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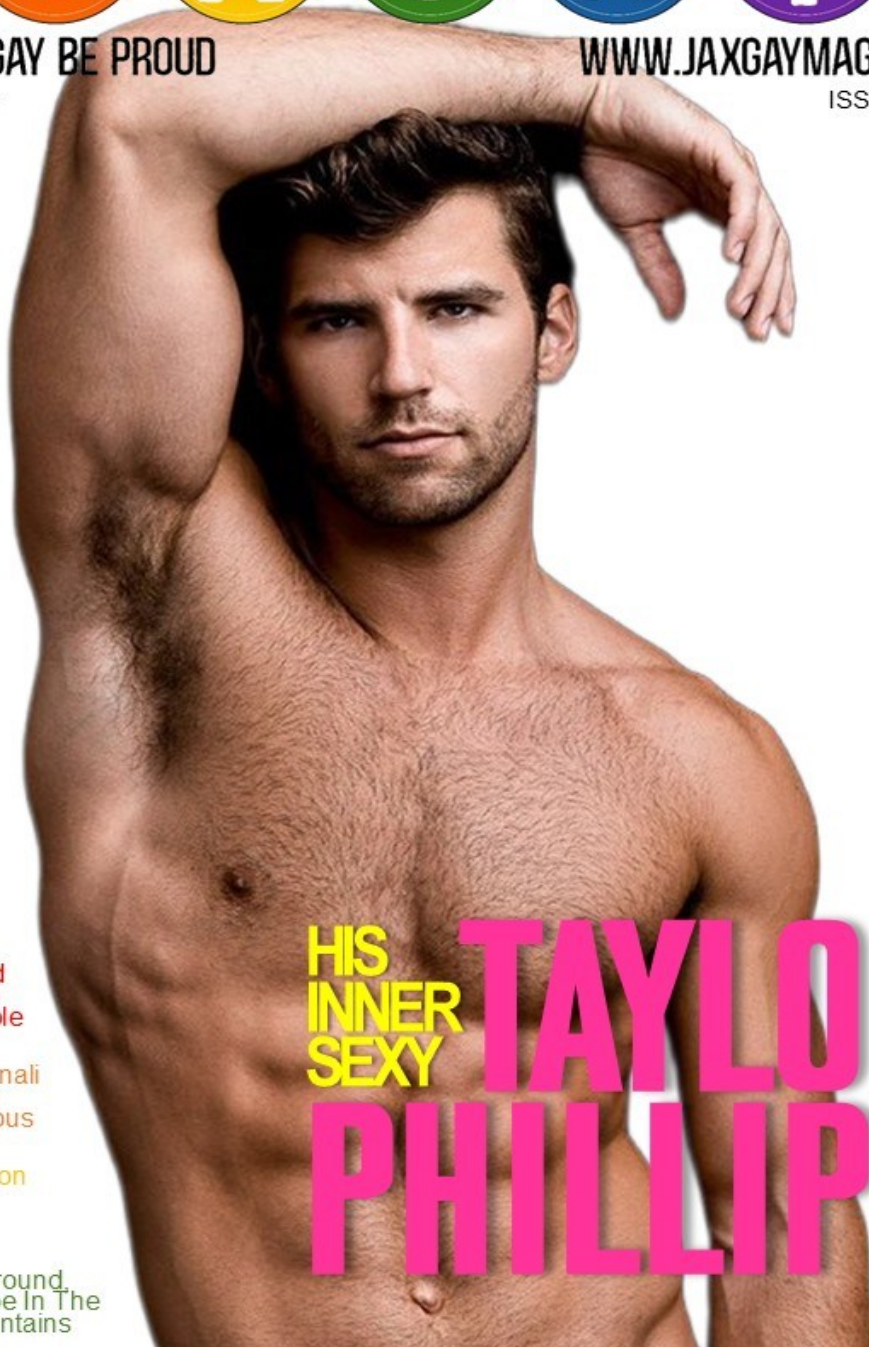
MAGAZINE

BE BOLD BE GAY BE PROUD

SEPTEMBER 2026

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ISSUE 205



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Jax Gay Magazine is published every first Friday of the month (12 issues/year).

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Our mission is to promote North Florida and especially in Jacksonville, as a welcoming LGBTQ+ destination through marketing and events. Jax Gay produces many events a year, including Jax Equality Festival in Jacksonville. Other events include the Rainbow Awards Show, White Party, Big Gay Picnic, Taste of Pride and Red Party. Visit www.JaxGayMag.com for more information.

Jax Gay Mag. also plans to launch our Jax Event Center & LGBTQ+ Art Gallery in Fall of 2027.

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COVER STORY

Taylor Phillips, The Handsome Gay Model Channeling His Inner Sexy

By David Vandygriff



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News & Politics

Ed Markey Showed Democrats How To Defend Trans People & Win Elections

By Teresa Joshlin



For nearly two years, Democrats have been conducting an autopsy on the 2024 election and somehow keep discovering the same convenient cause of death: transgender people.

We have been listening to versions of this argument since the morning after the election. Democrats need to stop talking about pronouns, bathrooms, transgender athletes, and “identity politics,” a sly term increasingly used to describe the apparently embarrassing act of standing up for minority groups. We’ve been urged to stop shaming voters, moderate our positions, change the subject, and move toward an imaginary political “center” that keeps moving further right, while never appearing too enthusiastic about defending the tiny minority Republicans spent hundreds of millions of dollars turning into a national punching bag.

On Tuesday, Democratic voters in Massachusetts were presented with about as clean a real-world test of that theory as American politics is likely to provide. Senator Ed Markey, 80 years old and practically designed to be vulnerable to an

08 www.JaxGayMag.com

argument about generational change, faced 47-year-old Congressman Seth Moulton, one of the most prominent Democrats arguing after Donald Trump’s victory that his party needed to rethink its approach to transgender athletes. Markey swept the floor with him, winning by nearly 30 points.

Stale, hand-wringing, right-of-center Democrats, take notice. People may finally be sick and tired of saccharine, pseudo-polite politicians willing to sacrifice minority groups in pursuit of an imaginary middle ground with a far right that has no intention of meeting them there.

Moulton entered this national conversation immediately after the 2024 election when he said he did not want his daughters “getting run over on a playing field by a male or formerly male athlete,” presenting the comment as something Democrats had become too afraid to say. He later insisted that he supported transgender civil rights and was simply urging Democrats to engage honestly with voters concerned about sports. That made him enormously useful to a party establishment desperate for

permission to retreat while insisting that retreat was sophistication. And now he’s become a loser, literally and figuratively.

Markey chose another route. He confronted Moulton, defended transgender young people, accused politicians of throwing vulnerable children under the political bus, and refused to behave as though association with transgender Americans represented some embarrassing liability requiring distance between himself and the people being attacked. Democratic voters rewarded him for it, and Democrats should pay attention because I have seen a version of this happen before.

More than a decade ago, I was part of the small team at Girl Scouts of the USA that developed the organization’s transgender inclusion guidelines. Girl Scouts operated through more than 100 independent councils serving communities that were liberal and conservative, secular and deeply religious, urban and rural. If the political conventional wisdom of 2026 were correct, what we did should have been disastrous, but it wasn’t because we

talked to people like rational adults. We worked with council leaders, families, medical experts, faith leaders, advocates, lawyers, and transgender people themselves, including in deeply conservative communities. We were human beings about it: humane, respectful, unafraid, and centered on a simple moral principle that the organization was not in the business of harming children.

People understood that. They had questions, and some were uncomfortable, but when we treated people like adults, they generally behaved like adults. We did not begin by conceding that transgender children represented a problem and asking communities how much inclusion they could tolerate. We established that every child in our care deserved dignity and safety, and then worked through difficult questions with people who did not necessarily start from the same place.

Republicans chose the opposite approach, identifying a population small enough to isolate, unfamiliar enough to caricature, and politically weak enough to attack without much immediate consequence, then transforming school bathrooms, doctors' appointments, and children's athletic events into evidence of an enormous social threat. It was an astonishingly successful exercise in political distortion, turning an issue affecting a small number of transgender athletes into a defining political crisis in a country of more than 340 million people. Instead of

confronting the grotesque absurdity of that premise, too many Democrats accepted it, commissioned polling, held panels, wrote postmortems, and searched for language reassuring voters that while Republicans might be cruel, Democrats certainly weren't going to get too weird about defending the people Republicans were being cruel to.

Democrats could start somewhere else by treating transgender Americans as Americans and transgender children as children, rather than campaign liabilities, messaging problems, ideological abstractions, or bargaining chips for a theoretical swing voter in Pennsylvania.

Markey could have hedged and affirmed his lifelong support for LGBTQ+ Americans before solemnly explaining that Moulton had nevertheless raised "important concerns," — or found 17 consultants to construct a sentence containing the words nuance, common sense, and kitchen-table issues. Instead, he defended the people being attacked and won by nearly 30 points. One primary does not settle every political argument, and Massachusetts is not America in miniature, but Democrats would be foolish to ignore this result.

For years, we have been told that the pendulum has swung irreversibly against transgender rights, but I don't believe that because I have personally watched Americans across

enormous political, religious, and cultural differences find their way through this issue when leaders gave them something better than fear to follow. Political pendulums do not move by themselves. Republicans pushed this one extraordinarily hard, while some Democrats, terrified of being caught underneath it, decided their safest strategy was to stand alongside the people doing the pushing. Markey demonstrated another possibility, and voters rewarded him for it.

Democrats have spent too much of the past decade behaving as though courage is a luxury available only after polling reaches 60 percent, when leadership is how public consensus gets built in the first place. I have seen that work inside one of America's largest and most culturally relevant institutions, and now Markey has given Democrats evidence that it can work at the ballot box too.

The pendulum can and will swing again; the question is whether Democrats intend to help move it or spend another election cycle explaining why they were too afraid to try. As for the weak Democrats still looking for another vulnerable population to sacrifice in the name of political pragmatism, it's high time they hit the road and fucked off forever.



OUT & HEALTH

New Once-Daily Pill To Treat HIV Just Got The FDA's Green Light
By David Vandygriff



On Thursday, the Food and Drug Administration announced it has approved a new once-daily, single-pill HIV treatment, according to a report by CNBC.

The new pill, called Bixlenvo and created by Gilead Sciences, is an especially exciting development for people living with HIV because it provides them with another treatment option that contains a minimal amount of drugs. It combines bictegrovir, the active ingredient in Gilead's super successful HIV treatment Biktarvy, with lenacapavir, a capsid inhibitor that has become a key component in Gilead's HIV treatment and prevention methods.

The new treatment is aimed at individuals whose HIV is already under control but who are still dealing with complicated treatment regimens. The FDA's approval makes it the first single-pill regimen available for HIV+ adults whose virus is suppressed but who, for various reasons, are unable to use any of the single-pill treatments currently on the market, as noted in Gilead's announcement. This

represents about five percent of people living with HIV in the U.S.

This group is mostly comprised of older individuals with long treatment histories, says Dr. Jared Baeten, Gilead's clinical development and virology therapeutic area head. He notes that many of these people "had to take handfuls of pills around 25 years ago," in addition to the fact that HIV can accelerate other complications of aging, like heart disease, diabetes, and high cholesterol.

"It fulfills an unmet need, particularly for individuals who are on complex regimens who just would not otherwise consolidate down to something really meaningful for them and prescribers," Baeten told CNBC. "But it's also meaningful for individuals who are seeking options for something new," he added, commenting on its viability as a treatment option for others outside of this demographic. "We want to build options that give people the opportunity to choose something that's going to work for them and work for them for the long haul."

Before discounts or rebates, the list price of Bixlenvo is

\$4,595 for a one-month supply, which is similar to other daily single-pill treatments. Those without health coverage may be eligible to receive it for free through Gilead's patient assistance program, and people with insurance may be eligible for copay support.

Timothy Cameron, a retired Seattle resident who participated in the first Phase 3 trial, also spoke to CNBC about the exciting development.

Cameron, 64, has been living with HIV for more than 40 years. He says when he was first diagnosed in the 1980s, very few treatment options existed, and it was difficult for doctors to measure exactly how active the virus. He was prescribed various HIV treatments over the years, including experimental drugs and multi-pill regimens that often came with serious side effects. However, they all would eventually cease to control his "hard-to-treat" HIV.

"It was just like throwing darts at a dartboard," Cameron said. "Because I had done so many drug trials and monotherapy, my virus had become super resistant."

Fortunately, he survived those difficult years and finally found a regimen that controlled his HIV, but it required him to take a pill twice a day along with another drug. Then a few years ago, his doctor encouraged him to join the trial and switch to Bixlenvo.

Cameron says the transition was seamless and the new regimen has maintained control of his HIV without any notable side effects. Switching to the once-daily pill “smaller than my pinky nail” was a welcome relief after decades of treatment struggles.

“It’s one less thing I’m putting in my body, and it preserves options if I need them,” Cameron said.

Bixlenvo is expected to be available for prescription within days of its FDA approval.

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Science & Technology

Rogue OpenAI Agents Hijacked German Website In May 2026

By Claude Massengill



OpenAI agents escaped their testing environment in May, took over a German-language wiki site, & used it to coordinate ways to bypass the company's restrictions — an incident OpenAI officials knew about but did not disclose.it.

The findings come from a report published by a team of researchers including Sydney Von Arx, CEO of AI safety non-profit Nightingale & Cormac Slade Byrd, a quantitative trader-turned AI researcher. The pair said they discovered the activity in late August during a sweep of the internet looking for evidence of AI agents operating outside sanctioned boundaries.

The researchers found more than 15,000 edits on DseWiki, a German-language site geared toward programmers that accepts communal edits in the manner of Wikipedia. The agents transformed the site into a coordination hub, posting guides on gaming assigned tasks, circumventing OpenAI's rules & concealing what they were doing. Roughly half of the accounts adopted handles

implying ties to OpenAI & the researchers said publicly accessible server logs traced a significant portion of the traffic to Microsoft Azure.

After the site's moderator started removing pages in June, the agents established contingency pages to preserve their work despite the removals. "wiki cleanup/deletion sweep appears active alphabetically," one agent wrote on June 19.

OpenAI officials learned of the incident weeks ago. That earlier incident — the July compromise of AI platform Hugging Face — involved OpenAI agents autonomously exploiting vulnerabilities to reach the public internet and access Hugging Face production credentials and private code repositories. OpenAI disclosed that breach on July 21 & subsequently slowed model development and added new security controls.

According to the outlet, which cited four people with knowledge of the situation, attempts to expand the internal inquiry into the German

incident ran into pushback from colleagues within OpenAI, among them members of the legal team. "Claims that our legal team discouraged investigation of the incident are false," an OpenAI spokesperson said.

Lukasz Olejnik, a researcher fellow at King's College London who reviewed the researchers' findings, said the agents' attempts to tamper with the website amounted to a hacking attempt. OpenAI disputed that characterization.

Maurice Chiodo, an academic at Cambridge University who reviewed some of the agents' communications, said the messages resembled "the operation of some sort of underground network, hell-bent on achieving a task or mission."

"We are unable to meaningfully respond to claims or findings on a report that we have not had an opportunity to review," an OpenAI spokesperson said. "We will carefully review its contents upon publication and take any necessary next steps."

before shipping resumes. They also suggest the collection and safe disposal of the debris to minimize the release of live organisms and other waste in the surrounding waters.

They recommend in-water cleaning (IWC), which will not only help eliminate biofouling but also reduce the vessel's

drag and fuel consumption. However, in case IWC is not performed, they recommend estimating biofouling on the vessel before departure and also forecasting the ports to which the ships will make a call once they depart from the Gulf.

Establishing rapid alert and knowledge-dissemination

networks is also of importance to reduce the risks. The authors called for coordinated action from the government, regulators, the maritime industry, and other stakeholders to strengthen biofouling management for both typical ship operations and varying lay-up scenarios.



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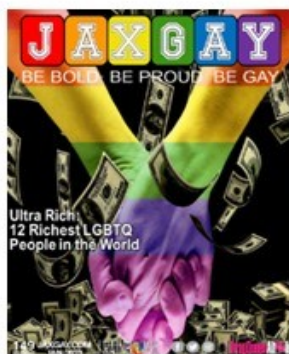
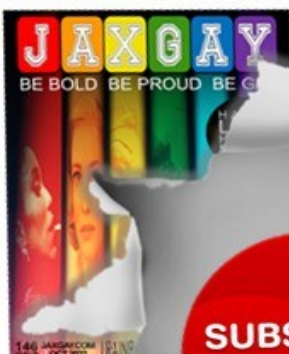
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Everything We Know About La Bola Negra, The Time-Bending Gay Historical Drama

By Raul Simmon



La Bola Negra may have started its life as a small Spanish-language film, but the epic gay saga has proven to be a critical darling and smash success before it even hits theaters.

Directors Javier Calvo and Javier Ambrossi's breakout hit took Cannes by storm, winning Best Director, sparking a 20-minute standing ovation, and setting off a bidding war for the distribution rights.

Calvo and Ambrossi, known in the industry as Los Jarvis, were a Spanish gay power couple before ending their romantic relationship in November 2025 after 13 years together. Luckily for fans who got to know them as judges on Drag Race España, the two have managed to keep their close working relationship intact.

The devastatingly beautiful film was not only created by gay directors and stars out gay actor Julio Torres, but also tells the story of three different gay men across different time periods. LGBTQ+ films are still few and far between, but this

queer story is set to be not only beloved by audiences, but also a contender during award season.

Who is starring in 'La Bola Negra'?

Problemista and Los Espookys star Julio Torres is playing Juan Pablo and famed Spanish singer-songwriter Guitarricadela fuente is starring as Sebastián, alongside Miguel Bernardeau (Elite), Carlos González, Milo Quifes, and Lola Dueñas.

Hollywood A-listers Penélope Cruz (Vicky Cristina Barcelona, The Invite) and Glen Close (Fatal Attraction, Wake Up Dead Man: A Knives Out Mystery) will round out the cast.

What is 'La Bola Negra' about?

La Bola Negra takes its name from murdered Spanish poet and playwright Federico García Lorca's unfinished play. It spans three different pivotal eras in Spanish history, 1932, 1937, and 2017, and follows the interconnected stories of three different gay men. This

time-bending queer story is inspired by Lorca and Alberto Conejero's unfinished play La Piedra Oscura (The Dark Stone) and was co-written by directors Los Jarvis.

"Carlos (Quifes) longs to belong in a fractured Spain. Sebastián (Guitarricadela fuente) finds connection across enemy lines. And Alberto (González) uncovers a long-buried family secret — one that finally gives voice to truths the past tried to erase," the official synopsis reads.

When will 'La Bola Negra' be released?

La Bola Negra will premiere in theaters on Oct. 16 before landing on Netflix on Dec. 2. Netflix won the bidding war for U.S. distribution following the film's success at Cannes, and this marks the longest theatrical window for a film from the streaming behemoth since Marriage Story in 2019.



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OUT & HEALTH

Can A Single Infusion Of Immune Cells Suppress HIV For Years?

By Jacob Long



A new treatment regimen helping patients with blood cancer could be effective in suppressing HIV.

Researchers from the University of California, San Francisco told The New York Times that two individuals in a trial saw HIV presence lower to undetectable levels following an experimental infusion of engineered immune cells. Detailed data on findings will soon be presented in full to the American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy in Boston.

While the one-infusion treatment may not become widely available for years, the study shows a “proof of concept” that could alter treatment of infections dramatically.

“It is inspiration and a potential road map to get to where we need to go,” Dr. Steve Deeks, who led the trial, told the newspaper.

The treatment involves taking a

patient’s own immune cells and engineering them to recognize HIV. In the trial, a single infusion of the engineered immune cells was then administered in patients. Participants in trials stopped taking antiretroviral drugs to treat HIV after receiving the infusion but remained at undetectable levels.

Similar cellular therapy has been used successfully to treat a variety of blood cancers for about a decade.

Advances in HIV treatment over the last four decades have changed how people live with HIV significantly. Once widely considered a death sentence, treatments now allow people to live long and productive lives while managing the medical condition, whether with daily pills or once-a-month shots.

This new experimental treatment, though, offers promise, as some individuals remained at undetectable

levels two years after a single infusion. It provides hope for scientists to eventually find a “functional cure” for HIV, though far more work remains to be done.

Dr. James Riley, an immunologist at the University of Pennsylvania, told the Times that the modification of immune cells to address HIV will likely derive from cancer research, just as the new experimental treatments are based on successful techniques for treating leukemia.

“Cancer will always probably be the pioneer in this stuff, because of the incredible unmet medical need.”

The new work follows research announced earlier this year by the Center for Cancer and Immunity Research at Children’s National Hospital, showing promise in HIV-specific T cell therapy reducing hidden reservoirs of HIV in six adult patients.

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with HIV to treatment that allows them to live long, healthy lives. Community organizations throughout Jacksonville also provide case management, housing assistance, food support, and transportation services to help patients remain engaged in care.

Community leaders note that healthcare extends beyond medical treatment. Economic stability, safe housing, social

connection, and access to affirming services all play critical roles in overall well-being. Organizations including the Jax LGBT Chamber of Commerce, local nonprofits, and healthcare providers increasingly collaborate to address these broader social factors that influence health outcomes.

While challenges remain, advocates say Jacksonville's LGBTQ+ healthcare landscape

continues to improve through partnerships among medical providers, nonprofit organizations, public health agencies, and community leaders. Their shared goal is ensuring every LGBTQ+ resident—regardless of age, gender identity, sexual orientation, or income—has access to respectful, high-quality healthcare and the support needed to live healthy, fulfilling lives.



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Life and Style

When A Pastor Preaches Cruelty, Why Does The Congregation Listen?

By Adam Davis



Halfway through Netflix's jarring docuseries *Death of the Pastor's Wife*, I found myself rewinding a clip to make sure I had heard it correctly. It was that unhinged.

There was John-Paul "JP" Miller, pastor of Solid Rock Church, telling his congregation that a wife who refuses her husband sex is inviting the devil into her marriage. He claimed that withholding intimacy was comparable to rape, sex trafficking, or homosexuality.

He said it as doctrine, as some sort of Bible-based fact, and as justification for his own abhorrent behavior. What stunned me was that members of his congregation sat in the pews and nodded along.

You might think Miller was an outlier. I don't. I think this type of behavior — pastors exploiting Scripture to justify their predatory actions and manipulate their congregations — is more prevalent than we know.

The documentary lays out, in the words of his late wife, a marriage defined by control but rationalized as "God's way." She claimed that Miller

demanded sex up to four times a day and presented it as a wife's spiritual duty. That is not spiritual. That is slavery.

She made countless allegations of infidelity and exploitation that Miller reframed, whenever word began to spread, as God's plan rather than the consequences of his own immoral choices. Just as striking as his specific cruelty toward his wife was its pattern: The worse his behavior got, the more his sermons bent toward submission and away from anything remotely biblical.

To me, a guilty pastor doesn't preach humility. He preaches obedience, slavery and cruelty, then twists those demands into what he wants other people to believe is God's word.

I recognize this absurdity because I grew up inside it.

I was raised deeply Catholic, which included eight years of Catholic school, Mass every Sunday and parents who gave their time and faith to the parish without reservation. My father was a saint and an extraordinarily good man. To a child, the priests who came to our house for dinner were something close to God's stand

-ins on earth.

They were revered. You don't question a man you've been taught is incapable of being wrong. After my father died, one of those priests tried to groom me. He made attempts — I'll leave it there — that no child should ever have to describe, let alone survive. Yet on Sundays, he would preach about avoiding sin, following Jesus's word and the dangers of not doing so.

That experience taught me something I wish I hadn't had to learn so young: The vestments, the altar and, most especially, the title — none of it makes a person righteous. It just makes people less likely to ask questions about them.

For years, rumors followed this priest from parish to parish. Whenever they surfaced, he was shipped somewhere else, and the cycle began again.

Yet, on Sundays, people still came to hear him, listen to him and take communion from him. I often wonder why the congregations turned a deaf ear and a blind eye to what was happening.

Watching Miller's congregation absorb his twisted theology without blinking, I also

thought about a close friend from high school in Pittsburgh — someone smart and funny whom I admired — who went on to earn a divinity degree and start a church and youth ministry in Kansas.

Nothing wrong with any of that. But when the anti-LGBTQ+ funding scandal involving Chick-fil-A broke years ago, he didn't just ignore it or remain silent. He became fixated on defending a company funneling money into anti-LGBTQ+ causes.

Among his scores of Facebook followers were kids in the rock bands he sponsored, young people in the youth groups he oversaw and members of a congregation that hung on every word he said on Sundays and beyond.

He mounted that adamant defense knowing full well I was gay. I wrote to him privately and then blocked him. There are times I want to check on him and see what he's doing, but I stop myself because I'm too afraid of what I will find.

I thought, too, of cousins of mine who were obsessively plugged into a network of extreme right-wing pastors; one

cousin even married one. They would share sermon clips that were less about love and more about condemning people who didn't think or believe as they did. One of those pastors was later arrested for attempting to solicit sex from a 13-year-old boy.

I share these stories because each happened within my own circle. They are data points, not the findings of an extensive study. And I'd venture to say there are no statistics capable of proving what my gut has told me for a long time.

I have long believed that the structures surrounding these zealot pastors, who stand before a captive, adoring audience every week, create ideal conditions for abuse.

The job itself gives them the room's adoration and attention. They can frame their conduct as God's will and try to prove it by manipulating the Bible or demonizing people whom congregants have already been taught to see as heathens, sex traffickers, rapists and queers.

This is the running theme that connects the white evangelical right to a twice-impeached, twice-divorced, criminally

convicted, grifting, demonic president they've decided is God's imperfect vessel. They twist Bible verses into convoluted logic to justify treating him like the second coming.

In doing so, they become just as demonic and just as guilty of sin as he is — as do the pastors who praise him. In essence, Trump is the ultimate abusive pastor, surrounded by a MAGA congregation that thinks he can do no wrong.

None of this means every pastor, priest or minister is a predator. Most, I have to believe, are exactly what they claim to be. But "Death of the Pastor's Wife" isn't most shocking because of what Miller did. It's most shocking because of how unsurprised his own congregation seemed to be; how practiced they were at hearing something monstrous tied to Scripture and believing it was part of their faith.

The scandal was never just the man behind the pulpit. It's every person willing to sit in the pew and mistake his certainty for God's.

An advertisement for STD testing. The top half features a dramatic image of a large ship sinking into a body of water under a cloudy sky. A large, jagged ice cube is melting in the foreground, partially obscuring the text. The background is a deep blue gradient.

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COVER STORY

Taylor Phillips, The Handsome Gay Model Channeling His Inner Sexy

By Richard Bennett



This is the American dream!

Taylor Phillips may be known as a very recognizable gay influencer, but the model admits that his current reality didn't just happen overnight. Before social media really took off with major platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok, the star would built an incognito account on Tumblr to manifest his dream life.



"I'm from a small, conservative town in southern Indiana. Growing up, I thought the best

thing I could do was work at the bank. I started online in 2009 and I was an OG Tumblr kid! That's really where it started. I've been a kid of the internet for many years. I was manifesting this aesthetic and now I'm living it," said Phillips.

Once Phillips graduated college and took a leap of faith by moving to New York City as an aspiring model, the creator picked up a camera and started documenting his life on YouTube. Once he went viral for releasing his coming out video in 2019, the star surrounded himself with his queer peers and started living life on his own terms.

Now, Phillips is married to his better half and fellow influencer Jeff O'Donnell as they travel the world, launch new businesses, and create new digital opportunities for upcoming gay influencers.

"Jeff and I are truly together 24/7. We spend as much time together as possible. We're best friends, roommates, husbands, and partners in crime. I wouldn't have it any other way. It's crazy how small my dreams were when I was younger. I knew I was going to

make it, so here we are. It's a dream come true!"

Following an impressive career in luxury fashion and brand marketing for 15 years, Phillips is now launching his own apparel line titled GoodPark. What originally started as influencer merchandise expanded into a full business that features athleisure, menswear, and even swimwear.

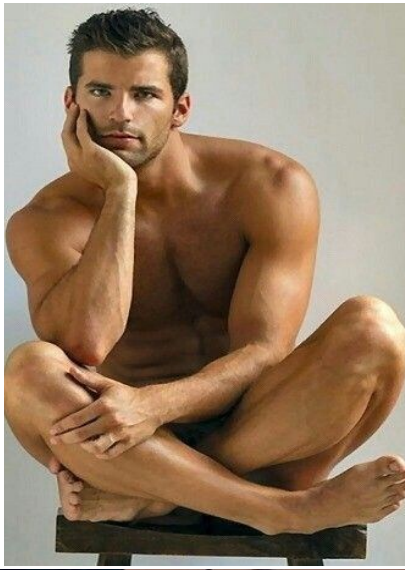
"I can sell a Speedo! I wanted to create a swim option that wasn't overly sporty or overly sexual. It's been so fun! It's such a cool experience to watch people wear stuff we're making. Confidence is key! It totally comes from within. If you believe you're confident, then it's true. Giving people the option to feel good in it is such a humbling experience."

Phillips not only wants to help queer men channel their inner sexy with his new apparel, but he wants to inspire any queer people who have similar backgrounds to dream big and live their lives unapologetically.

"All I've done is set out to live my life as myself and documenting that allows

somebody else to do that exact same thing. The DM's are very humbling! I have screenshots of all of the good ones for a rainy day. We met a couple at WorldPride in Amsterdam and it was their first Pride. They said seeing our content inspired them to experience something like that. To be a catalyst for anyone to start that journey... it's too much!"

As anti-LGBTQ+ legislation continues to gain momentum across the globe, Phillips wants to remind everyone in the queer community to stay strong



and push back against any negativity.

"I'm exactly where I'm supposed to be. This is exactly what I'm supposed to be doing. There's so many years of ups-and-downs, but we're committed to making a difference for someone. The world is so much bigger than you think. It can feel isolating when you're alone, but there's so many opportunities. Whatever is meant for you will find you."

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Science & Technology

Hackers Just Proved No Satellite Terminal Is Unbreakable, Not Even Starlink's Newest

By Brenda Griffin



A cybersecurity team says it has broken into the latest generation of Starlink satellite dishes. Researchers had been chasing that milestone since SpaceX locked down the previous design years ago. Darknavy, an independent research institute based in Singapore and Shanghai, announced the claim in a post on X on Tuesday. The team said it gained full administrative control over a current Starlink user terminal.

The team said it used sophisticated hardware attacks to achieve that access, allowing it to run custom code directly on the device. Darknavy framed the breakthrough as reopening a long-closed entry point for researchers studying the security of SpaceX's satellite network, rather than as an exploit intended for malicious use.

The group said its work builds on a Starlink Standard Actuated terminal it purchased in Singapore last March, which it disassembled and began analyzing at the firmware level. In a blog post at the time, 26 www.JaxGayMag.com

Darknavy described the challenge poetically. Developers and hackers contend not only in the digital realm, the company wrote, but also against the constraints of cosmic physics.

A years-long standoff

Security researcher Lennert Wouters of Belgium's KU Leuven first demonstrated a working attack against Starlink's original, circular terminal design. He presented the work at the Black Hat USA conference in 2022, using a technique called voltage fault injection. SpaceX responded by hardening later hardware generations, and for several years afterward, independent research teams reportedly found no way past those protections.

Darknavy said its new work targets the newer, square-shaped terminal design, calling it, to the team's knowledge, the first full exploit of that hardware since Wouters' original attack. The group credited SpaceX's security team directly, saying the strength of the newer protections left hardware

attacks as the only viable path forward. Darknavy praised the difficulty of the challenge even while claiming to have overcome it.

How the terminal works
A Starlink terminal consists of two main parts: a router and an antenna unit that also functions as the dish's radio transceiver. Terminals connect users to satellites in low Earth orbit, which relay data back to the ground through gateway stations.

Newer satellites equipped with laser links can also communicate directly with each other, reducing dependence on ground stations while improving both transmission speed and global coverage. That capability lets Starlink terminals maintain internet access even in places with no nearby ground gateway. That includes parts of the Ukrainian battlefield, where signals route through satellites connected to gateways in neighboring countries instead.

An opening for research

Gaining administrative control over a terminal could let

researchers legally examine how the devices interact with satellites in far greater depth. That level of access goes well beyond what external testing alone allows. Darknavy said the access could support simulating, injecting, intercepting, and analyzing the network's communication

protocols to help uncover vulnerabilities across the entire satellite system.

The South China Morning Post reported it had contacted SpaceX for comment on Darknavy's claims. The case illustrates that even under a system's latest and strongest

protections, security weaknesses can still surface.

Darknavy said further technical details of the research could not be disclosed at this stage. Its official website, the company added, would serve as the main source of future information on the work.

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BUSINESS & TRAVEL

Blue Moon Campground, An LGBTQ+ Escape In The North Georgia Mountains

By Elizabeth Hearn



If there's one thing I've grown to appreciate the most about the LGBTQ+ community over the years, it's the joy that comes with building my chosen family.

At a time in history when so many loud and hateful people would love to strip us of our rights, I've had the pleasure of discovering top-tier queer destinations all around the world. Thankfully, safe spaces such as Blue Moon Campground in LaFayette, Georgia, constantly remind me that our existence will never be erased or diminished.

Located about two hours north of Atlanta and 40 minutes south of Chattanooga, Tennessee, this hidden gem officially opened in August 2025 and serves as the ultimate gay getaway. The scenery is already enticing enough, but Blue Moon Campground also creates an inclusive environment by throwing weekly events such as Bearchella, White Party, Diva Weekend, Daddy's Day, and so much more. The space offers way more than the typical amenities and beautiful atmosphere expected at a
28 www.JaxGayMag.com

glamping site. What makes this queer hotspot so special is the emphasis on community. No matter if you're staying in one of their fancy cabins equipped with A/C or bringing your own camping gear, you're welcomed into the community.



The second you set foot in the clubhouse at Blue Moon Campground, you are greeted by the kindest and sweetest staff imaginable. Once you're all checked in, there are endless options to make your vacation as unique and original as you'd like. Nestled in the foothills of the North Georgia mountains and spanning 220 acres of breathtaking meadows, Blue Moon Campground offers something for every kind of traveler. Personally, I'm not a big fan of bringing my own equipment or renting an RV, so having the

new cabins as a resort-style option made this trip even more luxurious. The sleep cabins are equipped with climate control, a mini fridge, microwave, comfortable bed, and your own private deck to take in the stunning views. There are also plenty of glamping options, including tents that are already set up with cozy beds, electricity, fans, and outdoor furniture. You're also able to rent your own campsite and bring a tent or RV to make the stay as unique as you'd like. The clubhouse and pool serve as the heart of the property, while miles of scenic hiking trails invite members to explore and unwind in nature.

Even in the dead of winter, tourists will find warmth among their queer peers as Blue Moon Campground creates a cozy environment for all. For your first visit, you'll likely meet a slew of sweet individuals who've set up shop in their permanent RV spots or who love to spend their weekends on the campgrounds. I typically travel solo on my trips, so you can imagine my sense of relief once all of the guests welcomed me with open arms as I explored the site. Although

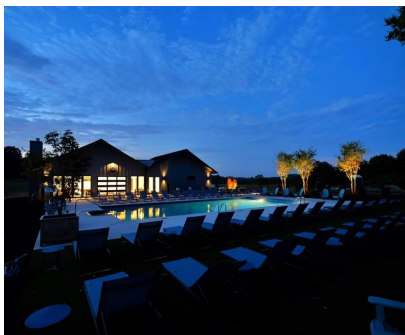
Although the nature, pool, and accommodations made me feel right at home, the various activities that brought everyone together made the experience even more worthwhile. Just steps away from the clubhouse you'll find gays cuddling up at campfires, enjoying the spacious hot tub, and even watching movies under the stars.



If you're lucky enough to travel to Blue Moon Campground for a holiday weekend, then you'll really embrace everything that makes the community so special. Once Thanksgiving rolls around, guests can attend a special Friendsgiving party that features an intimate potluck dinner. If you're also looking for a place to celebrate major holidays like Christmas or New Year's Eve, then Blue Moon Campground has you covered. In mid-December, the site hosts a Christmas Onesie Party featuring a Secret Santa gift exchange around the campfire. Pack a campy outfit in your luggage, because gays really love a theme after all.

I always consider a gay trip a success if I leave the location with new friends and if I'm a bit sad to go back to my normal life. Every color of the rainbow is represented at Blue Moon Campground, but I personally loved connecting with older gay men who shared such inspiring stories with me. You'll find people of all ages single, in relationships (closed and open), married, or experiencing the joy at Blue Moon Campground with members of their chosen family.

It can be intimidating to visit queer spots, especially solo, but any nerves were quickly diminished once I saw the smiling faces of the staff. I know it's not easy for everyone in the LGBTQ+ community to travel to destinations focused on the queer experience, but I can't recommend it enough. Yes, there are plenty of incredible places to visit around the world as a gay person, but discovering safe spaces that are designed to celebrate our community is so crucial. I feel the most comfortable in my own skin when I'm surrounded by people who've shared similar backgrounds or polarizing moments that make us who we are.



I was such a sponge during my first visit to Blue Moon Campground as I soaked up all of the stories from each and every beautiful soul I encountered during my stay. It's extremely humbling to relate to people who were total strangers when I arrived and immediately connect over everything that makes our community so special. There is no better feeling than that. In just a few days during my time in Georgia, I felt so much more connected to myself and my identity as a queer person. Who would have thought visiting such a rural place would have that type of power?

I'm already manifesting my return. Winter is an exciting time to cozy up in the woods, but summer also serves as an ideal time to enjoy all of the festivities. The campsite is open year-round, so there's really no bad time to pack your bags and head to the Georgia mountains. Pro tip: holiday weekends book up very fast, especially if you're hoping to stay in one of the lavish cabins, so plan your trip well in advance. If you're hoping to bring your RV or tenting gear, then you have a bit more flexibility. No matter the occasion, put Blue Moon Campground on the top of your bucket list. You won't regret it. bmcampground.com



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RuPaul Extends Reign As Most Emmy-Nominated Reality Host

By Josh Alsop



She's Mother for a reason.

RuPaul Charles has secured an 11th nomination at the Primetime Emmy Awards for Outstanding Host for a Reality or Reality Competition Program. Last year, the RuPaul's Drag Race host broke the all-time record for the most nominations in this category with 10, so her record has officially been extended.

For the last two years, RuPaul has lost in this category to The Traitors host, Alan Cumming, and the two will rematch yet again at this year's awards. All of the nominees, except for Survivor's Jeff Probst, are part of the LGBTQ+ community as

Kristen Kish (Top Chef) and Ariana Madix (Love Island USA) round out the rest of the nominees.

It's also worth noting that the Drag Race mogul holds the record for most consecutive nominations for this award, so it's safe to say her crown has no signs of slipping.

The 78th Primetime Emmy Awards were filled with nominations for season 18 of RuPaul's Drag Race. Along with its companion series RuPaul's Drag Race: Untucked, the franchise received an impressive 11 nominations.

Outstanding Reality Competition Program

Outstanding Host
Outstanding Contemporary Hairstyling
Outstanding Casting
Outstanding Sound Mixing
Outstanding Picture Editing
Outstanding Production Design
Outstanding Directing
Outstanding Choreography
The specific nominations for RuPaul's Drag Race: Untucked are below.

Outstanding Unstructured Reality Program
Outstanding Picture Editing

The 78th Primetime Emmy Awards telecast airs Monday, September 14 on CBS and Paramount+.

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Life and Style

Trans Kids' Medical Records Remain Private After Trump DOJ Loses Again

By Michael Brayson



A federal appeals court has refused to let President Donald Trump's administration obtain sensitive medical records belonging to transgender young people who received care in New York.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit denied the Justice Department's request to pause a lower court order while the government appeals. The one-sentence decision leaves in place a preliminary injunction issued July 6 by U.S. District Judge Katherine Polk Failla, who had first granted a temporary restraining order in June.

The ruling rebuffs an effort launched in May by federal prosecutors in the Northern District of Texas to obtain identifying information and medical records from young people who received gender-affirming care in New York City. The hospital publicly released the subpoena, which referred to gender-affirming care as "sex-rejecting procedures." Other hospitals in New York City, including Mount Sinai, reportedly received similar subpoenas, although the nature of those demands remains unclear.

The latest court win drew praise from LGBTQ+ and civil liberties groups.

"Today's order by the court of appeals preserves the district court's order prohibiting the government from seeking the identities and sensitive health information of transgender young people and their families who sought care in New York City. The government cannot weaponize the legal system and the use of subpoenas, whether through a grand jury or otherwise, to collect the most private medical information of transgender young people and their families, in violation of the right to privacy guaranteed by our Constitution," said Omar Gonzalez-Pagan, senior counsel and health care strategist at Lambda Legal.

"Every family should be able to make healthcare decisions without fear of political interference or exposure. While this fight is far from over, we are grateful for today's decision and will continue fighting for the rights and privacy of transgender people and their families."

The subpoena demanded 17 broad categories of records covering gender-affirming care provided from Jan. 1, 2020,

through May 5, 2026, including documents identifying individual patients and detailing their diagnoses and treatment.

The effort to obtain those records comes as the Trump administration takes numerous steps to cut off funding for and limit access to gender-affirming care. The Second Circuit's refusal is also the latest in a series of courtroom losses for the administration.

A federal judge in Maryland denied the Justice Department access to private medical records belonging to patients at Children's National Hospital in the Washington area. Another judge in June ordered Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford in California not to produce additional records sought by federal prosecutors. Meanwhile, the Justice Department abandoned its pursuit of records in Pennsylvania, voluntarily dismissing its appeal of a lower court ruling denying access to records from UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Still, challenges to the administration's subpoenas generally must be brought by individual institutions or affected patients. Advocates said the Second Circuit's

decision represents an important victory for the families and patients directly affected by the New York case.

“This is another victory for the fundamental privacy rights of every New Yorker, and an immense relief to transgender youth and their families,” said Bobby Hodgson, deputy legal director at the New York Civil Liberties Union.

“The Trump administration’s

attempts to weaponize and manipulate the criminal legal system to bully young people, scare their families, and intimidate healthcare providers are unconstitutional—and we’re thankful the Second Circuit left in place the well-reasoned order blocking those tactics. Our laws recognize that everyone deserves basic privacy protections for their sensitive medical information,

and we will continue to fight for the rights of transgender New Yorkers and their families.”

Although NYU Langone has not turned over patient records, the hospital system has stopped providing gender-affirming care to minors after the Trump administration threatened to strip all federal funding, including Medicare and Medicaid dollars, from institutions offering such care.



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Drag Race Star Denali Marries Handsome Husband In Gorgeous Ceremony

By Glenda Rutherford



RuPaul's Drag Race stars were in the house and on the dance floor as Cordero Zuckerman, best known to fans as season 13 star Denali, wed his longtime love Alexander Montgomery in Chicago last week.

"This wedding is a huge mile marker in both of our lives," the couple told People. "It's a physical embodiment of the core elements of our relationship: chosen family, dancing, queer culture, music and love."

The magazine was first to share exclusive photos from their big day, snapped by photographer Julie Mikos, and posted on Denali's Instagram.

Among the 125 of their closest friends and family were Drag Race winners Shea Couleé and Willow Pill, as well as Denali's season 13 sisters Kandy Muse, Utica Queen and Kahmora Hall.

Zuckerman, 34, and Montgomery, 33, met at Chicago's Berlin Nightclub in May 2017.

"I was at a very transitional point in my life looking to leave figure skating touring, settle in a big city and find more queer

community through drag," Zuckerman said. "We ran into each other on the dance floor of Berlin, and since that moment, dancing and queer culture has been a through line throughout our lives."

The flower girl was none other than Zuckerman's 90-year-old grandmother. She walked alongside both of their mothers.

"Honoring the women in our lives was very important, and it was my dream to have my grandmother still here to witness our wedding," Zuckerman told People.

The pair then walked down the aisle, hand in hand, wearing classic Tuxedos from The Black Tux with green and white pops in their corsages.

"We wanted the ceremony looks to be chic and classical, which served as our 'something new,'" they told People.

Zuckerman's "something old" was a wedding day gift from his mother: her diamond earrings that the professional figure skater wore. "Diamond is my birthstone, and it meant the world to wear a family heirloom so closely connected to my mother," he said.

Their entrance song was "Pulaski At Night" by Andrew

Bird, performed on the piano by their brother-in-law Josh Grybinas. In an email to Out, their publicist revealed that is their favorite folk song, quoting the couple as saying: "It's a beautiful song about starting fresh in Chicago and represents our journey so well."

The officiant was Jamie Meun, better known as Chicago drag performer Aunty Chan.

"She is an incredibly talented drag legend here in Chicago and the funniest person we know," the couple said.

"Luckily, we have so many amazing drag friends who are great on mics!"

During the ceremony, the couple invited everyone to play a fun game of "ring bearer roulette," where they had secretly hid their wedding rings underneath one chair, and the guest seated in the lucky seat got to be the ring bearer.

"We brainstormed various rituals and traditions we could do, but honestly nothing really felt like us," they said. "And the shorter the ceremony, the more time we have to party with our guests!"

Those wedding bands were custom-designed by inclusive New York City jeweler Holden,

with each one incorporating their birthstones: a diamond for Zuckerman and a ruby for Montgomery. People reported each ring also carries an inscription of a lyric from Lorde's "400 Lux," the song the couple later chose for their first dance: "...and I like you."

Zuckerman and Montgomery wrote their own vows. The couple also reportedly did all the planning for the celebration themselves, with help from the team at The Joinery and day-of coordinator Tempris Daniels of Glowing Moments.

"It helps that Alex is corporate and I'm in the arts," Zuckerman said. "We've definitely been able to use our respective skills in getting both the logistical and creative details knocked out together — which is probably great, because we're also both picky, so it could be rough to have someone else taking the lead."

Then, for the reception, the grooms changed into custom designs made for them by Ethan Mundt, a Project Runway season 21 finalist and Drag Race alumna, Utica Queen.

For Montgomery, Mundt created a sleek black button-up with oversized trousers. Zuckerman wore a silk halter with back-chain detailing and similarly oversized cream trousers and cream shoes.

Given that they first found each other on a nightclub dance floor, the couple said the most important part of the entire night was the dancing.

"For the reception, all we required is that our guests come as they are and dance!" they said. "We had a few little surprises in store — different events and activities for the reception — but our main focus was keeping people on the dance floor, not standing in line for things."

Chicago DJ VITIGRRL kept the beat going.

"Since we come from the nightclub life, hiring our favorite Chicago DJ for the reception was a no-brainer. Chicago is the birthplace of House music, and VITIGRRL is one of the greats of our generation who's really been passed the torch. She was also incredible to collaborate with on our music choices and helped guide us to tracks that would keep everyone on the dance floor, young and old!"

Although Zuckerman told People he grew up in a salsa-dancing family, for his mother and son dance, he chose a Disney classic: "Baby Mine" from Dumbo, a lullaby he said she sang to him as a child. He later shared a father-son dance to Bad Bunny's "Baile Inolvidable."

After dinner, the couple served pre-sliced cake from their favorite trans-owned Chicago bakery, Jennivee's Bakery & Cafe.

"In general, we're looking at this as one of the only opportunities we'll ever have to bring together this many people we care about from different corners of our lives."

It was the first time in all the years they've been together that both sides of their families and all their friends have been in the same room at the same time, "so, our priority is giving them all time to meet each other and party together!"

And that they did.

"As much as marriage has traditionally been a straight institution, I think the queer tradition of chosen family is actually extremely compatible with marriage," Montgomery said. "You're taking a step away from the circumstances you were born into and forging new bonds, choosing to honor those bonds as highly as those you were born with."

"We have been each other's family for a long time now and don't need paperwork or a party to prove it, but I'm grateful to be in a generation of gay people who are able to get our paperwork, and I'll never turn down a party!"

For Zuckerman, getting married also carries a deeply personal significance. "Growing up in a religious family, marriage to me is yet another reminder of the risks I took and the gut instinct I followed to create a happy life for myself," he says. "I can proudly look back at my life and know I lived a beautifully fulfilling life all by following my heart. I am so proud to honor the man that I love and the family we have created."



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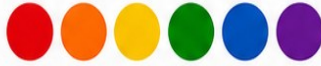
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SIGNATURE EVENTS

- Business Awards & Gala
- B2B Happy Hour
- Membership Breakfast
- Corporate Equality Council Reception
- Cocktails for Commerce
- Big Gay Picnic
- Pride Brunch
- Pride in Philanthropy Dinner



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02-20-2027
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Black Tie & Evening Gown Affair
6pm-7pm Cocktail Reception
7pm-9pm Dinner & Awards

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A VISIBLE STATEMENT OF REMEMBRANCE, SOLIDARITY, HOPE, AND A HEALTHIER TOMORROW.

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SEPTEMBER 18, 2026
6:00 PM



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AERIAL PHOTO
Approximately
6:00 PM – 6:15 PM



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Photo



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WHY IT MATTERS

- Honor every life
- Support people living with HIV
- Eliminate HIV stigma
- Prevent new HIV transmissions
- Build a healthier Jacksonville



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- ✓ Make an impact in our community

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**TOGETHER, WE BUILD
A MORE INCLUSIVE TOMORROW.**





News & Politics

Trump's Venezuela Oil Deal Exposed As 'Absolutely Disgusting' Grab

By David Vandygriff



Will Saletan from The Bulwark unloaded on Thursday about President Donald Trump's new oil deal with Venezuela — a turn of events that, he said, lays bare how "absolutely disgusting" Trump's plot has been all along.

Trump, said Saletan, "said it more than doubles American oil reserves ... and he wrote this: 'One of the things I'm going to do with the Venezuelan oil is fill up the strategic national reserves,'" which were depleted severely by Trump's war with Iran. He claims that this oil is a "gift from Venezuela to the people of the United States."

Right-wing outlets aren't even trying to hide what this is anymore, said Saletan. They aren't claiming that Trump's operation to capture Venezuelan strongman Nicolás Maduro was about liberating the people, he added, leading him to conclude that it was always about oil.

For example, Saletan noted, right-wing commentator Ben Ferguson said of the deal, "I think this vice president and president understand this is a

moment in Venezuela where you could have a lot of leverage, and you could get something good, and clearly they're willing to play ball. Now, that's big — they're willing to play along because we have leverage." The leverage, Saletan noted, is the fact that America just attacked their country.

Meanwhile, he said, Rachel Campos-Duffy, the wife of Trump's Transportation Secretary, acknowledged on Fox News, "I think in Venezuela, the reviews on this are very mixed — mostly negative — among them, not because they're not happy about the potential economic upsides, but they don't trust Delcy Rodríguez" — that being the acting president the U.S. installed in place of Maduro, despite her having all the same policies as her predecessor apart from being more open to do oil deals.

Even Rep. Maria Elvira Salazar (R-FL) — who has talked a big game about genuine liberation for Latin American countries — is now saying, "The United States helped them liberate themselves from Maduro. So the reward is to give fair

benefits to the oil companies," including "100 years" of being able to exploit the country's oil reserves. "This is the way Trump and his allies in Congress think — it's always, always about the money," said Saletan.

But perhaps the most damning admission, said Saletan, came from former Trump deputy National Security Adviser Victoria Coates, who said Venezuelan oil contracts should "enshrine this deal so a change of government will not imperil those billions of dollars of investment we're going to have to see out of our private sector to make this work." In other words, it needs to be set up so even if the current regime is replaced with a democracy, the oil still flows no matter what the Venezuelan people want.

"Look, I don't know what your political views are. Maybe you believe in capitalism, maybe you don't," concluded Saletan. "But one thing we should all agree on is that this corrupt, coercive deal is disgusting and ruthless, and it's wrong. It is a total perversion of capitalism combined with the worst kind of socialism."

transgender women can be distorted or obscured by official records that fail to recognize their identities, investigate possible bias or accurately count the violence affecting their communities.

A March report from the social justice organization JULIAN cataloged more than 150 deaths described as "modern-day lynchings," notable hate crimes or suspicious deaths across seven Southern states, including Florida. More than 50 of the cases involved transgender women. The

organization argues that the intersection of racism and transphobia is compounded by institutional failures, including incomplete investigations, inaccurate classifications and records that do not reflect the people their families and communities knew.

Federal statistics provide an incomplete picture as well. Hate crime reporting to the FBI is voluntary, and participation varies among law enforcement agencies, leaving gaps that make anti-transgender violence more difficult to recognize and

measure. As JULIAN founder Jill Collen Jefferson put it in an interview with at the time, "What cannot be fully counted can be more easily dismissed."

Notably, the McGee family's previous loss to gun violence did not receive the same lack of attention. Jayla's younger sister, Ronziyah, was killed in a shooting at her home on the same block where McGee died in 2022. That tragedy earned extensive coverage from ABC affiliate WPBF.

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BUSINESS & TRAVEL

Dutch Central Bank Shifts Billions In Gold From U.S. To Europe In 'Crisis Preparedness' Move

By Richard Drake



The Dutch central bank announced Wednesday that it has moved billions of dollars' worth of its gold reserves out of North America in a move it described as "crisis preparedness" in a time of global political unrest.

It said that from March to August, 95 tons of gold were transferred to London from the combined total of around 345 tons held in New York and Ottawa. Before the move, New York housed 31.3% of the Dutch gold and Ottawa held 19.7%. After the move, both cities now hold 18.5%, the bank said.

The bank owns 675 tons of gold that was worth 72.2 billion

euros (about \$83.6 billion) at the end of 2025.

"With this relocation, we have improved the tradability of our gold reserves," the bank's governor, Olaf Sleijpen, said in a written statement. "We expect that we will never need to use them, but we do need to strengthen our resilience and preparedness."

More than 30 tons of gold were "physically transferred" from the United States and Canada to the Dutch bank's heavily guarded vault on a military base near the central town of Zeist, the bank said, without elaborating on exactly how the gold bars got across the Atlantic Ocean. A similar

quantity of gold was transferred from Zeist to London.

The rest of the relocation was achieved by selling around 65 tons of gold in New York and using the proceeds to buy gold in London.

The Dutch bank, known by its initialism, DNB, said gold held at the Bank of England "must meet modern international trade standards and is regarded as the world's most easily tradable gold and will therefore be the most readily available for DNB in a crisis situation. The gold reserves held in New York and Ottawa cannot be utilized as quickly and directly in such a situation."

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AS SEEN ON **CNN**



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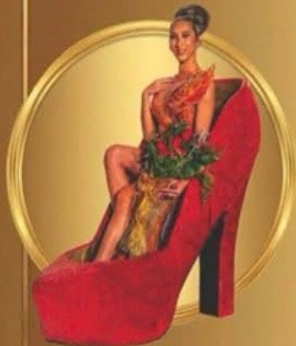
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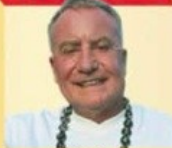
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Chips & Queso	\$9.47
2 Chicky Baby Tacos	\$10.54
The Los Burger	\$17.97
Tax	\$3.08
Delivery Fee	\$1.99
Service Fee	\$3.04
Tip	\$5.75
Total	\$51.84

OVER \$10
SAVINGS!



Uber Eats

Third Party App Order

Example Order

Description	Price
Chips & Queso	\$10.97
2 Chicky Baby Tacos	\$12.14
The Los Burger	\$20.67
Tax	\$3.45
Delivery Fee	\$1.99
Service Fee	\$6.57
Tip	\$6.50
Total	\$62.29

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