

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993

BTL
Between THE Lines™

MENJO'S OWNER OPENING A SPORTS BAR?

BULLYING SUMMIT SPARKS GRASSROOTS EFFORTS

PERSPECTIVES VARY ON PRIDE MOVE TO DETROIT



**FRONTMAN ON SEX,
LADY GAGA AND
SECOND PUBERTY**

**SCISSOR
SISTERS**

ONLINE AT PRIDESOURCE.COM

FEB. 24, 2011 | VOL. 1908 | FREE



FROST THE FIRE

Smoke-free, Spit-free and Drama-free

Camel SNUS is the tobacco pouch perfected. Simply place one under your lip and enjoy the bold refreshing flavor that's **sold cold** for ultimate freshness.

Camel SNUS—the pleasure's all yours.



camelsnus.com*

*WEBSITE RESTRICTED TO AGE 21+ TOBACCO CONSUMERS.

SNUS

WARNING: This product can cause mouth cancer.

Promises of Freedom

Selections from the Arthur Primas Collection

This exhibition is a comprehensive collection of African American art featuring more than 60 works by artists including Charles White, Jacob Lawrence, and Romare Bearden.

2.27.11 – 4.17.11



Charles White, American 1918-1979, Sound of Silence II, lithograph on paper, 1971, 25 x 35.25 inches

FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

1120 E. Kearsley St. | Flint, MI 48503 | 810.234.1695 | flintarts.org

Supported By CHARLES STEWART MOTT FOUNDATION

TARGET FREE SATURDAYS

DIRECT FROM BROADWAY
 “★★★★★...
 FOUR-ALARM SIZZLE!”
 —New York Daily News

THE NEW BROADWAY PRODUCTION
BURN THE FLOOR
 Ballroom. Reinvented.



Featuring **ANYA & PASHA** from “So You Think You Can Dance”
 Featured Vocalist “American Idol” Finalist
 Vonzell Solomon “BABY V”

Fisher Theatre • Now thru March 6 • Tues.–Fri. 8PM; Sat. 2PM & 8PM; Sun. 2PM & 7:30PM

Ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787, Box Office & [ticketmaster](http://ticketmaster.com) outlets • Info: 313-872-1000
 and BroadwayInDetroit.com • Groups of 12+: Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com or 313-871-1132
 Broadway in Detroit sponsored by your Southeastern Michigan Lincoln dealers • Lincoln.com

FAIRLANE

1 MILE EAST OF THE SOUTHFIELD FWY ON MICHIGAN AVE

2011 Ford Fusion



\$239 a month*
 This is a \$0 down, \$0 due
 lease payment. And when I say \$0 I mean
 \$0! No out of pocket, no gimmicks, nothing!

**DRIVE ONE.
 SUPPORT MANY.**

Ford Motor Company has been a National Series Sponsor of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure® for over 16 years. In addition, Ford has dedicated more than \$105 million to help make a real difference in the fight against breast cancer.

**Get a little
 give a little.**

Keep it in our community. Buy or lease a car and we will donate up to \$50 in your name to the LGBT charity of your choice.

Randy Woods
 New & Used Car Sales
 313-216-1072
rwoods@fairlaneford.com
 14585 Michigan Avenue,
 Dearborn, MI 48126



*Lease payment based on Ford A/Z plan eligibility, 24 month term, lease renewal included. Excludes tax, fees, title and plates. Security deposit waived. Lease based on 10,500 miles per year. Must take delivery by February 28th. All factory rebates assigned to dealer. Photo may not represent actual vehicle. See dealer for details.

WWW.FAIRLANEFORD.COM

Special Event and Giveaway to benefit
 Equality Michigan. Mar. 2 5:30-7:00 p.m.
 \$30 or more donation requested
 RSVP at boydcosmetic@gmail.com
 or call 248-433-1900
 or on Facebook.

2 Special Give-aways:
 * One area of CoolSculpting (\$750 value)
 * 50 units of Botox (\$600 value)

Hello, CoolSculpting
 ...Bye Bye, Bulges

Dr. Charles M. Boyd now proudly
 offers CoolSculpting by ZELTIQ™
 —the cool way to lose fat.

CoolSculpting is a new, non-invasive
 procedure that uses a revolutionary
 cooling technology to reduce areas of
 unwanted fat gently and effectively.

CoolSculpting featured on Nightline and WXYZ Channel 7 News

Is CoolSculpting right for you?
 Call us at 248 • 433 • 1900 or visit us
 online at www.renewfaces.com.

BOYD
 cosmetic surgical institute

Charles M Boyd, MD, MBA, FACS
 135 East Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009
 248 • 433 • 1900 • boydcosmetic@gmail.com

www.renewfaces.com

BANKRUPTCY

Chapters 7 • 11 • 13 • Non-Bankruptcy Alternatives Too!!

Free Consultation

STOP

- Garnishments
- Lawsuits
- Foreclosures
- Repossessions
- Utility Shut Offs
- Creditor Harassment

PROTECTION FOR YOUR

CAR INCOME

HOME FAMILY

Board Certified As Specialists In Consumer Bankruptcy

E-Z Payment Plans

Michigan's **LARGEST** Bankruptcy Law Firm

A FRESH START

THE BANKRUPTCY LAW OFFICE

FREGO & ASSOCIATES, P.L.C.

HONEST • RELIABLE • FRIENDLY • QUALIFIED

800-978-4788

Ann Arbor

State St

Briarwood Mall

Eisenhower Pkwy

94

777 E. Eisenhower Pkwy., 9th Floor
(Across from Briarwood Mall)

Dearborn Heights

96

Telegraph Rd

JOY RD

94

23843 Joy Rd.
(Corner of Telegraph & Joy Rd.)

Flint

23

1324 Bristol

475

Bristol Road

1324 W. Bristol Road
(Near the Flint / Bishop Airport)

Federally Designated Debt Relief Agency. We Have Successfully Helped Thousands Of People File For Bankruptcy Relief Under The Bankruptcy Code

www.fregolaw.com

A&L Wine Castle

Easy In-and-Out Parking

Ask us about our specials... We have 20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE TO GUIDE YOUR SELECTIONS!

Perrin shows mostly black cherry and chocolate flavors. There's a hint of smokiness. The tannins give it a smooth feel.

Banfi Chianti The lively acidity is well balanced with the rest of the structure. Ready to drink, pleasant and persistent.

Ménage à Trois Examine what happens when you put three attractive, single, young grapes in one exquisite bottle. Zinfandel, Cabernet, and Merlot blend. The white is Chardonnay, Chenin Blanc, and Moscato.

Clos du Bois Cabernet This Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon exhibits rich aromas of black cherry, currants, lush velvety blackberry & vanilla flavors. Very plush and smooth...

Cono Sur Winery proudly made in South America's Southern Cone, on whose western edge lies Chile and its gifted wine valleys. Traditional, expressive, ...organic. Chosen "Value Brand of the Year 2010" by the American Magazine.

Trivento Malbec Aromas of red fruits, coffee and chocolate with a smooth velvety body and long finish.

Trivento Cabernet Deep red in color with fresh herbal aromas with structured tannins and big finish.

Trivento Chardonnay Fresh young with notes of vanilla and a silky balanced structure.

Centine White Notes of pear, apricot, lime and tomato leaves. Dry, with good acidity well balanced by a large softness.

Centine Red Intense ruby red with youthful hints. Vinous and spicy gentle approach, soft, easy-to-drink.

Castle Rock wines are carefully made from grapes grown in some of the finest West Coast vineyards. From a light refreshing Sauvignon Blanc to a luscious rich Petite Sirah all our wines are created in the best and can be enjoyed on their own or served as a perfect accompaniment to food.

Clos du Bois Chardonnay Rich aromatics of ripe apples and pears with hints of stone fruit and citrus. The intense fruit-forward flavors are bright and juicy with ripe apples, pears and figs, highlighted by nuances of toffee and vanilla.

Rosemount Shiraz A full bodied, juicy sweet palate with cherry, chocolate, cherry pip and plum flavors. The finish is supported by well-balanced, long, silky smooth tannins.

Castle Rock Cabernet, Chardonnay, or Pinot Noir	Reg \$12.99	Now \$ 7.99
Ménage à Trois Red or White	Reg \$12.99	Now \$ 7.99
Cono Sur-Bicycle Pinot Noir or Sauvignon Blanc	Reg \$11.99	Now \$ 7.99
Banfi Centine Bianco or Rosso	Reg \$12.99	Now \$ 8.99
Banfi Chianti Superior	Reg \$12.99	Now \$ 8.99
Perrin Cote-du-Rhone	Reg \$12.99	Now \$ 8.99
Trivento Select Malbec, Cabernet, Chardonnay	Reg \$10.99	Now \$ 7.99
Rosemount Diamond Shiraz	Reg \$11.99	Now \$ 8.99
Clos du Bois Russian River Reserve Chardonnay	Reg \$18.99	Now \$13.99
Clos du Bois Alexander Valley Reserve Cabernet	Reg \$21.99	Now \$15.99

HUGE SELECTIONS

Domestic, Imported & Micro Beers
Plus, Kegs & taps available!

Imported & Domestic Wines
All varieties of Liquor

Visit us on the web at www.thewinecastle.net

We do Catering & Party Planning for ALL OCCASIONS!

2424 W. Stadium Blvd. • Ann Arbor, MI 48103 • 734.665.WINE

THE SUBARU True Love EVENT

You're made for each other.

2010 SUBARU FORESTER 2.5X PREMIUM

- Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive
- 2.5L H-4 cyl 4-Speed Automatic Transmission
- Most award-winning small SUV
- 2010 IIHS Top Safety Pick
- 27 mpg hwy¹
- Aluminum wheels
- CD player
- Auto-Dim Mirror Compass

MSRP \$23,795

\$22,500

SAVE \$1,295

AFF-01 Premium Pkg Stk# 6480



With Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive standard, 2011 IIHS Top Safety Picks on all models, and the best resale value in the industry* Subaru has something for everyone. Love. It's what makes a Subaru, a Subaru.

Hodges
Detroit's Subaru-Only Dealer!

23100 Woodward Ave • Ferndale • MI • 48220
248.547.8800 • www.hodgessubaru.com

HOURS: OPEN SATURDAYS 10-3 AND EXTENDED HOURS TILL 9PM MONDAYS & THURSDAYS

Excellent Service, Outstanding Selections and Fantastic Prices ... EVERYDAY!

*Based on Kelley Blue Book's kbb.com 2011 Best Resale Value: Brand Award. For more information, visit kbb.com. ¹EPA-estimated fuel economy for Forester 2.5X models. Actual mileage may vary.

ALVIN AILEY

AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

JUDITH JAMISON
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Masazumi Chaya
ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Robert Battle
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR DESIGNATE

MARCH 3-6
at the Detroit Opera House

CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN CLASSIC, REVELATIONS

Thursday, March 3, at 7:30 pm
Friday, March 4, at 7:30 pm
Saturday, March 5, at 2:30 pm
Saturday, March 5, at 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 6, at 2:30 pm

DETROIT OPERA HOUSE
Home of Michigan Opera Theatre
David DiChiera, General Director

TICKETS AS LOW AS \$29 FREE! Dance Talk one hour prior to performance

TICKETS & PRE-PAID PARKING
313.237.SING or michiganopera.org

Alvin Ailey Educational Sponsors:
MICHIGAN FOUNDATION
JPMorganChase
SHIRLEY K. SCHLAFFER FOUNDATION
Dance Residency Sponsor

Linda Celeste Sims, Body art by Dante Baylor, Photo by Andrew Eccles.



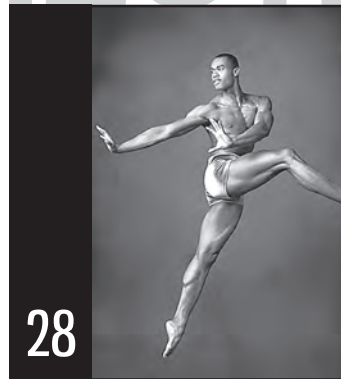
10



18



19



28

News

7 | Between Ourselves

Bob Higgins is a safe schools consultant

9 | Perspectives vary on Pride move to Detroit

Some Ferndale residents plan to boycott the event

8 | 'Bullying is not OK!'

Legislators and leaders spark grassroots efforts to stop bullying

10 | Affirmations progresses on ED search

Community center still seeks donations to survive

10 | KICK receives \$180,000 grant

10 | 'Fools Welcome' welcomes all to second annual BTL party

11 | Hope College's updated human sexuality policy still discriminatory

Alumni group wants the new policy removed

15 | Prop 8 federal case delayed for several more months

16 | FY 2012 budget and LGBT community: 'Could have been worse ... and might be still.'

17 | Hawaii civil-union bill sent to supportive governor

18 | Court overturns Budapest pride ban

Opinions

10 | S/he said

Discrimination, Sheer stupidity

10 | Heard on Facebook

EMU dismissed a counseling student who wouldn't counsel gays. What do you think of the decision?

13 | Parting Glances

When (it) hits the fan

14 | BTL Editorial

We love our circus

14 | The Gay Moralist

Repaying a debt

15 | Letter: Black history month

16 | Creep of the Week

Donald Trump

Pets

19 | My Queer Critter

Pets can be gay too, ya know

22 | Waggs and Wishes seeks donations

The makeshift rescue in Ferndale may soon lose its home

23 | Keeping people and pets together

Helping struggling owners feed their pets

24 | Working like a dog

A dog on the job makes work feel less like work

Life

27 | The 'New' Menjo's

Owner has more in store for expansion... like a sports bar?

28 | Touched by an Ailey

Dance company celebrates history, education

29 | Curtain Calls "Fatal Attraction: A Greek Tragedy"

30 | Cool Cities: Ann Arbor

Po' Girl promotes new album at The Ark

34 | Shear Sex

Scissor Sisters' frontman on second puberty, performing naked and the band's Lady Gaga love affair

36 | Book Marks

37 | Curtain Calls

Reviews of "The Broadway Onstage Murders" and "Menllemium"

38 | Happenings

Featured: ComedyFest on March 5 in Dearborn

39 | Ally women's art on display at Affirmations

Rear View

40 | Dear Jody

41 | Horoscopes

42 | Queeries

43 | Classifieds

44 | Puzzle

46 | Deep Inside Hollywood

Cover

Scissor Sisters
Photo: David Sherry

34



Visit our website!

<http://www.pridesource.com>



Add our fan page!

Search: "Between The Lines Newspaper"



Follow us!

@YourBTL



F **FOOLS**

WELCOME



BTL
Between THE Lines™

Roving Cajun Dinner

Live Music

Fun Silent Auction

Dancing

Door Prizes

Prizes for Best Masks



The Mardi Gras Event of the Season

Friday • April 1 • The Roostertail • Detroit • 7 p.m.

With Performances by Detroit Fly House

**To purchase tickets
visit PrideSource.com
or 734.293.7200 x 10**

**\$ 75 per person in advance
\$ 90 at door**

APRIL 1, 2011
SAVE THIS DATE



Bob Higgins is a "safe schools consultant" for the Michigan Department of Education. He surveys the safety level of K-12 schools, uses federal grant money to create safe school programs and trainings and also helped establish the Sexual Minority Youth Project.

1 One of the many projects you work on at your job is the Sexual Minority Youth Project. What's that?

It started at the Calhoun Intermediate School District maybe 12 years ago. It was an effort to address issues for LGBT youth, so we came up with the training and we came up with an attempt at a resource guide. Both have improved greatly since then. It was meant to be a start and it expanded to the state level and we've been doing it ever since. We've trained more than a thousand school personnel over the years, and we do four or five regional trainings a year around the state so that everyone has a chance to attend at some point. We have an expert work group that includes representatives from the Michigan ACLU, universities, nonprofits and advisory groups from local districts. We have all of these people who are our experts and we can run ideas by them. It's been a really great experience over time to have all of these partners.

2 Tell us about your background.

I've been a teacher, a coach, a principal and an administrator at public and private schools. I was a student assistant program manager for 35 districts in 5 counties in southwest Michigan. When I made the training in Calhoun county, we did a lot of crisis response work too.



If it's not safe for all students, you never know when it's not going to be safe for any of them.

3 What's hard about your job?

The hardest part of my job is parents see that "safe schools consultant title" and call because they're concerned about their child and they think, 'there's the hammer.' But because we're a home rule state, the decision remains at the local level. I don't have any authority to intervene. These parents are angry, frustrated, worried. That's the hard part.

4 What are you working on that you're excited about?

The safe and supportive schools grant. We got it in October. It will spread out over the next 4 to 5 years. It gives us a real possibility of getting into schools and working on the school

climate piece, making schools more welcoming, turning them into places where students want to be. It's a tremendous amount of work, but it's worth it.

5 Why is it important to make schools safe for all students?

If it's not safe for all of them, you never know when it's not going to be safe for any of them. This can't be a selective thing just for one group, like the jocks or the druggies. We've got to provide opportunities for all kids to reach their potential, not just the ones we like, that are nice to look at or fall within our socioeconomic income bracket. It has to be everybody.

Between Ourselves is a bi-weekly feature that highlights members of Michigan's LGBT and allied community. To recommend someone for Between Ourselves, e-mail our news editor Tara Cavanaugh at tara@pridesource.com.

Where You Get Antiques!

Over 75 Merchants!

February 25, 26 & 27
 Fri 2-8 • Sat 10-6 • Sun 11-4

Southfield Civic Center
 Evergreen Rd at Civic Center Dr

Antiques • Collectables • Jewelry
from all around the world!

info: www.antiquesexposition.com
 single admission \$7 with this ad

MICHIGAN'S FAMOUS
Southfield Pavilion ANTIQUES EXPOSITION

NORTH BROTHERS Ford LINCOLN

NORTH BROTHERS FORD
 33300 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185

NORTH BROTHERS LINCOLN
 1950 West Maple Rd., Troy, MI 48064

"Putting Pride in your ride for over 15 years."

Call Rick!
 New and Used Car & Truck Sales
 Direct (734) 524-1308

Your Hybrid Headquarters
 open Saturday 9-3 to serve you better.
richard_harris@northbros.com

The Big Bash
 March 19, 2011

Cirque du Soiree

Ticket info:

Big Bash 2011: Cirque du Soiree VIP Admission - \$250
 Diamond Center Ballroom
 Rock Financial Showplace
 46100 Grand River | Novi, MI

Tickets available at
www.GoAffirmations.org

For more information, contact Jeannine Simpson at (248) 398-7105 or jsimpson@GoAffirmations.org

Sponsored By: **Comerica Bank**

CVS HOUR **WHOLE FOODS**

Between The Lines **DELFINGEN**

Buffalo Wild Wings | Geniys Credit Union | Henry Ford Health System | The Howley Group

Special recognition in event program book
 Pre-event VIP reception featuring hosted bar and brief awards recognition
 Plated, gourmet dinner service (vegetarian options available upon request)
 Silent and Live auction
 Photo booth, provided by ShutterBooth
 After Party with DJ, dancing, aerial artist performances, raffle and cash bar

General Admission - \$175
 Plated, gourmet dinner service (vegetarian options available upon request)
 Silent and Live auction
 Photo booth, provided by ShutterBooth
 After Party with DJ, dancing, aerial artist performances, raffle and cash bar

After Party Admission - \$35
 Silent and Live auction
 Photo booth, provided by ShutterBooth
 After Party with DJ, dancing, aerial artist performances, raffle and cash bar

'Bullying is NOT OK!'

Debbie Dingell, wife of U.S. Rep. John Dingell, spoke about being bullied in school at the LGBT Democratic Caucus Feb. 19. BTL photos: Tara Cavanaugh

Legislators and leaders spark grassroots efforts to stop bullying

BY TARA CAVANAUGH

YPSILANTI – The petite Debbie Dingell, wife of U.S. Rep. John Dingell, may have been one of the smaller-sized speakers at the LGBT Democratic Caucus last weekend – but she certainly was one of the loudest.

“As community members, each and every one of us has to say, we want a community where everybody belongs. That we celebrate diversity, but we’re a community that blends together and protects every person.

“And bullying’s not OK! Lack of civil language is not OK! Threatening people is not OK!” she shouted forcefully from the podium.

“We are a community that’s going to fight for civility and strength of community, which is the strength of democracy,” Dingell concluded.

Dingell was just one of many leaders who convened at the LGBT Democratic Caucus on Feb. 19 at the Ypsilanti District Library to bring energy and alarm to the issue of bullying.

One theme of the morning among the

“We are starting with so many people in (state) leadership positions who know nothing about this issue. We should be doing everything we can to talk to our legislators.”

– Emily Divendorf, director of policy at Equality Michigan

speakers was how to get Matt’s Law passed – specifically the enumerated version of the bill, one with “teeth,” said Caucus Chair Phil Volker.

“Some people see us as enemies on this. I see them as people that just don’t understand. We’ve got to work with everybody, even Republicans – though that’s hard for me to say,” Volker said, causing the room to erupt in laughter.

Matt’s Law is an anti-bullying law that was introduced into the state House in 2002. Two versions of the bill have been introduced – one enumerated, specifically protecting LGBT students, the other not enumerated, but neither has passed.

Emily Divendorf, director of policy at Equality Michigan and a lobbyist, has been pushing for Matt’s Law to get passed. “We could maybe move away from the word ‘tolerance,’” she said. “We are the ones who will set the tone in this conversation. Our students don’t need to be tolerated. They need to be accepted.”

Divendorf mentioned the heartwarming but disappointing message of the popular online “It Gets Better” campaign: “It tells these kids to hold on through high school,” she said. “It’s not enough to tell them to hold on.”

Lydia Bond, a member of Riot Youth, a group for LGBTQ students and their allies based out of the Neutral Zone in Ann Arbor, is one student who is “holding on” through high school. She explained to caucus attendees that her sexuality has made her a pariah at her Ann Arbor school.

She’s become “confrontational” with other students. “If they call me a dyke, I say ‘F you.’ If they push me, I push back. I know that’s not the right thing to do. But I feel like I don’t have any support.”

Bond described how she and a friend talked to teachers and teaching assistants at her school about being mistreated by other students, but no one knew how to help. She worked her way up to the principal and the school’s police officer as a last resort.

“Both the principal and officer told us they

didn’t believe (our problem) was that bad,” she said, expressing frustration that even at a high school in a generally liberal community like Ann Arbor, no one wanted to help her. “We need a lot of support from our communities. Every community needs to come together and support their students,” she said.

Many of the caucus speakers said if legislators don’t understand that LGBT students need protection, then the community needs to get organized and make that message clear.

“We are starting with so many people in (state) leadership positions who know nothing about this issue,” Divendorf said. “We should be doing everything we can to talk to our legislators.”

Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, agreed. “So many times when we’re looking at a bill or a piece of legislation, we don’t have a face or a name to associate with that bill,” he said. He urged students and citizens to keep telling their representatives that LGBT students need to be protected.

Caucus Chair Volker outlined steps for citizens to take, including establishing a “kitchen forum” with concerned friends, getting active together in their counties and attending the Freedom March for Tolerance, which is

tentatively scheduled for April 9 in Howell.

Chris Armstrong, co-chair of the event and openly gay University of Michigan student body president, spoke about the importance of establishing a supportive community for LGBT students.

He recalled being on Anderson Cooper’s TV show last October. Cooper asked Armstrong if it seemed difficult to move on and plan for life post-graduation, after he was publicly stalked and harassed by Michigan’s former Assistant Attorney General Andrew Shirvell, who was eventually fired.

“I had to tell him no,” Armstrong said. “Because I realized that I belong to a community that constantly told me, no matter who you are, you are an amazing person and you can be successful.”

Armstrong said realizing the school supported him when he was being harassed by Shirvell was a humbling experience. “Because I knew that was Michigan values, the values of our community,” he said. “And I think as we go forward and work on this issue, that this is about maintaining the values in each one of our communities that will really welcome every single person. That no matter who you are, you’re a member of us. And you belong to us.”

“This is about maintaining the values in each one of our communities that will really welcome every single person.”

– Chris Armstrong

Perspectives vary on Pride move to Detroit

Some Ferndale residents plan to boycott the event

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

FERNDALE – Within a week of the announcement that Motor City Pride is moving from Downtown Ferndale to Hart Plaza in Detroit, Ferndale citizens are engaging in constructive dialogue about the move. Some hope for alternative events in Ferndale, some are calling for a boycott of the event, while others speak of ways to share the Pride throughout the area.

“I’m disappointed in the decision,” Ferndale Mayor Dave Coulter said, “but Ferndale is still an attractive place to host events of all kinds and I expect that to continue. Still, our financial crisis is real and taxpayers shouldn’t be expected to subsidize events at the same time we’re reducing staff, salaries and city services. Organizing events is a time-consuming labor of love and I won’t second guess the Pride committee’s decision, but these projects have to make sense for both the organizers and the host community. If they decide in the future that Hart Plaza isn’t the right venue for them, we’d be very happy to talk about having it come back.”

Ferndale has raised fees for Pride over the past few years.

Pride organizer Dave Wait responded to criticisms that the move was based on financial motivations. “This is not an economic decision,” Wait said. “The fees charged by Detroit are pretty equal, but it is nice that we get two days, plus more time to set up and take down. The main reason for the move is because we’ve been talking about doing it in Hart Plaza for years. Three weeks ago we found out that the date was open, and we felt we should take the opportunity.”

“I’m not blaming (Ferndale) because I know how it is with money right now. The fees going up encouraged us to look at other options, but we were ready to try something new anyhow.” Wait is excited to have the event span two days and said they are working on plans for ways to make this year an even bigger and better event than before. “We loved being in Ferndale, but we really have outgrown the space.”

Motor City Pride brings an estimated \$1 million into the Ferndale economy each year. Michelle Lewis, who recently opened Painting with a Twist, said “I was hoping to be able to experience Pride as a new business in downtown Ferndale, so I think myself and many others will miss out with the move. However, being unselfish, I think this is great for Pride and I can understand the move. The move will bring it back

to the roots of where it started. I think that it is not a total loss to Ferndale. I kinda feel that the Pride will ultimately come back.”

Affirmations Interim Executive Director Kevin Howley was surprised by the news of the event’s relocation, but supportive. “While we certainly enjoy having Pride at our doorstep in Ferndale, the most important thing is that Pride is accessible and inclusive. Moving it to another location in the metro area may draw participants that don’t make the trip to Ferndale every year. We’ll definitely be hosting a table at the event and we look forward to helping any way we can. Hosting the Pride Family Picnic is still on our agenda.”

Community members have given mixed responses.

Ferndale resident Curt Norrod plans to boycott the event completely. “We’ll be sittin’ this one out by spending our time and money somewhere in our own community,” he said. “Detroit has a long way to go before we support an event there again. Ferndale is where we choose to live because it is a vibrant, inclusive community where we feel safe and welcome.”

There is an online petition at www.thepetitionsite.com/2/keep-motor-city-pride-in-ferndale to convince organizers to keep it in Ferndale.

“I am very disappointed. Motor City Pride said they made the move to be able to expand, but there is plenty of room to expand in Ferndale,” said resident Melissa O’Keefe. “I will still go, and still donate because I believe in the cause, even though I disagree with how they chose to do it. But I think it’s a big shame.”

Detroit resident Pam Murray said, “I think Ferndale should stop pouting about losing the parade and official festival and start planning after-parties and activities at Affirmations and local businesses to attract the weekend’s overflow crowd. Hopefully the move to a bigger space will be good for Detroit and a new opportunity for Ferndale to celebrate pride weekend in ways that suit the size of the city better.”

Ferndale resident Anne-Marie Yerks kept her comments positive. “The important thing is that the event is safe and accessible. If the organizers feel that Hart Plaza will bring more people together, then I support the move 100 percent,” she said.

“If the organizers feel that Hart Plaza will bring more people together, then I support the move 100 percent.”

– Ferndale resident
Anne-Marie Yerks

For more information about Motor City Pride, go to <http://motorcitypride.org>

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



Obstetrics, Gynecology
and Gynecologic Surgery

Beaumont Medical Center

Professional Office Building, Suite 301

15959 Hall Rd., Macomb Township, MI 48044

Phone (586) 247-8609 • Fax (586) 247-8615

From Stork to Finish

JORGENSEN



We Are Metro Detroit's
Premium Ford Dealer



Highest Trade-In Value
Get Your Best Deal
On A Car/Truck/SUV



Quality Parts & Service



Wide Selection of
Pre-Owned Vehicles



313-584-2250

www.JorgensenFord.com

Michigan at Lonyo

KICK receives \$180,000 grant

DETROIT – KICK, The Agency for LGBT African Americans, is celebrating a \$180,000 grant from the Arcus Foundation. KICK is using the money to hire staff, expand programming and move to a new space in Detroit's Tech Town.

Longtime volunteer Curtis Lipscomb was hired as executive director in January. Lipscomb said the grant will help "jump start" KICK, which has survived since 2003 off of smaller donations. "This will allow us to work with more established LGBT nonprofits, locally and nationally," he said, "and to do more social justice work."

KICK already has three well-established programs serving the Detroit area, and Lipscomb said it is working on adding two new programs soon.

"We knew that we would have to have a place to do these programs. It's one thing to expand, but we had to establish a place to do them," Lipscomb said about KICK's new space, located in the Graphics Arts Loft at 41 Burroughs St. "We wanted to stay in a very vital part of the city. What's great about Tech Town is it's an identifiable area, a great neighborhood and hub of entrepreneurial thinkers. With light rail being developed (on Woodward Ave., near the new building), we'll be right in an area where there will be a lot of traffic." KICK plans to move in March 1.

'Fools Welcome' welcomes all to second annual BTL party

DETROIT – Music, dancing, costumes and masks, Cajun cuisine, circus acts, fortune tellers and general revelry returns to Detroit's Roostertail April 1 beginning at 7 p.m. as Between The Lines newspaper presents its second annual Fools Welcome party.

As many as 300 guests will compete for costume and mask prizes and dance to the music of DJ powdrblu. The Detroit Fly House will present acrobats, jugglers, illusionists, sword swallows and contortionists. Tarot card readers will predict futures.

"With very little promotion, 200 people attended this first-time event last year," said Between The Lines publisher and party instigator Jan Stevenson. "This is a party for everyone to enjoy as Mardi Gras season continues and people are ready to let the good times roll, share some fun with friends or meet new friends."

"Last year we had costumes and masks that were beautiful, outrageous, hilarious and fantastic. I expect more and better this year," Stevenson said. Guests can also expect door prizes, gift bags and Mardi Gras-style swag.

A silent auction at the event will support the Between The Lines community projects.

Admission to the event is \$75 in advance and \$90 at the door. For more information visit www.pridesource.com. Tickets are available by visiting us online or calling 734-293-7200 ext.10.

On May 1, BTL will present their first wedding expo for same-sex couples, at the Detroit Marriott Livonia.



Affirmations Board President Mary Rose MacMillan is taking a hard look at how to recruit new board members. BTL photo: Crystal A. Proxmire

Affirmations progresses on ED search

Community center still seeks donations to survive

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

FERNDALE –As Affirmations continues its fund drive, Campaign for the Future, it's taken a moment to look back into the past.

Interim CEO Kevin Howley and members of the board contacted more than 300 former center partners who let their memberships lapse in the past few years, and invited them to a reception to get reacquainted with the LGBT community center and its programs.

Though only a few past donors attended the event, board members also called many on the list and discussed concerns over the phone.

"We wanted to let them know that Affirmations is still here for them," Howley said. "We know times are tough. A lot of the people we spoke to said they could no longer afford to contribute financially, and we understand that. But we want them back involved. There is a change in leadership and we need everyone's input as we move forward. If there was something you didn't like in the past, now is the time to step up, get involved, and help create the positive change you want to see in the organization."

"The plan for 2011," Howley said, "is to keep things as they are right now. We are operating within our budget for 2011 so far and we need to maintain that for the next few months as we find the right executive director to take over. I want to make sure they come into a stable financial community center. Later in the fall, once the new executive director is in place, that will be the time to figure out where they want to go. But the foundation for that future is what we are working on right now."

The Campaign for the Future seeks to raise the \$1.25 million needed to give Affirmations a strong balance sheet by paying down debts

and creating the financial liquidity needed to operate day-to-day. Thus far the campaign has raised \$540,000, although only \$350,000 has been collected. "We're mainly looking for larger corporate or retail donors," Howley said.

He also noted that sales for The Big Bash are going well, with 216 already sold. The Big Bash theme this year is "Cirque du Soiree," and features a gourmet dinner, dancing, aerial artist performances and more. The event takes place March 19 at the Diamond Center Ballroom at Rock Financial in Novi.

Executive director search

Affirmations Board President Mary Rose MacMillan explained the search committee's process in finding a new executive director. "We have asked 'what traits do we want in a new E.D.' and we came up with a few things that are important. Things like collaboration, leadership, fundraising skills, financial management, and the ability to work well with others," MacMillan said. "After we developed a candidate profile, we had a search firm – Evergreen, based in New Jersey – put the word out nationwide."

She said that the search firm interviewed 100 candidates and narrowed it down to four that the search committee will consider. "These candidates will be interviewed on Saturday and we may be able to announce the candidate at the Big Bash," she said. She added that they don't intend to rush into a decision, and that Howley is available to stay on and help if it turns out that more searching is needed. She also praised Howley's handling of his interim position. "Nobody expected the economy to bottom out the way it did. I can't tell you how the board has been working to fill holes over the past couple of years. We're really lucky that Kevin stepped in.

"We're starting to take a hard look at how to recruit new board members," MacMillan said, adding that they have put a request out on online board member search forums and that they've been considering establishing term limits for board service.

"People have really stepped in to get involved. I issued 248 new volunteer tags!"

– Jon Fitzgerald, Affirmations volunteer coordinator

Affirmations board elections will be held in May. In order to be a board member, one must agree to sell a table's worth of tickets to the Big Bash, and raise \$500 for the AIDS Walk. "We need people to understand that the organization has to raise money to survive, but it's through fundraising so you don't need to pay it out of your own pocket."

Another area of growth has been the increase in volunteers. Jon Fitzgerald, the volunteer and intern coordinator, said, "People have really stepped in to get involved. I issued 248 new volunteer tags!"

For more information about Affirmations, check out the center's website at www.goaffirmations.org.

Hope College's updated human sexuality policy still discriminatory

Alumni group wants the new policy removed

BY HANNAH SCHWAB

HOLLAND—Hope College recently amended its policy on human sexuality after an influential group of alumni petitioned the board of trustees to throw out its previous policy that discriminated against homosexual students.

But the new policy still discriminates against the LGBT community and now, it can also punish those who advocate for gay and lesbian students.

In 1995, Hope College adopted an institutional statement on homosexuality that said “the witness of Scripture is firm in rejecting the moral acceptability of homosexual behavior while affirming the responsibility of Christians to be fair to and accepting of persons with a homosexual orientation.”

“Basically, they adopted a ‘hate the sin, love the sinner’ attitude,” said the Rev. Don Van Hoeven, a member of the alumni group who petitioned the school to change its policy. Other members of the group include two past Hope presidents, a former Grand Valley State University president and a retired Reformed Church of America minister.

“This rule said someone could be gay as long as they didn’t act gay,” Van Hoeven said. “The school wanted these students to hide who they were.”

Van Hoeven said while this policy was unethical, many students and faculty did not have a problem with it because they didn’t know it existed.

Hope College never had to enforce the policy until October 2009, when a group of students invited screenwriter Dustin Lance Black to speak about his film, “Milk,” the story of the life and death of Harvey Milk. Hope allowed Black to speak about the practice of screenwriting, but said its policy prohibited Black from “promoting homosexuality” by cancelling a roundtable discussion.

This led students and alumni to petition against the policy.

The college introduced a new policy in January 2011. It now allows students and faculty to discuss homosexuality, but students still cannot form support groups on campus: “Hope College will not recognize or support campus groups whose aim by statement, practice, or intimidation is to promote a vision of human sexuality that is contrary to this understanding of biblical teaching.”

The policy also defines relationships and marriage as “between a man and a woman.”

Van Hoeven takes issue with the new policy because it defines sexuality, “including longing and expression,” as a

gift from God. The new policy calls for “a life of chastity among the unmarried” which he feels could lead to punishment of homosexual and heterosexual couples.

“Not only does the new policy have an anti-gay description as part of its wording, but now it calls for chastity from all students,” Van Hoeven said. “Because it doesn’t specifically define ‘expression,’ students could theoretically be punished for holding hands or kissing. The college is not there to mandate students’ personal

“This creates a slippery slope for teachers ... what is to stop a student from turning in a teacher for ‘advocacy’ if the teacher talks about homosexuality and the student does not agree with the ‘tone’ of the lecture?”

— Rev. Don Van Hoeven, a member of the alumni group who petitioned the school to change its policy.

lives, but now what is to stop them from going into students’ dorm rooms and punishing them for what they do behind closed doors?”

Van Hoeven said the policy also worries Hope’s faculty. Some are hesitant to start discussing homosexuality in their classrooms. Because the wording does not define “promotion” or “advocacy” of homosexuality, professors could be vulnerable to repercussions if they don’t discuss homosexuality in a negative way.

“Faculty members are aware of this new, undefined, gray area,” Van Hoeven said. “This creates a slippery slope for teachers ... what is to stop a student from turning in a teacher for ‘advocacy’ if the

teacher talks about homosexuality and the student does not agree with the ‘tone’ of the lecture?”

Besides the new policy, Hope President James E. Bultman has taken other steps to discriminate against the LGBT community on campus. Van Hoeven said all groups that want to host a campus event must have it preapproved by the board. Bultman formed an additional committee specifically to hear requests from the school’s unrecognized gay-straight forum. This committee has become the school’s first filter against the LGBT community and has rejected LGBT-related events.

According to Van Hoeven, the gay-straight forum also received an anonymous gift to support activities on campus, but Bultman sequestered the funds and because all events are rejected anyway, the group cannot use its own money.

Van Hoeven said Hope’s biggest defense for its stance against homosexuality is that it is a Christian liberal arts college founded on the same basis as the Reformed Church in America. The {URL school’s handbook <http://www.hope.edu/student/development/policies/handbook/Discrimination and Grievance Policy.pdf>} specifies that it forbids discrimination “against an individual based on race, ethnicity, culture or national origin.”

Yet, Calvin College in Grand Rapids, which also is a Christian college, lists in its handbook that it prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation (as well as many other characteristics).

Van Hoeven said if this policy stands, students will think twice about applying or attending Hope College. It is not only a way to filter out LGBT students, but it may also turn away other students as well.

While this policy can damage Hope College’s reputation, Van Hoeven believes it can send a mixed message about West Michigan and the city of Holland. The area is known to be mostly conservative, but citizens do support gay rights. The local Grace Episcopal Church hosts PFLAG meetings, and residents formed Holland is Ready and Hope is Ready, two groups that support gay rights.

Van Hoeven said the alumni group is determined to have this new policy removed. When he was a Hope student in the 1950s, he said the school never persecuted students for being gay. He does not want it to be known as a place of discrimination.

Learn more online: *Holland is Ready* <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Holland-Is-Ready/318512633596> and *Hope is Ready* <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Hope-is-Ready/115768245121189>.

ROSEMARY A. JOZWIAK And Associates

Affordable
Professional
Services

Anxiety – Depression – Trauma
Anger Management
Breakup Recovery – Grief / Loss
ACOA – Addictions
Relationship or Family Conflicts
Life Transition – Chronic illness
Gender Identity Struggles

We offer practical strategies you can use at once. Traditional and Alternative Methods to fit your needs.

(248) 546-9402 – Royal Oak, MI
www.therapy4you.com

John S. McPhee

Experienced Trial Attorney and Former Judicial Candidate

“I was proud to be ‘strongly endorsed’ by BTL in my local judicial campaign. I will be the attorney who champions your case and fights for your rights.”

Personal Injury
Criminal Law
Civil Litigation

For a free and confidential consultation, call me at (586) 484-2721 or email jmcphee@comcast.net

www.johnmcpheelaw.com



Village PICTURE FRAMING & ART GALLERY

Presents Artist
K. Mac
Corot Detail
Limited addition of 99



22223 Michigan Ave. Dearborn, MI 48124
(313) 278-4870

Need a Bartender or Server?

Professional Bartenders and Servers for your event

LARGE or SMALL

- Wedding Receptions
- Commitment Ceremonies
- Shower & Engagement Parties
- Birthday Parties
- Retirement Parties
- Dinner Parties
- Graduation Parties
- Plus many more!
- Please inquire about
Chocolate Fountain Rentals
Champagne Fountain Rentals
Frozen Beverage Machine Rentals
China, Flatware, Glassware & Other Rentals



Cocktails N' Dreams carries proper insurance coverage for your event. Our staff will arrive dressed in proper attire to compliment your event.

Call:
(734) 513-4433
Email: mixdrink48@aol.com

 **Heard on Facebook**



What do you think of Motor City Pride moving to Detroit?

I prefer Ferndale ... it's way more gay friendly than Hart Plaza ... There is NOTHING to do down there. At least in Ferndale you can go in and out of the stores and bars.

– Matthew Keiser

Trying to be optimistic. I remember when it was in the parking garage in Royal Oak. Out in the streets in Ferndale felt like a breath of fresh air. This will hopefully provide even more exposure. I have faith the organizers of the event AND the city will do everything possible to keep everyone safe. I'm ready to show my PRIDE everywhere and anywhere! Come on June!

– Jon Fitzgerald

I like that it's being moved and expanded. Ferndale was starting to feel too cramped. Of course, Ferndale was convenient because I could walk there. Not sure I'm willing to go to the expense and frustration of driving downtown for the event.

– Alex Hardesty

Very disappointing. A loss for both Pridefest and Ferndale. Ferndale loses its signature event that kicks off the summer season and Pridefest will suffer from reduced attendance and a loss of support. Sad.

– Keith Chartrau

I will truly miss it being in Ferndale.

–Tracy Davis

Comments may be edited for grammar and length.

 **Add our fan page!**
 Search: "Between The Lines Newspaper"

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

– *First Amendment, U.S. Constitution*

**S/he said
Culture, rights**

COMPILED BY HOWARD ISRAEL



Darren Chris as Blaine

"Blaine is NOT bi. He is gay, and will always be gay. I think it's very important to young kids that they know this character is one of them."

– Ryan Murphy, co-creator of "Glee," about an online rumor that Blaine, the show's new character, would actually end up being bi instead of gay, perezhilton.com, Feb. 14. Fans are rooting for the characters, Kurt and Blaine, to become boyfriends.



Ann Coulter

"The left is trying to co-op gays and I don't think we should let them. They should be on our side. We're for low taxes, we're for low crime, we're against the terrorists that want to kill gays. Gays are natural conservatives."

– Ann Coulter, conservative commentator, in a speech to the Conservative Political Action Conference, summarized in an article titled "The Left is Trying to Co-Opt Gays," cbsnews.com, Feb. 12.

"The 1996 Defense of Marriage Act is indefensible – officially sanctioned discrimination against one group of Americans imposed during an election year. President Obama seems to know that, or at least he has called on Congress to repeal it. So why do his government's lawyers continue to defend the act in court? Two new lawsuits, filed in CT and NY, challenging the Defense of Marriage Act now offer the president a chance to put the government on the side of justice. We urge him to seize it when the administration files its response, which is due by March 11."



President Obama

"The 1996 Defense of Marriage Act is indefensible – officially sanctioned discrimination against one group of Americans imposed during an election year. President Obama seems to know that, or at least he has called on Congress to repeal it. So why do his government's lawyers continue to defend the act in court? Two new lawsuits, filed in CT and NY, challenging the Defense of Marriage Act now offer the president a chance to put the government on the side of justice. We urge him to seize it when the administration files its response, which is due by March 11."

– From a New York Times editorial titled "In Defense of Marriage, for All," questioning the Obama Administration's defense of DOMA, nytimes.com, Feb. 13.



"The very fabric of our society is defined by whom we choose to venerate as our heroes. Things are beginning to change, but for every step forward – and there are some very good ones – the comic book world has taken some giant leaps back. Most gay characters, even in their small numbers, still remain primarily as villains, minor characters, and victims who are tortured, maimed and killed. Is this a fair representation of LGBT characters in the medium? That is left for you to decide. Yes, bad things do happen to all people, gay people included. But are there positive representations of gay characters to counterbalance these negative ones?"

– Perry Moore, executive producer of the "The Chronicles of Narnia" movie series and the author of "Hero," an award-winning youth novel about a gay teenager with super powers, on his blog titled "Who Cares About the Death of A Gay Superhero Anyway?," perrymoorestories.com. Moore passed away on Feb. 17 at the age of 39.



Parting Glances

Then & Now

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

When (it) hits the fan...

There's really only one four-letter cuss word that over the years I've consistently found offensive by its sound and the olfactory phew it evokes.

I once had a friend – a nice enough guy otherwise: neat, well groomed, a high school teacher by profession, gay bartender by hobby, personable – who used the nasty “s” dumpster rather frequently in conversation, especially after a few beers, much to his social disadvantage.

I remember too as a substitute teacher in a French high school class when giving an assignment to seniors one of my students quite loudly said the wipeout word in annoyance. Scoring points with him (and surely the class I thought) I said, “If you're going to use that expression, use the French. Merde. M-E-R-D-E!”

To my refined sense of verbal decorum merde sounds better than its English equivalent, as does to my way of thinking the German schiesse, and the Italian merda, which is somewhat poetic in tone. “Mary, Mary, quite contrary. What a big, little merda you are!”

Tucked also in the far, far recesses of my scatological mind is a related word wiper I learned from a thirteen-year-buddy. Fat Butt Wobble we kids called him. Ronald was Finnish, and the swear expression was “buska hoseu.” Hoseu meaning pants.

Perhaps you're wondering what a refined person such as myself is doing discussing a topic of such tacky subject matter. Permit me to offer as my excuse useful community and general information enlightenment by way of an e-mail from my friend Vysor, whom I've known for a number of years.

There's really only one four-letter cuss word that over the years I've consistently found offensive by its sound and the olfactory phew it evokes.

(I can vouch for her basic all-round refinement, dating back to when we use to shoot pool together at Fred's dyke bar on Detroit's eastside. I'm passing along Vysor's thought-provoking item to my PG readers who will soon be gardening as the weather gets warmer. Her subject is Manure.)

“In the 16th and 17th centuries, goods and products had to be transported by ship. It was also before the invention of commercial fertilizers, so large shipments of manure were quite common.

“Manure was shipped dry, because in dry form it weighed a lot less than when wet; but once water (at sea) soaked it, not only was it heavier, but the process of fermentation began again. Its byproduct is methane gas.

“As the cargo was stored below decks in bundles methane began to build up below decks, and the first time some well-meaning but thoughtless sailor came below at night with a lantern: BOOOOM!

“Several ships were destroyed in this manner before it was determined just what was happening. After that, bundles of manure were stamped with the instruction ‘Stow high in transit’ on them, which meant for the sailors to stow manure high enough off the lower decks so that any water that came into the vessel would not touch this volatile cargo and start the production of methane.

“Thus evolved the term's initials (Stow High In Transit) which has come down through the centuries. And is in use to this very day. You probably did not know the true history of this word.” (You can say that again, Vysor!)

Vysor also sent a follow-up. She senses perhaps there's a connection. So, I offer it for consideration: “Whatever you give a woman, she will make greater. If you give her love, she'll give you a baby. If you give her a house, she'll give you a home. If you give her groceries, she'll give you a meal.

“If you give her a smile, she'll give you her heart. She multiplies what is enlarged and given to her. So, if you give her any crap, be ready to receive a ton of . . . (merde, merda, schiesse).” It happens!

Charles@pridesource.com



Many Happy Returns!

COMPLETE ACCOUNTING SERVICES
COMPLETE TAX PREPARATION
Individual, Partnership, and Corporate
FINANCIAL PLANNING

Alan T. Semonian, C.P.A.
(248) 584-1040

3336 West 12 Mile Road • Berkley, MI 48072
 Fax (248) 399-6902 • 1-800-TAX-ALAN • TaxAlan@aol.com




Tax Time?



When it's tax time, it's time to call **Kuderik at 248 835 7755.**

- Specialist in Individual Returns
- Over 20 years Small Business experience
- Maximize your deductions and returns
- Electronic filing for fast refund
- Call today to begin tax planning now




KUDERIK
AND ASSOCIATES

Kuderik and Associates PLLC
 Certified Public Accountants
 812 South Main St., Suite 220
 Royal Oak MI 48067
 www.kuderikcpa.com

LAW OFFICES OF ARMENE KAYE, PC

“A general practice serving all your legal needs”



Special Emphasis in Family Law, Estate Planning & Probate Law, Personal Injury, Criminal Law and Civil Litigation.

Armene Kaye, Esq.
 Attorney and Counselor at Law

2900 Bel Aire Dr., Ste 200, Highland, MI 48357
 248-496-9500 office, 248-887-5581 direct line, 248-887-5586 fax
 Email: goodlawyer@comcast.net



TRIANGLE CHIROPRACTIC

EFFECTIVE RELIEF

Chiropractic & Massage Therapy



Participation in Blue Cross, United Healthcare, HAP, and Medicare for Chiropractic services. Other insurance plans also accepted. PPOM Provider.

Location
 Grosse Pointe Office Plaza
 I-94 Service Drive at Allard Exit

OPEN
 Monday - Saturday
(313) 885-9496

Dr. John Tsakos, Chiropractor
 www.triangleclinic.com



Medical Marijuana Evaluations

No Medical Records Required
 Clinics in Grand Rapids and Livonia

\$149/person
 \$100/2+ people
 \$75 Renewals

(866) 710-1250
 www.SouthlakeMedicalGroup.com

Southlake Medical Group
 BRING THIS AD FOR \$10 OFF

STEVEN M. GITTLEMAN

Attorney and Counselor at Law

Estate Planning Tax Matters Business Transactions

25600 Woodward, Ste. 206
 Royal Oak, Michigan 48067
 phone 248.336.1000
 fax 248.336.8678



"WATSON, HONEY—I THINK YOU BETTER JUST STICK TO 'JEOPARDY.'"

BTL EDITORIAL

We love our circus

When interviewing people for this issue's story about people who bring their pets to work, some pet owners who were also business owners limited the number of dogs that employees could bring. Because it turned into a "circus," they said, if more than a couple of employees brought in their animals.

Here at the BTL offices, we have a circus.

We usually have five dogs in the office, but sometimes we have even more. And often, it is kind of a circus: When FedEx delivers, when a new guest shows up and especially when we all crowd into the break room for lunch: the dogs fill up all the free floor space, tails wagging, waiting for scraps and making it nearly impossible to safely leave the room (which is probably some sort of fire hazard).

Every Wednesday, the big garage connected to our office is filled and emptied of fresh BTL papers that our distributors pick up. The semi-truck accessible garage door opens no less than a dozen times that day, and it makes an awful racket. Well, it would anyway, if you could hear it beneath the sound of howling dogs, every one of them making clear their discontent with the heinous noise by adding to it themselves.

Aside from lunchtime and Wednesdays, you'd hardly know the dogs were here, unless you tripped on one who was knocked out cold on the floor, twitching in the throes of deep sleep. That's right. For the most part, our circus is a sleepy one. The dogs, thoroughly bored by our collective obsession with staring at computer screens, tend to entertain themselves with the back of their eyelids.

Sometimes if we're lucky, they'll indulge

The dogs are freakishly aware of the exact moment someone needs a distraction from a computer screen or frustration-diffusing dog kisses. How do they know? It's kind of a magical mystery.

in our company a bit and give us some attention: they'll stop by individual offices to say hi, sniff around for crumbs, enjoy a vigorous ear or belly rub, or curl up near space heaters under desks. They know who's most likely to have snacks in the trash and whose office is warmest. They're smart like that.

They also seem to be freakishly aware of the exact moment someone needs a distraction from a computer screen or frustration-diffusing dog kisses. How do they know? It's kind of a magical mystery. Which every circus is full of.

We love our circus. And every one of us in the office would have it no other way. Except, maybe on Wednesdays. And during lunch.

THE GAY MORALIST



Repaying a debt

Before pride parades, before Harvey Milk, before Stonewall, there was Frank. And he needs your help.

BY JOHN CORVINO

You may not know Frank Kameny's name. You should.

Frank Kameny has sometimes been called the "Rosa Parks" of the LGBT movement. Like most analogies, this one is imperfect. Parks' civil disobedience was backed by an organized movement; Kameny had to forge a movement. Parks is in the history books; Kameny – like LGBT history more generally – is still largely overlooked. And while Parks retreated to a quieter life not long after her iconic bus ride, Kameny's vocal leadership has spanned a half-century.

When Dr. Franklin Kameny was fired from his government job in 1957 for being gay, there was no national gay civil rights movement. It took pioneers like him to make it happen. Before pride parades, before Harvey Milk, before Stonewall, there was Frank.

I've known Frank for many years, mostly via e-mail. He's been to my home for dinner (incidentally, he likes peach schnapps). Regrettably, I've never been to his, though it was designated a D.C. historic landmark in 2009 in recognition of its – and Frank's – tremendous role in civil rights history.

The house and its indomitable owner need help. More on that in a moment.

First, a few highlights of his amazing life.

A Harvard-trained Ph.D. and World War II veteran, Frank was fired in 1957 from his job as an Army Map Service astronomer for being a homosexual. Unsure of his future employability and outraged by the injustice, he fought back, petitioning his case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1961. (They declined to hear it.)

That year he co-founded the Mattachine Society of Washington D.C. – a "homophile organization." Soon thereafter, in 1963, he began a decades-long campaign to revoke D.C.'s sodomy law. He personally drafted the repeal bill that was passed thirty years later. Frank would likely correct me here: it was "30 years, one month, four days, and 11 hours."

He has that sort of relentless eye for detail.

In 1965, he picketed in front of the White House for gay rights. Signs from that demonstration, stored in his attic for decades, are now in the Smithsonian's collection.

In 1968, he coined the slogan "Gay is Good," an achievement of which he is particularly proud – probably because it captures his moral vision so simply and powerfully.

In 1971, he became the first openly gay person to run for Congress (he lost). He was instrumental in the battle that led to the declassification of homosexuality as a mental disorder by the American Psychiatric Association in 1973. He has continued to fight over the years against employment discrimination, sodomy laws, the military ban – injustice in all forms. And

he has served as a moral elder for generations of movement leaders.

The astronomer-turned-activist is now 85 and as spirited as ever. Thankfully, he has lived to see some of the fruits of his labor. In 2009, when President Obama signed a memorandum extending certain benefits to same-sex partners of federal employees, he handed his pen to Kameny. That same year, the Federal Office of Personnel Management issued an apology to Kameny on behalf of the U.S. government. Without missing a beat, Kameny promptly sent a letter stating that he was expecting five decades of back pay. (He received no reply.)

Frank continues to send off pointed letters in pursuit of justice. He is fond of reminding me and other "young" activists, whenever he hears us complaining amongst ourselves, "Don't tell us. Tell them. Contact the people who can do something about it."

And that's what I'm doing right now.

To put it simply, Frank needs financial help. His modest Social Security check – his only income – is inadequate to cover his needs. An organization called Helping Our Brothers and Sisters (www.helpingourbrothersandsisters.com/donate.html) has intervened on his behalf.

On their website, HOBS says:

"HOBS has worked with Dr. Kameny for more than a year, ensuring that his basic life needs are met. To honor our greatest living gay rights activist, HOBS provides Frank with taxi vouchers. We work to ensure that his utilities are paid (phone, electric, water). We have worked with many other fine organizations in coordinating his needs. We are in constant communication with D.C. Government Officials, attempting to make sure city services are available to Dr. Kameny. We also gathered the donations in 2010 to pay Frank's real estate taxes, of \$2,000+."

All donations to HOBS this month go to Frank. Meanwhile, a Facebook page has launched in conjunction with this effort, entitled "Buy Frank a Drink." The idea is not literally to buy him drinks, but to spare \$10 (or whatever you can afford) for him.

Frank has worked tirelessly for decades to make our lives better. It is simply not right that he should spend his twilight years in financial need.

I'm asking you to visit the HOBS website now and buy Frank a (figurative) drink – or ten, or whatever you can – to thank him for his monumental efforts. And I'm asking our national organizations to get behind this campaign, for a man who made their work possible. He surely deserves that, and much more.

John Corvino, Ph.D. is a writer, speaker, and philosophy professor at Wayne State University in Detroit. His column "The Gay Moralist" appears Fridays at 365gay.com. Read more at www.johncorvino.com.

Letter: Black history month

As this year's Black History Month draws to a close, I'd like to take a moment to honor the African-American lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people who are a continuing inspiration in the ongoing struggle for equality.

Many of us know Bayard Rustin's place in history beside the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He played a pivotal role in Dr. King's strategic organizing throughout the country. However, it would be a sad thing for our knowledge of notable African-American LGBT people to stop there.

As we work for change, it's crucial to learn about those who came before us — brilliant, creative people like Octavia Butler, who explored issues of race, class and sexuality in her groundbreaking work in science fiction. Or to think about how much further Glenn Burke, who played for the L.A. Dodgers, could have gone in his career if he hadn't been forced out in 1980 because he dared to be openly gay.

Nationally, black LGBT Americans continue at the forefront of the struggle for full equality for all minorities. My friend, Kylar Broadus, an out African-American transgender man, was recognized at the Creating Change Conference for his longstanding service to the LGBT community, and then honored in *Black Enterprise* for his work in the National Black Justice Coalition, among other things. Pam Spaulding of Pam's House Blend (www.pamshouseblend.com) is a proud blogger of all things L, G, B and T. In Cambridge, Mass., E. Denise Simmons was elected the nation's first openly lesbian African-American mayor in 2008 — following previous Mayor Kenneth Reeves, the first openly gay African-American mayor elected in the U.S.

The Detroit metro area is also no stranger

to powerful LGBT leaders of color — from Ruth Ellis in the twentieth century to Dr. Kofi Adoma, Michelle Williams, Michelle Brown, Curtis Lipscomb, Charles Pugh, Laura Hughes, and so many others today. Meanwhile, KICK, the metro Detroit agency for LGBT African-Americans, is growing by leaps and bounds. We can be proud to be home to an outstanding group of people who are out and visibly creating change.

At Equality Michigan, we are proud and humbled to be standing shoulder to shoulder with these leaders as we fight collectively against discriminatory policies and practices. Whether it was the anti-marriage Proposal 2 in 2004 or the anti-affirmative action Proposal 2 in 2006, all of us were in the electoral trenches educating the state about the importance of inclusion. And we will continue to work together to help our neighbors not only overcome the impact of these discriminatory laws, but to someday overturn them altogether.

It's been said many times, but it's been said because it's true — February is too short of a month to dedicate in observance of the many contributions that African-Americans have made to this country. It's also true, however, that no one month could be long enough. Though our country has come a long way, we are nowhere near far enough on the road to justice for people of color.

I hope to live to see the day when Black History Month can focus entirely on the triumphs of African-American activists because discrimination is a thing of the past. Until that day, though, I pledge to do whatever is in my power to bring that change about.

Yours in service,
Denise E. Brogan-Kator
Interim Executive Director
Equality Michigan

National: Prop 8 federal case delayed for several more months

BY REX WOCKNER

A huge new delay was introduced into the federal case against California's Proposition 8 on Feb. 16.

The case is before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which, after hearing oral arguments in December, punted off a question to the California Supreme Court.

The California Supreme Court now has decided, unanimously, that it will indeed answer the question and has set up a briefing schedule, to be followed by oral arguments no sooner than September.

The 9th Circuit asked the California Supreme Court if the people who put Proposition 8 on the ballot have any legal right, under California law, to be in court arguing to overturn last summer's federal District Court ruling that struck down Proposition 8 as a violation of the U.S. Constitution.

Those proponents, ProtectMarriage.com, want to defend Proposition 8 because California's governor and attorney general and everyone else who was sued in the federal Proposition 8 case have refused to defend the constitutional amendment that, in 2008, re-banned same-sex marriage in the nation's most populous state.

The 9th Circuit decided it couldn't proceed

with the case without hearing the California Supreme Court's opinion on ProtectMarriage's state-level right to defend Prop 8, which the 9th Circuit could then take under consideration in deciding whether to grant ProtectMarriage federal "standing" to appeal.

If ProtectMarriage is found to have no standing, then the case has no proper appellants and the 9th Circuit won't hear the appeal. Should that happen, the most likely outcome would be that the District Court ruling that struck down Proposition 8 would take effect, and gay couples in California would be able to get married again — although the "standing" question itself could end up being appealed by ProtectMarriage to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The question the California Supreme Court will answer, as asked by the 9th Circuit, is: "Whether under Article II, Section 8 of the California Constitution, or otherwise under California law, the official proponents of an initiative measure possess either a particularized interest in the initiative's validity or the authority to assert the State's interest in the initiative's validity, which would enable them to defend the constitutionality of the initiative upon its adoption or appeal a judgment invalidating the initiative, when the public officials charged with that duty refuse to do so."

**SATURDAY
MARCH 5, 2011**

**15TH
ANNUAL**


**MICHIGAN
LESBIAN AND GAY
COMEDYFEST**


a project of:
**EQUALITY
MICHIGAN**


**A
GROOVY NIGHT
OF COMEDY!**


**2 SHOWS
6:00 PM
AND 9:30 PM**


*With almost 1,000 people attending,
get your tickets today before they are sold out!*


Carlease
Los Angeles, CA


Sandra Valls
Los Angeles, CA


Owen Alabado
Los Angeles, CA


Poppy Champlin
San Francisco, CA



Advance
Tickets:
\$30
\$35 at the door
(if available)

**Dearborn's
Ford
Community
& Performing
Arts Center**

15801 Michigan Avenue at Greenfield
(just east of Southfield Fwy.)
in Dearborn, Michigan

HOST HOTEL

**Courtyard
Detroit-Dearborn**
5200 Mercury Drive
Dearborn, Michigan 48126
313-271-1400
Mention ComedyFest
**\$79 rate
for March 4 and 5**

**Tickets available online at
www.comedyfest.org**

by phone at 313-537-7000 or at the following ticket locations:

Just4Us Bookstore
211 W. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale; 248-547-5878

Five15
515 S. Washington Ave., Royal Oak; 248-515-2551

Common Language Book Bar
317 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor; 734-663-0036

THANKS TO OUR MEDIA SPONSORS

Between the Lines **METRA**
magazine

**This is a fully-accessible event. An ASL interpreter will be present.
We offer early seating for people with disabilities.**

Donald Trump

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Aw, so sweet. Donald Trump thinks gay people are great.

Mind you, not so great that they should be allowed to marry.



Donald Trump

And if there's anyone we should take advice about marriage from, it's Donald Trump. I mean, he's

had a lot of practice. First there was Ivana Trump, then he cheated on her with Marla Maples who became his second wife, and then he dumped Maples for his current wife, Melania Knauss.

So, let's see. That's two divorces, three marriages. The man obviously knows what he's doing. After all, each new wife is younger and hotter than the wife she's replacing. Hey, Trump's just keepin' it sacred.

During a Feb. 14 interview on Fox News with Greta Van Susteren, Trump flexed his conservative muscles and showed off the world's most expensive comb-over mullet.

"I'm probably as conservative as anybody on your show, and that's going a pretty strong step. I'm Republican, a very conservative Republican. I believe strongly in just about all conservative principles," he gushed.

"Gay marriage?" Van Susteren asked.

"I'm not in favor of gay marriage," Trump replied.

Then Van Susteren asked if he had any doubt about that position. "No," he said. "I'm just not in favor of gay marriage. I live in New York. New York is a place with lots of gays, and I think it is great. But I'm not in favor of gay marriage."

This isn't a huge surprise. According to Politico, Trump entered into the gay marriage fray in 2009, when he defended Carrie Prejean's stated opposition to gay marriage. Trump, who owns the Miss USA pageant, defended Prejean for speaking out, comparing

her views on gay marriage to President Barack Obama's.

Mind you, he doesn't tell Van Susteren why he's against gay marriage. But really, he doesn't have to. No doubt his position has a lot to do with his talk that he might run for president in 2012. And even a super rich tycoon who lives in faggy New York City feels obliged to appeal to the wing-nuts in the GOP these days.

Trump was a big hit at last month's Conservative Political Action Conference, long a bastion of anti-gay fervor. Mind you, this year GOProud, a group of gay Republicans, was involved in the CPAC mix, which made a lot of the anti-gay groups cry and go home. Still, CPAC is hardly a gay pride parade.

"Well, they're really my people," he said of the CPAC folks. And this certainly includes GOProud, who not only invited him to CPAC, but who also pushed for Trump as a write-in candidate for CPAC's presidential straw poll. It didn't work, but Trump is hardly discouraged.

He said he's "incredibly tempted" to run and that he'll decide by June.

Why does he want to run?

"I love this country. I hate what's happening to this country. It's just different. It's not like when I was growing up," he told Van Susteren.

"During these times

we were really a respected country."

Hmm. Let's see. If we take "when I was growing up" to mean birth to age 18, then America was a respected country from 1946 to 1964. He's right. Times were different then.

During that time 14-year-old Emmett Till was murdered for whistling at a white woman, Rosa Parks got thrown in jail because she wouldn't give up her bus seat to some white asshole, the National Guard had to be sent in so that nine black kids could go to school in Little Rock, Ark. And racists in Birmingham, Ala., had their hands full throwing Martin Luther King, Jr. in jail, blowing up little black girls in church, and turning fire hoses on civil rights protesters.

People who wax nostalgic about that era always seem to forget about that kind of stuff. Something tells me only rich, white, heterosexual men would actually like to go back.

If there's anyone we should take advice about marriage from, it's Donald Trump. He's had a lot of practice.

FY 2012 budget and LGBT community: 'Could have been worse'... and might be still

BY LISA KEEN

There was relatively little for the LGBT and HIV communities to complain about in the proposed Fiscal Year 2012 budget released by President Obama last week. And given the president's proposed five-year freeze in non-essential domestic spending, there were some sighs of relief.

Not that everything is hunky dory. There is no increase for the federal government's program to fight bullying and LGBT youth suicide. Some HIV funding doesn't keep up with the numbers of people needing help. And there was a significant slash to Community Development Block Grants, upon which many LGBT community health centers rely.

And the budget statements released with the proposed dollar figures had a healthy dose of bureaucratic double-speak. A three-page fact sheet specific to HIV programs says the budget "authorizes HHS to transfer 1 percent of HHS domestic HIV program funding (approximately \$60 million) to support cross-cutting collaborations in areas such as increasing linkages to care and developing effective combinations of prevention interventions."

But overall, community leaders seem pleased. David Stacy, deputy director of the Human Rights Campaign, said he's generally pleased with President Obama's proposal.

"In a budget where the president is proposing a five-year spending freeze, it's great to see the administration is able to recognize HIV/AIDS as a priority for funding and to provide at least modest increases," said Stacy. He said HRC is also pleased to see modest increases in the budget for the Department of Justice for implementation of the new federal hate crimes law.

Lorri L. Jean, co-chair of Centerlink, a national organization of centers around the country which provide health services and other programs to the LGBT and HIV communities, said even the five-year freeze is not as scary as it sounds.

Better than Bush

"The freeze in discretionary spending is at a level that is already much higher than under the previous administration," said Jean. And with the tough economic climate in recent years, she said, LGBT centers "have taken our share of hits." But Jean said she thinks the federal government, under the Obama administration, has become more sophisticated in how it distributes program money.

"Instead of spreading money around a wide array of funders, some of which can't produce results," said Jean, "the federal government has gotten better at choosing organizations that can deliver."

"As worried as I am about all of it," said Jean, "it's different now with our community than under the Bush administration. We've got an executive branch that is open to and significantly supportive of LGBT concerns being included in the funding streams. The difference is like night and day."

Carl Schmid, deputy executive director of The AIDS Institute and one of about 40 HIV and LGBT leaders briefed about the budget at the White House on Monday, said he was pleased with the budget.

"We realize the resources of the federal government are severely constrained, therefore, under today's fiscal environment, we are pleased the President has maintained his commitment to HIV/AIDS programs and even proposed some minimal increases," said Schmid. "While the proposed funding levels are far from what is needed to provide the necessary care and treatment for people with HIV/AIDS or to significantly reduce the number of new infections, The AIDS

Institutes appreciates the budget requests and now urges the Congress to show a similar level of support."

Log Cabin response

Log Cabin Republicans are a stark exception to the LGBT and HIV communities' relative comfort level with the president's proposal. R. Clarke Cooper, Log Cabin's national executive director, dismissed the proposal as failing to cut more.

"Our nation is at a breaking point and the president's budget proposal simply isn't a serious response to the challenges facing our country today," said Cooper. "The American people are facing a Federal debt of over \$14 trillion dollars, and the president needs to join with Congress to make significant cuts."

Obviously, interpreting budget proposals is as much art as it is math. And understanding a budget proposal requires seeing not only the number of dollars the proposal puts forth but also how that number compares with the current fiscal year. The complication this year is that Congress has yet to finalize its budget for Fiscal Year 2011, so budget figures put forth for FY 2012 are being compared against budget figures approved for FY 2010.

Numbers for the LGBT and HIV communities

- **Successful, Safe, and Health Students:** This is a consolidation of several programs, including the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program headed up by openly gay Assistant Secretary Kevin Jennings in the Department of Education. Programs under this office are addressing such issues as anti-gay bullying and suicide among LGBT youth. The budget proposal for FY 2012 is \$365 million, which represents no increase from FY 2010.

- **Suicide prevention:** Funding for suicide prevention work under the National Institutes for Health call for a significant increase – from only \$2 million in FY 2010 to a proposed \$18 million in FY 2012. Not all this research is specific to LGBT-related suicide.

- **AIDS Drug Assistance Program:** This program, to help people with HIV and low incomes to obtain life-saving medications, is being increased by \$105 million over FY 2010. With more than 6,000 people on waiting lists to receive such assistance, notes Schmid, the increase is "far from what is adequate." "If we have long wait lists now, just imagine what the situation will be like next year with no increases in funding," added Schmid.

- **Community Development Block Grants:** Lorri Jean, who is co-chair of Centerlink, an organization of more than 200 LGBT community health centers around the country, says "a lot" of centers depend on this funding and the president's proposal to slash 7.5 percent of that funding (from FY 2010 levels) "will have an impact."

- **AIDS Prevention:** The proposal calls for increasing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention budget by \$58 million to support the National HIV/AIDS Strategy goal of reducing HIV infections.

- **Breast cancer research:** The president's budget estimates spending about \$778 million on breast cancer research in FY 2012. This is a slight increase over FY 2010's \$763 million.

See 2012 Budget, page 17

Hawaii civil-union bill sent to supportive governor

A civil-union bill granting Hawaii same-sex couples all the state-level rights, benefits, responsibilities and obligations of marriage cleared the Legislature on Feb. 16 and headed to Gov. Neil Abercrombie, who strongly supports it.

The final measure passed the Senate 18-5 after passing the House 31-19.

"We're here thanks to years of hard work by community members, people of faith and civic and political leaders," said Lambda Legal Marriage Project Director Jennifer Pizer. "Our plaintiffs and thousands of other affected families can sleep easier knowing their legal system fully covers them."

Lambda Legal and the American Civil Liberties Union sued the state in July 2010 after then-Gov. Linda Lingle vetoed a civil-union bill. They argued that the veto amounted to discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"Finally, Hawaii families that are barred from being married will have the same rights and responsibilities under state law as their colleagues, friends, neighbors and other family members," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese.

Six other states have laws like Hawaii's: California, Illinois, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon and Washington. Five states - Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont - and Washington, D.C., let gay couples marry. Five states have gay union laws that extend some but not all rights of marriage: Colorado, Hawaii (an older law), Maine, Maryland and Wisconsin. Four states do not let gay couples marry but recognize them as

married if they get married somewhere else: Maryland, New Mexico, New York and Rhode Island.

In California, same-sex marriage was legal from June to November 2008, when voters amended the state constitution via Proposition 8 to put a stop to it. The couples who married then are still legally married, as are other same-sex couples who live in California and got married anywhere in the world before Proposition 8 passed. Gay couples who married somewhere else after Proposition 8 passed, or who marry elsewhere in the future, receive every state-level right and obligation of marriage in California except for the legal right to call their marriage a "marriage" when they are in California. They are not recognized under the state's domestic partnership law, but rather are married couples who are denied use of the word "marriage."

ACLU takes on school Web filtering

The American Civil Liberties Union and Yale Law School have launched a campaign called "Don't Filter Me" against Web censorship by public high schools.

The campaign urges students to check if their school is blocking LGBT content and to report such incidents at <http://action.aclu.org/dontfilterme>.

"Students may not realize that it actually is illegal for their schools to block educational and political content geared toward the LGBT community," said ACLU attorney Joshua Block. "We hope to inform students of their rights, and let them know there is something they can do if their school is engaging in censorship."

Blocking such content can violate the First Amendment and the federal Equal Access Act, which requires equal access

to school resources for all extracurricular clubs, including gay-straight alliances and LGBT support groups, the ACLU said.

"Some schools have improperly configured their Web filters to block access to websites for LGBT rights organizations such as the GSA Network and the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, but allow access to sites that condemn homosexuality or urge LGBT people to try to change their sexual orientation," the organization said. "Some schools have also improperly configured their Web filters to block news items pertaining to issues like 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell.'"

A video showing students how to check if their school is illegally filtering content can be found at tinyurl.com/filttest.

Indiana Legislature targets same-sex couples

The Indiana House of Representatives passed a measure Feb. 15 to send to voters a constitutional amendment that blocks recognition of same-sex marriages and any status similar to marriage.

House Joint Resolution 6, which passed 70-26, states: "Article 1 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana is amended by adding a new section to read as follows: ... Only a marriage between one (1) man and one (1) woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in Indiana. A legal status identical or substantially similar to that of marriage for unmarried individuals shall not be valid or recognized."

To take effect, the amendment would have to pass two consecutive general assemblies and be ratified by a majority of voters who turn out to vote.

► 2012 Budget

Continued from p. 16

• **AIDS research:** The president's proposal calls for \$3.2 billion to be spent on HIV/AIDS research in FY 2012. This compares to \$3.1 billion expected to be spent in FY 2011.

• **Hate crimes law enforcement:** The FY 2012 budget calls for a \$2 million increase over FY 2010 in the Department of Justice's Community Relations Service which is mandated with enforcement of the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

Budget moves to Congress

"Things certainly could have been much worse," said HRC's David Stacy, "and they probably will be much worse once Congress begins its deliberations."

The House and Senate budget committees will now begin to hold hearings to examine various aspects of President Obama's proposal and will begin drafting a "budget proposal" for Congress to approve. House Republicans have indicated they believe even deeper cuts are necessary in domestic spending, and LGBT and HIV leaders are clearly concerned about what will happen to the president's proposal once the Republican-dominated House begins its deliberations.

"I am more worried about what Republicans in the House might do," said Lorri Jean.

Carl Schmid said the Republican proposals for deeper cuts will "seriously exacerbate the crisis" in ensuring that people with

HIV infection and low incomes can receive lifesaving medications. He noted that Republicans call for no increase in ADAP funding and are still trying to eliminate an increase of \$25 million appropriated for FY 2011.

Michael Ruppal, executive director of The AIDS Institute, issued a statement last week saying The AIDS Institute "urges the Congress to reject those reckless cuts and consider the long term human and societal impacts of their decisions."

UN shuns ILGA again

The Non-Governmental Organizations Committee of the United Nations' Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on Feb. 4 again rejected a request for consultative status from the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (also known as ILGA).

The committee voted to take "no action" on the request and to reconsider it in May.

Seven nations supported moving to an actual vote on granting ILGA the status to access U.N. meetings, deliver oral and written reports, contact country representatives and organize events at the U.N. They were Belgium, Bulgaria, India, Israel, Turkey, Peru and the United States. Opposed were Burundi, China, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russia, Senegal, Sudan and Venezuela. Kyrgyzstan abstained and Cuba and Mozambique were not present.

The NGO Committee only rarely has approved consultative status for LGBT organizations, though its refusals have several times been overridden by the full ECOSOC.

Groups that have finally achieved consultative status include International Wages Due Lesbians, Australia's Coalition of Activist Lesbians, ILGA-Europe (an autonomous division of ILGA), Landsforeningen for Bosser og Lesbiske (Denmark's National Association for Gays and Lesbians), Lesben- und Schwulenverband in Deutschland (Lesbian and Gay Federation in Germany), the Swedish national LGBT group RFSL (whose former initials now are its full name), Coalition Gaie et Lesbienne du Quebec (Quebec Gay and Lesbian Coalition), COC Netherlands (a national LGBT group whose former initials are now its full name), Associacao Brasileira de Gays, Lesbicas e Transgeneros (Brazilian Association of Gays, Lesbians and Transgenders), and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

ILGA had ECOSOC status from 1993 to 1994 but was stripped of it following a scandal, orchestrated by the U.S. right wing, in which a small number of ILGA's hundreds of member organizations were accused of not taking a strong enough position on age of consent.

Around 3,000 nongovernmental organizations have U.N. consultative status.

Spanish cities honor gay communities

Three Spanish cities are recognizing LGBT people via public works.

In March, the Barcelona city government will place a large marble pink triangle in Ciudadela Park, where the Catalan Parliament is located.

"This is a necessary monument to remember the discrimination, repression, humiliation, persecution, attacks and assassinations that the LGTB community suffered for centuries and very especially during the Franco dictatorship," said Antonio Guirado, secretary general of the Catalan LGBT umbrella group Gay Lesbian Coordinator. "It is an act of justice and reparation

Court overturns Budapest pride ban

Hungary's Budapest Metropolitan Court on Feb. 18 overturned city officials' refusal to grant permission for this year's gay pride parade.

The city's ban came after organizers sought to extend the route of the June 18 march to an endpoint in Parliament Square. Officials claimed the new route would disrupt traffic and disturb an ongoing photo exhibit outside the Parliament Building.

A coalition of local organizations along with pan-European LGBT groups and Amnesty International had harshly criticized the ban, and pride organizers went to court to block it.

"Hungary currently holds the presidency of the European Union and surely is sending the wrong signal about the union's respect of human rights of all," said Evelyne Paradis, executive director of the European Region of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association. "Indeed, such a blatant denial of the right to free and peaceful assembly goes against the EU fundamental principles of democracy and respect of diversity."

Other problems have cropped up recently in Hungary, as well, Paradis said.

"The ban on the pride march adds to our concerns with the deteriorating situation for LGBTI in Hungary," she said. "Currently there is a proposal to amend the



Hungary's Budapest Metropolitan Court on Feb. 18 overturned city officials' refusal to grant permission for this year's gay pride parade. Photo of the 2009 march by Andy Harley, UK Gay News.

opening of marriage to same-sex couples. Additionally, the current Hungarian EU presidency program has no reference to the rights of LGBTI people even in events that deal with equality. Moreover, a draft media law is currently being revised after heavy criticism from the EU (that is) aimed to prevent among other things same-sex affections in the media. We believe that represents a dangerous signal not only to LGBTI people in Hungary, but also across the EU. We call upon EU institutions and member states to remind Hungary of its duties and about the EU fundamental principles of equality, nondiscrimination and respect for human rights for all."

The vice president of the European Parliament's LGBT Intergroup, Sophie in 't Veld, agreed that the pride ban was "potentially indicative of what the new Hungarian constitution and media law may have in stock for LGBT people."

"Enshrining inequality in law and in the constitution would be an immense step backwards, putting Hungary at odds with the values it signed up to when joining the European Union," she said. "We cannot accept the EU being led by a presidency that disrespects equality and freedom of assembly."

country's constitution to limit the scope of marriage to one man and one woman with the effect of banning the possibility of a future

but also will become a permanent symbol of the commitment of the city of Barcelona in the fight against homophobia."

The city of Gijon is creating a park called "June 28, Gay Pride Day" alongside the Montevil soccer field.

And La Coruna is renaming a street after the late gay activist Tomas Fabregas, who emigrated to the U.S. at age 21 and was active in the fight against the U.S. ban on HIV-positive foreign visitors and immigrants, which was repealed in 2009.

At the 1992 International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam, which he attended as a board member of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Fabregas publicly dared the Bush administration to block his re-entry into the U.S. It did not do so. Fabregas died in 1994.

Tijuana LGBTI group recognized by city, plans congress

The group Tijuana LGBTI Cultural Community, or COCUT, was formally inaugurated this month at a ceremony at the offices of the Tijuana Tourism and Conventions Committee.

Committee head Alan Bautista Plascencia expressed strong support for COCUT's upcoming five-day Tijuana Cultural Congress Against

Homophobia.

Artistic, literary, cultural and educational events will take place from May 17 to 21 in the city's historic downtown, on Avenida Revolucion and in Plaza Santa Cecilia.

Belarusian gays allowed to stage public protest

Gays in Belarus staged the nation's first-ever authorized public gay event Feb. 14 in Minsk, reported GayRussia.ru.

The LGBT group IDAHO Belarus held a rally against homophobia in a park near the Justice Ministry, with approval from the city's Executive Committee and police department.

The small group carried banners reading, "Love who you want" and "Homophobia = fascism."

About two dozen journalists covered the rally, outnumbering the protesters.

"For the first time the only thing that we feared was neither the police nor the homophobic hooligans but the cold," organizer Sergey Praded told GayRussia. "This is a very good first step."

Last year, the city's Executive Committee banned the gay pride march. When activists ignored the ban, several were aggressively arrested for taking part in an unsanctioned public action.

Moscow Pride founder Nikolai Alekseev, who joined that march, said police were "brutal and violent."

"I've never run so fast in my life," he said.

He and activist Ira Fet evaded arrest by running into a building and hiding in a trash room for 20 minutes.

New Zealand prime minister attends gay event

New Zealand Prime Minister John Key attended the Big Gay Out festival in Auckland's Coyle Park for two hours Feb. 13.

During an on-site radio interview, Key was asked if he now supports the gay civil-union law, which he had voted against as a member of Parliament.

Key refused to answer, saying, "I'm leaving it until my book."

200 arrested at 'gay' party in Bahrain

At least 200 people were arrested Feb. 3 at the Hidd Sports Club in Al Muharraq, Bahrain, for engaging in what local media called "immoral behavior" at a "gay party," according to Amnesty International. Reports said the individuals were drinking alcohol and wearing women's clothes.

INSIDE

WORKING DOGS

PET PANTRY

WAGGS



Sharkey

My Queer Critter

Pets can be gay too, ya know

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

They say gays are everywhere. In our schools. In our churches. In our very own backyards. And when they're back there, they're usually taking a whiz on a dead bush or flirting with the next-door neighbor.

These gays, however, have four legs – and they're likely smaller than you. They're cats, dogs and guinea pigs, and we spoke to their owners about them and their love of watersports, of each other, and of Alec Baldwin. Yeah, we know they say it's not nice to talk about someone behind their back, but could you imagine the interviews had we not?

Sharkey

Stats: A cream-colored French Bulldog. A rescue from the Midwest Small Breed Rescue in Grosse Pointe; exact age unknown (vet's guess: 2 and a half). Named after Martha Stewart's little white Frenchie.

What are some of Sharkey's gay tendencies?

Sharkey enjoys something special that my partner, Paul, and I have dubbed "Pee-Pee Time." He literally just kicks back, spreads his legs and strums away with his limp little paw, kind of banjo-like. Being a gay male dog, it's really no surprise that he is fascinated with his business.

Sharkey, like many of us in the gay

community, also likes to be charitable. He raised nearly \$500 in pledges last spring at the Michigan Humane Societies Mutt March at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House.

How did you know he was gay?

Sharkey has a thing for dressing up. Whether it's his gay pride, or an HRC collar or just a seasonal bandana, he gets super excited when you are about to put it on him.

Who's his celebrity pet crush?

Kathy Griffin's dog, Larry, because he's Kathy Griffin's dog.

As a pet owner, what's the best part of having a gay animal?

Most good parents know that having a gay child is a blessing for a multitude of reasons. Owning a gay animal is a blessing, too. Think about it: Dogs live to make us happy; we are their world. A gay dog works even harder to make their owners happy because that's how we gays roll. Perfectionists that we are, we've got to over-do everything!

What else about Sharkey should we know?

Sharkey was found downriver in September of 2009 and had a horrible cherry eye that required

surgery. While the surgery was successful, he requires a special compound dropped into his eye twice a day. This compound is made by only two companies. Go figure a gay dog would be so high maintenance!

– David Paul Rudzinski, St. Clair Shores

Shadow and Tyger

Stats: The cats look just like brothers even though they're not related. They've been in the family since they were three-weeks old, when their mothers abandoned them. They're now 12.

What are their gay tendencies?

Shadow is way more femme than Tyger is, but Tyger is the definite "bottom" when it comes to their more "intimate" moments. They do everything together. The minute one gets up the other does, too. They clean each other, play together, fight like lovers... and then make up



Jasmine

like lovers. We've often walked into the room to find one on top of the other and then we get the "can we get some privacy, please?" look from them. It's just all too cute.

What's the best part of having gay cats?

They are our babies. We're blessed to have them in our family, and we couldn't see our lives without them – especially Shadow. He and I have a deep bond. He has pulled me through some of my darkest times as I've battled my illness. Every time I come home from the hospital he's right there waiting for me and won't leave my side for anything.

What else should we know about them?

Funny thing about Shadow: He's even jealous of my partner, and we've have been together for 23 years!

– Gina Driggers, Macomb County

Jasmine

Stats: Jasmine, 10, is a F2SF (female-to-spayed-female) post-op lab/pointer.

How do you know Jasmine's gay?

I think Jasmine is butch; she likes to "run around" with other males, but only as friends. And just try to put makeup on her!

Jasmine wears four rainbow wristbands with pride, but not through puddles. Jasmine likes cats. She is afraid of large birds, but kind of fascinated with male peacocks. She loves the mailman. Platonically, I assume.

Single, looking for love, likes to take long walks and cuddle...

Looking for a lifetime companion?
We guarantee you'll fall in love at

Almost Home
(248) 200-2695

Our adoptable pets can be viewed on our website!



www.almosthomeanimals.org



Dr. Michael Petty

Certified Veterinary Pain Practitioner
Diplomate, American Academy of
Pain Management

(734) 844-8844

dr-petty@arborpointe.com

42043 Ford Rd. Canton, MI 48187
www.arborpointe.com

Reliable Compassionate Healthcare

WEBBERVILLE VETERINARY HOSPITAL
2045 Oakwood Street (555) 586-0909

20% Discount on All
Vaccinations and Shots
for the Month of
MARCH



Let Us Take Care of Your Animal Care

Spring Pet Issue

► Queer critter

Continued from p. 19

When did you know?

When my wife and I lived in Hampton Beach, N.H., we discovered that Jasmine loves to skinny dip in the ocean, and bury balls. That was only an ambiguous clue. She really came out when we moved to Cape Cod, of course. But we knew for sure when she licked – on the face – most of the many LGBTs at my church in Michigan.

Who is Jasmine's celebrity pet crush?

Jasmine likes "Dog Whisperer," especially when Cesar Millan makes that "ttr" sound. Clearly, she wants to be submissive, and so I oblige her by being dominant. She wears a metal choke collar at all times.

– Steve Duerksen, Kalamazoo



Oliver and Frankie

that without hurting one another. I get so much love and attention from these small creatures, and I'm happy knowing they found a mate in one another.

How old are they?

Ladies don't reveal their ages.

– Frank Vaca, Potterville, Mich.

Emma and Esmay

Stats: Two female guinea pigs living together till the day they die in a cage that's falling apart (but safe).

What are the guinea pigs' gay tendencies?

They like to cuddle one another, hide together and squeak.

Who is their celebrity pet crush?

Miss Piggy. Gals have got to stick together. Pigs are usually getting bad raps for being stinky and unclean creatures when they should be lavished in pearls and furs.

What's the best part of having gay guinea pigs?

These gals struggle and stay together. Esmay has a weird foot problem and Emma is overweight. They can look past

Barney, Frankie and Oliver

Stats: Straight, bisexual and transgender, respectively. Barney is a male Maine Coon mix; Frankie is small muted calico; and Oliver is a purebred Persian that, while born male, had a recurring urinary tract infection that began to damage his kidneys. He underwent an operation to reroute his urinary tract system to outwardly resemble that of a female, including amputation of the essential boy parts.

What are some of their gay tendencies?

Barney is groomed by the other two. Frankie and Oliver are best friends, and have cuddled together since Frankie was a kitten. Now that Frankie has reached

sexual maturity, Oliver still cuddles and dotes on her but now tries to mate with her, despite his loss of "essential parts." And Frankie, in frustration, will sometimes mount Oliver. Imagine that: the littlest one, a female, mounting the larger, M2F transgender one. So I'm not really sure if that makes Frankie bisexual, lesbian or omniseual. Barney continues to tolerate all behavior – except Frankie trying to mate with him!

How did you know they were gay?

Oliver is a fashionista and very conscientious about personal hygiene. At first I thought Frankie loved everybody because she had been rescued from the streets, but it turns out that she truly *does* love everybody!

Who is their celebrity pet crush?

Oliver will sit and watch the movie "Dogs and Cats" nearly without blinking, so I think he has the hots for Alec Baldwin.

As a pet owner, what's the best part of having LGBT animals?

Life is infinitely more complicated and entertaining!

– Christine Rainey, Northville

Honk if you love your gay pet

BY TARA CAVANAUGH

Parents of honor roll students shouldn't get all the bumper sticker bragging rights. Javier Monllor is the proud owner of a gay cat, and he created the bumper sticker to prove it. Monllor, who by day works as a teacher in Chicago, chatted about the stickers and the proud cat and dog owners who snatch them up.

How popular are your bumper stickers?

My online store is not too active, but that is mostly because I don't have a lot of time or resources to do marketing. On the other hand, when I participate in events, like Market Days in Chicago, reception is great and I sell a lot of them. I've been selling the stickers for two years now.

How did you react when you discovered Gustavo was gay?

We always loved our cat, and we think that is what makes him special. For me and my wife, Gustavo was gay from the moment we laid our eyes on him, so we never went through an acceptance phase. Everybody knows Gustavo is gay and accepts him and loves him.



Why do you think people like proclaiming they're a proud owner of a gay cat or dog?

My impression is that most people who purchase our stickers do it because they think they are very clever and funny. The reaction we always get is that they're hilarious, and people either buy them for themselves or for a friend they think will love them. We even have some people buy them as a prank for their conservative friends and family. The sad thing is that even a tongue-in-cheek sticker like this provokes some people, and we received posts on our Facebook page making horrible comments that insulted us and our fans. So I also think proclaiming your cat or dog gay is also one way of supporting the LGBT community and their rights in a fun and lighthearted way.

To purchase a bumper sticker, visit gaypets.net.

It is estimated that 8 to 10 million homeless pets will enter animal shelters this year in the United States. The Humane Society of Huron Valley, located in Ann Arbor, has hundreds of puppies, kittens, dogs, cats and other small animals that need caring homes. Our adoption fees are affordable and our knowledgeable pet counselors will help match you with the perfect companion. We invite you to visit our new, state-of-the-art animal care facility and adopt a pet today.

They will love you for it!

Visit www.hshv.org to see all of our adoptable animals.

We are open daily from noon to 6 pm for adoptions.

We also have a LOW COST veterinary clinic that is open to the public - **call (734) 662-4365 for an appointment.**

they need a family
make adoption your first option



www.hshv.org

3100 Cherry Hill Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105
(734) 662-5585



Our Focus
Is Natural Foods &
Other Items For All
Animals. All Supplies
With A Boutique Feel.



Save \$4.00
on any purchase of \$20 or more.
Exp. 4/30/2011

248-647-4310
31215 Southfield Rd.,
Beverly Hills, MI 48205



Family Owned, In business for over 17 years
Full Line of all Pet Supplies
with a focus on Natural Products

Waggs and Wishes seeks donations

The makeshift pet rescue in Ferndale may soon lose its home

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

FERNDALE – Angie Potter and other dedicated volunteers stepped up last year to fill in the gap left by the city’s loss of an animal control officer due to budget cuts. Her organization, Waggs and Wishes, has saved dozens of animals from abandonment and death, and placed many in loving homes.

However, as Oakland County gets closer to finalizing plans for offering free animal control services to cities, including Ferndale, the volunteers at Waggs and Wishes are asking for help in finding a new building for their volunteer animal shelter. If the city council votes to accept the county service, it would mean that Waggs and Wishes would have to operate independently from the city, and would not be able to use the city-owned building.

“What we really need is to find a building that can be donated or (one) with really low rent,” Potter said. Currently Waggs and Wishes cares for animals in the city-owned shelter in the Department of Public Works yard at 521 E. Cambourne. Potter said there is no formal agreement with the city, though it lets the volunteers use the space for free and also pays for utilities. The animals’ care has been provided through hundreds of volunteer hours and donations of food, supplies and money from people in the community.

“If we don’t find a space, then the county will take all these animals and we will have to close down,” Potter said.

“Our building is very tiny, as it was never meant to be a



Potter holds Jameson, a rescued puppy, in her hands. Photo courtesy of Waggs and Wishes

rescue, just used for holding dogs till their owners came forward or they were sent to the Humane Society,” she said. “It’s only around 700-800 square feet.”

Currently the building can house up to 18 animals. Finding a new, bigger space is essential for Waggs and Wishes to carry on with their rescue work.

“We really want to stay in Ferndale,” said Potter. “This is my

Waggs and Wishes has saved dozens of animals from abandonment and death, and placed many in loving homes.

home and everyone here has been really supportive. There are a lot of animal lovers here.”

Potter said she has enough crates and volunteers to build kennels wherever they go. They can use either long-term or short-term space, and size is not an issue, although the more space they have, the more animals they can save.

When asked what her ideal new Waggs and Wishes home would be, Potter said, “We would love to have a bigger building that is more fit for a rescue. One with a bathroom, laundry room, office, room for kennels to be put up. Plus a fenced in outside so the dogs could go out and play, and don’t forget the most important thing for a place to have, a TUB – some of these dogs that come in are pretty stinky!”

Anyone who can provide space to Waggs and Wishes can contact Potter at 734-658-1268. To find out more about Waggs and Wishes, or to donate to their building fund, go to <http://www.waggsandwishes.org>.

**PATTERSON
 DOG & CAT
 HOSPITAL**

ESTABLISHED IN 1844
3800 GRAND RIVER, DETROIT
313-832-7282

GLYNES D. GRAHAM, DVM

WE LOVE PETS!
 WE LOVE YOUR PETS, TOO!

**ANIMAL CLINIC
 East**

13910 E. 8 Mile Rd
Detroit, MI • 313-521-6610
 (Between Schoenherr & Gratiot. 10 minutes from Ferndale)
Hours: M, Tu, Th, F 9-5. W and Sa 9-Noon.

Animal Clinic East provides honest, kind and compassionate veterinary medicine.

We take very good care of your pets.

ANIMAL CLINIC East COUPON
10% OFF vaccines, heartworm test and stool check
 (offer expires 3/31/11)

Please call for appointment 313-521-6610

Keeping people and pets together

Pet food pantry helps struggling owners feed their pets

BY TARA CAVANAUGH

The tough economic times mean that people may have to go without the extra niceties in life: Cars get repaired instead of replaced, dinners are eaten in instead of out, pets are even dropped off at the pound instead of kept at home – after all, they are another mouth to feed.

Kay Bradley, a longtime pet lover and shelter volunteer, saw pets being dropped off because owners could no longer afford to take care of them. So last December, she created New Beginnings Animal Rescue, a pet rescue that also offers a pet food pantry to “keep people and their pets together” by keeping pets fed. The pantry also supplies litter.

New Beginnings Animal Rescue, a newly minted 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, doesn’t even have a facility yet. Its staff consists of a few volunteers and Bradley, who describes herself as a “retiree who didn’t want to sit around.” Most of the activity takes place on Bradley’s cell phone, which people call to ask for food for their pets.

“I don’t ask them anything with regard to income, but (callers) usually volunteer,” she said. “They will say they’re having a difficult time, and the only thing I ask is

how many pets they have, what kind and what they currently eat.” Bradley tries to keep pets fed with the same food; changing food can upset some pets’ stomachs.

“I also ask whether or not they have transportation, if they can pick it up, and if they can’t, then my husband and I will deliver,” Bradley said.

“We’re not turning anyone away. Anyone that calls, we’re more than happy to assist.”

– Kay Bradley

Upon delivery, “We get big smiles and hugs. It makes you feel very good that you’re able to help,” she said. “We’re not seeking gratitude. My husband’s and my family is 3 cats and 2 dogs, and I can’t imagine having to give up any of them.”

The pantry has helped more than 40

families keep their pets.

“We say we’re helping folks in South Oakland County, but we’re not turning anyone away,” she said. “Anyone that calls, we’re more than happy to assist.”

The non-profit also helps place animals in new homes when shelters and individual owners can’t afford to keep them. Bradley laments not having a facility to keep the animals in yet, but she is able to put a listing up on petfinder.com. She likes that the website allows owners to choose their pets’ new owner.

Just like any nonprofit, the food pantry needs funding. “We’re so new, we need to raise money to keep the pantry going and ultimately we would like to have our own facility to be able to help more with rescues,” Bradley said.

The non-profit is holding a fundraiser and silent auction at Farina’s Banquet Center in Berkley, Mich. on March 10 from 5 to 9 p.m. There will be complimentary hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar. The silent auction includes an autographed Detroit Tigers’ ball and photo, jewelry, wine, original art, spa packages and gift cards. Attendees who bring a bag of cat or dog food will receive a door prize ticket for a chance to win a 40-inch flat screen TV.



FIDO
PERSONAL DOG TRAINING, LLC

- ▶ Fido Training
- ▶ Positive Reinforcement Training
- ▶ Clicker Training
- ▶ One on One Training
- ▶ Behavior Problem Solving
- ▶ Beginner Puppy Classes
- ▶ Basic Obedience Classes
- ▶ Dog Walking

703 Livernois, Ferndale
www.fidodogtraining.com
313-204-6154

Between THE Lines™

Visit our website!
<http://www.pridesource.com>

Add our fan page!
Search: "Between The Lines Newspaper"

Follow us!
@YourBTL



TRUE LOVE IS ALL NATURAL
Oven baked food for dogs.

- * NO artificial color or additives
- * NO animal byproducts
- * NO added sugar
- * NO artificial preservatives
- * NO wheat, corn or soy





COUPON
Receive a
\$5 gift box FREE
with any purchase of \$25 or more

Expires 4/10/2011 BTL1907

550 Forest Ave. Suite 7
Plymouth, Michigan 48170
734-453-WOOF (9663)

"All natural ingredients since 1989"



PLAY and STAY

PET CARE CENTER

Proud to Be Metro Detroit's Most
Comprehensive, Progressive & Colorful Pet Care Center!

Boarding/Daycare Center – 1705 Austin

- Open 6:30 am - 10:00 pm EVERY day
- Drop-off & Pick-up Anytime We're Open
- Staffed 24/7, 365 Days A Year
- Hourly, Half-Day & Full-Day Care
- No Forced Naps & No À La Carte Fees
- 15,000 Sq Ft of Inside and Outside Play
- 1/2" Sealed Rubber Flooring Throughout
- Boarding in Private Suites
- Bathing & Grooming
- Dogs, Cats & Exotics Welcome
- Acceptance based on Temperament



www.playandstaypetcare.com
info@playandstaypetcare.com

Educational Annex – 1709 Austin

- 2400 Sq Ft Training Floor
- 1/2" Interlocking Rubber Flooring
- Agility Equipment Available
- Individual and Group Rental Available
- Daytime, Evening & Weekend Classes
- Extremely Reasonable Rates
- Climate-Controlled Year-Round

Phone: (248) 528-3844

More than just another DOG HOUSE!



Working like a dog

A dog on the job makes work feel less like work

BY TARA CAVANAUGH

Trouth the customer service representative will be happy to take care of all your needs at Orion Automotive in Ann Arbor – as long as those needs are playing, petting and getting wet kisses.

Trout is a 10-year-old Australian Shepherd who comes to work every day with the auto shop's owner, Richard Cox. Cox has brought Trout with him to work since he was a puppy.

Trout loves his job. In fact, he's downright "despondent" if he has to stay home, Cox says. And Cox prefers Trout to be around, too: "I definitely don't have as much fun at work if he's not here."

Cox is just one owner who says bringing a pet to work makes it easier to get through the day. Pets on the job don't only make their owners feel great – like Trout, they have a special way of connecting with customers too.

B.C. Cabangbang, owner of Cho-Zen by B.C. in Royal Oak, says his 7-year-old miniature poodle, Jazper, has a fan club of his own. "Some people come just to pet my dog. And some bring their own dogs to visit too," he says. Cabangbang thinks customers are so drawn to Jazper because he's so low-key: Jazper likes to lounge on one of the couches in the home decor store, and customers are often surprised to discover he's not a stuffed animal.

Lucy and Gracie, two dogs at Abracadabra Jewelry in Ann Arbor, also enjoy the company of adoring fans who stop by just

to see them. Lucy is an excitable one-year-old bearded collie, and Gracie is a subdued 8-year-old Havanese. Every Thursday, a customer comes in just to walk Lucy, says Katherine Lessee, the store owner. The child of another pair of customers stops by on his walk home from school, just to give Lucy and Gracie treats. "They definitely have their own fan base," Lessee says.

Sometimes, dogs can become one of the business's main attractions. "Some people come here just because I have the dogs," says Sarah Okuyama, owner of the Burnt Toast Inn, a bed and breakfast in Ann Arbor. At first glance, the dogs, both the size of small ponies, seem like they'd scare visitors away. But Okuyama says Bo, a 100-pound Mastiff Rhodesian, and Buddy, a 200-pound St. Bernard, are as much a draw to her inn as the comfy beds and comfort food. They make her inn seem like a home away from home for the guests, she says, especially for those who have dogs of their own.

Comfort is key at a veterinarian's office, where owners and pets alike can feel stressed. Joy, a Portuguese water dog, hangs out in the Canton clinic every day, and her main job is to help patients relax.

"She is a nice distraction for any situation," says Joy's owner, Beth Petty, who's been the clinic receptionist for 17 years. "Whether it's someone who is feeling anxious because of a sick pet, or if it's a young child thinking the clinic is a pediatrician's office, Joy is there."



Lucy entertains customers and obediently awaits commands from her owner, Katherine Lessee, at Abracadabra Jewelry in Ann Arbor. BTL photo: Tara Cavanaugh

Joy, along with the dogs the clinic employees bring in, provides a momentary distraction from the work day, says Petty: "It's only a momentary distraction, there's nothing more to it. It energizes the employee and the pet. It's a positive thing."

Best of all, she says, dogs make the clinic "a fun environment. They're characters, they have their quirks, and it brings a smile to your face while you're at work if you have a dog walk up, give you a big kiss and walk away."



CLUB PET

*your PET'S
home away
from home*


1400 E. Commerce Road
In the village of Milford
(248) 685-8836

3181 Walnut Lake Court
Commerce Township
(one block East of
M-5 off Pontiac Trail)
248-669-4501

www.club-pet.net

Business Hours:
7am-7pm Mon-Sat
7am-11am and
3pm-7pm Sun
(Boarding Only)

- Club Pet has 13 years of experience providing personal and loving care for your pets!
- Generous multi-pet discounts for boarding and day-care! Flexible daycare packages to fit any schedule or budget.
- Separate play areas for dogs of all ages and sizes!
- Family owned, owner-operated!
- Straightforward, all-inclusive pricing- no pricey add-ons! Your pets always get our 100%!
- Stop in anytime for a facility tour: Open Monday-Saturday 7AM-7PM, and Sundays from 7-11AM & 3-7PM.
- Come see for yourself why your neighbors and friends only trust CLUB PET & CLUB PET TOO!



Boarding *for dogs & cats*

Day Care

Training

Grooming

CLUB PET 1400 E. Commerce Rd, Milford
3181 Walnut Lake Ct, Commerce Twp

**10% OFF
Daycare
Packages***

YOU PICK:
NO expiration date
Daycare
Packages*

Offer good through 3/31/11

CLUB PET 1400 E. Commerce Rd, Milford
3181 Walnut Lake Ct, Commerce Twp

**New Clients Receive
\$10 Off
Any Service**
(with original coupon)

Offer good through 3/31/11



Ann Arbor's Premier Pet Salons
Serving the community and their
Best Friends for over 20 years.

Two convenient locations

Groom N Go west	Groom N Go east
2150 W. Liberty	3016 Packard
Ann Arbor 48103	Ann Arbor 48108
734-663-3360	734-477-9900

We encourage new clients to stop by or call
anytime during our hours to discuss our
services to help meet the needs of their pets.



ANIMAL HAUS, INC.
Professional Pet Stylists
248-344-8904



ANIMAL HAUS, INC.
Professional Pet Stylists
10% OFF
with coupon
Limited time offer BTL1908

Monique, Owner
547 W. Seven Mile Rd., Northville, MI 48167

Open Mon-Sat 9 to 5
animalhaus8904@att.net

4PAWS



**Pet Resort, Daycare, Training
and Grooming**

Call For Reservations
248-230-7297

Reservations@4Pawsc.com

Linda Travis
Community Director



2244 Franklin Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
Tel. 248-230-PAWS (7297) • www.4pawsc.com



**CANINE
COLLEGE**

WHERE IT'S COOL TO DROOL

www.CanineCollegeMi.com

- 🐾 Five Large Play Fields
- 🐾 Yummy School Lunches Available
- 🐾 PCSA Certified Faculty
- 🐾 Hydosurge Bathing System
- 🐾 Constant Supervision
- 🐾 Tons of Safe, Interactive Toys
- 🐾 Live Web viewing on College Vision
- 🐾 All Day Play



**CANINE
COLLEGE**

**FREE First
Daycare Visit***

*following successful
passing of temperament
test, must be used on day
of temperament test

BTL 1908

23717 Research Drive,
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
(248) 427-8245
Located 1/4 mile East of 10 Mile & Haggerty

It's Cool to Drool!

Award winning dog daycare, boarding, grooming & training

DOES YOUR DOG LIKE TO CUDDLE AT NIGHT?



Happy Hounds now offers Cage-Free Overnight Boarding!
Your dog will have all the comforts of home in our home-like environment,
including sleeping on the bed with our trained and loving staff member!

Dog Day Care, Boarding, Training Classes. Visit our website for details.

If you are at work, on vacation, or traveling for business,
we are at work caring for your loyal friend & companion.



Look in on them on our LIVE Doggie Web Cams!

734-459-DOGS

673 South Main St. • Plymouth, MI 48170

www.happyhoundsdaycare.com

"A HAPPY DOG DAY.. IS A DAY OF DOG PLAY!"



Presented with

Marriott
DETROIT LIVONIA

*To Have
and
To Hold*



*Wedding Expo for
Same-Sex Couples*

Sunday May 1 3 to 8 p.m.

Detroit Marriott Livonia • 6 Mile & Newburgh (off I-275)

17100 Laurel Park Drive North, Livonia

**Over 30 vendors will showcase everything
you need for your special day!**

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and drinks
Great swag bag giveaways & entertainment
20+ fantastic raffles *(Need not be present to win)*

\$10 @ Door

Tickets at PrideSource.com
Pre-registered attendees save \$2
Enter BTL1993 for savings code

**Pre-register online to SAVE \$\$ on each ticket and you are
automatically entered to win a free vacation!**

Go to www.PrideSource.com right now. Save with this code: BTL1993

The 'New' Menjo's

Owner has more in store for expansion... like a sports bar?

BY HANNAH SCHWAB

If you haven't been to Menjo's in the past three years, then you might not recognize it. A staple of Detroit's gay community has a new look and a new name, but The New Menjo's Complex is still the same great place it's been for more than 36 years.

Owner Jeff Stedman hasn't been in charge that long – he bought the bar in December 2008 – and yet he is very familiar with Menjo's, its history and its place in the Detroit gay bar scene.

When the economy fell and bars and restaurants started to fail, Menjo's was no exception, Stedman says. The previous owner had been in business for years, but only saw it as a business and a source of income, not a key part of the gay community. When the bar stopped making money, he wanted out.

"I saw an opportunity when Menjo's went up for sale," Stedman says. "The bar had been slipping (financially) and the small renovations the owner did four years ago didn't make a difference. I saw a chance to turn this place around and return it to the place it used to be."

While Stedman had never owned a bar before, he does have a degree in finance and has worked in restaurants and as a vendor. He knew the business and had a lot of customer service experience.

"I knew the dollars and cents of how to run a business," Stedman says. "I knew I could handle it, but I also knew I wanted to see Menjo's succeed. This was a favorite place of mine, and I knew other people who loved it. I wanted to restore it to the old Menjo's. I cared if it succeeded or failed, and I never got that feeling from the previous owner."

Bartender Jared Doyle, who has worked at Menjo's for more than three years, can see the difference that Stedman's made.

"It was really rocky before (Stedman)," Doyle says. "There was not a lot of money to be made. In the first six months with Stedman, people were tentative to come back. But once they saw there was a new owner and things were changing, they came back."

"We finally have order and initiative, which makes a huge difference."

Stedman renovated the building and changed up the calendar. The bar always had a popular college night on Thursdays, but Stedman wanted to draw customers in every night, so he introduced other themed nights, like karaoke Mondays, booty contests on Tuesdays and flashback nights on Wednesdays and Fridays. He also offers happy hour every day at 3 p.m.

"We've had a good reaction to the different events and themed nights from both the gay and straight community," Stedman says. "We also try to get different live entertainment in once or twice a month. From March to September, we offer drag queen boxing, which is very entertaining and comical."

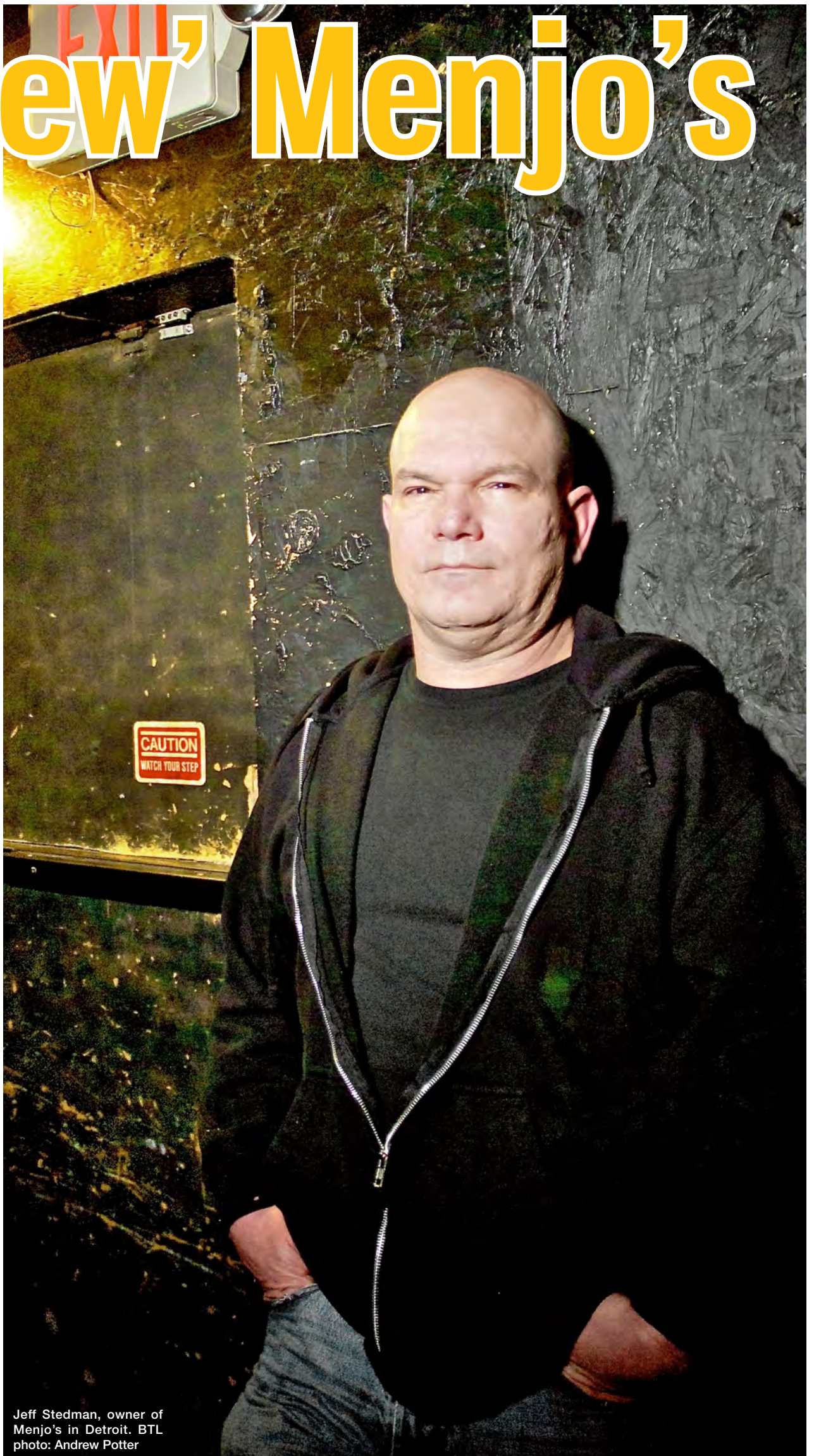
"We also have charity nights where the staff dress in drag and collect donations from the customers. Last time, we donated about \$400 to the Ruth Ellis Center."

Once a month, on Sundays, Menjo's has live acts, and Stedman books comedians – as well as drag queens and singers (R&B songstress Deborah Cox performed there last August) – that bring in a big crowd.

But not everything's taken off.

"The gay scene is changing," Stedman says. "Some things that used to be popular aren't anymore. Lube wrestling didn't last long at Menjo's."

While Stedman has been able to bring business back to the



Jeff Stedman, owner of Menjo's in Detroit. BTL photo: Andrew Potter

See Menjo's, page 37

Touched by an Ailey



Legendary dance company celebrates history, education

BY ANDREA POTEET

When the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre comes to the Detroit Opera House in March, some special guests will be in attendance.

Students from Detroit International Academy will attend one of the company's performances, which begin March 3, as part of the company's two-week residency at the school, which ran from Jan. 24 through Feb. 4. Around 100 sixth through 12th graders at the school learned about Ailey's signature piece "Revelations" from some of the company's instructors.

As part of the program, the students read about the history of the company and its founder, Alvin Ailey, complete team-based exercises about the material, design their own choreography and watch dancers perform the piece.

Alvin Ailey Arts in Education director Nasha Thomas-Smith said the program helps students see firsthand the kind of commitment demanded of dancers.

"They see what it means to get on stage every night and perform and to set a bar and not go below it," she said. "That's something we really try to instill in them through the process. It's one thing to observe something and sit back, but we really try to bring them into the process so that they can apply themselves to do the same types of things."

Thomas-Smith also said the program helps expose students to a side of the arts they may never otherwise see. Many of the students in the program, which travels to schools across the country, have not had prior access to dance or performing arts, she said. Many of them have never before been inside of a theater. Like Ailey, who saw his first dance performance on a school field trip, it could fuel a lifelong love of dance

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre

7:30 p.m. March 3-4, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. March 5, 2:30 p.m. March 6, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit, \$29-\$76
www.MichiganOpera.org

and performing arts in them, she said.

"It's something that opens their eyes to things that are broader than what they might be experiencing," she said. "It was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn a piece of dance history and to work toward a goal every day and to have fun."

The company will insert its own nods to history into the performances; among them is theatrical ballet "Uptown," based on the lives of Harlem-based artists in the 1920s like Langston Hughes and Josephine Baker. The ballet features music by Fats Waller, Count Basie and Eubie Blake. Another performance will include "Three Black Kings," one of Duke Ellington's last major works, and "Revelations," which will be showcased at every performance.

Ailey started the company in 1958. Before his death in 1989, he created more than 70 ballets, including "Revelations," which is set to traditional gospel spirituals based on Ailey's memories of childhood church services and is widely regarded as his masterpiece. Ailey created the ballet to represent the entire spectrum of human emotion; it's been performed at the White House four times.

The company began as a small, mostly black troupe and has grown into a multi-racial dance institution that works to preserve Ailey's dream of brining dance to everyone.

Thomas-Smith said audiences continue to be touched by Ailey's work.

"I think it's really about excellence of work and enjoying an experience and appreciating an art form," she said. "It's about the beauty of what they do, and that's what Alvin always wanted to show – the beauty of his life and story."

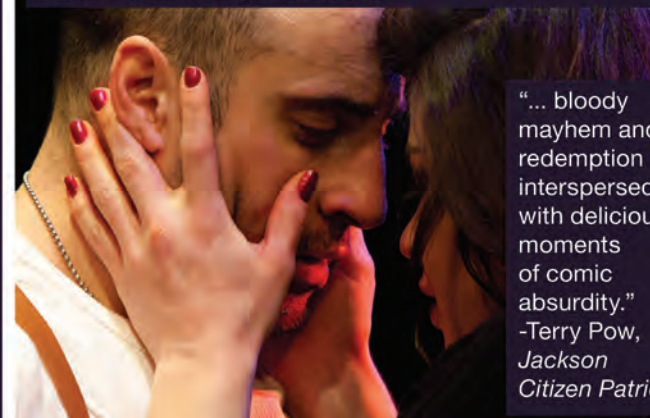
THE PURPLE ROSE THEATRE COMPANY 2010 / 2011 TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

FINAL TWO WEEKS: CORKTOWN

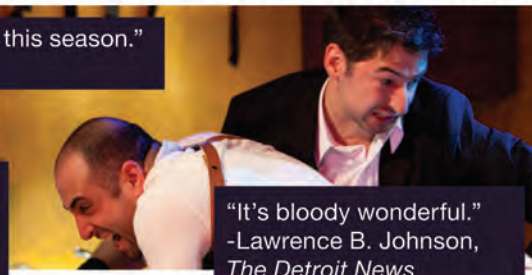
a World Premiere by MICHAEL BRIAN OGDEN

closing MARCH 5

"... one of the bloody-best times I've had in a theater so far this season."
-Don Calamia, *Encore Michigan*



"... bloody mayhem and redemption interspersed with delicious moments of comic absurdity."
-Terry Pow, *Jackson Citizen Patriot*



"It's bloody wonderful."
-Lawrence B. Johnson, *The Detroit News*

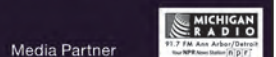


TICKETS

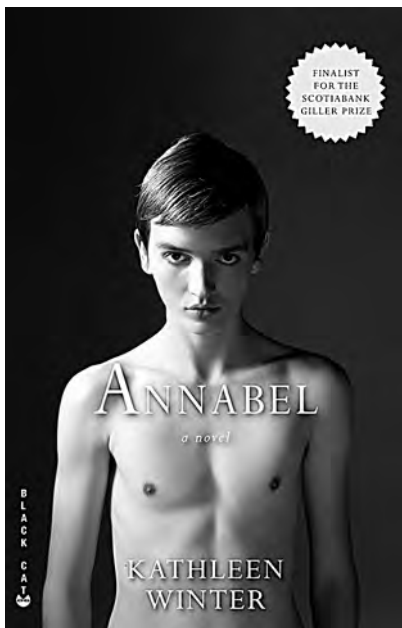
137 Park Street
Chelsea, MI 48118

734.433.7673

PurpleRoseTheatre.org



Media Partner



"Annabel," by Kathleen Winter. Black Cat/Grove Atlantic, 472 pages, \$14.95 paper.

A baby is born in 1968, in far-from-everywhere northern Labrador, Canada. He is a hermaphrodite – a word unfamiliar to the midwife present at his birth, and to his stoic father and his fanciful mother – with both penis and vagina. His is a masculine world of men who trap for a living. After some days, then, his unsettled parents settle on Wayne as his name. He will be raised a boy, but his shadow self, Annabel, the name his mother whispers when they are alone, will live within him for two decades. Wayne heads into the bush with his father, but at home he dreams of synchronized swimming and begs for a sequined bathing suit. He is she, and they are a fluid, pastel contradiction in a rigid, black and white world. Puberty sets in and there is a medical emergency – Wayne's abdomen floods with menstrual blood. And, once adult, Wayne will transform himself into who he wants to be. Winter's dazzling debut addresses the riddle of gender and the tragedy of conformity with astonishing insight and eloquence.

"The Mechanics of Homosexual Intercourse," by Lonely Christopher. Little House on the Bowery/Akashic Books, 200 pages, \$15.95 paper.

Odd academic book title. Odd pseudonymous author name. Odd character names: Dumb and Orange, Vowel Shift and Burning Church; even one story, "Game Belly," in which the nocturnal characters have no names – "the girl with a pale face," "the kid with long hair." And odd story structure: the first, "That Which," is composed entirely (and, improbably, engagingly) of one-syllable words. "Milk," at four pages the shortest, is a deadpan

study in how a family copes with a brown horse named Black Beauty in their kitchen; "Nobody Understands Thorny When," the longest, recounts the abduction of young Thorny by an older man, Normal Chapter, and of their unexpected, unsettling physical and emotional relationship. The nine stories in this exuberantly nontraditional collection will challenge traditionalists who prefer their queer fiction be written by the formal likes of Edmund White or Colm Toibin. One hopes those readers will accept that challenge – homo fiction can always use more young writers who are queer in every sense of the word.

"It's All Relative: Two Families, Three Dogs, 34 Holidays, and 50 Boxes of Wine (A Memoir)," by Wade Rouse. Crown Books, 304 pages, \$23.99 hardcover.

With his fourth memoir, Rouse is venturing into the my-ha-ha-life territory trod for many years by queer predecessors David Sedaris and Augusten Burroughs (from both of whom he sought pre-publication blurbs, to no avail). He's fresher than Sedaris and less sour than Burroughs, thank goodness – both of those writers have drained the well of comic family anecdotes quite dry. Not so Rouse, whose previous memoirs focused on his Missouri Ozarks upbringing, his stint as a prep school publicist, and his move back to rural roots – witty writing about more than family dysfunction. His eccentric family inhabits this book, true, but its fiercely funny focus is on how his parents, his relatives, and his partner handle holidays – not always with great grace, but always with engaging style. Chinese New Year, St. Patrick's Day, Mother's Day, his anniversary (a gift card to Trader Joe's isn't romantic), Election Day and of course Thanksgiving (awkward) and

Christmas (stressful) are featured – along with, in a bit of a thematic stretch, one of this fun book's weirdest celebrations: the Pez Collector's National Convention.

"Binding the God: Ursine Essays from the Mountain South," by Jeff Mann. Bear Bones Books/Lethe Press, 236 pages, \$15 paper.

Mann, a prolific writer, is a complex fellow with many audiences. The prose in this fiercely personal collection is drawn from annual best gay erotica collections, from a journal of West Virginia folk culture, from a magazine of gay spirituality, from literary magazines, even from daily newspapers. Despite that range of readership, however, Mann returns often – but always with a fresh perspective – to the passions by which he defines himself: for Bear culture, for bondage and leather, and the muscle of men (and, in several essays, for the unattainable body of country singer Tim McGraw); for the pleasure he finds in travel and cooking; for the queer honesty he brings to his teaching; and for his roots in Appalachia, as the descendant of hill-folk and as a gentlemanly Southerner. That passion extends, intellectually and emotionally, to Mann's un-conflicted affection for the Confederate flag, which has been redefined by the righteous, he laments, "as an emblem not of homeland but of hatred." And if there's a single thread running through Mann's collection, it's how much he cherishes home.

Richard Labonte has been reading, editing, selling, and writing about queer literature since the mid-'70s. He can be reached in care of this publication or at BookMarks@qsyndicate.com.

Featured Excerpt

I woke with a start last New Year's Eve after my head had fallen into the giant red enamelware popcorn bowl I was holding in my lap. Homemade caramel corn was stuck to my chin. I jerked upright and looked over at my partner, Gary, whose head was painfully tilted sideways – like a broken jack-in-the-box. "Get up!" I shouted, staring at the clock. "Just look at ourselves! We're pathetic." "It's New Year's Eve," Gary said sleepily. "It's what we do on New Year's Eve. It's called relaxing." "It's 8 p.m.," I said. "We're not relaxing. We're comatose." It seemed shocking to me that we had become our parents some time between dinner and "The Wheel of Fortune."

– from "It's All Relative," by Wade Rouse

Footnotes

BOOKS TO WATCH OUT FOR: The University of Wisconsin Press features four strong titles in its current catalogue, starting in April with Michael Schiavi's "Celluloid Activist: The Life and Times of Vito Russo"; Russo, who died in 1990, was the author of "Celluloid Closet: Homosexuality in the Movies," considered "the foundational text" of queer cinema studies – but merely one facet of a pioneering gay liberation and AIDS activist's life... JUNE SEES PUBLICATION OF Bob Smith's second novel (after "Selfish and Perverse"), "Remembrance of Things I Forgot," a wickedly funny blend of science fictional time travel and sassy domestic drama; of Bronson Lerner's "The Last Deployment: How a Gay, Hammer-Swinging Twentysomething Survived a Year in Iraq," a poignantly personal distillation of what it was like to conceal one's sexuality in the era of Don't Ask, Don't Tell; and, edited by Lazaro Lima and Felice Picano, of "Ambientes: New Queer Latino Writing," an anthology featuring Arturo Aria, Achy Obejas, Rigoberto Gonzalez, Susana Chavez-Silverman and Emanuel Xavier, among others... "IT GETS BETTER: Coming Out, Overcoming Bullying, and Creating a Life Worth Living," edited by Dan Savage and Terry Miller, will be published March 22 by Dutton Books; it's a compilation both of essays drawn from the It Gets Better Project's YouTube channel and of original contributions by celebrities, everyday people and LGBT teens.

Release Your Inner Child!



Be Well Chiropractic can release these symptoms that hold you back from realizing your full potential. We use the latest non-invasive techniques.

Call us today for a FREE Evaluation and Consultation* and begin to reclaim your pain-free body. Live your life to the fullest!

BE WELL CHIROPRACTIC CENTER

28555 Orchard Lake Rd., Ste. 106
Farmington Hills, MI 48335

Located inside the Weight Watchers Building between 12 & 13 mile on Orchard Lake

Jason M. Ellis, D.C.
Chiropractic Physician

www.BeWellChiropractic.com

Phone: 248-489-4044

*Offer excludes Federally funded programs.

Ashley's Flowers
GM WORLD HEADQUARTERS
at Renaissance Center

Ashley's Flowers
MILLENDER CENTER
Downtown Detroit

313-222-1777

www.AshleysFlowers.com
We Deliver Around the World.

MCC
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF DETROIT

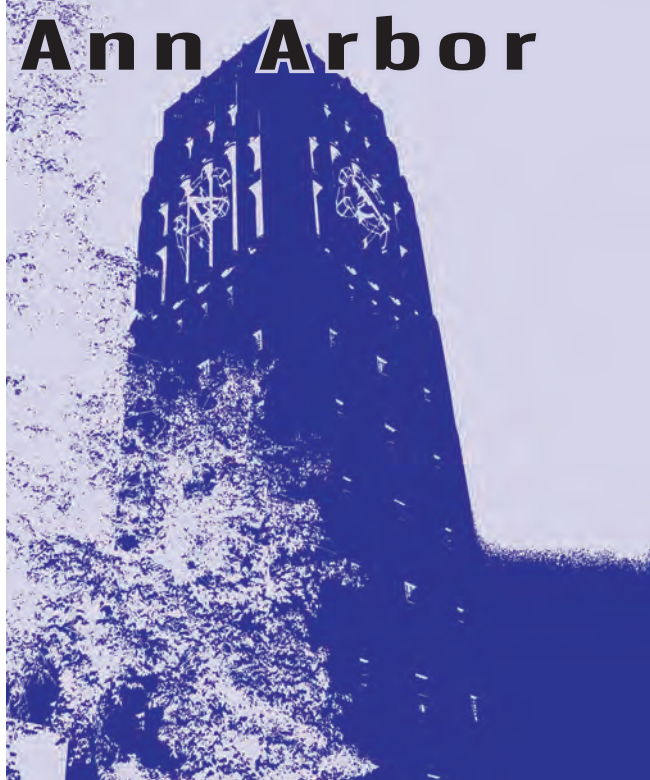
Services at 9am & 11am

Find us on Facebook
(search: MCC Detroit)

Detroit's oldest and largest
predominantly LGBTQ church!

2441 Pinecrest Ave. Ferndale 248-399-7741

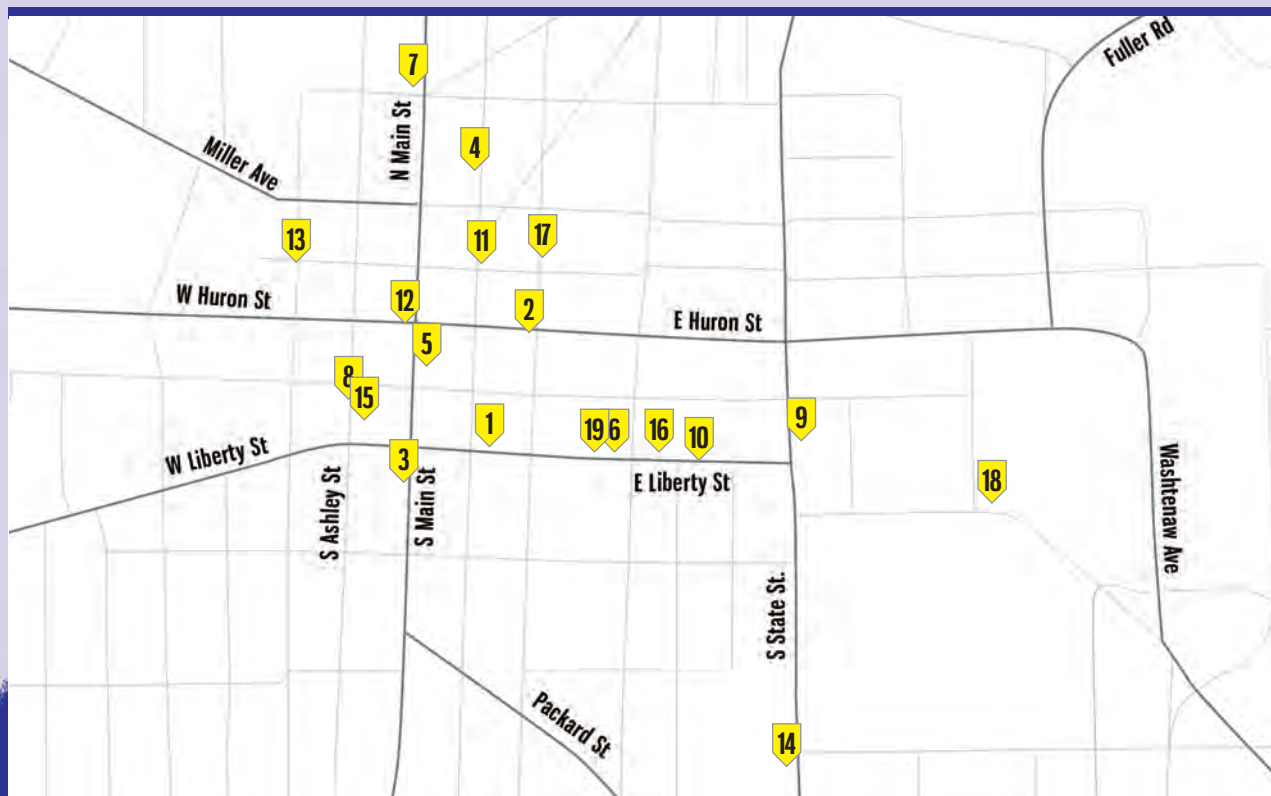
BTM Cool Cities Ann Arbor



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ♦ YOUR MARKET

Pinpoint your ad dollars where they will do the most good . . .

Advertise in the next Cool Cities TO PLACE AN AD CALL 734.293.7200



A & L Wine Castle	Common Language.....	4	Men's Yoga	7	Spectrum Center.....	14
Abracadabra Jewelry & Gem Gallery 1	Dependable Collision Center	*	Mitchell Gold & Bob Williams.....	8	Three Chairs Co.....	15
Ann Arbor Frontrunners.....*	D'orio, Jd, Plc, Lynn B.	6	Mr Greek's Coney Island	9	Tios Mexican Cafe	16
Ann Arbor Queer Aquatics	Drescher, D.D.S., Peter R.	*	Necto.....	10	Top of the Lamp.....*	
Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra	Esquire Interiors.....*		Orion Automotive Services Inc.....*		Trillium Birth Services.....	17
The Ark.....	3	Frego & Associates P.L.C.....*	People's Food Coop.....	11	Two Men And A Truck.....*	
/aut/ Bar	4	Green Bee Collective.....*	Performance Network.....	12	UMHS Comprehensive Gender Services Program	*
B2 Painting.....*		Groom N Go	Peterson, PLLC, Lisa J.	13	University Musical Society	
Bennett Optometry.....	5	Hagopian	PFLAG Ann Arbor.....*		Wrap Resource Center	4
Citizens Bank.....*		Hiv/Aids Resource Center (Harc)....*	Rosenberg, David	7	Zena Zumeta Mediation Services	19
Coalition for Adoption Rights		Humane Society of Huron Valley....*	Sesi Volvo	*		
Equality, Inc. (CARE).....*			Sh\aut\ Cabaret and Gallery.....	4		

* Not shown on map

Dependable Collision Center

FREE loaners on any job (subject to terms and conditions)

We are committed to providing the highest quality precision service.

5133 Carpenter Road, Suite A
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Phone (734) 528-9581
Fax (734) 528-9593
www.dependablecc.com

We work with all insurance companies!

6 **Lynn B. D'Orio**
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Family Law **Criminal Defense**

Divorce: Pre & Post Judgment Felonies & Misdemeanors:
Powers of Attorney Larceny / Burglary
Child Welfare Law Homicide / Murder
Abuse & Neglect Assault Offenses
Wills Drug Offenses

lynndorio@comcast.net
330 E. Liberty, Ste. 3D, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
phone: 1-734-913-5660 - fax: 1-734-913-5643

11 **People's Food Co-op**
Community-Owned Natural Foods Grocery
216 N. Fourth Ave - (734)994-9174 - www.peoplesfood.coop

"We know local good food"

Avalon International Breads, baguette, Detroit, MI

13 **LISA J. PETERSON, P.L.L.C.**
Attorney and Mediator

- family law
- estate planning
- business & tax planning
- criminal matters
- mediation services

Tel: (734) 474-2334
lpeterson.law@gmail.com
117 N. First Street, Ste. 104, Ann Arbor
www.lisajpeterson.com

PETER R. DRESCHER, DDS
ADD STYLE TO YOUR SMILE!

Providing friendly, compassionate and comprehensive state-of-the-art dental care for all our patients.

606 West Stadium
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

734-747-6400
www.petedrescherdds.com

Po' Girl promotes new album in Ann Arbor

Musical troupe performs March 23 at The Ark

Po' Girl is a modern-day troupe of musical nomads, following their bliss without compromise. Formed from far-flung musical elements, and honed in the crucible of constant touring over the past few years, Allison Russell, Awna Teixeira, Benny Sidelinger and Mikey "Lightning" August have beaten themselves into musical gold through sheer, bloody determination and a headstrong love of the musician's life.

The band hones its skills playing 250 to 300 live dates a year. An international sensation, Po' Girl has developed a fan base across four continents and 13 countries with their powerful, passionate and spirited live shows. They are equally at home playing the Massao World Music Festival in Cameroon, the Montreal International Jazz Festival, the Winnipeg Folk Festival or the Woodford Music Festival in Australia. In short, it's impossible to put this band into a tidy little box.

Po' Girl makes 21st-century roots music and melds an unerring ear for an Americana-meets-blues and folk sensibility with the creamy wail of a clarinet, plus an array of instruments from gutbucket bass to banjo, to dobro and accordion, and mesmerizing harmonies and original lyrics. Their music offers full-throated and joyful celebrations of being alive at this very moment, sly and come-hither teases, and songs that breathe faint dreams of home and little acts of self-rescue.

Po' Girl with Peter Mulvey
 8 p.m. March 23
 The Ark (\$15)
 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor
www.theark.org

There are whimsical ditties and unflinchingly bitter narratives of betrayal and harm. Always down in the bone, there runs the marrow of music and rhythm, and the joy that comes from the simple knowledge of the music's existence.

"Follow Your Bliss" is the fifth studio album from Po' Girl and is packed with songs of love, longing and desire that swing from Americana to jazz and folk to pop with all the usual flair that's expected from this talented four-piece. Opener "Kathy" is the perfect vehicle for the wonderful vocals of Allison Russell, resplendent in its breathy dusky tones, and shows a progression in the band's sound from their last album, "Deer in the Night."

The country blues of "When We Are Love" is a soulful and joyous affair brought to life by the dobro of Benny Sidelinger and the guitar of Dan Abu Absi. Producer Zack Goheen provides a warmth to the newfound maturity of the band's



Po' Girl performs at 8 p.m. March 23 at The Ark.

songwriting. Highlights include the accordion and brass driven title track, the Parisian zydeco of "Maudite Guerre," the understated beauty of "Go Easy," and the haunting "Benediction."

"With enough sultry ambiance to be at home in either a cocktail lounge or New Orleans street corner, Po' Girl features a simple, polished

production of wistful, plaintively slurred vocals over a sparse yet warm jazz-folk accompaniment of guitar, stand-up bass, harmonica, banjo and clarinet," said Rolling Stone. "They manage to maintain that traditional and nostalgic sound while breathing fresh life into an old-fashioned genre."

1

WWW.ABRAGEM.COM ABRA@ABRAGEM.COM

ABRACADABRA

Jewelry/Gem Gallery

Custom jewelry design.
 Unique style. Exceptional quality.

205 E. LIBERTY ANN ARBOR MI 48104 734-994-4848

CITIZENS BANK

Mortgage Questions? Worries?
 Concerns?

Trust Who You Know: Barbara Jo!

Barbara Jo Smith
 Senior Vice President

First Time Buyer Programs • Free Pre-Qualification
 Great Personalized Service

www.citizensbanking.com/mortgage/bsmith
barbara.smith@citizensbanking.com
 2100 S. Main Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

734-665-4080

The edge is experience, The payoff is performance!

17

Hey! It's Your Body,
 Your Baby, Your Way


Midwifery With an Open Mind and an Open Heart

- Fertility Services
- Doula Services
- Homebirth
- Sensitive, Empowering Care

Trillium Birth Services, Stacia Proefrock, CPM
 220 N. Fifth Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 • (734) 222-0011
trilliumbirthservices.com

5

the choice is **clear**



Featuring Dr. Steven I. Bennett, F.A.A.O.

THE EYE CARE PROFESSIONALS


For over 60 years, Bennett Optometry has been providing you and your family with products and services that reflect our commitment to the community and your eye health. We are now accepting NEW PATIENTS at both of our Ann Arbor locations.

Bennett Optometry, The Eye Care Professionals.
Good Vision. Good Health.

- Comprehensive Eye Exams
- Medical Diagnosis & Treatment
- Children's Vision Care
- Contact Lenses
- Corrective Procedures
- Low Vision Services
- The Area's Most Exclusive Frame Selection

Become a Fan of Bennett Optometry on Facebook.

117 SOUTH MAIN STREET: 734.665.5306
2000 GREEN ROAD, STE. 200: 734.930.2373
WWW.BENNETTOPTOMETRY.COM



ANN ARBOR'S ULTIMATE COLLECTIVE
...WHERE PATIENTS COME FIRST

GREEN BEE COLLECTIVE
WWW.MMMGREENBEE.COM



OVER 30 STRAINS
of MEDICAL EFFICACIES

401 S. MAPLE RD.
ANN ARBOR, MI 48103
734.929.2553

THE GREEN BEE COLLECTIVE'S OUTREACH IS TO THOSE PATIENTS AFFLICTED WITH SERIOUS DEBILITATING CONDITIONS SUCH AS CANCER WHERE MEDICAL CANNABIS HAS BEEN PROVEN TO MANAGE THE PAIN OF AND EVEN TO AID IN THE RECOVERY FROM THESE CONDITIONS. WE ARE DEDICATED TO PROVIDING OUR COMMUNITY WITH THE MOST RECENT INFORMATION AND RESEARCH REGARDING THE BENEFITS OF MEDICAL CANNABIS.



Does it get better or do the bullies get bigger?


Justice or Just Us?

MBLGTACC 2011 MIDWEST BISEXUAL LESBIAN GAY TRANSGENDER ALLY COLLEGE CONFERENCE
February 24-27
www.mblgtacc2011.org
Hosted by the University of Michigan

GET BUSY. GET EQUAL.

aclu.org/getequal

For over 70 years, the ACLU has been fighting for LGBT equality.
Join the fight for freedom.
Become a member of the ACLU today.



aclumich.org

Fashions for Your
Windows & Floors

Esquire
INTERIORS

5863 Jackson Rd.,
Across from Lowe's
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

734-663-7011
www.esquireinteriors.com

University of Michigan Health System
Comprehensive Gender Services Program

**State of the art health care
in a comfortable and
respectful atmosphere**

Comprehensive Care for Individuals and Families

- Primary Medical Care (including hormones)
- Mental Health Care
- Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (including GRS)
- Speech/Language Therapy

Phone: 734-998-2150
E-mail: um-cgsp@umich.edu
visit us on the web
www.med.umich.edu/transgender

M
University of Michigan
Health System

19



Partnership Dissolution.
Divorce. Custody.
Family. Elder Care.
Business.

Proven Mediator and
Resolution Specialist
for Our Community

Zena Zumeta Mediation Services
330 East Liberty, Suite 3A, Ann Arbor 48104
800.535.1155
www.zenazumetamediation.com

BRAND NEW Lamps, Rugs & Vanities in stock!
discover your own passion for lighting




**top
of the lamp**
pure lighting passion



415 south maple road
ann arbor 734.769.7019 www.topofthelamp.com

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU



Your issues,
your life,
your world.
Our business.


Between!Lines

B² Painting
Serving Southeast Michigan

- * EXPERIENCED & PROFESSIONAL PAINTERS
- * COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
- * INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
- * EXCELLENT WORKMANSHIP

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTE!
734-972-8555

15



THREE CHAIRS CO.

215 South Ashley St. Ann Arbor, MI 48104
www.threechairs.com Tel: 734.665.2796
Monday - Saturday: 10am to 6pm Sunday: 12pm to 5pm

**Life.
Style.**

Mitchell Gold
+ Bob Williams

208 South Ashley St. Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Tel: 734.665.2314 Monday - Saturday: 10am to 6pm Sunday: 12pm to 5pm

16



**THERE'S A
NEW
MARGARITA
IN TOWN!**

**TIOS
TEQUILA BAR!**
MAGNIFICO MARGARITAS • SANGRIA

**33
DIFFERENT
TEQUILAS!**
-More Each
Month!

**OUR BEERS,
LIKE OUR
FOOD, ARE
THE BEST OF
MICHIGAN
& MEXICAN**

HAND-CRAFTED
MEXICAN
FOOD & DRINKS
IN ANN ARBOR

You can now enjoy one
of our Classic Margaritas or
Sangria Especial along with
your scrumptious Mexican
meal. Taste the difference!

401 E. LIBERTY • ANN ARBOR MI
(734) 761-6650

open 7 days
10 am - 2 am




PS Visit our website!
<http://www.pridesource.com>


f Add our fan page!
Search: "Between The Lines Newspaper"




t Follow us!
@YourBTL

9



Ann Arbor's finest
Coney Island Restaurant
Dine in or carry out!
215 S. State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(734) 662-6336



**Gyros,
Saganaki,
Homemade Hummus,
Complete breakfasts
including make-your-own omelette!
Fabulous desserts
and much, much more**

Hours: Sun-Th 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri & Sat 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

~ Mr. Greek's Coney Island ~
**Buy one regular meal, get
50% of the second one!**

BTL1549



Shear Sex

Scissor Sisters' frontman on his second puberty, performing naked and the band's Lady Gaga love affair

Photo: David Sherry

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

They've always been gorgeous, but it took a decade before the Scissor Sisters, with their third album "Night Work," became full-on filthy. The romp-pop album, released last year, is done up in cheeky softcore innuendo about "fucking" someone, the late-shift grind (literally) and "big" surprises.

Our chat with frontman Jake Shears had many of them – from the conversation that united the band with Lady Gaga for the megastar's 2011 Monster Ball Tour to the favorite gay icon he wants to meet (Tom Petty?). Shears also talked about the, well, sheer amount of clothing he wears, his wardrobe faux pas and how he defines himself – according to the Urban Dictionary.

Your Twitter page says you've been in the studio recently. Are the Scissor Sisters recording some new music?

Yeah, I'm in the studio as we speak. We're writing new music. We're back in New York for a moment, so we just thought we'd come in and play around and have fun. So yeah, we're writing, definitely.

The wait won't be four years like it was for "Night Work" then?

Well, it was just three and a half. (Laughs) But it definitely won't be that long.

So, also in my Twitter finds, I came across a photo of you in a jockstrap.

Oh, great!

Why are you always the naked one in the group?

I... um... just get hot on stage. That's the main reason. (Laughs) I usually don't get naked on-stage, but I get excitable and usually it just feels better. The less I have on, the more I can move around. It's the reason why Iggy Pop is always ripping his shirt off, so he can move and do his thing.

You're looking beefier than ever, too. Lots of Muscle Milk, huh?

I've been drinking a lot of Muscle Milk. I'm preparing for my future as an exercise guru.

The music on "Night Work" is some of the band's most sexual. Is it true: Does art imitate life?

The album is very much about our lives that we lead and then our fantasy lives that we lead – so a lot of it does imitate life. A lot of it is just imitating the dreams going on in my brain. But it's a very sexy record, and I think we were feeling sexy when we were making it.

Your work, as far back as "Filthy/Gorgeous," has always had a sexy feel to it. How do you explain those constant themes of sexual exploration and liberation in your music?

I think that this is the first record where we've really explicitly explored that. So there's a lot of celebratory stuff, but then there's a real dark side to it; we love seeing two sides of the same coin. But it was just time for us to take the fringe and the feathers away a bit.

The other thing is I felt like I sort of crossed over the line from being a kid and a boy, which I felt like I was going to be forever, into being a grown man, which has definitely changed the way that I think about things, the way that I perform and the things that I wear. It's been like hitting a second puberty.

When you look back at your career – going

from Brooklyn clubs, kind of struggling to find an audience, and now opening for the biggest superstar in the world – how do you feel about how far you've come?

I really look back fondly at the last 10 years. This year, it's going to be 10 years since our first performance, so I feel very proud – but, at the same time, I also feel unfit. I feel like as a band we have a lot more to say, and I just think this band is going to constantly turn itself on its head.

Touring with Lady Gaga as her opening act should offer you the exposure that you haven't necessarily had in the U.S. You've always connected better outside of the States. In fact, some people still think you're a European band.

Totally – a lot of people do.

Why do you think you've been able to connect better outside of America?

It's funny: This last tour we had through America was probably the best American tour we've ever done. There's something so exciting about touring America at this moment for us. I don't



Photo: John Wright

know what it was about this record, but it seemed to make a connection with a real core audience – even more so than the last couple of records. With our American audience, we really found kind of a center and the shows, because of it, were super exciting. They really were some of the most exhilarating shows we've had in a long time. I still get really excited about playing in America. We're so well received in Europe and in all these other places, but playing in America still feels uncharted and super exciting.

Did Lady Gaga handpick you for this tour or was it a record-label matchmaking?

Oh god, no, it wasn't a label thing. It came about in a conversation. We were hanging out at Elton's White Tie & Tiara Ball (in 2010), and he sat us next to each other 'cause he knew we'd get along and it was high time for us to meet. We were talking about music and she was telling me that she used to come see us play when she was younger and was just really inspired and loved our band a lot. I think she holds us very close to her heart in a lot of ways. And she said, "This might sound really weird, but I think that we'd do really well on tour together." I just said we'd do it in a heartbeat. And it was a done deal in a week.

It's going to be the gayest show of the year, without question.

(Laughs) It's also just really nice to do something that comes from something real rather than something set up by record labels. This comes from a real love of one another, and it's going to be super exciting because we're going to be playing for tons of people who have no idea who we are. It's a great platform for us.

Both you and Gaga wear some pretty flamboyant clothes. Would you be open to wearing a meat anything?

It depends on where it's placed. (Long pause) I don't know what *that* meant. (Laughs) God knows I've walked out on

Scissor Sisters

8 p.m. Feb. 27
Royal Oak Music Theatre
318 W. Fourth St.
8 p.m. March 1 (with Lady Gaga)
Van Andel Arena
130 Fulton West, Grand Rapids

stage in some wonderful and horrendous and hideous things. My husband was going through pictures recently and we came across, god, this one picture. You just look back on some shit that you wear and it doesn't seem that long ago, but then you look at the picture and you're like, "Oh my god, I can't believe that I wore that horrible patchwork shirt with big bell-bottom trousers." But I'm not a vain person, and I'm not afraid to look like a fool.

Aside from Lady Gaga, you've been able to hang with some cool gay icons, like Dolly Parton, Kylie Minogue and even Jane Fonda. Who are some others that you'd like to chill with?

I mean, since I was a kid Jane Fonda was really somebody I fantasized about meeting in person someday. But that's a tough question, because I really just like so many – let me ask (band member) Baby Daddy. (Turns away from the phone and says, "Who's left that I haven't met that I'm obsessed with?" Baby Daddy: "That you haven't met?" Shears: "Or that I haven't stalked?") He just called it: Tom Petty. Tom Petty is one of my fucking heroes. He's not as glamorous as Jane Fonda, but –

Nor is he a gay icon.

He's not really a gay icon, I guess. But he is for me. I just grew up listening to his music and I've just always been a massive fan. My tastes really run the gamut; I've got real obsessions and influences and inspirations that I think people couldn't really predict.

You never liked when people would refer to the Scissor Sisters as a "gay band." Do you feel like you've been able to shake that label over the years?

With this last record we sort of shook it in a way, and then figured out how to wear it. I think it was always really frustrating for me in a lot of ways just because I always felt like being called a "gay band" was a categorization that put us in a second tier, like we were a second-rate creation. But our songwriting and our performances can stand up to anybody else's, and can stand up next to the best – and labeling it with our sexual preference above all else is demeaning.

However, on the other hand, we are a gay band and there are three gay men and a woman, who might as well be a gay man, and that's shaped our aesthetic, it's shaped who we are, it's part of what we sing about, it's part of the sexuality we express. There are two sides to it, and I think that we are less insecure about it.

In the Urban Dictionary, Jake Shears is defined as the "hot lead singer of the band Scissor Sisters... gay and fabulous... known for taking his clothes off or having them taken off... pretty and funny... his abs are very lickable."

Oh, that's good. I like that definition.

If you wrote your own entry, what would you write?

God. That's a tough question. Rock music fanatic. Horror lover – not "whore" lover. Video gamer. Exuberant and sexual. Former elf.

I grew up always feeling very pucky, like "A Midsummer Night's Dream." I always felt like kind of a very energetic, mischievous elf, but I don't know if that's really applicable anymore. But that's how I'd describe myself. I love that I'm in the Urban Dictionary; that's exciting!



Feb. 25 at 8 p.m.; Feb. 26 at 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Theatre Organ Overture Half Hour before Showtime

The Harvey Girls

Judy Garland • Ray Bolger • Angela Lansbury
In this lively western musical, waitresses at The Harvey House stand up to intimidation by a rival saloon. A spectacular Golden Age film with a great score, including Oscar-winning song "On the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe."

Tickets: \$4.00



THESE TWO WOMEN IN CONFLICT ARE LEGENDS...
Bette Davis and Joan Crawford

March 11 at 8 p.m.
March 12 at 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Theatre Organ Overture
Half Hour before Showtime

"WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO BABY JANE?"

Bette Davis • Joan Crawford

A chilling tale of two aging sisters who live in a decaying Hollywood mansion where one spends her declining years dreaming of lost fame and tormenting her wheelchair-bound sister with unnerving intensity.

Tickets: \$4.00

Event Sponsor: T-Shirt Guy, Custom Movie Shirts and More!
313-766-5519 TShirtGuy123@yahoo.com

COMING ATTRACTIONS...

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

March 25 & 26

Dick Van Dyke
Sally Ann Howes
Lionel Jeffries



17360 LAHSER RD.
NE Corner of Lahser/Grand River
GoodTimes@RedfordTheatre.com
www.redfordtheatre.com
313.537.2560
Free attended parking.

Murder mystery lacks strong choices

BY BRIDGETTE M. REDMAN

"The Broadway Onstage Murders" takes a page from the *Mistress of Murder*, Agatha Christie, with a play styled after her works.

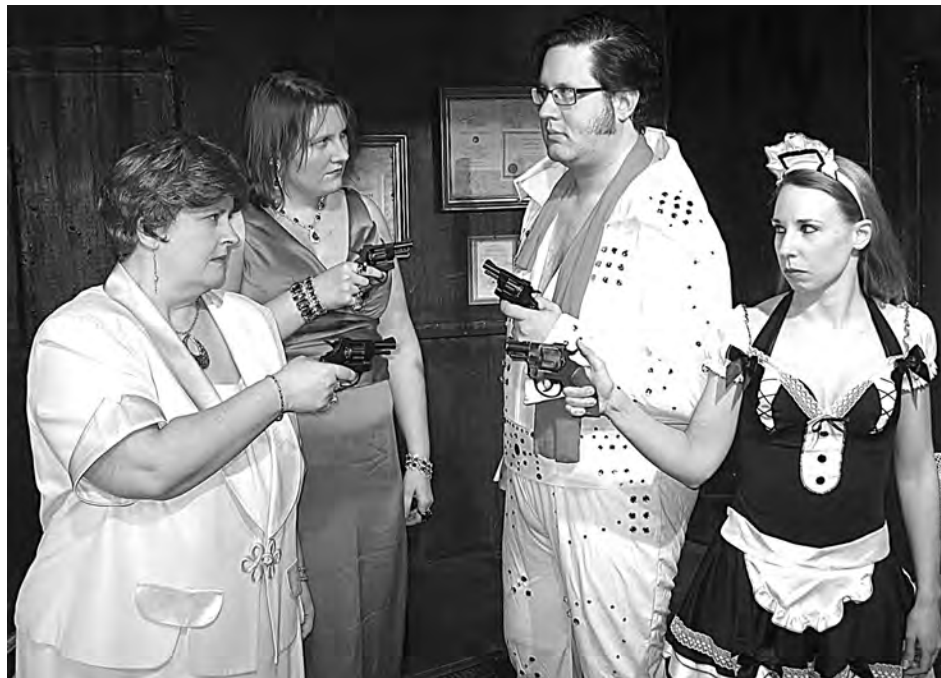
Christie found a formula that delighted her audiences and kept them buying book after book. She became the mistress of murder because amid the formulaic books, there were works of pure genius and dazzling cleverness. As even her most devoted fans will attest, between those works of brilliance were some stale novels that lacked the Dame's usual flair.

Broadway Onstage has hit upon a formula which appeals to its niche audience. They specialize in shows created by playwright Dennis Wickline (who wrote and directed this show) that feature interactive mysteries in their intimate storefront location. Their current offering, "The Broadway Onstage Murders," follows the formula they have found to be successful. While they've created enough gems to keep their loyal audience coming back for more, this particular offering tasted stale.

In "The Broadway Onstage Murders," four actors perform a trite tale, the play within a play, that teases at but ultimately shies away from being true melodrama or pure farce. They break character frequently to let the audience know they are disgruntled workers with murderous desires.

During intermission, performers mingle amongst the audience to give their alibis, answer questions and try to convince theater-goers of their versions of the murder. It is a style that can make for an entertaining evening of theater, creating a unique experience with every performance. The show is flexible enough that it can provide for many different endings depending on who the audience selects as its suspect.

From the very beginning, "The Broadway Onstage Murders" ensure that there is no fourth



"The Broadway Onstage Murders" continues through March 19 in Eastpointe. Photo: Broadway Onstage

wall separating the audience from the performers. There are moments when the wall is flown in like a set piece, but never for very long. It opens with a seeming curtain speech projected on the eight monitors that are checkered along the top of the stage in what they dub their patented TeeVee-Stage presentation system. It explains that two new producers have taken over, producers with a disdain for how things used to be run.

Then begins the play within the play, one that teases at creating archetypes without ever fully doing so. The acting style is affected and amateurish without a touch of realism or connection between characters. Given how the perfor-

mance is later described, this could be accepted as part of the device, except that when the characters do break to present the "actors" as characters, the gap between character and actor is rather small. They continue to speak in stilted tones, favoring exaggerated movements over real character choices. Even when they mingle amongst the audience, it is difficult to form any real connection with the cardboard, two-dimensional characters who lack any genuineness.

The story itself was lacking in logic and strong choices as well. It never picked a style, being too tame for a melodrama, too staid for a farce. Nor was it a straight murder mystery,

REVIEW

'The Broadway Onstage Murders'

Broadway Onstage
21517 Kelly Rd., Eastpointe. Friday-Saturday
through March 19. \$16. 586-771-6333. www.
broadwayonstage.com

as it did not have the stringent requirements of logical plot progression. There were too many inconsistencies in it. For example, one character was being blackmailed by the victim and we are told that her secret went with him to his grave, yet all of the other characters knew she hated him and didn't question that they know of no motive until it is revealed later.

Parts of the play were self-referential, blatantly appealing to its loyal audience who know the players in the theater and will appreciate the tossing in of familiar names. It had moments of self-congratulation where it replayed lines just in case you missed their importance the first time. In other places, either the script grew repetitive or the actors were lost and repeating lines.

There were some clever theatrical moments in the play, as it chose to resurrect the dead to interrogate the suspects and in the way it adopted the Agatha Christie style of denouement to reveal the ending and the solution to the mystery.

While the play is said to be set in the present, it is uncertain when the play within a play is set - sometime before cell phones. The costumes lean toward farce, choosing stronger cliches to denote archetypes than the actors or script chose.

"The Broadway Onstage Murders" comes close to being many things without ever quite reaching the mark.

Boy bands get spoofed at Ferndale's Go Comedy!

BY DONALD V. CALAMIA

Back in the early 1990s, four jocks singing in the shower after a football game were thrust into the limelight as the boy band Menllemium. Now, in 2011, a documentary reveals the true backstage story that tore the once-popular group apart. But on the night of the group's first-ever reunion concert, will the flames that snuffed out their career reignite before the performance begins?

The answer, of course, won't be found in this review. But since "Menllemium" is an original Thursday night spoof at Ferndale's Go Comedy! Improv Theater, you can pretty much assume there will be plenty of laughs before that fateful resolution is revealed. The REAL question, though, is this: Will this occasionally crude production make you laugh or not? The answer, I suspect, will likely depend on a combination of things - mostly your age and your sense of humor.

Discovered by their gym teacher (and Menudo's original manager), Kevin, JD, Jason and Marcus embark on a whirlwind tour that takes the number one boy band all around the world. But interpersonal conflicts and run-ins with the law - plus suspicion of arson - soon

REVIEW:

'Menllemium'

Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 9 p.m. Thursdays through March 31. \$10. 248-327-0575. www.gocomedy.net

take their toll.

Originally created as a Second City Level 5 class show under the direction of Nancy Hayden Edwards, "Menllemium" is a nicely conceived comedy written by cast members Ryan Parmenter (Sarge), Andrew Seiler (Kevin) and Tommy Simon (Marcus) with assistance from Micah Caldwell (Jayson) and Clint Lohman (JD) under the watchful eye of director Tommy LeRoy. The story unfolds through a combination of well-executed documentary-style video interviews and live flashbacks, with a conclusion that takes place in the present. And scattered throughout are original tunes by the cast, Ryan Garnes and Ben Mullins.

It's those tunes, though, that some may find tasteless. With lyrics like "golden shower of love" and "my penis talks to me every day,"

pretty much all the songs revolve around male genitalia - which after a while, gets old. And not very typical of boy bands whatsoever.

Which may have been the point - although, to be honest, I'm not sure if the so-so singing talent and dance skills were ALSO part of the joke. (It's tough to know for sure, since most improvisers who sing and dance in original comedies lack serious talent in those two departments.)

But as you might expect, the opening night performance was at its best when the actors were onstage creating their characters and working off one another.

For me, though - a cranky guy in his mid 50s - "Menllemium" was a decent enough hour with a few hardy laughs, an interesting premise and some excellent technical work. The mostly 20-to-30-something crowd, however - which, I



"Menllemium" stars Michael Caldwell, Tommy Simon, Clint Lohman and Andrew Seiler. Photo: Heather Sejnowski

suspect, was likely filled with friends and family members - howled throughout much of the performance. So be forewarned.

Now if only that closing song would get out of my head...

Ringwald's 'Tragedy' lampoons hit movie

BY BRIDGETTE M. REDMAN

In 1987, Glenn Close "scared the shit" out of men thinking of having an affair - or so she claims they still tell her. In the personage of director Joe Bailey, Close is more hilarious than scary even with a Greek chorus intoning the dangers of the WORKING WOMAN.

Who Wants Cake? reprises "Fatal Attraction: A Greek Tragedy" with a vim and gusto that keeps the audience roaring with laughter. From the familiar '80s tunes to the gender-bending child and mistress, everything about "Fatal Attraction" is over the top. It all works because each of the actors is fully committed to the style, the physical humor and the farce.

"Fatal Attraction: A Greek Tragedy" opens with the four members of the Greek chorus, complete with the half masks of yore. They introduce us to the morality tale of Michael Douglas, a lawyer who has a sizzling affair with Glenn Close, a brash working woman. Anne Archer is the loving, domestic wife who constantly repeats how much she loves to cook while their daughter Ellen begs for a rabbit.

The Greek Chorus plays all the other roles, including that of telephone, 8-track player and elevator. They break out in dance numbers ranging from Prince to Hall and Oates. Dyan Bailey, Suzan Jacokes, Richard Payton and Joe Plambeck never let the energy dip and keep the laugh track flying. Even when they are just providing background chatter, their exchanges are hilarious, especially when they are businesspeople at a meeting and they rebuke



Glenn Close (Joe Bailey, back center) looks over Michael Douglas (Jon Ager, front center) and his family, wife Anne Archer (Melissa Beckwith, front left) and daughter Ellen Hamilton Latzen (Tim Kay, front right) in the Who Wants Cake? production of Fatal Attraction: A Greek Tragedy." Photo: Colleen Scribner.

each other for bringing up things that haven't been invented yet.

Melissa Beckwith's Anne Archer simpers in the perfect parody of a Good Housekeeping devoted housewife. With flawless timing, she never lets herself be overshadowed by the more exaggerated roles. Likewise, Tim Kay's Ellen Hamilton Latzen mocks the stereotype of sweet child, turning her into an androgynous half-wit obsessed with getting a rabbit.

It is Joe Bailey's Close and Jon Ager's

REVIEW

'Fatal Attraction: A Greek Tragedy'

Who Wants Cake, Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Friday-Monday through March 14. \$10-\$20. 248-545-5545. www.whowantscaketheatre.com

Michael Douglas, though, that keep this comedy in the side-splitting zone. Bailey is outrageous from the moment he first steps onto the stage in his curly blond wig and long, slinky dress. The connection between Ager and Bailey is comic from the first glance, making promises that are fulfilled in scene after scene as they show a willingness to go big and stay big. Played by a male actor, Glenn Close is never vulnerable, rather acting Medea-like in true Greek fashion.

Atana McNair and Kate Wilkinson's satire continually provides fodder that the actors consume with relish. "Fatal Attraction: A Greek Tragedy" effectively parodies movies in general as well as the 1987 film. There are repeated montages done beautifully with freezes and lights out, poking at one genre after another while never slowing down the break-neck pace. There is even a dream sequence where the chorus takes over as the named characters.

Like the movie, the stage version is R-rated, filled with simulated sex, strong language and some gross blood and guts. So leave the kids at home, but do treat yourself to an entertaining evening of raunchy comedy.

► Menjo's

Continued from p. 27

bar, he is still making plans to renovate, expand and continually improve Menjo's.

"We have two construction projects in the works," Stedman says. "I purchased the building next door and we are building a theater for live entertainment that should open this spring. We are also in the process of building a gay sports bar that should open in 2012."

According to Doyle, this new project makes Menjo's the only bar in the area to offer multiple venues. "The sports bar is kind of self-explanatory," Doyle says, "but there are plans to have different kind of acts in the theater. Besides concerts, Jeff has talked about hosting drag shows and fashion shows in there. He is interested in anything he can book that will appeal to different types of crowds."

Stedman also installed two huge televisions on the dance floor that he said have become popular.

In this economy, Stedman can't lay dormant, he says. If he wants to succeed, he has to keep moving.

"Jeff is trying to have a broad reach that can hit all types of clientele," Doyle says. "The new stage and sports bar will appeal to even more people than we get



BTL photo: Andrew Potter

now. He is really trying to fulfill the needs of every type of person."

Stedman's success, according to Doyle, has come from being social and putting Menjo's name out in the community.

"Jeff is very active in the gay community and really pushes to bring more people in here," Doyle says. "He really wants to show people that a gay bar can be successful in Detroit. He wants to create a gay district in Detroit like in Chicago or New York."

It seems to be working for Stedman, and for the community. Doyle said in

the few years that Stedman has owned Menjo's, he has seen old customers return after not visiting for years. Doyle has seen people drive in from out of state purely to visit Menjo's because they used to love it and heard it's back to what it used to be.

"Menjo's is a staple in the Detroit community," Stedman says. "If it falls, the gay community falls. This is a safe, clean environment for people, and they have come to rely on it as a place to be with their friends, even for the young crowd who is just starting to enter the gay bar scene. I want it to stay that way."

INSURANCE EXCHANGE AGENCY, INC.

Professional Insurance Services
670 Griswold • Northville, MI 48167-0250 • 248-349-1122

KICK Are you a Friend of Kick?

Kick—The Agency for Lesbian, Gay, Bi and Transgender African-Americans
A Member Supported Non-Profit Organization
313-438-2222 | www.e-kick.org

JGN www.jgnmi.org
Jewish Gay Network OF MICHIGAN

a community without closets
The mission of the Jewish Gay Network of Michigan is to serve the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Jews, as well as their families and friends.
JGN OFFERS... workshops, curriculum development, information referrals and support - a safe haven and welcoming community for people of all ages.
248-432-5661 • www.jgnmi.org

NOW PLAYING THRU MARCH 6TH

'Til Death Do Us Part
LATE NITE CATECHISM

RESTAURANT PACKAGES START AT \$111

Sister is now offering up hilarious lessons on the Sacraments of Marriage and Last Rites, including her own wacky version of the Newlywed Game.

OPENING MARCH 9TH

Sister's Easter Catechism: Will My Bunny Go to Heaven?
by Maripat Donovan

Celebrate the Easter Season with Sister as she answers time worn questions of the season like "Why isn't Easter on the same day every year like Christmas?", and "Will My Bunny Go To Heaven?"

THE HISTORIC GEM & CENTURY THEATRES

313-963-9800
www.gemtheatre.com

ticketmaster®

RTM Happenings

Editor's Picks



Outings

On Saturday, March 5, Equality Michigan presents their 15th annual Gay and Lesbian ComedyFest. This highly attended event raises funds for the organization, which works toward full equality and respect for all people in the state.

This year, ComedyFest welcomes four West Coast comedians: Carlease, Poppy Champlin, Sandra Valls and Owen Alabado. Each LGBT comedian brings a spirited and unique brand of humor to the festival. With expected attendance of over 1,000, tickets are expected to go quickly. ComedyFest will host two shows at 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at Dearborn's Ford Community and Performing Arts Center. For more information, visit comedyfest.org



Theater

You may know Greg Bowman as a voice, the mid-day anchorman on WWJ radio AM 950, but now you can see him take the boards as Elwood P. Dowd in Spotlight Players' production of the timeless classic "Harvey." The show runs on the main stage at the state-of-the-art Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton through Feb. 27 and features many great area actors. "Harvey," of course, is easily recognizable because of the film version with Jimmy Stewart. Director Mike Cuba says, "One of my goals when staging a show that is a popular film is to make the audience forget the film for the duration of the show. We're not trying to recreate the movie and, indeed, we can't."

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. For tickets, call 734-394-5300.

Save the Date

Affirmations' 12th annual Big Bash celebrates the community center's 22nd year of service to the metro Detroit area. This year, the fundraiser will be presenting a stellar performance from a number of aerial artists, as well as dancing, raffles, a silent auction, a photo-booth and not to mention gourmet dining services.

The Big Bash will be held on March 19 this year. VIP, General, and After Party admission is still open. Additional information is available online at www.thebigbash.org.



OUTINGS

Wednesday, Feb. 23

Diabetes Support Group, 5 p.m. Meets for people of all ages with diabetes. Exchange recipes and successful meal planning, exercise and testing tips. Free child care provided. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-484-7434. PilgrimUCC.com

Discussion on Liberty, 5 p.m. What did the founders of this country intend? How does liberty relate to faith and our political process? How relevant are the ideas of our founding fathers in today's world? Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-484-7434. PilgrimUCC.com

Caring Caregiver, 6:30 p.m. 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. Alzheimer's Association and Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Thursday, Feb. 24

Economic Justice and Class Issues in the LGBT Movement, 1 p.m. This discussion will examine poverty issues in the LGBT community and the role that class issues play. The increasing corporatization of the LGBT movement requires examining the ways in which class privilege and corporate ties affect the work of community organizations as well as our community's cultural values. Grand Valley State University LGBT Resource Center, 1 Campus Drive, Allendale. 616-331-2530. gvsu.edu/lgbtrc

The Caregiver Support Group, 6 p.m. For more information please call or E-mail. Kalamazoo Gay Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer Street, Kalamazoo. 269-349-4234. kgirc.org

You Are Not Alone, 11 p.m. Channel 23 on WKAR: Public Broadcasting for East Lansing. Viewable online at any time. Featuring Bullycides, the national health crisis of young people taking their own lives as the result of bullying. In The Life, Television Documentary, East Lansing. itlmedia.org

Friday, Feb. 25

MBLGTACC 2011-Conference Opening, 8:45 a.m. Midwest Bisexual Lesbian Gay Transgender Ally College Conference 2011: Justice or Just Us? Opening ceremony and first day of workshops for the largest student based conference in the nation. Announced speakers: Mara Keisling, Mandy Carter. More information online. Register on-site. Spectrum Center & Campus Progress, Ann Arbor. 734-763-4186. mblgtacc2011.org

Is it Safe to Tell, 6 p.m. Workshop for getting a sense of knowing if it's safe to open up to someone about having HIV and if the time is right and other related topics. RSVP via phone or e-mail. Aids Partnership Michigan, 2751 East Jefferson Suite 301, Detroit. 313-446-9820. Cpeeples@aidspartnership.org

Womyn's Film Night, 7 p.m. Film: Whoopi: Back on Broadway-The 20th Anniversary. Groundbreaking comic returns to the Great White Way in HBO special. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Saturday, Feb. 26

MBLGTACC 2011-Workshops/Equality Michigan Luncheon, 7 a.m. Justice or Just Us?: 2nd day of workshops for the largest student based conference in the nation. Announced speakers: Mara Keisling, Mandy Carter. Equality Michigan Luncheon. More information online. Register on-site. Spectrum Center & Campus Progress, Ann Arbor. 734-763-4186. mblgtacc2011.org

Partnerships in Parenting, 1 p.m. Promoting the importance of relationship and family development for LGBTQ parents and their children. Seeking to build a stronger connection between parents and children through social networking and community outreach. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 734-574-5953. GoAffirmations.org

Sunday, Feb. 27

LGBT in the Park, 11 p.m. Social group for the whole community. LGBT in the Park, John Road and Nine Mile Road, Hazel Park. Jfryoliver@yahoo.com

Monday, Feb. 28

You Are Not Alone, 12:30 a.m. Channel 56 on WTVS: Detroit Public Television. Viewable online at any time. Featuring Bullycides, the national health crisis of young people taking their own lives as the result of bullying. In The Life, Detroit. itlmedia.org

Wednesday, March 2

Christianity, Liberal or Conservative? Discussion, 5 p.m. This group will discuss and consider the differences between conservative and liberal Christianity and talk about the different assumptions, approaches and values of both understandings of the Bible and living a Christian life. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-484-7434. PilgrimUCC.com

Thursday, March 3

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

Friday, March 4

Bisexual Peer Group, 7 p.m. Bisexual social group. All are welcome. 319 Braun Court, Ann Arbor. 734-678-2478. BiPrideAnnArbor@gmail.com

Womyn's Film Night, 7 p.m. Film: Chinese Chocolate. Intimately and honestly exploring for the first time the sexuality of Chinese women living in a foreign culture, this award-winning study of love and relationship makes for a unforgettable treat. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

MUSIC & MORE

BENEFITS/SOCIAL EVENTS

Affirmations The Big Bash 2011: Cirque du Soiree Featuring aerial performers as a part of the evening's entertainment. Tickets: \$150-\$250 Diamond Center Ballroom, Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River, Novi. 6 p.m. March 19. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

CONCERTS

Caesars Windsor Cheech & Chong, Get It Legal The legendary comedic duo, Cheech n' Chong, consisting of Richard Cheech Marin and Tommy Chong, will be returning to the Colosseum stage at Caesars Windsor to perform their stand-up comedy routine. Tickets: \$29+-. The Colosseum, 377 Riverside Drive East, Windsor. 9 p.m. March 12. 800-991-7777. caesarswindsor.com

Caesars Winsor Gretchen Wilson Recently Grammy Award nominated musician on tour, to perform essentials and newest single. Tickets: \$25+-. Caesars Windsor, 377 Riverside Drive East, Windsor. 9 p.m. March 5. 800-991-7777. caesarswindsor.com

Caesars Winsor Celtic Crossroads

A critically acclaimed show that incorporates seven world-class musicians who play over twenty instruments on stage, with rhythms of Irish dance. Tickets: \$15. Caesars Windsor, 377 Riverside Drive East, Windsor. 2 p.m. March 24, 8 p.m. March 24. 800-991-7777. caesarswindsor.com

Motor City Casino Aaron Lewis An acoustic, solo set by the lead singer of Staind. Tickets: \$34-37. Sound Board Theater, Detroit. 8 p.m. March 6, 8 p.m. March 3. motorcitycasino.com

Olympia Entertainment Soul 70's Super Jam The Stylistics, The Dramatics, The Manhattans, Harold Melvin's Bluenotes, The Emotions and The Floaters. Tickets: \$49-\$79 Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 8 p.m. Feb. 26. 313-471-6611. olympiaentertainment.com

Caesars Winsor Melissa Etheridge With special guest Serena Ryder Tickets: \$40 The Colosseum, 377 Riverside Drive East, Windsor. 8 p.m. Feb. 26. 1-800-991-7777. caesarswindsor.com

Olympia Entertainment Charlie Wilson Tickets: \$59-\$89. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 8 p.m. March 12. 313-471-6611. olympiaentertainment.com

The Majestic Jacuzzi Boys Raucous pop of the murkiest order-jangling guitars, caveman drums, and songs of sex and seashells, dead animals and birthday cakes. Cover: \$8. Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave, Detroit. 9 p.m. March 19. 313-833-9700. majesticdetroit.com

The Whiting Pink Floyd Experience Tickets: \$18-\$49. 1241 E. Kearsley, Flint. 8 p.m. March 10. 810-237-7333. TheWhiting.com

The Whiting Johnny Winter with Special Guest The Rusty Wright Bank Johnny Winter with special guest The Rusty Wright Band. Tickets: \$15-\$37. 1241 E. Kearsley, Flint. 8 p.m. March 25. 810-237-7333. TheWhiting.com

FESTIVALS

Static Network 24th Erotic Poetry & Music Festival The 24th Erotic Poetry & Music Festival is an eclectic celebration of the erotic arts. Features poetry, spoken word, dance, music and art. A portion of proceeds benefits Paws with a Cause. The Corktown Tavern, 1716 Michigan Avenue, Detroit. 8 p.m. Feb. 26. 313-964-5103. myspace.com/eroticfestivaldetroit

FILM & VIDEO

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit Gravity was Everywhere Back Then This film screening will include a band providing a live soundtrack. Brent Green plays guitar and narrates the film. Donna K performs all sound effects. A live band perform the soundtrack for the film. Admission: \$6. 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Feb. 24. 313-832-4665. mocadetroit.org

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit Hydra Decapita and Last Angel of History Series of recordings that imagines a fictional world system entitled Drexcia, populated by the subaquatic descendants of Africans drowned by slavers during the Middle Passage. Last Angel of History: examines the relationships between Pan-African culture, science fiction, intergalactic travel, and rapidly progressing computer technology. 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. March 19. 313-832-6622. mocadetroit.org

OTHER

Detroit Derby Girls Tickets: \$15-20 Cobo Arena, 301 Civic Center Drive, Detroit. 5 p.m. Feb. 19, March 19, & April 16. 313-471-6606. detroitderbygirls.com

See Music, page 39

Ally women's art on display at Affirmations

BY BENJAMIN JENKINS

Affirmations in downtown Ferndale will open its latest Pittman/Puckett Art Gallery exhibit, "Four Womyn Only," on Feb. 25.

The exhibit features the unique paintings and photography of four straight female artists: Deborah Marlowe Kashdan, Lynn Jovick, Laura Little and Patricia Duff.

Kashdan, a seasoned Detroit-born artist, is a member of the Birmingham Society of Women Painters and the Michigan Watercolor Society. Her artwork has been featured in many exhibitions throughout the state, such as the Michigan Gallery, Work.Detroit and the Meadowbrook Gallery. Kashdan's art also resides in the Toyota Municipal museum of Art in Toyota, Japan.

Jovick has been fascinated with photography since she was 7. "Each shot emphasizes the congruity between beauty and simplicity," one fan of Jovick's work writes on her MySpace profile, "taking often the most common of specimens and turning them into magnificent art."

Though Laura Little is a Michigan artist as well, during her bountiful education she

has studied art in Venice, Italy; Paris, France; and England. Little is expecting to graduate from Wayne State with a Master's in Art Therapy this fall, and works at the Detroit Institute of Art.

Duff's work has recently been featured in numerous exhibitions, including the Scarab Club, NCA Gallery and the Lawrence Street Gallery. A drawer at heart, Duff does most of her work in her studio at the Scarab Club in Detroit. She earned a MFA at the University of Michigan, and has taught at Wayne State, Macomb Community College and Henry Ford Community College.

Although none of the "Four Womyn" identify as LGBT, the decision to bring their exhibits to Affirmations was an easy one to make for Charles Alexander, volunteer curator of the Affirmation Art Gallery space and himself a well-known community artist.

"It's part of the center's bridge-building between communities," he says. "Participation by allies has been outstanding."

The exhibit opens Friday, Feb. 25. A reception with light refreshments will be held 7-9 p.m. the evening of the opening.



Add your events to next week's issue!

<http://www.pridesource.com/calendar.html>

Pride Source's Event Calendar is on Facebook and Twitter!

Add our fan page!
Search: "Pridesource.com Event Calendar"

Follow us and get reminders!
@PSOURCEcalendar

A GERSHWIN RHAPSODY

Saturday March 12, 2011
at 7:30 p.m.

Presented by the Detroit Opera House
and Rackham Symphony Choir
conducted by Suzanne Mallare Acton

Celebrating the genius of George Gershwin
and featuring some of his most beloved standards
including "S'Wonderful", "Embraceable You",
"Someone to watch over me" and more!

This production features:

Alvin Waddles
"Rhapsody in Blue"

Soprano
Kimwana Doner

Baritone
Eric Greene

Kimwana and Eric perform with the choir
and soloists for a concert version of
"Porgy and Bess".

Free pre-performance chat
featuring Gershwin historian
Penny Masouris.
An entertaining glimpse into the
colorful life of George Gershwin.
6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

TICKETS & PRE-PAID PARKING
CALL 313.237.SING or michiganopera.org

DETROIT OPERA HOUSE
Home of Michigan Opera Theatre
David DiChiera, General Director

► Music

Continued from p. 38

SHOWS

Sky Production Concert/Open Jam with Sky Covington & Friends Weekly concert with Sky Covington, Alina Morr, Ibrahim Jones & Djallo Djakate Harbor House, 440 Clinton, Detroit. Jan. 26-April 27.

Olympia Entertainment Daniel Tosh Stand-up comedian and the star of Comedy Central's Tosh. Tickets: \$38-\$58. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 7:30 p.m. March 4. 313-471-6611. olympiaentertainment.com

Olympia Entertainment KEM's 2011 U.S. Intimacy tour Special guests El DeBarge and Ledisi. Tickets: \$39.50-\$88. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 8 p.m. March 25. 313-471-6611. olympiaentertainment.com

The Michigan Theater Kevin Smith's Red State Tour As one of only 15 cities on the so-called Red State tour, Smith brings his bizarre horror thriller to the Michigan Theater along. Q&A to follow. Tickets \$39.50-\$65. The Michigan Theater, 603 East Liberty St, Ann Arbor. 7 p.m. March 10. 734-668-TIME. michtheater.org

THEATER

BENEFITS & FUNDRAISERS

The Vagina Monologues A collection of monologues by Eve Ensler that were originally developed to celebrate the vagina but later evolved into a movement to stop violence against women. The evening will celebrate and benefit the YWCA Interim House, a shelter for women of domestic violence. Shawn P. Entertainment at Wayne State Community Arts Auditorium, 450 Reuther Mall, Detroit. 7 p.m. March 5. 313-433-8384.

CIVIC/COMMUNITY THEATRE R

Black Comedy \$14-\$16. Barefoot Productions, 240 N. Main St., Plymouth. Through Feb. 27. 734-560-1493. justgobarefoot.com

Daddy's Dyin' Who's Got The Will? \$10-\$12. SRO Productions at The Burgh, 26060 Berg Rd., Southfield. Feb. 25-March 13. 248-796-4645. srotheater.org

Dearly Departed \$6-\$8. Downriver Youth Performing Arts Center at Trenton Village Theatre, 2447 W. Jefferson, Trenton. March 4-6. 734-671-2202. dypac.com

Hairspray \$20. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. Through Feb. 27. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com

Harvey \$18. Spotlight Players at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Rd., Canton. Through Feb. 27. 734-394-5300. spotlightplayersmi.org

Red, White, and Tuna \$13-\$15. The Farmington Players, 32332 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Through March 5. 248-553-2955. farmingtonplayers.org

Wait Until Dark \$18-\$22. Kalamazoo Civic Theatre at Parish Theatre, 426 South Park Street, Kalamazoo. Feb. 18-March 6. 269-343-1313. kazooocivic.com

While the Lights Were Out \$13-\$15. Avon Players, 1185 Washington Rd., Rochester Hills. Through March 5. 248-608-9077. avonplayers.org

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY THEATER

Endgame \$10. Lansing Community College Performing Arts at LCC Black Box Theatre, 168 Gannon Building, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. Through Feb. 26. 517-483-1012. lcc.edu/hpa/events

Flow \$15. Bonstelle Theatre, 3434 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. Through Feb. 27. 313-577-2960. bonstelle.com

PROFESSIONAL THEATER

A Lesson Before Dying \$17-\$20. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Through March 20. 313-868-1347. detroitreptheatre.com

Affluenza! \$15. What A Do Theatre at First United Methodist Church, 111 E. Michigan Avenue, Battle Creek. Through Feb. 26. whatado.org

Ain't Misbehavin'-The Fats Waller Musical Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, Jazz Cafe at Music Hall, 350 Madison St., Detroit. Through Feb. 27. 313-887-8500. jazzcafedetroit.com

An Evening with Scott and Paul \$35. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. March 4-6. 517-343-2727. farmersalleytheatre.com

B-I-N-G-O Spells Murder A dinner theater production; meal served an hour before showtime. \$30; price includes dinner, dessert, tax, tip & show. TNT Productions at The Biddle Hall, 3239 Biddle Avenue, Wyandotte. Through Feb. 26. 734-626-8395.

Blast From the Past \$39.95. The Williamsburg Showcase Dinner Theater & Conference Center, 4230 M-72 East, Williamsburg. Through March 26. 231-938-2181. cateringbykellys.com/dinner-theater

Burn the Floor \$29-\$69. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Feb. 22-March 6. 313-872-1000. broadwayindetroit.com

Cirque Shanghai: Bai Xi \$19-\$49. The Whiting, 1241 E. Kearsley, Flint. Feb. 26-27. 810-237-7333. TheWhiting.com

Corktown \$25-\$40. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Through March 5. 734-433-7673. purplerosetheatre.org

Equus \$25. Blackbird Theatre, 325 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. Through March 19. 734-332 3848. blackbirdtheatre.org

See Theater, page 40



Valentine's Day: Epic fail!

Got problems? Send letters to: "Dear Jody," C/O Between The Lines, 11920 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48150. E-mail her at DearJodyValley@hotmail.com

Q. My boyfriend "Roy" complains about me every Valentine's Day, and this last Valentine's Day was not an exception. He says that I'm not romantic at all. In the past, I've just agreed with him, not thinking I needed to change anything. However, this past Valentine's Day I decided to try to be romantic and do some special things for Roy. So I did: I asked him where he would like to eat out? I got him one of those heart-shaped boxes of chocolate and took him to a movie that I heard was really good. After all that, we had great sex. (I bought him a special outfit for the occasion; he looked great in it and it was a real turn on for me.)

All this cost me a bundle and I was sure that Roy would be impressed. NOT. The next day, I was expecting to get some points for being romantic and making a great Valentine's Day for him but, instead, I get nothing but grief from him. First he tells me that I should have picked out a restaurant, instead of asking him to do it. He was also bitchy about the fact that I asked him to make the reservations; my god, he's made reservations before – and can't he participate in the plans?

Then it comes out that he's on a diet and doesn't want to have something like a box of chocolates

around the house to tempt him. And, I should know that he's not that fond of milk chocolate – which is what this box of candy was – and that he really only likes dark chocolate. Frankly, I've never noticed when he eats chocolate what the hell kind it is. I'm not a candy eater.

Now, about the movie, he didn't like it. He tells me that I should know that violent films are upsetting to him. Well, I do sort of know that, but this film was supposed to be really good, so I thought it would be OK. A guy at work told me about it and it sounded really good to me, so I thought Roy would like it anyway. (There wasn't that much violence in it.)

Our sex was good, but Roy wasn't as crazy about his "outfit" as I was, but still, he didn't complain about the sex.

I thought that I was being a romantic person, at least somewhat, but apparently not according to Roy. Jody, I feel like I really tried; where did I go wrong?

Cupid's Flunky

A. I would say that one of the most important qualities about being romantic is to know the other person's likes/loves and working to make that

If you want to set up a romantic night for someone, it's important that you know that person's likes, loves and desires.

happen. I think Roy would have liked you to know the kind of foods that he likes and have you pick out a restaurant, perhaps some place new or a restaurant that has been significant, romantically, to the both of you. He also wants you to know things about him, such as his likes and things that are important to him. For instance, he'd like you to be aware of the fact that he is trying to lose weight, and if he weren't, that he's a dark chocolate guy, not a milk chocolate one. Roy would also like you to know that no matter how good a violent movie is, it's not a good choice for him. As far as the sex was concerned – glad it

was good, but maybe you should have also bought an "outfit" for yourself, one that Roy would have liked to see on you.

If you want to set up a romantic night for someone, it's important that you know that person's likes, loves and desires (not that you can't throw in things that you enjoy as well). You can't know these things if you don't pay attention 24/7/365. Relationships are about learning about each other. If you focus on really trying to know Roy, next Valentine's Day will be different.

Are you a romantic? Want to find out? Visit Jody's Facebook page by searching for "Dear Jody Valley."

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. Reach Jody at DearJodyValley@hotmail.com. The "Dear Jody" column appears weekly.

RTM Happenings

► Theater

Continued from p. 39

Escanaba In Da Moonlight \$21-\$25. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Through Feb. 27. 239-343-2727. farmersalleytheatre.com

Fatal Attraction: A Greek Tragedy \$10-\$20. Who Wants Cake, Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Through March 14. 248-545-5545. whowantstheatre.com

Fridays and Saturdays at Go Comedy! Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 248-327-0575. gocomedy.net

Grease \$27.50 and above. Broadway Grand Rapids at DeVos Performance Hall, 122 Lyon St. NW, Grand Rapids. March 1-6. 1-800-745-3000. broadwaygrandrapids.com

Hylomorph Previews Feb. 24 (\$10). \$20. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff St., Hamtramck. Feb. 24-March 19. 313-365-4948. planetant.com

Jersey Show-Season 1 (Abridged) Every Thursday. \$10. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. 9 Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through Feb. 24. 248-327-0575. gocomedy.net

La Ronde Admission by donation; cash or check only. The Abreast Performance Space, 1301 W. Lafayette Ave., #113, Detroit. Through Feb. 26. 313-285-0217. theabreast.com

Late Nite Catechism 3: 'Til Death Do Us Part \$29.50-\$34.50. The Gem Theatre, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit. Through March 6. 313-963-9800. GemTheatre.com

Lines ala Mode Included a three-course meal. \$40. Mixed Company Troupe at Wyandotte Yacht Club, 4685 W. Jefferson, Ecorse. 7 p.m. March 5. 313-381-2628. mixedcompanytroupe.com/

Little Women \$25-\$28. The Encore Musical Theater Company, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Through Feb. 27. 734-268-6200. theencoretheatre.org

My Dull Friend A late night show. \$5. Who Wants Cake? at The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. March 4-13. 248-545-5545. whowantstheatre.com

On Golden Pond Includes buffet-style menu served at 6:30 p.m.; reservations required. \$30; \$18 show only. AP Theatrical Productions at Baker Lofts, 533 Columbia Ave., Holland. Through Feb. 26. 616-772-5697. aptheatrical.com

One Man Star Wars \$30-\$35; \$79.95-\$89.95 Dinner & Show Packages. Andiamo Novi Theatre, 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi. Feb. 24-26. 248-348-4448. andiamonovitheatre.com

Proof \$28-\$30. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 Cady St., Northville. Through March 5. 248-347-0003. tippingpointtheatre.com

Reunion: A Musical Epic in Miniature \$24-\$39. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Through March 6. 248-377-3300. mbtheatre.com

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

Satisfaction: A Rolling Stone Experience \$28. The Crosswell, 129 E. Maumee St., Adrian. 8 p.m. March 5. 517-264-7469. crosswell.org

Sundays at Go Comedy! \$7 for the night. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 248-327-0575. gocomedy.net

The Broadway Onstage Murders \$14 opening night, \$16 all others. Broadway Onstage, 21517 Kelly Rd., Eastpointe. Feb. 18-March 19. 586-771-6333. broadwayonstage.com

The Bulldog Bar Liquidation Mystery \$17; Mar. 5 performance is buffet dinner and show (\$36); doors open at 6 p.m., buffet at 6:30 p.m., and show at 7 p.m. Van Buren Street Theatre, 701 N. Van Buren St., Bay City. Through March 5. 989-893-9399. vanburenstreettheatre.com

The Dance of the Seven Veils \$10-\$15. The New Theatre Project at Pot & Box, 220 Felch St., Ann Arbor. Through Feb. 28. 734-645-9776. thenewtheatreproject.org

The Godfadda Workout \$30-\$35; \$79.95-\$89.95 per couple for dinner & show. Andiamo Novi Theatre, 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi. March 2-20. 248-348-4448. andiamonovitheatre.com

The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein \$15-\$20. The Comic Opera Guild at Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, 911 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor. Feb. 24-26. 734-763-8587.

The Misanthrope \$25-\$30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Plays in rotating repertory through March 5. 313-577-2972. hilberry.com

The Piano Lesson Set Previews March 3-6 & 10 (\$10-\$24). \$27-\$41. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron, Ann Arbor. March 3-April 3. 734-663-0696. performancenetwork.org

Thursdays at Go Comedy! The night opens with the original comedy Jersey Show-Season 1 (Abridged) (\$10), followed by local improv troupes Road Trip & MARS (\$7), and concluding with Flight 1977 (\$5). Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through Feb. 24. 248-327-0575. gocomedy.net

Yankee Tavern \$20. Breathe Art Theatre Project at The Furniture Factory, 4126 3rd Street, Detroit. Through Feb. 27. 248-982-4121. BreatheArtTheatre.com

Yankee Tavern \$20. Breathe Art Theatre Project at Mackenzie Hall, 3277 Sandwich St., Windsor. March 3-6. 519-255-7600. BreatheArtTheatre.com

THEATER FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

Ferdinand and the Bull A Musical \$8. Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre, Bogue St. & Wilson, East Lansing. Feb. 27. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com

The Great Gilly Hopkins \$16-\$18 adult, \$14-16 teen & senior. Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Through Feb. 26. 810-237-1530. fiintyouththeatre.org

Under the African Sky \$8-\$12. Wild Swan Theater at Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor. Feb. 24-26. 734-973-3300. wildswantheater.org

AUDITIONS & CLASSES

CENTER STAGE JACKSON – auditions for MISCAT III – The Final Frontier (A Cabaret), March 15-16, centerstagejackson.org; DYPAC – now registering for March workshops, 734-671-2202.

ART 'N' AROUND

Detroit Institute of Arts An Intuitive Eye: Andre Kertesz Photographs, 1914-1969 Groundbreaking work achieves a delicate balance between technical perfection and lyrical beauty. 5200 Woodward Ave, Detroit. Nov. 24-April 10. 313-833-7900. dia.org

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit – The Comic. Jam II. Usually held at Green

Brain Comics in Dearborn, now at MOCAD for the second year in a row. Participants are encouraged to partake in the creation of spontaneous, improvised comics and free form drawings with other artists and illustrators. 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 4 p.m. March 4. 313-832-6622. mocadetroit.org

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit Soft Scapes with Annica Cuppetelli Family Day: Cranbrook graduate Annica Cuppetelli hosts workshop for children and their parents, creating a dimensional art experience with fabric. 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 12 p.m. March 20. 313-832-4665. mocadetroit.org

Planterra and Furnace Design Studio Botanical Glass Exhibition Planterra Conservatory, 7315 Drake Road, West Bloomfield. March 24-March 29. 248-861-1515. planterra.com

The Henry Ford George Washington Carver An exhibit celebrating the work and life of the extraordinary American.

Admission: \$15 adults, \$14 seniors, \$11 youth. The Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood, Dearborn. Nov. 1-Feb. 27. 313-982-6001. thehenryford.org

Toledo Museum of Art Voices That Taught Me How to Sing Two- and three-dimensional works by Ohio artist Aminah Robinson. 2445 Monroe Street, Toledo. Nov. 19-Feb. 27. 419-255-8000. toledomuseum.org

University of Michigan Museum of Art Mai-Thu Perret: An Ideal for Living The first large scale North American survey exhibition of the contemporary Swiss artist. Synthesizes a range of media and genres-including painting and sculpture, but also literature, design, craft, film, and performance to conjure an imaginary alternate history of twentieth-century art, design, and social activism. 525 S. State Street, Ann Arbor. Dec. 18-March 13. 734-763-UMMA. umma.umich.edu

Between THE Lines™

Add your events to next week's issue!

At our website!

Add our fan page!

Follow us and get reminders!

Relax, Scorpio!

BY JACK FERTIG

Socially we are facing a huge uprising over the next few years in the clash between structures of authority (Pluto in Capricorn) and individual freedom and integrity (Jupiter and Uranus in Aries). The sun in Pisces is now bringing intuitive awareness to how we might personally find healing through the crises ahead.

ARIES (March 20 – April 19): Your eye to opportunities is unusually sharp, although your ego and enthusiasm can push you too far forward too quickly. Taking time out to meditate on your success can serve the good of others. Then opportunities will be even greater.

TAURUS (April 20 – May 20): Don't be afraid to speak up. You will find you are wrong and need to reevaluate things, but how better to learn? Clearing things up now is more advantageous than if you dummy up to look smart only to stumble later.

GEMINI (May 21- June 20): Friends trying to build your reputation will make you out to be nastier than you are, but that edgy cachet can serve you well. You could even stretch to fit it. You can ride this wave of confidence socially and professionally.

CANCER (June 21- July 22): Career opportunities can put some strain on your relationship. Listen carefully to your partner, assume responsibility for adapting and be open to new ideas, even if their sense isn't immediately apparent. Imagination and compassion can save the day.

LEO (July 23 – August 22): You can be especially empathetic and persuasive on issues of sexual equality, especially in the workplace. Sympathizing is more effective than argument. Being effective makes you feel sexy, and when you feel it you get it!

VIRGO (August 23 – September 22): Your eagerness to try new fun and games with your partner could get real kinky, but are you two on the same track? Listen carefully and be accommodating. You could be very happily surprised.

LIBRA (September 23 – October 22): This is the time to resolve household problems. Remember you and your partner (or roommate) are not opponents but need to solve the situation

cooperatively. Giving in a little can get you a lot!

SCORPIO (October 23 – November 21): Your eagerness for results can cause a lot of friction and even accidents. Relax! Look at the situation as a creative challenge or a game. Be at least as open to new ideas as you think other people should be to yours.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 – December 20): Reevaluate very carefully any investments you may have. Property is best in the long run, but moving too quickly on that can be risky. Exploring your family background and cultural roots can turn up hidden strengths.

CAPRICORN (December 21 – January 19): Relax! It's not just you. Talking with relatives makes lots of people crazy. Somewhere in there, however, you can see both the secret and the source of your deepest integrity, whether those come from your family or despite it.

AQUARIUS (January 20 – February 18): Review your accounts carefully. Mistakes can be very expensive, but locating them now can solve problems or turn up hidden assets. Professional help, an accountant or a bookkeeper, can be worth the investment.

PISCES (February 19 – March 19): Your birthday gifts will prove very enriching and generous, though not necessarily in the monetary sense. You have to let your friends challenge you if you'll ever find out how valuable they really are.

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.

Prism of Possibilities Psychotherapy

Christine Cantrell, PhD
Fully Licensed Psychologist

Give yourself an extreme self makeover ...

- ▼ Speak Your Truth
- ▼ Discover What You Want
- ▼ Create Your True Self
- ▼ Heal Old Hurts, Find Wholeness

CALL NOW!
248-591-2888

Located in Royal Oak
Accepting Aetna, BCBS,
Cofinity, Cofinity, Medicare
www.christinecantrell.com



IT TAKES A GENI-US!

2 for 1

Oriental & Area Rug Cleaning

when you bring them to any of our drop-off centers
You'll get every other rug cleaned FREE!

At our rug cleaning spa, your rugs are treated to a luxurious cleansing that gently removed the imbedded soils, brings the color back to life and restores the soft textures you remember from when they were new!

We repair uh-ohs too!

HAGOPIAN

CLEANING SERVICES

1-800-HAGOPIAN (424-6742)

Birmingham • Oak Park • Novi • Utica • Ann Arbor
www.originalhagopian.com



Solution to puzzle from page 44

M	O	O	R	E	T	O	D	D	S	T	A	G					
A	U	D	I	S	O	N	E	I	T	I	L	E					
S	T	O	C	K	P	I	E	R	A	T	O	M					
S	T	R	A	I	G	H	T	P	E	O	P	L	E				
E	O	S	M	I	A	C	O	L	E								
					D	O	N	T	B	O	T	H	E	R	M	E	
R	A	C	E	S		E	R	O	S		O	O	P				
E	X	A	M		D	I	N	E	R		F	L	O	P			
B	I	B		S	O	R	T			B	E	E	R	S			
A	S	L	O	N	G	A	S	T	H	E	Y						
				E	N	U	F		E	E	G		S	L	A		
				A	C	T	G	A	Y	I	N	P	U	B	L	I	C
E	S	A	I		C	O	L	T		I	R	A	T	E			
B	E	R	M		E	R	I	E		N	O	V	E	L			


OPEN SEVEN DAYS!

3PM - 10PM

SATURDAY & SUNDAY BRUNCH FROM 9AM

*"This gay neighborhood eatery has it all...
...Check out the patio!"*

"...Great food, atmosphere (that's so New York) and moderate everyday prices!"



Pete's Place

THE BROADWAY CAFÉ

1225 Woodward Heights @ Hilton In Ferndale
248-544-4215 • petesbroadwaycafe.com

twitter.com/broadwaycafe • facebook.com/broadwaycafe

WE'RE NOT JUST OUT... WE'RE OUTSTANDING!

Bankruptcy | Criminal Defense
Auto Accident and All Personal Injury
Divorce/Family Law | Domestic Partnership
Employment Discrimination | Labor Law
Patent | Trademark | Copyright
Police Misconduct | Commercial Litigation
Business Formation | Workers Comp
Social Security Disability | Unemployment Benefits
Collections | Elder Law | Immigration

AGGRESSIVE * SHARP * RESPONSIVE

RASOR
LAW FIRM



rasorlawfirm.com
248.543.9000

321 South Williams St, Royal Oak, MI 48067
FREE ONLINE CHAT AND CASE REVIEW

We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the Bankruptcy Code.
Pictured attorneys may be of counsel.

Desperately Seeking Sex Online

Q I need a bit of advice on my sex life. I'm 24 and my main goal at the moment is to have fun and sleep around. I'm not bad looking but I'm no model. Here's the problem: Ever since I came out eight years ago, I feel like an oddball on the scene as I don't know how to approach guys with the intention of it leading to sex. My friends say I look very sweet and innocent and they think it can put guys off. I am on Gaydar and other sex websites that are only about hooking up, but I struggle about what to write and most of the messages I send go unanswered, or worse, I get a "no." I'd really like to hear what you've got to say.

A Man, I really feel for you, especially since you're reminding me of what dating and hookups were like for me when I first started playing around. Before I give you any advice, let me just say two things. First off, it's great that you know what you're looking for – in this case, sex. Less risk of wasting other people's time, let alone your own. Second, if some guys aren't turned on to you because you're "sweet and innocent," believe me they are going to be many more who just love those qualities in you.

To get to the nitty gritty, I think there are some other things you're likely overlooking.

One of the great advantages of hooking up online is the ability to put out there what you want – and, often, get it

Hooking up online is all about first impressions and that's why you need to pay such close attention to your screen name, profile and photos that you post (and you must post pix). When it comes to a screen name, be explicit: BangUBud, SexyStoner, and Jeff11X7 put it on the line. For you, I might suggest: NastynNice – or some other handle that suggests there's more to you than meets the eye. Then, you also need to be clear in your profile about what you want. Here are some highly specific ones I found online: "I'm most attracted to younger, masculine bottoms." "Definitely not a vanilla type of guy" or "Poz seeks same."

One of the great advantages of hooking up online is the ability to put out there what you want – and, often, get it.

Next: Your photos. Sometimes I visit sex pickup sites and I see a handsome guy but he looks like he just came from work. You need to show some skin! Or he's a perfect ectomorph and has unwisely chosen BigMuscle.com as his hookup site. Choose a site that's going to work for who you are and who you're seeking. Last

point: You need to be explicit in your photos, although it's your choice whether that extends to full-frontal nudity; remember what you put up online stays online – potentially forever.

Finally: Bear in mind that many – if not most – guys don't get responses back. Don't take it to heart; it's simply the way of the Internet.

suggest doing some research into your grandparents' likely beliefs on this subject so that you can be prepared. Certainly, not all religious folk are homophobic, especially when it comes to a family member. But if that's what you're facing, take aim against that much-quoted Leviticus argument against homosexuality: "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination," which is frequently translated by Christian fundamentalists to: "Homosexuality is absolutely forbidden, for it is an enormous sin." A good reply to this argument is to point out that Leviticus also says that shaving and eating pork are abominations – and supports the idea of owning slaves.

Whichever way the discussion goes, I would definitely be careful to avoid getting into an argument. Fights generally produce more fire than light. Do your best to remain patient and respectful, speak from your heart, and be prepared to walk away if necessary. And definitely don't expect to actually change your grandparents' views on bisexuality – at least not right away.

Steven Petrow is the author of the forthcoming book, *Steven Petrow's Complete Gay & Lesbian Manners* (www.gaymanners.com). To ask him your personal question: ask@gaymanners.com.



Grandma, I'm bi

Q I'm a bi woman, and my current boyfriend knows it – and it's not a big deal to him. My grandparents however, don't know yet and I want to tell them. They're very loving but deeply religious. However, they deserve to know the truth since they took 10 years raising me when they didn't have to. How do I tell them that I like men and women equally without worrying about how they'll react to the news?

A I think it's great that you want to share your truth with your grandparents (even though being in a relationship with an opposite-sex partner means you don't have to) and that you're so considerate of their feelings. Most of the time, respect begets respect (if not acceptance). Of course, coming out to one's family as bi – or gay or transgender for that matter – is often a big step, and telling your religious relatives could put your knickers in a twist (it would make me want to reach for an Ativan.)

Before you sit down and talk with them, I

JUST 4 US (BOYS!)

Celebrating 12 years serving the GLBT community

Advocate, Curve, Inches & more

LUBE • DVDS • TOYS • GIFTS • MAGAZINES • SANDWICHES • COFFEE BAR
CARDS • BOOKS • GOODIES • FLAGS • JEWELRY • APPAREL • AND MORE!

Blue Mountain Arts, 10 percent

Leatherocity
...not so sloppy seconds...
KINK WEAR AND MORE

PROUD JUSTICE BOYZ RETAILER

MI ONLY AUTHORIZED COLT DISTRIBUTOR

LARGEST SELECTION OF Video Head Cleaners LOWEST PRICE AROUND!

RIZE TO THE OCCASION • VIGRALIS • STIFF NIGHTS • MAX STAMINA & MORE!

www.shopjust4us.com

Now you can shop online! Visit our site today and be the first to know about exclusive discounts, new items and more!

211 West Nine Mile Road
Ferndale, MI 48220
248.547.5878

HOURS:
Monday-Wednesday 11am-8pm
Thursday & Friday 11am-10pm
Saturday 11am-8pm • Sunday 11am-5pm

Buy Local - Buy Gay

Braun Court

ann arbor, mi

out \aut\ BAR

Where LGBT Ann Arbor meets, eats, drinks, and plays!

315 Braun Court
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734.994.3677
www.autbar.com

SH \aut\ Cabaret and Gallery

325 Braun Court
Ann Arbor, MI

Common Language Bookstore

317 Braun Court
Ann Arbor, MI
734.663.0036
www.glbtkbooks.com

106 ANNOUNCEMENTS - GROUPS

Social Club
Forming a social club for Gay Men in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and Detroit Area. Leave a message for Pat.....reply asap-734-547-0196

109 ANNOUNCEMENTS - ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORD OF TRUTH II CHURCH
HIV AWARENESS OUTREACH
313-923-8171
5031 Mt. Elliott, Detroit, MI 48207
Tuesday HIV Discussion 6 pm
HIV Aids Hotline
1-800-465-1202

202 REAL ESTATE - HOMES FOR SALE

Clinton Township
1 Acre backing into River. 1650 Square Feet Ranch with basement. \$94,799.00 Elizabeth at Hall Road, Very nice, private. Call ReMax 586-799-8000 x 218 KEN

320 EMPLOYMENT - WANTED

Help Wanted Cleaning Service
Please email your resume, experience and references to Laura at sparklingcln@gmail.com for consideration. House cleaning experience a plus.

405 PROF. SERVICES - CLEANING SERVICES

Sparkling Clean
Cleaning and Organizational Specialists!
There is no job too small or too dirty for us to tackle. Reasonable Rates & Flexible Hours
Free Estimates Referral & Senior Discounts One time, Weekly, Bi-Weekly or Monthly Cleaning Get help organizing your space. No extra charge for changing linens or doing laundry Window & Blind Cleaning Services Available
810-813-3777
sparklingcln@gmail.com

414 PROF. SERVICES - PAINTING

Quality Painting
Excellent workmanship and professionalism. Interior and exterior, commercial or residential painting. Free quotes. Call B Squared Painting 734-972-8555

428 PROF. SERVICES - MASSAGE


GROUP MASSAGE
- For Gay and Bisexual Men. Learn some massage techniques and meet others in a safe and caring environment. Tuesdays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Thursdays at 2 p.m. \$10 per session. 209 West Kingsley in downtown Ann Arbor. (734) 662-6282 or email Massage4@aol.com. <http://www.trymassage.com>

1102 EROTICA - MASSAGE

Mind, Body and Soul
Treat yourself to a relaxing smooth deep tissue sensuous full body erotic massage. Private, safe setting for men. Jay 248-688-6361

To place an ad, visit PRIDESOURCE.COM or call us at 888.615.7003

"A SURE-FIRE CROWD PLEASER!"
— The New York Times




STOMP

MARCH 15 & 16
SOUTH WESTERN ONTARIO'S NEWEST THEATRE
CHATHAM CAPITOL THEATRE

www.chathamcapitoltheatre.com www.stomponline.com
Box Office 1.866.807.7770
JUST 1 HOUR DRIVE FROM DETROIT

Search this issue for the Fake Ad

Between THE Lines™ **BTL is Changing it Up!**



Find the 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 words: **"ANIMAL CIRCUS"**
2. Go to www.Pridesource.com and click on "Click Here to Win!"
3. Scroll down to the entry form for the fake ad contest and enter your name, etc.
4. In the notes field, put the date of the BTL issue, page number where you found the fake ad and the name of the fake advertiser.

Visit our website!
<http://www.pridesource.com>

Add our fan page!
Search: "Between The Lines Newspaper"

Follow us!
@YourBTL

HARDLINE HOTLOCAL GAYCHAT



MANline®
ALL ACCESS FREE TRIAL!
313.887.9556
other cities 1.877.510.3344
hardlinechat.com

All Kinds of GUYS
Check it out! Discreetly
Browse & Respond
FREE
313-962-5000 18+
Use Free Code 5779



Naked Men's YOGA




Meets in Ann Arbor
TUESDAYS AND SATURDAYS 6:30-7:30 PM

Contact Dave at massage4@aol.com
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan_mens_clothing_optional_yoga

To place an ad, visit PRIDESOURCE.COM or call us at 888.615.7003

A Tension Getter

Massage Therapy
by David Rosenberg
(734) 662-6282



Therapeutic Massage gets rid of back, neck and shoulder pain

2 Downtown Locations
Ann Arbor 209 West Kingsley
Berkley W. 12 Mile Road (just west of Greenfield)

(Couple blocks west of main, between Ashley & 1st.)

"I can bring my massage table to your home, too!"

Massage Class for Men

Learn some massage techniques. Meet others in a safe and caring environment.

Sheets, showers and lotions provided

Thursday at 2 pm.
Tuesdays & Saturdays at 8pm
\$10 per session
209 W. Kingsley St.
Ann Arbor, MI
(734) 662-6282

Find me on the Internet at <http://www.trymassage.com>

HARDLINE HOTLOCAL GAYCHAT



ALL ACCESS FREE TRIAL!
313.887.9556

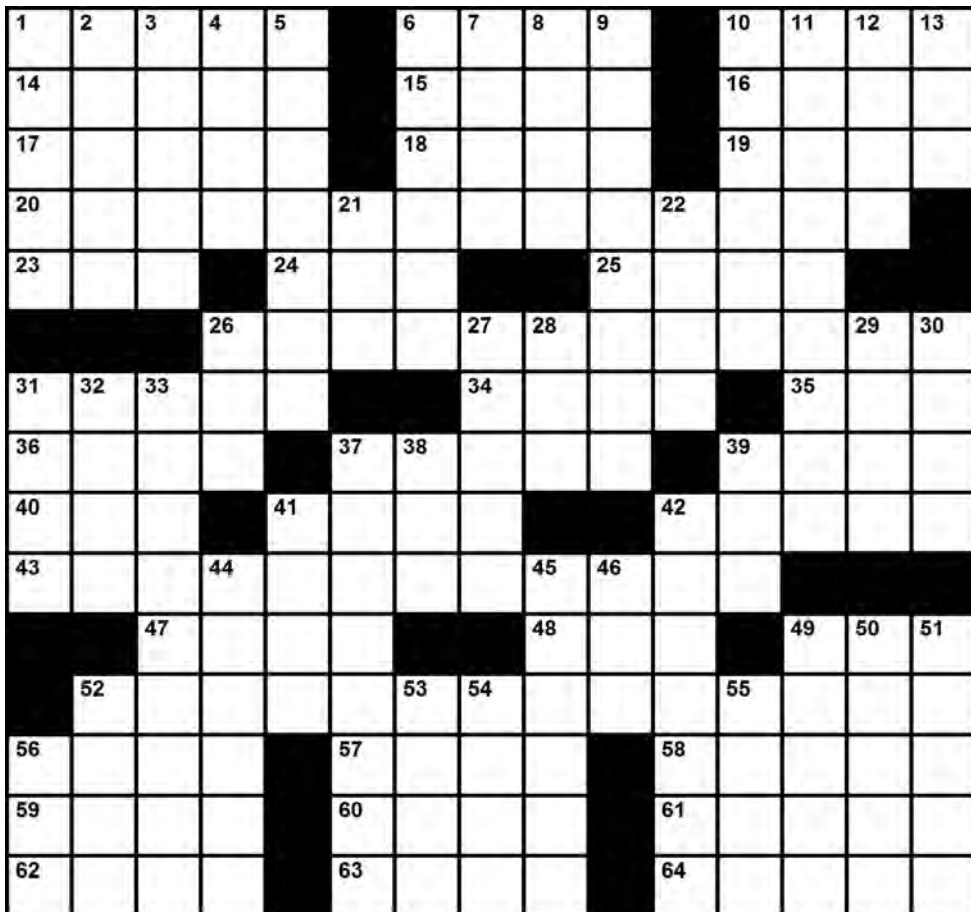
ann arbor 734.239.7802 windsor 519.790.2799
southfield 248.415.5344 other cities 1.877.510.3344

1.900.255.5757 925/100min

MANline®
Now powered by HARDLINE

FREE iPhone App

hardlinechat.com



Now Don't Get All Het Up

Across

- 1 Julianne of "The Hours"
- 6 Sondheim's Sweeney
- 10 Deer, or without a dear
- 14 Some Autobahn autos
- 15 R.E.M.'s "The ___ Love"
- 16 Q to a Scrabble player
- 17 Big Board listing
- 18 Marina sight
- 19 "Exotica" director Egoyan
- 20 Start of a quip
- 23 Canon camera
- 24 "Mamma ___!"
- 25 Songwriter Porter
- 26 More of the quip
- 31 Events for Bruce Hayes
- 34 Lover boy?
- 35 Alley from Moo
- 36 A doctor makes you strip for it
- 37 Greasy spoon, e.g.
- 39 Lay an egg
- 40 Lobster eater's wear
- 41 Arrange by penile length, e.g.
- 42 Drinks at the Boston Eagle
- 43 More of the quip
- 47 "I've had it!" to Gomer
- 48 Brain test, for short
- 49 P. Hearst's kidnappers
- 52 End of the quip
- 56 Morales of "Mi Familia"
- 57 Six-shooter name
- 58 Loaded for bear
- 59 Path on top of a dike
- 60 Canal of Sal
- 61 Patricia Nell Warren work
- 62 Home, to Dave Pallone
- 63 Open position?
- 64 Former NFL player Tualo

Down

- 1 Stroke with an upright stick
- 2 Openly gay with
- 3 Ban targets
- 4 Costa ___
- 5 Nose rubbers
- 6 Lincoln's head covering
- 7 Taking action
- 8 Bottomless
- 9 Kimberly Peirce, e.g.
- 10 Lube or vibrator, to a sex shop
- 11 Evita, for example
- 12 It's for skin
- 13 Pink diamond, for one
- 21 Bathtub booze
- 22 Expresses awe
- 26 Rep. foe
- 27 Proclivities
- 28 Stuff from your shaft
- 29 Shakespeare's Othello, for one
- 30 Actor Omar
- 31 "Fancy" singer McEntire
- 32 World War II alliance
- 33 Way to go, in San Francisco
- 37 World War II soldiers
- 38 SEP, e.g.
- 39 Sarah Palin imitator Tina
- 41 Like a tight opening
- 42 Dance in a song by 25-Across
- 44 How punctual people come
- 45 Like the big top
- 46 Variety of cat?
- 49 Aida was one
- 50 Carafe size
- 51 Speedy train
- 52 Cruising
- 53 Time of "Camelot"
- 54 "Would ___ to you?"
- 55 The Brewer twins, for short
- 56 Come out on the beach

Solution on 41

Pet of the Week



Yes, her name is Diana Ross, and with a name like that, you know that this kitty has one big personality! Super friendly and fun to play with, this 6-year-old domestic shorthair mix weighs in at 15 pounds and loves to snuggle. Meet her today at the Michigan Humane Society's Rochester Hills Center for Animal Care. The adoption fee includes microchipping, sterilization, age-appropriate vaccinations and much more! Visit or call (248) 852-7420 and provide the pet ID number, 12229061.

Pet of the Week made possible by
Patterson Dog & Cat Hospital
 3800 Grand River Ave., Detroit
313-832-7282
www.pattersondogandcat.com

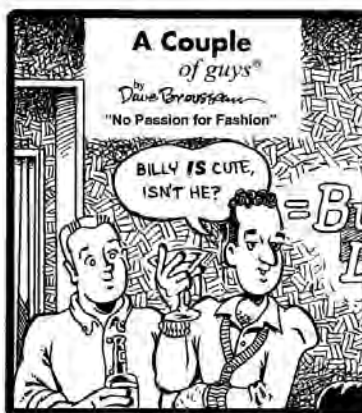
bitter girl



email: bittergirl@qsyndicate.com

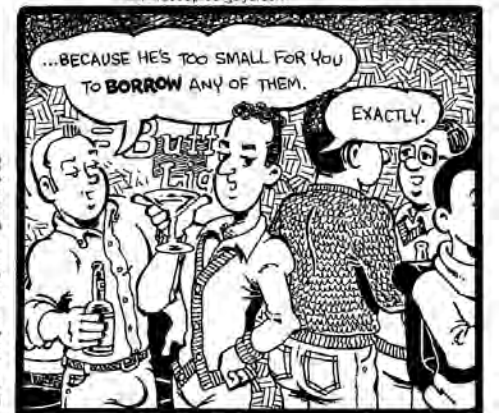
www.joanhilly.net

JOAN HILTY © 2011



e-mail: acoupleofguys@qsyndicate.com

www.acoupleofguys.com



© 2011 Dave Grossman

The Big Bash

March 19, 2011



Cirque du Soiree

Ticket info:

Big Bash 2011: Cirque du Soiree V&P Admission - \$250

Diamond Center Ballroom
Rock Financial Showplace
46100 Grand River | Novi, MI

Tickets available at
www.GoAffirmations.org

For more information, contact Jeannine Simpson at (248) 398-7105
or JSimpson@GoAffirmations.org

Sponsored By: **Comerica Bank**



Buffalo Wild Wings | Geniys Credit Union | Henry Ford Health System | The Howley Group

Special recognition in event program book
Pre-event VIP reception featuring hosted bar and brief awards recognition
Plated, gourmet dinner service (vegetarian options available upon request)
Silent and Live auction
Photo booth, provided by ShutterBooth
After Party with DJ, dancing, aerial artist performances, raffle and cash bar
General Admission - \$175

Plated, gourmet dinner service (vegetarian options available upon request)
Silent and Live auction
Photo booth, provided by ShutterBooth
After Party with DJ, dancing, aerial artist performances, raffle and cash bar

After Party Admission - \$35

Silent and Live auction
Photo booth, provided by ShutterBooth
After Party with DJ, dancing, aerial artist performances, raffle and cash bar



Ron T. Williamson DDS "Dentistry for OUR family"

in a

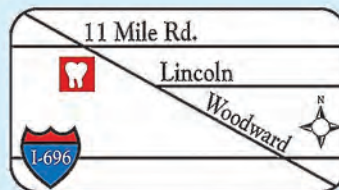
Gentle, Caring, Accepting, Comfortable
atmosphere

Care Credit



ZOOM™ In Office Bleaching,
Nitrous Oxide (relaxing air)

No insurance? Ask about our in-office plans



26789 Woodward Ave., Ste. 101
Huntington Woods, MI 48070

248-399-4455

www.rontwilliamsondds.com

The Faces of HIV/AIDS are Changing



**Know your Status.
You can Live with the Results.**

Testing, treatment and support services are offered
across Detroit and Southeastern Michigan.
Services are affordable or free.

Take Control. Take the Test. Call Now.

(877) MY-HIV-HELP



HIV/AIDS Programs
Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention,
Treatment & Recovery (800) 467-2452
Herman Kiefer Health Complex
1151 Taylor, Detroit 48202



**METRO DETROITS'
BEST ONE STOP
PORN SHOP!!**

Hey Guys...
DVD's are just
\$4.95 & Up!!

**OVER 13,000 XXX FLIX!!
NEWEST RELEASES!!**

**JOIN OUR "TEAM PORN"
RENTAL CLUB - RENT 2
GET 2 FREE EVERYDAY!
(see store or website for details)**

**LUBES - DILDOS - VIBES - C/RINGS - HEAD CLEANER - MALE ENHANCEMENT
FLESHLIGHTS & MORE!!**

**OPEN EVERYDAY MON - SAT 10AM - 1AM SUNDAY 11AM - 10PM
7041 W. 8 MILE 1 MILE WEST OF WOODWARD 313-340-1730**

www.blumoonvideodvd.com





Ralph Fiennes. Photo: Paramount Vantage

'Good Christian Bitches' coming soon

Yes, there's a TV show going to pilot called "Good Christian Bitches." Yes, of course, they're going to change the name. It's network television, after all, not "Showtime." The "Desperate Housewives"-like project, produced by Darren Star ("Sex and the City"), written by "Steel Magnolias" scribe Robert Harling and based on the book by Kim Gatlin, involves a single mother returning to the wealthy Dallas suburb where

she grew up, only to find herself surrounded by gossip, scandal and a gaggle of the title's specific brand of venomous lady. With the housewives phenomenon – both the desperate and real varieties – simultaneously expanding "and" showing signs of creative fatigue, it'll be a shot of fresh blood when this twist on the formula finds a place in a network schedule, provided the makers don't lose their nerve. No actors are in place yet, either, but have the casting people considered going straight to the source for local talent? There's really nothing quite like the real thing.

Debra Messing gets more gay pals

Call it whatever you want – the creators call it "Smash" – but please don't call it "Will & Grace II." OK, sure, it does star Debra Messing as a New Yorker whose closest relationship is with a gay man (not yet cast). But that's where the similarities end. This gay man isn't a bourgeois lawyer, he's a Broadway composer and Messing is his lyricist/foil. Together the pair is commissioned with bringing a musical to the stage, with all the diva meltdowns that attend that sort of thing. More intriguingly, the project is produced by Steven Spielberg and being called a musical "drama" at this point in its development. As is the case with all pilots, the chances are great that it will never be seen by the general public, but this one seems promising and almost a sure bet for gay audience adoration. Here's hoping.

The gay 'Jersey Shore'?

Nothing succeeds like success, even if – and sometimes because – that success is incredibly trashy. Witness, then, what "Jersey Shore" has spawned: not only is the less compelling "Jerseylicious" still on the air, but now a gay version is apparently in the works. An open casting call recently took place in Hammonton, N.J., for a show tentatively titled "Under the Boardwalk" that will focus on a group of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people living in an Atlantic City beach house for a summer. The creators swear up and down that they don't want to promote negative stereotypes or create a gay version of

the "Jersey Shore," but dignity is always the first quality thrown out the window in these sorts of endeavors. It also doesn't help that the audition promotional spots asked, "Are you the gay Snooki?" Coming much later: "A List: New York vs. Gay Jersey Shore Road Rules Challenge/Drink-Off."

'Coriolanus' wants an Oscar in 2012

One of Shakespeare's lesser-known plays, "Coriolanus," based on the life of the Roman leader, just got the big screen treatment thanks to director Ralph Fiennes and gay screenwriter John Logan ("The Aviator"). Starring Fiennes, Gerard Butler, Brian Cox and Vanessa Redgrave, it's based on the life of the Roman leader and, naturally, involves banishment, revenge and political machinations. And sure, Shakespeare seems a tougher and tougher sell to American audiences these days, but it's great that Fiennes went off and followed his muse anyway. Even better, the movie's been picked up for distribution by The Weinstein Company and is coming to an arthouse theater near big city folks later this year in the hopes of cleaning up in the 2012 awards season. And if that happens, the rest of you multiplex patrons will have your chance to check it out, anon.

Romeo San Vicente kind of has a thing for "Jersey Shore"'s Ronnie. Sorry. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.

JUST 4 US (GIRLS!)

Celebrating 12 years serving the GLBT community

Advocate, Curve, Inches & more

LUBE • DVDS • TOYS • GIFTS • MAGAZINES • SANDWICHES • COFFEE BAR
CARDS • BOOKS • GOODIES • FLAGS • JEWELRY • APPAREL • AND MORE!
Blue Mountain Arts, 10 percent

JG JUSTUS GIRLS T-SHIRTS BLOWOUT SALE!
REG. \$18.99 EACH
NOW JUST **\$5.99** EACH

WE CARRY A FULL LINE OF

pink LUBRICANT

WE SELL GRRRLOYZ
SPECIAL ORDER YOUR TOYS
LELO
TOYZ MADE BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN

www.shopjust4us.com
Now you can shop online! Visit our site today and be the first to know about exclusive discounts, new items and more!

211 West Nine Mile Road Ferndale, MI 48220 248.547.5878

HOURS:
Monday-Wednesday 11am-8pm
Thursday & Friday 11am-10pm
Saturday 11am-8pm • Sunday 11am-5pm

HIV Meds- Ready To Go When You Are.

Introducing an easy, convenient, strip of packets that keep all of your daily meds sorted and labeled by date, time and correct dosage. So you can travel light and worry-free.

Take your medication when you should, no matter where you are. We're the only pharmacy in the area offering this revolutionary new solution delivered straight to your door! We're the closest, most convenient pharmacy you'll ever have. We're DirectRX. You are now free to move about the world.

GABECARE DIRECTRX®

Timely, Accurate and Confidential Prescriptions

800.422.3227

www.directRX.com

ACCOUNTING

- Ameritax Plus13
- Co-Op Tax & Accounting.....17
- Kuderik and Associates.....13

AIDS/HIV

- ORGANIZATIONS**
- AIDS Partnership Michigan.....47
 - Detroit Department of Health & Wellness.....45

ANTIQUES

- Southfield Antiques Exhibition ..18

ART GALLERIES

- Flint Institute Of Arts3
- Village Picture Framing & Art Gallery11

ATTORNEYS

- D'Orio, Lynn B.....30
- Frego & Brodsky & Associates....4
- Gittleman, Steven13
- Kaye, Arlene P.C.....13
- McPhee, John.....11
- Peterson, Lisa J.31
- Pierce, Robert.....17
- Razor Law Firm41

AUTO/DEALER

- Fairlane Ford.....3
- Hodges Imported Cars4
- Jorgensen Ford.....9
- North Brothers Ford17

AUTO/REPAIR

- Dependable Collision Center ...30

BAR/CLUBS/DISCOS

- aut Bar42

BARTENDERS

- Cocktails & Dreams11

BUILDER

- D. J. Maltese Designers18

CARPET CLEANERS

- Hagopian Cleaning Services.....41

CHIROPRACTORS

- Be Well Chiropractic Center.....29
- Triangle Chiropractic.....13

COSMETIC SURGERY

- The Boyd Cosmetic Surgical Institute3

COUNSELING

- Cantrell, Ph.D.,LLC, Christine ...41
- Joseph, Ph.D., Denise17
- Jozwiak, MA, LPC, CCBT, DVCe, Rosemary.....11

DENTISTS

- Drescher, Peter R. DDS30
- Williamson DDS, Ron T.....45

EROTICA

- Blue Moon Video/DVD45
- Hardline.....43
- Just 4 Us42 & 46
- Progressive Computing, LLC43

EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS

- Big Bash15
- Comedyfest7
- Fools Welcome.....6
- Same-Sex Wedding Expo26

FERTILITY SERVICES

- Trillium Birth Services.....30

FLORIST/FLORAL DESIGN

- Ashley's Flowers.....29

FURNITURE

- Mitchell Gold & Bob Williams At Three Chairs33

GROCCERS

- People's Food Co-op31

INSURANCE

- Insurance Exchange.....36

JEWELERS

- Abracadabra Jewelry & Gem Gallery.....30
- Tapper's Diamonds & Fine Jewelry.....48

LAMPS

- Top Of The Lamp.....33

MASSAGE

- Rosenberg, David.....43

MEDIATION

- Mediation Training & Consultation Institute.....33

MEDICAL MARIJUANA

- Green Bee Collective.....32
- Southlake Medical Group, PLLC..13

MORTGAGES

- Citizens Bank.....31

OPTICIANS/OPTOMETRISTS

- Bennett Optometry.....32

PAINTING

- B2 Painting33

PET SERVICES

- 4 Paws Community Center.....25
- Almost Home Animal Haven22
- Canine College.....25
- Club Pet Too.....24
- Groom N Go.....25
- Happy Hounds Dog Day Care ...25
- Humane Society of Huron Valley .21
- Patterson Dog & Cat Hospital. .20
- Play and Stay Pet Care Center...23
- Premier Pet Supply21
- Three Dog Bakery23

PHARMACY

- Direct Rx.....46

PHYSICIANS

- Kobold, D.O. & Smith, D.O., P.C.9



COMING NEXT MONTH
BTL SPRING HEALTH & WELLNESS ISSUE



MARCH 17

- RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL**
- Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit29

- RESTAURANTS**
- Mr. Greek's Coney Island.....33
 - Pete's Place Cafe41
 - ios Mexican Cafe33

- THEATERS**
- Chatham Capitol Theatre Association43
 - Fisher Theatre.....3
 - Gem & Century Theatres.....37
 - Purple Rose Theatre Company .28
 - Michigan Opera Theatre.....4
 - Redford Theatre.....35

- TOBACCO PRODUCTS**
- R.J. Reynolds "SNUS"2

- TRANSGENDER SERVICES**
- UMHS-Comprehensive Gender Services Program33


- VETERINARIAN**
- Animal Clinic East22
 - Animal Haus, Inc.....25
 - Arbor Pointe Veterinary Hospital ...20

- WINDOW COVERINGS & FLOORS**
- Esquire Interiors.....41

- WINE SHOP**
- A & L Wine Castle4


- WOMEN'S GROUPS**
- S.P.I.C.E.18

MICHIGAN'S LGBT YELLOW PAGES



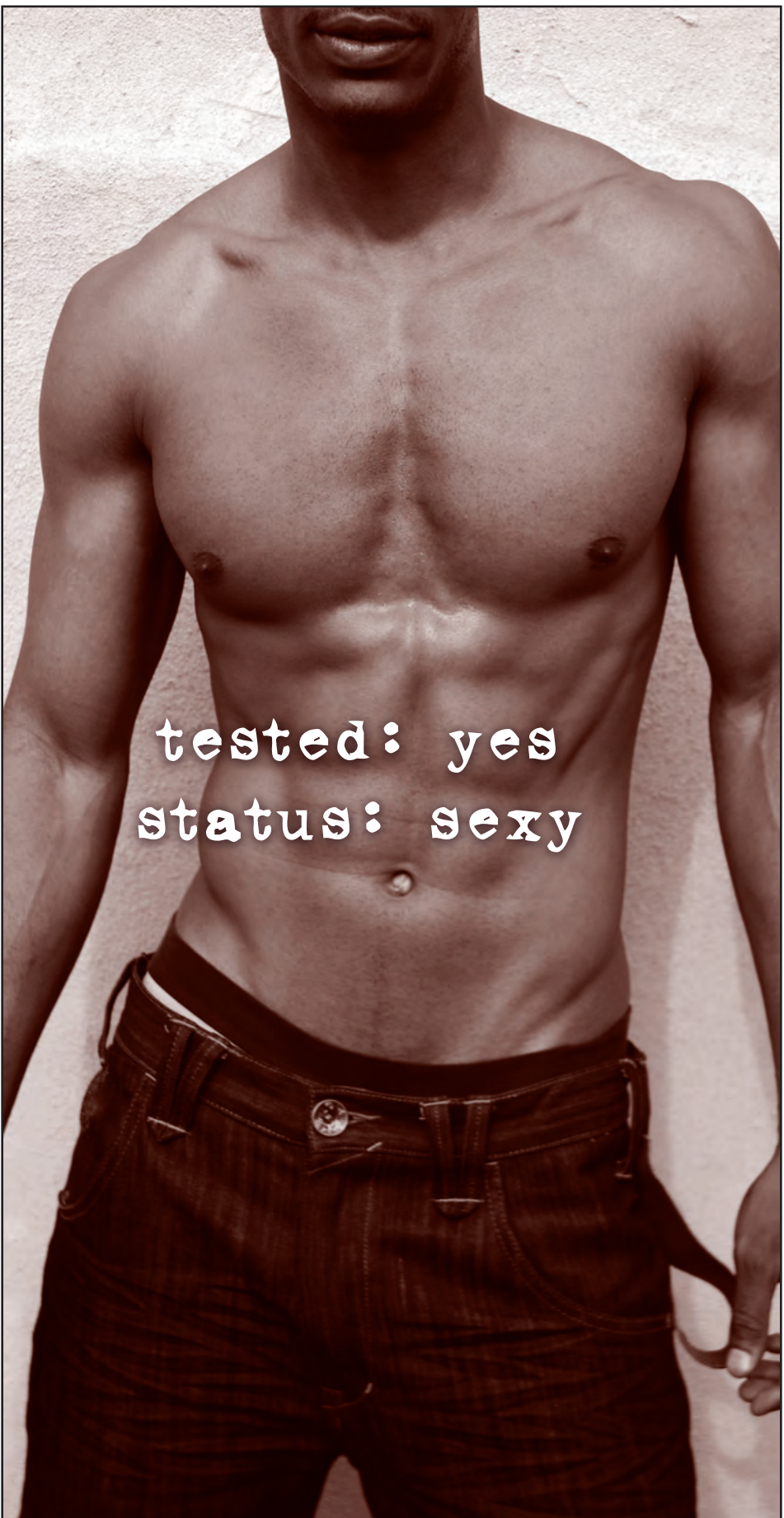
Find more listings - in print or online

<http://www.pridesource.com>



Over 250 non-profits serving Michigan's LGBT community ... plus ...

Over 800 businesses who want to do business with you!



tested: yes
 status: sexy

Learn your HIV status.
 It's the hot thing to do.

Knowing your HIV status is the ultimate sign of confidence. So sexy. For a test site near you, visit our website or call **800-872-2437**.

Funded by MDCH.

statussexy.com

Whenever possible please support Between The Lines / Pride Source advertisers and let them know where you saw their ad. Thanks from all of us at BTL.



News Feed

Top News · Most Recent

Share: Status Photo Link Video

find the perfect ring at Tapper's bridal show!

Extended Collections from



A. Jaffe



Furrer-Jacot



Hearts On Fire



MaeVona



Martin Flyer



Michael M.



Novell



Paul Maki



Precision Set



Ritani



Saturday, March 5th : 10am - 5pm

Sunday, March 6th : 12pm - 5pm

at all 3 Tapper's locations - *Special Sunday Hours in West Bloomfield*



Will you guys have a lot to choose from? We're tired of seeing "the same old rings" at other jewelry stores...



You won't believe the selection that we have to offer! From diamond bands to simple bands, loose diamonds...the list goes on! We truly have something for everyone. It's a great opportunity to meet the reps from our top lines with more to choose from than ever!



We bought our rings at Tapper's Bridal Show last Fall. Best selection anywhere in the city!

special offer

\$100 off your purchase of \$1000 - \$1999*

\$200 off your purchase of \$2000 - \$3999*

\$400 off your purchase of \$4000 - \$6999*

\$700 off your purchase of \$7000 - \$9999*

\$1000 off your purchase of \$10,000 or more*

Tapper's
DIAMONDS & FINE JEWELRY



West Bloomfield
248.932.7700

Twelve Oaks Mall
248.465.1800

Somerset Collection
248.649.2000