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STUDY: HIV DRUGS CAN PREVENT INFECTION

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ATRIPLA Important Safety Information and Indication

INDICATION

ATRIPLA® (efavirenz 600 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate [DF] 300 mg) is a prescription medication used alone as a complete regimen or with other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection in adults.

ATRIPLA does not cure HIV-1 and has not been shown to prevent passing HIV-1 to others. The long-term effects of ATRIPLA are not known at this time. People taking ATRIPLA may still get infections that develop because the immune system is weak or other conditions that happen with HIV-1 infection.

Do not stop taking ATRIPLA unless directed by your healthcare provider. See your healthcare provider regularly.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Contact your healthcare provider right away if you get the following side effects or conditions associated with ATRIPLA:

- **Nausea, vomiting, unusual muscle pain, and/or weakness. These may be signs of a buildup of acid in the blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious medical condition.**
- **Light-colored stools, dark-colored urine, and/or if your skin or the whites of your eyes turn yellow. These may be signs of serious liver problems.**
- **If you have HIV-1 and hepatitis B virus (HBV), your liver disease may suddenly get worse if you stop taking ATRIPLA.**

Do not take ATRIPLA if you are taking the following medicines because serious and life-threatening side effects may occur when taken together: Vascor® (bepridil), Propulsid® (cisapride), Versed® (midazolam), Orap® (pimozide), Halcion® (triazolam), or ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafegot®).

In addition, ATRIPLA should not be taken with: Combivir® (lamivudine/zidovudine), EMTRIVA® (emtricitabine), Epivir® or Epivir-HBV® (lamivudine), Epzicom® (abacavir sulfate/lamivudine), SUSTIVA® (efavirenz), Trizivir® (abacavir sulfate/lamivudine/zidovudine), TRUVADA® (emtricitabine/tenofovir DF), or VIREAD® (tenofovir DF), because they contain the same or similar active ingredients as ATRIPLA. ATRIPLA should not be used with HEPSERA® (adefovir dipivoxil).

Vfend® (voriconazole) or REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate) with or without Norvir® (ritonavir) should not be taken with ATRIPLA since they may lose their effect and may also increase the chance of having side effects from ATRIPLA. Fortovase® or Invirase® (saquinavir) should not be used as the only protease inhibitor in combination with ATRIPLA.

Taking ATRIPLA with St. John's wort or products containing St. John's wort is not recommended as it may cause decreased levels of ATRIPLA, increased viral load, and possible resistance to ATRIPLA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV drugs.

This list of medicines is not complete. Discuss with your healthcare provider all prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements you are taking or plan to take.

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- **Are pregnant: Women should not become pregnant while taking ATRIPLA and for 12 weeks after stopping ATRIPLA.** Serious birth defects have been seen in children of women treated during pregnancy with one of the medicines in ATRIPLA. Women must use a reliable form of barrier contraception, such as a condom or diaphragm, even if they also use other methods of birth control, while on ATRIPLA and for 12 weeks after stopping ATRIPLA.
- **Are breastfeeding: Women with HIV should not breastfeed** because they can pass HIV through their milk to the baby. Also, ATRIPLA may pass through breast milk and cause serious harm to the baby.
- **Have liver problems, including hepatitis B or C virus infection.**

- **Have ever had seizures:** Seizures have occurred in patients taking a component of ATRIPLA, usually in those with a history of seizures. If you have ever had seizures, or take medicine for seizures, your healthcare provider may want to switch you to another medicine or monitor you.

- **Have ever had mental illness or use drugs or alcohol.**

Contact your healthcare provider right away if you experience any of the following serious or common side effects:

Serious side effects associated with ATRIPLA:

- **Severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior** have been reported by a small number of patients. Some patients have had thoughts of suicide, and a few have actually committed suicide. These problems may occur more often in patients who have had mental illness.
- **Kidney problems** (including decline or failure of kidney function). If you have had kidney problems, or take other medicines that may cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider should do regular blood tests. Symptoms that may be related to kidney problems include a high volume of urine, thirst, muscle pain, and muscle weakness.
- **Other serious liver problems.** Some patients have experienced serious liver problems, including liver failure resulting in transplantation or death. Most of these serious side effects occurred in patients with a chronic liver disease such as hepatitis infection, but there have also been a few reports in patients without any existing liver disease.
- **Bone changes.** Lab tests show changes in the bones of patients treated with tenofovir DF, a component of ATRIPLA. Some HIV patients treated with tenofovir DF developed thinning of the bones (osteopenia), which could lead to fractures. Also, bone pain and softening of the bone (which may lead to fractures) may occur as a consequence of kidney problems. If you have had bone problems in the past, your healthcare provider may want to check your bones.

Common side effects:

- **Dizziness, headache, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams.** These side effects tend to go away after taking ATRIPLA for a few weeks. These symptoms may be more severe with the use of alcohol and/or mood-altering (street) drugs. If you are dizzy, have trouble concentrating, and/or are drowsy, avoid activities that may be dangerous, such as driving or operating machinery.
- **Rash** is a common side effect that usually goes away without any change in treatment, but may be serious in a small number of patients.
- **Other common side effects include:** tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, gas, and diarrhea.

Other possible side effects:

- Changes in body fat have been seen in some people taking anti-HIV-1 medicines. The cause and long-term health effects are not known.
- Skin discoloration (small spots or freckles) may also happen.
- If you notice any symptoms of infection, contact your healthcare provider right away.
- Additional side effects are inflammation of the pancreas, allergic reaction (including swelling of the face, lips, tongue, or throat), shortness of breath, pain, stomach pain, weakness, and indigestion.

You should take ATRIPLA once daily on an empty stomach. Taking ATRIPLA at bedtime may make some side effects less bothersome.

ATRIPLA is one of several treatment options your doctor may consider.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA.

Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see Patient Information on the following pages.

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Partnership for Prescription Assistance



**“My entire HIV regimen
in one pill daily.
For me, that’s great.”**

Phillip
on ATRIPLA for 2 years

ATRIPLA is the #1 prescribed HIV regimen.*

About ATRIPLA:

- Only ATRIPLA combines 3 HIV medications in 1 pill daily.
- Proven to lower viral load to undetectable[†] in approximately 7 out of 10 patients new to therapy, and also raise T-cell[‡] (CD4+) count to help control HIV through 3 years of a clinical study.[§]
- **ATRIPLA does not cure HIV-1 and has not been shown to prevent passing HIV-1 to others.**

Selected Important Safety Information:

Some people who have taken medicine like ATRIPLA have developed the following: **a serious condition of acid buildup in the blood (lactic acidosis), and serious liver problems (hepatotoxicity).** For patients with both HIV-1 and hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis may suddenly worsen if ATRIPLA is discontinued.

Please see detailed and additional Important Safety Information, including the bolded information to the left.

[†] Defined as a viral load of less than 400 copies/mL.

[‡] Average increase of 312 cells/mm³.

[§] In this study, 227 patients took the meds in ATRIPLA.

Patient model. Individual results may vary.

Your doctor may prescribe ATRIPLA alone
or with other HIV medications.

Talk to your doctor to see if ATRIPLA is right for you.

ATRIPLA[®]
(efavirenz 600 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/
tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) Tablets

To learn more, visit
www.ATRIPLA.com

* Synovate Healthcare Data; US HIV Monitor, Q1 2010.

FDA-Approved Patient Labeling

Patient Information

ATRIPLA® (uh TRIP luh) Tablets

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with ATRIPLA.

Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH ATRIPLA."

Generic name: efavirenz, emtricitabine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (eh FAH vih renz, em tri SIT uh bean and te NOE' fo veer dye soe PROX il FYOU mar ate)

Read the Patient Information that comes with ATRIPLA® (efavirenz/emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) before you start taking it and each time you get a refill since there may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking to your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment. You should stay under a healthcare provider's care when taking ATRIPLA. **Do not change or stop your medicine without first talking with your healthcare provider.** Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you have any questions about ATRIPLA.

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

- **Some people who have taken medicine like ATRIPLA (which contains nucleoside analogs) have developed a serious condition called lactic acidosis** (buildup of an acid in the blood). Lactic acidosis can be a medical emergency and may need to be treated in the hospital. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get the following signs or symptoms of lactic acidosis:**
 - You feel very weak or tired.
 - You have unusual (not normal) muscle pain.
 - You have trouble breathing.
 - You have stomach pain with nausea and vomiting.
 - You feel cold, especially in your arms and legs.
 - You feel dizzy or lightheaded.
 - You have a fast or irregular heartbeat.
- **Some people who have taken medicines like ATRIPLA have developed serious liver problems called hepatotoxicity**, with liver enlargement (hepatomegaly) and fat in the liver (steatosis). **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get the following signs or symptoms of liver problems:**
 - Your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice).
 - Your urine turns dark.
 - Your bowel movements (stools) turn light in color.
 - You don't feel like eating food for several days or longer.
 - You feel sick to your stomach (nausea).
 - You have lower stomach area (abdominal) pain.
- **You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or liver problems** if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking nucleoside analog-containing medicines, like ATRIPLA, for a long time.
- **If you also have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and you stop taking ATRIPLA, you may get a "flare-up" of your hepatitis. A "flare-up" is when the disease suddenly returns in a worse way than before.** Patients with HBV who stop taking ATRIPLA need close medical follow-up for several months, including medical exams and blood tests to check for hepatitis that could be getting worse. ATRIPLA is not approved for the treatment of HBV, so you must discuss your HBV therapy with your healthcare provider.

What is ATRIPLA?

ATRIPLA contains 3 medicines, SUSTIVA® (efavirenz), EMTRIVA® (emtricitabine) and VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate also called tenofovir DF) combined in one pill. EMTRIVA and VIREAD are HIV-1 (human immunodeficiency virus) nucleoside analog reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs) and SUSTIVA is an HIV-1 non-nucleoside analog reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI). VIREAD and EMTRIVA are the components of TRUVADA®. ATRIPLA can be used alone as a complete regimen, or in combination with other anti-HIV-1 medicines to treat people with HIV-1 infection. ATRIPLA is for adults age 18 and over. ATRIPLA has not been studied in children under age 18 or adults over age 65.

HIV infection destroys CD4+ T cells, which are important to the immune system. The immune system helps fight infection. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

ATRIPLA helps block HIV-1 reverse transcriptase, a viral chemical in your body (enzyme) that is needed for HIV-1 to multiply. ATRIPLA lowers the amount of HIV-1 in the blood (viral load). ATRIPLA may also help to increase the number of T cells (CD4+ cells), allowing your immune system to improve. Lowering the amount of HIV-1 in the blood lowers the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Does ATRIPLA cure HIV-1 or AIDS?

ATRIPLA does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of ATRIPLA are not known at this time. People taking ATRIPLA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV-1 infection. Opportunistic infections are infections that develop because the immune system is weak. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium complex* (MAC) infection. **It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while taking ATRIPLA.**

Does ATRIPLA reduce the risk of passing HIV-1 to others?

ATRIPLA has not been shown to lower your chance of passing HIV-1 to other people through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood.

- **Do not share needles or other injection equipment.**
- **Do not share personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes or razor blades.**

ATRIPLA® (efavirenz/emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate)

- **Do not have any kind of sex without protection.** Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom or other barrier to reduce the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

Who should not take ATRIPLA?

Together with your healthcare provider, you need to decide whether ATRIPLA is right for you.

Do not take ATRIPLA if you are allergic to ATRIPLA or any of its ingredients. The active ingredients of ATRIPLA are efavirenz, emtricitabine, and tenofovir DF. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking ATRIPLA? Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- **Are pregnant or planning to become pregnant** (see "What should I avoid while taking ATRIPLA?").
- **Are breast-feeding** (see "What should I avoid while taking ATRIPLA?").
- **Have kidney problems or are undergoing kidney dialysis treatment.**
- **Have bone problems.**
- **Have liver problems, including hepatitis B virus infection.** Your healthcare provider may want to do tests to check your liver while you take ATRIPLA.
- **Have ever had mental illness or are using drugs or alcohol.**
- **Have ever had seizures or are taking medicine for seizures.**

What important information should I know about taking other medicines with ATRIPLA?

ATRIPLA may change the effect of other medicines, including the ones for HIV-1, and may cause serious side effects. Your healthcare provider may change your other medicines or change their doses. Other medicines, including herbal products, may affect ATRIPLA. For this reason, **it is very important to let all your healthcare providers and pharmacists know what medications, herbal supplements, or vitamins you are taking.**

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH ATRIPLA

- The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with ATRIPLA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking ATRIPLA: Vasacor (bepridil), Propulsid (cisapride), Versed (midazolam), Orap (pimozide), Halcion (triazolam), ergot medications (for example, Wigraine and Cafergot).
- ATRIPLA also should not be used with Combivir (lamivudine/zidovudine), EMTRIVA, Epivir, Epivir-HBV (lamivudine), Epzicom (abacavir sulfate/lamivudine), Trizivir (abacavir sulfate/lamivudine/zidovudine), SUSTIVA, TRUVADA, or VIREAD.
- Vfend (voriconazole) should not be taken with ATRIPLA since it may lose its effect or may increase the chance of having side effects from ATRIPLA.
- **Do not take St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), or products containing St. John's wort with ATRIPLA.** St. John's wort is an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement. Talk with your healthcare provider if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease ATRIPLA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to ATRIPLA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV-1 drugs.
- ATRIPLA should not be used with HEPSERA® (adefovir dipivoxil).

It is also important to tell your healthcare provider if you are taking any of the following:

- Fortovase, Invirase (saquinavir), Biaxin (clarithromycin), Noxafil (posaconazole), or Sporanox (itraconazole); **these medicines may need to be replaced with another medicine when taken with ATRIPLA.**
- Calcium channel blockers such as Cardizem or Tiazac (diltiazem), Covera HS or Isoptin (verapamil) and others; Crixivan (indinavir), Selzentry (maraviroc); the immunosuppressant medicines cyclosporine (Gengraf, Neoral, Sandimmune, and others), Prograf (tacrolimus), or Rapamune (sirolimus); Methadone; Mycobutin (rifabutin); Rifampin; cholesterol-lowering medicines such as Lipitor (atorvastatin), Pravachol (pravastatin sodium), and Zocor (simvastatin); or Zoloft (sertraline); **these medicines may need to have their dose changed when taken with ATRIPLA.**
- Videx, Videx EC (didanosine); tenofovir DF (a component of ATRIPLA) may increase the amount of didanosine in your blood, which could result in more side effects. **You may need to be monitored more carefully** if you are taking ATRIPLA and didanosine together. Also, the dose of didanosine may need to be changed.
- Reyataz (atazanavir sulfate) or Kaletra (lopinavir/ritonavir); these medicines may increase the amount of tenofovir DF (a component of ATRIPLA) in your blood, which could result in more side effects. Reyataz is not recommended with ATRIPLA. **You may need to be monitored more carefully** if you are taking ATRIPLA and Kaletra together. Also, the dose of Kaletra may need to be changed.
- Medicine for seizures [for example, Dilantin (phenytoin), Tegretol (carbamazepine), or phenobarbital]; your healthcare provider may want to switch you to another medicine or check drug levels in your blood from time to time.

These are not all the medicines that may cause problems if you take ATRIPLA. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider about all medicines that you take.

Keep a complete list of all the prescription and nonprescription medicines as well as any herbal remedies that you are taking, how much you take, and how often you take them. Make a new list when medicines or herbal remedies are added or stopped, or if the dose changes. Give copies of this list to all of your healthcare providers and pharmacists **every** time you visit your healthcare provider or fill a prescription. This will give your healthcare provider a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

ATRIPLA® (efavirenz/emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate)

How should I take ATRIPLA?

- Take the exact amount of ATRIPLA your healthcare provider prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your healthcare provider tells you to stop.
- You should take ATRIPLA on an empty stomach.
- Swallow ATRIPLA with water.
- Taking ATRIPLA at bedtime may make some side effects less bothersome.
- Do not miss a dose of ATRIPLA. If you forget to take ATRIPLA, take the missed dose right away, unless it is almost time for your next dose. Do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.
- If you believe you took more than the prescribed amount of ATRIPLA, contact your local poison control center or emergency room right away.
- Tell your healthcare provider if you start any new medicine or change how you take old ones. Your doses may need adjustment.
- When your ATRIPLA supply starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to ATRIPLA and become harder to treat.
- Your healthcare provider may want to do blood tests to check for certain side effects while you take ATRIPLA.

What should I avoid while taking ATRIPLA?

- **Women should not become pregnant while taking ATRIPLA and for 12 weeks after stopping it.** Serious birth defects have been seen in the babies of animals and women treated with efavirenz (a component of ATRIPLA) during pregnancy. It is not known whether efavirenz caused these defects. **Tell your healthcare provider right away if you are pregnant.** Also talk with your healthcare provider if you want to become pregnant.
- Women should not rely only on hormone-based birth control, such as pills, injections, or implants, because ATRIPLA may make these contraceptives ineffective. Women must use a reliable form of barrier contraception, such as a condom or diaphragm, even if they also use other methods of birth control. Efavirenz, a component of ATRIPLA, may remain in your blood for a time after therapy is stopped. Therefore, you should continue to use contraceptive measures for 12 weeks after you stop taking ATRIPLA.
- **Do not breast-feed if you are taking ATRIPLA.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that mothers with HIV not breast-feed because they can pass the HIV through their milk to the baby. Also, ATRIPLA may pass through breast milk and cause serious harm to the baby. Talk with your healthcare provider if you are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding or may need to use a different medicine.
- Taking ATRIPLA with alcohol or other medicines causing similar side effects as ATRIPLA, such as drowsiness, may increase those side effects.
- Do not take any other medicines, including prescription and nonprescription medicines and herbal products, without checking with your healthcare provider.
- **Avoid doing things that can spread HIV-1 infection** since ATRIPLA does not stop you from passing the HIV-1 infection to others.

What are the possible side effects of ATRIPLA?

ATRIPLA may cause the following serious side effects:

- **Lactic acidosis** (buildup of an acid in the blood). Lactic acidosis can be a medical emergency and may need to be treated in the hospital. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get signs of lactic acidosis.** (See "What is the most important information I should know about ATRIPLA?")
- **Serious liver problems (hepatotoxicity)**, with liver enlargement (hepatomegaly) and fat in the liver (steatosis). Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any signs of liver problems. (See "What is the most important information I should know about ATRIPLA?")
- **"Flare-ups" of hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection**, in which the disease suddenly returns in a worse way than before, can occur if you have HBV and you stop taking ATRIPLA. Your healthcare provider will monitor your condition for several months after stopping ATRIPLA if you have both HIV-1 and HBV infection and may recommend treatment for your HBV. ATRIPLA is not approved for the treatment of hepatitis B virus infection. If you have advanced liver disease and stop treatment with ATRIPLA, the "flare-up" of hepatitis B may cause your liver function to decline.
- **Serious psychiatric problems.** A small number of patients may experience severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior while taking ATRIPLA. Some patients have thoughts of suicide and a few have actually committed suicide. These problems may occur more often in patients who have had mental illness. Contact your healthcare provider right away if you think you are having these psychiatric symptoms, so your healthcare provider can decide if you should continue to take ATRIPLA.
- **Kidney problems** (including decline or failure of kidney function). If you have had kidney problems in the past or take other medicines that can cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider should do regular blood tests to check your kidneys. Symptoms that may be related to kidney problems include a high volume of urine, thirst, muscle pain, and muscle weakness.
- **Other serious liver problems.** Some patients have experienced serious liver problems including liver failure resulting in transplantation or death. Most of these serious side effects occurred in patients with a chronic liver disease such as hepatitis infection, but there have also been a few reports in patients without any existing liver disease.

ATRIPLA® (efavirenz/emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate)

- **Changes in bone mineral density (thinning bones).** Laboratory tests show changes in the bones of patients treated with tenofovir DF, a component of ATRIPLA. Some HIV patients treated with tenofovir DF developed thinning of the bones (osteopenia) which could lead to fractures. If you have had bone problems in the past, your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your bone mineral density or may prescribe medicines to help your bone mineral density. Additionally, bone pain and softening of the bone (which may contribute to fractures) may occur as a consequence of kidney problems.

Common side effects:

Patients may have dizziness, headache, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams during treatment with ATRIPLA. These side effects may be reduced if you take ATRIPLA at bedtime on an empty stomach. They also tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these common side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have serious psychiatric problems, such as severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Tell your healthcare provider right away if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. It is possible that these symptoms may be more severe if ATRIPLA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs.

If you are dizzy, have trouble concentrating, or are drowsy, avoid activities that may be dangerous, such as driving or operating machinery.

Rash may be common. Rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your healthcare provider right away.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, gas, and diarrhea.

Other possible side effects with ATRIPLA:

- Changes in body fat. Changes in body fat develop in some patients taking anti-HIV-1 medicine. These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), in the breasts, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these fat changes are not known.
- Skin discoloration (small spots or freckles) may also happen with ATRIPLA.
- In some patients with advanced HIV infection (AIDS), signs and symptoms of inflammation from previous infections may occur soon after anti-HIV treatment is started. It is believed that these symptoms are due to an improvement in the body's immune response, enabling the body to fight infections that may have been present with no obvious symptoms. If you notice any symptoms of infection, please inform your doctor immediately.
- Additional side effects are inflammation of the pancreas, allergic reaction (including swelling of the face, lips, tongue, or throat), shortness of breath, pain, stomach pain, weakness and indigestion.

Tell your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you notice any side effects while taking ATRIPLA.

Contact your healthcare provider before stopping ATRIPLA because of side effects or for any other reason.

This is not a complete list of side effects possible with ATRIPLA. Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a more complete list of side effects of ATRIPLA and all the medicines you will take.

How do I store ATRIPLA?

- **Keep ATRIPLA and all other medicines out of reach of children.**
- Store ATRIPLA at room temperature 77 °F (25 °C).
- Keep ATRIPLA in its original container and keep the container tightly closed.
- Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. If you throw any medicines away make sure that children will not find them.

General information about ATRIPLA:

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Do not use ATRIPLA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give ATRIPLA to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

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

Do not use ATRIPLA if the seal over bottle opening is broken or missing.

What are the ingredients of ATRIPLA?

Active Ingredients: efavirenz, emtricitabine, and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate

Inactive Ingredients: croscarmellose sodium, hydroxypropyl cellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, magnesium stearate, sodium lauryl sulfate. The film coating contains black iron oxide, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol, red iron oxide, talc, and titanium dioxide.

Rx ONLY

May 2010

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Moving toward equality

With the midterm elections behind us, it's time to look ahead. The recent Republican victories would seem to be a major setback for the LGBT community. Since the early 1980s, the Republican Party has cozied up to the "religious right" in its efforts to win federal and state offices around the country and here in Michigan. Most prominent Republican officials have publicly stated their opposition to any measures that would guarantee equality based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The current debate over repeal of the military's "Don't ask, Don't tell" policy is an example of this, with Senate Republicans standing in the way of even debating this issue, despite overwhelming public support for getting rid of this discriminatory policy. During the 2004 presidential election, President George W. Bush's campaign operation spearheaded anti-gay marriage amendments in several swing states, including Michigan, as a political wedge to help drive up Republican turnout in his reelection effort. Two years after his reelection, Bush endorsed an anti-gay marriage amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Republicans have been at the forefront of the battle to deny

Of course, not all Republicans have opposed LGBT equality and not every Democrat has supported us. At the midpoint of President Obama's first term, many in our community are concerned about his slow movement in ending DADT and repealing the Defense of Marriage Act

even small measures of equality to our community.

Of course, not all Republicans have opposed LGBT equality and not every Democrat has supported us. At the midpoint of President Obama's first term, many in our community are concerned about his slow movement in ending DADT and repealing the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). It is important to recognize, though, that the few legal protections gays

and lesbians enjoy at the federal level in this country have been extended by Democrats, including a ban on discrimination in federal employment and the provision of limited benefits to the same-sex partners of foreign service officers.

We should not despair over the political setbacks faced by the LGBT community in the recent election. Equality always comes slowly, no matter how just it is. We need only look at the African American and women's rights movements of the 20th Century to see how long it can take to achieve equality in the United States. The leaders of both movements faced overwhelming political odds in the 1950s and 1960s as they fought the battle to gain equality. Many of the political leaders of Congress at that time were conservative Southern white males who were determined to protect the status quo of that time. The people who fought bravely

See **Speak Out**, page 22



Continue to contact Michigan's two senators and urge them to pass DADT during the lame duck session. Note--Sen. Levin is the Chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, which is handling this issue:

Senator Carl Levin: <http://levin.senate.gov/contact/>

Senator Debbie Stabenow: <http://stabenow.senate.gov/email.cfm>

HRC's 2011 Corporate Equality Index:
<http://www.hrc.org/cei2011/index.html>

Levin asks for early release of DADT study

BY JAN STEVENSON

WASHINGTON DC - Countering speculation that U.S. Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) might agree to stripping the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" from the 2011 National Defense Authorization Act, Levin's press office stated to BTL Nov. 22 that, as Chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he remains fully supportive of repealing DADT through the NDAA this year. Also, BTL was told that Levin requested the Pentagon to release a much-anticipated report on DADT earlier than the Dec. 1 due date. The Pentagon has agreed to the early release, and Levin's office plans to schedule hearings as early as next week on the report and the repeal of DADT.

Rumors began to fly last week when a dozen Democrats and Sen. Joseph Lieberman, an independent from Connecticut, urged Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to allow an extended debate on the wide-ranging defense authorization bill, which includes language repealing DADT. Reid floated the idea of stripping the repeal of DADT from the NDAA, according to Levin's office, leading to speculation that Levin might be willing to go along. Levin's spokesman was clear that is not the case.



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Metro Parent hosts bullying workshop

Local magazine to present speaker Rosalind Wiseman on Nov. 30

TROY – It's always difficult being a teenager, but it seems like today's teens face more challenges than ever before, from navigating social media to the pressures of fitting in. In response, Metro Parent Magazine will present "Growing Up in Today's Crazy World... Crushes, Frenemies, Gossip and Bullying" workshop, featuring keynote speaker Rosalind Wiseman, at 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Nov. 30 at the MET Hotel in Troy.

Rosalind Wiseman is an internationally recognized expert on children, teens, parenting, bullying, social justice, and ethical leadership. Wiseman is the author of "Queen Bees and Wannabes: Helping Your Daughter Survive Cliques, Gossip, Boyfriends, and the New Realities of Girl World," the groundbreaking, bestselling book that was the basis for the movie "Mean Girls."

Each year, Wiseman works with tens of thousands of students, educators, parents, counselors, coaches and administrators to create communities based on the belief that each person has a responsibility to treat themselves and others with dignity. It exposes the cultural expectations that teach young people to humiliate and dehumanize others as the way to achieve power and respect, then challenges them to transform this dynamic. The program also addresses the nuanced ways in which racism, homophobia and classism are expressed in our culture and affect social cruelty and violence.

Those in attendance will have the unique opportunity to hear from several local experts on a wide range of topics and provide strategies for dealing with the new social challenges. The morning's event begins with a three-hour workshop by Wiseman. After lunch, attendees will have their choice of eight classes held in two breakout sessions. Local representatives from educational institutions, non-profit agencies and support services will be there to talk about their programs and the help they can provide.

"Growing Up in Today's Crazy World... Crushes, Frenemies, Gossip and Bullying" featuring Rosalind Wiseman is presented by Metro Parent Publishing Group. Sponsors include Madonna University, Children's Hospital of Michigan, Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan, Japhet School and Radio Disney.

Tickets for the event are \$75 for general admission and \$100 for general admission with CEU credits. To purchase tickets, or for additional information regarding this workshop, visit metroparent.com or call 248-398-3400.

World AIDS Day coverage

Statewide events and exhibits are covered in BTL's special section beginning on page 26 of this edition.

Be sure to also check our ongoing online coverage at our website www.pridesource.com.

Skillman to leave Equality Michigan

BY JAN STEVENSON

DETROIT – Alicia Skillman, executive director of Equality Michigan for the past two years, resigned Nov. 22, effective Dec. 31. Former board chair Denise Brogan-Kator has taken the reins as the chief executive officer, and will lead the organization during the search for a new permanent director.

"I just believe that it's time for me to pursue new opportunities," Skillman told BTL. She said she does not have another job lined up yet, but expects she will remain in Michigan. "I gave what I could give and now I need to do something else. I know the work will continue."

"I am as excited as I can be," said Brogan-Kator. "I am sad to see Alicia go, but I am excited about our plan for 2011 and I'm looking forward to its implementation. I think people will be surprised. I'm not saying that at the end of 2011 we will have more protections than we currently have, but we will be visible, educate and we will fight for our rights."

Equality Michigan was formed last year through a merger of the former Triangle Foundation and Michigan Equality. The merger resulted in the new organization having three key elements under one roof. First is the tax-exempt organization (501c3 under the Internal Revenue Code), second is an organization that can do direct political work because donations to it are not tax-exempt (501c4), and third is a separate political action committee that can raise funds and contribute money to specific LGBT-friendly political campaigns.

Asked why Equality Michigan was not more impactful in the recent mid-term elections, and why Brogan-Kator thinks she can lead the state's LGBT political organization forward more effectively, she said, "There were lots of distractions around the merger. It was the right thing to make happen (merge the state's two competing political groups), but it took time and



Denise Brogan-Kator interim CEO



Alicia Skillman resigned Nov. 22

energy. Then, the two cultures coming together needed to develop a strategic plan and be really clear about what we are trying to do. We now have that plan, a clear mission and a vision to where we are going, and we didn't before."

Skillman said that the merger was her greatest accomplishment as director. "Being able to sit down with the two groups and merge, and come up with a cohesive plan for the state to move forward, and to move forward into strategic planning and to really develop that plan - that's what was my accomplishment," said Skillman.

Brogan-Kator stepped off the board six months ago to become a paid consultant to the organization. Upon accepting Skillman's resignation, the board voted to extend the consulting contract already in place with Brogan-Kator.

"Honestly, I don't know if I'd like to be considered for the permanent executive director position," Brogan-Kator said. "The board hasn't decided yet what direction they will take. Options include a national search, hiring a search firm, perhaps hiring from within."

For now, Brogan-Kator said she intends to fill some open positions, including the communications director, development director and a field director. When asked whether that should be delayed until a permanent director is hired so that person can have input into the other new hires, she said, "I've spent 30 years working for

Asked why Equality Michigan was not more impactful in the recent mid-term elections, and why Brogan-Kator thinks she can lead the state's LGBT political organization forward more effectively, she said, "There were lots of distractions around the merger. It was the right thing to make happen (merge the state's two competing political groups), but it took time and energy."

small organizations and entrepreneurial types of companies, and finding strong fits that work together well. We can't really wait to fill these positions. I will hold off if it makes sense to wait for the new executive director to be involved in the hires. But we have a really strong strategic plan and I think we have a clear vision of where we are going."

Brogan-Kator said Equality Michigan is financially able to make new hires. "I'll tell you, Alicia did some good stuff while she was here. One of the things she did really well was raise a good amount of money through grants, so we have a pretty stable financial situation right now. We still need community involvement. For whatever reason, the individual support since the merger has not been as strong as we would like, so we need to demonstrate to our community the important work we are doing and why they need to support it."

Teacher's suspension stands Gay teen appears on 'Ellen Show'

HOWELL (AP) – The Howell school district won't reverse a teacher's one-day unpaid suspension for kicking a boy out of class because the student said he didn't "accept gays."

Howell schools Superintendent Ronald Wilson said in a release Nov. 17 that Jay McDowell violated the student's right to free speech on Oct. 20. Wilson says the high school teacher also "violated board policy" in dismissing the student "who disagreed with him."

McDowell says he was explaining the difference between the Confederate flag and the gay pride rainbow flag when the student made his statement. McDowell has filed a complaint against the district.

An Ann Arbor Pioneer student, 14-year-old Graeme Taylor, gained media attention for his vocal support of McDowell at a Nov. 9 school board meeting. A video of Taylor's passionate defense of McDowell went viral on the internet, attracting the attention of the producers at the "Ellen Degeneres Show" who invited him to appear on the show Nov. 22.



Ann Arbor Pioneer student, 14-year-old Graeme Taylor addresses Howell School Board Nov. 15. Photo: YouTube video

"I went through some very tough times learning to accept myself, but once I did, I realized just what a beautiful thing that is," he told DeGeneres.

He said he began to tell his friends he was

"Everybody has a voice and some people are kind of scared to go out there and share it. But, when you do, it just becomes a wonderful thing."

- Graeme Taylor

gay when he was 13 years old.

"We are all better for having you in the world," DeGeneres told Taylor.

She also presented him with a \$10,000 scholarship from Tonic.

"Everybody has a voice and some people are kind of scared to go out there and share it. But, when you do, it just becomes a wonderful thing," he said.

Aging advocates debate assisted living options for LGBTs in the state

While some push for training, others say facilities are not open to the option

BY JESSICA CARRERAS

When Michigan nonprofit Citizens for Better Care teamed up with Affirmations community center to begin work on a training program that would better the lives of LGBT residents in the state's assisted living and nursing homes, they didn't yet realize what would be their biggest obstacle: the facilities themselves.

More specifically, not a single leader in a facility they approached was interested in the training, or in hearing about the needs of their LGBT residents.

"(Nursing homes say) they don't want it," explains CBC Executive Director Laura Champagne. "They don't have an issue, you know? They have not identified any gay residents."

That's not to say, however, that gay residents don't exist. Therein lies one of the largest issues LGBT leaders are attempting to tackle regarding their aging population: providing them with safe, affordable options for living facilities as they age that will not put them in a situation where they face the possibility of being discriminated against - or worse - going back into the closet.

Aging coalition

Members of the recently formed LGBT aging coalition have been discussing the issue at their monthly meetings, debating whether it's better to go CBC's route - educating existing facilities - or work toward opening new living options that cater specifically to the LGBT community.

Most agree that the more practical option is working with homes and facilities that are already in existence. However, no one is quite sure how to create a list of homes that might be open to the idea, or how to go about training them.

"(We need to) find a way to provide training and resources to the current senior caregivers - both residential and in-home providers," said Judy Lewis, executive director of the Jewish Gay Network of Michigan and member of the LGBT aging coalition. "There must be a way that we can generate a value for the consumer (the residential facility or agency) in a positive way. And we must have someone, somewhere, with enough clout to nudge these people into opening the door and listening to our message."

Jim Toy, a long-time activist from Ann Arbor who also meets with the coalition, believes that opening a LGBT-specific space would be great - but it doesn't provide the immediate solution to the problem at hand.

"The horror stories I hear and read dictate that we must do all we can to train owners, boards, administration and staff at existing facilities," he said. "Convincing existing facilities to permit, in fact to invite such trainings, is a paramount concern."

"Publicizing our existence and availability would be a first step."

But Champagne says that many facilities her organization has approached simply deny the existence of their LGBT residents. Because of their reluctance to participate, the CBC's training module is "pretty much stalled."

"We've tried to build parts of it into a train-

"The horror stories I hear and read dictate that we must do all we can to train owners, boards, administration and staff at existing facilities. Convincing existing facilities to permit, in fact to invite such trainings, is a paramount concern."

- Jim Toy, a long-time activist from Ann Arbor who also meets with the coalition, believes that opening a LGBT-specific space would be great - but it doesn't provide the immediate solution to the problem at hand.

ing on intimacy," Champagne explains as an alternative approach to broaching the subject. "But the whole thing is focusing on the right of the residents to privacy and all that kind of stuff."

However, no matter what their residents' sexual orientation, Champagne says, "nursing home staff just find it abhorrent that some of their residents might want to go off and be intimate with each other."

An immediate housing option

While some figure out how to convince facilities that they need LGBT sensitivity training, others are taking matters into their own hands.

Detroit resident Mike recently shared with the coalition his own vision for LGBT senior living: he's opening a five-bedroom house called Sweet Home for exactly that purpose.

Sweet Home is located on Detroit's north side, and will provide - pending its tentative opening next year - an option for at least a few gay men in the area to live out their older lives in a safe environment. A place that assists them with daily needs like transportation, meals and care.

"My original intention was to have a home for sweet little old ladies but my roommate ... told me that he felt that I might serve the community better by having a facility for elderly gay men," Mike shared. "I started looking around for that type of thing to see how they had their program set up and I couldn't find anything. So I decided to start from scratch and see what I could put together."

Toy believes it's a combination of endeavors like Sweet Home and offering LGBT training will yield the best results.

"Creating an ITBLGQ-specific senior-living space in southeast Michigan is a must," Toy said. "I've been involved over the years in two attempts to do that. It necessitates a lot of time and money. So, while we try to find funding for a new space, we could engage in trainings."

Now, they just have to figure out how to get the trainings into facilities.

MDCH fails to set state nPEP policy

New policy was promised nearly a year ago on World AIDS Day 2009

BY TODD A. HEYWOOD

LANSING - The Michigan Department of Community Health has failed to fulfill a promise of a new policy addressing the use of anti-retroviral medications to prevent new infections of HIV.

"This is something that takes diligence," said MDCH spokesperson James McCurtis. "Sometimes it takes time to get things done in state government."

Michigan Messenger and BTL first reported on the issue - referred to as non-occupational Post-exposure Prophylaxis or n-PEP - for World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, 2009, noting that the lack of policy was putting people's lives in jeopardy. Studies have found that the use of the powerful medications within 72 hours of a probable or known exposure to HIV is effective in preventing the virus from taking hold and causing an infection.

The World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in



Anti-retroviral medications and condoms: the future of HIV prevention? Photo Illustration by Todd A. Heywood

Atlanta have had guidelines on the use of the medications for exposures not related to job risks since 2005.

In July, the Obama administration released the nation's first ever National HIV/AIDS Strategy to bring the various parts of the federal government together to target the ongoing epidemic. It was the first time such a strategy had

been developed since the disease was identified in 1981.

That document identifies n-PEP as an important prevention tool:

"We must also move away from thinking that one approach to HIV prevention will work, whether it is condoms, pills, or information. Instead, we need to develop, evaluate, and implement effective prevention strategies and combinations of approaches including efforts such as expanded HIV testing (since people who know their status are less likely to transmit HIV), education and support to encourage people to reduce risky behaviors, the strategic use of medications and biomedical interventions (which have allowed us, for example, to nearly eliminate HIV transmission to newborns), the development of vaccines and microbicides, and the expansion of evidence-based mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment programs. It is essential that all Americans have access to a shared base of factual information about HIV.

The Strategy also provides an opportunity for working together to advance a public health approach to sexual health that includes HIV prevention as one component."

MDCH reported that it did not have policy "set in stone" regarding the use of medications to prevent infections.

Following the Michigan Messenger report, Amna Osman, director of the MDCH's Division of Health, Wellness and Disease Control, said the department would have a policy in "early" 2010.

The delay does not mean that the policy plan had been abandoned, McCurtis said.

"We have a priority on getting it done and approved," he said.

The policy was still being written in August, McCurtis said at the time. Monday he said the draft had been completed in late September and was currently being reviewed by the department's legal staff.

The revelation the policy was stalled in bu-

See MDCH, page 21



BTL EDITORIAL

AIDS: Act aware

There was a time in the early days of the epidemic when HIV/AIDS was synonymous with gay. It entered the U.S. through the gay male community and quickly spread, wiping out tens of thousands of young men in the prime of their lives.

The general population was primarily indifferent. Many rationalized that HIV/AIDS was limited to the gay community, believing that gay men had unique sexual practices. HIV/AIDS activists were ignored, even as they screamed at the top of their lungs that the epidemic was killing gay men in droves and spreading beyond the gay community. Intravenous drug users started presenting with HIV/AIDS, confirming early suspicions that the virus could be transmitted through blood. And while early signs of this pandemic surfaced in 1981, then President of the U.S. Ronald Reagan, did not publicly mention this killer disease for five more years.

BTL staff were at a community education forum in the early 1990s. The presenter spelled out the risks to gay men and intravenous drug users, and implored people to try to stop it. One woman stood up and said, "Who cares? It's OK with me if the druggies and homos die off."

It's that indifference and painful bigotry to the plight of people with HIV/AIDS that led us to where we are today. The virus has spread across the world. Millions have died and millions more will die. Infections could have been greatly reduced in the 1980s with an aggressive public health policy. But Reagan-era politicians, conservative religious leaders and right-wing demagogues convinced people that those who were dying were not worth saving. Through silence mostly and aggressive anti-gay campaigns, people with AIDS were stigmatized and feared, not loved and cared for.

As the epidemic turns 30 years old, the vi-

As the epidemic turns 30 years old, the virus, which doesn't discriminate at all, continues to spread among those who are either not inclined or who are unable to protect themselves.

rus, which doesn't discriminate at all, continues to spread among those who are either not inclined or who are unable to protect themselves; young gay men who missed the horror of the early years, black men and women and the chronically poor. It's long past time that we not judge the infected, that we care for those who are sick, and that we put away the barriers to education that keep people from protecting themselves, both before and after infection.

The LGBT community will always have to deal with AIDS, unless and until a cure and vaccine is discovered. Although new infection rates among gay men are leveling off, gay men remain the largest category of infected people. It remains up to us to be at the front of the effort to eradicate HIV/AIDS.

The theme of this year's worldwide events is "Act Aware," emphasizing the role of individuals in stopping the spread of HIV and fighting prejudice against its victims. So this World AIDS Day, remember those who are gone and mourn them. Then get up and show real concern for the living and support, volunteer and become involved in an AIDS agency near you. In this issue we list lots of World AIDS Day events you can attend and learn more about getting involved. It is up to all of us, to both fight the epidemic and model how to care about stemming the epidemic and caring for people with AIDS.

GENERAL GAYETY



Transgender steps forward

BY LESLIE ROBINSON

Recently our community marked another annual Transgender Day of Remembrance, a somber day devoted to memorializing those murdered for their gender identity.

Also recently, however, we've seen transgender breakthroughs that are, in a word, fabulous-great-wonderful.

College basketball season has begun, and many a media outlet has covered the story of Kye Allums, a junior guard at George Washington University. At 5-foot-11, Allums won't be shattering glass, but his story is.

"Yes, I am a male on a female team," Allums, 21, told USA Today. "And I want to be clear about this. I am a transgender male, which means feelings-wise, how it feels on the inside, I feel as if I should have been born male with male parts.

"But my biological sex is female, which makes me a transgender male."

This was a college student taking great pains to educate a sportswriter, who's accustomed to X's and O's, on X's and Y's. The sportswriter can expect a midterm.

When Allums' college playing career is over, he intends to transition. He planned to keep quiet until then, but "it just got too tough not to be me."

His teammates, coach and university all appear to be supportive. The NCAA probably thought not long ago that it would have to deal with this issue the day the Rhode Island School of Design won the Rose Bowl.

But the NCAA has a policy, explained a spokesman: "A female who wants to be socially identified as a male but has not had hormone treatments or surgery may compete on a women's team."

So this college basketball season begins with an African-American, openly transgender person playing Division 1 hoop. This represents so many steps forward it's practically traveling.

Turning to a different sport, the Ladies Professional Golf Association will soon have a different understanding of "lady." GolfChannel.com reported the LPGA will propose in a Nov. 30 player meeting, to axe its "female at birth" requirement.

It's not that association honchos experienced an epiphany. It's that they have drivers aimed at their heads.

Lana Lawless, 57, who had gender-reassignment surgery five years ago, filed suit in San Francisco over the LPGA declining her application for tour membership. Her suit claims the organization discriminated due to her

So this college basketball season begins with an African-American, openly transgender person playing Division 1 hoop. This represents so many steps forward it's practically traveling.

transgender status, a violation of California's anti-discrimination statutes.

The LPGA has landed in the rough indeed.

A change to the constitutional bylaws requires two-thirds of the LPGA membership to agree. The association has already told players the old gender rule was established "in a different time," and defending it legally today would be harder than putting with your eyes closed.

Also, the International Olympic Committee, the U.S. Golf Association and other golf entities now allow transgender participation. The fairways are getting fairer.

Victoria Kolakowski, who had reassignment surgery in 1991, has scored big in a different arena. In a race so tight it couldn't be called until two weeks after the election, voters in California chose Kolakowski for Alameda County Superior Court.

An openly transgender woman wins a popular election. Thank you California for being ... California.

Kolakowski, 49, told the San Francisco Chronicle that the election result "speaks well of our ability to look past differences and look to the things that matter: our ability and experience."

Here's hoping she has both, because she'll be scrutinized like an "American Idol" finalist.

Two days after Kolakowski declared victory, transgender LGBT activist Phyllis Frye was appointed a municipal court judge in the Houston City Council chamber, the same room where 30 years ago Frye helped repeal Houston's "cross-dressing ordinance."

Frye, 63, said to the Houston Chronicle, "Things have changed, and it's pretty wonderful."

Two judges in two days. That's the right kind of order in the court.

Leslie Robinson lives in Seattle. E-mail her at lesa-robinson@gmail.com, and read more columns at www.generalgayety.com.

S/he said

Living rooms, setbacks, and handcuffs

"I think it does a lot of good. I think any time we're getting into people's living rooms showing them complicated, interesting, relevant portrayals of gay people, we're doing something right. It matters. Seeing Kurt stand up for himself, it really is a beautiful thing."

Peter Paige, actor, "Emmet" on "Queer as Folk," commenting on the character of "Kurt" on "Glee," tackling issues including dealing with being bullied by a closeted football player, <http://greginhollywood.com>, Nov. 19.



Sirdeaner Walker

"I know now that bullying is not a race issue or a religious issues and it's not a gay issue or a straight issue. It's a safety issue. Too many of our children are being tormented in schools - and not enough of our adults are doing the right thing and teaching respect for all. Enough is enough! Teachers, parents, clergy, and community members must stand together and make change. We all know the problems and we know the solution that can make a difference all that remains is to act."

Sirdeaner Walker, mother of 11-year-old Carl Walker-Hoover, who hanged himself after anti-gay bullying at school, urging Massachusetts legislators to pass two bills that would require schools to address bullying and harassment targeting LGBT students, www.masslive.com, Nov. 18.



Arianna Huffington

Arianna Huffington, in her editorial titled "The Split-Screen Struggle Over Gay Rights," www.huffingtonpost.com, Nov. 15.

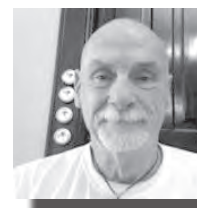
"Today is a day we remember those who have died because of senseless acts of violence. They simply died for being who they were. The names on the list were living, breathing, vibrant human beings. They were more than transgender. Each person on this list was a loved one, a loved one who will never return home. This isn't a day to celebrate. It isn't a day of empowerment. It's a day when we make a silent commitment to this list that we will make a better world. Today we remember and mourn our dead. This day is sacred."

Marti Abernathy, Indiana-based transgender activist, in Chicago, at a candlelight vigil in observance of the International Transgender Day of Remembrance, www.nowingaychicago.com, Nov. 21.



"In the hard-knock world of Washington politics, it may sound rather trite and old-fashioned to simply ask our leaders to come through on the promises they gave us when they were campaigning for office. I will take the frustrated voices who are demanding dignity and equality for themselves and their families in to this meeting with me and I'll make clear that the days of back room compromises of our rights are no longer acceptable. After all, these days I'm more comfortable wearing handcuffs than I am a power suit."

Robin McGehee, co-founder/director of GetEQUAL, direct action LGBTQ equality organization, in an editorial titled "Back to the White House - to walk through the gates," about her experience (with 12 other activists) on Monday being arrested for chaining herself to a White House fence and on Wednesday attending a meeting in the White House with an Obama Administration official, <http://gay.americablog.com>, Nov. 17.



Parting Glances Then & Now

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Yes, our Rosie's something of a butch icon these days, but during World War II any woman who worked for the war effort earned the title, and with it the liberating privilege of wearing slacks.

Get stuffed, Rosie!

As a kid growing up after World War Two, I was fascinated by two women living on the fourth floor of our Peterboro apartment building. Each had short-cropped hair. Each wore slacks.

They were always friendly, and – nascent gay lad that I'm sure I surely was – I liked them, but not quite sure just why. My mom said (winking at my father) they were Rosie the Riveters.

And just down the hall there was another of this patriotic breed: Jimmy W's mom. I noted that she was often visited by one of the Burton School non-slacks-pleated teachers. They hugged in and out. Brown baggers, no doubt.

Then, too, there was Mickey, happy tipsy on weekends, who owned a candy shop where we kids gathered after hide and seek. God bless her kindly heart, I now know of course that she was a lesbian. A frequently stone(d) butch. Slacks and all.

The legendary, and real, Rosie the Riveter started muscling around on the scene during the militant, days when Detroit was "the Arsenal of Democracy," home of tanks, planes, guns. "Praise the Lord, and pass the ammunition."

Her face still pops up on posters, memorabilia, and recently on the cover of a do-it-yourself manual for housewives with husbands who are all thumbs and single gals who have as yet undetermined plumbing needs to fulfill.

Rosie's slogan is "We Can Do It!" although what, is not specified. (With her macho expression, stevedore bandana, flexed 14-inch bicep at the ready I have my suspicions; though I hasten to add, not with, at, or on me.)

Yes, our Rosie's something of a butch icon these days, but during World War II any woman who worked for the war effort earned the title, and with it the liberating privilege of wearing slacks. (My mom was not so liberated.)

The original Rosie – Rose Will Monroe – was living in Detroit and working at Ypsi's Willow Run plant when she posed for the world-famous pinup. She was "discovered" belting rivets (roughly five per nonstop minute) into B 24 and B 29 bombers.

(Another well-known WW II stud driver with the same soon-to-be-acquired last name was 16-year-old Norma Jean Baker. She later worked many an energetic – and democratic – swing shift as Marilyn Monroe.)

One Detroiter who did his bit for the war effort – but as a Nazi spy – was Edmund Carl Heine, an engineer for the Ford Motor Co.; later for Chrysler Corp. He earned \$30,000 a year but was cheap and lazy when it came to espionage.

Heine spent his spy time reading "Popular Mechanics" and "Popular Aviation." He cribbed tidbits, rewrote them in der/das/die engineering jargon and sent it all with three-cent postage and a "Heil Hitler!" to his German cronies.

Heine used Chrysler letterhead stationery to beg, borrow, steal, aeronautic data from unsuspecting fellow engineers, while running ads offering \$20 American to "anyone who can provide an airplane buff" with new design information.

(Please note: Times are definitely not favorable for starting your own computer-based spying operation using stealth solicitation in BTL. Do, however, feel free to rivet at any time in the privacy of your own home. Or, my studio.)

Just in time for the Thanksgiving Holiday I came across this newly plucked item, about another turkey of a spy, a gay Englishman this time, one Hugh Montgomery (no relation to Jeff). My source: "Espionage: An Encyclopedia of Spies and Secrets," Virgin Books. (Publisher title not applicable to either Montgomery.)

"Montgomery, a devote Catholic, was also the homosexual lover of Giovanni Montini, the future much loved and respected Pope John Paul I. Montini's wartime romance with Montgomey ... made him detested by right-wing elements in the Vatican."

Gobble. Gobble. Slacks vobiscum!

Charles@pridesource.com Face Book, too

On REYATAZ,

INDICATION: REYATAZ is a prescription medicine used in combination with other medicines to treat people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). REYATAZ has been studied in a 48-week trial in patients who have taken anti-HIV medicines and a 96-week trial in patients who have never taken anti-HIV medicines.

REYATAZ does not cure HIV or lower your chance of passing HIV to others.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

Do not take REYATAZ if you are taking the following medicines due to potential for serious, life-threatening side effects or death: Versed® (midazolam) when taken by mouth, Halcion® (triazolam), ergot medicines (dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, ergorate maleate, Methergine®, and others), Propulsid® (cisapride), or Orap® (pimozide).

Do not take REYATAZ with the following medicines due to potential for serious side effects: Camptosar® (irinotecan), Crixivan® (indinavir), Mevacor® (lovastatin), Zocor® (simvastatin), Uroxatral® (alfuzosin), or Revatio® (sildenafil).

Do not take REYATAZ with the following medicines as they may lower the amount of REYATAZ in your blood, which may lead to increased HIV viral load and resistance to REYATAZ or other anti-HIV medicines: rifampin (also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®), St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)-containing products, or Viramune® (nevirapine).

Serevent Diskus® (salmeterol) and Advair® (salmeterol with fluticasone) are **not recommended with REYATAZ.**

Do not take Vfend® (voriconazole) if you are taking REYATAZ and Norvir® (ritonavir).

The above lists of medicines are not complete. **Taking REYATAZ with some other medicines may require your therapy to be monitored more closely or may require a change in dose or dose schedule of REYATAZ or the other medicine.** Discuss with your healthcare provider all prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamin and herbal supplements, or other health preparations you are taking or plan to take.

Tell your healthcare provider if you are **pregnant, breast-feeding**, planning to become pregnant or breast-feed, or if you have **end-stage kidney disease** managed with hemodialysis or **severe liver dysfunction.**

Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any side effects, symptoms, or conditions, including the following:

- **Mild rash** (redness and itching) without other symptoms sometimes occurs in patients taking REYATAZ, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started, and usually goes away within 2 weeks with no change in treatment.
- **Severe rash** has occurred in a small number of patients taking REYATAZ. This type of rash is associated with other symptoms that could be serious and potentially cause death. **If you develop a rash with any of the following symptoms, stop using REYATAZ and call your healthcare provider right away:**
 - Shortness of breath
 - General ill-feeling or “flu-like” symptoms
 - Fever
 - Muscle or joint aches
 - Conjunctivitis (red or inflamed eyes, like “pink-eye”)
 - Blisters
 - Mouth sores
 - Swelling of your face
- **Yellowing of the skin and/or eyes** may occur due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver).
- **A change in the way your heart beats** may occur. You may feel dizzy or lightheaded. These could be symptoms of a heart problem.
- **Diabetes and high blood sugar** may occur in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine.
- **If you have liver disease**, including hepatitis B or C, it may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like REYATAZ.
- **Kidney stones** have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ. Signs or symptoms of kidney stones include pain in your side, blood in your urine, and pain when you urinate.
- **Some patients with hemophilia** have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ.
- **Changes in body fat** have been seen in some patients taking anti-HIV medicines. The cause and long-term effects are not known at this time.
- **Gallbladder disorders** (including gallstones and gallbladder inflammation) have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ.

Other common side effects of REYATAZ taken with other anti-HIV medicines include: nausea; headache; stomach pain; vomiting; diarrhea; depression; fever; dizziness; trouble sleeping; numbness, tingling, or burning of hands or feet; and muscle pain.

You should take REYATAZ once daily with food (a meal or snack). Swallow the capsules whole; do not open the capsules. You should take REYATAZ and your other anti-HIV medicines exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider.

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

Wednesday
Mary's
birthday
party

Thursday
5:30
Choir
practice

Buy new
shoes
for Latisha


REYATAZ®
(atazanavir sulfate) 200 mg/300 mg capsules

Fight HIV your way.

Please see Important Patient Information about REYATAZ on the adjacent pages.

how you spend your time is up to you.



Individual results may vary.

Once-daily REYATAZ can help fight your HIV.

REYATAZ, a protease inhibitor (PI), in HIV combination therapy:

- ◆ Can help lower your viral load and raise your T-cell (CD4+ cell) count
- ◆ Has a low chance of diarrhea (shown in clinical trials)
 - REYATAZ in combination therapy had a 1%-3% rate of moderate-to-severe diarrhea in adults
- ◆ Is taken once a day with a snack or meal

REYATAZ is one of several treatment options your doctor may consider.

Do not take REYATAZ if you are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients.

Ask your healthcare team about REYATAZ www.REYATAZ.com

REYATAZ does not cure HIV and has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others.

Find out if you can save on REYATAZ.
Call 1-888-281-8981 or visit
ReyatazSavings.com for details.

Subject to terms and conditions. Restrictions apply.

 Bristol-Myers Squibb

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All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners
and not of Bristol-Myers Squibb.

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If you or someone you know needs help paying for medicine,
call 1-888-4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669). Or go to www.pparx.org



Partnership for
Prescription Assistance

REYATAZ® (RAY-ah-taz)
(generic name = **atazanavir sulfate**)
Capsules

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with REYATAZ. Read the section "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?"

Read the Patient Information that comes with REYATAZ before you start using it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet provides a summary about REYATAZ and does not include everything there is to know about your medicine. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

What is REYATAZ?

REYATAZ is a prescription medicine used with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). HIV is the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). REYATAZ is a type of anti-HIV medicine called a protease inhibitor. HIV infection destroys CD4+ (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. The immune system helps fight infection. After a large number of (T) cells are destroyed, AIDS develops. REYATAZ helps to block HIV protease, an enzyme that is needed for the HIV virus to multiply. REYATAZ may lower the amount of HIV in your blood, help your body keep its supply of CD4+ (T) cells, and reduce the risk of death and illness associated with HIV.

Does REYATAZ cure HIV or AIDS?

REYATAZ does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At present there is no cure for HIV infection. People taking REYATAZ may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Opportunistic infections are infections that develop because the immune system is weak. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections. **It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while taking REYATAZ.**

REYATAZ does not lower your chance of passing HIV to other people through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood. For your health and the health of others, it is important to always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom or other barrier to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never use or share dirty needles.

Who should not take REYATAZ?

Do not take REYATAZ if you:

- **are taking certain medicines.** (See "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?") Serious life-threatening side effects or death may happen. Before you take REYATAZ, tell your healthcare provider about all medicines you are taking or planning to take. These include other prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.
- **are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients.** The active ingredient is atazanavir sulfate. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in REYATAZ. Tell your healthcare provider if you think you have had an allergic reaction to any of these ingredients.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before I take REYATAZ?

Tell your healthcare provider:

- **If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant.** It is not known if REYATAZ can harm your unborn baby. Pregnant women have experienced serious side effects when taking REYATAZ with other HIV medicines called nucleoside analogues. You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if REYATAZ is right for you. If you use REYATAZ while you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
- **If you are breast-feeding.** You should not breast-feed if you are HIV-positive because of the chance of passing HIV to your baby. Also, it is not known if REYATAZ can pass into your breast milk and if it can harm your baby. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- **If you have liver problems or are infected with the hepatitis B or C virus.** See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- **If you have end stage kidney disease** managed with hemodialysis.
- **If you have diabetes.** See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- **If you have hemophilia.** See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- **About all the medicines you take** including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Keep a list of your medicines with you to show your healthcare provider. For more information, see "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?" and "Who should not take REYATAZ?" Some medicines can cause serious side effects if taken with REYATAZ.

How should I take REYATAZ?

- **Take REYATAZ once every day exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider.** Your healthcare provider will prescribe the amount of REYATAZ that is right for you.
 - For adults who have never taken anti-HIV medicines before, the dose is 300 mg once daily with 100 mg of NORVIR® (ritonavir) once daily taken with food. For adults who are unable to tolerate ritonavir, 400 mg (two 200-mg capsules) once daily (without NORVIR®) taken with food is recommended.
 - For adults who have taken anti-HIV medicines in the past, the usual dose is 300 mg plus 100 mg of NORVIR® (ritonavir) once daily taken with food.
- Your dose will depend on your liver function and on the other anti-HIV medicines that you are taking. REYATAZ is always used with other anti-HIV medicines. If you are taking REYATAZ with SUSTIVA® (efavirenz) or with VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate), you should also be taking NORVIR® (ritonavir).
- **Always take REYATAZ with food** (a meal or snack) to help it work better. Swallow the capsules whole. **Do not open the capsules.** Take REYATAZ at the same time each day.
- **If you are taking antacids or didanosine (VIDEX® or VIDEX® EC),** take REYATAZ 2 hours before or 1 hour after these medicines.
- **If you are taking medicines for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AXID® (nizatidine), PEPCID AC® (famotidine), TAGAMET® (cimetidine), ZANTAC® (ranitidine), AcipHex® (rabeprazole), NEXIUM® (esomeprazole), PREVACID® (lansoprazole), PRILOSEC® (omeprazole), or PROTONIX® (pantoprazole),** talk to your healthcare provider.
- **Do not change your dose or stop taking REYATAZ without first talking with your healthcare provider.** It is important to stay under a healthcare provider's care while taking REYATAZ.
- **When your supply of REYATAZ starts to run low,** get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of REYATAZ. The amount of HIV in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time.
- **If you miss a dose of REYATAZ,** take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If, however, it is within 6 hours of your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose. **It is important that you do not miss any doses of REYATAZ or your other anti-HIV medicines.**
- **If you take more than the prescribed dose of REYATAZ,** call your healthcare provider or poison control center right away.

Can children take REYATAZ?

Dosing recommendations are available for children 6 years of age and older for REYATAZ Capsules. Dosing recommendations are not available for children from 3 months to less than 6 years of age. REYATAZ should not be used in babies under the age of 3 months.

What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?

The following list of side effects is **not** complete. Report any new or continuing symptoms to your healthcare provider. If you have questions about side effects, ask your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider may be able to help you manage these side effects.

The following side effects have been reported with REYATAZ:

- **mild rash** (redness and itching) without other symptoms sometimes occurs in patients taking REYATAZ, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started. Rashes usually go away within 2 weeks with no change in treatment. Tell your healthcare provider if rash occurs.
- **severe rash:** In a small number of patients, a rash can develop that is associated with other symptoms which could be serious and potentially cause death.

If you develop a rash with any of the following symptoms stop using REYATAZ and call your healthcare provider right away:

- shortness of breath
 - general ill feeling or "flu-like" symptoms
 - fever
 - muscle or joint aches
 - conjunctivitis (red or inflamed eyes, like "pink eye")
 - blisters
 - mouth sores
 - swelling of your face
- **yellowing of the skin or eyes.** These effects may be due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver). Call your healthcare provider if your skin or the white part of your eyes turn yellow. Although these effects may not be damaging to your liver, skin, or eyes, it is important to tell your healthcare provider promptly if they occur.

REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate)

- **a change in the way your heart beats (heart rhythm change).** Call your healthcare provider right away if you get dizzy or lightheaded. These could be symptoms of a heart problem.
- **diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia)** sometimes happen in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ. Some patients had diabetes before taking protease inhibitors while others did not. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine.
- **if you have liver disease** including hepatitis B or C, your liver disease may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like REYATAZ.
- **kidney stones** have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ. If you develop signs or symptoms of kidney stones (pain in your side, blood in your urine, pain when you urinate) tell your healthcare provider promptly.
- **some patients with hemophilia** have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitors like REYATAZ.
- **changes in body fat.** These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Other common side effects of REYATAZ taken with other anti-HIV medicines include nausea; headache; stomach pain; vomiting; diarrhea; depression; fever; dizziness; trouble sleeping; numbness, tingling, or burning of hands or feet; and muscle pain.

Gallbladder disorders (which may include gallstones and gallbladder inflammation) have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ.

What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?

Do not take REYATAZ if you take the following medicines (not all brands may be listed; tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take). REYATAZ may cause serious, life-threatening side effects or death when used with these medicines.

- Ergot medicines: dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylergonovine such as CAFERGOT®, MIGRANAL®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, METHERGINE®, and others (used for migraine headaches).
- ORAP® (pimozide, used for Tourette's disorder).
- PROPULSID® (cisapride, used for certain stomach problems).
- Triazolam, also known as HALCION® (used for insomnia).
- Midazolam, also known as VERSED® (used for sedation), when taken by mouth.

Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because of possible serious side effects:

- CAMPTOSAR® (irinotecan, used for cancer).
- CRIXIVAN® (indinavir, used for HIV infection). Both REYATAZ and CRIXIVAN sometimes cause increased levels of bilirubin in the blood.
- Cholesterol-lowering medicines MEVACOR® (lovastatin) or ZOCOR® (simvastatin).
- UROXATRAL® (alfuzosin, used to treat benign enlargement of the prostate).
- REVATIO® (sildenafil, used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension).

Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because they may lower the amount of REYATAZ in your blood. This may lead to an increased HIV viral load. Resistance to REYATAZ or cross-resistance to other HIV medicines may develop:

- Rifampin (also known as RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®, RIFATER®, or RIFAMATE®, used for tuberculosis).
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort.
- VIRAMUNE® (nevirapine, used for HIV infection).

The following medicines are not recommended with REYATAZ:

- SEREVENT DISKUS® (salmeterol) and ADVAIR® (salmeterol with fluticasone), used to treat asthma, emphysema/chronic obstructive pulmonary disease also known as COPD.

Do not take the following medicine if you are taking REYATAZ and NORVIR® together:

- VFEND® (voriconazole).

The following medicines may require your healthcare provider to monitor your therapy more closely (for some medicines a change in the dose or dose schedule may be needed):

- CIALIS® (tadalafil), LEVITRA® (vardenafil), or VIAGRA® (sildenafil), used to treat erectile dysfunction. REYATAZ may increase the chances of serious side effects that can happen with CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA. Do not use CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA while you are taking REYATAZ unless your healthcare provider tells you it is okay.
- ADCIRCA® (tadalafil) or TRACLEER® (bosentan), used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension.
- LIPITOR® (atorvastatin) or CRESTOR® (rosuvastatin). There is an increased chance of serious side effects if you take REYATAZ with this cholesterol-lowering medicine.

REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate)

- Medicines for abnormal heart rhythm: CORDARONE® (amiodarone), lidocaine, quinidine (also known as CARDIOQUIN®, QUINIDEX®, and others).
- MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin, an antibiotic used to treat tuberculosis).
- BUPRENEX®, SUBUTEX®, SUBOXONE®, (buprenorphine or buprenorphine/naloxone, used to treat pain and addiction to narcotic painkillers).
- VASCOR® (bepridil, used for chest pain).
- COUMADIN® (warfarin).
- Tricyclic antidepressants such as ELAVIL® (amitriptyline), NORPRAMIN® (desipramine), SINEQUAN® (doxepin), SURMONTIL® (trimipramine), TOFRANIL® (imipramine), or VIVACTIL® (protriptyline).
- Medicines to prevent organ transplant rejection: SANDIMMUNE® or NEORAL® (cyclosporin), RAPAMUNE® (sirolimus), or PROGRAF® (tacrolimus).
- The antidepressant trazodone (DESYREL® and others).
- Fluticasone propionate (FLONASE®, FLOVENT®), given by nose or inhaled to treat allergic symptoms or asthma. Your doctor may choose not to keep you on fluticasone, especially if you are also taking NORVIR®.
- Colchicine (COLCRYS®), used to prevent or treat gout or treat familial Mediterranean fever.

The following medicines may require a change in the dose or dose schedule of either REYATAZ or the other medicine:

- INVIRASE® (saquinavir).
- NORVIR® (ritonavir).
- SUSTIVA® (efavirenz).
- Antacids or buffered medicines.
- VIDEX® (didanosine).
- VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate).
- MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin).
- Calcium channel blockers such as CARDIZEM® or TIAZAC® (diltiazem), COVERA-HS® or ISOPTIN SR® (verapamil) and others.
- BIAXIN® (clarithromycin).
- Medicines for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AXID® (nizatidine), PEPICID AC® (famotidine), TAGAMET® (cimetidine), or ZANTAC® (ranitidine).

Talk to your healthcare provider about choosing an effective method of contraception. REYATAZ may affect the safety and effectiveness of hormonal contraceptives such as birth control pills or the contraceptive patch. Hormonal contraceptives do not prevent the spread of HIV to others.

Remember:

1. **Know all the medicines you take.**
2. **Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take.**
3. **Do not start a new medicine without talking to your healthcare provider.**

How should I store REYATAZ?

- Store REYATAZ Capsules at room temperature, 59° to 86° F (15° to 30° C). Do **not** store this medicine in a damp place such as a bathroom medicine cabinet or near the kitchen sink.
- Keep your medicine in a tightly closed container.
- Keep all medicines out of the reach of children and pets at all times. Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Dispose of unused medicines through community take-back disposal programs when available or place REYATAZ in an unrecognizable, closed container in the household trash.

General information about REYATAZ

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use REYATAZ for another condition. Do not give REYATAZ to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them. **Keep REYATAZ and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.**


This summary does not include everything there is to know about REYATAZ. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Remember no written summary can replace careful discussion with your healthcare provider. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider or you can call 1-800-321-1335.

What are the ingredients in REYATAZ?

Active Ingredient: atazanavir sulfate

Inactive Ingredients: Crospovidone, lactose monohydrate (milk sugar), magnesium stearate, gelatin, FD&C Blue #2, and titanium dioxide.

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Rev April 2010

NCAVP Anti-violence report shows decrease in reported violence in LGBT community

Budget, staff cuts limit program capacity to capture data

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

The National Coalition of Anti-violence Programs released its 2009 annual report in October, and though the number of reported instances of violence in the LGBT community was down, the news may not be as good as the numbers first suggest.

The total number of reported survivors and victims of hate violence decreased 12 percent since 2008. The number of reported incidents were down 7 percent, and the number of anti-LGBT murders were down 30 percent from the peak year, but were still the second-highest in the last decade.

There were 22 anti-LGBT murders reported across the country. Two of those murders took place in Michigan. William Boss died in early February after being stabbed 27 times. The alleged assailant, Robert Lewis Sheridan, met Boss in a Detroit area bar and was later allegedly found in possession of Boss' car. Sheridan is currently awaiting trial. The second murder was reported on May 25, 2009 when 28-year-old transgender woman, Foxy Ivy, was found shot in the back of the head. That same night another transgender woman in the area was the victim of an attempted shooting, although police do not know if the shootings were connected.

The total number of reported victims went from 2,465 to 2,181 - an overall decrease of 20 percent. However, these numbers need to be viewed in a broader context. "The decrease

in the number of victims...likely reflects, not an actual decrease in violence experienced by LGBT people, but rather a decrease in program capacity to meet community needs in the wake of financial crisis," according to the report.

The NCAVP membership currently includes 38 antiviolence organizations in 22 states, including Detroit-based Equality Michigan. Ten of the member groups responded to an internal survey about the impact of the economy on their programs and services. Half have lost staff due to funding cuts, and 70 percent of them had a current operating budget that was less than what they had in 2007.

The report also suggested that violent crime against the LGBT community spiked last October because of the passage of the 2009 Matthew Shepard and James Boyd Jr Hate Crimes Prevention Act. The new law recognizes gender identity and sexual orientation as protected classes under federal law, expands the scope of how hate crimes can be charged, and allows the federal government to step in when local authorities fail to protect the rights of protected minority groups.

"Monthly incident trends in 2009 indicated a possible correlation between the attention generated by the law's passage and reported incidents of hate violence. Historically, reported monthly incidents of anti-LGBTQ hate violence have peaked in May, June or July when LGBTQ Pride events increase visibility of LGBTQ communities. However, the peak in monthly

incidents occurred in October last year, the same month as the bill's passage. Frustration with increased media attention and heightened LGBTQ visibility at this time could have incited hate-violence offenders to action. Alternatively, LGBTQ people could have felt empowered to report violence directed against them in the wake of recognition under federal hate crimes law. While causality is difficult to determine, it is clear that reports of violence increased around the time of the law's passage."

How agencies fight violence

Violence affects the community in many ways. The NCAVP looks at anti-LGBT violence, anti-HIV/AIDS violence and harassment, intimate partner violence (formerly called domestic violence), sexual assault, police misconduct and other situations where an individual may face danger due to their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Equality Michigan, formerly known as The Triangle Foundation, was recognized in the report for helping a domestic violence victim through their struggle. A 43-year-old non-transgender woman wrote, "I had been in a domestic violence relationship for the past five years. While trying to get my things from the house that I shared with my ex-partner, her 18-year-old nephew beat me repeatedly over the head while my ex-partner watched. I was taken to the hospital and have been in on-going treat-

ment for a traumatic brain injury. The Triangle Foundation has supported me by helping me to file a Crime Victim Compensation Application, helped file a personal protection order against the offender, accompanied me to court dates, and assisted me in finding resources for medical treatment and counseling."

Equality Michigan's Department of Victim Services offers free and confidential support to victims of hate crimes, harassment, discrimination, domestic violence, HIV-related violence, police misconduct and pick-up crimes. They offer crisis intervention, personal support and advocacy, and referrals to LGBT culturally competent attorneys, counselors, and social service agencies, as well as criminal justice support and advocacy.

Recommendations

The NCAVP recommends more community organization and funding to respond to hate violence, building more alliances with antiviolence groups and other LGBT-friendly organizations, creating safe spaces for victims, and using more creative advocacy tactics to expand options for service and community involvement for survivors.

If you have been the victim of a hate crime, please contact Equality Michigan through their website at <http://equalitymi.org>.

Report: Gays targeted for hate crimes far more than any other minority

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - Homosexuals are far more likely to be victims of a violent hate crime than any other minority group in the United States, according to a new analysis of federal hate crime statistics in the latest issue of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Intelligence Report, released Nov. 22.

The SPLC's analysis of 14 years of hate crime data found that homosexuals, or those perceived to be gay, are more than twice as likely to be attacked in a violent hate crime as Jews or blacks; more than four times as likely as Muslims; and 14 times as likely as Latinos. The findings are based on FBI hate crime statistics from 1995 to 2008, the period for which there is complete data. The basic pattern also holds true in individual years.

The analysis was released to coincide with the release of the FBI's hate crime statistics for 2009.

These findings come as a wave of anti-gay attacks have washed across the country. In New York, for example, 10 suspects were arrested for brutally torturing three gay victims. And in Covington, Ky., a neighborhood was hit by a series of violent anti-gay attacks. Most dramatically, four teenagers committed suicide in September after being bullied, taunted or outed as homosexuals.

This analysis of hate crime data can be found in the Winter 2010 issue of the Intelligence

Report, which also explores how the hard-core anti-gay movement in America is becoming more extreme in the face of gay rights advances. The complete issue can be read at www.splcenter.org.

"As Americans become more accepting of homosexuals, the most extreme elements of the anti-gay movement are digging in their heels and continuing to defame gays and lesbians with falsehoods that grow more incendiary by the day," said Mark Potok, editor of the Intelligence Report. "The leaders of this movement may deny it, but it seems clear that their demonization of homosexuals plays a role in fomenting the violence, hatred and bullying we're seeing."

Even after the recent string of teen suicides, which brought national attention to the issue of anti-gay bullying, leaders of these groups blamed those seeking to protect students from bullying.

Eighteen anti-gay groups are profiled in the Winter 2010 issue, which also contains an article debunking 10 key claims spread by the anti-gay movement to demonize homosexuals. These claims "ranging from the myth that homosexuals don't live nearly as long as heterosexuals to the utterly bizarre claim that gays helped orchestrate the Holocaust," are examined in detail.

Anti-gay "murder music," a style of music that features lyrics advocating the murder of homosexuals and is growing in popularity far beyond its native Jamaica, is also described. The

music has sparked an effort by gay and lesbian activists in Jamaica and throughout the Western world to stop its growth.

The law enforcement edition of Intelligence Report, which is being sent to about 55,000 officers, also contains a training DVD to help officers recognize the threat when dealing with extremists from the "sovereign citizens" movement. This past May, two officers in West Memphis, Ark., were murdered when they stopped two sovereigns.

For more information, visit www.splcenter.org.

FBI: Hate crime incidents report

WASHINGTON (AP) - The number of hate crime incidents and victims declined in 2009 compared to the previous year, the FBI reported Nov. 22.

Of more than 6,000 hate crime offenders, over six in 10 were white while nearly two in 10 were black.

Nearly half of the crime incidents in 2009 were motivated by racial bias and nearly one out of five by religious bias or sexual orientation bias.

More than half the reported hate crimes against individual people were assaults, said the FBI. One out of a hundred hate crimes involved murder or rape.

There were 6,604 hate crime incidents reported last year, down from 7,783 in 2008. There were 8,336 reported victims, down from 9,691 in 2008. The victim totals include not only individuals but also businesses, religious buildings and other institutions.

The year-to-year figures in the FBI reports for 2009 and 2008 are not exactly comparable because the number of law enforcement agencies providing data to the bureau on hate crime went up last year to more than 14,000, compared to 13,690 in 2008.

The Anti-Defamation League welcomed a substantial drop in the number of hate crimes in the latest report but expressed disappointment that more than 60 cities with over 100,000 populations each did not participate in the study.

The report said that out of some 4,000 victims of racial bias, seven in 10 were victims because of prejudice against blacks.

Out of nearly 1,600 victims of anti-religious bias, about the same proportion - seven of 10 - stemmed from anti-Jewish bias.

*FBI report: [http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2010/november/hate\(underscore\)112210/hate\(underscore\)112210](http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2010/november/hate(underscore)112210/hate(underscore)112210)
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Peter LaBarbera

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Have you ever been at an airport looking around you at all of the harried travelers in flip flops and sweatpants stuffing their faces with dinner plate sized Cinnabons and thought to yourself, "If only there was a job that would pay me to grope these people?"



Peter LaBarbera

Well, it's your lucky day. There is such a job. As an agent of the Transportation Security Administration you'll get to participate in the new "enhanced" pat downs that include genital touching. The thing is, if you're female you can only grope ladies. If you're male, you can only grope guys. In other words, it's the perfect job for homos!

Now, no doubt and obviously, gays and lesbians are quitting their jobs and unemployed homos are throwing down

their "Will Work for Grope Privileges" signs and flocking to their local TSA hiring offices saying, "Sign me up! Hell, I'll do it for free!"

Unfortunately, Peter LaBarbera of Americans for Truth about Homosexuality wants to ruin everyone's fun by raising the alarm on homosexual America's nationwide TSA grope party.

Pointing out that "pat downs" on passengers are done by a TSA agent of the same sex, LaBarbera asks, "But what about homosexual TSA agents? Isn't it just as inappropriate for a 'gay' male TSA agent to pat down male travelers as it is for a normal, heterosexual male TSA agent to pat down female travelers?"

Good question. Never mind the invasiveness of the TSA's new procedures, the real issue is that God-loving heterosexuals don't want sex-crazed homosexuals rooting around in their ass cracks in the name of security.

"The reality is, most traveling men would not want Barney Frank to pat them down at the airport security checkpoint," LaBarbera continued. "Neither would it be fair to assign Ellen DeGeneres to pat down female travelers."

He's right. Most travelers probably wouldn't want Barney Frank and Ellen DeGeneres doing their pat downs because passengers would be all, "Hey, aren't you wildly over qualified for this job? Don't you have a legislation to write or a TV show to tape?"

Actually, no offense to Frank, but I think a lot of women actually wouldn't mind DeGeneres doing their pat down if only because she'd probably make the whole experience pretty hilarious rather than humiliating and degrading.

Using TSA officers of the same sex as the passenger getting the pat down is "to assure the public that sexual tension will be taken out of the equation," said LaBarbera. "Hence, we must take seriously the self-identified desires of homosexuals. 'Gay' men define themselves as being sexually attracted to other men. Lesbians are sexually attracted to women. And bisexuals are attracted to both."

Thanks for the human sexuality lesson, LaBarbera. Very informative and helpful. There's something I think LaBarbera doesn't understand, however. When he says, for example, that "Lesbians are sexually attracted to women," he seems to mean, and believe, that lesbians are attracted to all women. Anyone with a vagina will do. Same thing with gay men and penises.

LaBarbera asks, "Is it fair to travelers who may end up getting 'groped' by homosexual TSA agents who are secretly getting turned on through the process?"

This, of course, is only happening in LaBarbera's wild imagination. But seeing gays and lesbians as anything other than sex-crazed perverts who get a secret thrill every time they touch the under wire of your grandmother's bra or paw at your dad's nut sack would ruin LaBarbera's narrative where homosexuals are lurking everywhere just waiting to pounce on you and your private parts.

The only solution, of course, is to do away with all homosexual TSA employees. Of course, then you have homosexual travelers "secretly getting turned on" via TSA grope. So you'll have to ban them, too. And with no homos flying or working in airports, well, I suppose they could always go Gayhound.

HIV drugs can prevent infection

BY BOB ROEHR

HIV drugs can do a remarkable job of suppressing high viral loads to undetectable levels, but can they prevent that infection in the first place? Most people thought they could in theory, but there was no proof of that...until now.

A study published in the New England Journal of Medicine on Nov. 23, reported the results from the Preexposure Prophylaxis Initiative (iPrEx) Trial, which found that drugs could reduce new infections by 43.8 percent in high-risk men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender persons.

"These results represent a major advance in HIV prevention research. For the first time, we have evidence that a daily pill used to treat HIV is partially effective for preventing HIV among gay and bisexual men at high risk for infection, when combined with other prevention strategies. Given the heavy burden of HIV among gay and bisexual men, a new tool with potential additive benefit is exciting and welcome news," said Dr. Kevin Fenton, M.D., Director, CDC National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD & TB Prevention.

The \$43.6 million trial enrolled 2,499 participants at 11 sites on four continents, including San Francisco and Boston. Despite the fact that MSMs are much more likely to be infected with HIV - they are more than half of those infected in the U.S., and in the broader epidemic of sub-Saharan Africa they are at least four times as likely as their heterosexual counterparts to be infected with the virus. This is the first large biochemical prevention study conducted in the MSM population.

Participants were randomized to receive a once a day dose of either Truvada, a single pill containing the drugs emtricitabine and tenofovir, or a placebo - essentially a sugar pill with no active ingredients. They also received counseling on HIV prevention at every meeting with the study team. The analysis was based on a median of 1.2 years on the drug.

Of the first 100 people to become infected with HIV, 64 were receiving placebo (an annual infection rate of about 4 percent) and 36 were on Truvada. The 43.8 percent rate of protection was no home run, but within the same ballpark as the protection seen in other recent prevention trials; the vaginal microbicide trial of tenofovir gel in African women (39 percent) and a vaccine trial in Thailand (31 percent).

Adherence

Digging deeper, the researchers found that adherence was a very important part of the equation. The men who took at least half of their doses had 50.2 percent fewer infections; those who took at least 90 percent of their medication had 72.8 percent fewer infections. Even the best drugs will not work if people don't take them as prescribed.

Robert Grant, MD, a researcher at the Gladstone Institute at the University of California San Francisco is the principle

investigator of the study. He said they asked participants to report how often they took their pills, but because people often are "optimistic" in their recall, and sometimes report what they think researchers want to hear, the study also tested for levels of the drug in the blood of those who became infected.

"No drug was detected in 91 percent; the other 9 percent had detectible levels inside blood cells that were very low. The absence of the drug in the blood is probably due to people not taking it, which could explain all of the infections that did occur" in that group, Grant said.

The association between adherence and the level of protection was similar to what was seen in the microbicides trial. People who most closely used the product as intended had the best results. Cutting corners gave HIV an opportunity that it quickly exploited.

Reactions

"The iPrEx study results are extremely important and provide strong evidence that PrEP [preexposure prophylaxis] can reduce HIV acquisition among a segment of society disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS," said Anthony Fauci, MD, director of the NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases which provided \$27.8 million toward the study.

He emphasized that despite this good news, "correct and consistent use of condoms and a reduction in the number of sex partners still remain the most effective ways to protect yourself from HIV infection."

"It's critically important to determine how this data holds up in the real world." Says Phill Wilson, President and CEO of the Black AIDS Institute. "We need to see the results of more trials and we need funding for demonstration projects. Also, how do we create environments where we can increase adherence to PrEP? And, during a global recession when many nations, including our own, are cutting back on HIV/AIDS funding, how do we advocate for PrEP funding but maintain our commitment to treatment, especially the expensive but life-saving antiretroviral regimens?"

"This is a very important study." Says Wilson. "But don't break open the champagne yet until we see what happens in the real world."

Money

Gilead Sciences manufactures Truvada and supported the iPrEx study by providing all of the drugs used. The company said it "will be working with the appropriate regulatory agencies to determine if data from this study warrants inclusion in the prescribing information for Truvada."

While doctors can prescribe drugs for "off label" use that the FDA has not approved, and some already prescribe Truvada for prevention, health insurance companies generally only reimburse for the use indicated on the label of the drug.

Adding a prevention indication to the

drug label likely will require additional trials in MSM and other populations, particularly with regard to preventing vaginal transmission of HIV. Some of those studies are already underway.

"The big conundrum right now is what does it mean for practice?" Coates said the response was not sufficiently great to signal immediate widespread adoption of this approach as a prevention intervention, particularly given issues of cost.

The retail price of the drug in the U.S. is about \$14,000 a year. The NIH pharmacy purchases it for about \$5,000 a year Fauci said.

In developing countries, generic versions of Truvada can be purchased for as little as 40 cents a day, according to Grant. However, those are the same places where more than half of the people already infected with HIV - who meet guidelines to begin treatment - cannot do so because of the cost. It is unlikely that public health officials will devote scarce resources to Truvada when a condom will do the same job more cheaply.

Furthermore, an international survey of more than 5,000 participants, to be released next week by the Global Forum on MSM & HIV, found that more than half of MSM worldwide do not have access to basic HIV prevention and treatment services. Adding PrEP to the mix will be a challenge.

The paper "Preexposure Chemoprophylaxis for HIV Prevention in Men Who Have Sex with Men" is freely available from the New England Journal of Medicine at {URL <http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1011205>}

iPrEx Trial: Key findings*

Efficacy The trial found that a once-daily pill containing tenofovir plus emtricitabine (brand name Truvada) provided an average of 44 percent additional protection to men who have sex with men (MSM) who also received comprehensive prevention services which included monthly HIV testing, condom provision, counseling, and management of other sexually transmitted infections (95 percent CI 15 to 63 percent).

Consistent use of PrEP The level of protection shown varied widely depending on how consistently participants used PrEP. Among those whose data (based on self-reports, bottles dispensed, and pill counts) indicates use on 90 percent or more days, HIV risk was reduced by 73 percent (95 percent CI 41 to 88 percent), while among those whose adherence by the same measure was less than 90 percent, HIV risk was reduced by only 21 percent (95 percent CI, from a 52 percent reduction to a 31 percent increase).

Risk behavior Risk behavior among participants declined overall during the trial both in terms of decreases in the number of sexual partners and increases in condom use, likely as a result of the intensive risk reduction counseling provided as part of the trial.

*Findings from CDC Fact Sheet, Nov. 23, 2010

► MDCH

Continued from p. 11

reaucratic red tape resulted in a harsh rebuke by Equality Michigan, the statewide group working for policy and legal issues for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

"We appreciate the commitment the MDCH made to have a policy in place by early 2010, but that deadline has long since passed. For just 2009, the MDCH reported 820 new HIV diagnoses in Michigan. Equality Michigan calls on the MDCH to cut through the red tape," said Emily Dievendorf, the group's director of policy. "Equality Michigan can find no rationale or justification for the lack of a uniform protocol regarding the availability and distribution of n-PEP existing in our state."

Dievendorf noted the state has had access to guidelines for n-PEP from both WHO and the CDC since 2005.

"While Equality Michigan understood that creating and releasing a policy tailored to Michigan would not happen over night, bureaucracy within the Michigan Department of Community Health could not have been so tangled as to excuse a five year delay in educating Michigan health facilities about their role in using n-PEP for HIV prevention," she said. "This lack of communication translates to a lack of application that could have shielded countless individuals from HIV, ultimately saving lives."

In addition to the condemnation from Equality Michigan, experts in HIV treatments



"While Equality Michigan understood that creating and releasing a policy tailored to Michigan would not happen over night, bureaucracy within the Michigan Department of Community Health could not have been so tangled as to excuse a five year delay in educating Michigan health facilities about their role in using n-PEP for HIV prevention," she said. "This lack of communication translates to a lack of application that could have shielded countless individuals from HIV, ultimately saving lives."

**- Emily Dievendorf,
Equality Michigan director of policy**

are also speaking out.

Dr. Peter Gulick, who treats HIV patients throughout Michigan and is an associate professor of hematology, oncology and infectious disease at Michigan State University School of Medicine, says he is baffled by the long delay in developing the policy.

"I don't know why it has taken this long," Gulick said.

He says he has already used the CDC protocols in his own practice.

"It's another way to cut down on the risks," he said. The doctor also said he spends a great deal of time reaching out to community groups, medical groups and others to discuss n-PEP and its importance in prevention.

Renee Canady, deputy health director of the Ingham County Health Department, said she understands how policies can be trapped in bureaucratic limbo, particularly when they get into the legal review, which she said was extremely detailed.

Regardless, Canady and the ICHD have begun convening a quarterly meeting of those involved in HIV and sexual health issues in the county. She calls the group "The Community Partners," and the goal is to share ideas and push for development of policies to benefit the sexual health of the community.

"This is definitely on our priority list," she said of n-PEP. She says the county is working to develop its own set of policies and will be relying on the CDC guidelines from 2005.


James Krellenstein, director of PEPnow.org, is not as forgiving of MDCH as Canady. He says the state has taken entirely too long. He noted that states do not need their own protocols.

"Human biology does not change when one crosses a border, and thus different protocols in different states are not necessary," he said. "It seems to me that this whole exercise is just a excuse to delay the implementation of n-PEP."

"Formulating nPEP guidelines should not take a long time to do, the scientific literature is unequivocal that in certain situations, n-PEP must be prescribed," said Krellenstein. "The state has numerous ways it could do this [make n-PEP available], but the fact that n-PEP is not widely available in the state five years after the CDC released its guidelines is inexcusable."

This article first appeared on www.michiganmessenger.com

Rhonda L. Kobold, D.O. and
Becky J. Smith, D.O., PC



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Transgender Houston attorney becomes a judge

BY BRIAN ROGERS

HOUSTON (AP) – Thirty years ago, Phyllis Frye, a longtime activist for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender causes, could have been arrested for wearing women’s clothing in the Houston City Council chamber.

Frye, a transgender Houston attorney born as Phillip Frye, fought back tears last week as the mayor appointed her to a municipal bench in the same room where she helped repeal Houston’s “cross-dressing ordinance” in 1980.

“I almost started crying, because I remembered 31 years ago, in that very same chamber, I was subject to arrest,” Frye said.

The 63-year-old will hear traffic ticket cases and other low-level misdemeanor trials. Municipal judges are not elected, she noted.

Frye said she would be the first transgender judge in Texas. She knows of at least two transgender judges in other parts of the country.

Frye applied for the position several months ago and was vetted before being appointed by Mayor Annise Parker on Wednesday with seven other new associate judges.

“I think she’s a great addition to our judiciary,” the mayor said. “I’m very proud I was able to nominate her, and she agreed to serve.”

Frye joins 43 other associate municipal judges and 22 full-time municipal judges.

“I don’t want to underplay this, because I understand it is very significant,” Frye said. “But I don’t want to overplay it either. I don’t want people to think I am anything other than an associate municipal court judge.”

Three decades ago Frye volunteered at City Hall where she worked to repeal an ordinance that allowed police to arrest men in women’s clothes and lesbians wearing fly-front jeans.

“Things have changed, and it’s pretty wonderful,” Frye said.

A graduate of Texas A&M, Frye was an Eagle Scout and an Aggie cadet. She also was a husband and a father.

Frye has practiced criminal defense law in Houston since 1986.

She now heads a six-lawyer firm and has parlayed her expertise in gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender legal issues into a storied legal career – the latest chapter of which is her representation of Nikki Araguz, the transgender Wharton widow embroiled in a legal battle to receive part of her firefighter husband’s death benefits.

Parker’s critics seized on Frye’s appointment to say the mayor, who is a lesbian, is pro-



Phyllis Frye

moting a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender agenda.

“Phyllis Frye is a very well-known radical transgender activist,” said Dave Welch, executive director of the Houston Area Pastor Council, which represents about 300 churches.

“We don’t think it is consistent with the

values of the vast majority of the people,” Welch said. “We think it is an anti-family lifestyle and agenda.”

Her appointment, however, was applauded by Houston’s GLBT Political Caucus.

“Phyllis Frye is a true icon in our civil rights movement,” said Kris Banks, Caucus president. “She is an internationally recognized pioneer, and the mayor is to be congratulated for her choice.”

Banks noted that Charles Spain, an openly gay attorney and chair of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification Issues of the State Bar, also was appointed as an associate municipal court judge. Josh Brockman, an openly gay attorney, was appointed as a hearings officer to resolve contested parking tickets.

New judges go through hours of state-mandated training. Frye said she expects to begin substituting for sitting judges in the spring.

Frye said she would be the first transgender judge in Texas. She knows of at least two transgender judges in other parts of the country.

National business and leadership conference reports record attendance White House summit and meeting ‘incredibly supportive’

WASHINGTON – The National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce wrapped up its seventh annual National Business and Leadership Conference Nov. 21. The NGLCC saw record-breaking attendance numbers and stronger-than-ever support from policy makers and corporate partners.

Conference attendance hit nearly 400 for the four-day conference, a 60 percent jump over last year’s event in Seattle, Washington. Over 800 LGBT business owners, corporate partners and organizational allies attended the National Dinner on Friday. The conference offered programming designed to meet the interests and needs of LGBT business owners and entrepreneurs, allied companies and NGLCC affiliate chambers from around the country.

Many policy makers and members of the Obama Administration also showed their support

of the NGLCC’s work. A delegation of NGLCC members was invited to the White House on Nov. 17 to discuss ways in which the Administration can continue to support the LGBT community and create further economic opportunities for LGBT business owners. “The White House has been incredibly supportive of our work,” said Justin Nelson, co-founder and president of the NGLCC. “We’re so thrilled to have a partner in this administration that understands and values diversity.”

During the Welcome Reception on Capitol Hill, Sen. Al Franken spoke passionately of his support of LGBT rights, including a new anti-bullying bill he is co-sponsoring that would require colleges receiving federal money to include sexual orientation and gender identity and part of their anti-harassment policies.

Other speakers at the conference included

Karen Mills of the Small Business Administration, Rep. Tammy Baldwin and Rep. Jared Polis all discussed diversity and inclusiveness as well as important legislation, including the Small Business Jobs Act and programs at the SBA that are available to help LGBT businesses. Gary Locke, the U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary gave the NGLCC Champion of Enterprise keynote on Friday morning.

Secretary Locke spoke about economic recovery, President Obama’s National Export Initiative and how LGBT businesses can benefit from becoming more actively involved in exporting. He also spoke of a new memorandum of understanding that he will sign shortly with the NGLCC to increase collaboration between the department and the organization around procurement, trade and other department priorities that are of interest to America’s small business

community.

Also in attendance were over 120 NGLCC Corporate Partners, including IBM, Aetna, American Airlines, Ernst & Young, Hewlett Packard, Intel, JPMorgan, Chase, Merck, AT&T, UPS, Wells Fargo and Hilton. All promised to continue their commitment to diversifying their workplace, policies and supplier base.

“It’s fantastic to see some of the world’s largest companies pledge their support to the LGBT community,” says Chance Mitchell, co-founder of the NGLCC. “They understand that diversifying their workforce and supplier base is not only morally and ethically sound, but is just solid business.”

Follow the NGLCC on Twitter @NGLCC or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nglcc.

C-SPAN to televise Prop. 8 trial live

SAN FRANCISCO – On Nov. 17, Managing Director of the Courage Campaign, Eden James, announced that the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals will allow C-SPAN to televise the Dec. 6 Prop. 8 trial live beginning at 10 a.m. PST. Two video cameras will be allowed in the courtroom and C-SPAN will serve as the pool-feed for all media organizations that apply.

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Case Name: Kristin Perry, et al v. Arnold Schwarzenegger, et al Case Number: 10-16696, <http://prop8trialtracker.com>.

► Speak Out

Continued from p. 9

for equality at that time were never assured of success, and indeed, it often seemed that they would not succeed. Yet they persevered through demonstrations, boycotts, rallies, and court cases, putting their great moral weight behind the cause of justice and equality.

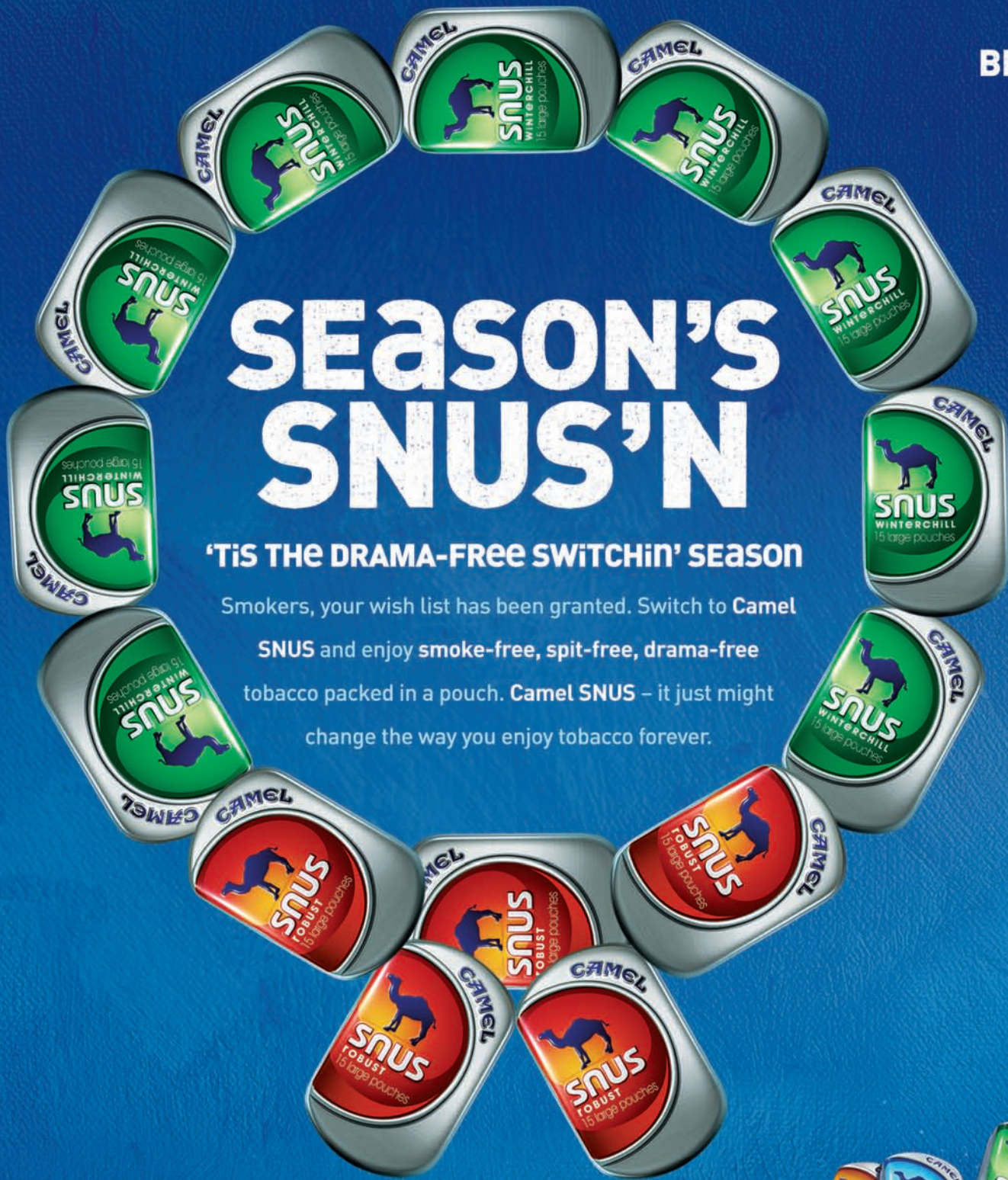
Since the Republicans have far more power at the national and state levels, we must follow the examples set by the other movements for equality in the United States. It is important to continue the legal fight for equality. Already, federal courts have ruled against the DADT

policy and in favor of marriage equality in California. Eventually, these cases will go before the U.S. Supreme Court. While the conservative makeup of the high court might give supporters of equality pause, it’s still important to pursue the cases. The Supreme Court was considered to be conservative in the mid-1950s before it issued unanimous rulings against legal segregation in the United States.

The LGBT community should also continue to lobby our legislators, even those who seem most opposed to our cause. Though most Republicans stand against LGBT equality, there are a few who are supportive, though they face strong pressures from others in their ranks to back away from change. We should make our-

selves visible and show our communities that we are like everyone else, yet we face persistent legal discrimination. It is also important to make socially conscious decisions about where we shop, eat, lodge, and invest. Don’t give hard-earned money to entities that would deny LGBTs basic equality.

Most importantly, now is not the time to shrink from the fight for equality. As other social movements have shown in their fight for equal rights, it is possible to be successful even when the odds seem to be against you. The important thing is to fight the good fight. Throughout this country’s history, marginalized groups have moved forward regardless of the challenges. We must do the same today.



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Annie Lennox Speaks Out



Photo: Mike Owen

Gay icon releases new holiday album – and opens up about AIDS pandemic and her own sweet dreams for the world

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Legendary status, earned through over three decades in the music business, hasn't changed Annie Lennox.

Despite being a global superstar, first making an impression as part of the Eurythmics in the '80s before going solo, she's genuinely concerned about the human condition, as her tireless work toward promoting HIV/AIDS awareness – with her SING campaign, established in 2007 – demonstrates. She's inspired the world through dialogue and travel and music, a platform Lennox uses to fervently convey her feelings on society with her sterling voice.

"Universal Child," which Lennox originally performed on "Idol Gives Back" earlier this year wearing a shirt that said "HIV-Positive" (even though she isn't), is yet another passionate plea – this time, to help heal the world. It takes on new life as it rounds out Lennox's new, first-ever holiday album, "A Christmas Cornucopia," which also includes traditional songs and unconventional carols. Its heart, however, is still intact.

On the phone, as Lennox speaks to us from her Scotland home about the long-gestating collection, she's completely grounded, initiating the conversation by mocking how much time her people have given us: "This is your 15 minutes with Annie Lennox," she opens with a laugh.

And so it is, as Lennox gets heated over issues dear to her heart: her opinion on the current state of HIV/AIDS, feelings about the bullying-prompted suicides, and why sexuality labels shouldn't exist.

Why release a Christmas album now, after all this time in the business?

It was just the optimum moment. It's something I've been longing to do for many years, and when you do anything in music it takes time. So every album that I've ever made has taken up most of the year that I've made it in. Then, finally, it came to the point where I was out of contract and I was like, "What's my next step?" And then it just occurred to me very obviously, "Ah, this is when I do what I've wanted to do for years." (Laughs) So it's just perfect. It's a labor of love, this whole thing.

It sounds like it too, and it has some extra significance: Your 55th birthday is on Christmas Day.

That is correct.

Did you ever get gypped on gifts?

When I was a kid, it was fine – I used to get double, and I felt very good about that. But I'm at a point where receiving presents is not really the most important thing to me. (Laughs)

Well, of course: You're more about giving, right?

I prefer to. It's very nice to get a present, but I like to give. I do.

I'm not surprised. How does "Universal Child" fit on "A Christmas Cornucopia"?

You know, it was a very interesting thing. Basically, Island Records, or Universal, who I'm signed to, just loved the song so much; they just kind of said, "You have got to put it on the album. We really, really want you to put it on the album." So it was almost like their insistence, because I wasn't sure; I'd been doing traditional Christmas carols, (and thought), "I wonder if this fits in." But actually now, on reflection, I think it really does fit in.

It really belongs because the focus of all of the songs goes to the nativity. It goes to the birth of a child into the world – even if you're not Christian, which

See Annie, page 38

2010 World AIDS Day

COMPILED BY
BENJAMIN JENKINS

Ann Arbor

World AIDS Week Committee at U-M Kick-off Breakfast Come learn about the events around campus from HIV testing to research panels to fundraiser nights. 7 a.m. Nov. 29, Mason Hall/The Diag, Ann Arbor. E-mail aidsweekum@umich.edu.

U-M Museum of Art Day With(out)

Art Culture and Arts-related programming educate Ann Arbor on HIV/AIDS and provoking conversations about the disease. All day. Dec. 1. U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State, Ann Arbor, www.umma.umich.edu. 734-763-UMMA.

World AIDS Week Committee at U-M

HIV/AIDS in China U.S. and Chinese student perspectives on HIV/AIDS in China. Light refreshments served. 12:30 p.m. Dec. 1, 1080 South University, Ann Arbor. E-mail aidsweekum@umich.edu.

U-M Red Cross Student Organization HIV/AIDS Research Symposium

Presentation on the current state of HIV/AIDS research. 5:30 p.m. Dec. 2, U-M Diag, 3460 Mason Hall, Ann Arbor. E-mail aidsweekum@umich.edu.

U-M ONE Campaign Student Group-

ONE Night Stand for HIV/AIDS Fun and exciting free concert dedicated to raising awareness and educating our community about HIV/AIDS. Concert will include U-M's most entertaining performance groups. 7 p.m. Dec. 2, Keene Theatre, 701 E. University, Ann Arbor. E-mail aidsweekum@umich.edu.

Grand Rapids World AIDS Day: Remember...Celebrate...Hope

The East Congregational United Church of Christ, 1005 Giddings Ave., will hold the third annual World AIDS Day event to be held in Grand Rapids after many years without an associated event at 7 p.m. Dec. 1.

WADGR Coordinator Jeffrey Richard Cipcic saw the need for a renewed focus on AIDS awareness. "As long as people are still testing positive for HIV there is a need for this event," he said. "There is HIV education fatigue as well as 'it won't happen to me, I'm not that kind of person' mentality in our very community."

An eclectic evening is planned, including vocal performances by recent Grand Award winner Ci Ci Gramer and Marty Kiefer, with music by Grand Award winner Scott Bell. There will also be interpretive dance by The Moving Company

Ann Arbor Testing Sites

U-M Health Services

207 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor
Note: U-M Students can use this resource for free. For other members of community it costs twenty dollars for the test.

1-3 p.m. Nov. 29

1-3 p.m. Nov. 30

1-3 p.m. Dec. 1

1-3 p.m. Dec. 2

1-3 p.m. Dec. 3

734-615-3163

Dearborn

U-M Dearborn World AIDS Day

Luncheon The Women's Resource Center and Gender & Sexuality Alliance provide a luncheon to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS on campus. 12 p.m. Dec. 1, Kochoff Hall, University Center, 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. E-mail bmjenkin@umd.umich.edu, 313-583-6445.

Dearborn Testing Sites

Wayne County Public Health & U-M Dearborn's Gender & Sexuality Alliance
4th Floor, Mardigian Library & WUMD Office, University Center, 4901 Evergreen, Dearborn
11 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 1
11 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 2

of East Grand Rapids.

"The evening is about bringing people together to honor those that lost their battle, celebrate those who are living with HIV, and give hope for the future," said Cipcic. "We want to open up discussions about HIV/AIDS and have a beautiful evening in the process."

In addition to the entertainment scheduled for the evening, there will be an information area with local HIV/AIDS service organizations at the event. Admission is free of charge, with a freewill offering scheduled to take place. Proceeds from the offering will benefit St. Mary's Health Care Special Immunology Services, which provides direct care and educational resources for those affected by HIV. For more information, visit www.worldaidsgr.com.



Jeanne White-Ginder, right, watched Pres. Obama sign the reauthorization of the Ryan White Care Act.

White-Ginder to keynote LAAN's 25th anniversary

BY BENJAMIN JENKINS

LANSING – On Dec. 3, the Lansing Area AIDS Network will host their sixth Red Ribbon Gala and Auction Event, and this year they will present a very special keynote speaker, Jeanne White-Ginder, the mother of Ryan White, a hemophiliac who contracted AIDS at a very young age through a contaminated blood product.

Residing in a town with little to no education on HIV/AIDS, Ryan was refused return to his school after news of his HIV status spread. What began as a court battle for Ryan and his mother quickly became international news in 1984, and soon White-Ginder became an icon for HIV/AIDS education. White-Ginder and her son's struggle is an inspiring story, one that has had a great impact in the U.S. In 1990 Senators Edward Kennedy and Orin Hatch worked with White-Ginder to pass the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resource Care Act, which funded research and education on HIV/AIDS as well as medical assistance.

Unfortunately, Ryan passed away. However, through White-Ginder's 1997 publication "Weeding Out the Tears, A Mother's Story of Love, Loss and Renewal," as well as The Power of Children, an exhibit within Indianapolis Children's Museum, Ryan will not be forgotten.

This year LAAN's gala serves both to recognize World AIDS Day and to celebrate the 25th anniversary of LAAN's founding. The Red Ribbon Auction will include items from businesses, artisans and private donors of Central Michigan, in both silent and live auction format.

Detroit

AIDS Quilt STITCHES: A Doll Project.

A short service. 12:30 p.m. Dec. 1, St. John Providence Health System Panels, 22101 Moross Road, Detroit, Van Elslander Pavilion entrance.

Observance of World AIDS Day St. Matthew's & St. Joseph's Episcopal Church members will join One Voice Chorus,

All proceeds benefit and support the programs and services LAAN offers. In their 25 years, it is estimated that LAAN has provided care to 1,050 individuals with HIV and their families. They have also participated in countless preventive and education outreach programs in the state.

White-Ginder's presence at this year's gala is a key aspect of the celebration. "LAAN and AIDS Service Organizations like it would not exist without the support provided through the Ryan White Care Act which was last reauthorized with the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009," said Jacob Distel, executive director of LAAN. "It is the primary source of funding for the HIV care services provided to those individuals living with HIV. For that reason, as LAAN observes 25 years of service to the greater Lansing community, it is important that we remember Ryan White's legacy and his story as part of our collective history." And what better way to honor Ryan White's legacy than with White-Ginder as keynote speaker of the Red Ribbon Gala.

The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Eagle Eye Golf Club on 15500 Chandler Road, in Bath, Mich. Registration and the auction will begin 6:30 p.m., with White-Ginder speaking at 7:15 p.m. followed by dinner and the live auction. Tickets are \$100 and can be purchased by contacting Jacob Distel at 517-394-3719 (ext. 30), or Audrey Matisoff at 517-394-3719 (ext. 28). Tickets can also be purchased online at laanonline.org.

Detroit Together Mens Chorus, the Choir of Metropolitan Community Church-Ferndale and other guests to commemorate this day and to reflect of the impact HIV/AIDS has on our city and community. 6 p.m. Dec. 1, 8850 Woodward Ave., Detroit. E-mail joseph.d.daniel@gmail.com, 313-871-4750.

See World AIDS Day, page 33

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INDICATIONS

ISENTRESS is an anti-HIV medicine used for the treatment of HIV. **ISENTRESS must be used with other anti-HIV medicines**, which may increase the likelihood of response to treatment.

The safety and effectiveness of ISENTRESS in children has not been studied.

It is important that you remain under your doctor's care.

ISENTRESS will NOT cure HIV infection or reduce your chance of passing HIV to others through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood.

IMPORTANT RISK INFORMATION

A condition called Immune Reconstitution Syndrome can happen in some patients with advanced HIV infection (AIDS) when anti-HIV treatment is started. Signs and symptoms of inflammation from opportunistic infections may occur as the medicines work to treat the HIV infection and strengthen the immune system. Call your doctor right away if you notice any signs or symptoms of an infection after starting ISENTRESS.

Contact your doctor immediately if you experience unexplained muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness while taking ISENTRESS. This is because on rare occasions muscle problems can be serious and can lead to kidney damage.

When ISENTRESS has been given with other anti-HIV drugs, side effects included nausea, headache, tiredness, weakness, trouble sleeping, stomach pain, dizziness, depression, and suicidal thoughts and actions.

Rash occurred more often in patients taking ISENTRESS and darunavir together than with either drug separately, but was generally mild.

I am outgoing. I am on the go. I am a newlywed. I am HIV positive.

You are special, unique, and different from anyone else. And so is your path to managing HIV. When you're ready to start HIV therapy, talk to your doctor about a medication that may fit your needs and lifestyle.

In clinical studies lasting 96 weeks, patients being treated with HIV medication for the first time who took ISENTRESS plus *Truvada*:

- ◆ Had a low rate of side effects
 - The most common side effect of moderate to severe intensity (that interfered with or kept patients from performing daily activities) was trouble sleeping
 - This side effect occurred more often in patients taking ISENTRESS plus *Truvada* (4%) versus *Sustiva* plus *Truvada* (3%)
- ◆ Experienced less effect on LDL cholesterol ("bad" cholesterol)
 - Cholesterol increased an average of 7 mg/dL with ISENTRESS plus *Truvada* versus 21 mg/dL with *Sustiva* plus *Truvada*

Ask your doctor about ISENTRESS.

Not sure where to start? Visit isentress.com/questions

People taking ISENTRESS may still develop infections, including opportunistic infections or other conditions that occur with HIV infection.

Tell your doctor about all of your medical conditions, including if you have any allergies, are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. ISENTRESS is not recommended for use during pregnancy. Women with HIV should not breast-feed because their babies could be infected with HIV through their breast milk.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription medicines like rifampin (a medicine used to treat infections such as tuberculosis), non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

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

For more information about ISENTRESS, please read the Patient Information on the following page.

Need help paying for ISENTRESS? Call 1-866-350-9232

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Patient Information
ISENTRESS® (eye sen tris)
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Read the patient information that comes with ISENTRESS[®] before you start taking it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet is a summary of the information for patients. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you additional information. This leaflet does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or your treatment.

What is ISENTRESS?

- ISENTRESS is an anti-HIV (antiretroviral) medicine used for the treatment of HIV. The term HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus. It is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). ISENTRESS is used along with other anti-HIV medicines. ISENTRESS will NOT cure HIV infection.
- People taking ISENTRESS may still develop infections, including opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection.
- Stay under the care of your doctor during treatment with ISENTRESS.
- The safety and effectiveness of ISENTRESS in children has not been studied.

ISENTRESS must be used with other anti-HIV medicines.

How does ISENTRESS work?

- ISENTRESS blocks an enzyme which the virus (HIV) needs in order to make more virus. The enzyme that ISENTRESS blocks is called HIV integrase.
- When used with other anti-HIV medicines, ISENTRESS may do two things:
 1. Reduce the amount of HIV in your blood. This is called your "viral load".
 2. Increase the number of white blood cells called CD4 (T) cells.
- ISENTRESS may not have these effects in all patients.

Does ISENTRESS lower the chance of passing HIV to other people?

No. ISENTRESS does not reduce the chance of passing HIV to others through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood.

- Continue to practice safer sex.
- Use latex or polyurethane condoms or other barrier methods to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids. This includes semen from a man, vaginal secretions from a woman, or blood.
- Never re-use or share needles.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about safer sex or how to prevent passing HIV to other people.

What should I tell my doctor before and during treatment with ISENTRESS?

Tell your doctor about all of your medical conditions. Include any of the following that applies to you:

- You have any allergies.
- You are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
 - ISENTRESS is not recommended for use during pregnancy. ISENTRESS has not been studied in pregnant women. If you take ISENTRESS while you are pregnant, talk to your doctor about how you can be included in the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
- You are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed.
 - It is recommended that HIV-infected women should not breast-feed their infants. This is because their babies could be infected with HIV through their breast milk.
 - Talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take. Include the following:

- prescription medicines, including rifampin (a medicine used to treat some infections such as tuberculosis)
- non-prescription medicines
- vitamins
- herbal supplements

Know the medicines you take.

- Keep a list of your medicines. Show the list to your doctor and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

How should I take ISENTRESS?

Take ISENTRESS exactly as your doctor has prescribed. The recommended dose is as follows:

- Take only one 400-mg tablet at a time.
- Take it twice a day.
- Take it by mouth.
- Take it with or without food.

Do not change your dose or stop taking ISENTRESS or your other anti-HIV medicines without first talking with your doctor.

IMPORTANT: Take ISENTRESS exactly as your doctor prescribed and at the right times of day because if you don't:

- The amount of virus (HIV) in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short period of time.
- The virus may develop resistance to ISENTRESS and become harder to treat.
- Your medicines may stop working to fight HIV.
- The activity of ISENTRESS may be reduced (due to resistance).

If you fail to take ISENTRESS the way you should, here's what to do:

- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If you do not remember until it is time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule. Do NOT take two tablets of ISENTRESS at the same time. In other words, do NOT take a double dose.
- If you take too much ISENTRESS, call your doctor or local Poison Control Center.

Be sure to keep a supply of your anti-HIV medicines.

- When your ISENTRESS supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy.
- Do not wait until your medicine runs out to get more.

What are the possible side effects of ISENTRESS?

When ISENTRESS has been given with other anti-HIV drugs, side effects included:

- nausea
- headache
- tiredness
- weakness
- trouble sleeping
- stomach pain
- dizziness
- depression
- suicidal thoughts and actions

Other side effects include rash, severe skin reactions, feeling anxious, paranoia, low blood platelet count.

A condition called Immune Reconstitution Syndrome can happen in some patients with advanced HIV infection (AIDS) when combination antiretroviral treatment is started. Signs and symptoms of inflammation from opportunistic infections that a person has or had may occur as the medicines work to treat the HIV infection and help to strengthen the immune system. Call your doctor right away if you notice any signs or symptoms of an infection after starting ISENTRESS with other anti-HIV medicines.

Contact your doctor promptly if you experience unexplained muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness while taking ISENTRESS. This is because on rare occasions, muscle problems can be serious and can lead to kidney damage.

Rash occurred more often in patients taking ISENTRESS and darunavir together than with either drug separately, but was generally mild.

Tell your doctor if you have any side effects that bother you.

These are not all the side effects of ISENTRESS. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

How should I store ISENTRESS?

- Store ISENTRESS at room temperature (68 to 77°F).
- **Keep ISENTRESS and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

General information about the use of ISENTRESS

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets.

- Do not use ISENTRESS for a condition for which it was not prescribed.
- Do not give ISENTRESS to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

This leaflet gives you the most important information about ISENTRESS.

- If you would like to know more, talk with your doctor.
- You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for additional information about ISENTRESS that is written for health professionals.
- For more information go to www.ISENTRESS.com or call 1-800-622-4477.

What are the ingredients in ISENTRESS?

Active ingredient: Each film-coated tablet contains 400 mg of raltegravir.

Inactive ingredients: Microcrystalline cellulose, lactose monohydrate, calcium phosphate dibasic anhydrous, hypromellose 2208, poloxamer 407 (contains 0.01% butylated hydroxytoluene as antioxidant), sodium stearyl fumarate, magnesium stearate. In addition, the film coating contains the following inactive ingredients: polyvinyl alcohol, titanium dioxide, polyethylene glycol 3350, talc, red iron oxide and black iron oxide.

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► **World AIDS Day**

Continued from p. 26

Detroit Testing Sites

AIDS Partnership Michigan
2751 East Jefferson, Suite 301, Detroit
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Nov. 29
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Nov. 30
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Dec. 1
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Dec. 2
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Dec. 3

Detroit Community Health Connection, Inc.
13901 E. Jefferson, Detroit
313-821-2591

Grand Rapids

World AIDS Day 2010 Join Grand Rapids for a service of remembrance, celebration and hope. 7 p.m. Dec. 1, East Congregational United Church of Christ, 1005 Giddings Ave., SE Grand Rapids. www.worldaidsgr.com, 616-742-1116.

Ferndale

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church: Free testing, a panel of HIV-positive speakers, a panel of experts on the disease, an Ecumenical service as well as a reception to recognize World AIDS day. 5-9 p.m. Dec. 1, 143 Albany, Ferndale. E-mail revkinse@gmail.com, 248-399-7741.

Affirmations 2010 AIDS Quilt Viewing and Reception Honoring World AIDS Day with a viewing of the AIDS Quilt, as well as a reception featuring speakers from The Names Project, Detroit's Amnesty International chapter and Julie Marcos. 7-9 p.m. Dec. 3, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. E-mail lbell@goaffirmations.org, 248-398-7105 ext. 218.

Ferndale Testing Sites

Affirmations
290 West 9 Mile Road, Ferndale
11:30 a.m. -1 p.m. Nov. 27
5:30-8 p.m. Dec. 2
11:30 a.m. -1 p.m. Dec. 4



“As The World Turns” is community artist/Parting Glances columnist Charles Alexander’s sixth visual commentary for the paper. Says Alexander, “Former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop recently told the media, ‘AIDS is the forgotten epidemic.’ As 13th Surgeon General under President Reagan, he certainly should know, as Reagan did next to nothing to stop the spread of AIDS. Nonetheless, Koop’s observation is true 28 years later. My cover, with its succinct comments, serves as a reminder that neglect, ignorance and unsafe sexual practice are ever-present dangers. Ignore the past, you’ll put the future at risk.”

248-398-7105

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
143 Albany, Ferndale
4-7 p.m. Dec. 1

Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan
734-973-0710 ext. 161

Novi AIDS Quilt and STITCHES: A Doll Project A short service.
12:30 p.m. Dec. 1, St. John

Providence Health System
Panels, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi. Main Lobby. E-mail David.Rupperecht@stjohn.org, 248-849-5759.

Novi Testing Sites
Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan
734-973-0710 ext. 161

Oak Park World AIDS Day/ Chanukah Shabbat Service World AIDS Day and the first night of Chanukah

both fall on Dec. 1 this year. In commemoration, Congregation TChiyah (Reconstructionist) will host a Chanukah party. 6:30 p.m. Dec. 3, 15000 W. 10 Mile Road, Oak Park. E-mail tchiyah@tchiyah.org, 248-542-0900.

See World AIDS Day, page 35

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► **World AIDS Day**

Continued from p. 33

Oak Park Testing Sites

Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan
734-973-0710 ext. 161

Saginaw Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center's World AIDS Day Vigil

This is a free event open to the public, refreshments served. A candlelight vigil to recognize World AIDS Day. 6 p.m. Dec. 1, Anderson Enrichment Center, 120 Ezra Rust Drive, Saginaw. www.sacredheartcenter.com, 989-776-6000.

Ypsilanti

It's Not Over (HARC) Join us in a self-discovery series for same-gender attracted loving-HIV positive men. Explore issues about sex, intimacy, relationships and more. 5 p.m. Dec. 2, 3075 Clark Road #203, Ypsilanti. www.hivaidresource.org, 734-572-9355, ext. 227

Ypsilanti Testing Sites

Washtenaw County Public Health
555 Towner, Ypsilanti
9 a.m.-12 p.m., 1-4 p.m. Dec. 1
1-5 p.m., 6-8 p.m., Dec. 2
734-544-6840



The Names Quilt ceremonies at Steppin' Out AIDS Walk Detroit this past September. Quilts will be on display around the state for World AIDS Day. Affirmations Community Center will be honoring World AIDS Day with a viewing of the AIDS Quilt, as well as a reception featuring speakers from The Names Project, Detroit's Amnesty International chapter and Julie Marcos. 7-9 p.m. Dec. 3, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. BTL photo: Jessica Carreras

HIV/AIDS Resource Center

3075 Clark Road, Suite 203
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 27
5-7 p.m. Nov. 28
11 a.m.-8 p.m. Nov. 30
6-9 p.m. Dec. 1
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 4

The HARC van will also be traveling to the following locations during that week:

3-5 p.m. Nov. 29, Brandy's Market, 902 W. Michigan, Kalamazoo
5-7 p.m. Dec. 1, Cannon's, 480 Hamilton S, Plymouth
7:30-9 a.m. Dec. 2, St. Andrew's Church, 306

North Division St., Ann Arbor
2-4 p.m. Dec. 3, Willow Run Party Store, 1278 Ridge Road, Ypsilanti
4-7 p.m. Dec. 4, Bottle & Basket, 2404 Lakeview Ave., Ypsilanti
734-572-9355

Testing: Other Cities

Calhoun County Public Health Department
190 E. Michigan Ave., Suite A 100, Battle Creek
8-11 a.m., 1-4 p.m. Dec. 1
269-969-6363

Central Michigan District Health Department
2012 E. Preston Ave., Mt. Pleasant
989-773-5921

Oakland Primary Health Services
46 N. Saginaw, Pontiac
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 1
248-322-6747

Livingston County Health Department
2300 East Grand River Ave., Suite 102
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
2-6 p.m. Dec. 2
517-546-9850

Olin Health Center
371 East Lansing
517-355-1884

Ottawa County Health Department
616-393-5735

Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan
734-973-0710 ext. 161

Traverse Health Clinic
3147 Logan Valley Road, Traverse City
231-973-0668

Muskegon Community College
221 South Quarterline Road, Muskegon
11 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 1

Van Buren/Cass District Health Department
Cass County Testing
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For more information about It's Not Over contact Anthony Jenkins at ajenkins@hivaidresource.org or Leon Golson at lgolson@hivaidresource.org OR call and ask for them at 734-572-9355



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Ecumenical service for World AIDS Day

FERNDALE – The seventh annual World AIDS Day Ecumenical Service will take place Dec. 1 at Zion Lutheran Church in Ferndale. The service is an offspring of the traditional People Who Care About People With AIDS Christmas service. People Who Care endured for 20 years until its founder, Rev. Rod Reinhart, moved to Chicago in 2004. At that time, members of the planning committee adopted the name World AIDS Day Ecumenical Service and moved the event to Dec. 1.

Delivering the sermon at this year's service will be Rev. DaVita McAllister of Atlanta. The service will also feature performances by the Sing Out choir and the Paul & Roland duet. Concelebrants will include Rev. Ronchele Andres of Full Truth Fellowship of Christ Church, Rev. Rick Beattie of Renaissance Unity, Rev. Deb.

Dysert and Rev. Kevin Kinsel of Metropolitan Community Church, Rev. Selma Massey of Whosoever Ministries, Rev. Trina Phenix of New Beginnings and Rev. Rony Veska of First United Methodist Church.

In addition to the service, there will be confidential rapid HIV testing available from 4-7 p.m. and Where We Are in the World of AIDS, an expert panel discussion with Drs. Norman Markowitz and Indira Brar from Henry Ford Hospital as well as a pharmacological update with John Dilodovic.

A reception, hosted by the Motor City Bears, will follow. Attendees are encouraged to bring a new blanket as a donation for those living with AIDS.

Zion Lutheran Church is located at 143 Albany St. in Ferndale.

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Christina Aguilera makes her feature-film debut in "Burlesque," out Nov. 24. Photo: Screen Gems

Christina Aguilera Can't Hold Her Down

Singer makes big-screen debut in one of the gayest movies of the year, 'Burlesque'

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Christina Aguilera's career is built of bold moves – be it the "Beautiful" video, with its tight shots of men making out, or musically shifting from shameless pop to futuristic mode, as she did on this year's album "Bionic."

The powerhouse vocalist, who turns 30 in December, takes the plunge again with her first film out nationwide this weekend, "Burlesque," playing not some rinky-dink character, but the lead.

"My goal wasn't to star in a leading position but be part of a great film and have a couple of lines and get my feet wet – boy, that didn't happen!" says Aguilera, who plays Ali, a girl with dreams too big for her small town.

After shooting down many scripts, Aguilera felt a special connection to "Burlesque," writer-director Steven Antin's first major movie that he describes as "a call-back to the old, fabulous MGM musicals." She already knew the art form well, too: "I have a collection of burlesque books at home that I've had for years," she says. "I've just always been intrigued and

fascinated with the topic, and the beauty and heart and comedic value of it. It's a beautiful, empowering thing for women."

Promoting the film at the Four Seasons Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif., with her dog Stinky in tow, Aguilera slurps some chicken noodle soup – pausing at one point to scold her assistant because it isn't up to snuff.

"Soup drama," she jests with a delicate smile. However edgy Aguilera is, it's no wonder: she's dealing with a divorce (she and Jordan Bratman filed in October) and, after "Bionic" bombed, working to find her place in the pop landscape again. Now there's the gamble of Aguilera's first film, one that was admittedly more than she bargained for.

"I was wearing so many different hats – more than anybody else on the film," she says of writing and recording several songs, learning a different dance form and then, of course, actually acting for the first time.

It helped that Aguilera related to Ali, who leaves behind a troubled past in Iowa and stumbles into a swanky Sunset Strip burlesque club run by Tess (Cher). "Her background story came from a place

inspired by pain," Aguilera says of her character. "Lots of people talk about their situations and complain, but they never do anything about it. The thing about Ali that I love is that she makes the decision to leave, and that's really hard. It really spoke to me."

That's not all that locked in Aguilera. Antin and Screen Gems president Clint Culpepper, partners on "Burlesque" and in life, eventually nabbed one of the biggest superstars ever: Cher. Aguilera wasn't about to miss out on this little diva, big diva moment.

"It's so weird to say this about the icon and the legend that is Cher, but she's like an old girlfriend," Aguilera says. "She's an incredible person personally and professionally, offering amazing advice, stories, 'been there, done there.' She's one of a kind."

Antin thought highly of Aguilera too, calling her "the voice of a generation" as he spoke about "Burlesque" in Beverly Hills. From the get-go, the Grammy-winning singer was his first choice to fill the underdog role.

Throughout the 71-day shoot, Antin

The show closed **WHEN?**

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Xtina talks new CD, being bullied and supporting LGBTs

On supporting the gay community

When people aren't being heard, aren't being seen or aren't being treated fairly or equally because of their own individual choices or who they are, I really stick up for them. It means a lot to me to put it out there, say in my music video for "Beautiful," for example. So yeah, I'm very supportive of the gay community.

On being bullied

I have my own issues with feeling alienated as a kid. In school, doing what I did and maybe being a little smaller, I was definitely bullied for the attention that I got. It was definitely unwanted attention and there was a lot of unfairness about it, so I'm sensitive to that.

On new music

After the movie, I am a changed woman. I'm in a very introspective place right now, and I'm really into putting my heart out on paper. The last album I made was a little more playful in nature; I'd just had my son (2-year-old Max) and I wanted to experiment with an electronica sound. Now I want to get back to my roots.

On writing 'Burlesque' songs

It was a little out of body. I definitely wanted to write from her point of view and make sure it was about her, and not myself. But we do share some of the same issues. Ali didn't really grow up with a father; I didn't really grow up with a father. There's vulnerability, but there's also a fearlessness quality where she's going to charge forward and go for it. I admire that.

On what she'd tell her younger self

I wouldn't really advise her to do anything differently. Any mistakes that I might have made, or any failures I might have had over the years, aren't, because they're all lessons. I'm very proud of my body of work. I would only tell her: "Don't change a thing, keep your head held high and keep working hard."



"When people aren't being heard, aren't being seen or aren't being treated fairly or equally because of their own individual choices or who they are, I really stick up for them."

and the cast worked out huge set ideas and infinitely smaller touches, like the flower Aguilera wears in her hair during the "Bound to You" number – something Antin opposed, but Aguilera and Culpepper rooted for. "Little things like that, to very big things, were a constant conversation and collaboration," she says.

A sneaky smile cuts across Aguilera's face as she busts into a wicked snicker. "And guess who still had the flower in her hair?"

Another dialogue emerged over a Cher-Christina duet, which was discussed but never recorded. "We already had so much music involved – even Cher's ballad ("You Haven't Seen the Last of Me," written by Diane Warren) came late in the game – and it was hard for everyone to agree on a song (for the movie), I think," Aguilera says.

While shooting, Antin invited both actresses – and undoubtedly two of the world's biggest gay icons – to view their scenes after they wrapped. Cher wouldn't because she doesn't watch herself, but Aguilera referenced them for future takes, according to the director.

"When she would really nail a take and have a wonderful moment I would want to celebrate it with her," Antin says. "Sometimes I'd want her to see it so she knew, when I was shooting other angles, what I wanted her to go for."

One scene caught many angles – not of Aguilera, but rather "Twilight" cutie Cam Gigandet, her crush in the film. "I hope they love this guy just as much," he says of his evil onscreen persona, James, in the vampire saga.

What's not to love? He's naked so often his abs should have an end credit.

"It's always kind of tricky," Gigandet says, demonstrating with a tablecloth the sliver of fabric hiding his bits from everyone on set. "I had to take it out of my mind that it was actually Christina Aguilera, because she's... Christina Aguilera! But after a while, she's even bored by it all."

In the scene, he strategically shields his junk with a box of Famous Amos cookies. Surely that won't bore the millions of gay men watching – not that Gigandet, who isn't one of them, cares how many guys gawk. In fact, "I hope there's more!" he says.

Read what **CHER**, in our exclusive interview, had to say about "Burlesque" at www.pridesource.com.

And there very well might be, considering how over the rainbow "Burlesque" actually is: diva-duo Cher and Christina Aguilera aside, there's Alan Cumming and the gay-for-pay Stanley Tucci. There's splashy fashion and fun, throwback music. And there's eyeliner, which Gigandet rocks during his lounge scenes. That, without the excuse that he's part of some emo punk-pop band, leads Aguilera's character to believe that he's, ahem, gay.

Aguilera's fell into this trap before. Biting her straw and laughing, she says: "I did have an ex-boyfriend that left me for a gay man at one point in my life."

Acting, Cher, gay boyfriends – there's a first time for everything.



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► **Annie**

Continued from p. 25

I am not a Christian – in a way that I was able to identify with in a metaphorical way, because I was thinking, “Well, this is a symbol. This is a child. It’s all of us. It’s about humanity.” So there was a thread of connection that ran through all the songs, you see.

How did the song come about?

I hadn’t intended to write a song for the album, but one day I had this idea for “Universal Child” and I just started playing around with it while we were recording something. And basically, I was like, “Ohhh, wow, there’s a really interesting thing happening here.” So we stopped recording what we were recording and we carried on with “Universal Child” and finished it in the same evening. Sometimes it’s so strange like that: You write a song and it all comes at once. So that was one of those.

You merge a lot of your passion for activism into your music, particularly as it pertains to children and AIDS. Why do you think music is such a good platform for these issues?

Music is a great vehicle of communication; everybody loves music – I never really met anybody who didn’t like music. And music tells stories and communicates ideas, and people are interested in music and musicians.

Sadly, in our culture we’re obsessed with celebrity – celebrity is the thing – and we spend so much money on magazines; we’re so interested in other people’s lives, so-called celebrities, and it’s a bit disheartening because we’re a big world and there’s so many things we could change and put right. But we’re so consumed by our own consumerist culture that very often we don’t see it.

I had a bit of a turning point when I had an opportunity to go to places that I wouldn’t have had a chance to visit before, and it blew my mind. I thought I knew what poverty was about. I thought I knew, and actually I didn’t know until I saw it for myself.

Right – back in 2003 when you participated in the launch of Nelson Mandela’s HIV/AIDS foundation. How has seeing the devastation caused by poverty and AIDS affected you as a person?

I don’t think anybody could grasp the scale of the HIV/AIDS pandemic as it is played out, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa where you have 22 million who are infected with the virus. Twenty-two million! And when you have so many deaths – I think it’s 27 million – it’s a figure that you cannot get your head around.

Recently, I was in Berlin and I went to visit the Jewish Holocaust memorial right in the center of former East Berlin, and it’s very, very powerful – all kinds of people who perished in this Holocaust. The figures are staggering. And then you look at the HIV issue and it’s even more.

We were all celebrating the Chilean miners, including myself, and I was so happy to see these men emerge one by one – 33 men, out of the earth – and yet I know the price of human life in many places is worthless.

What does being a gay icon mean to you?

(Laughs) It means lots of gay men and women like me! It’s a funny thing: I don’t wake up in the morning and think, “Oh my goodness, I’m a gay icon!” Not at all. But you see, I’m not part of the gay community myself, so it’s not part of



“I don’t wake up in the morning and think, ‘Oh my goodness, I’m a gay icon!’ Not at all. But you see, I’m not part of the gay community myself, so it’s not part of my direct experience. But I’m certainly a liberal-minded person, and I actually really almost resent all these labels.”

my direct experience. But I’m certainly a liberal-minded person, and I actually really almost resent all these labels.

I was watching on YouTube the other day a man – or a woman, I should say, now – who was saying, “Please don’t label me as transgender. I don’t want to be labeled. I’m sick of all these labels.” And I’m thinking, “I’m with you.” I mean, OK, you’re sexually oriented one way, this way or that way or another way, but I want to get rid of labels. I think we want to get to the point of evolution, where it makes no difference if you’re straight, gay, transgender, whatever – just be inclusive. We need to see ourselves as absolutely human beings, first and foremost.

In the ’70s, when I was a teenager, it was the first time I discovered that anybody was gay. I had never met a gay person before I came down from Scotland, and the changes that have happened so far are huge. I think there have just been huge steps. Gay people have come out, and they’re powerful and working in banks, in clinics, as doctors, teachers, everywhere. It’s just a natural evolution, in a way.

It does worry me very much when I hear

about very extreme homophobia arising in places. I think of my friends who, if they went to certain countries, would be ostracized or – it’s unbelievable to think that these extremes do exist, but this is the world we live in. We’re living in a time where you have fundamentalists who are so extreme – either the Catholic Church or in the Muslim areas – and I just think, “Where’s the tolerance?”

How do you feel about the recent string of gay youth suicides, then?

In this day and age, how come a young teenage boy or girl is feeling so conflicted about their sexual orientation that they feel suicidal? This bullying on cyberspace, uncontrolled, and this horrible result of nasty, vicious celebrity bullshit that you get on the Internet – an individual like Perez Hilton coming out on “The Ellen DeGeneres Show” and saying, “I’m sorry, I’ve seen the light,” let’s make sure that he walks his talk and now that he apparently has seen the light, stop all this bullying – stop it!

It’s disgraceful. It always was disgraceful. It should never be, and he of all people who have

benefited so much from his vicious diatribes and his vicious putting down of so many individuals, he now needs to take responsibility and go forward and say, “I will now take responsibility and work for the other side.”

You’ve said that wanting to resist being perceived as a girly-girl prompted your androgynous phase in the ’80s. Why didn’t you want to be seen as ultra-feminine?

I wanted to be perceived as a person with my own rights who is not going to be simply understood through my gender, through a certain limitation. Nowadays, women are so sexually explicit and they use this as a tool to get popular, and I find it very one-dimensional. When I see, like, with the rap music, hip-hop girls just being overtly sexual, it bores me. I just think, “Oh, the same old gag.” Surely we could’ve evolved further than that.

I’m all for sexuality being free and liberal, but I feel so sad that it’s like a one-trick pony. That’s all I see are bum, ass and tits – and it’s sad. It’s a sad thing because people fought so hard to liberate us and to give us the vote and to give us more equal opportunities, and it looks sometimes to me like we’re really going backward.

So you’re still very much a feminist.

I am feminist. I’m utterly feminist, and I’m very disappointed when people are afraid of the word and step away from the word. I told you I don’t like labels, but this is an important label. This is very important, and the fact that people are stepping away from it is a travesty. What we need to do is to take ownership of the word “feminist” and we need to reinvent it so that people embrace it again. It’s a travesty that feminism is looked on as something that they should recoil from.

If you had a genie in a bottle, what would be your three wishes for the world?

Healing. The genie would have to take all the extremists in the world that leaped immediately to arms and to warfare and get the opposing forces to get their mindset changed so that their priority should be only about finding solutions, only peaceful solutions. Unfortunately, we’re stuck in places like the Middle East, into the perpetual catch-22 of someone being killed, someone killing someone else – and then it goes on and on and on and the bloodletting goes on and on and on, and there seems to be no solution.

I don’t ever know if it’s going to be possible because we’re human beings and we’re incredibly odd, but it would be wonderful to see peace. All these divisions that occur ironically between religious beliefs – Christians, Muslims, whomever – are the biggest tragedy on the planet. And then, of course, the sustainability of the planet – who knows where we’re at; we talk about global warming, about pollution, and we do a lot of talking. But I’d like to see the government really taking more responsibility on a global scale.

And then I’d like to see a real sort of development in preventable disease: Access to medicine that can prevent the deaths of millions of people, I’d like to see that. I’d like to see healthcare systems fully staffed. I’d like to see access to treatment. I’d like to see healthcare systems that are on their knees, in some way becoming effective. I’d like to see the end of corrupt governments. I’d like to see transparency of governments. I’d like to see all of these corrupt systems that are functioning, and all of these people who have scooped up so much money, taking accountability. It’s things like this that I think a lot about.

Fine comedic team owns 'Greater Tuna'

BY BRIDGETTE M. REDMAN

"Greater Tuna" isn't a new show. It's one of those stage comedies so popular that playwrights Joe Sears, Jaston Williams and Ed Howard have produced two sequels in the more than 25 years since the original became one of the most widely produced plays in the United States.

Despite the nearly three decades since the banter of OKKK radio jockeys introduced play-goers to the third smallest town in Texas, there is a freshness and spontaneity to the Williamston Theatre production that opened Friday night. It was almost as if the script were waiting for actors Wayne David Parker and Aral Gribble to team up to play the dozens of characters inhabiting Tuna, Texas.

Led by Williamston's Artistic Director Tony Caselli, "Greater Tuna" moves at such a fast clip that one starts to suspect

REVIEW
'Greater Tuna'

Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Rd., Williamston. Thursday-Sunday through Dec. 19; no performance on Thanksgiving. \$18-\$24. 517-655-7469.

www.williamstontheatre.org



Bertha Bumiller (Wayne David Parker) gets interviewed by Chad Hartford (Aral Gribble) in Williamston Theatre's production of "Greater Tuna." Photo: Chris Purchis

the tech crew of installing teleport pads and instant-change rooms during the most recent renovation. Certainly Parker and Gribble are never short of breath or even breaking a sweat despite exiting from one side of the theater and re-entering on the other moments later in a completely different costume.

Donald Robert Fox's bright and simple set added dimensionality to the backdrop and the additional function of giving actors nearby doors and a little extra

room in which to pull on wigs, dresses, suit coats and hats. The absence of props also further showcased the talents of the actors and they pantomimed the use of invisible props and provided their own verbal sound effects for the noises.

To read the complete review, log on to ...
www.EncoreMichigan.com or PrideSource.com

Hilberry's "Richard III": Ambition unleashed

BY JOHN QUINN

We have put a nasty season of campaigning behind us, but if you think politics are rough now, consider 15th-century England. You say you want a throne? Kill the king and his heir, and then marry the prince's widow. Do you have a brother in the way? Drown him in a wine vat. Are there princes with better claims to the crown? Make them "disappear." If you manage all this with savoir faire and a delight in your own villainy, you just might be the next Richard III.

The historical Richard was not the misshapen monster William Shakespeare made him out to be. But his throne was usurped and the usurper's granddaughter reigned as Elizabeth I, so it was expedient to show that a change of dynasty was necessary. "Richard III" is a masterpiece of character assassination. It's also a wicked

REVIEW
'Richard III'

Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Plays in rotating repertory through Feb. 25. \$25-\$30. 313-577-2972.

www.hilberry.com



Carollette Phillips as Lady Anne and Edmund Alyn Jones as Richard in "Richard III" at the Hilberry Theatre. Photo: Richard L. Fosbrink

black comedy.

The Hilberry Theatre's program gives a family tree to help sort out the mind-bending twists of the War of the Roses, but it's not really necessary. As he himself would say, it's all about Richard. Detroit native Edmund Alyn Jones dominates the stage with a fine balance of menace and self-satisfaction. It's a cliché, but Jones gives us a villain we love to hate. The production is so focused on the lead that we don't need to sort out the other characters

- they're merely pawns in Richard's game. Director Alison C. Vesely has made some sharp decisions in this production. When Shakespearean actors fall into the playwright's meter, even the most convoluted passages are understandable.

To read the complete review, log on to ...
www.EncoreMichigan.com or PrideSource.com

The alienated have landed at The Ringwald

BY DONALD V. CALAMIA

Anyone walking into The Ringwald Theatre expecting "Christmas on Mars" to be a frothy, merry holiday comedy are going to be in for a big shock - albeit a very entertaining one. Why? Because unlike what the title suggests, "Christmas on Mars" isn't really about Santa, space travel, aliens or even the season itself. Rather, it's a quirky tale about "the lies and the compromises" we tell ourselves (and others) to make it through the day. Yet just like the much-maligned fruitcake that inevitably shows up this time of year, the odd mix of fruits and nuts on the stage of The Ringwald Theatre will likely be among the most surprising gifts you'll receive this holiday season!

Take Nissim, for example. A recently fired flight attendant who's madly in love with his longtime straight friend and roommate Bruno, Nissim is a whirligig of energy and emotions - a force to be reckoned with, who

REVIEW
'Christmas on Mars'

Who Wants Cake? at The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Friday-Monday through Dec. 13. \$10-\$20. 248-545-5545.

www.whowantcaketheatre.com



Jamie Warrow (center) is crowded by Joel Mitchell, Jon Ager and Leah Smith in Harry Kondoleon's "Christmas on Mars" The Ringwald Theatre. Photo: Colleen Scribner

storms into the not-quite-yet-rented apartment of Bruno and his not-quite-yet fiancée Audrey (who is also the not-quite-yet mother-of-his-child-to-be) and never leaves. Nothing Nissim tells Audrey about Bruno's past fazes her. So when his attempts to sabotage their relationship ultimately fail, the drama queen's utter hysteria builds and builds - until he faints dead away. (It's a recurring response, a not-very-surprised Bruno explains.)

That's not to say Bruno and Audrey are without faults, too. Bruno is a vain and not-very-successful model/actor who hasn't met

a woman he won't sleep with. (Including his mother-in-law-to-be.) And a rather chilly Audrey harbors deep-seated resentment towards her mother, Ingrid, who supposedly beat her and abandoned her as a child.

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by Chris Azzopardi

Mariah's holiday spirit carries sequel. Plus: Indigo Girls and 'Glee'



Mariah Carey, 'Merry Christmas II You'

Sequels usually suck, but Mariah Carey's not going down with that sleigh on her cleverly titled offshoot to her "Merry Christmas" behemoth. That 16-year-old album spawned "All I Want for Christmas is You," a modern-day classic whose new "Extra Festive" version is, well, extra-noisy or something. More obviously, the diva's "Auld Lang Syne" sounds ready to ring in the New Year on a gay disco ball, as its slow preface surges into an arms-up thumper. Beats percolate on first single "Oh Santa!" too, with its old-school bounce and school-yard chant, but this wouldn't be a Mariah album without big, goopy ballads – and "Merry Christmas II You" is padded with them: "One Child," one of two new tracks produced by "Hairspray" composer Marc Shaiman, builds to a belting climax; there's also opera-singer mom, Patricia Carey, on "O Come All Ye Faithful" and a live, chill-propelling "O Holy Night." But part two's no classic, especially with the awkward Michael Jackson-borrowed "Here Comes Santa Claus (Right Down Santa Claus Lane)." The spirit's there, though – and that goes a long way. *Grade: B-*



Indigo Girls, 'Holly Happy Days'

That the Indigo Girls recorded their first holiday album in Nashville is only appropriate – they've never sounded this downright country. "I Feel the Christmas Spirit," a bluegrass sing-along, is a toe-tappin' good time.

What follows is similar in style but stripped to their much-adored acoustic sound: "It Really Is (A Wonderful Life)," written by Chely Wright, adds a jazz twist, while "I'll Be Home for Christmas" is simple and understated, intertwining Emily Saliers and Amy Ray's voices like holiday magic (Janis Ian, Brandi Carlile and Mary Gauthier add harmonies to the album, too). But what's really special about "Holly Happy Days" (besides the cool packaging with lyrics of the three new tunes written on ornament cut-outs) has more to do with the duo's rarely recorded song selection. One of those, Beth Nielsen Chapman's "There's Still My Joy," is stunningly bittersweet – just how we like our Girls. *Grade: B+*



'Glee: The Music – The Christmas Album'

Before "Glee" conquers the world (because it will), it's conquering Christmas – the gay way, with a dude duo doing "Baby, It's Cold Outside" together (aw, cute!). On the holiday-themed release from the cast of TV's biggest, queerest drug, Kurt (Chris Colfer) and possible-new-loverboy Blaine (Darren Criss) charm in a refreshingly gay take on the classic. Otherwise, "Glee" plugs carols into the show's formula for frothy bouncers and over-the-top ballads: a jazzy, dance-made "Jingle Bells"; pop fave "Last Christmas" and a soaring "O Holy Night," sung by pipe queen Lea Michele (duh). Even the show's knack for mash-ups gets play on this disc with "Deck the Rooftop," a groovy romp. "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch" is an odd fit, especially since "Glee" is known for, you know, singing, but it's the only real coal in this collection – one sure to make the yuletide gayer. *Grade: B*



The Superions, 'Destination... Christmas!'

Something weird's to be expected from The B-52s' Fred Schneider, whose side project

with two other musicians – known collectively as The Superions – is one strange, creepy, horny, electro-fused spin. The perverted "Santa Je T'aime" answers the question, "Why did Ol' Saint Nick favor Rudolph?" And other novelty songs are just as whacky. If Christmas got punk'd, this would be it.



Katharine McPhee, 'Christmas Is the Time... (To Say I Love You)'

Back to basics, and out from the trendy trench, is where the "American Idol" loser

lands on her simple 10-tracker. The songs on her third album, mostly made of classic carols, are structured to conjure pre-fad-following McPhee, who sings her little heart out and, with sole original "It's Not Christmas Without You," pulls at ours.



The Puppini Sisters, 'Christmas with the Puppini Sisters'

What'd Christmas sound like in the '40s? Like the Puppini Sisters third disc, with 10 tracks that're as fresh as new snow. The British trio (who aren't really sisters) rework them with a retro twist, jazzing up "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!" and putting the breaks on 1980s Wham! hit "Last Christmas." Even Mariah's "All I Want for Christmas is You" is revived – in boogie-woogie style.



Wilson Phillips, 'Christmas in Harmony'

If you held on for one more day, then payoff's finally here: Wilson Phillips, the all-girl group who ruled the early '90s, are getting into the spirit with their first holiday LP. The title couldn't be truer – harmonies are their thing, especially on songs like opener "I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day" – but the album's as safe as giving a gift card.

Reach Chris Azzopardi at chris@pridesource.com.



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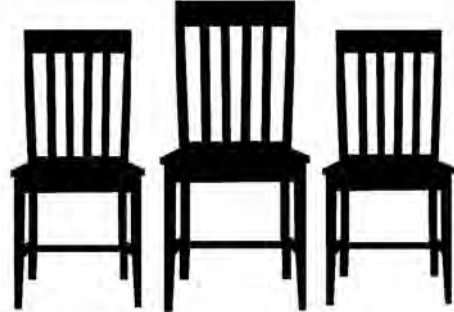



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'Drowsy Chaperone': Lotsa laughs, songs and fun

BY MICHAEL H. MARGOLIN

The charming musical "The Drowsy Chaperone" gets its first professional Michigan outing at Ann Arbor's Performance Network and proves that its Broadway success was not a fluke. The show is genuinely funny, tuneful and, ultimately, moving, if you give yourself over to it.

This is achieved, in part, through the wonderfully clever concept invented by co-authors Bob Martin and Don McKellar: A Man in a Chair (Phil Powers) tells us he is taking us on a nostalgic trip back to 1928 and a musical he loves dearly (originally played on Broadway by co-author Martin).

Chatting with the audience – he is somewhat prissy and earnestly pedantic – he tells us about his hopes as he sits in a darkened theater waiting for the magic to happen on stage: "Please," he prays, "let it be good."

He swears to us that this show, one of his favorites, will be, and he serves as our guide throughout, telling us the actors' career highlights as the show is enacted in his living room, gliding in and out of the action on his rolling



Phil Powers as A Man in a Chair. Photo: Jude Walton

armchair, pausing only to change the LP (yes, records!). There is no intermission, either.

REVIEW

'The Drowsy Chaperone'

Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Thursday-Sunday through Jan. 2, 2011; no shows Thanksgiving and Christmas Days; added performance Wednesday, Nov. 24. \$30-\$46. 734-663-0681. www.performancenetwork.org

What does he serve up: a plot that, like "Kiss Me Kate," features gangsters and battling lovers, which, like "The Boyfriend," satirizes as it sentimentalizes, and like a whole bunch of musicals of the 1920s and '30s dishes up a plot that, at its best, serves the music and dancing.

As one of the gangsters, disguised as a pastry chef, says to the producer who is losing his leading lady to the arms of a Lothario putting the show at risk and threatening the director with extinction: "Have I made myself eclair?"

Yes, outrageous puns and some

See *Chaperone*, page 44




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OUTINGS

Sunday, Nov. 28

PFLAG Tri-Cities Monthly Meeting, 1 p.m. PFLAG Tri-Cities offers Support, Education and Advocacy for LGBT people, families and friends. 2525 Hemmeter Rd at Weiss St, **Saginaw**. 989-941-1458.

pflag@pflag-mbs.org www.pflag-mbs.org

Monday, Nov. 29

World AIDS Week Kick-off Breakfast, 7 a.m. The week surrounding World AIDS day is full of events involving student and community organizations. Come to the kick-off breakfast to learn about the events around campus from HIV testing to research panels to fundraiser nights. Check our website for more information! World AIDS Week Committee at UM, Off the University of Michigan Diag, **Ann Arbor**. worldaidsweekum.wordpress.com

Wednesday, Dec. 1

St. John Community Health World AIDS Day, 7 a.m. The Ryan White program will be sponsoring displays of the NAMES Project AIDS Quilt and Stitches A Doll Project as reminders of the magnitude of HIV/AIDS. 22101 Moross Road, **Detroit**. 248-849-5759.

St. John Providence Health System's World AIDS Day Panel/Service, 12:30 p.m. Displaying panels from the AIDS Quilt, hosting dolls from STITCHES: A Doll Project, with a short service beginning at 12:30 p.m. from 9-5 p.m. 22101 Moross Rd, **Detroit**. 248-849-5759. David. Rupprecht@stjohn.org

LGBT in the Park, 5:15 p.m. A group for gays, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and their allies meeting twice a month. There will be discussions, some outside speakers and planned social events. Nine

EDITOR'S PICK

Every December, theater groups, choruses, and artists begin to turn their focus toward the holidays, presenting classic plays, performing concerts and getting audiences into the holiday spirit. This December is no exception; however, there is one performance this upcoming week that simply stands out.

What's better than one talented chorus performing one holiday concert? Three choruses performing one phenomenal holiday concert! This year, the Greater Lansing Gay Men's Chorus teams up with The Lansing Community College Concert Choir and Sistrum, Lansing's Women's Chorus, to perform their newest concert, "I Believe," with special guest Evan Pinsonnault, Lansing's very own 6 News morning co-anchor. The perfor-



mance will be taking place 8 p.m. Dec. 3-4 in the Dart Auditorium on Lansing Community College's campus.

Tickets are available at www.sistrum.org for \$15 (\$20 at the door). Two dollars from each ticket purchase goes to funding Sistrum's scholarship, which assists Lansing singers who cannot afford semesterly music fees.

mile John R, Hazel Park. 248-460-3251. Jffryoliver@yahoo.com

World AIDS Day 2010 - Candlelight Vigil, 6 p.m. Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center's World AIDS Day Candlelight Vigil. This event is free and open to the public. 120 Ezra Rust Drive, **Saginaw**. 989-776-6000. www.sacredheartcenter.com

Remember. Celebrate. Hope., 7 p.m. Third annual World AIDS Day event to be held in Grand Rapids after many years without an associated event. East Congregational United Church of Christ,

1005 Giddings Ave. SE, **Grand Rapids**. 616-742-1116. <http://www.worldaidsgr.com/>

Women Loving Women Healthy Relationships Workshop Series, 7 p.m. Healthy relationship workshop series for women loving women Womens Center of Greater Lansing, 1712 E. Michigan Ave., **Lansing**. 517-372-9163. womenscentergl@yahoo.com

Thursday, Dec. 2

Its Not Over, 5 p.m. Join us in a self-

discovery series for same-gender loving HIV Positive Men. Explore issues about sex, intimacy, relationships and more. HIV/AIDS Resource Center (HARC), 3075 Clark Road, **Ypsilanti**. 734-572-9355. www.hivaidsresource.org

Euchre Tournament, 7 p.m. Fundraiser to benefit Out Loud Chorus, Washtenaw county's original GLBT chorus. \$10 entry, cash prizes. Out Loud Chorus, 1950 South Industrial Highway, **Ann Arbor**. 734-973-6084. www.olonline.org

Friday, Dec. 3

Womyn's Film Night, 7 p.m. "Wisecracks" In the male-dominated world of stand-up, these queens of comedy display their ample talent onstage and offer their keen insights offstage in this hilarious documentary. The talent roster is a who's who of funny women: Whoopi Goldberg, Ellen DeGeneres, Paula Poundstone, Phyllis Diller, Carol Burnett and more. Filmmaker Gail Singer also traces the roots of feminine humor with clips of Lucille Ball, Eve Arden and Mae West. Affirmations, 290 W. 9 Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105.

8: The Mormon Proposition, 7:30 p.m. Part of the group's 2010-11 film series. Free. Holland is Ready, 248 S. River Ave., **Holland**. 616-990-5669.

Fido Personal Dog Training "Holiday Fundraiser for Waggs and Wishes" Animal Shelter in Ferndale. With local photographer, Wayne Maki. 703 Livernois, Ferndale. 2 p.m. 313-204-6154. fidodogtraining.com

Saturday, Dec. 4

Perceptions' Ninth Annual Holiday Party & Charity Auction, 7 p.m. Your ticket includes a full dinner served from a bountiful buffet. A cash bar will be available. The evening will include silent and live auctions where you can bid on a wide array of gifts donated by area merchants, Perceptions members and friends. Proceeds from this year's Charity Auction will go toward our Facilities Fund and the Perceptions Scholarship Fund, managed by the Saginaw Community Foundation. Perceptions Saginaw Valley, 2470 Old Bridge Road, **Bay City**. 989-891-1429. <http://www.perceptions.org>

Sunday, Dec. 5

All Creatures ULC Sunday Pets Welcome Services, Interfaith spiritual services held at an indoor dog park

so all types of pets are welcome at all services. All Creatures ULC, 27911 Five Mile Rd., **Livonia**. 313-563-0162. www.allcreaturesulc.com

MUSIC & MORE

BENEFITS/SOCIAL EVENTS

Goldenrod Music "Final Open House" Goldenrod Music, 1310 Turner Street, Lansing. 11 a.m. Dec. 4. 517-484-1712. www.goldenrod.com

Harmies Army "Comics for Change" Tickets on sale now at www.harmiesarmy.com. 310 S. Troy, Royal Oak. 7 p.m. Dec. 14. 248-542-9900. www.harmiesarmy.com

Michigan Opera Theatre Children's Chorus "Winter Fantasy" Concert & Fundraiser The concert will include a variety of music, including holiday favorites and excerpts from operas by Bizet and Mozart. Proceeds from all activities will benefit MOTCC. Tickets \$18 for adults, \$5 for children 16 and under. Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. 7 p.m. Nov. 29. 248-914-1966. <http://www.ticketderby.com>

CLASSICAL

Chamber Music Society of Detroit Simone Dinnerstein Piano Artist Repertoire: J.S. Bach, The Goldberg Variations, BWV 988 Seeligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 West 13 Mile Road, Beverly Hills. 7 p.m. Dec. 4. 248-855-6070. <http://www.comehearcmd.org/>

Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings "Holiday Brass" Two brass arrangements

See Music, page 46

► Chaperone

Continued from p. 42

eyebrow-raising double entendres – from the Man in a Chair – and a classic spit-take scene, later glorified and abused by Jerry Lewis in his film career, are there along with tap dancing, pratfalls and a leading man roller skating while wearing a blindfold.

All of this is packaged in a mere two hours or so, and never do director Carla Milarch and choreographer Phil Simmons allow the show to drag. Along the way, they invent terrific steps on stairs and on mantelpieces, and the cast moves gracefully in and out of charmingly decorated pivoting panels at rear stage and a swing door at stage left. Monika Essen shows every bit of her ingenuity in putting this rather large show on a stage several times smaller than that of its Broad-

way sibling, and Suzanne Young's costumes are terrifically apt.

If I must quibble, Sybil – to borrow from Noel Coward – what was the lighting designer, Justin Lang, doing during the rehearsals and previews up to Friday's opening night? The actors are sometimes giving their all in less light than we need to appreciate them; sometimes they move from half light to near darkness, and where, oh where, is that follow spot when it is needed?

I cannot explain this lapse: Did director Milarch cut off her lighted nose to spite her darkened face?

Well, Sybil, enough of the show is gloriously seen and the performers are more often quite visible: Phil Powers as the fussy narrator is very much in control without seeming to be – funny, eloquent and charming. I felt I could have spent several more hours talking theater with him. It is with malicious relish that he describes

All of this is packaged in a mere two hours or so, and never do director Carla Milarch and choreographer Phil Simmons allow the show to drag.

the death of the (fictional) actor playing Adolpho: It involves five days post-mortem, his villa and some poodles, but Powers never overstates the case, leaving that to the writers.

This being a musical, tribute is owed to Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison for the pastiche score that is tuneful, if not memorable. To put it another way: It's as good as it needs to be and includes such ditties as "Monkey on a Pedestal," "I Am Adolpho," "I Do, I Do, in the Sky" and the remarkable anthem "As We Stumble Along,"

which Naz Edwards belts with all the conviction of a Wagnerian soprano singing of redemption.

To a man and woman, the cast within the musical is super: Kudos to Linda Rabin Hammell, Charles Sutherland, Brian Thibault, Matt Andersen, Mark Hammell, Eva Rosenwald, Andrea Mellos and Lisa Lauren Smith. Kudos and a hats off to Naz Edwards as the drowsy one (who fails to watch the bride to be and therefore enables the plot to take its wrong turns on the way to a happy ending); to Pete Podolski and Phill Harmer who excel in dancing, singing and pseudo-gangsterizing. Finally, kudos, hat and a bouquet to Scott Crownover who, as Adolpho, makes a simple two word line into the biggest laugh in the show, but is funny, graceful and pitiable at the same time – after all, there are those poodles in the villa.

I cannot but think that the final words on this show will be "Held Over."

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A festive selection of TV favorites, specials

Nov. 25

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (NBC; 9 a.m.) The 84th annual march through midtown Manhattan will feature performances by Big Rush, Victoria Justice and India.Arie; appearances by Kanye West, Jessica Simpson, Gladys Knight and the casts of Broadway's "American Idol," "Memphis" and "Elf." Here's hoping that nobody gets hit by a lamppost this year.

Miracle on 34th Street (1947) (NBC; 2 p.m.)

A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving (ABC; 8 p.m.)

The Town Christmas Forgot (Hallmark; 8 p.m.) City slickers clash in this family film that has the whole clan stranded in a small, impoverished town two days before Christmas. Lessons are learned when they become involved in the local Christmas pageant, which results in a happier new year for all. Lauren Holly and Rick Roberts star.

Taylor Swift: Speak Now (NBC; 8 p.m.) The young ingenue takes fans on a once-in-a-lifetime journey to see her perform in unlikely venues, like the cabin of a commercial airliner. The special also features behind-the-scenes access to Swift's recording studio and appearances.

Beyonce: I Am (ABC; 9:30 p.m.) Fans are treated to footage from B's world tour of the same name, including performances, rehearsals and off-stage interviews.

Nov. 26

30 Holiday Decorating Hits & Misses (HGTV; 8 p.m.) A host of HGTV's familiar faces will deliver the top holiday decorating dos and don'ts. Viewers will learn tips on how to avoid certain blunders while adopting more stylish solutions.

TV's Funniest Holiday Moments: A Paley Center for Media Special (FOX; 8 p.m.)

A two-hour clip show that counts down the top 30 holiday moments of all-time, featuring scenes from "I Love Lucy," "Friends," "The Big Bang Theory" and more. Lesbian funny lady Jane Lynch will host.

The Night Before the Night Before Christmas (Hallmark; 8 p.m.) Santa inadvertently lands in suburbia – with amnesia – and reminds a self-absorbed family about the true meaning of Christmas.



Taylor Swift performs at 8 p.m. on NBC's Thanksgiving Day special "Taylor Swift: Speak Now." Photo: NBC

Nov. 27

Once Upon a Christmas (ABC Family; 12:30 p.m.) Santa threatens to cancel Christmas when he senses that the world has lost the Christmas spirit. Kathy Ireland stars as Kris Kringle's daughter.

Twice Upon a Christmas (ABC Family; 2:30 p.m.) Kathy Ireland returns to stop Rudolph from selling the North Pole. And you thought your family was full of drama.

An Accidental Christmas (Lifetime; 3 p.m.) Devastated by their parents' recent separation, two siblings formulate a plan to bring the family back together at their beach house during Christmas vacation.

The Christmas Choir (Hallmark; 4 p.m.) A spiritually lost accountant volunteers at a homeless shelter run by a cantankerous nun; together, the unlikely duo turn its down-on-their-luck inhabitants into a world-famous choir. Inspired by a true story, this made-for-TV movie stars Jason Gedrick and Rhea Perlman.

Elf (USA; 9 p.m.)

Nov. 28

A Different Kind of Christmas (Lifetime; 5 p.m.) City attorney Elizabeth Gates, played by Shelley Long, has a secret: Her father is Santa Claus – and if anyone finds out, she'll be the laughing stock of the municipal building. Seriously, Lifetime will make anything.

The Dog Who Saved Christmas (ABC Family; 6 p.m.) Who cares about the plot? It stars Dean Cain and features Mario Lopez as the voice of former police dog Zeus. Sit. Stay.

The Dog Who Saved Christmas Vacation (ABC Family; 8 p.m.)

The November Christmas (CBS; 9 p.m.) A small Rhode Island community comes together to provide a terminally ill child with the best holiday season of her life. Starring Sam Elliott, John Corbett, Karen Allen, and Sarah Paulson.

The National Tree (Hallmark; 10 p.m.)

Nov. 29
Christmas in Canaan (Hallmark; 8 p.m.)

CMA Country Christmas (ABC; 9:30 p.m.) Featuring performances by Brad Paisley, Kellie Pickler, Jennifer Nettles, Sheryl Crow, and the most famous homewrecker in Nashville, LeAnn Rimes.

Nov. 30

Christmas in Rockefeller Center 2010 (NBC; 8 p.m.) 18-year-old singing sensation Charice will become the first Filipino artist to perform at the annual NYC event alongside Josh Groban, Mariah Carey, Kylie Minogue, Jessica Simpson, Sheryl Crow, Susan Boyle and Annie Lennox.

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (1966, animated) (ABC; 8 p.m.)

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (CBS; 8 p.m.)

It's a Wonderful Life (NBC; 8 p.m.) The Christmas classic returns for the first of its only two annual airings. Catch it again on Christmas Eve.

Dec. 1

Dr. Seuss' How The Grinch Stole Christmas (2000, live action) (ABC Family; 8 p.m.)

Holiday Treats Unwrapped (Food Network; 8 p.m.) Marc Summers takes viewers on a tasty tour that includes how'd-they-do-that vignettes of edible snow globes, gingerbread houses, honey-baked ham, stuffing, cranberry sauce, Mrs. Smith's pumpkin pies, Christmas cookies, and Reddi Whip. You can unbuckle now.

Scrooged (AMC; 8 p.m.)

Check back every week through Christmas for more "Homo for the Holidays" listings.

EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONAL

Executive Director

Affirmations Community Center
Metro Detroit's LGBT Community Center

Affirmations is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization serving people of all orientations and gender identities and their allies. Housed in a state-of-the-art, multi-use facility in Ferndale, Michigan, it is easily accessible from across the Metro Detroit area. Affirmations is the largest LGBT organization in Michigan, and one of the ten largest in the United States.

The Executive Director provides vision and leadership throughout the organization and promotes Affirmations across the region, supporting the community with programs that resonate with a diverse base of patrons and funders, working collaboratively with organizations from the business, non-profit and public sectors to maximize broad-based support for the organization's mission.

Vision and strategic management, the ability to work with people, and well developed business acumen are essential, as demonstrated by 3+ years' of progressively responsible management and leadership experience at a non-profit or for-profit organization. The ability to develop revenue streams for operations is essential. Demonstrate responsibility and success at sustaining a balanced budget. A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required, plus a record of leadership demonstrating dedication to exceptional customer service.

Affirmations provides a competitive compensation/benefits package. Visit www.goaffirmations.org and www.egreensource.com/ for additional information.

Affirmations is an equal employment employer in all regards.

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► Music

Continued from p. 44

of familiar Handel tunes will evoke the season: "Arrival of the Queen of Sheba" from Solomon and "Let the Bright Seraphim" from Samson. Tickets are \$10-\$35. 529 Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak, 529 Hendrie Blvd, Royal Oak. 7:30 a.m. Dec. 5. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 12. 248-559-2095. <http://www.detroitchamberwinds.org>

Fort Street Chorale and Chamber Orchestra "G.F. Handels Messiah" Tickets are \$20. 631 West Fort Street, Detroit. 6:30 p.m. Dec. 4, 3 p.m. Dec. 5. 313-961-3617. www.fortstreet.org

Lansing Symphony Orchestra "MasterWorks 3: Songs of Winter" Vivaldi's "Winter" from Four Seasons, Rutter's When Icicles Hang, Bloch's Sacred Service (Avodath Hakodesh) Tickets are \$12-45. Wharton Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing. 8 p.m. Dec. 4. 517-487-5001. www.lansingsymphony.org

CONCERTS

Detroit Together Men' Chorus "Spirits of Christmas Past" Tickets are \$18-\$25. Brian Londrow, Artistic Director. Tickets available online, or at Just4Us Ferndale, and Five15 Royal Oak. Lamphere High School Auditorium, 610 W Thirteen Mile Rd, Madison Heights. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 18. 248-544-3872. <http://www.dtmc.org>

Franke Center For The Arts "Beatlemania" Return of Jim Oliver and friends for another Thanksgiving weekend tribute to the Beatles. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for students. Children under 12 years of age are free. 214 E Manson St, Marshall. 8 p.m. Nov. 27. 269-781-0001. <http://www.frankecenterforthearts.org>

Greater Lansing Gay Men's Chorus and The Lansing Community College Concer Choir, and Sistrum Lansing Women's Chorus "I Believe Holiday Concert" Tickets \$15 online, \$20 at the door. \$2 of each ticket goes to scholarship fund. Dart Auditorium, LCC Campus, Lansing. 8 p.m. Dec. 3, 8 p.m. Dec. 4. <http://www.sistrum.org>

Live Nation "The Rockets" With special guests Salem Witchcraft. Tickets are \$10. The Fillmore, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Nov. 27. www.livenation.com

Olympia Entertainment "Gary Hoey" The Rockin' Holiday Tour 2010. Tickets are \$27. City Theatre, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Nov. 26. www.ticketmaster.com

Olympia Entertainment "Celtic Thunder" Tickets are \$37.50-57.50. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 3 p.m. Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2. www.ticketmaster.com

Sky Production "Wednesday Night Concert & Jam ft. Sky Covington" Harbor House, 440 Clinton St., Detroit. Sep. 29 - Dec. 29. 313 424 3458. [skycovington.com](http://www.skycovington.com)

Wharton Center "ABBA Mania" A performance by the premiere ABBA cover band. Tickets are \$32-42. Wharton Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing. 3 p.m. Nov. 28. 517-353-1982. www.whartoncenter.com

Ypsilanti Community Choir and the Washtenaw Community Concert Band "A Holiday Concert Tradition" Ariel Toews-Ricotta directs the choir in a variety of seasonal pieces, including "Gesu Bambino" by Pietro A. Yon and Gustav Holst's setting of "In the Bleak Midwinter." Admission and parking free. Pease Auditorium, EMU Pease Auditorium College Place & Cross St, Ypsilanti. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 16. 734-487-5386.

DANCE

Eisenhower Dance Ensemble "20/20 Dance" The concert will present revivals of audience favorites and a new work by EDE Choreography Competition winner Daniel Gwartzman, celebrate 20 years of visionary dance. Tickets are \$16, \$8 for students. Seligman Performing Arts Center, 22305 W 13 Mile Rd, Beverly Hills. 8 p.m. Dec. 10. 248-559-2095. <http://www.eisenhowerdance.org/>

[ede-dance.org/](http://www.eisenhowerdance.org/)

Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts "Polish Folk Dance Ensemble Mazowsze performs "Christmas Time in Warsaw" Mazowsze is one of the world's most famous ballet groups specializing in folk dance. It draws on the richness of national dances, songs and traditions. Tickets are \$30 to \$50. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit. 3 p.m. Dec. 4, 8 p.m. Dec. 4. 313-887-8500. <http://www.musichall.org>

FILM & VIDEO

Detroit Film Theater "My Dog Tulip" Based on the celebrated 1956 novel by J.R. Ackerley (We Think the World of You), the deeply touching My Dog Tulip is the first animated film to ever be entirely hand drawn and painted using high-definition paperless computer technology. Tickets \$6.50 members, \$7.50 non-members. 5200 Woodward Ave, Detroit. Nov. 19 - Nov. 28. 313-833-7900. <http://www.dia.org/>

Michigan Theater "White Christmas Sing-Along" Free props bag and on-screen lyrics, plus costume parade. Tickets: \$12 adults, \$10 students, seniors and veterans. 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. 4 p.m. Nov. 28. www.michtheater.org

OTHER

Dawn Farm "Suicide and Recovery from Addiction" A presentation on suicidal thinking and its connection to recovery. Free. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. 7:30 p.m. Nov. 30. 734-485-8725. www.dawnfarm.org

Detroit Science Center "Noel, Noel" Explore the wonders of winter as part of Ford Free Fundays. 5020 John R Street, Detroit. 10 a.m. Dec. 4. 313-577-8400. www.detroitsciencecenter.org

SHOWS

Alzheimer's Association and Affirmations "Caring Caregiver" A support group for anyone who is caring for someone with Alzheimer's or dementia. This group is open to family, friends, spouses and partners. Everyone is welcome! Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Rd, Ferndale. Nov. 17 - April 27. 248-398-7105. [goaffirmations.org](http://www.goaffirmations.org)

The Whitney "Kimberly Fairchild LIVE @ The Whitney" Sexy, Sassy Detroit Diva entertains a diverse crowd with eclectic song selections in one of Detroit's most beloved historical landmarks. Beautiful, warm and inviting atmosphere. Reservations and formal dress not required. The Ghost Bar, 4421 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Oct. 15 - Jan. 28. (313)832-5700. [kimberlyfairchild.com](http://www.kimberlyfairchild.com)

THEATER

CIVIC/COMMUNITY THEATER

A Christmas Story \$15. Farmington Players, 32332 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Through Dec. 12. 248-553-2955. www.farmingtonplayers.org

A Tuna Christmas \$30; price includes dinner and the show. Show-only tickets: \$15. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. Starlight Dinner Theatre at Waverly East Intermediate School, 3131 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing. Dec. 3 - 11. 517-243-6040. www.starlightdinnertheatre.com

Annie \$18-\$22. Kalamazoo Civic Theatre at Civic Auditorium, 329 South Park St., Kalamazoo. Nov. 26 - Dec. 19. 269-343-1313. www.kazoocivic.com Forever Christmas: A Christmas to Remember \$16-18. Avon Players, 1185 Washington, Rochester Hills. Nov. 26 - Dec. 11. 248-608-9077. www.avonplayers.org Hamilton Bus Stop \$15; cash only. Hammertheatre at Artword Artbar, 15 Colbourne Street, Hamilton, Ontario. Through Nov. 28. 905-543-8512. www.artword.net/artbar

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Irving Berlin's White Christmas - The Musical \$18-\$20. Stagecrafters at Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. Nov. 26 - Dec. 19. 248-541-6430. www.stagecrafters.org

Misdirected Pay-what-you-can. Flint City Theatre at The Good Beans Cafe, 328 N. Grand Traverse Rd., Flint. Dec. 2 - 11.

810-237-4663. www.flintcitytheatre.com

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee \$18. The Players Guild of Dearborn, 21730 Madison St., Dearborn. Through Dec. 5. 313-561-8587. www.playersguildofdearborn.org

To Kill A Mockingbird \$10-\$20; all Thursday shows are \$15. Ann Arbor Civic Theatre at Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin Ave., Ann Arbor. Dec. 2 - 5. 734-971-2228. www.a2ct.org

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Theater Late Night Broadway! \$20. The University Theatre at Williams Theatre in the Gilmore Theatre Complex, 1903 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo. Dec. 2 - 4. 269-387-6222. www.wmtheatre.com

To Kill A Mockingbird \$15. Bonstelle Theatre, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Dec. 3 - 12. 313-577-2960. www.bonstelle.com

PROFESSIONAL

A Christmas Carol Previews Nov. 26 (\$17-\$30), \$25-\$40. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Rd., Rochester. Through Dec. 23. 248-377-3300. www.mbtheatre.com

A Strange Disappearance of Bees \$17, \$20 at the door; \$70 New Year's Eve. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson St., Detroit. Through Dec. 26. 313-868-1347. www.detroitreptheatre.com

Best Damn Holiday Show \$10-\$15. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. 9 Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through Dec. 23. 248-327-0575. www.gocomedy.net

Best of Friends \$25-\$40. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Through Dec. 18. 734-433-7673. www.purplerosetheatre.org

Celebrity Autobiography \$15-\$25. The Blackbird Theatre, 325 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Dec. 4. 734-332-3848. www.blackbirdtheatre.org

Christmas on Mars \$10-\$20. Who Wants Cake? at The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Through Dec. 13. 248-545-5545. www.whowantscaketheatre.com

Dance Xanax Dance \$20; half-price nights Nov. 24 and Dec. 7. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff St., Hamtramck. Nov. 24 - Dec. 18. 313-365-4948. www.planetant.com

Detroit Be Dammed: A Beaver's Tale \$25. Planet Ant Theatre at Park Bar, 2040 Park Ave., Detroit. Nov. 24 - Dec. 18. 313-365-4948. www.parkbardetroit.com

Don't Be Cruel - The Life and Times of the King \$25-\$35; dinner and show packages available Wednesday, Thursday & Sunday for \$69.95 per couple. Andiamo Novi Theatre, 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi. Through Nov. 28. 248-348-4448.

Double Falsehood \$25. The Blackbird Theatre, 325 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Dec. 3. 734-332-3848. www.blackbirdtheatre.org

Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some) \$18 show only; \$30 for dinner and show. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for dinner, and 7:30 p.m. for those just seeing the show. Gourmet buffet-style dinner; reservations required. AP Theatrical Productions at Baker Lofts, 171 E. 24th St., Holland. Through Dec. 4. 616-772-5697. www.aptheatrical.com

Evita \$20. What's That Smell? Productions at The Box Theatre, 51 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Through Dec. 5. 586-954-2311.

FSS\$ the Holidays: A Seasonal Retail Story \$10. Sweet Love Productions at The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Dec. 3 - 20. 248-545-5545. www.whowantscaketheatre.com

Fridays and Saturdays at Go Comedy! \$5-\$15; "Dark Matter" (free). Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through Dec. 18. 248-327-0575. www.gocomedy.net

Grease \$30-\$60. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Dec. 3 - 4. 1-800-745-3000. www.olympiaentertainment.com

EDITOR'S PICK

Over a 100 years ago, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky premiered a ballet adaptation of E.T.A. Hoffman's "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King," titled "The Nutcracker," in Saint Petersburg, Russia. The ballet became an incredible success and is performed by ballet companies throughout the world every holiday season.

The Detroit Opera House will be presenting five performances of the Grand Rapids Ballet Company's rendition of "The Nutcracker" Nov. 26-28. During the Family Matinees (every day at 2:30 p.m.) there will be photo opportunities with Santa as well as the Nutcracker – and don't miss the opportunity to meet live reindeer prior to the performance!



Tickets – from \$25 to \$72 – are available at <http://www.michiganopera.org/1011/nutcracker.html>.

(Photo: Rob Schumaker, Terzes Photography)

Greater Tuna \$18-\$24. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Rd., Williamston. Through Dec. 19. 517-655-7469. www.williamstontheatre.org

Gays On Ice \$28-\$30; \$75 New Year's Eve. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Through Jan. 15. 248-347-0003. www.tippingpointtheatre.com

Hay Fever Plays in rotating repertory. \$20-\$30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Through Dec. 4. 313-577-2972. www.wsushows.com

I've Been Through 2 Much Already \$20. Brothers On The Move Productions & J Mayes Productions at WSU Community Arts Auditorium, 451 Rether Mall, Detroit. Nov. 27. 313-478-4250.

It's a Wonderful Life \$28. The Encore Musical Theatre Company, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Nov. 26 - Dec. 23. 734-268-6200. <http://theencoretheatre.org>

Laugh-A-Palooza \$15-\$27.50. The Palace of Auburn Hills, 6 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. 7:30 p.m. Nov. 27. 248-377-0100. www.palacenet.com

Legally Blonde The Musical \$27.50 and above. Broadway Grand Rapids at DeVos Performance Hall, 303 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids. Nov. 23 - 28. 1-800-745-3000. www.broadwaygrandrapids.com

Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America A staged reading. \$5. MSU Federal Credit Union Institute for Arts & Creativity at Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre, Michigan State University, East Lansing. Dec. 2 - 3. 1-800-942-7866. www.whartoncenter.com

Of Mice and Men Plays in rotating repertory. \$25 - \$30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Through Feb. 5. 313-577-2972. www.wsushows.com

Oh, Ananse! \$10 adults, \$5 children. Detroit Puppet Theater, PuppetART, 25 East Grand River, Detroit. Saturdays through Nov. 27. 313-961-7777. www.puppetart.org

Plaid Tidings \$27.50 - \$32.50. The Gem Theatre, 333 Madison St., Detroit. Through Dec. 31. 313-963-9800. www.gemtheatre.com

Richard III Plays in rotating repertory. \$25-\$30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Through Feb. 25. 313-577-2972. www.hilberry.com

Sister's Christmas Catechism \$27.50-\$32.50. The Century Theatre, 333 Madison St., Detroit. Through Dec. 31. 313-963-9800. www.gemtheatre.com

Sundays at Go Comedy! \$5-\$7. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through Dec. 19. 248-327-0575. www.gocomedy.net

The Current \$18. Magenta Giraffe Theatre Company, 1515 Broadway St., Detroit. Through Dec. 4. 313-408-7269. www.magentagiraffe.org

The Drowsy Chaperone \$30-\$46. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through Dec. 26. 734-663-0681. www.performancenetwork.org

The Marvelous Wonderettes \$29 for weekdays and Sunday matinees, \$33 for Friday and Saturday evenings. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Dec. 3 - 26. 269-343-2727. www.farmersalleytheatre.com

The Nutcracker's Nuts \$16. Broadway Onstage Live Theatre, 21517 Kelly Rd., Eastpointe. Dec. 3 - 18. 586-771-6333. www.broadwayonstage.com

Thursdays at Go Comedy! \$5-\$10 per show. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through Dec. 23. 248-327-0575. www.gocomedy.net

Two's Company, Four's a Blizzard Dinner theater performances Nov. 27 & Dec. 11 (\$36; buffet begins at 6:30). \$19. Van Buren Street Theatre, 701 N. Van Buren St., Bay City. Through Dec. 11. 989-893-9399. www.vanburenstreettheatre.com

Wednesdays at Go Comedy! \$5-\$7. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through Dec. 22. 248-327-0575. www.gocomedy.net

What You Won't Do For Love \$10-\$15. Big Girl Ideas, Inc. at Lighthouse Cathedral, 8801 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Dec. 4. 313-727-1011. www.biggirlideas.webs.com

Wicked \$40-\$135. Miller Auditorium, 2200 Auditorium Dr., Kalamazoo. Dec. 1 - 12. 269-387-2300. www.millerauditorium.com

ART 'N' AROUND

Charles H. Wright Museum "Portraits of Life and Landscapes" The Art of Frank Kelley Jr. Opening reception held 6-9 p.m. Charles H. Wright Museum, 315 E. Warren Ave., Detroit. Aug. 27 - Dec. 12. 313-494-5800. www.charleshwrightmuseum.org

Detroit Institute of Arts "An Intuitive Eye: Andre Kertesz Photographs, 1914-1969" This exhibition celebrates the photographic achievements of Andre Kertesz (1894-1985), whose groundbreaking work achieved a delicate balance between technical perfection and lyrical beauty. 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Nov. 24 - April 10. 313-833-7900. <http://www.dia.org>

Flint Institute of Arts "Unbroken Ties" Dialogues in Cuban Art, presenting works of artists who have remained in Cuba alongside works by those who have left the country. 1120 E. Kearsley, Flint. Sep. 9 - Dec. 7. 810-234-1695. www.flintarts.org

Grand Rapids Art Museum "Diana, A Celebration" An exhibit with personal objects of Princess Diana, including dresses, home movies and more. Tickets: \$20 adults, \$18 seniors and college students, \$15 youth. 101 Monroe Center, Grand Rapids. Nov. 9 - Feb. 16. www.artmuseumgr.org

Kalamazoo Institute of Arts "In Focus: National Geographic Greatest Portraits" A free traveling exhibition created by National Geographic and the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. 314 S. Park, Kalamazoo. Oct. 30 - Jan. 2. 269-349-7775. www.kiarts.org

Kerrytown Concert House "Finding My Way" Acrylic and mixed-media works by artist Rita Malone. Reception held 5-7 p.m. Nov. 7. 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. Oct. 26 - Nov. 29. 734-769-2999. www.kerrytownconcerthouse.com

Kresge Art Museum "The Power of Design" An free exhibition of Chinese textiles, costumes and accessories. Michigan State University, East Lansing. Oct. 9 - Dec. 17. 517-884-0659. www.artmuseum.msu.edu

Lawrence Street Gallery "Nature 2 Nature" Works by artist Tim Marsh. Opening reception held 6-9 p.m. Nov. 5. Lawrence Street Gallery, 22620 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Nov. 3 - Nov. 27. 248-544-0394. www.lawrencestreteetgallery.com

Leon & Lulu "Artists' Market" Featuring hand-crafted items by local artisans. Free. Leon & Lulu, 96 W. 14 Mile Road, Clawson. Aug. 29 - Nov. 30. www.leonandlulu.com

Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum "Artists' Portray Artists" An exhibition of 35 portraits and self-portraits. Marshall M. 7400 Bay Road, Saginaw. Oct. 1 - Jan. 29. 989-964-7096. www.marshallfredericks.org

MSU Museum "Dear Mr. Mandela, Dear Mrs. Parks" Children's Letters, Global Lessons. Main Gallery, MSU Museum Michigan State University, East Lansing. Dec. 20 - Jan. 3. <http://museum.msu.edu>

Sherry Washington Gallery "Free Radicals" paintings by Senghor Reid" 1274 Library St, Detroit. Nov. 20 - Jan. 22. 313-961-4500. <http://www.sherrywashingtongallery.com>

Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery "Picking Up the Pieces" With works from the Mariner's Inn and N.O.A.H./Art & Soul participants. 33 E. Adams, Detroit. Oct. 23 - Dec. 4. 313-963-7575.

The Art Experience "Ports O Call" The Art Experience announces 10th annual fundraiser. Scheduled events include silent and live auctions, a grand raffle, food, entertainment and cash bar. 4 - 8:30 p.m., Dec. 5. 248-706-3304. <http://www.theartexperience.org>

Getting to know Toronto

North America's fifth largest city, Toronto ranks among the world's favorite gay urban destinations, with exceptional art and history museums, superb shopping, two stellar theater districts and a tourist board keen on courting the lesbian/gay market (www.seetorontonow.com/Visitor/Gay-Community.aspx). The name Toronto means "meeting place" in the language of the native Huron Indians, an apt moniker given how easy it is to make new friends in the city's affable Church Street Gay Village.

Toronto's popularity in recent decades among immigrants of numerous and far-reaching ethnic backgrounds has helped infuse it with a diverse personality, exceptional culinary offerings and an eclectic visual and performing arts scene. Adding to the colorful mix is that Toronto has Canada's largest gay and lesbian population, including openly gay city councilors, school trustees and other public officials, and in general a highly progressive political climate. The city's Pride Parade is one of the world's largest, held each year in late June and early July.

Toronto may be enormous, but it's still pedestrian-friendly. In the early '70s, planners debated whether to tear down much of the city's historic infrastructure and replace it with high-rise housing and concrete office parks. By and large, the government decided to keep things as they were, promoting the restoration of many older neighborhoods. This policy has worked out favorably, and downtown now contains a bounty of invigorating neighborhoods filled with well-kept, mostly Victorian and Edwardian homes.

Some favorite areas for exploring include Chinatown (really more of a "Pan-Asian" town), this also near to the esteemed Art Gallery of Ontario, which received a stunning new addition when famed architect Frank Gehry redesigned the museum in 2008. You'll find not just top-notch Chinese but also Vietnamese, Laotian, Thai, Korean and other Southeast Asian eateries throughout this neighborhood, especially along Spadina Avenue and its neighboring blocks.

North of the city's central Financial District, the domain of many sleek hotels and office towers, is the University of Toronto, where more than 65,000 students are enrolled. The heart of the campus is at King's College Circle, a small ellipse dotted with impressive 19th- and 20th-century school buildings. Due east lies Ontario's governmental center, Queen's Park, where you'll see the Ontario Legislative and Parliament buildings. Just above the park is the vast Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), which is the second-largest museum in North America (after New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art).

South of the Financial District along the lakefront is the 100-acre Harbourfront Centre, a former industrial wasteland that now that's been reinvented into an entertainment-and-retail district with a massive antiques center, performance spaces, restaurant, and The Pier: Toronto's Waterfront Museum, which has exhibits tracing the city's considerable maritime history. Gaze across the Inner Harbour, and you can make out the Toronto Islands, which you reach by a 10-minute ferry ride from the terminal, just behind the Westin Harbour Castle. Choose the ferry headed for Hanlan's Point (boast leave regularly throughout the day, the cost is \$6.50 round-trip) to reach the clothing-optional beach, which has a huge LGBT following, and keep in mind that Lake Ontario

can be windy, and the islands are always several degrees cooler than the mainland (which, on hot summer days, is a blessing).

Astride the Financial District are the city's two major performing arts areas, the King Street theater district (to the west) and the Front Street theater district (to the east - keep going and you'll reach the bustling St. Lawrence Market, with its incredible food stalls, and the smartly redeveloped Distillery District, with its chic shops and eateries). Toronto has the English-speaking world's third largest performing arts scene, with outstanding theater, music, opera, and dance. Also near the King Street district is the 1,815-foot CN (Canadian National) Tower, whose 1,465-foot-high Space Deck is the tallest observation deck in the world.

It's an easy walk from downtown to the Gay Village (aka Church Street Village), whose commercial spine is Church Street, from about Bloor south to Gerrard streets. In addition to finding most of Toronto's gay bars and restaurants in this area, you'll also discover several great fashion, book and gift shops.

Toronto's most colorful ethnic neighborhoods lie west of downtown, where the hipster-factor is also highest. Walk along Queen Street West to experience the heart of the city's alternative culture - you'll find everything from offbeat antiques stores to vintage clothing boutiques to shops specializing in witchcraft to divy tattoo parlors. Farther west, Queen Street intersects with yet another strip of trendy, hipster-infested bars, cafes, and shops, Ossington Avenue, which is definitely worth a tour.

Up until the middle of the 20th century, Toronto endured a reputation as a hard-working, earnest, but rather dull metropolis. The incisive writer Jan Morris once described it as "a small provincial city of almost absurdly British character." A walk through the many bustling ethnic neighborhoods, around the vibrant Gay Village, and past the quirky, counter-cultural businesses along Queen Street West reveal just how dramatically times have changed.

Restaurant Tips

You'll find dozens of gay-friendly restaurants in Church Street Village, but it's often more about socializing than eating fantastic food in these parts. One of the best ethnic neighborhoods for noshing is Greektown, a short drive east of Church Street Village, where you'll find numerous tavernas lining Danforth Street - Mezes (www.mezes.ca) and Pantheon (www.pantheonrestaurant.com) are good bets.

Close to many theaters and a 15-minute walk south of Church Street Village, the Wine Bar at 9 Church Street (www.9church.com) serves wonderfully inventive, farm-to-table fare and features a terrific wine list. A bit east of the area, for arguably the best Thai food in the city, check out Mengra (www.mengraithai.com), which is set inside an atmospheric old warehouse and turns out beautifully prepared food.

Head farther east into up-and-coming Leslieville, sometimes dubbed "Lesbianville" in light of one of the neighborhood's most visible demographics, and you'll find some nifty little eateries along the main avenue, Queen Street East - Pulp Kitchen (www.pulpkitchen.ca) is a favorite over here, as is Lady Marmalade (www.ladmarmalade.ca), a funky place serving delicious breakfasts.



ladmarmalade.ca), a funky place serving delicious breakfasts.

Queen Street West has scads of outstanding eateries, from high-end superstars like Nota Bene (notabenerestaurant.com), which specializes in stellar mod-Italian cuisine, to romantic Paramour (www.paramourdining.com), a sophisticated modern bistro on the trendy Ossington Strip. Also consider Clafouti Patisserie for delicious baked goods, Quaff Cafe (cafequaff.ca) for perfectly brewed lattes and espressos, and Pizzeria Libretto (pizzerialibretto.com) on Ossington, for incomparably good wood-fired, blistered-crust pizzas. Not too far from this area, at Chiado (www.chiadorerestaurant.com), you'll be treated to some of the most sophisticated Portuguese cooking in North America, from rabbit braised in Madeira wine to poached salt cod.

Finding Gay Nightlife

Contrary to its long-ago-pious reputation as "Toronto the Good," a distinct naughty side has grown up over the years around the city's gay club scene, which is centered in Church Street Village. There are quite a few favorites in these parts, including Slack's (www.slacks.ca) - an attractive restaurant and bar especially popular with the lesbian see-and-be-seen set), the long-famous Woody's and neighboring Sailor bar (www.woodystoronto.com) - fairly youthful, good mix, fun videos), Fly (www.flynightclub.com) - a pulsing nightclub that appeared regularly in the U.S. version of Queer As Folk), Zipperz/Cellblock (fun for drag shows and cabaret), the Barn (www.thebarnnightclub.com) - super-cruisy men's bar), and Crews & Tango (www.crews-andtangos.com) - drawing women and men, with great cabaret shows).

But that's just the tip of the iceberg - walk up and down Church, and you'll find plenty of others, as well as gay-popular restaurants, shops,

saunas (Steamworks - www.steamworksonline.com) - is probably the most popular) and more.

Where to Stay

For many discerning travelers, the dashing, historic and enormous Fairmont Royal York Hotel (www.fairmont.com/royalyork) is the only address they'll consider when visiting Toronto. A short cab ride from the Gay Village, it's right by theaters, Queen Street and the Harbourfront. Rooms retain the ambience that has earned this property a following among kings and, well, more than a few queens. Chic, design-driven Hotel Le Germain (www.germaintoronto.com) stands out for its smart, contemporary rooms and convenient location near theaters and museums. In the heart of Queen Street West's shopping and dining, the art-filled and happily eccentric Gladstone Hotel (www.gladstonehotel.com) is a favorite of LGBT travelers.

Up around the Gay Village, you'll find several well-priced, charming and LGBT-popular B&Bs. These include the appealing Banting House (www.bantinghouse.com), an elegant Edwardian home on beautifully kept grounds; the fanciful brick-and-clapboard Dundonald House (www.dundonaldhouse.com), which is steps from the bars and has a common sauna and hot tub; and the affordable House on McGill (mcgillbb.com), a renovated 1890s property whose units share baths but are otherwise comfortably furnished and spacious. Victoria's Mansion (www.victoriasmansion.com) is another reasonably priced, elegantly furnished B&B in Church Street Village.

Andrew Collins covers gay travel for the New York Times-owned website *About.com* and is the author of "Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA." He can be reached care of this publication or at OutofTown@qsyndicate.com.

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Rear View **DEAR JODY**



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Spending too much at Christmas

Q. My boyfriend "James" and I have been together for three years – lived together for almost two years. Every Christmas, we have the same conversation about presents: how much we should spend on each other. The fact is, James doesn't earn nearly as much as I do, so he is less able to afford big-ticket items. That's OK with me. I don't expect and don't want him to go into debt to buy me something too expensive for his budget.

On the other hand, I don't know why I shouldn't be able to buy James something more expensive. It's not a problem for me and I want to do it – and I know he would like what I would get him.

In the past, he has won on this issue. We've decided on a price range and I have stuck to it, albeit on the high end of it.

This year I want to get him a GPS. It is out of our price range, but it would be so good for him as he can't find his way out of a paper bag. He gets lost all the time. And I know that he would love it.

I don't get why he worries so much about how much something costs. Jody, I'd appreciate it if you could say something that would change his mind. Also: Do you have any ideas how to deal with this problem?

Big Spender

A. I think you need to back up and understand why James feels the way he does. I suggest you listen to his feelings on this matter and honor them. If getting him something expensive, something in a price range that he can't afford, doesn't make him feel good, why would you want to do that?

One way of dealing with this problem is to share income. In this arrangement, there would be one pot of money and you both could decide how much you'd be spending for presents, without having to consider incomes.

Watch out, road!

Q. I don't like riding in the car with my partner "Karin." She says that I'm just being difficult

when I won't get in the car with her. She also says that I'm a complete pacifist and that's my problem.

My problem is that she's a hot head behind the wheel. This is really strange since she's not like that at any other time or situation in her life. We've been together for three years, and I've never seen her blow her top except behind the wheel of a car; it's like she's possessed. She yells, makes rude gestures, pulls out and passes slow drivers and all but clips them coming back into her lane – blowing her horn the whole time.

Yesterday, she actually bumped the car in front of us because the guy didn't pull out from a traffic light fast enough for her. (This of course pissed off the guy, and we were lucky to escape with our lives.)

I don't know what to do about this as she doesn't seem to see a problem with this – though she's rational in other parts of her life. Do you have an idea why she does this? How can I get her to see that there is something wrong with this behavior?

Terrified Passenger

A. Regrettably, you can't "get her to see" something that she doesn't want to see. But you can refuse to ride with her or insist on doing the driving when you are going to be in the car with her. Hopefully, some cop will someday help her see the light – before she hurts herself or someone else.

Unfortunately, there are too many drivers out on the road like Karin. It seems that when some people get behind the wheel of a car, they take out all their anger and frustrations (that they have been building up) and direct them toward other drivers on the road. They seem to feel a certain amount of anonymity in the shell of their vehicles, so they think they can act out their anger – with impunity – while driving.

If you want to find out if you are a "cool-headed" driver, go to Dear Jody on Facebook and take a test. Jody Valley spent 12 years as a clinical social worker. She worked with the LGBT community both as a counselor and a workshop leader in the areas of coming out, self-esteem and relationship issues. The "Dear Jody" column appears weekly. Reach Jody at DearJodyValley@hotmail.com. Letters may be edited for clarity and length.

Here's how to play BTL's Fake Ad Contest

1. Search this issue of Between The Lines for the one ad that is the fake ad. Here's a clue: the fake ad will include the line "between the sheets" somewhere within the text of the ad.
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FIND THE FAKE AD CONTEST

Consider your passion, Taurus!

Mars is in Sagittarius feeding energy but requiring discipline. He's now trine to Eris, firing up questions about identity and personal or group progress. LGBT people typically live with each foot in a different world. Where do you really stand and how do you walk forward in two worlds at once?

ARIES (March 20 – April 19): If finding your true self requires contemplative quiet, how can you achieve that running all over God's queendom? Finding the proper balance is a constant search. Nobody gets it 100 perfect. Enlightenment is a process, not a pure achievable state.

TAURUS (April 20 – May 20): Reexamine whatever lessons you've learned about being good and true to your heritage. They're a mix of power and poison. Consider your passion and your true heart's desire as you review those old tapes and sort them out.

GEMINI (May 21- June 20): It can feel as if your partner and your friends are competing for your time and energy. You can find a balance. It may involve having them all together more – or less. Discussing long-range plans with your partner will help.

CANCER (June 21- July 22): Measuring yourself against others may be a helpful yardstick, but remember to strive for a personal best, not to be overly competitive. How you balance personal effort with teamwork is what is being most noticed now.

LEO (July 23 – August 22): Your playful urges can easily go overboard. If people have trouble keeping up, you may be better off going it alone or being more careful about your company. Let people go at their own pace. It's not worth arguing over!

VIRGO (August 23 – September 22): As a "sexual minority," what is your relation to your community? Is it a foundation? A ghetto? How do you represent it in other groups? How do you feel it represents you? There are no easy, set answers, but look for new insights.

LIBRA (September 23 – October 22): Try not to get carried away in verbal or intellectual one-upmanship. Include your partner and associates as teammates in games of wit, not as victims. If

you must be bitchy, politicians and celebrities are always fair game.

SCORPIO (October 23 – November 21): Hard work and success are shown better by your achievements than your belongings. In this economy "keeping up with the Joneses" is suicidal. Showing off your resourcefulness will earn greater respect.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 – December 20): Much as you intend to keep the competition playful, your enthusiasm can bowl others over. Fair play and having fun are more important than "winning." Supporting the team is a more successful strategy than upstaging them.

CAPRICORN (December 21 – January 19): Staying true to your deepest self may have you feeling sometimes pitted against your family or community. Being a unique individual is what makes you valuable to your people. Respect yourself for that and they will too.

AQUARIUS (January 20 – February 18): Your political insights are sharp, but so is your tongue. At least think ahead about whom is to be your target. Keep in mind that today's opponents may be tomorrow's allies, and we have much bigger problems than community squabbles.

PISCES (February 19 – March 19): Invest time and money sensibly, not excessively in promotion. Be very careful about boasts you may have to live up to. There's a broad enough space between false modesty and bragging. You're sure to be noticed, but the question is "how?"

Jack Fertig, a professional astrologer since 1977, is available for personal and business consultations in person in San Francisco, or online everywhere. He can be reached at 415-864-8302, through his website at www.starjack.com, and by e-mail at QScopes@qsyndicate.com.

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Solution to puzzle from page 50

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R	E	A	L	E	R	G	O	I	L	I	E
D	A	N	S	A	V	A	G	E	L	I	R
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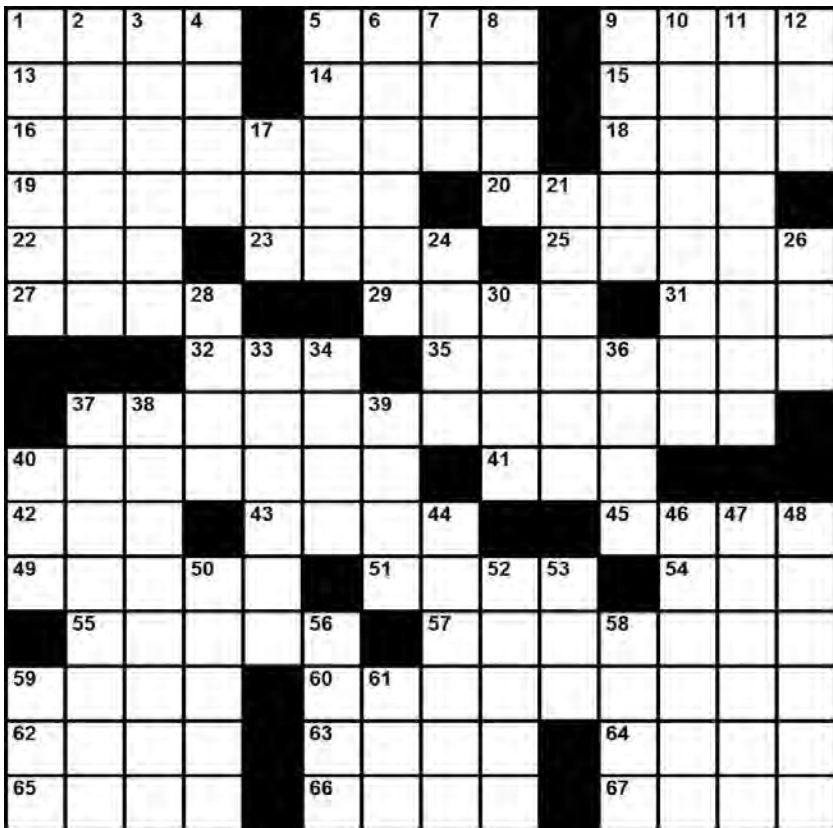
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Q PUZZLE No More Bullying

Across

- 1 Invitation to a top?
- 5 Bottomless
- 9 Expressed, as farewell
- 13 Rupert Everett's "___ Life"
- 14 Proof part
- 15 Eurythmics' "Would ___ to You?"
- 16 Founder of 37-Across
- 18 Milano moola
- 19 Diana, to the Greeks
- 20 Knock-down-drag-out
- 22 Not in the pink
- 23 Annapolis freshman
- 25 Director David
- 27 No, to Nureyev
- 29 "Desert of the Heart" author Jane
- 31 Did an encore of "Food, Glorious Food"?
- 32 Buffoon
- 35 GPS device, e.g.

- 37 Online video channel for bullied gay teens
- 40 All worked up
- 41 "Morally straight" org.
- 42 Star Wars abbr.
- 43 Govt. investigator
- 45 George O'Malley, et al.
- 49 Greeting for Dolly
- 51 "Ed Wood" role
- 54 Drag queen's favorite snake?
- 55 Nathan Lane's "___ Hunt"
- 57 "Bewitched" actor Dick
- 59 "Hairspray" composer Shaiman
- 60 Singer who dedicated her song "Firework" to 37-Across
- 62 Top draft level
- 63 "She" to Rimbaud
- 64 Pride expression
- 65 Vegas line
- 66 Santa's team, e.g.
- 67 They may be split

Down

- 1 Make like Mychal Judge, e.g.
- 2 Just about
- 3 It's a wrap
- 4 Last word in a threat
- 5 Horny guy?
- 6 Rubber
- 7 One that gets laid
- 8 Countee Cullen work
- 9 With 50-Across, teen whose suicide helped inspire 37-Across
- 10 Treat like someone from Uranus?
- 11 Lee Daniels, for one
- 12 Shoe store spec
- 17 Part of Etheridge's equipment
- 21 Succeeds a la Log Cabin
- 24 Stick it in your socket
- 26 Ship, to seamen

- 28 Touches with a baseball
- 30 Leopold's partner
- 33 Heated arguments
- 34 Pansy supporter
- 36 Opposite of loads
- 37 Sought-after
- 38 Made-to-order
- 39 Mop with your first mate
- 40 Suffix denoting degree
- 44 Lesbian Herstory Archives co-founder Joan
- 46 The king of fairies
- 47 Poet Aiken
- 48 Well-endowed old goats?
- 50 See 9-Across
- 52 Put one on top of the other
- 53 Surrealist Jean
- 56 Barely managed, with "out"
- 58 Richard of "And the Band Played On"
- 59 Meadow murmur
- 61 Maugham's "Cakes and ___"

Solution on 49

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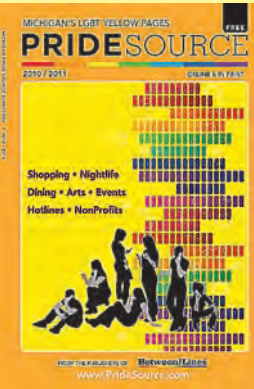


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Too affectionate at the mall?

Q. Do you think there was anything improper about the lesbian couple I read about recently who held hands in a public mall, kissed each other lightly, and then found themselves asked by a security officer to leave the premises?

A. I read about this story too, and no, they weren't doing anything wrong. I actually had a difficult time believing the entire scenario: Just as they were being sweet with each other, the guard puts a halt to their busses, and orders them to leave. So, too, did her supervisor, even when the couple pointed out that they were being singled out; of course, straight couples cuddle in public all the time without any sort of disruption.

The rules about showing affection publicly are the same for gay men and lesbians as they are for straight people: Handholding, eye gazing and light kissing are perfectly fine in public; groping, tongue kissing and touching below the waist are not. If there are any distinctions to be made, they're not based on sexual orientation, but according to venue or situa-

tion. What you do in a nightclub or bar is different than at a family dinner or – the mall.

But the next chapter is also key: Management at the mall was quick to apologize, if only because of the tremendous Facebook outcry, which was obviously bad for business. In the apology, also on Facebook, the PR team insisted that its mall is a "friendly shopping center that welcomes the entire community," concluding with this statement: "(We're) committed to maintaining an open and welcoming environment for everyone."

All's well that ends well? Yes, in this case. But if this incident had not occurred in such a progressive city – which has a lot of disposable LGBT money that can be spent elsewhere – it's easy to imagine a different outcome. Either way, it's worth remembering that LGBT people exercise their political not only at the ballot box, but also in the dollars and cents we spend every day.

Gay PDA at the holiday office party

Q. Even though I'm completely out at my office, I always turn heads when I dance with a gent at the company bash. Sometimes there's even some giggling from my coworkers. What tips do you have when it comes to attending a workplace holiday party with a partner or date?

A. First, I'd make sure that your date is cool about being part of your continuing coming out journey. There's a public dimension to attending a work function as a couple and not everyone is comfortable with the kind of attention a same-sex couple may attract. Assuming the answer's yes, also keep in mind that it's one thing for your straight coworkers to know that you're gay; it's another to see you slow dance, tete a tete, with your same-sex sweetie.

But honestly, that's their problem, not yours. As long as you keep your PDA in check – which is a good idea for anyone at a work function, you're on the right side of the line. And the more times you and other gay colleagues take to the dance floor, the less novel and giggle-producing such moments will be. In fact, if you have other lesbian or gay colleagues lean on them to join you.

One final note: In most states, you can be fired simply for being gay or lesbian. Anyone considering coming out at a workplace holiday bash is wise to make sure that yours is a gay-friendly company and that you're not putting your livelihood at risk by outing yourself by bringing a same-sex date.

Inviting a son's boyfriend over for the holidays

Q. How serious should my son and his boyfriend be before we include the newcomer in our holiday celebrations?

A. Do the same as you would with your straight kids and their boyfriends or girlfriends – or follow this rule if you have none: When it seems as though the couple is serious and becoming part of your family, be proactive and extend an invitation for two. On the other hand, the entire responsibility for this important holiday detail shouldn't rest with you. Your son could make your job easier by calling or sending an e-mail saying something like, "Hey, Mom, I'm really hoping that James can join us in our family celebration this year." Bingo! Asking to bring home your significant other is a sign that the relationship is getting serious. It doesn't sound like it happened that way with you, but never mind. If you need to know, go ahead and ask. If you both like the idea of

the boyfriend joining in, then you're on to your next challenge: whether to include the boyfriend on your holiday shopping list. The answer is yes – don't get him anything too pricey, but do pick up a small gift.

Kiss-ins?

Q. I read recently that when the pope was visiting Spain – denouncing gay marriage – a large contingent of LGBT people staged a kiss-in. What do you think of this behavior? Is it a free-for-all or are there any "rules"?

A. I think it is wrong for the pontiff to condemn same-sex marriage. Is that the behavior you are asking about? As for kiss-ins, they are a well-honed political tactic in the LGBT rights movement that, while intended to disrupt the status quo, are not aimed at curbing free speech or breaking any laws. Kiss-ins rank high, along with other forms of civil disobedience and political protest, as a means of affecting social change – or simply to draw attention to an issue.

But good behavior at a kiss-in also includes these basic rules:

- You're there for a reason: The reason is not to hook-up; you're making a political statement.
- Follow the leader: Break only one rule at a time. Don't go rogue on your comrades (i.e. no name-calling, clashing with police).
- Be clean and kissable: Bring your breath mints; you may be kissing a lot of strangers. Don't hog the best kissers. If everyone else is moving on to a new partner, it's time to let go.

Steven Petrow is a regular contributor to 365gay.com, GayWeddings.com and the author of the forthcoming, "Steven Petrow's Complete Gay & Lesbian Manners" (www.gaymanners.com). Send him your questions: ask@gaymanners.com.>

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Nate Berkus (with Elizabeth Edwards) from his daytime hit, "The Nate Berkus Show." Photo: Sony Pictures

Nate Berkus is here to 'Help'

It's not all interior design and life make-overs for Nate Berkus anymore. The man who got his start as Oprah's go-to design guy is taking a cue from his powerful boss and branching out into other creative endeavors. Now that his own show is a daytime hit, Berkus has turned his attention to his first credit as an executive producer of a feature film and his name will roll across the screen next year when the highly anticipated movie adaptation of Kathryn Stockett's novel "The Help" hits theaters. The period picture examines the lives of African-American housekeepers and their white employers and how those relationships changed in one small town during the 1960s Civil Rights Movement.

With a screenplay adapted by actor-director Tate Taylor ("Winter's Bone," "Pretty Ugly People," "Prop 8: The Musical"), who's also directing, the impressive cast includes Emma Stone, Bryce Dallas Howard, Viola Davis, Octavia Spencer, Aunjanue Ellis, Cicely Tyson, Allison Janney and Sissy Spacek. Bring your tissues along when it opens in 2011.

Pride, Prejudice, Zombies, Gays

Mike White made his name with oddball indies like "Chuck and Buck" and "Year of the Dog" while also crossing over into the mainstream with projects like "School of Rock." But

now the gay filmmaker is poised to step into the director's role with what could turn into his biggest success yet, the movie adaptation of the wildly popular comic novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies." The movie will bloody up Jane Austen's classic with flesh-eating undead creatures, a plot device that story was crying out for, and now that David O. Russell has dropped out of the project, Lionsgate has offered White the job. The casting is all still up in the air, but not-dead names like Scarlett Johansson and Bradley Cooper have been talked about quite a bit. And why, besides impossible scheduling demands, would any actor say no to the opportunity to either turn into a zombie or get their brains eaten by a ravenous pack of them or both? See? There are no good reasons to refuse.

Milo Ventimiglia gets no 'Rest'

TV loves Milo Ventimiglia. After making a name for himself over several seasons as a brooding, bookish bad boy on "Gilmore Girls" and then jumping over to the cult-hit "Heroes" for four more years, the actor looks set to participate in his third hit when he stars in and executive produces "Rest," a series based on a comic book he co-created. Working with power-gay producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, Ventimiglia would star as a twentysomething man who gets addicted to a drug that eliminates the body's need for sleep. And while a lifetime of sleepless nights may sound like a dream come true for workaholics and cheap people who never

want to buy another mattress, it sounds like a nightmare scenario, albeit one that could be very cool to watch ruin someone "else's" existence. As always, these things have to go to pilot and then get a series order from the Suits, so stay tuned for further developments.

Faith Evans to star in real life 'Dreamgirls'

By now everyone knows that "Dreamgirls," though fiction, was really pretty much the story of the Supremes, only with a much happier ending. In real life, the story of Florence Ballard (whose character loosely inspired "Effie," the outcast member of the group) ended on a much sadder note. And a new film is being prepped that won't shy away from reality, whether good and bad. "Blondie - The Florence Ballard Story," due in theaters in the summer of 2011, will star R&B singer Faith Evans as the woman who helped found the Supremes and sang lead until the arrival of Diana Ross, who became the sole front-person. As the group evolved, Ballard's relationship with it became more strained until she left to start a solo career, then died unexpectedly at age 32. Ballard's daughters pursued Evans for the role, and she'll also record songs for the soundtrack. The film - based on Peter Benjaminson's book "The Lost Supreme" - is expected to begin shooting soon in Atlanta.

Romeo San Vicente is telling you he is not going. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.

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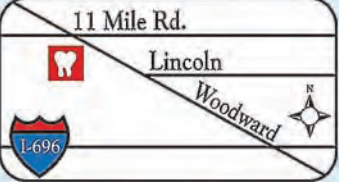
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- Joffrey Ballet - Sat. Jan. 29, 2011
- Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater - Thur. Mar. 3, 2011
- Eisenhower Dance Ensemble - Sun. Mar. 20, 2011
- “The Magic Flute” - Wed. Apr. 13, 2011
- “Rigoletto” - Wed. May 18, 2011

For tickets, call the ticket office at **313.237.SING**
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Availability is limited. Get your tickets today!

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Students with valid ID can always purchase single or subscription tickets for \$20. Limit 2 tickets per person, per event; guests must be 18-40. All tickets held at will-call; valid ID required. Offer not valid on previously purchased tickets. No refunds.

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