

[BEEPING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

KIM SEVIER: Hi and welcome to *TV Montrose*. I'm Kim Sevier.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** And I'm Suzanne Anderson, delighted to have Kim Sevier back. Welcome.

KIM SEVIER: Thank you. And we're with Steve Baker, our producer, who has just had a grueling week moving into his new offices. Hi, Steve.

STEVE BAKER: Hi. How you doing?

KIM SEVIER: How are you?

STEVE BAKER: We missed you last week.

KIM SEVIER: I missed you all. Our family has a new home, and that new home is really cool. It's located at--

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** 239 Westheimer, right behind Suzanne Anderson Properties, so I'll be able to help a little more.

KIM SEVIER: An address she knows by heart. Our family has new cool digs. Tell us about it, Steve.

STEVE BAKER: Yeah, I'm real happy to be here. Being down on Lower Westheimer is just the place for us to be. We'll have our finger on the pulse of what's happening up and down the strip. It's convenient today as the Westheimer Arts Street Festival going on. We're going to walk out our front door in a minute and be there.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** You have done a great job though. I mean, your equipment that you have is absolutely phenomenal.

STEVE BAKER: Well, that's the other thing nice that now that it's out of my house, we now have a home to live in and not a business slash home. Usually, it's like a home office. Ours was an office home. So it's nice to be out of there. And we've got lots of room for expansion in here. And we also have the second floor, which is vacant right now, but we've got it and we expect to expand into that real soon.

Down here, this is our edit bay. Right now, we manage to get everything in here in one room. And we've got some additional equipment coming very soon. It's just been a wonderful space to work out of.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** Well, you've done a great job of decorating in a short period of time. And I'm excited about the street festival, and I'm ready to hit the streets, personally.

KIM SEVIER: Let's take a look. I'm ready to go.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** OK, Kim, this is the before.

KIM SEVIER: OK.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** They're going to come in. They're going to decorate.

KIM SEVIER: They're going to paint over all this?

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** They're going to paint over all that.

KIM SEVIER: See, I think that's cool.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** Yeah, well, the producer doesn't think it's cool. And it's going to look better. You've got to trust him. You know how it looked inside it. It looked beautiful.

KIM SEVIER: That's true.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** The fountain goes over there.

KIM SEVIER: In the corner?

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** Fountain goes in the corner.

KIM SEVIER: And this will all be landscape?

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** This will all be landscape.

KIM SEVIER: Nice.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** Kelly Jean will be underneath the umbrella back here.

KIM SEVIER: My puppy dog.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** And--

KIM SEVIER: Where's my room?

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** Your room's upstairs.

KIM SEVIER: I can rehearse my pieces--

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** You can rehearse all your pieces.

KIM SEVIER: --do my thing.

SUZANNE Yeah.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: OK.

SUZANNE It's going to be great.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: This is going to be beautiful.

SUZANNE Come on.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: I want to go to the festival. I'm ready.

SUZANNE It's time. It's time. Woo! We're ready. Thank you.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: I got my cool Rays.

SUZANNE Thank you.

ANDERSON:

WOMAN: Everybody just come on in and get you a deal. These are handmade in Africa, ma'am. And you look just you did at a safari. All right.

SUZANNE Did you handmake them in Africa?

ANDERSON:

WOMAN: Ma'am, I think one of my cousins' cousins' did. I wasn't there, so I really couldn't say.

SUZANNE Well, these are fire.

ANDERSON:

WOMAN: But we're going to pass this deal on to all our friends at the Westheimer Arts Festival, ma'am.

SUZANNE You are too fire.

ANDERSON:

WOMAN: No pushy saleslady over here.

SUZANNE Michael Angelo's, now this is one of the businesses--

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: I like that.

SUZANNE Michael Angelo's is wonderful.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: It is good.

SUZANNE And they love having the festival here.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: Yeah, they do. OK, we got to get--

SUZANNE Oh, there's my sunglasses. I can't believe you don't like my sunglasses.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: I don't. I think they're horrible. We're going to do something about that. And they have little dresses. Did you see the little dresses?

SUZANNE For your sunglasses.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: Hey, those are cool.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SUZANNE Our first story coming up is about a play that Dan Butler wrote. And he plays Bulldog on *Frasier*.

ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: The play is entitled *The Worst Thing You Could Have Told Me*, and it's now showing-- and actually extended through the end of May-- at The Little Theater Downstairs, which is on Bissonnet. We're going to join Jama Shelton who takes a close look at the play. This is something I want to go check out. I want to go see this. So we're going to have to go, Suzanne.

SUZANNE Stay tuned.

ANDERSON:

ANDREW See, this is what I don't want to get into. It's just going to open up a whole series of questions like-- like, what does it mean, gay? Does it-- does it mean anything that I'm attracted to men? Is it-- is it just sexual, or is it more? Or is it-- is it spiritual, cultural, karmic, some-- some balancing out of a former life? I don't think I had a choice in the matter. Or did I?

When did I know? Maybe-- maybe I always knew. Maybe I was-- I was inside my mom, my face pressed up against the sac going, boys, hmm, girls, pew. Or maybe-- maybe it's environmental. Too-- too doting a mother, too distance a father, too many musicals. I don't know.

JAMA SHELTON: We're here at The Little Room Downstairs theater with Andrew Dawson who is currently performing in *The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me*. Andrew, why don't you tell us just a little bit about the show?

ANDREW All right. The play is a one-man show written by Dan Butler. And Dan Butler, most people know Dan Butler from *Frasier*, the television show. He plays Bulldog, the misogynistic, straight, butch sportscaster on *Frasier's* radio channel. And it was written two or three years ago and premiered in-- had a run in New York and in LA where he performed it.

It's a one-man show. It's about 11 different characters plus some vignettes, which are clearly his voice, kind of autobiographical of Dan Butler and his experience growing up gay and being an openly gay actor in Hollywood, which is rare.

JAMA SHELTON: Yeah.

ANDREW And so he ran-- he did it himself. He did the show himself in New York and LA. And then he left the show, and
DAWSON: Greg Louganis took over for him for a while too.

JAMA SHELTON: Wow.

ANDREW So that's the history of the play. There was a production of it in Dallas in the spring. And we're doing the Houston
DAWSON: premiere here. It's not been done that many places in the state. It's newly released.

I have a solution. Maybe you ought to hand out blueprints of how a gay man should act so I won't continue upsetting your sense of decorum. I am thoroughly insulted, appalled, and very, very, very pissed. And by the way, it's not an act. This is who I am. And I like that. And if you don't, if it bothers you, if you disapprove, then it's your problem, not mine.

JAMA SHELTON: I can't wait to see this show. And I'm sure you guys can't either. So come on down to The Little Room Downstairs theater. You have until the end of May. The show has been extended. We're at 2326 Bissonnet, telephone number 713-523-0791.

SUZANNE Our featured animal of the week is Sesca, who is the producer's dog, which is why he's here.
ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: And the featured animal trainer this week is Suzannska. She's always the animal trainer. We got to work on that. Anyway--

SUZANNE Meanwhile, stay tuned for Fred. He's out on the streets today.
ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: We're going to go see what Fred's up to. Hopefully, his animal is more tame than Suzanne's.

FRED Well, we're on the rooftop of Mary's with Tina Turner. She is really getting down on it. We've just made it down to
WALTERS, JR.: Mary's. We passed by a lot of wonderful music, a lot of interesting clothes, jewelry, lots of great things to see. If this is the place to people watch, this is the place to be. Well, we're going to watch Tina do her thing, and we're back down on the street.

[MUSIC - VILLAGE PEOPLE, "Y.M.C.A."]

A little bit more practice.

KIM SEVIER: Suzanne, it looks like Fred is having a good time out there.

SUZANNE Fred knows how to work the crowd. I mean, there's no two ways about it. And Sesca is having a wonderful time
ANDERSON: and really not very entertaining. Now somehow, we got Sesca to just sit here and do what she's supposed to do unlike the rest of us.

KIM SEVIER: Maybe she can do this through the commercial break. Stay with us. We'll be right back.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SPEAKER 1: Come out of the dark. Open your eyes. Open the Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages. Advertisers in the Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages want to do business with you. You'll find the phone number and address of every service, product, or group you need. Share the pride. Shop with our gay-friendly merchants. Use their professional services. Support them, they support you. Pick up a copy of the Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages at locations near you.

SPEAKER 2: The Texas Triangle is a free weekly newspaper reaching over 60,000 readers every week. Available every Thursday throughout Houston, Austin, San Antonio, and Dallas, and 20 other Texas cities, the Triangle offers the best in news features and entertainment. A six-time award winner, it's the only gay newspaper to receive an outstanding journalism award from the National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association. The Houston Press writes, "For gay and lesbian news, by far the best is the Texas Triangle." So pick up the Triangle every week. Quality makes a difference.

SPEAKER 3: Celebrating 15 years, it's Houston's premiere alternative dance club. RICH's has the hottest music hits, the largest dance floor, four huge bars, and the wildest theme parties. RICH's is a place to be for fun and action, the only New York style dance club for the gay and lesbian scene. RICH's is where the real world ends and your imagination begins. Be a part of the fun at RICH's this week. RICH's, where you can always be yourself.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

BETTY DEGENERES: Hello, my name is Betty DeGeneres. And my kid is the greatest. You know her. She's Ellen, and she's gay. For too long, gay Americans have suffered discrimination. As long as our sons and daughters are excluded from the basic protection of law, we must share that burden as a family. So let's not waste one child and let them all reach for the stars.

SPEAKER 4: Some of them will be three times more likely to commit suicide than their friends. There's also a greater chance that someday, some of them will be assaulted, beaten, threatened, harassed or even murdered just because they may be lesbian or gay. But look at them, they deserve it, don't they? A message brought to you by the parents, families, and friends of lesbians and gays.

KIM SEVIER: Welcome back and thanks for staying with us.

SUZANNE ANDERSON: Well, we have Sesca looking good, we thought we'd tape. Fred's coming up, and he's back on the streets, doing some more interviews. Stay tuned.

KIM SEVIER: Let's see what he's up to.

[DRUMS]

FRED WALTERS, JR.: So, how do you like the festival? [HISSING] Really? Hmm. Oh!

MAN: [INAUDIBLE]

FRED That is so cute.

WALTERS, JR.:

SUZANNE ANDERSON: We're going to talk to you this week about the merchandising campaign that helps fund the Pride Week.

KIM SEVIER: We actually are going to do a series of stories called *Countdown to Pride*. And we are going to start with the merchandising campaign. We're going to take a look at all the different kinds of things that are for sale. And I think I'm going to score a t-shirt this year.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

DOMINICK: Hi, this is Dominick with *TV Montrose*. I'm here this evening with Fred Reninger who is marketing coordinator for the Pride Committee. Fred, this year, there are many new items available. I'd like to, if possible, for you to explain a few of them to me and how they came about.

FRED RENINGER: Yeah, I'd be glad to. The main new thing that we're doing is really having a lot of new merchandise. We're streamlining a bit and really trying to get more merchandise that is the Pride Committee's merchandise and not have so much merchandise that might be available at other places. One reason I want to do that is a lot of the businesses in the community support us by selling our merchandise. And I try to support them in turn by not competing with them head-to-head, selling the same stickers.

We have available the t-shirts. And all of these come in both black and white. We have t-shirts with this year's slogan-- slogo-- and logo. We also have tank tops. These also come in black and white. And we're both wearing the sleeveless tees. Another new item for this year are our baseball caps. They're really cool, and there really aren't a whole lot left. We ordered 12 dozen, and we're down to the last few dozens, so you better get them quick.

We have-- this is a new something that we found this year. These are out-stick lip balms. They come in the big banana, peppermint, and tangy tangerine. And we have graffiti. They're little pride bumper stickers that you can have on your sneakers. But these also can be remove. They go on anything, any sort of fabric, backpacks, computer cases.

DOMINICK: OK, those are some great products. And like you said, be sure to take advantage of the hats. What's the pricing structure for the t-shirts and so on?

FRED RENINGER: OK we have-- t-shirts are \$15 apiece. Tank tops and sleeveless tees are \$12. And the caps are also \$12. But we do have a variety of other merchandise, so we have prices that start at \$2. Lip balm is \$2. We have some pins that are \$2 and \$3. And the commemorative pins are \$5. And all the money that's raised helps pay for the pride events. The Pride Guide is something that we do every year. It gets bigger and bigger every year. This is our biggest Pride Guide to date. We're really proud of the fact that there's over 60 events that are registered in the Pride Guide.

DOMINICK: Fred, what local area merchants are participating in the pride merchandise?

FRED
RENINGER: We have a good variety, and I'll try to make sure I don't leave anyone out. We have Walgreens, which we'll be hearing them soon. Lobo Cafe, Basic Brothers, Crossroads Market, Leather By Boots, Black Hawk Leather, and then I'm all over town. You'll see me in lots of different bars, clubs, meetings. Or also if anyone needs, especially if they're trying to buy t-shirts for a group, they can always reach me.

DOMINICK: Well, Fred, I would like to personally thank you for taking time out of your very busy, hectic schedule to share the new merchandise and pricing and pride events with us. And any closing comments that you have to tell the Montrose community?

FRED
RENINGER: Well, just get your merchandise. There's lots of places that you can get it. We'll also give you the number where you can get in touch with me if you need more merchandise. Last year, we didn't have a booth on Pride Day because we had sold so much, over just a handful of shirts left. I hope we have a little bit more, but my goal is to sell the last shirt to the last person that wants one, and it's the size that they want. But don't put off getting your pride merchandise because you might lose out.

DOMINICK: OK. And everybody remember, that's unified, diversified, and electrified. Signing off for *Montrose TV*, this is Dominick.

KIM SEVIER: Suzanne is going to dance with Sesca now. I have no part of this, no part at all.

SUZANNE
ANDERSON: Lost my dancing partner.

KIM SEVIER: Stay tuned for the community calendar. We'll give you a look at what's going on in Montrose.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

We've met lots of great people out here today. Now let's go to Fred and see who Fred's met.

FRED
WALTERS, JR.: So you're selling tattoos today, temporary tattoos, as a fundraiser, right?

MAN: Yes, a fundraiser for temporary tattoos. We did it last fall, had a really good success. So we decided to do it again this spring.

FRED
WALTERS, JR.: Well, I'm about to get my first tattoo. Ow.

MAN: Does it hurt?

FRED
WALTERS, JR.: It hurts.

MAN: I'll hold it here for about 30 seconds.

FRED
WALTERS, JR.: It's almost there.

MAN: Oh, it's losing a leg.

FRED Oh, no, my panda lost a leg.

WALTERS, JR.:

MAN: There he goes. It's all complete.

FRED OK, he's got his legs, see?

WALTERS, JR.:

KIM SEVIER: Let's take a look at some footage from last year's Pride Parade, which is the first nighttime parade they ever had.
Let's go take a look.

SUZANNE And baby, it worked.
ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: Did it?

SUZANNE It worked.
ANDERSON:

KIM SEVIER: Cool.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[CROWD CHEERING]

[MUSIC - VILLAGE PEOPLE, "Y.M.C.A."]

ANNOUNCER: Let's go, Houston! Let's get ready to rumble!

[CROWD CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

SUZANNE Our next story begins a new series with JC Michelak as the host. He's going to talk to us about local and national
ANDERSON: celebrities and nationally known people.

KIM SEVIER: The first celebrity he'll interview is Devon Cass, who's come out with a new book called *Double Take*.

DEVON CASS: (SINGING) You know that is free as the love you have. Where does it end? It's too much for me to take. There's no
peace, you close your eyes. I'm all out of truth, I'm outta alibis. Where does it end? It's too much for me to take.
We're gonna love one another 'til morning comes, seek the sweet salvation for what we've done. Give up
resisting one by one. One by one. He gives a new kinda meaning to what I am. I know that I could never love any
other man. One of these days you'll understand.

JC MICHELAK: Hi. We're sitting here at the love it in, the beautiful love it in here in Montrose. It's a beautiful day outside, and we're sitting here with Devon Cass, the author of *Double Take, The Art of the Celebrity Makeover*. Devon performed last night at the Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber Of Commerce, did a fabulous performance as Cher. And he's here to talk about his new book. Devon, how are you?

DEVON CASS: I'm fine. How are you doing?

JC MICHELAK: Great. Tell us a little bit about your book. How did it come about?

DEVON CASS: Well, I started impersonating Cher when I was 23. And six years into doing the makeup and perfecting it, I started doing it on other people and decided that I would bring it to the mainstream and do a book and do it in easy steps for young impersonators, all types of people that are interested in glamour, celebrity, and what it feels like to be that.

JC MICHELAK: So how did the book come about? Did you just shop it around to publishers? Did they come and seek you out?

DEVON CASS: I put a dummy together. And it took me about 2 and 1/2 years because this is a topic that's somewhat, at the time-- it's a little less controversial now but then it was, and I wanted to present it so that somebody would do it.

JC MICHELAK: One of the models in there is very well known to the Houston community.

DEVON CASS: Right.

JC MICHELAK: He's a cabaret singer, Mark Payne. I'm sure you've all heard of him. He used to perform at Ovations. He now lives in New York. And you featured him in the book. Well, actually, Mark is here with us today. And let's go ahead and bring him out. Mark, how are you?

MARK PAYNE: Great. How are you?

JC MICHELAK: Doing great. You look fabulous as RuPaul.

MARK PAYNE: Well, thank you.

JC MICHELAK: I've seen you as Liza. And you've got a new CD out?

MARK PAYNE: Absolutely.

BOTH: Called *Standards for a New Generation*.

MARK PAYNE: And it features a lot of local talent that's from Houston like Sharon Montgomery, Claudia Burson on piano, Charlene Wright wrote one of the songs, Donna Corely.

JC MICHELAK: This isn't a book that just has to be for people that want to do celebrity makeovers. Can they try-- can anybody buy this book and use the makeup tips?

DEVON CASS: Exactly. Like for instance, a lot of what makes a celebrity unique is their accoutrements, their wig, their accessories. So the certain makeup techniques and makeup styles that I did in the book, say for instance, Joan Collins, you could use that if you just want to do like glamour makeup. You just follow step by step.

And I did everything on half face, so you can see how the brow manipulates. I show you how to do the shadow, how to do the blend, how to thin your nose, how to create higher cheekbones, and create bigger lips, or even smaller lips, depending on what you want. Oh, it's a little bit of everything for everybody, as well as being a lot of fun just to look at the transformations.

JC MICHELAK: Tell me how you came up with the cover. Tell me a little bit about these people.

DEVON CASS: Well, actually this is Mark, it's RuPaul. And one of the things that I think is really beautiful about this is that Mark is a white man doing a Black man doing a Black woman. And I think we should all take a look at that and realize that what's really important is what's in the inside and just have fun with dressing up.

MARK PAYNE: Can you imagine if I'd had this book when I was younger? I mean, it would have made life so much easier.

JC MICHELAK: Well, again thank you for sitting down with us. I'm glad you guys could come.

DEVON CASS: Thank you very much.

MARK PAYNE: Thanks, JC.

JC MICHELAK: This is JC Michelak reporting for *TV Montrose*.

DEVON CASS: (SINGING) Cream of the crop at the top of the heap. My little town blues are melting away. I'll make a brand new start of it in old New York.

SUZANNE ANDERSON: In coming features, you'll see JC doing the kind of interviews that you typically only see on national TV, so we're excited about his presence on the show.

KIM SEVIER: Now let's take another look at scenes from last year's nighttime Pride Parade.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

CROWD: One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

[CROWD CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

[CROWD CHEERING]

[MUSIC PLAYING]

MARIA: What's happening with all the people over here? I'm Maria [INAUDIBLE].

[CROWD CHEERING]

SUZANNE ANDERSON: Templo was kind enough to loan us their bus to tie up the show tonight. So thank you very much, a great experience at the Westheimer Arts Festival.

KIM SEVIER: I had a good time. I got these new cool Rays, had a great time with Suzanne, my surrogate girlfriend, and I just had a great day. Remember, it's the viewers that are important to us. We'd love to hear your comments and suggestions. You can always give us a call, 713-523-6302, or send us email, tvmontrose@aol.com. We'd love to hear from you.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** Good night for now. I'm Suzanne Anderson.

KIM SEVIER: And Kim Sevier.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

I'm back. And while I was gone, Suzanne took over.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** [INAUDIBLE] And welcome, Steve.

STEVE BAKER: Hi. It's a pleasure to be here.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** OK.

KIM SEVIER: Come here, baby.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** You want me to ask you a question? You want me to ask you a question?

STEVE BAKER: Yeah, do that.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** OK. Our first story tonight is a-- is it about a play?

KIM SEVIER: Yeah, that would be about a play.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** OK.

KIM SEVIER: Dan Butler, I think, Bulldog, *Frasier*. We're going to try again.

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** The featured dog for this week is Sesca.

KIM SEVIER: And the featured trainer is Suzannska. I have no idea what our segment is right now, do you?

**SUZANNE
ANDERSON:** What is our segment?

KIM SEVIER: We need a script.

DEVON CASS: (SINGING) New York. I want to wake--

AUDIENCE: Oh. [LAUGHS]

DEVON CASS: --up in the city that doesn't sleep to find--

[MUSIC PLAYING]