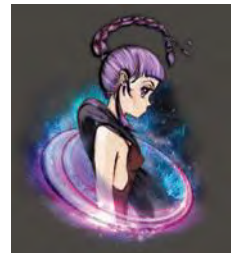
LEO (July 23–August 22). You are more focused on your family through this whole month. This may or may not make it easier for you during the holidays! This can be a good time for a home makeover. By mid-November, you are in a more playful mood and looking forward to making the best of this month. Continue to focus on improving your health through improved eating plans and reasonable exercise programs. Relationship energies are turned up after the 9th. If you are in a partnership, this is the perfect time for some renewal! If you are not doing well, this will help bring those issues to the surface so you can deal with them. If you are single, you are feeling more confident about putting yourself out there.

VIRGO (August 23–September 22). Your communication skills are being activated this month, and you will have something to say about everything that is going on around you. If only they would listen, their lives would be better! The holiday pressure will be very strong, so make sure you have an exit plan. You will want your own space. Nevertheless, you are continuing to make your home a safer and more comfortable place. For some of you, this could include moving. Coworkers could irritate you more easily this month, and you may need to have a meeting to get everyone back on the same page. Don't wait for it to blow up! Exercise will help you release some of the tension.

LIBRA (September 23–October 23). With Jupiter (planet of abundance, travel, and expanded worldview) in your sign until September 2017, opportunities should be opening up for you. Be careful that you don't overload your schedule. This month you are paying attention to your finances, so it's a good time to get on a budget, do some investments, or just make better use of your personal resources. By midmonth, you are

paying attention to more of the details in your life. You may also experience some delays with things you are working on. Your views about family are going through a major shift. You may want to break with tradition this year during the holidays.

SCORPIO (October 24–November 21). This birthday (or “solar return”) month is your personal yearly cycle when the sun returns to the same place in the sky as when you were born. This is a time to review last year's projects and set new directions for yourself. You are still very focused on your financial picture, and especially your future security. You will get some extra energy in your life after the 9th. Your temper will also be shorter! Exercise can help with this. If you are doing a family event for the holidays, go ahead and take charge—you will be much happier if you do. Otherwise, a trip to the Bahamas might be nice!



DAVID EDUARDO FLORES PEREZ

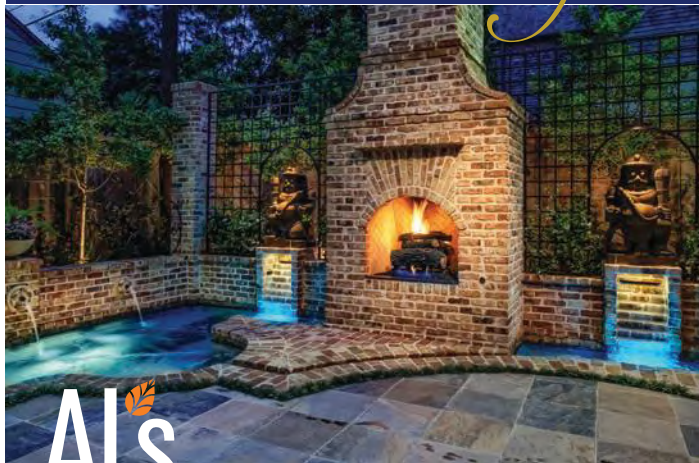
SAGITTARIUS (November 22–December 21). As this month begins, you are slowly coming out of hibernation, and that continues as the month progresses. You have needed some time to rest and retreat. You have been working hard on yourself, your future career plans, and recommitting to relationships that deserve your time and participation. By midmonth, you are ready to move forward. You are considering some major decisions and moves in your life. For the holidays, make things as easy as possible. At the end of the month you are ready for another break in the action, especially on the 29th and 30th. It's much easier for you to say what you want this month!

CAPRICORN (December 22–January 19). You continue to be in a time of action and decision-making. You have had a real burst of energy with Mars moving through your sign until the 10th. Business associations can be very good for career connections, as well as giving you a place to showcase some of your creativity. By midmonth you are moving into a retreat time, and the holidays could be a welcome retreat for you. As always, take your exit strategy with you. After the holidays, you are ready to get back to your routines. Career opportunities are still very positive until September 2017.

AQUARIUS (January 20–February 18). This month you are focused on your career and creating stability around you. This continues to be an excellent time for you to take a leadership position at work or in your community. You are feeling confident, and other people can

continued on page 101

Love in the Moonlight



AJS

landscaping + design, inc.™

713.957.0449 www.ajslandscaping.com
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS + CONTRACTORS

BEFORE



Stay In-The-Loop With

ANDY WEBER

Resident of Montrose since 1983

Consistent TOP Producer,
John Daugherty, Realtors

If you wish to be
In-The-Loop,
whether selling, buying, or just
looking around,

Voted One of the Best Realtors
in Houston 5 years in a row
- OutSmart Readers' Choice 2012-2016



CALL ANDY NOW!

713.724.4306

CELL

713.561.6653

DIRECT

andyw@ johndaugherty.com

JOHNDAUGHERTY.COM

520 Post Oak Blvd., Houston, TX 77027

713.626.3930

LEADING ESTATES

LUXURY REAL ESTATE

LUXURY REAL ESTATE

REGENTS

MAYFAIR

OFFICE

JOHN DAUGHERTY
REALTORS

ryan

r.m.t., n.m.t., II reiki t.

professional

**Therapeutic
massage**



Voted Houstons best
massage therapist,
2009, 2010, 2011,
2012, 2014, 2015 & 2016!

-outsart magazine

713 269 7926

ryanmassageworks.com



IDEAL FOR SUMMER INTERNS

When business or pleasure brings you
to Houston for a month or more,
why not make L'Emerson your address?



- All the amenities of home.
- Ideally situated in the Montrose-Midtown area.
- Much more affordable than a downtown hotel room.

Tom Fricke, Proprietor

210 Emerson Street • Houston, Texas 77006

www.LEmerson.net

OUT IN HOUSTON



On September 27, Lambda NextGen held its monthly happy hour at Kuhl-Linscomb. Pictured are **Karin Barrera, Kim Cook, Shawn Jivani, Claudia Ibarra, Alan Prewitt, Grace Yung, Asher Marquez, and Michael Nguyen.**



The Fall Open Studios event was held at the Sawyer Yards on October 1. Pictured are **Taft McWhorter, Dana McWhorter, Eryn Garriga, Marilyn Lowe, and Jan Garriga.**



On October 1, **Ciro Flores** held the opening of the art exhibit *Futuro Imperfecto* at the Institute of Hispanic Culture. Pictured are **Lia Braun, Flores, and Lorenzo Martinez.**



The Diana Foundation held its Country Dinner Weekend on October 1 and 2 at Neon Boots Dancehall & Saloon and Up Restaurant. Pictured are **Tanner Williams, Brian Teichman, Bubba McNeely, Sharon Montgomery, Myndi Ramey, Jerry Atwood, and Michael W. Kemper.**



Lambda Legal's Leadership Committee held its "First Monday in October: What's Next for the Supreme Court" event on October 3. Pictured are **Alan York, Beau Miller, Chris Bacon, Anna Sankaran, Travis Torrence, Paul Castillo, Roger Poindexter, and Mitchell Katine.**



On October 8, OutReach United held its Houston Coming Out Party featuring Leslie Jordan at Jaguar Land Rover Houston Central. Pictured are artist **Jane Ewen, Gary Wood, Bryan Cotton, and Joan Valladares.**



Legacy Community Health held its Capital Campaign Kickoff on October 11 at the home of **Jim Reeder**. Pictured are **Reeder, Trini Mendenhall, Martha Turner, Glenn Bauguss, Frank Campisi, and Eric Nevil.**



On October 13, the Montrose Center held its annual Out for Good dinner. Pictured are **Sissy Farenthold** and the night's award winner, **Phyllis Randolph Frye.**



On October 16, LIVE Consortium held its "This Is How We Brunch" event at Reef and after-party at Rich's Houston. Pictured are **Shawn Kuehn, Clark Caperton, Travis Torrence, Russell Cotton, and Beau Miller.**



On October 22, **Halloween Magic** held its 25th anniversary performance, *RandPaul's Drag Race*, at Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church. Pictured are the show's cast and crew.



On October 20, **Joe Colotta** held his art opening at Swank Gallery. Pictured **Ken Malone** and Colotta.



On October 21, Neon Boots Dancehall & Saloon hosted the unveiling of Orgullo Latin Pride. Pictured are **Jim Gerhold, Jim Daily, Ron McLeroy, Rodney Myers, Luis Lopez, Jason Gallegos, Cristina Martinez, Gloria Sierra, and Daniel Ramos.**

MIDTOWN VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Your Neighborhood Pet Care Solution



OutSmart
GAYEST
& GREATEST
2016

“Our Mission is to deepen the bonds between people and their pets by providing personalized, compassionate care. We are a full-service veterinary hospital offering high-quality services for your pet.”



**Midtown
Veterinary Hospital**

1434 W. Alabama St. • Houston, TX 77006
(713)528-4900 main • (888)504-9006 fax

www.MidtownVetHospital.com

MOMENTUM

Volkswagen of Jersey Village

**WE HAVE THE LARGEST INVENTORY
OF VWs IN THE AREA!**



We have fastest, lowest financing rates around to speed your buying process so you can go have FUN!

Conveniently located on the NW Freeway going towards Austin exit West Road, we are just ahead on the feeder road.



JOE DOMINGUEZ

877-205-0150

19550 NORTHWEST FREEWAY | HOUSTON, TX. 77065

www.JerseyVillageVW.com

**Serving our
Community in
a Safe & Caring
Environment.**

**DENIS “WOODJA”
FLANIGAN, PH. D.**

Licensed psychologist

Psychotherapy, Career Counseling,
Individual, & Relationship
Counseling



**Voted Best
Psychologist**

2011-2016
OutSmart Readers'
Choice Awards

Specializing in individuals,
couples, & family relational
issues to regain your
direction, sense of meaning,
and your happiness.

HELPING YOU REACH YOUR FULL POTENTIAL!

2211 Norfolk St., Suite 206, Houston, TX 77098
www.Houston-Psychologist.com | 713-589-9804

For mental health news, and information, you can follow me at
www.facebook.com/Flanigan.pschotherapy

THE VILLAGE of River Oaks

INDEPENDENT • ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE

Distinctive Lifestyle centered around your loved ones



Opening Spring 2017

Luxury senior living, beautiful apartment homes with
resort-style amenities, and an exceptional Houston location.

LIVE LIFE WELL™

The Village of River Oaks Information Office
2001 Kirby Dr., Ste. 370 (Corner of Kirby & San Felipe)

NOW TAKING RESERVATIONS!

713-952-7600

www.villageofriveroaks.com



ARE YOU READY FOR PrEP?

PrEP 101

PrEP Basics

PrEP stands for
Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis

The word "prophylaxis" means to prevent or control the spread of an infection or disease



PrEP can help prevent you from getting HIV if you are exposed to the virus

PrEP is an HIV prevention option that works by taking

one pill every day

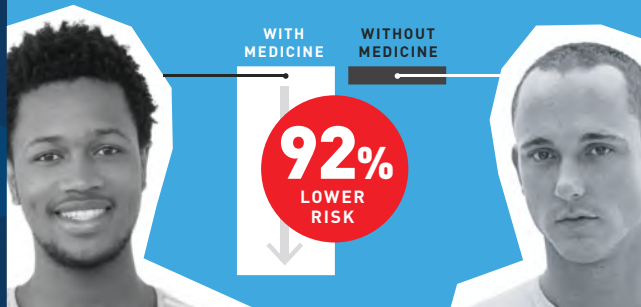


How Does It Work?



Some of the same medicines prescribed for the treatment of HIV can also be prescribed for its prevention

In several studies of PrEP, the risk of getting HIV infection was much lower — up to 92% lower — for those who took the medicines consistently than for those who didn't take the pill



When taken every day, PrEP can provide a high level of protection against HIV, and is even more effective when it is combined with condoms and other prevention tools



People who use PrEP must take the medicine every day and return to their health care provider every 3 months for follow-up and prescription refills



One pill.
Once a day.



Once a day.
PrEP now.



HOUSTON HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

Supported by funding from Gilead Sciences, Inc.



This ad was supported by the Centers
for Disease Control and Prevention,
Cooperative Agreement #U62PS005050.

HOUSTONHEALTH.ORG





DON'T WAIT



BEST DENTIST

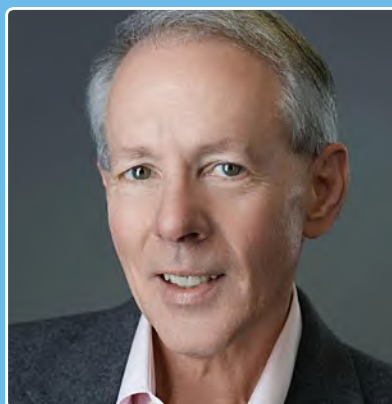
INSURANCE & FLEX DOLLARS
EXPIRE DECEMBER 31ST

SCHEDULE NOW WHILE
APPOINTMENTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS



Dr. Carrell



Dr. Smith

SCHEDULE YOUR VISIT SOON!

BRUCE W. SMITH, DDS
SAMUEL A. CARRELL, DDS

Cosmetic, Reconstructive and Preventive Dentistry for Adults since 1981



1006 Missouri Street Houston, TX 77006
713.529.4364 | BruceSmithDDS.com