

# dallas voice

The Premier Media Source for LGBT Texas

Established 1984 | Volume 31 | Issue 44

March 13, 2015



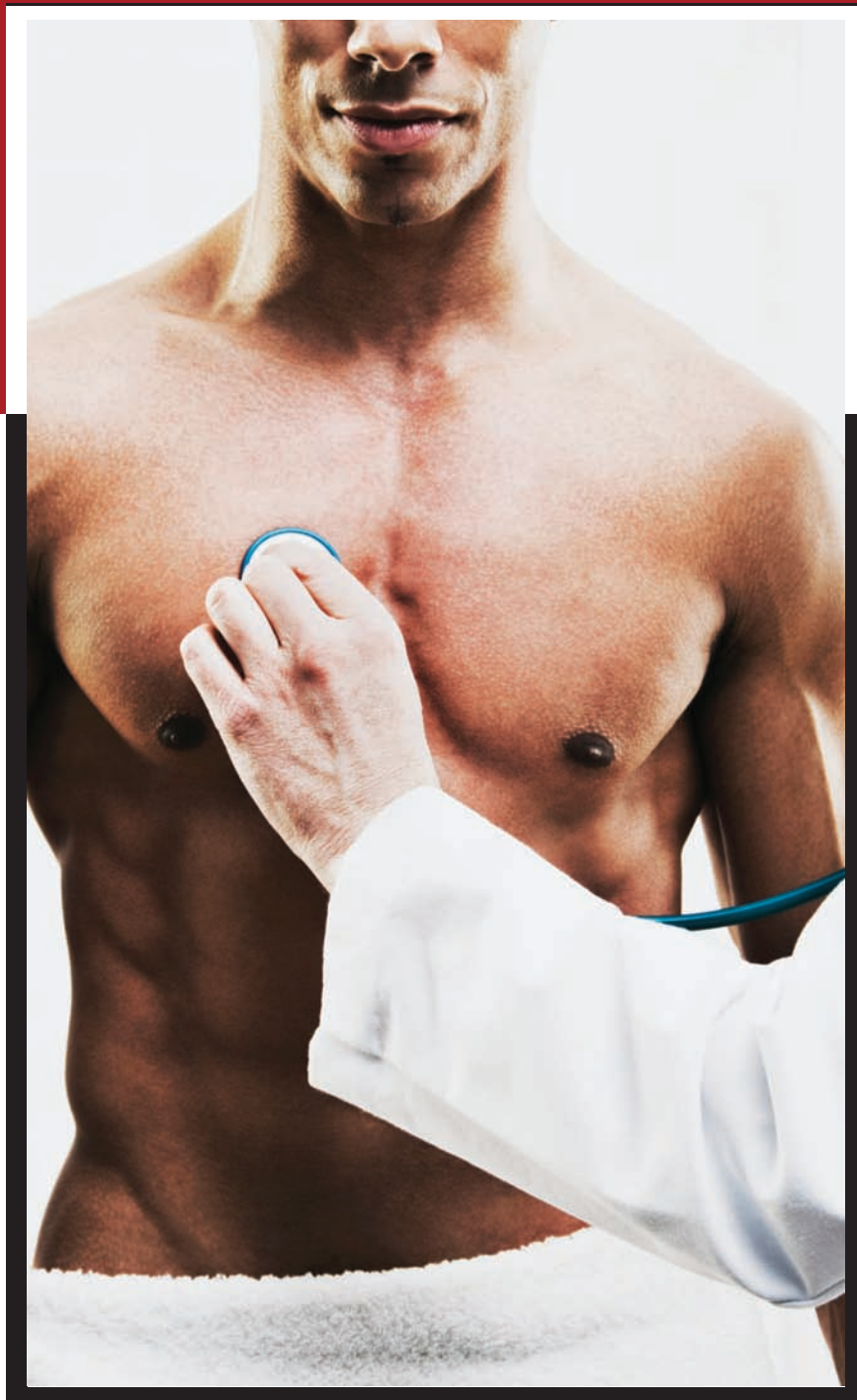
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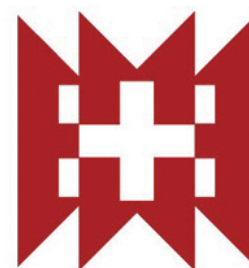
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Jared Wilson and Aric Cressey, photographed by James Webster for Honey Pot ©2015. WebJamStudio.com.

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## instantTEA

DallasVoice.com/Category/Instant-Tea



The 25th gathering of fashionistas and fundraising folks — DIFFA 25 — took place Saturday, March 7 at the Omni Hotel in Downtown Dallas and by most accounts, it was a smash. From the anything-goes fashions during the cocktail hour to the even-more-anything-goes runway show to even a nice dinner, there was enthusiasm and celebration while raising money for worthy causes.

### Pooch Parade is back on!

Easter in the Park has been cancelled, but the ever-popular Pooch Parade is back on and is moving to Deep Ellum Arts Festival, Petropolitan owner Chris Watts told Dallas Voice on March 11. Watts added that there is no fee to enter the Pooch Parade this year.

The Pooch Parade will take place on Easter Sunday at noon, at the Deep Ellum Dog Park, 2398 Commerce St. Pooches and their people will parade up Main Street and judging takes place at the intersection of Main and Malcolm X.

The Arts Festival takes place April 3-5 at 2800 Main St.

The Pooch Parade is “just such a great tradition, and so popular with so many people,” Watts said. “We had 220 entries in the Pooch Parade last year. And [moving the Pooch Parade over to be part of the Deep Ellum Arts Festival] is a great way for us to keep the event alive this year while we focus on how to revamp the Pooch Parade and keep it going in the years to come.”

“This is one of the few events that has really given the pet rescue community an opportunity to come together, and it has been very popular with rescue groups and pet-related vendors,” Watts said. “Last year, we had about 40 pet-related vendors and 22 pet rescue groups that participated. So this is a big deal for them, too, and we are glad we found a way to keep it going for them.”

Watts and the Petropolitan staff have been in charge of the Pooch Parade and all pet-related vendors and pet rescue organizations taking part in Easter in the Park for several years. The rest of the Easter in the Park activities were coordinated by the Cedar Springs Merchants Association, which

had to cancel the traditional event this year due to the rising costs of staging the event. CSMA had attempted to raise the \$20,000 necessary to stage Easter in the Park with an online fundraising page, but were not able to get enough money pledged in time to pay for the necessary city permits and other expenses.

— Tammye Nash

### Star-Telegram to begin publishing same-sex marriage, other announcements

Effective Sunday, March 8, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram will be accepting same-sex marriage, engagement and anniversary announcements. Fairness Fort Worth President David Mack Henderson announced on Saturday, March 7.

The first print issue of the Star-Telegram to include such announcements will be March 15. The deadline to get such announcements in is the Monday prior to the preferred publication date. The announcements are considered paid advertising.

Henderson said the Star-Telegram has few restrictions on timelines for such announcements, and that the newspaper currently has “engagement announcements posted for more than a year out, or no timeline at all, and also a marriage announcement published seven months after the fact. We suggest that you include you were ‘legally married’ or that your engagement is to ‘wed legally’ in your narrative to expedite inclusion,” he said.

Henderson said that Fairness Fort Worth representatives have held discussions over the last several weeks senior management at the Star-Telegram, “encouraging the paper to present a more realistic picture of our community throughout their coverage area.”

— Tammye Nash

### Okla. bill protects the sanctity of reparative therapy

While other states are banning reparative therapy for minors, a bill written by our buddy Okla. State Rep. Sally Kern to protect the practice passed an Oklahoma House committee, 5-3. Kern called Dallas Voice “a source of evil” in her brilliant book.

Kern has dubbed her gay torture bill The Parental and Family Rights in Counseling Protection Act.

Her bill clearly described the torture she expects gay and lesbian youth to endure in order to change to her preferred sexual orientation:

“Aversion therapy” means any counseling by a mental health provider that exposes or asks a client or patient to undergo physical pain, such as electroshock or electroconvulsive therapy, touch therapy, pornography exposure or vomit-induction therapy, in order to change sexual behaviors or gender identity expressions and/or to eliminate or reduce sexual or romantic attractions or feelings toward individuals of the same sex.

Kern said that even though nothing in Oklahoma law prevents conversion therapy, the practice is under attack by every medical and psychological organization in the country and has been declared illegal in a growing number of states. The bill has been declared an emergency meaning it would go into effect immediately after passage and signing and not wait the standard period after the legislative session before becoming law.

— David Taffet



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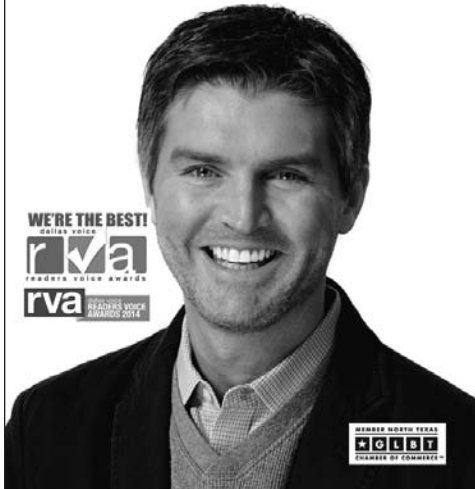
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## localbriefs

### Scholarship applications being accepted

Applications for LEAP Scholarships for the 2015-16 academic year are now being accepted.

Applicants must currently live in Texas and preference is given to LGBT students, those who are members of LGBT families or are allies strongly supportive of the LGBT community.

Larisa Maxwell received a scholarship in 2013 and now serves on the GLBT LEAP Board of Directors.

"Receiving the LEAP scholarship in 2013 in recognition of my hard work was a great honor," said Maxwell. "It helped to alleviate some financial pressure which allowed me to focus on completing my law degree."

The scholarships were created by the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce. Since its founding in 2011, \$35,000 in scholarship money has been awarded.

The money may be used for any post-secondary education.

More information and applications are available at [GLBTLEAP.org](http://GLBTLEAP.org).

### AIDS Walk South Dallas kickoff

AHF AIDS Walk South Dallas 2015 Kickoff Party will take place at the Gossip Bar at the Hilton Anatole Dallas, from 6-9 p.m. on Friday,

March 13, at 2201 N. Stemmons Freeway. A \$20 suggested donation is recommended; complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served and complimentary self or valet parking will be available.

Win an overnight stay and dinner for two at Choctaw Casino Resort, or sign up to walk, volunteer, be a sponsor or vendor for this event. [AIDSWalkSouthDallas.com](http://AIDSWalkSouthDallas.com).

### NOH8 photo shoot

An Adam Bouska NOH8 Campaign Photo Shoot will take place at the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, from 1-5 p.m. on March 14, at 14115 Hillcrest Road. The fee is \$40 for solo portraits. For couples or groups, the fee is \$25 per person. Cash and credit cards will only be accepted, and there is a first come first serve basis.

### Project Connect distributes condoms

Because of the success of its Condom Bar on Feb. 14, AIDS Arms Project Connect will repeat the event from 10 p.m.-midnight on Saturday, March 14. AIDS Arms staff distributed 1,500 condoms, HIV education literature and other goodies to people in front of Hunkey's. Stop by and spin the HIV education wheel and win prizes. ■

### pet of the week / SWEETIE

**Sweetie** is a 1-year-old female boxer mix with a gentle disposition looking for a home to call her own. She has been spayed, vaccinated and microchipped — and will look great lying in front of your fireplace. Please visit her at Dallas Animal Services and Adoption Center, 1818 N. Westmoreland, Dallas 75212. Ask for Sweetie, ID# A849199.



The Adoption Center is open 11 a.m. -6:30 p.m. Monday to Saturday and 12 noon until 5 p.m. on Sunday. All adopted pets are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. Standard adoption fees are \$85 for dogs and \$55 for cats. They also offer discounts on adoption fees for pets over 6 years of age, to any senior citizen that adopts a pet, and to anyone adopting more than one pet at a time. For more information, visit [www.DallasAnimalServices.org](http://www.DallasAnimalServices.org) or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/DallasAnimalServices](https://www.facebook.com/DallasAnimalServices). Photo contributed by Judi Burnett.

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# THE GAY AGENDA

## MARCH

• **Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM.**

• **March 13-14: End with Red: A Time for Solidarity**

The Afiya Center's second annual weekend fundraiser and symposium on the reproductive justice movement includes dinner with a presentation by guest speaker Byllye Avery at 6 p.m. on Friday. Faith-based roundtable discussion on the church's position on women's issues such as HIV/AIDS at 9 a.m. Both events at Academy of Black Arts and Letters, 1309 Canton Rd. Register online at [Bit.ly/1z8d8Rq](http://Bit.ly/1z8d8Rq).

• **March 13: High Tech Happy Hour**

Texas Instruments Pride, the LGBT and straight ally employee diversity group, hosts its monthly High Tech Happy Hour to increase professional and social contacts between groups and individuals and to foster community. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Ten Bells Tavern, 232 West 7th St. For more information e-mail Paul von Wupperfeld at [pavw@ti.com](mailto:pavw@ti.com).

• **March 14: #NOH8Worldwide open photo shoot**

Photo shoot with Adam Bouska benefitting NO8 campaign. 2-5 p.m. at Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, 14115 Hillcrest Road. Single/Solo Photos: \$40. Couple/Group Photos: \$25 per person. Cash and credit cards only. For more information visit [Noh8Campaign.com](http://Noh8Campaign.com).

• **March 17: JEWEL Lesbian Fiction Book Club:** Dispatched With Cause by Jeanne Barrett MaGill. Monthly book club discussion open to all women 7-9 p.m. at ilume, 4123 Cedar Springs Rd. Free. For more information e-mail [jewel@myresourcecenter.org](mailto:jewel@myresourcecenter.org).

• **March 17: North Lake College's Gay-Straight Alliance Pride Event**  
Second annual Pride Event from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in North Lake College's Central Campus

room H-200. For more information e-mail [northlake.pride@gmail.com](mailto:northlake.pride@gmail.com).

• **March 18: GEAR Women's Rap Session**

Peer group discusses topics relating to feminine gender identity and transitioning every third Wednesday of the month. 6-8 p.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.

• **March 19: Log Cabin Republicans Host 5th Circuit Judge**

Log Cabin Republicans-Dallas hosts Justice Bill Whitehill of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, which is currently examining Texas' same-sex marriage case. Whitehill will discuss the 5th Circuit, how it works. A question and answer portion follows. The Vera Cruz Café, 408 North Bishop, Suite 107. Meet and greet at 6:30 p.m. Program starts at 7 p.m. RSVP at [Bit.ly/18il6Am](http://Bit.ly/18il6Am). For more information e-mail Chad M. Terry at [logcabinallastx@gmail.com](mailto:logcabinallastx@gmail.com).

• **March 19: Urban Engagement Book Club: Hatred's Kingdom by Dore Gold**

CitySquare's monthly Urban Engagement Book Club explores various social justice issues with writer Randy Mayeux and local social justice leaders. Free. Noon of every third Thursday at the Opportunity Center, 1610 S. Malcolm X Blvd. For more information visit [CitySquare.org](http://CitySquare.org).

• **March 19: Gray Pride: Senior Moments**

Monthly Senior Moments series discusses topics and issues impacting LGBT seniors. Free. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. For more information call 214-528-0144 or e-mail [GrayPride@myresourcecenter.org](mailto:GrayPride@myresourcecenter.org).

• **March 19: First Annual Mr. and Mrs. AIDS Walk South Dallas 2015**

Benefit for AIDS Walk South Dallas 2015 with guest DJ, performers and drag contest at 11 p.m. at The Brick, 2525 Wycliff Ave. Registration begins at 4 p.m. \$10 cover. For more information call Ivan Nolen at 214-579-0473 or Auntjuan Wiley at 214-455-7316.

• **March 21: Tarrant County AIDS Walk**

Takes place 9 a.m.-12:30 pm at Trinity Park Pavilion, 2300 W. 7th Street, Fort Worth. Registration at 9 a.m. \$20. Benefits AIDS Outreach Center. Register at [Bit.ly/AOCAIDSWalk](http://Bit.ly/AOCAIDSWalk).

• **March 21: AIDS Walk South Dallas**

Takes place 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Philip's School and Community Center, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Visit [Bit.ly/1wxUG4I](http://Bit.ly/1wxUG4I) for registration details.

• **March 21: GEAR Voice Feminization Support Group**

Monthly meeting to study and practice voice feminization training. Free, but seating is limited to 30. 2-4 p.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. For more information call 214-528-0144 or e-mail [gear@myresourcecenter.org](mailto:gear@myresourcecenter.org).

• **March 21: Gaybingo: Lucky Charms**

Monthly Resource Center benefit takes place 6-9 p.m. at Rose Room at S4, 3911 Cedar Springs Rd. Doors open at 5 p.m. For more information call 214-540-4495 or e-mail [Gaybingo@myresourcecenter.org](mailto:Gaybingo@myresourcecenter.org).

• **March 22: PositiviTEA 2015**

Benefit for Legacy Counseling Center Grace Project for women living with HIV 1-3 p.m. at Eden Restaurant & Pastries, 4416 West Lovers Lane. General admission \$50. Sponsorship opportunities available. For tickets and more information visit [LegacyCares.org](http://LegacyCares.org).

• **March 23: Equality Texas Family Advocacy Day**

Lobby legislators in Austin about issues facing LGBT families. Second of three EQTX's lobbying days at the Capitol. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Austin Family Life Center, 1300 Lavaca St. Advanced registration required. Register at [EqualityTexas.org](http://EqualityTexas.org).

• **March 26: GEAR Monthly Mixer**

Make new friends and learn about GEAR and Resource Center 6-8 p.m. at La Madeleine, 3906

Lemmon Ave. For more information and to R.S.V.P. call 214-528-0144 or email [gear@myresourcecenter.org](mailto:gear@myresourcecenter.org).

## APRIL

• **Lambda Weekly every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM.**

• **April 2: Annual Dallas County Democratic Party Johnson Jordan Dinner**

Annual dinner honors countywide elected and judiciary officials. Pulitzer Prize winning Washington Post columnist Eugene Robinson speaks. VIP Sponsor reception at 5:30 p.m. and dinner and program at 6:30 p.m. at Hyatt Regency Dallas, Reunion Ballroom, 300 Reunion Boulevard. For more information e-mail [eventsrsvp@dallasdemocrats.org](mailto:eventsrsvp@dallasdemocrats.org).

• **April 2: Resource Center Volunteer Orientation**

Mandatory volunteer orientation 9:45 a.m.-1 p.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St. For more information and to register call 214-528-0144 or visit the Resource Center.

• **April 4: Easter Egg-stravaganza at Northaven United Methodist Church**

LGBT family friendly event includes Easter egg hunts, raffle, egg races with prizes, brunch and photo opportunities with Easter Bunny. 10 a.m.-noon Northaven United Methodist Church, 11211 Preston Road. For more information call 214-363-2479.

• **April 8: GEAR: Trans\*men Community Session**

Monthly meeting discussion topics relating to masculine gender identity and transitioning. 6-8 p.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.



# End With Red

## SPOTLIGHT:

The Afiya Center, a non-profit reproductive justice organization, educates and advocates for cis- and transgender women of color on the margins of society, including those affected by HIV/AIDS and poverty. And like any non-profit bent on changing the world, it needs to raise money to do so.

Thus the need for the center's second annual "End with Red: A Time for Solidarity" fundraiser and roundtable discussion series.

The event kicks off on Friday night with dinner and a keynote speech by Byllye Avery, founder of the Black Women's Health Imperative, formerly the National Black Women's Health Project.

On Saturday, the community is invited to attend three roundtables

covering crucial themes. The first focuses on building a reproductive justice movement in Texas, emphasizing the current political climate as well as the movement's absence of women of color.

The second roundtable will feature panelists discussing a holistic approach to and the structural barriers facing women, such as lack of insurance, domestic violence and HIV/AIDS. The day ends women of faith discussing faith-based responses to women's health issues, including HIV/AIDS.

Both days take place at Academy of Black Arts and Letters, 1309 Canton Road. More information, including information on future events, visit [TheAfiyaCenter.org](http://TheAfiyaCenter.org).



Byllye Avery



# Bearing it all

'Mean Girls' and 'Looking,' actor Daniel Franzese preps for his first BearDance

**RICH LOPEZ** | Special Contributor  
getrichindallas@gmail.com

Daniel Franzese is now in perhaps his second iconic role for gay audiences — namely bears.

The actor has joined the cast of HBO's *Looking* in its second season as Eddie, who works with LGBT teens and is also Agustín's love interest. But most gay fans will remember Franzese's turn as gay best friend Damian in the queer film fave *Mean Girls*.

And both roles are inherently groundbreaking.

In *Mean Girls*, Franzese's character Damian wasn't written merely as a foil or comic relief for the film. And in *Looking*, he isn't the Ab-Fitched guy of the cast and is also one of the few (two to be exact) HIV-positive characters on television right now.

Franzese describes himself as the "big, hairy dude" of the show, which immediately caught the attention of bear audiences. And those audiences can meet Franzese, 36, during his appearance in Dallas at BearDance: Friday Night Fever at Station 4 on Friday, March 14.

BearDance is the first major party for Texas Bear Round Up XX, and organizers are "excited to welcome Daniel to Friday Night Fever," BD organizer Mark Trimble says. "Bears often have a second 'coming out' struggle of finding their niche in gay society and realizing that it's ok to be themselves. So seeing an out actor playing a bear role on TV is groundbreaking and inspirational."

Before his appearance, Franzese talked about his newfound place in bear culture, the importance of his character on TV at this moment and why isn't he bringing his boyfriend to the party. ■

**Dallas Voice: Congratulations on your role in *Looking*. With the second season underway, how has the reception been for your character?**

Franzese: Thanks. It just grows and grows. I knew from Damien the level of importance of being a bigger gay dude and the reaction I got from that. But on an adult level I knew how important this would be because gay programming leaves them out of the lexicon.

**To add to that, you're one of the few HIV-positive characters on TV as well right now. I was the only but now there is one on *How To Get Away With Murder*. It was popular decades ago to have a positive character, but they were often treated as a victim. This role is such a groundbreaking move. Eddie was positive but also capable of living a healthy life and then pursued by someone who is negative.**

**With all this attention by bear audiences, did you consider you were one?** I don't necessarily call myself one, but I know I am a bear and I accept that wholeheartedly. And the culture is so welcoming and fun. So I love the bears and I'm proud that I can represent that on this show as a big, tall, gay, hairy dude. That's an amazing



**BEARLY HOT** | Daniel Franzese is embracing his status as a bear sex symbol.

position to be in.

**Body image is a big thing clearly for that community but also for BearDance which started these events as a safe place for men of size to feel comfortable. Did you have these issues?** Completely! I

always felt so chubby. I was the t-shirt-in-a-pool guy. Living in New York City in my early 20s, I felt left out and it wasn't until I discovered the bear community that I felt comfort. But I don't have that problem now because I feel completely confident in my art.







**COMPETITIVE SPIRIT** | The Mr. TBRU XX Contest begins at 8:30 p.m. Saturday in the Crowne Plaza Hospitality Suite. Pictured are Mr. TBRU contestants from 2012.

## Hot and hairy: TBRU XX schedule

Between 1,500 and 1,600 hot and hairy men are expected descend on Dallas this weekend for the 20th annual Texas Bear Round Up: Bears Studio 54.

The event, sponsored by Dallas Bears, will bring in men from all across the U.S., said Dallas Bears Treasurer Ray Sarias. "We've been working hard and we have plenty of special events planned for our 20th anniversary," he added. "We are determined to make this the best year ever for Texas Bear Round Up."

Starting out in 1995 as a small-scale event organized by a chairman, TBRU has grown steadily over the years to become one of North Texas' largest annual fundraising events.

Sarias said that TBRU's tradition of charitable giving began in the first year when the organizers had some cash left over and chose to donate it to a local organization. Over the years, the fundraising side of the event has become more important and more profitable, culminating in 2014 when TBRU donated more than \$65,000 to area charities.

Sarias said organizers have chosen three organizations as beneficiaries for TBRU XX. Half of the proceeds will go to Resource Center's Youth First program. The other half will be divided between the Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund and Tarrant County's AIDS Outreach Center.

Registration for the weekend is \$150, which gets attendees a weekend pass to all the TBRU XX events and activities. Several excursions into the city are planned, as well, but those cost extra Saria said. Participants can register at the door.

Some of the biggest events of the weekend include BearDance: Friday Night Fever, beginning at 8 p.m. Friday at S4, the TBRU Family Dinner from 5-7 p.m. Saturday at The Ranch, followed by the Mr. TBRU contest from 8:30-10 p.m. in the Hospitality Suite at Crowne Plaza Hotel. The contest will be followed by the Underwear Auction, beginning at midnight, also in the Crowne Plaza's Hospitality Suite.

The TBRU Big Texas Barbecue and Closing Ceremony begins at noon at The Round-Up Saloon, and Dallas Eagle plays host to the Official TBRU After Party, featuring DJ Blaine spinning Trash Disco, from 8 p.m. to midnight.

For a full lineup of the weekend's events, visit [TBRU.org](http://TBRU.org).

— Tammye Nash

**You've hit a stride it seems not only with *Looking* but also your YouTube videos and social media [all under WhatsUpDanny]. What else do you still wish to do?** I have a lot of capability in my acting career and looking forward to that day of showing more. I'd love to do musicals so people can really hear me sing — especially a revival of *Something Funny Happened on the Way to the Forum*. And I have my art. I just finished a documentary, so there is a lot to me.

**And you see bears almost trending now.** Bear-ish guys and Scruff and lumbersexuals have become something of a sex symbol now. The creators of *Looking* wanted to touch on that. And they think bears are hot. But ultimately, it's important for young people to see themselves represented.

**Do you get to make it out to many parties like this?**

If I were single, I would end up at more bear parties, but I don't generally go out just because I'm always working these days.

**Oh, will you bring your boyfriend to Dallas?** I am not actually, but I am bringing one of my best friends in from New York. So I'm excited to check this all out.

**So what's next for you? Are you now going for all the juicy gay roles?** Well, my next show is for ABC Family, of all things, called *Recovery Road*. They are trying to rebrand the network actually so I play a former gay go-go boy who got chubby.

**For real? Consider the DVR set.**

*BearDance: Friday Night Fever at Station 4, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. March 13 at 8 p.m. \$25 advance/\$35 door. [beardance.org](http://beardance.org).*

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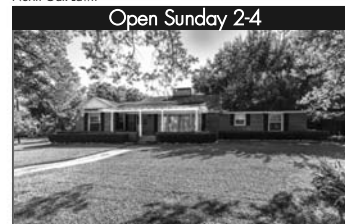
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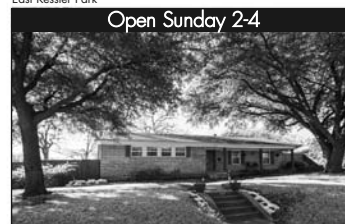
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# Legislative Round-Up

Where we stand in the 84th legislative session

**JAMES RUSSELL** | Staff Writer  
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Guns, God and gays: Another Texas legislative session is in full swing.

Since pre-filing opened for the 84th legislative session, Texas legislators have filed thousands of bills. Some simply recognize constituents or entities; others call for eliminating the requirement for licenses to carry a concealed handgun, and others simply reassert that only God can judge us.

Whether proposing tax cuts or preventing Texas from recognizing same-sex marriages even if the Supreme Court rules on the side of equality, legislators are just living up to their campaign promises.

As of press time (Thursday, March 12) about 40 bills have been filed that could positively or negatively impact the LGBT community. Among them is a House “religious liberty” resolution filed and pulled by Rep. Jason Villalba, R-Dallas, following opposition from the Texas Association of Businesses. On Wednesday, Rep. Matt Krause, R-Fort Worth, re-filed the resolution, a companion to one introduced by Sen. Donna Campbell, R-New Braunfels.

Numerous pro-LGBT bills cover everything from insurance and housing discrimination to marriage equality. On the anti-LGBT side, bills to withhold the salaries of county employees who issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples (HB 623 by Rep. Cecil Bell, R-Magnolia) and stripping local nondiscrimination ordinances (SB 343 by Sen. Don Huffines, R-Dallas) top the list.

Currently there are four categories of legislation either indirectly or directly targeting the LGBT community. Besides the attacks on local control and marriage equality, bills attacking the transgender community and “religious liberty” bills allowing people of faith to refuse service based on their personal religious convictions round out the list.

## Local entities under attack

Bills like Huffines’ are part of a broader crack-down on what’s commonly called “local control,” wherein local governmental entities such as municipalities and counties over 5,000 residents make a range of decisions related to budgeting and human resource policies.

The Dallas senator’s bill would require that local laws align with state laws. In this case that would mean the numerous nondiscrimination ordinances and other policies impacting LGBT Texans would be scrapped. (In contrast, Colleyville Republican Sen. Konni Burton’s SB 440 solely prohibits local entities from banning hydraulic fracking, a controversial natural gas drilling technique.)

It’s bills like Huffines’, which utilizes sweeping

language, that would negatively impact the LGBT community, said Daniel Williams, legislative specialist for the LGBT advocacy group Equality Texas. Using overly broad language is another way to attack the LGBT community. “It’s an attack any time you limit local authority.”

Rebecca L. Robertson, legal and policy director for the ACLU of Texas, agreed. And that may be the intention. “These bills are a ‘last gasp’ for social conservatives,” she said.

In the case of the slew of anti-marriage equality legislation, “There’s not a whole lot left for these legislators to do given we’re on the verge of getting marriage equality in all states,” Robertson added.

## Part of a process

The unlikelihood of a bill making it out of committee or its vague language does not mean the ACLU, Equality Texas and others aren’t concerned about it, however. Both Robertson and Williams said it’s still too early to know which bills — good or bad — will get a hearing.

But even the most casual legislative observer can surmise just how far a bill will go in the legislature.

One sign is if legislators from each chamber filed identical bills, called companions. “When a bill doesn’t have a companion, it’s harder for it to pass,” Williams said.

The second sign is how fast a bill makes it out of its original chamber. “There’s a window between days 61 and 118 for bills [to get out of its original chamber. If it gets out on day 118, it only has 22 days to get to the other chamber,” Williams explained.

Hopefully, he said, “The bad bills won’t get a hearing or at least won’t get one until April or May.”

Though Williams previously said his group would be on defense given the current political climate, it’s not all doom and gloom. Of the bills supported by Equality Texas, he cited the prospects for HB 71 and its companion SB 492, also known as “Romeo and Juliet” legislation, to get at least a hearing. Those bills, according to Equality Texas, amend current indecency with a minor law to include same-sex teenage couples. Current law provides an “out” in situations where the contact was consensual, the parties involved are over the age of 14, the parties are within three years of each other’s age, but only for opposite sex couples.

After the filing period ends for legislation, the real challenges begin. “The floodgates open after filing closes,” Williams said.

That’s when the amendment process begins. According to House rules, amendments must be germane and relevant to a bill.

“That’s when we get less notice,” Williams said, but added that Equality Texas has become better at killing anti-LGBT amendments. He cited one of the most controversial amendments — one that would have cut funding to university LGBT student resource centers — but noted that he hasn’t done it without help.

“We win when the voices of Texans speak up,” Williams said. “We win when people stay engaged and involved.”

Even if it means defeating a bad bill or amendment, it’s still a victory that matters for the LGBT community. ■



**DUELING BILLS** | Sen. Don Huffines, left, has authored and sponsored numerous anti-LGBT bills. Rep. Mary Gonzalez, right, has authored pro-LGBT bills.

### GOOD

#### Relationships and marriage:

- HB 71 by Rep. Mary González and SB 492 by Sen. John Whitmire would prevent two minors in a same-sex relationship from being charged with child indecency.

- HB 537 by Rep. Rafael Anchia and SB 250 by Sen. Sylvia Garcia would remove language added to the Health and Safety code in 1997, equalizing access to accurate supplementary birth certificates for all Texas children.

- HB 130 by Rep. Anchia, HJR 34 by Rep. Garnet Coleman, SB 98 by Sen. Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa and SJR 13 by Sen. José Rodríguez would put a constitutional amendment on the November 2015 ballot to extend the freedom to marry to Texas.

#### Nondiscrimination:

- HB 582 by Rep. Chris Turner would prohibit and penalize discrimination by state contractors based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

- HB 1522 by Rep. Jessica Farrar would prohibit discrimination in public accommodations protections statewide for multiple protected classes including sexual orientation and gender identity or expression.

- HB 627 by Rep. Eric Johnson would prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.

- HB 70 by Rep. González would prohibit discrimination in public schools based on gender identity or expression and sexual orientation.

- HB 453 by Reps. Roberto Alonzo, HB 304 by Rep. Senfronia Thompson and SB 76 by Sen. Rodney Ellis would prohibit insurance discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

- HB 2059 by Rep. Coleman would amend James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Act to include sexual orientation and gender identity or expression.

- SB 88 by Sen. Ellis would prohibit bias based on sexual orientation in health education curricula.

#### Other legislation:

- HB 679 by Rep. Sylvester Turner would authorize a study on homeless youth including LGBT youth.

- HB 2058 by Coleman would create a standard process for correcting gender markers.

### BAD

#### Religious liberty bills:

- HJR 55 by Rep. Jason Villalba and SJR 10 by Sen. Donna Campbell would allow Texas’

businesses to refuse service or deny employment to LGBT people based on individual’s or religious organization’s beliefs. Villalba has since said he would reconsider his resolution but Rep. Matt Krause filed the identical HJR 125 late Wednesday, March 12.

- HB 2553 by Rep. Molly White would allow business owners to decide whom they serve or conduct business with based on religious convictions.

- HB 1355 by Rep. Matt Shaheen would make it a criminal offense for an elected official who threatens, punishes, or intimidates a person based on the person’s religious beliefs.

#### Marriage:

- HB 623 by Rep. Cecil Bell punishes state employees who would issue marriage licenses to same sex couples.

- HB 1745 by Bell, and SB 673 by Sen. Charles Perry would restructure state government to only allow officials in the secretary of state’s office to issue marriage licenses.

- HB 2555 by Rep. White would bar Texas from recognizing same-sex marriages regardless of federal court rulings.

#### Transgender discrimination:

- HB 1747 by Rep. Debbie Riddle would criminalize transgender individuals whose gender identity does not match their biological sex from using public accommodations appropriate to their gender identity or expression.

- HB 1748 also by Riddle, would make it a state jail felony for business owners to allow individuals to use a bathroom appropriate to their gender identity. It would also make it Class “A” misdemeanor if transgender individuals use bathrooms appropriate to their gender identity.

- HBs 2801 and 2802 by Rep. Gilbert Peña would make it a criminal offense for transgender students whose gender identity does not match their biological sex to use public accommodations appropriate to their gender identity or expression. School district and officials who failed to prevent the student from using a bathroom would be held liable.

#### Nondiscrimination ordinances/local control:

- HB 1556 by Rep. Rick Miller and SB 1155 by Sen. Bob Hall would restrict the ability of local elected officials to pass or enforce nondiscrimination ordinances, rules or regulations of identities not already protected by the state.

- SB 343 by Sen. Don Huffines, like HB 1556 and SB 1155, would restrict the ability of local elected officials to pass or enforce nondiscrimination ordinances or other rules or regulations not already protected by the state or in state code.



# Stamp of approval

Opposition to the Trinity toll road drives Stonewall endorsements in many Dallas city council races

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer  
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Stonewall Democrats' endorsement committee has voted to support opponents of Mayor Mike Rawlings and Councilman Rick Callahan. The recommendations voted on at the March 7 screening will be considered and ratified or changed at the group's general meeting on March 17.

Three incumbents running unopposed — Councilmen Scott Griggs, Adam Medrano and Philip Kingston — received the organization's nod, as did Councilwoman Monica Alonzo.

Councilman Lee Kleinman, who passionately supported equal benefits for city of Dallas employees recently at the Employee Pension Fund and the Police and Fire Pension Fund, did not seek the group's endorsement. He is running unopposed.

## Mayor

Three candidates for mayor spoke before the group during the screening meeting held at Sue Ellen's.

Rawlings talked about recently signing on to a marriage equality amicus brief sent to the U.S. Supreme Court. In the past, the incumbent mayor had resisted signing Freedom to Marry's list of mayors supporting same-sex equality. He said he's been approached to sign a variety of pledges and he's refused all of them. But this time, it was different.

"I thought it would make a difference," Rawlings said of why he chose to sign the brief this time. "This is the big one."

He also said he hoped his signature on that brief upset some people in Austin.

The mayor mentioned ways the council has addressed LGBT issues over the past few years, adding that he "took my lead from Adam" Medrano.

Medrano heads the city council's LGBT Task Force, which recommended a number of changes to city policies that have taken effect over the past year, gaining Dallas 10 points on the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index.

Rawlings put education at the top of his re-election agenda. He said only about one in ten Dallas students are ready for college when they graduate from high school.

He talked about his Grow South initiative and new opportunities in the city's southern sector, calling South Dallas "an investment opportunity, not a charity case." And the mayor blasted legislation that would prevent cities from enforcing their own nondiscrimination ordinances.

Rawlings' main opponent is Marcos Ronquillo, a former law partner of legendary Hispanic attorney Adelfa Callejo. It was Ronquillo who earned the Stonewall committee recommendation.

"We can't take four more years of this leadership," Ronquillo told Stonewall, adding that Dallas is becoming a glorified bus stop on the way to Frisco.

On education, Ronquillo called for community-based schools instead what he called the current "condescending approach."



**SCREENING** | Mayor Mike Rawlings, above, recently signed a marriage equality amicus brief, but Marcos Ronquillo, below right, received Stonewall's endorsement. Four incumbents, including Scott Griggs, below left, also were recommended for endorsement. (David Taffet/Dallas Voice)



But while Rawlings continues to push for the Trinity toll road, Ronquillo opposes it. And that probably earned him more votes than any other issue he addressed. Throughout the day, that issue decided the committee's recommendations in a number of the races.

A third candidate for mayor also spoke — write-in candidate Rich Sheridan.

Sheridan had surprisingly kind words for the LGBT community. He said he supported civil unions, not marriage equality. He also said the community should be protected from verbal abuse and physical abuse. When asked about his support for protection from being fired, he said, "generally yes," and pledged to represent all people if elected.

Sheridan, who is well known for his regular appearances at Dallas City Council and has run for office several times in the past, often argues in emails sent to the press that the city's problems are the fault of the "sodomites."

## District 5

All three District 5 candidates sought the Stonewall endorsement. Rick Callahan currently represents the district, but Sherry Cordova won the endorsement.

Last year, Callahan voted to support a resolution to equalize all city policies relating to LGBT employees and residents. However, several weeks ago, he voted against a change in wording for the Employee Retirement Fund to give legally married

same-sex couples the same benefits as opposite-sex couples who may be legally married or in a common-law marriage. The change brought that pension fund in compliance with a current IRS ruling.

Callahan didn't appear personally because his mother is terminally ill, so his campaign manager spoke on his behalf. She had trouble justifying his position on a number of issues. On his ERF vote, she tried to explain his difficulty in reconciling his views on marriage equality.

Cordova said she would have voted in favor of the change in wording.

And while Callahan supports the toll road, Cordova opposes it. She said it would hit her district hard.

"My people can't afford it," she said.

The third candidate in the race is Jesse Diaz who received Stonewall's endorsement in the 2013 race.

"I am going to be a champion for you," Diaz said.

He said he would have voted in favor of the pension fund change as well.

Because of problems in Diaz's 2013 campaign, Cordova appeared to be the stronger candidate and so won the Stonewall committee's backing this time around.

## Districts 7 and 8

In the race for District 7, four candidates appeared before Stonewall. The race is open because incumbent Carolyn Davis faces term limits.

Hasani Burton, who serves on the landmark commission and was on the South Dallas Fair Park Trust Fund Board, received the committee's nod against a strong field.

Two candidates — Gail Terrell and Erik Wilson — running for District 8 both sought Stonewall's endorsement. Mayor Pro Tem Tennell Atkins currently holds the seat and also faces term limits. While both candidates were strong on support for the LGBT community, both support the Trinity toll road. Stonewall members attending the screening voted not to endorse in that race. A total of six candidates are seeking the position.

## District 3

Vonceil Jones Hill also will not be returning to the council because of term limits.

One of the five candidates seeking to replace her attended the Stonewall screening. A second was scheduled to appear, but didn't.

Joe Tave, who lives in the district's heavily gay Kiestwood neighborhood, won the endorsement recommendation after speaking passionately about equality.

"I have to do the right thing," Tave said. "I'm African-American. I had my life threatened for doing what was right."

## District 9 and 10

District 9's Sheffie Kadane and District 10's Jerry Allen also leave the council this year because of term limits.

In District 9, Mark Clayton received the recommendation for an endorsement. He was the only one of the five candidates in that race to seek it.

Two of the three candidates in the District 10 race appeared. Adam McGough made an impression in a highway construction worker's vest, but James White was seen as the serious candidate who opposed the toll road and could become a vocal ally on the council. White received the recommendation.

While the election is nonpartisan, Stonewall only endorses candidates with a Democratic voting record or who sign a pledge that they are affiliating with the Democratic Party. McGough was the only candidate who appeared who was ineligible because of his Republican voting record.

## Membership vote

The endorsement recommendations will be considered by the entire membership at its general meeting at 6:30 p.m. on March 17 at Ojeda's, 4617 Maple Avenue. Everyone is welcome to attend, but only people with current paid memberships for at least 30 days are eligible to vote. That rule helps prevent candidates from packing the meeting.

In the past, some committee recommendations have been challenged. John Wiley Price received the Stonewall endorsement in his last election, for example, after the endorsement committee recommended no endorsement in that race.

At the meeting, Stonewall also endorsed Larry Duncan and Omar Narvaez who are running unopposed for re-election to the Dallas County School Board.

Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance is beginning its screening and endorsement process for Dallas City Council as well. President Patti Fink said questionnaires for the candidates are being prepared. That organization is nonpartisan and endorses regardless of party affiliation. ■



## What is STRIBILD?

STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. It combines 4 medicines into 1 pill to be taken once a day with food. STRIBILD is a complete single-tablet regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.

**STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS.** To control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses you must keep taking STRIBILD. Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to reduce the risk of passing HIV-1 to others. 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 STRIBILD?

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects:

- **Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis)**, which is a serious medical emergency. Symptoms of lactic acidosis include feeling very weak or tired, unusual (not normal) 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.** The liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and fatty (steatosis). Symptoms of liver problems include your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice), dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored bowel movements (stools), loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach 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 STRIBILD 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 stop taking STRIBILD, your hepatitis may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health. STRIBILD is not approved for the treatment of HBV.

### Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you:

- **Take a medicine that contains:** alfuzosin, dihydroergotamine, ergotamine, methylergonovine, cisapride, lovastatin, simvastatin, pimozone, sildenafil when used for lung problems (Revatio®), triazolam, oral midazolam, rifampin or the herb St. John’s wort.
- **For a list of brand names for these medicines**, please see the Brief Summary on the following pages.
- **Take any other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection**, or the medicine adefovir (Hepsera®).

### What are the other possible side effects of STRIBILD?

Serious side effects of STRIBILD may also include:

- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do regular blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with STRIBILD. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD.
- **Bone problems**, including bone pain or bones getting soft or thin, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV-1 medicines.
- **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking STRIBILD.

**The most common side effects** of STRIBILD include nausea and diarrhea. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or don’t go away.

### What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

- **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis virus infection.
- **All the medicines you take**, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist. Do not start any new medicines while taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.
- **If you take hormone-based birth control** (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc).
- **If you take antacids.** Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD.
- **If you are pregnant** or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
- **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breast-feed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk. Also, some medicines in STRIBILD can pass into breast milk, and it is not known if this can harm the baby.

**You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch), or call 1-800-FDA-1088.**

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





STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.

## I started my personal revolution


Talk to your healthcare provider about starting treatment.

**STRIBILD** is a complete HIV-1 treatment in **1 pill**, once a day.

Ask if it's right for you.

**STRIBILD**<sup>®</sup> 

elvitegravir 150mg/ cobicistat 150mg/ emtricitabine 200mg/ tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300mg tablets

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## Patient Information

### STRIBILD® (STRY-bild)

(elvitegravir 150 mg/cobicistat 150 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) tablets

Brief summary of full Prescribing Information. For more information, please see the full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.

#### What is STRIBILD?

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- **STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before.** STRIBILD is a complete regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.
- **STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.** You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.
- **Ask your healthcare provider about how to prevent passing HIV-1 to others.** Do not share or reuse needles, injection equipment, or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them. Do not have sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

#### What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?

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##### STRIBILD can cause serious side effects, including:

**1. Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take STRIBILD or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**

- feel very weak or tired
- have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
- have trouble breathing
- have stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
- feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
- feel dizzy or lightheaded
- have a fast or irregular heartbeat

**2. Severe liver problems.** Severe liver problems can happen in people who take STRIBILD. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis).

**Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:**

- your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
- dark “tea-colored” urine
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- loss of appetite for several days or longer
- nausea
- stomach pain

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

**3. Worsening of Hepatitis B infection.** If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take STRIBILD, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking STRIBILD. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.

- Do not run out of STRIBILD. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your STRIBILD is all gone
- Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider
- If you stop taking STRIBILD, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking STRIBILD

#### Who should not take STRIBILD?

---

##### Do not take STRIBILD if you also take a medicine that contains:

- adefovir (Hepsera®)
- alfuzosin hydrochloride (Uroxatral®)
- cisapride (Propulsid®, Propulsid Quicksolv®)
- ergot-containing medicines, including: dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45®, Migranal®), ergotamine tartrate (Cafegot®, Migergot®, Ergostat®, Medihaler Ergotamine®, Wigraine®, Wigrettes®), and methylergonovine maleate (Ergotrate®, Methergine®)
- lovastatin (Advicor®, Altoprev®, Mevacor®)
- oral midazolam
- pimozide (Orap®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®, Rimactane®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®), when used for treating lung problems
- simvastatin (Simcor®, Vytorin®, Zocor®)
- triazolam (Halcion®)
- the herb St. John’s wort

##### Do not take STRIBILD if you also take any other HIV-1 medicines, including:

- Other medicines that contain tenofovir (Atripla®, Complera®, Viread®, Truvada®)
- Other medicines that contain emtricitabine, lamivudine, or ritonavir (Atripla®, Combivir®, Complera®, Emtriva®, Eпивir® or Eпивir-HBV®, Epzicom®, Kaletra®, Norvir®, Trizivir®, Truvada®)

**STRIBILD is not for use in people who are less than 18 years old.**

#### What are the possible side effects of STRIBILD?

---

##### STRIBILD may cause the following serious side effects:

- **See “What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?”**
- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before you start and while you are taking STRIBILD. Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD if you develop new or worse kidney problems.
- **Bone problems** can happen in some people who take STRIBILD. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck (“buffalo hump”), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system** (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having any new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.



**The most common side effects of STRIBILD include:**

- Nausea
- Diarrhea

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

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

**What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?****Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including:**

- If you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis B infection
- If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
  - There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk with your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.
- If you are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed if you take STRIBILD.
  - You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
  - Two of the medicines in STRIBILD can pass to your baby in your breast milk. It is not known if the other medicines in STRIBILD can pass into your breast milk.
  - Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements:**

- STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works.
- Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you take any of the following medicines:
  - Hormone-based birth control (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc)
  - Antacid medicines that contain aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD
  - Medicines to treat depression, organ transplant rejection, or high blood pressure
  - amiodarone (Cordarone<sup>®</sup>, Pacerone<sup>®</sup>)
  - atorvastatin (Lipitor<sup>®</sup>, Caduet<sup>®</sup>)
  - bepridil hydrochloride (Vascor<sup>®</sup>, Bepadin<sup>®</sup>)
  - bosentan (Tracleer<sup>®</sup>)
  - buspirone
  - carbamazepine (Carbatrol<sup>®</sup>, Epitol<sup>®</sup>, Equetro<sup>®</sup>, Tegretol<sup>®</sup>)
  - clarithromycin (Biaxin<sup>®</sup>, Prevpac<sup>®</sup>)
  - clonazepam (Klonopin<sup>®</sup>)
  - clorazepate (Gen-xene<sup>®</sup>, Tranxene<sup>®</sup>)
  - colchicine (Colcrys<sup>®</sup>)
  - medicines that contain dexamethasone
  - diazepam (Valium<sup>®</sup>)
  - digoxin (Lanoxin<sup>®</sup>)
  - disopyramide (Norpace<sup>®</sup>)
  - estazolam
  - ethosuximide (Zarontin<sup>®</sup>)

- flecainide (Tambacor<sup>®</sup>)
- flurazepam
- fluticasone (Flovent<sup>®</sup>, Flonase<sup>®</sup>, Flovent<sup>®</sup> Diskus<sup>®</sup>, Flovent<sup>®</sup> HFA, Veramyst<sup>®</sup>)
- itraconazole (Sporanox<sup>®</sup>)
- ketoconazole (Nizoral<sup>®</sup>)
- lidocaine (Xylocaine<sup>®</sup>)
- mexiletine
- oxcarbazepine (Trileptal<sup>®</sup>)
- perphenazine
- phenobarbital (Luminal<sup>®</sup>)
- phenytoin (Dilantin<sup>®</sup>, Phenytek<sup>®</sup>)
- propafenone (Rythmol<sup>®</sup>)
- quinidine (Neudexta<sup>®</sup>)
- rifabutin (Mycobutin<sup>®</sup>)
- rifapentine (Priftin<sup>®</sup>)
- risperidone (Risperdal<sup>®</sup>, Risperdal Consta<sup>®</sup>)
- salmeterol (Serevent<sup>®</sup>) or salmeterol when taken in combination with fluticasone (Advair Diskus<sup>®</sup>, Advair HFA<sup>®</sup>)
- sildenafil (Viagra<sup>®</sup>), tadalafil (Cialis<sup>®</sup>) or vardenafil (Levitra<sup>®</sup>, Staxyn<sup>®</sup>), for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (ED). If you get dizzy or faint (low blood pressure), have vision changes or have an erection that last longer than 4 hours, call your healthcare provider or get medical help right away.
- tadalafil (Adcirca<sup>®</sup>), for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension
- telithromycin (Ketek<sup>®</sup>)
- thioridazine
- voriconazole (Vfend<sup>®</sup>)
- warfarin (Coumadin<sup>®</sup>, Jantoven<sup>®</sup>)
- zolpidem (Ambien<sup>®</sup>, Edlular<sup>®</sup>, Intermezzo<sup>®</sup>, Zolpimist<sup>®</sup>)

**Know the medicines you take.** Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.

**Keep STRIBILD and all medicines out of reach of children.**

This Brief Summary summarizes the most important information about STRIBILD. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can also ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about STRIBILD that is written for health professionals, or call 1-800-445-3235 or go to [www.STRIBILD.com](http://www.STRIBILD.com).

Issued: October 2013



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Subscriptions via First Class Mail are available at the following rates: Three months (13 consecutive issues), \$65. Six months (26 consecutive issues), \$85. One year (52 consecutive issues), \$130. Subscriptions are payable by check, cashier's check, money order, Visa, Mastercard or American Express.

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# Retiring the elephants



The news that Ringling Brothers Circus is phasing out elephants in its show is heartening. Elephants are large animals, and spending most of the year in rail cars traveling has to put an amazing amount of stress on these beautiful creatures.

And so as the performing elephants retire, I am reminded of the other performing elephants, the far-right wing of the GOP. These ponderous pachyderms — like Louis Gohmert and Ted Cruz — have mastered the trick of grabbing the media spotlight with their preposterous statements and patently unconstitutional laws, such as the recent spate of alleged “religious freedom” bills that would give people the right to refuse service to LGBT people based on their “deeply held beliefs.”



**Hardy Haberman**  
Flagging Left

All of this stems from the same-sex marriage debate, which is still raging in legislatures across the country in anticipation of a U.S. Supreme Court ruling favoring same-sex couples.

But in reality, it is all just a show. It is designed to get the media spotlight and distract us, specifically to distract the more liberal among us. While we spend our money and energy swatting back these nuisance bills, the real agenda of

slightly more progressive bias, are benefiting from our distraction. As we spin and toil, they pay little in the way of taxes and continue to pull far more out of the economy than they add.

As job creators, they fail miserably.

The latest job numbers are heartening when it comes to numbers of employed, but disturbing when it comes to the jobs created. Most are in the service sector, which means near minimum wage and essentially no real economic power.

Essentially, there are lots of “burger flipper” jobs being created and scant professional and manufacturing positions.

Why? Well, because the manufacturing sector, which was once the backbone of America, has been outsourced. Professional technology jobs are also in the same boat, and that boat is sailing for the Far East while the term “offshore” becomes more common in our daily parlance.

A report by Forrester Research quoted in a New York Government study predicts that 3.3 million U.S. jobs — including 542,000 computer jobs — will have moved offshore by the end of 2015.

It is all in the name of cutting costs and increasing productivity — which really just means higher profits for corporations and fewer good jobs here at home. Since I have lots of friends from the LGBT community as part of the tech business, this move directly affects them and me.

At present, we give tax breaks to companies that move jobs overseas by allowing them to defer some taxes and avoid others by deducting the cost of moving the jobs as a “business expense.”

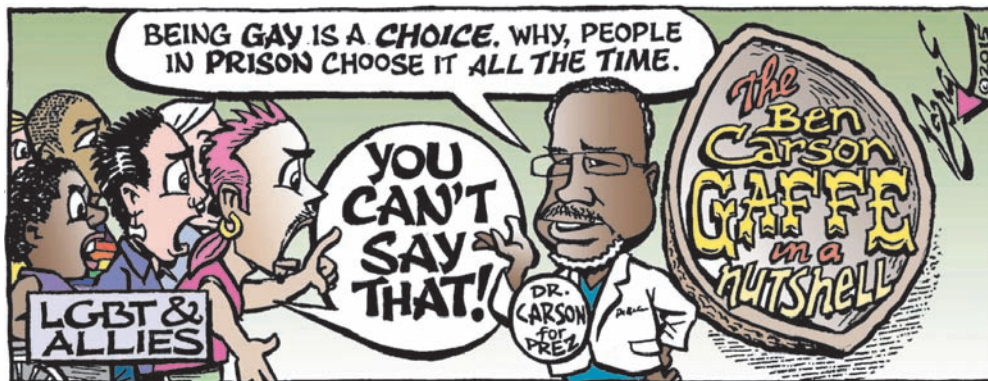
the right wing continues full force.

If you have to ask what that is, they have been successful.

The United States is presently an oligarchy, run by the richest and most economically powerful folks our country has ever seen. The days of the Gilded Age look pale in comparison to the amassed wealth of folks like the Koch brothers and the Walton family.

These people, including some who have a





Meanwhile, those of us on the liberal side waste time arguing over the latest insane statements by Ann Coulter and Bill O'Reilly.

The elephant in the room is a big fat GOP one, and it's dominating our discussions and our energy while the oligarchy rules with impunity.

What we need to be paying attention to is the movement to enact a constitutional amendment that will restore Congress's and the states' ability to establish campaign fundraising rules. Such an amendment would overturn Citizens United v Federal Elections Commission and get the tsunami of corporate funds out of politics.

Needless to say, no Republican will ever vote for such an amendment, since it would essentially cut off their money supply. So we have to take the long view.

As a voting block, the LGBT community can wield considerable power. In the last election exit polls showed 5 percent of voters were people who identified as LGBT, and that number is enough to tip the scales.

We need to spend our time and energy electing people who are more likely to be not just sympathetic to our rights, but who will work to move our country away from the oligarchy it has become and back to a democracy where people are people and corporations are artificial constructs for doing business and not artificial "people."

It's time for our country to do the humane thing and retire the elephants. Put them out to pasture where they can trumpet and clomp around without damaging our rights and our essential freedom.

Let them bellow about cutting the debt, something at which they have a dismal record. Let them pretend to favor the middle class, a class that has been struggling since Ronald Regan instituted the myth of "trickle down" economics. Let them trumpet about "job creators" who failed miserably to create jobs under the Bush administrations, the very administrations which gave them immense incentives.

Let them spout their insanity about LGBT people and look instead at the sad failed record of heterosexual institutions like marriage.

We cannot afford to continue to be distracted by their ridiculous circus act. We have the real work of justice and equality to do.

Hardy Haberman is a longtime local LGBT activist and board member for the Woodhull Freedom Alliance. His blog is at [DungeonDiary.blogspot.com](http://DungeonDiary.blogspot.com).

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# Dressed for success

J. DENTON BRICKER  
Contributing Writer  
dentonbricker@gmail.com

Mary Houlihan, an out fashion stylist with Trunk Club, turns clothes shopping for the well-dressed gentleman into a hands-on experience

**M**ary Houlihan's love for fashion really began to flourish during her early teens. She would wait for her older sister to go out, sneak into her room, crank up Hole's "Doll-parts" and try on every article of clothing in Sis' closet. She would then carefully return everything so her sister wouldn't learn about her private fashion shows.

Houlihan still gets to play dress-up on a daily basis — in a closet with far greater resources than her sister's. She's now a stylist for Trunk Club, a burgeoning Chicago-based company that is reimagining men's fashions ... especially how to shop for them.

"I love dressing other people over myself now," she says. "I guarantee you will say, 'I don't think I would have picked this out on my own,' and I love hearing that."

At Trunk Club, new clients are assigned to a stylist (like Houlihan or one of her colleagues), who then assists them with their clothing purchases from a variety of different brands and designs. Off-the-rack garments range from suits to sweatpants to even socks or flip-flops — all custom-selected by trained professionals. It's like having a personal shopper.

Houlihan was totally gung-ho about the move to Dallas from her native Chicago after receiving inspiration through the motivational speaking of Trunk Club CEO Brian Spaly. "I would have gone absolutely anywhere, not only because I love this place but because I knew it would give me the opportunity to be an entrepreneur, which really excites me," she says. "I got to put in really long hours and it feels like my own blood, sweat and tears are involved in it."

The Dallas move proved vitally important not only for Houlihan but for Trunk Club, too: It was the company's first expansion

outside of Chicago, and launched them into the national spotlight. "It took Dallas to prove to Nordstrom [who recently bought the company] that we could expand and be just as successful in [other] cities," Houlihan says. Soon after Dallas, they opened stores in D.C., L.A and New York City.

It was a successful move personally, as well. Houlihan's partner, Kristen, eventually relocated with her and is supportive of her girlfriend's career, working as a nanny while also studying to be a health coach. Houlihan is cultivating her own education and is currently in custom-certification training. But the hands-on experience in the trenches has taught her a lot.

"I am working with guys in-house all day, so I'm seeing these products on guys that could be of a similar height, weight or maybe they share a common fit issue with you, like shirts are really baggy around the waist or they can't find a trim pant that fits them well," Houlihan says. "The team of people buying for our company are looking out for that really stellar fit." After a recommended initial site visit to the clubhouse (store) so Houlihan can get to know you and see how the products wear, she follows up with a trunk (hence the name) that arrives free of charge. Clients get to keep their trunks for 10 days to try on any or all of the items. Anything not wanted can be shipped back (again at no cost) and clients are only billed for what they keep.

So how does a personal consultant work for you?

"I pull things that I think are going to fit really well, first and foremost. With a new guy, I almost always start with dark denim, a white button down shirt and a brown leather shoe. If someone wants something for work and play, I normally start there. Sometimes guys say they have a ton of these in their closet but discover

the difference after trying it on," Houlihan says.

The client's feedback and the relationship affect future trunk shipments. Stylists reach out around birthdays, anniversaries, during the holidays and other important lifetime events to make sure you have what is needed in your wardrobe to celebrate in style. Communication happens via phone, email, text; it's really left up to the preference of the client. Unlike other fashion/lifestyle boxes (Birchbox, etc.), the frequency of the service is driven by individual needs, whether you need four outfits for the holiday party season or are just looking to refresh some clothing items.

Beyond off the rack, Trunk Club also offers custom clothing from tuxedos to suits, to a staple navy sports coat (good to know with the upcoming social season).

"I love that Trunk Club offers continuing education for their employees and the training allows me to understand men's bodies in another way, another level of information," Houlihan says.

Dallas' clubhouse has grown from its initial seven stylists to nearly 50 in just a year. Indeed, it's already outgrown its original space, and just moved from its original location on Henderson Avenue to new digs in Deep Ellum. Both spaces were impressive, from the bank of modern workstations to a half dozen lounges to comfy chairs and chic couches as well as styling rooms. It's all very man-cave, attuned to appeal to the male customer.

"I think that's the magic of this place. The [space] is rustic but we sell nice clothing, which I think guys appreciate," Houlihan says. And customer service is integral.

"Whether you spend \$100 or \$1,000 at Trunk Club, everything is a rich, unique experience," says Houlihan. "That's why we exist — and that is why guys come back." ■



# Parental guidance

New moms Brandi Carlile and Kelly Clarkson: No longer the girls next door

**Brandi Carlile, *The Firewatcher's Daughter*.** Now that her major-label days are over, Brandi Carlile can get her hands as dirty as she wants. Indulging entirely in the authenticity of the sound she's been honing since her second album (2007's T-Bone Burnett-produced *The Story*), this latest ATO outing was recorded mostly in single takes without any previous rehearsal. The raw effect is immediate, as "Wherever Is Your Heart" — launched as a simple guitar ditty — ascends into a rousing drum-powered belter that tears itself open just before the last refrain. It crawls, builds and, for dramatic effect, pauses. And then *boom!* Busting out the guttural chops, the queer songstress thrusts the song's joyfulness straight into your heart, where most of these songs end up, actually.

With well-established bandmates the Twins in tow for the three-part harmony on "The Eye," the trio's performance makes for one of the best songs of Carlile's decade-long career ... a tender showcase for all three of them. At its core, *The Firewatcher's Daughter* revels in bittersweet feelings familiar to the singer's fans: nostalgia, growing up, growing old, love and now family. "Murder in the City," an Avett Brothers' cover rewritten to reflect Carlile's own life, comforts the living in the midst of a person's death. The love we leave behind — that's what matters, Carlile affirms. On *Daughter*, there's plenty to go around.



Brandi Carlile.

**Kelly Clarkson, *Piece by Piece*.** Kelly Clarkson's seventh studio album finds the *American Idol* champ at a crossroads. Does she fix what's not broken? And if not, how does a 32-year-old pop star demonstrate she's evolved 13 years

after her *Idol* conquest? More importantly, does it even matter? *Piece by Piece*, then, is a crucial moment in Clarkson's career, which, so far, has been a

hit-factory dependent on the singer's two most alluring qualities: lung power and everyperson appeal. We like her because we want to be BFFs with her. And she makes us feel fierce. And she

can sing for real. It's a winning combo.

For the most part, anyway. The best-friend-who-can-belt formula isn't quite as convincing on her latest release, a departure that has her joining forces with musicmakers du jour — Sia and Greg Kurstin — for shiny '80s-esque pop songs that, too often, come off as mere radio stock. During a pair of the album's most majestic tracks, the glitchy "Take You High" (note 4:20 runtime) and the aimless "Someone," Clarkson's powerful presence melts into the scenery, dissolved by an electronic sheen that overwhelms her voice. "Heartbeat Song" has punch, at least, as does the neon-bright EDM peacemaker "Dance With Me." The same is true for "I Had a Dream," a rousing anthem co-written by Clarkson, whose voice here, backed by a gospel choir, is as powerful as the galvanizing message of the song itself. Talk about taking you high. I'm still flying. ■

—Chris Azzopardi



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# Expect the unexpected

A luxurious Hyundai? A soulful Toyota? Don't be surprised once you've tried the new Genesis and RAV4.



CASEY WILLIAMS | Auto Reviewer  
crwauto@aol.com

**PACIFIC RIM** | Nothing but prejudice prevents Korea's Hyundai Genesis, left, and Toyota's RAV4, below, from being considered the top exemplars on their classes.

**W**hat is a luxury car? Cars wearing the three-pointed star, chrome L, four rings, spinning propeller or family crests are obvious indicia. They've earned credentials (in some cases, for more than a century). So can a second-generation upstart from Korea be a luxury car? Yes — what about a car wearing a Hyundai badge says you *can't* be luxury?

People asked the same kind of questions when Lexus first debuted a quarter-century ago. It was thought of as a fancy Toyota at half the price of its German competitors. It didn't take long for Lexus to dance on the faces of arrogant Germans, but at nearly \$90,000 for a well-equipped LS460, there's space for this usurper.

Genesis styling was previewed by the dramatic HCD-4 concept from the 2013 Detroit auto show. Graced with a larger and more upright grille, the front gives the sedan a familiar presence that's also fresh. LED running lamps, projector beams and LED fog lamps glisten. Raised hood sculpting and a steeply raked windshield flow into carved body creases and a fastback roofline. Plant it over 19-in. alloys, accent with chrome, and you're cruising among high cotton.

After being greeted by Genesis-emblazoned puddle lamps, sweeping expanses of genuine matte-finish wood and stitched dashboards are only a start to the sumptuous cabin. Forget the badge and enjoy the heated/cooled front seats, power steering column, and panorama sunroof. Rear passengers stretch freely, but also enjoy heated seats and power sunshade. Lexicon's 17-speaker audio system is only slightly less im-

pressive than versions created for Rolls-Royce.

There's much to make a driver's job easier. A heads-up display, rain-sensing wipers, navigation and auto fog removal are but a start. Connect smart phones via Bluetooth and USB inputs.

The car's safety suite includes a rearview camera, automatic emergency braking, lane departure warning, lane keep assist, blind spot detection, and rear cross traffic detection.

You can get a V6 in the Genesis, but forget that! A proper luxury car has a V8 like the one streaming 420 horses to the rear wheels. It gets there via a paddle-shifted eight-speed automatic transmission. You have to roll down the windows and stick a stethoscope in your ear to hear anything approaching harshness. Expect to see 15/23-MPG city/hwy.

Precise handling was a hallmark of the first-generation Genesis and it's impressive again. Feel the tight suspension step over pavement and you'll look for a Japanese luxury badge. Only the roughest pavement gets through the stiff body structure — drivers can adjust the suspension for

comfort or sporty handling. They can also alter drive modes that tune the transmission, throttle, stability control and all-wheel-drive for their every mood.

If a couple of luxury brands that are struggling to find their way had a car as good as the Genesis, cranks like me wouldn't be writing stories about them. The Genesis not only coddles passengers with high-end materials and divine audio, but provides a chassis and powertrain they'll love driving. It is a luxury car — and a darned good one. And listing at under \$40k for the base model, it's luxury within reach.

Genesis starts at \$38,000 with a V6, but came to \$55,600 as tested. If you need more space and luxury, step up to the Genesis-based Hyundai

Equus. You can also consider the Cadillac CTS, Infiniti Q70, Mercedes E-Class, Lexus GS and Audi A6.

## Toyota RAV4

My best friend is looking for a new mid-size crossover, and — per usual — called for a list of suspects to explore. When I mentioned the RAV4, which is well-loved by another friend, he paused, then said, "Toyotas always seem noisy and soulless to me." While Toyotas do tend towards competence over excitement, that's not categorically true. And, as we found, not true at all of the RAV4.

Styling follows current Toyota convention with the front jacked from an imaginary crossover Prius, but the finlike rear fenders and lamps are especially sexy. The rest follows current crossover style with an arching windshield and roofline that tapers gently to a hatch spoiler. Put 17-in. alloys under it, top it with a versatile roof rack, and you're ready for adventure.

RAV4 interiors are among the best in the segment. The wide modern dash design is a cross between a Lexus RX and Corolla with a central control pod, cubbie storage and floating stitched panels. Silver finishes on the dash and doors — and faux carbon fiber texture on the center console — add style. Even the notched gear selector feels like it was carved from a Lexus.

Seats are firm, but comfortable, hugging you snugly without sucking you in. Cloth is perfect for pets and off-spring. I could go for heated seats and a leather-wrapped steering wheel, but I'll survive. Dual-zone automatic climate control, reclining/folding rear seats with ample legroom, power moonroof and deep cupholders add con-

### '15 GENESIS 5.0

**Hyundai.** 420 horsepower, 5.0 liter V8 15/23-MPG city/hwy. As-tested price: \$55,600.

### '15 RAV4

**Toyota.** 176 horsepower, 2.5 liter Inline4 22/29-MPG city/hwy. As-tested price: \$23,680.





venience. Open the rear hatch and toss in a week's worth of gear ... but only if you want to get lost. You can get navigation, accessed through a gesture-recognition touchscreen. Swipe to scroll as on your iThing. You can connect your things through Bluetooth or USB connections and access an array of apps that will make all things jealous. Check the back-up camera to stay away from immovable other things.

Driving it is a lively experience. Click down a cog or two in the 6-speed automatic transmission with your big right piggy to feel the 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine toss all of its 176 horsepower. Send it to the road through the torque-shifting all-wheel-drive system as in our vehicle and you can make short work of snowy roads or fast turnpikes. Take it out of "Sport" mode and put it into "Eco" to employ start-stop technology and conjure 22/29-MPG city/hwy.

Toyota powertrains are almost always Lexus

smooth, but the driving experience usually equates to riding inside a baked biscuit, but without the buttery smell. Pleasant, but not tasty. The RAV4 was surprisingly nimble on its four-wheel independent suspension, which allowed just the right amount of road feel to seep through to the electrically-powered steering wheel. At speed, wind noise is barely heard. Four-wheel disc brakes clamp down from speed without drama.

As my friend looked at competitors, it's clear the RAV4 is in tough territory. The Ford Escape, Mazda CX-5, Honda CR-V, Nissan Rogue, Chevy Equinox, Kia Sportage and VW Tiguan are right there with it. Yet its combination of Toyota durability, modern styling, refined handling, spirited powertrain and functional interior are all reasons he should consider a RAV4. He'll be surprised ... especially when he sees a base price of \$23,680. ■

## One flew over the cuckold's nest The vagaries of love, from Moliere to 'Medea'

In true repertory fashion, Dallas Theater Center is currently producing two plays simultaneously, with largely the same casts, at alternate performances. And while on the surface they don't appear to have a lot in common, I think they actually do.

On the main stage of the Kalita, Moliere's Renaissance comedy **The School for Wives**, is a bit of rhyming-meter ribaldry, with the man-cougar Arnolphe (Chamblee Ferguson, pictured below) hoping to marry (i.e., have sex with) his comely young ward Agnes (Morgan Laure), while she has eyes for the young stud Horace (Daniel Duque-Estrada). (It's basically the same plot as *The Barber of Seville* and *Sweeney Todd*.) After many mistaken identities, frantic entrances and exits and iambs, the parties are paired age-appropriately while the cast sings pop songs during a pie fight. It's all frothy good fun in candy colors with lots of chuckling and smiles.

Downstairs, in a dank basement space, there's less levity about the fickleness of relationships. The play is **Medea**, Robinson Jeffers' peerless translation of Euripides' masterpiece, about the barbarian woman (Sally Nystuen Vahle, pictured right) who — spurned by her Argonaut hubbie Jason (Chris Hury) so he can marry the dumb-blonde daughter of wealthy King Creon (Kieran Connolly) — exacts a terrible revenge. (Think Lifetime movie. Think Susan Smith.)

To me, these are companion pieces about how the course of true love never does run smooth:



They should have cast Vahle and Hury not just as Medea and Jason, but as Agnes and Horace, and let the audiences draw the natural conclusion.

Both plays, firmly ensconced in the canon of classical theater, are stylized (both very talky, with most of the action of *Medea* happening off-stage and the couplets in *Wives* sing-songily poetic), but both still work for contemporary viewers because they speak to universalities and frightening truths. And in both instances, the leading actors sell the material.

Vahle, one of DFW's most powerful leading ladies in both comedy and drama, was born to play the fiery Medea. She's a go-for-broke actress, who roils and bellows and goes to the darkest of places, yet never so over-the-top that we don't feel her pain but understand human nature and the evil that men (and women) do. Upstairs, Ferguson bounces around with the rubbery facial expressions of Don Knotts, balancing the physical with the attention to language that make such broadly drawn characters endure. And Hury and Liz Mikel shine in both shows, though especially as the doltish comic foils in *Wives*.

Kevin Moriarty directs both shows, with vastly different ethics: The sunny Parisian cafe society for *Wives*, a stark, industrial wasteland for *Medea*. Come to think of it, that's pretty much the progression of all love affairs, isn't it?

— Arnold Wayne Jones

Through March 29. [DallasTheaterCenter.org](http://DallasTheaterCenter.org).

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**LAWDY, LAUD-Y** | This is prime time for vacationing in Florida's uber-gay mecca ... and just look out your window to see why. (Photos courtesy Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau)

# To hell with winter!

North Texans are fed up with the ice, snow and cold. Where else can you replenish but in sunny Fort Lauderdale?

Since its rapid transformation in the early 1990s into one of the world's leading gay vacation destinations, sunny Fort Lauderdale has continued on a steady path of exciting new developments. Swanky contemporary hotels have risen along its neatly manicured beachfront, itself a short walking distance from several excellent gay resorts. The small city of Wilton Manors, which fringes FtL to the northwest, has become a vibrant hub of LGBT nightlife, dining and shopping. And a growing number of impressive arts and historic attractions have helped turn Fort Lauderdale into one of Florida's premier arts and cultural hubs.

High season in Fort Lauderdale spans late autumn to early spring, but Broward County is more of a year-round destination than you might think. Many LGBTs, from recent college grads to retirees, have even moved here full-time. The acclaimed gay men's resort Pineapple Point is currently developing an upscale retirement complex in an up-and-coming corridor of downtown; plans are for this flagship residence to serve as a prototype for similar communities throughout the country. And throughout the city, neighborhoods, businesses and hotels tend to draw a di-

verse crowd.

Fort Lauderdale also has a number of LGBT-driven events throughout the year: Pride Fort Lauderdale in late February and early March, Stonewall Pride in Wilton Manors in June, the transgender Southern Comfort Conference in late September and early October, the Fort Lauderdale Gay and Lesbian Film Festival in mid-October, Wicked Manors over Halloween and Gay Days Fort Lauderdale week in late November.

## What to see and do

Fort Lauderdale has several notable attractions. Adjacent to the city's public library in the historic Victoria Park neighborhood, the Stonewall National Museum & Archives contains an amazing trove of artifacts and exhibits on LGBT history (the lending library and archives contain countless gay publications, from vintage erotica to community newspapers). The Stonewall Museum has a second gallery in the heart of Wilton Manors, with compelling exhibits on everything from the battle for transgender civil rights to timeline of key moments in LGBT history.

Opened last fall in Wilton Manors, the World

AIDS Museum and Educational Center is both a moving tribute to those who have battled with the disease and an eye-opening, informative awareness center on HIV and AIDS. Exhibits here trace the beginnings of the disease, and how public perceptions and media coverage about it have changed over the years. Additionally, it may not sound like a conventional attraction, but the Pride Center at Equality Park in Wilton Manors is well worth visiting — it's one of the more impressive LGBT community centers in the country, and a great resource for learning about the local gay scene.

As for the region's many other appealing draws, FtL is one of the state's top shopping destinations. Fans of retail should definitely visit the famed Sawgrass Mills Mall, whose more than 300 designer outlets include Giorgio Armani, Barneys New York, Kate Spade, Michael Kors and Steve Madden. Or just stroll along lovely Las Olas Boulevard, which abounds with fashion boutiques and jewelry shops.

It's also a city built on and around water, and there are myriad opportunities for sightseeing cruises, fishing charters, sailing trips, scuba-diving excursions and kayak tours (many of the

local accommodations work closely with area boating and sailing outfitters). Something of a hidden gem, Hugh Taylor Birch State Park is close to the beach and makes an especially nice spot for canoeing and jogging (you can also rent Segways and jet skis from M. Cruz Rentals). Also, be sure to visit the nearby Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, which comprises a grand historic estate filled with art and acres of lush gardens.

In the vibrant downtown corridor, you can catch a play or concert at the superb Broward Center for the Performing Arts. The Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale is also a great place to while away the occasional rainy afternoon. It's known for its first-rate collection of works by leading American impressionist painter William Glackens.

## Where to eat and play

Broward County's dining scene has evolved rapidly in recent years. For creative contemporary cuisine, check out stylish Johnny V, helmed by celeb chef Johnny Vincenz. At this hip Las Olas Boulevard restaurant, you might try jerk-seared local black grouper or duck served three ways (foie gras, leg of confit and breast). At the trendy W Hotel, sup on choice chops and creatively prepared seafood at Steak 954, part of the buzzy culinary empire of celeb chef Stephen Starr.

A casual option overlooking Fort Lauderdale Beach, airy Casablanca Café has a breezy patio and serves reasonably priced American and Mediterranean fare, including delish lobster rolls. The outstanding Market 17 is just a short





drive from the beach and serves deftly plated, farm-to-table cuisine — it's become quite celebrated for its intriguing "Dining in the Dark" option. Downtown's Tap 42 Bar & Kitchen offers an outstanding craft-beer list along with well-prepared gastropub fare.

For a lavish night out, look to Lobster Bar Sea Grille, a see-and-be-seen downtown brasserie that serves superb seafood and has one of the city's best wine lists. For stellar Pan-Asian food, head to Dapur, a trendy gay-date spot with a lively bar area that serves colorful cocktails (the lycheetini being a favorite). Chef Edi Mulyanto turns out delicious modern cuisine with a Thai, Indonesian and Malaysian bent.

Owners of the former lesbian bar New Moon, Nancy Goodwin and Carol Moran operate one of the most enjoyable and romantic restaurants in Wilton Manors, 13 Even which earns praise for its menu of reasonably priced, creative small plates, from smoked-salmon tostadas to crisp pork belly tossed with feta and watermelon. On the same block, Mind Your Manors is a convivial spot for filling and tasty pub fare. The neighborhood is also home to Rosie's, a dishy and very social spot for casual pub fare, including huge burgers, sandwiches, coconut-shrimp platters, and more. The Naked Grape is a handsome little wine bar with light food and a well-curated selection of vino from all over the world.

Fort Lauderdale pulses with gay bars, the lion's share of them in Wilton Manors. The handsome two-level Manor complex can be a fine place to kick off the evening or dance into the wee hours. This snazzy space has a nightclub aglow with crystal chandeliers plus myriad bars and a kitchen serving inventive tapas. B. Bar & Grille (formerly Bill's Filling Station) is popular especially among the 35-and-older crowd. There's food, excellent cabaret and saucy drag shows, and four different bars. Another good bet for piano cabaret is Tropics, which offers above-average dinner fare too.

Sidelines Sports Bar draws a great mix of folks to shoot pool and watch sports on TV, the Village Pub has a nice dance floor, a good-size patio and a stage with drag shows; and the hip and stylish Progress Bar is a friendly neighborhood spot

with great dancing on weekends and a strong following among both men and women. Hunters, Rumors and the Alibi are slick, happening video and dance bars nearby, all three of them good places to meet locals and converse with friends. And leather bars like the dungeonsque Ramrod, with its Tom of Finland artwork, and Cubby Hole, always draw dedicated crowds of butch guys. At just about any of the bars, themes changes nightly — from karaoke to country-western dancing to drag bingo.

### Where to stay

Many of the top gay resorts in Fort Lauderdale are just two or three blocks in from the beachfront (and the popular gay beach at Sebastian Street and A1A). One of the classiest and most relaxing options, the Grand Resort stands out for its warm and professional service and thoughtful amenities, which include a first-rate day spa (open both to non-guests and those staying on property) offering a wide range of massage and body treatments. There's also a gym, a large pool with a swimsuits-required policy, a more secluded courtyard and sunning area with a hot tub that's clothing-optional, a nice gym, and some of the largest suites of any gay resort in town. Some of the 33 units have full contemporary kitchens, separate living rooms and private outdoor showers.

With its dapper Mid-Century Modern design, the Royal Palms Resort & Spa exudes sexiness. The thoughtfully maintained resort has an "all-welcome" policy but caters heavily to the LGBT market. There are 66 rooms with a sleek and unfussy aesthetic and such cushy perks as iHome docks and rain-forest-style glass showers, close proximity to the beach, a scene-y bar and grill, and a luxe spa, and a well-designed fitness center with yoga classes available.

Another good bet is the sister property, the Lush Royale, formed when two neighboring resorts (the former Royal Palms and Orton Terrace) combined. The 28 upscale units here are eclectic and attractive, ranging from compact Junior Queens with small kitchenettes to Super

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■ LAUDERDALE Next Page



■ LAUDERDALE, From Previous Page

rior Royal Suites with king beds, huge living-dining areas and full modern kitchens. There are two pools and ample, clothing-optional sunning areas. The same owners also operate the nearby Grand Palm Plaza and Elysium Resort.

Another good bet in the neighborhood is the complex comprising three neighboring, mid-priced gay resorts: the Worthington, Alcazar Resort and Villa Venice. Together, these centrally located, clothing-optional hideaways rank among the cruisiest resorts in South Florida, with playful vibes, energetic fun-in-the-sun patrons, and attractive grounds for sunning and swimming *au naturale*.

For pure luxury, it's hard to beat Pineapple Point, a handsome 1930s spread that has the grace and style of a Caribbean plantation, and quite possibly the cushiest suites of any gay resort in the country. With top-notch service and gorgeous grounds spread across two tropically landscaped acres, this compound is slightly inland, in the desirable Victoria Park neighborhood, and offers standard rooms, cozy cottages and fabulous villas — the latter with rooftop decks, big kitchens and other perks.

One of the closest resorts to the many gay bars and restaurants in Wilton Manors, Cabanas Guest House appeals to social butterflies (note the 10-man Jacuzzi and eight-man aromatherapy steam room). The posh rooms have goose-down comforters, DVD players and CD/MP3 players. There's also a full-service day spa. Also in the heart of Wilton Manors, the Calypso Inn is a fun little B&B with four charming, reasonably priced rooms.

Fort Lauderdale also has some terrific, gay-welcoming mainstream resorts. The chic W Fort Lauderdale cuts a dashing profile along the Route A1A beachfront, its sybaritic Bliss Spa offering deluxe treatments, and its large pool hosting fab parties all weekend; rooms are decked out with state-of-the-art media centers and supremely comfy beds. The nearby Atlantic Hotel & Spa offers unobstructed ocean views from the majority of its spacious, airy rooms, all of them with Bose CD-stereos, lovely patios and small kitchens. Other mainstream properties along the beachfront with fine views and attractive rooms include the Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort, the Courtyard Fort Lauderdale Beach, the Hilton Fort Lauderdale Beach and the Ritz-Carlton Fort Lauderdale.

— Andrew Collins

**BOOK REVIEW: Being black on the Great White Way**

*Black Broadway: African Americans on the Great White Way* by Stewart F. Lane (Square One Publishers 2015) \$40; 288 pp.

When William Alexander Brown decided to retire, he knew where he'd do it: in the two-story home he'd purchased in Lower Manhattan. It was 1821 and Brown, a free black man, knew that there were few places for black actors to perform for black audiences, and he planned to allow performances there.

The popularity of those performances spurred Brown and a friend to "go a step further" with a 300-seat establishment they named the African Grove Theatre. It, too, was successful, until Brown was forced out of business by a local white theater owner who feared competition.

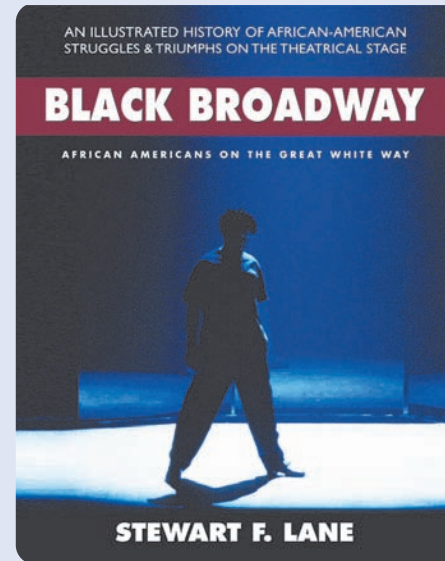
Not long after the African Grove Theatre closed, minstrel shows began attracting crowds of both races. Many shows featured white and black entertainers in burnt-cork blackface, as well as comedy sketches and dancing — including many skits satirizing black life and culture.

"It's not clear," says Lane, "why the African-Americans of the era turned out to see" those shows, but they did, perhaps to laugh "at the absurdity of the caricatures."

By the late 1800s, vaudeville and burlesque had become popular, adding increasing diversity to shows. Black entertainers were often included onstage, and entire productions were created with black troupes for black audiences. White people, of course, were welcome and did attend; one theater owner even gave them their own section ... in the back of the house.

Throughout the years, African-Americans — both performers and audience members — made strides, but slowly, and with help from the NAACP and the Harlem Renaissance. By the 1930s, Broadway shows included racial issues; by the 1940s, interracial marriage was a common theme. In the 1950s, audiences enjoyed performances dealing with poverty and racism. But it wasn't until well past the Civil Rights years that black faces became a non-issue on the Great White Way.

Loaded with pictures, playbill reproductions, advertisements, and drawings, *Black Broadway* is a theatergoer's delight. But I was equally happy to see that there's plenty for the historian, too: In addition to a rich narrative on equality for African-Americans on Broadway (and off), Stewart F. Lane includes a running timeline of national and world history to put the main body of this book into perspective. We're also treated to dozens of short-but-comprehensive profiles of influential performers and people who, though many haven't graced a stage in decades, are still familiar to followers of theatre, jazz, dance and music.



Terri Schlichenmeyer

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Friday 03.06

**Kitchen Dog enters Oscar race with 'Wilde/Earnest'**

While DTC is gussying up *The School for Wives* at the Kalita (see the review on Page 23), Kitchen Dog is giving audiences its own take on another classic. Company member Lee Trull adapted and directed *Wilde/Earnest*, his take on Oscar Wilde's undisputed masterwork that gives a sexy, effervescent remix to the quintessential comedy of manners set in today's hipster culture.

**DEETS:** The MAC, 3120 McKinney Ave. March 13–April 18. KitchenDogTheater.org



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Wednesday 03.18 — Sunday 03.22

**Savor Dallas launches 11th year of wine-and-foodgasm**

Now beginning its second decade, Savor Dallas has grown to a city-wide series of events, from the Arts District wine stroll on Thursday to Savor the Arboretum Friday to the Grand Tasting at Fair Park Saturday to seminars and brunches, all featuring more wine and food than a sane person could consume. Pace yourself and cheers!

**DEETS:** For a full lineup of events and tickets, visit SavorDallas.com.



Friday 03.13

**Dallas Opera continues season with 'La Boheme,' including stadium simulcast**

While *Wilde/Earnest* is plumbing modern hipsters, Puccini already examined the 19th century version — known as the belle époque of Paris' Latin Quarter — in one of the most popular of all operas, *La Boheme*. This romantic look at the doomed relationship between the consumptive Mimi and the charismatic Rodolfo stars Ana Maria Martinez and Bryan Hymel as the star-crossed lover and out "barihunk" Jonathan Beyer as the mercurial Marcello. In addition to the in-person performances, you can also see a live simulcast of the March 21 matinee for free at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

**DEETS:** Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. March 13, 18, 21 and 27 at 7:30 p.m., March 15 and 29 at 2 p.m. DallasOpera.org.

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## ARTSWEEK: NOW PLAYING

### THEATER

**Out of the Loop Fringe Festival.** Seven world premieres are featured at the 14th annual assemblage of dance, comedy, music, drama, performance art and more. Presented by WaterTower Theatre. *Final weekend.* Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

**And Then There Were None.** The Agatha Christie mystery. Presented by Theatre Britain. Cox Building Playhouse, 1517 H Ave., Plano. Through March 22. Theatre-Britain.com.

**Gilligan's Fire Island.** Spoofmeister Jamie Morris takes on the iconic sitcom with a gay twist in this bonus show from Uptown Players, a drag comedy performed at the Rose Room inside S4. *Final weekend.* 3911 Cedar Springs Road. UptownPlayers.org.

**Hedwig and the Angry Inch.** Robert Rain stars in the exhilarating show. *Final weekend.* Margo Jones Theatre at the Magnolia Lounge Fair Park, 1121 First Ave. \$25. HedwigDallas2015.brownpapertickets.com.

**Hot Mikado.** A jazzy/bluesy rendition of the Gilbert & Sullivan operetta, with Major Attaway, Denise Lee and others. Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through April 5 (in previews through March 15). Theatre3Dallas.com.

**The (curious case of the) Watson Intelligence.** Madeleine George' Pulitzer-finalist, time-traveling play about invention, artificial intelligence and human relationship. Stage West, 821 W. Vickery Blvd., Fort Worth. Through March 22. StageWest.org.

**The School for Wives and Medea.** Dallas Theater Center presents two classic plays in rep — one a saucy Moliere comedy, the other Euripides' devastating



'LOOKING' | The penultimate episode of the second season of the HBO gay drama airs Sunday.

tragedy. Directed by Kevin Moriarty. *Reviewed this week.* Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Through March 29. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

**Bull.** Mike Bartlett, who wrote Second Thought

Theatre's controversial *Cock* last season, now brings us *Bull*, which addresses the hot-button issue of bullying. *Reviewed this week.* *Final weekend.* Wily Theatre 6th Floor Studio. 2400 Flora St. 2TT.co.

**Fellowship! The Musical Parody of the Fellowship of the Ring.** A campy musical twist on the Tolkein novel. Theatre Too space at Theatre 3, 2800 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through April 12. Theatre3Dallas.com.

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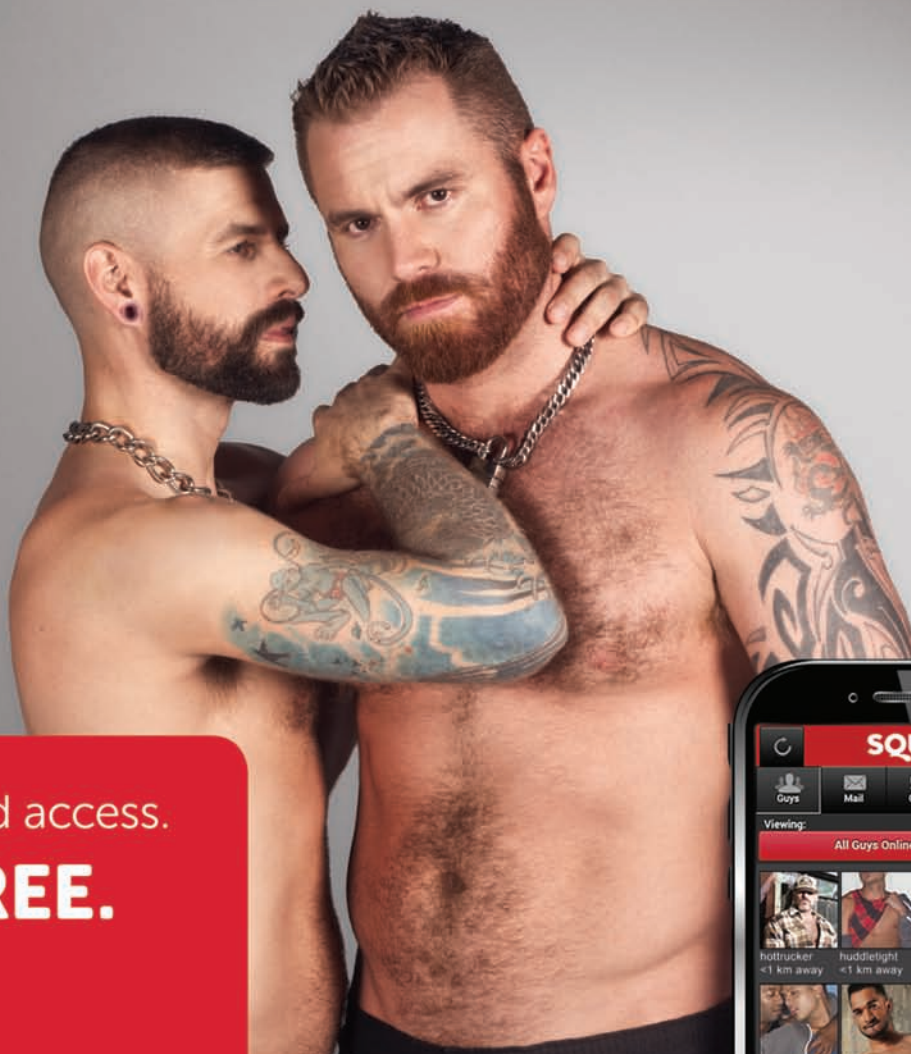
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**The Tale of Peter Rabbit.** Dallas Children's Theater presents this production featuring Kathy Burke Theatre of Puppetry Arts. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. March 13–April 5. DCT.org.

#### FINE ART

**What's Up Doc? The Animation Art of Chuck Jones.** A exhibit celebrating the iconic cartoons of the Oscar-winning animator, from Pepe LePew to Bugs and Elmer. Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, 1600 Gendy St., Fort Worth. Through April 26. FWMuseum.org.

**Between Action and the Unknown: The Art of Kazuo Shigara and Sadamasa Motonaga.** A side-by-side examination of the art of two of the post-war Japanese avant garde art movement known as Gutai, which sought not to transform matter but bring it to life with experimental techniques. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through July 15. DMA.org.

**Modern Opulence in Vienna: The Wittgenstein Vitrine.** The DMA's conservationists restore this century-old display case of silver, lapis and glass — an amazing example of Viennese craftsmanship. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Oct. 18. Free. DMA.org.

#### EXHIBIT

**The International Exhibition of Sherlock Holmes.** The Baker Street Irregulars are the focus of this elementary tribute to Sir A. Conan Doyle's enduring creation, the master consulting detective and cocaine addict. Includes interactive mystery-solving adventures. Perot Museum of Nature and Science, 2201 N. Field St. Through May 10. PerotMuseum.org.

## FRIDAY 03.13

#### COMMUNITY

**Texas Bear Round Up XX: Bears Studio 54.** The 20th annual migration and gathering of the North American hairy gay man and its subspecies, presented by Dallas Bears. Events scheduled throughout the weekend including the BearDance Friday with DJs Sean Mac, Chris Spear and others, and an appearance by Looking actor Daniel Franzese. Visit TBRU.org for a full schedule of events.

**High Tech Happy Hour.** Monthly gay mixer. Ten Bells Tavern, 232 W. 7th St. 5:30–7:30 p.m.

**Panoptikon.** The (now) weekly retro disco dance party, presented by Lord Byron. Red Light, 2911 Main St. Door 9 p.m.

#### OPERA

**La Boheme.** Puccini's classic romance set in Paris during the *fin-de-siecle*. Presented by the Dallas Opera. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. March 13–29. DallasOpera.org.

## SATURDAY 03.14

#### SPORTS

**FrontRunners.** Gay jogging group meets at 8:30 a.m. at the statue in Lee Park for a run along the Katy Trail.

#### COMMUNITY

**St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival.** Annual drinkfest along Lower Greenville Avenue. 10 a.m.

## SUNDAY 03.15

#### BROADCAST

**Girls.** The fourth season of the quirky comedy-drama about modern living, co-starring Andrew Rannells and Zachary Quinto. Airs on HBO at 8 p.m.

**Looking.** The second season of the drama about gay life in San Francisco, starring Jonathan Groff. Airs on HBO at 8:30 p.m.

## MONDAY 03.16

#### SPOKEN WORD

**Oral Fixation: The Writing on the Wall.** The program of true short stories as told by the authors. Wylie Theatre, 2400 Flora St. March 16. Texas Theatre, 231 Jefferson Blvd. March 25. 8 p.m. OralFixationShow.com.

## TUESDAY 03.17

#### FILM

**The Quiet Man.** It's St. Patrick's Day, so what better choice for classic movie-watching than Oscar-winner John Ford's paean to the Emerald Isle, a romantic comedy-drama starring John Wayne (really good!) and Maureen O'Hara. Screens as part of the Tuesday New Classic series at Landmark's Magnolia in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Sponsored by Dallas Voice. Screens at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY 03.18

#### THEATER

**The Testament of Mary.** The recent Broadway solo show about the life of Jesus' mother while living in solitude in Ephesus seeks to humanize the figure revered in Christian iconography. A regional premiere presented by Undermain Theatre, 3200 Main St. March 18–April 11 (in previews through March 20). Undermain.org.

this week's solution

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 browse

For a more complete Community Calendar online, visit [Tinyurl.com/dvevents](http://Tinyurl.com/dvevents).

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# Billy Masters

Farewell Dirk Shafer, Kelly Osbourne

Life has a funny way of putting things into perspective. Last weekend I was down in South Florida attending the Winter Party, an annual fundraiser for the LGBTQ Task Force. While going through my extensive wardrobe, I was bemoaning the fact that I did not lose the 10 pounds I gained while recuperating from surgery (and which had *nothing* to do with indulging in my holiday addiction of peppermint bark). In the midst of my pity party, I got a call telling me that my friend **Dirk Shafer** had passed away. Talk about a reality check! Dirk — the Playgirl model who looked better in and out of clothes than most people who have ever walked the planet — was dead. I suppose I'm a terrible gossip columnist; my first thought was not to share a scoop with my readers, but to mourn a friend. The next day, a sanitized account of his passing hit the web. While there's more to the story, that's ultimately unimportant. He was a man who had success in his field, was blessed with beauty inside and out and yet he faced the same issues, insecurities and demons we all do. Rest in peace.

For those of you not keeping track (or who simply don't care) it's been widely reported that **Kelly Osbourne** quit *Fashion Police* because **Giuliana Rancic** said that **Zendaya's** dreadlocks looked like they smelled of patchouli oil and weed. First, the "joke" — Giuliana didn't come up with it, it was scripted for her by the writers. Did anyone think to ask what the hell Zendaya was doing at the Oscars anyway? But that's beside the point.

I can tell you (exclusively) that Kelly only returned to *Fashion Police* this season at all because she was contractually obligated to. I hear that when **Kathy Griffin** got the gig as primary host, she wanted a clean slate and new people. E! was obliged to use Kelly and Giuliana, but both knew that they weren't really welcome. Adding insult to injury, the raise Kelly was promised didn't happen, allegedly due to the money E! was spending on Kathy. Osbourne let it be known that she was thinking of quitting, and E! let her know that she was more than welcome to — but she couldn't do any other television for the length of her contract. It was all very ugly. The one person who stood up for Kelly was **Melissa Rivers**. As executive producer, Missy fought for Kelly to stay, primarily because **Joan Rivers** looked on Kelly as a protégé. She cajoled Kelly into making the best of it ... for a while. But from the beginning, the chemistry wasn't there, on camera or off. Even worse, the ratings have been down roughly 25 percent from last year. So this whole Zendaya thing is all just a convenient excuse for Kelly to leave.

Like the rest of gay America, one of my guilty pleasures is *Empire*. While people are comparing this show with nighttime soaps of yesteryear like *Dynasty*, it's clearly more Shakespearean, borrowing more than just a bit from *King Lear*, with hints of *The Merchant of Venice* thrown in. While everyone in the cast pulls their weight, the delicious **Taraji P. Henson**, pictured, gets the lion's share of attention, and with good reason. She's simply sublime.

But according to **Mo'Nique**, she was offered the part of Cookie first — though that claim has been disputed. "[Lee] Daniels offered me the part of Cookie, and I have the e-mails and the sides to go along with it." She claims to have been waiting for information on where the screen test was sup-



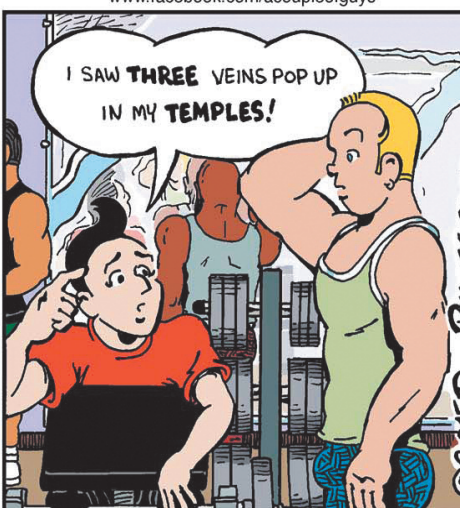
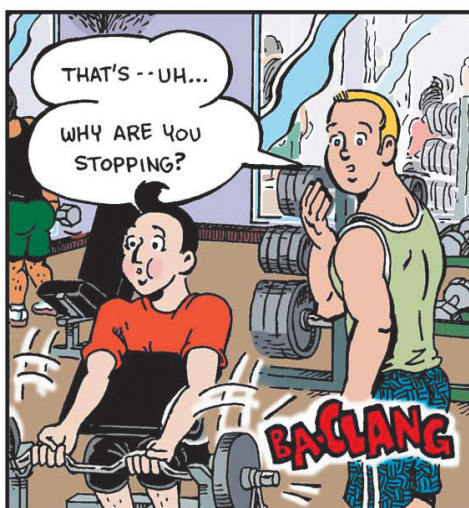
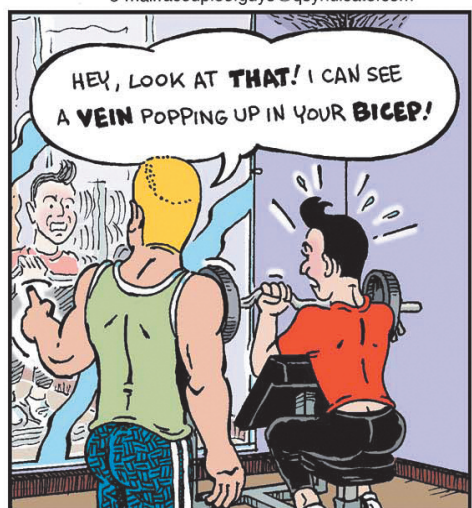
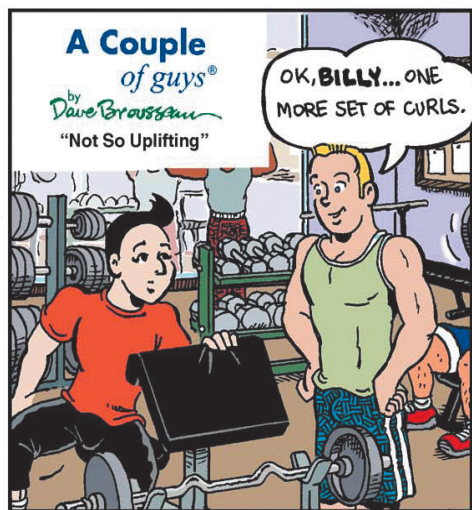
posed to be, but no details were forthcoming. However, the executive producer and co-creator of the show tweeted, "Monique is so talented she'd be great in almost anything. But Cookie was always @TheRealTaraji." I'm sure it was simply one big misunderstanding. Maybe someone simply offered Mo'Nique a cookie!

I had reservations when HBO's *Looking* started. While I still think it's somewhat plodding and cringe-worthy, the cast has kept me engaged, and that includes sexy **Russell Tovey**. But in a recent interview, the openly gay actor earned some ire after making the following comment: "I feel like I could have been really effeminate, if I hadn't gone to the school I went to. Where I felt like I had to toughen up. If I'd have been able to relax, prance around, sing in the street, I might be a different person now. I thank my dad for that, for not allowing me to go down that path. Because it's probably given me the unique quality that people think I have." The interviewer prefaces Russell's quote with this observation: "Tovey thinks carefully about what he's going to say next. If I had to guess, watching him fidget, I'd say he's weighing up whether to be honest at the risk of causing offence, or whether to divert and say something bland. He chooses to risk offence."

And offend he did. His depiction of gay stereotypes has not gone down well with some, including a few notable gays. **Christopher Rice** wrote: "Dear Effeminate Gay Men. Don't listen to Russell Tovey. I love you ... sometimes too long and too hard but nobody's perfect." **Dan Savage** wrote, "I've always been into tap-dancing freaks who sing in the street and prance when they feel like prancing." Tovey himself took to Twitter to apologize: "I surrender. You got me. I'm sat baffled and saddened that a misfired inarticulate quote of mine has branded me worst gay ever. If you feel I have personally let you down, I'm sorry, that was never my intention. I'm proud to be who I am and proud for others. We're in this together. I want you to know whatever you think I meant, I didn't. I'm gonna ride this out, and one day we will all look back on this moment with a half smile of fascination and amusement. Until that day, I'm gonna carry on being me."

If you have a question for me, send it along and I promise to get back to you before Dominique Devereux turns up on a very special episode of *Empire*. Until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

Have a question for Billy? Send an email to him at [Billy@BillyMasters.com](mailto:Billy@BillyMasters.com).







Keith and Mark at the Round-Up Saloon.



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**Best Friends Club:** *Oklahoma Drag King Show* at 9 p.m. on Friday. *Imperial Court* candidate show at 7 p.m. on Saturday.  
**BJ's NXSI:** Celebrate *St. Patrick's Trashy Tuesday*.  
**Brick/Joe's:** *Karaoke Megastar Monday* hosted by *Eric Way* at 9 p.m. on Monday with cash and prizes at 10:30 p.m.  
**Club Reflection:** *Cowtown Leathermen* cookout at 4 p.m. on Sunday. *Texas Gay Rodeo Association King of the Rodeo* candidate show at 7 p.m. on Sunday. *Wall of Food Show* at 8 p.m. on Thursday.  
**Dallas Eagle:** *National Leather Association* club night on Saturday. *Texas Bear Round Up after party* at 9 p.m. on Sunday.  
**Hidden Door:** *Church at the Door* all day Sunday. *DJ Rob* on the patio all day.  
**JR.'s Bar & Grill:** *Extra Innings* from 3-6 p.m. on Sunday.  
**Liquid Zoo:** *Texas holdem poker* at 7 p.m. on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday.  
**Mable Peabody's:** *Double Dee karaoke* from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. on Friday.  
**Rainbow Lounge:** *Trashy Tuesdays* show at 11 p.m.  
**Round-Up Saloon:** *Bear Happy Hour* hosted by *Jason and Johnny* from *Scruff* from 6-9 p.m. on Friday.  
**S4:** *Big D Bear Dance* on Friday.  
**Sue Ellen's:** *Kickback* on Friday. *Mi Diva Loca* on Saturday. *Kathy and Bella* at 3 p.m. and *Jessica Grai Trio* at 6 p.m. on Sunday.  
**The Rose Room:** *Nexus* at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday. ■

To view more Scene photos, go to [DallasVoice.com/category/photos](http://DallasVoice.com/category/photos). Scene Photographer: *Kat Haygood*.





Ida Mae Watergate at BJ's NXS!



Cast member of 'Kinky Boots' at The Rose Room.



Cast members of 'Kinky Boots' at The Rose Room.



Jackson and Scott at the Hidden Door.



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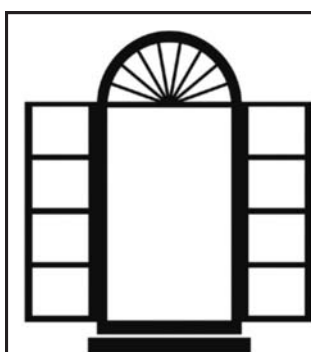
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- St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
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- LAMBDA GROUP  
6:30 PM, Friday; 1 hour  
OAK LAWN CoDA GROUP  
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Meeting Type: Open, Sharing,  
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Rise, May 9th @ Sisu Uptown  
Purple Party May 9th @  
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Revival, May 10th @ Fair Park  
Glow May 10th @ Sue Ellens

Visit [PurpleFoundation.org](http://PurpleFoundation.org)

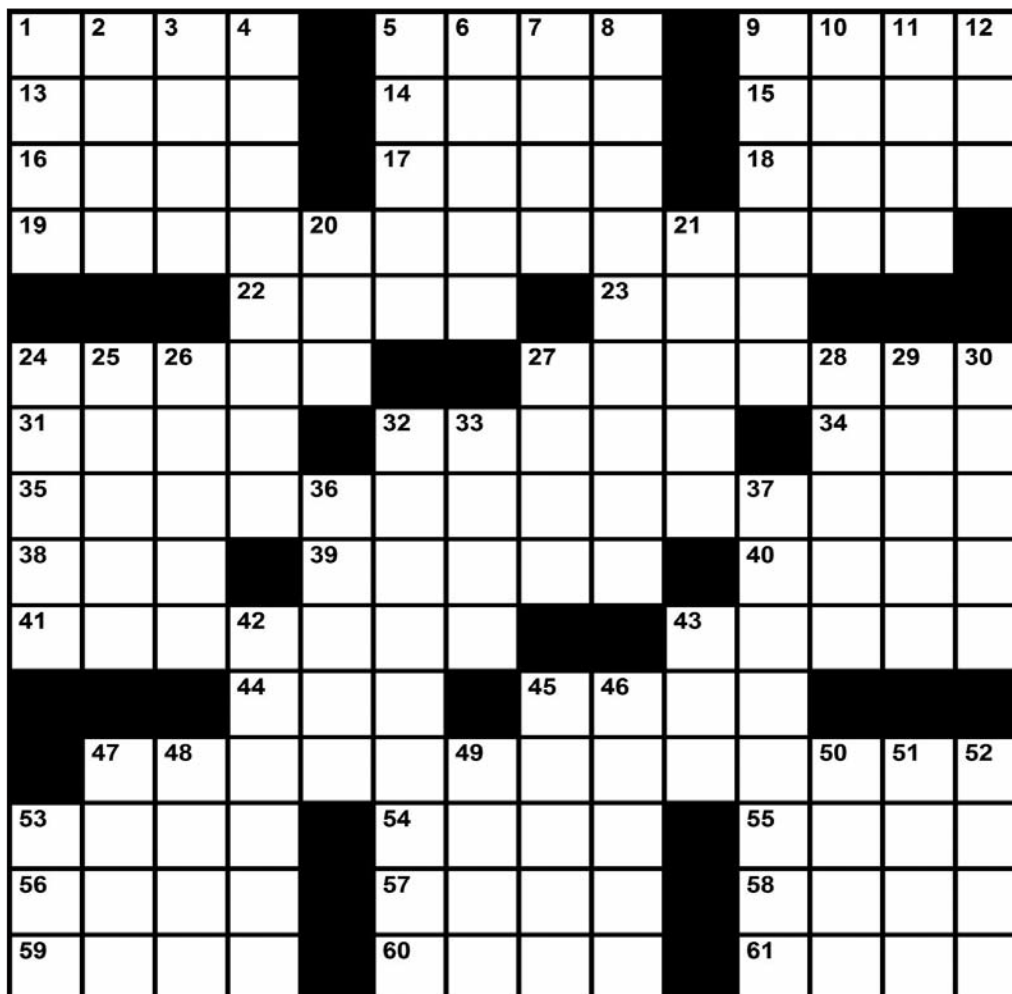
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## q-puzzle



## The Gospel of Jon

Solution on page 29

### Across

- Erotic opening
- Ids' counterparts
- 160 square rods
- It pokes you in prison
- Kind of IRA
- Tune type
- Actress Skye
- "No" voter
- Vidal's \_\_\_ from *Golgotha*
- Start of an ironic comment by  
Jon Stewart
- De Matteo of *Desperate Housewives*
- State rep.
- Macbeth's taunt to Macduff
- "Now I'm pissed!"
- "It's showtime!"
- Time spent with Frida
- Park of NYC
- End of the comment
- Improve wine or cheese
- Bill T. Jones' partner Zane
- "Why should \_\_\_ you?"
- Statues with big packages
- Sharon of *Queer as Folk*
- Feel sorrow about
- Shakespeare's Puck, et al.

- Argument that gay marriage  
will lead to other problems
- Fruit flavor for gin
- Blades of grass, collectively
- "Suuure!"
- Draw some interest
- Bangkok continent
- "See you later"
- Boob, to a Brit
- Itches
- Broadway composer Jerome

### Down

- "Be that \_\_\_ may..."
- Ejaculation of concern
- Part of Daly's fork?
- Like a flaming Queen routine
- Tape over
- "I'm \_\_\_ wash that man right  
outta my hair"
- Guy that goes either way?
- Like a tidy first mate
- Not straight
- In vogue
- Go from one gay bar to another, e.g.
- Mama of Mary's little lamb
- It may follow directions

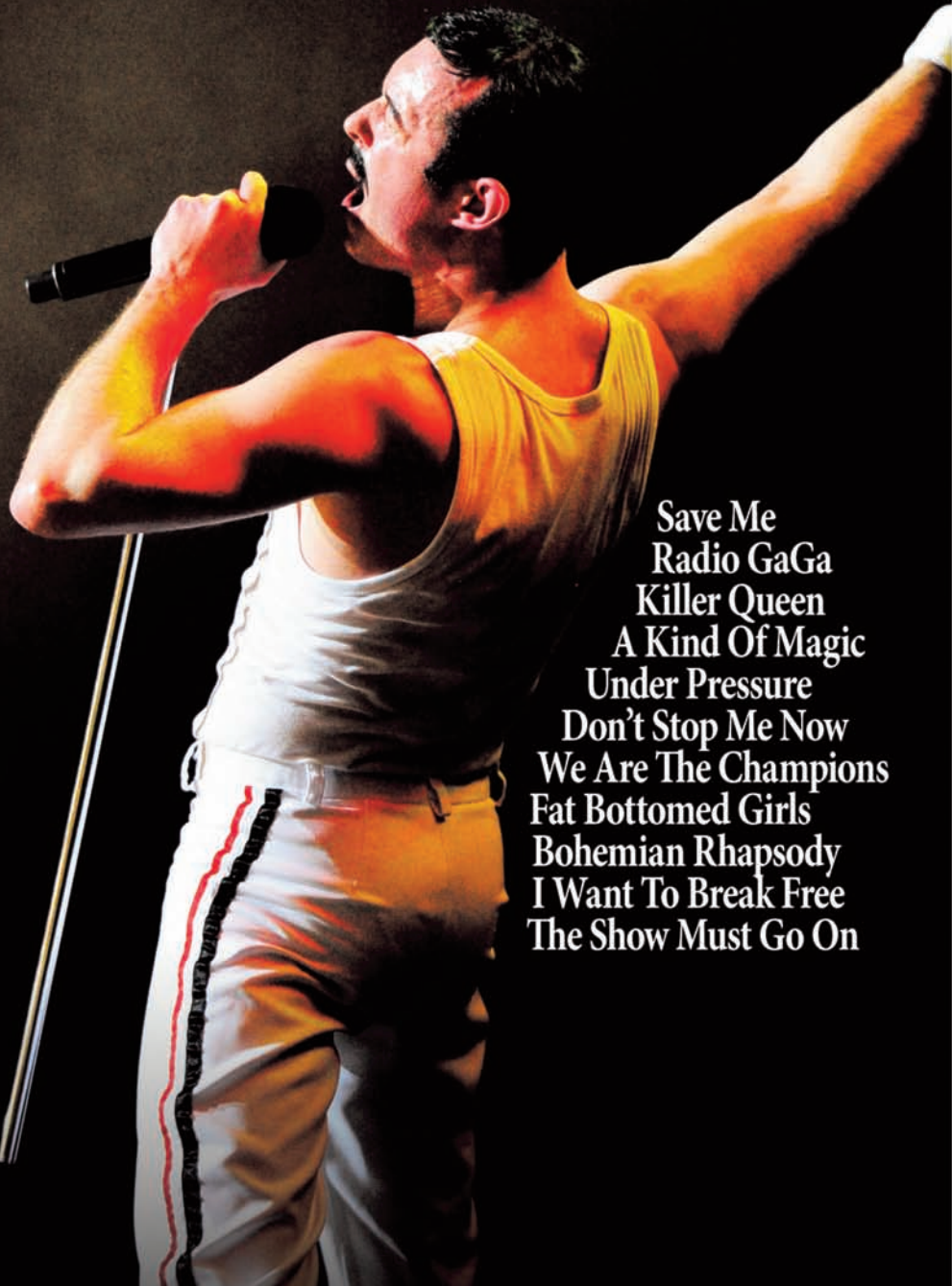
- Rover's restraint
- One of Whitman's  
dooryard bloomers
- Lorca's friend
- Rural stereotype
- Star Trek* counselor Deanna
- Liberace's choice of fur
- High-tuition schools
- You really suck if you use these
- Shenanigans with stallions?
- One-time Atlanta arena
- Invites to one's penthouse
- Lubricant leak?
- Set straight
- Navigation aid (abbr.)
- Novelist Shaw
- Birds with gifted tongues
- Side dish with fish
- Petty of *A League of Their Own*
- "\_\_\_ On Down the Road"
- Nathan Lane's award for  
*Love! Valour! Compassion!*
- Fruit shaped like a lute
- Alfred Douglas' school
- Group of games, for Mauresmo



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