

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993



GAY MAN ASSAULTED IN GRAND RAPIDS

'30 MINUTES': THE HALFWAY-GAY DUDE MOVIE

POP ARTIST WYNTER GORDON ON GAY FANS



HOTTER THAN JULY  
HEATS UP THE 'D'

HOT SPOT



PRIDESOURCE.COM

AUG 4, 2011 | VOL. 1931 | FREE



presents its 25th Anniversary Celebration

# Moonlight Masquerade Charity Cruise



Saturday, August 13, 2011

Board at 6:00 p.m., Cruise from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Request dressy cruise wear please

The Ovation Charter Yacht  
 Jefferson Beach Marina  
 24400 E. Jefferson Ave.  
 St. Clair Shores, MI 48080  
[www.infinityandovation.com](http://www.infinityandovation.com)

Come cruise onboard a luxury yacht enjoying live music, dancing, gourmet cuisine, champagne and more, complete with a view of the beautiful Detroit and Windsor riverfronts.

Join CHAG and help to raise funds in support of our mission to address HIV/AIDS and other health issues among African-Americans in Detroit and its surrounding communities. Our goal is to reduce the rate of HIV transmission among high-risk populations, and improve overall health and human services access.

Ticket Donation: \$100/pp (tax deductible)

For tickets and/or sponsorship opportunities please call (313) 963-3434

[www.chagdetroit.org](http://www.chagdetroit.org)

We Thank Our Sponsors



School of Medicine



Brooklyn-Fort Street Associates Knysz & Associates and The Phenology Group Inc.

## BTL Between The Lines 8.4.2011



### Cover story

6 | **Hotter Than July** heats up the 'D'  
 Annual celebration for Metro Detroit's African-American LGBTs rings in 16 years

### News

- 5 | **Speak Out**  
Vote for change
- 6 | **Possible hate crime in Grand Rapids** under investigation
- 7 | **Equality Michigan** issues crime alert
- 7 | **Community foundation** awards \$125,000 in HOPE Fund grants to support LGBT community
- 10 | **Gay marriage: awkward issue** for some Republican presidential hopefuls
- 11 | **CA gay marriage case** to be heard Sept. 6
- 11 | **Bachmann** refuses questions about husband's gay therapy clinic
- 11 | **California OKs** push to repeal LGBT teaching law
- 12 | **Australian census** to count same-sex couples
- 13 | **Photos from Hotter Than July**

### Opinions

- 8 | **S/he said**  
Heroes, culture
- 8 | **Heard on Facebook**  
What are your thoughts on this story: "Possible hate crime in Grand Rapids under investigation"?
- 9 | **BTL Editorial**  
Hate is hate, no matter what it's called
- 9 | **Viewpoint**  
Starting meds
- 10 | **Parting Glances**  
H2O! (HOPE to Order)
- 12 | **Creep of the Week**  
Sally Kern

### Life

- 15 | **Halfway gay**  
What's so gay about dude comedy '30 Minutes or Less'? More than you think.
- 16 | **Cool Cities: Birmingham**
- 19 | **Wynter time**  
Pop-dance artist talks music industry burnout, finding her gay following and foreshadowing J. Lo's divorce
- 20 | **Finding Ferrick**  
Longtime musician on Womyn's Festival
- 21 | **Curtain Calls**  
Reviews of "The Sex Maniac" and "A Streetcar Named Desire"
- 22 | **Happenings**  
Featured: Dave Koz at Trenton's 16th Annual Jazz on the River on Aug. 7

### Rear View

- 25 | **Puzzle**
- 26 | **Dear Jody**
- 27 | **Horoscopes**
- 28 | **Cocktail Chatter**
- 29 | **Classifieds**
- 30 | **Deep Inside Hollywood**

### JOIN THE CONVERSATION

- Email your op-eds and letters to [editor@pridesource.com](mailto:editor@pridesource.com)
- Chat on our FB Fan Page. Search "Between The Lines Newspaper"
- Get breaking news updates. Follow us @YourBTL
- Receive our E-Digest - just sign up today online

[PRIDESOURCE](http://PRIDESOURCE)



- Fast, Friendly Service
- 99% Of Insurance Plans Accepted
- 100% Confidential & H.I.P.A.A. Compliant
- Full Line Of Immune Therapy Medications

**(586) 772-6872**  
[www.amopr.com](http://www.amopr.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

**E-Z Payment Plans**

Board Certified As Specialists In Consumer Bankruptcy

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**

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

**Dearborn Heights**

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

**Flint**

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](http://www.fregolaw.com)



a Euro-bistro restaurant and bakery serving the most unique collection of Incredible Edibles and Notable Potables in southeastern Michigan.



125 W. Shiawassee at Adelaide  
Fenton, Michigan 48430  
810-629-8852  
www.lunchandbeyond.com

Monday-Thursday 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.  
Friday and Saturday 7:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.  
Sunday 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Knowledge = Power**

**Know Yourself - get tested**

Free HIV testing in a compassionate and supportive setting. Treatment and services available across Detroit and Southeastern Michigan.

**Take Control. Take the Test. Call Now.**

**800-872-2437**

**DETROIT DMWP**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

**HIV/AIDS Program**  
Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment & Recovery (800) 467-2452  
Herman Kiefer Health Complex  
11511aging Detroit 48202

# BTL Online

@ PRIDESOURCE

DOT COM

pride source  
media group

Vol. 1931 • Issue 724  
August 4, 2011

## ONLINE EXCLUSIVES



Flash can't mask a boring Britney at the Palace – plus tons of pics from the show last week!

The OutField: Justice Calo reign reigns

## WEB WINS

Hop onto our Facebook page this week for a chance to win Beyoncé's new album, "4."

## KEEP TABS ON ...

Hate crime under investigation in Grand Rapids plus DAILY BREAKING NEWS

## CALENDAR CONNECTION



Search hundreds of events and add your own

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

- Email your op-eds and letters to [editor@pridesource.com](mailto:editor@pridesource.com)
- Chat on our FB Fan Page. Search "Between The Lines Newspaper"
- Get breaking news updates. Follow us @YourBTL
- Receive our E-Digest – just sign up today online

### Publishers

Susan Horowitz  
Jan Stevenson

### EDITORIAL

#### Editor in Chief

Susan Horowitz  
[susanhorowitz@pridesource.com](mailto:susanhorowitz@pridesource.com)

#### News Editor

Tara Cavanaugh  
[taracavanaugh@pridesource.com](mailto:taracavanaugh@pridesource.com)

#### Entertainment Editor

Chris Azzopardi  
[chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com](mailto:chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com)

#### Arts & Theater Editor

Donald V. Calamia,  
[curtaincalls@pridesource.com](mailto:curtaincalls@pridesource.com)

#### Calendar Editor

Benjamin Jenkins  
[calendar@pridesource.com](mailto:calendar@pridesource.com)

### CREATIVE

#### Art Director

David Ano, [davidano@pridesource.com](mailto:davidano@pridesource.com)

#### Webmaster & MIS Director

Kevin Bryant, [kevinbryant@pridesource.com](mailto:kevinbryant@pridesource.com)

#### Contributing Writers

Charles Alexander, D.A. Blackburn, Michelle E. Brown, Zach Childree, John Corvino, Jack Fertig, Lisa Keen, Jim Larkin, Anthony Paull, Andrea Poteet, Crystal Proxmire, Bob Roehr, Hannah Schwab, Gregg Shapiro, Jody Valley, D'Anne Witkowski, Rex Wockner, Dan Woog

#### Cartoonists

Paul Berg, Dave Brousseau, Joan Hilty

#### Contributing Photographers

Andrew Potter  
Emily Locklear

### ADVERTISING & SALES

#### Director of Sales

Jan Stevenson, [jan@pridesource.com](mailto:jan@pridesource.com)

#### Sales Representatives

Ed Bohach, [ed@pridesource.com](mailto:ed@pridesource.com)  
Ann Cox, [anncox@pridesource.com](mailto:anncox@pridesource.com)  
Greg Flood, [gregflood@pridesource.com](mailto:gregflood@pridesource.com)

#### National Advertising Representative

Rivendell Media, 212.242.6863

#### Business Office

Diane Smith, [dianesmith@pridesource.com](mailto:dianesmith@pridesource.com)  
Nancy Blankenship

#### Circulation & Distribution

Diane Smith

#### Pride Source Media Group

11920 Farmington Road  
Livonia, Michigan 48150  
Phone 734.293.7200 • Fax 734.293.7201

[www.pridesource.com](http://www.pridesource.com)

Our rate cards are available online

All material appearing in Between The Lines is protected by federal copyright law and may not be reproduced in whole or part without the permission of the publishers. Between The Lines is supported by many fine advertisers, but we cannot accept responsibility for claims made by our advertisers, nor can we accept responsibility for materials provided by advertisers or their agents.

Copyright 2011 Pride Source Media Group, LLC



NATIONAL GAY  
NEWSPAPER GUILD  
Nothing average about it.



# BTI Speak Out

BY ERIC RADER

## Vote for change

This summer has been a season of great progress for LGBT equality. In late June, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed legislation granting lesbian and gay couples equal marriage rights, while new polls reveal that a majority of all Americans now support marriage equality. Two weeks ago, President Obama and the Pentagon certified that the U.S. military is now ready to allow gay and lesbian troops to serve openly in all branches of the armed services. By the end of September, "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" will be history and soldiers will never have to lie again about their sexual orientation in order to serve their country.

Despite all the progress that has been achieved over the past few months, there still remain great challenges when it comes to legal equality for LGBTs. While President Obama successfully ended the military's DADT policy, fulfilling one of his 2008 campaign promises, he has so far been unsuccessful in persuading Congress to repeal the "Defense of Marriage Act." Given the current partisan and ideological makeup of the U.S. Congress, especially the tea party-dominated House of Representatives, there is no chance that DOMA will be repealed legislatively before the 2012 elections.

All of this takes on added significance now in light of the repeal of DADT and the passage of equal marriage rights in New York. DOMA prohibits the federal government from offering benefits to same-sex couples or recognizing in any way a legal marital relationship between two people of the same gender in any state. While gays and lesbians will now be able to serve openly in the military, their spouses/partners will not enjoy the same benefits that the heterosexual spouses of other soldiers receive. For example, straight members of the military do not have to worry about whether their partners will be allowed to live with them in housing provided on a military base. Heterosexual soldiers also know that their spouses are eligible to receive health benefits through the military, and can access commissaries and other military base amenities. All of these benefits will be denied to lesbian and gay soldiers as long as DOMA is the law of the land.

New York, five other states, and the District of Columbia now provide equal marriage rights, but lesbian and gay couples are still denied federal recognition of their unions. Thus, while a legally-married same-sex couple in New York is now entitled to file a joint state tax return, they must file separately as "single" under federal law. Though married couples in marriage equality states do not have to pay state taxes on domestic partner benefits, they still have to pay federal taxes on them. Some New York companies have

now decided that they will only offer domestic partner benefits to gay or lesbian employees who legally marry their partners, because these same benefits are only provided to the legal spouses of straight couples. Though this appears on the surface to treat gay and lesbian couples equally, the reality is that requiring legal marriage as a condition for the benefits may have negative implications for the couple at the federal level.

Marriage has always been a prerogative of the states. Michigan has one of the most radically homophobic marriage laws in the country. Not only does Michigan deny lesbian and gay couples the right to legally marry, our law also has been interpreted as preventing public employers from offering domestic partner benefits to their gay and lesbian employees. Just two weeks ago, the Michigan Supreme Court declined to take a case involving the custodial rights of a lesbian to children she had helped raise, which effectively denied those rights as well.

It is right and good that we celebrate the important successes of 2011; they represent significant milestones in the march toward equal rights. All of us must stay involved in the struggle ahead. Next year we will be voting for president, U.S. House, U.S. Senate, and the Michigan State House. It is important

to support candidates who support our rights. President Obama, though imperfect on the issue of same-sex marriage, has stopped defending DOMA in federal court. The president seems to be moving toward support for equal marriage rights and praised the new law in New York. Most of the announced candidates for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination seek to enshrine discrimination against LGBTs in the U.S. Constitution and in federal law. The only chance for change on issues of equality is to elect or re-elect people who actually believe in equality. There is a difference between the two parties on issues of LGBT rights and it's critical that we not ignore it. Let's keep moving forward toward real equality in our state and nation.

The only chance for change on issues of equality is to elect or re-elect people who actually believe in equality.

**Human Rights Campaign's "Call Out" page on GOP Presidential candidate, Rep. Michele Bachmann, R-MN:**

[http://www.callitout.org/callitout/index.php/actions/bachmanns\\_anti\\_gay\\_track\\_record](http://www.callitout.org/callitout/index.php/actions/bachmanns_anti_gay_track_record)

**Statement by President Obama on certification of DADT repeal:**

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/07/22/statement-president-certification-repeal-dont-ask-dont-tell>

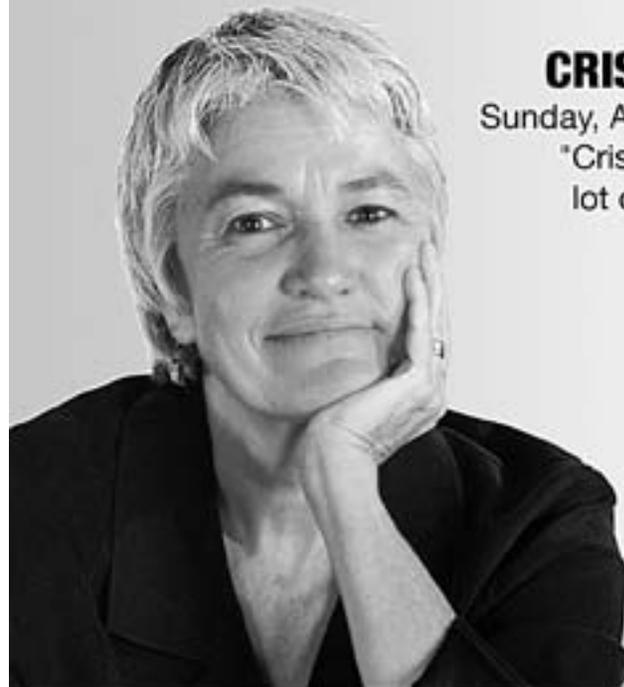
**National Conference of State Legislatures' list of states that provide partial or equal marriage rights, as of July 2011:**

<http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=16430>

# The Ark

where music lives

316 S. Main, Ann Arbor [www.theark.org](http://www.theark.org)



**CRIS WILLIAMSON**

Sunday, August 14, 7:30 p.m.

"Cris has been a whole lot of women's heroes ... including mine."

-Bonnie Raitt

**CALL FOR TICKETS (734) 763-TKTS**

In person at Michigan Union Ticket Office, all TicketMaster outlets and Herb David Guitar Studio. Doors open 1/2 hour before showtime. Call The Ark hotline at (734) 761-1451

Ann Arbor  Companion Bird Club would like to invite you to attend our

**26th Annual Exotic Bird Exhibition!**

August 7th, 2011 from 10 am to 3 pm

**Featuring vendors selling terrific products for your avian pals. Speaker Lara Joseph, on ways to enhance your bird's environment to make its life more fulfilling.**

Additional information on table rentals or other exhibition questions, contact Melanie (734) 545-5282 or Mary (734) 326-0720

Please leave your own birds at home and bring them back some surprises you will surely find.

**GREAT RAFFLES AND MANY VENDOR WILL BE AVAILABLE!**



Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor, MI  
3050 Jackson Ave, Ann Arbor  
(734) 769-3237

Admission: \$3.00

children 12 and younger free

Hotel reservations: (734) 769-2500 or call free (800) 443-3050

# Hotter Than July heats up the ‘D’

## Annual celebration for Metro Detroit’s African-American LGBTs rings in 16 years

BY ZACH CHILDREE

One theme wove itself into the events at this year’s Hotter Than July: it was hot.

The 16-year-old celebration took place from July 27-31 this year, consisting of a dozen gatherings, lectures, parties and workshops, many taking place in the middle of the July heat. But the summer sun didn’t stop Metro Detroit’s African-American LGBTs from celebrating their community.

At the candlelight vigil Thursday night, people fanned themselves with whatever they could find – brochures, advertisements or hats. The Rev. Darlene Franklin, Senior Pastor of Agape Spirit Life Ministries, spoke to the small gathering around a tree planted the same year as the first Hotter Than July celebration. She encouraged all in attendance to remember not just their ancestors, but also those who have passed away from HIV/AIDS.

“The point of the evening is to never forget why we’re here,” Franklin said, “and to remember those that have gone on and continue to stand for equality and all that pride for gay, lesbian and transgender persons.”

As the sun set behind the 16-year-old tree, the choir of Agape Spirit Life Ministries sang, “My name is victory!” and the crowd fanned itself a little bit harder.

The heat kept up on Saturday, as the sun beat down on the thousands who flocked to Palmer Park for the annual festival and picnic, which offered something for everyone, young and old.

“We just wanted to have a family-friendly, safe place for kids to come and have fun,” Keisha Watkins said as she helped children color and finger paint at the children’s table sponsored by Karibu House. Even a few grown-ups scribbled on paper canvasses.

As children and adults pretended to be



Equality Michigan, a statewide organization that fights for LGBT rights, marches in the Ruth Ellis Pride march on Saturday. BTL photo: Andrew Potter

artists in one area of the festival, Angelo Brown, a coordinator for Real Enough to Change, or R.E.C. Boyz, sat under a tent in his underwear.

“We knew it was going to be hot, so we wore less!” Brown said. “It attracts more people to the table and it keeps us cool.”

The group hoped to attract people to a table full of condoms and small plastic “condom holders” that can be kept in a pocket or purse. The R.E.C. Boyz table, like many tables at the park, focused on HIV/AIDS prevention.

“Prevention is extremely important!” Brown said, motioning to the condoms. “I’ve always believed if you have it with you in the moment, it cuts down on that problem,” he said with a grin.

Another campaign at the festival took a different approach to pushing HIV/AIDS

prevention. The Social Networking Advocates for Prevention Testing campaign is a project shared between Wayne State University and several different organizations, including the Michigan Department of Community Health. The SNAPT campaign uses sites like Twitter and Facebook to encourage HIV testing.

“Our message is that you should make this part of your routine health evaluations,” said Julie Gleason-Comstock, an assistant professor at Wayne State. “We have to get people talking about testing. Not everyone has to be tested, but it has to be part of the conversation in relationships.” The campaign hopes social networking can provide a safe way for people to learn about HIV in a non-judgmental way.

Whether the goal was education, community

gathering or finger-painting, Kimberly Jones was pleased with this year’s celebration. Jones is the president of the Black Pride Society, which organizes Hotter Than July.

As Jones took refuge from the sun under a tent at Saturday’s picnic, she noted that the picnic crowd was larger than last year.

“It’s like a picnic and a big family reunion,” she said. “It’s laid back, and we’re eating with other organizations. They have donated a lot of food to us, their staff and anyone that comes up to them!”

As Jones resumed fanning herself, a shout from the performance stage rang out: “How hot is it?” The crowd replied: “Hotter Than July!”

For more photos from Hotter Than July, see page 13

# Possible hate crime in Grand Rapids under investigation

## Man attacked after leaving a meeting for Equality Michigan last Wednesday

BY TARA CAVANAUGH

**GRAND RAPIDS**—When David Battjes left an Equality Michigan meeting last Wednesday night, he felt good. As a board member of West Michigan Pride, and a member of the Until Love is = campaign, he was happy to meet Equality Michigan’s new executive director and make connections between the three groups.

But on the way to his car, he became a victim.

As he passed two men, “they grabbed me and threw me up against a wall,” he said.

“They called me a faggot, said you don’t deserve to live, you don’t belong on the face of the earth, and one of them slugged me.

“As I doubled over, they kind of relaxed their grip. I broke free.

“And I ran as fast as I could. They called me a cocksucker, a faggot, and some other words I couldn’t make out because I was far enough away. I didn’t want to hear any more,” Battjes said. “My goal was just to get away from there, as far away as I could.”

He doesn’t think he was followed by the two men, or that they targeted him. But he was wearing a West Michigan Pride t-shirt.

Battjes reported the incident to the Grand Rapids Police, who are looking into the incident as a possible hate crime, according to the Grand Rapids Press.

Battjes plans to recover by being in the company of friends, his church and his husband Michael, whom he married ten months ago in Iowa City. “It’s been really encouraging and overwhelming, the support and concern in the community,” he said. “I’ve been estranged from

my kids for a few years, and two of them have even reached out to me, saying no one should have to endure anything like this.”

Battjes said this is the first time he’s been a victim. He’s visible in the community, so “I’ve had the comments,” he said. “But nothing physical has ever happened to us.”

“We’re disappointed that this happened,” said Michael Gregor, communications director at Equality Michigan. “Someone that’s attending our event and supporting the movement for equality, and a leader in the Grand Rapids community. It clearly demonstrates where we’re at in Michigan ... that we have a long way to go in moving toward hate crime legislation. As well as showing the general public that this type of behavior and hate crimes are not acceptable at all.”

—David Battjes

# Equality Michigan issues crime alert

On July 25 Equality Michigan’s Department of Victim Services received a report of a pick-up crime. According to the victim, he met the perpetrators through a dating chat-line. The victim alleges that he was beaten and robbed by four African-American men between the ages of 23 and 24 during his first meeting with his date. The perpetrators and victim met in a parking lot in Detroit. No suspects, to Equality Michigan’s knowledge, have yet been arrested. When using a dating chat-line or website to meet, take these precautions to protect yourself:

### Assess your date

- Make sure you can see your date clearly.
- Engage in small talk to assess any potential risk.
- Be cautious about revealing information that could identify you. For example, if you give someone your listed phone number, he or she can get your real name and street address.
- Let your date know that you have a friend who knows where you are.
- Always go on your ‘gut instinct.’

### Assess your location

- Especially for the first date, meet in a public, well-lit and secure area such as a restaurant. If you’re traveling to visit the person in his or her town, pick a place you’re comfortable with when you arrive.
- Tell someone where you are going and how long you will be gone.
- Think about an escape route in advance, in case of danger.

### What is gut instinct?

- If you get bad vibes, feel uneasy or get butterflies, your gut instinct is telling you something is wrong, don’t go with him or her!
- Trust your judgment at all times.
- Always carry a cell phone and make sure it is easily accessible so you can call 911 immediately if necessary. If finances are tight, purchase a pre-paid cell phone.

If you get bad vibes, feel uneasy or get butterflies, your gut instinct is telling you something is wrong, don’t go with him or her!

### At the first sign of trouble...

- Make as much noise as possible. This frightens people away and attracts others’ attention. Yell, scream — GET OUT! GET AWAY! FIRE!
- Use a whistle or a personal alarm.

# Community Foundation awards \$125,000 in HOPE Fund grants to support LGBT community

**DETROIT**— The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan announced grants totaling \$125,400 from The Hope Fund to assist agencies and organizations that support the needs of LGBT individuals and communities. Grants were awarded to the following organizations:

-\$10,000 for the ACLU Fund of Michigan to educate and advocate on behalf of LGBT seniors in southeast Michigan. Plans include a number of activities in collaboration with other local organizations, including formally creating a Michigan chapter of SAGE (Senior Action in a Gay Environment), a national social science and advocacy organization.

-\$8,000 for Eastern Michigan University for theatrical performances about LGBTQ youth as a learning tool for middle and high school teachers and staff. These performances, aimed at creating safer schools for LGBTQ youth, will be provided as part of professional development for school administrators.

-\$20,000 for Equality Michigan to develop and launch a new website. The need for a redesigned website stems from the newly merged entity and a desire to improve its outreach to a larger portion of Michigan’s LGBT community.

-\$25,000 for the Michigan AIDS Coalition to provide leadership training for LGBTQ youth of color. A grant will help expand the Young Brothers United program, which facilitates meaningful community involvement of youth in the community.

The HOPE Fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan exists to strengthen and empower organizations that serve the LGBT communities by supporting important charitable activities in southeast Michigan and by encouraging individuals to consider what they can do with their personal philanthropy.

-\$2,400 for Nonprofit Enterprises at Work to convene two gatherings of HOPE grantees serving LGBTQ youth of color.

-\$10,000 for Ozone House to train other youth-serving organizations to better respond to the needs of LGBT youth. Up to 15 youth social service providers will be trained, utilizing the Implementing Inclusion curriculum developed by Ozone House, which has a strong track record in serving LGBT youth.

-\$40,000 for the Ruth Ellis Center to train LGBTQ youth of color to promote positive change in the child welfare system. Because LGBTQ youth are disproportionately represented in the foster care system, the youth will be trained in public speaking and other skills necessary to move forward their ideas for change in that system.

-\$10,000 for the Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network to undertake a collaborative project to develop and

distribute an LGBTQ toolkit to 400 faith groups. Information will be included on resource agencies and services within Michigan and information on why faith groups should consider becoming more inclusive of LGBTQ people.

Several of the grants are another in a series of steps that the Community Foundation has taken over the last four years to help strengthen the LGBT people of color communities.

Created in 1994, The HOPE Fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan exists to strengthen and empower organizations that serve the LGBT communities by supporting important charitable activities in southeast Michigan and by encouraging individuals to consider what they can do with their personal philanthropy. Since its inception, more than \$1.3 million in grants have been made through the Foundation’s HOPE Fund. The HOPE Fund also helps people carry out their charitable wishes to benefit the LGBT communities.

# Equality Michigan Pride PAC endorses pro-equality primary candidates

**LANSING**— The Equality Michigan Pride Political Action Committee released its endorsements on Aug. 1 for the 2011 primary election for Lansing City Council: Rory Neuner, an at-large candidate, and Lynne Martinez for Ward 1.

“Michigan continues to struggle with a near-complete lack of protections for the gay and transgender community,” said Emily Dievendorf, political director of the Equality Michigan Pride PAC. “In Michigan, it is still legal to fire an employee because they are gay or even perceived to be gay. The candidates endorsed by the Equality Michigan Pride PAC for the primary elections are up-and-coming advocates for equality and fairness.

“Rory Neuner and Lynne Martinez are working hard to ensure that every citizen has equal access to local resources and opportunity ... Lansing is key to our state’s well-being and these candidates know it. We applaud the tireless efforts and inspired vision that these candidates offer their friends, neighbors, and the entire state.”

The Equality Michigan Pride PAC works to support candidates committed to helping achieve full equality and respect for all people in Michigan, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

# Debbie Dingell joins Democratic Party’s LGBT caucus

The Michigan Democratic Party Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Allies Caucus is proud to announce the addition of Debbie Dingell to the caucus’ executive board. “In my many years as a Michigan activist, in the long fight for LGBT civil rights, I have rarely found an ally so compassionate for our issues as Debbie Dingell,” said caucus Chair Phil Volk. Dingell currently serves on the Wayne State University Board of Governors and is married to Congressman John Dingell, D-MI.

# Democratic LGBT Caucus hosts voter registration drive

The Michigan Democratic Party’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Allies Caucus will hold a voter registration drive at Necto in Ann Arbor on Monday, August 15 and Friday, August 19 beginning at 10:30 pm each night. “Voting is a basic right and responsibility of every citizen.” Caucus Chair Phil Volk said, adding that anyone who wants more information about the caucus can ask questions at that time or pick up literature.

The club, located at 516 East Liberty St. in Ann Arbor, is open until 2 a.m. those nights. Every Friday is Pride night at Necto.

## We're so sad to hear this story – 'Possible hate crime in Grand Rapids under investigation.' What are your thoughts?

I don't think there is any "possible" about it. This is clearly a hate crime.  
–Scott McClure

We can't call it a hate crime until the police label it one. But from what the victim explains, it certainly sounds like one, doesn't it?  
–Between The Lines Newspaper

Now if this were between different ethnicities, it would have been labeled a hate crime automatically, no question about it. So what is with the questioning about it being a hate crime? Some things I just do not understand.  
–Ang Kay

I am not terribly surprised. There are lots of decent people in that area, but also a lot of folks stuck in the dark ages. Lots of "Christian Taliban" over there.  
–Mark Schelter

If the police don't call it a hate crime, does that change what it was? Does that apply to "police brutality" also?  
–Steve Duerksen

Comments may be edited for grammar and length.

f Join the conversation ...  
Search: "Between The Lines Newspaper"

COMPILED BY HOWARD ISRAEL

## Heroes, culture



Albus Dumbledore

*"They didn't establish (Dumbledore) as a heterosexual, so finding out he's gay isn't a change, it's just further information. Filling in the blanks. The answer is: heterosexism. See, we all make assumptions, but heterosexism is the assumption that everyone is, should be, or wants to be straight. This guy is otherwise open-minded, so it's really only the first part. We all do this, faced with a new person we know nothing about, we fill in blanks where we find them, often from our own lives. In other words, straight people, presented with a character who exhibits no outward token of homosexuality, and doesn't out themselves in some way, will assume the person is straight. We're all straight until proven gay."*

–Jason Dabrowski, actor/artist, in his blog titled "Dumbledore Can't Just Change," about the real life implications of learning that Harry Potter character Albus Dumbledore was gay, [homorantus.blogspot.com](http://homorantus.blogspot.com), July 26.



Hege Dalen & Toril Hansen

*"We were eating. Then shooting and then the awful screaming. We saw how the young people ran in panic into the lake. We did not sleep last night at all."*

–Hege Dalen and Toril Hansen, a married Norwegian lesbian couple, among the first responders to assist victims following the shooting massacre in Norway. The women made four trips back and forth in their small boat, picking up injured and bloodied youth while dodging the gunman's bullets. "Married lesbian couple rescues 40 kids during Norway shooting rampage," [lgbtqnation.com](http://lgbtqnation.com), July 27.



Sherry Wolf

*"The fact that sports is a bastion of social reaction when it comes to sexuality is at least in part a reflection of the millions of dollars at stake in endorsement deals. If you walk into any gay or lesbian bar in the country, you'd think equality is brought to you by Absolut vodka. But no major brand is ready to hand over its national profile to an LGBT spokesperson, and it's clear that being openly gay is a commercial liability for athletes."*

–Sherry Wolf, in her article titled "America's Deepest Closet," about the sports industry's fierce hostility to open participation by LGBT athletes, [thenation.com](http://thenation.com), July 27.



Monica Roberts

*"What's the problem? This panel is heavy on the GL part of the community and has that glaring omission. Not sure how the bi portion of our community feels about it, but I can say with certainty that the trans part of the rainbow community is not happy about the erasure of African descended trans people from this historic panel. NAACP, if your goal is*

*to have a serious discussion of the issues that face African-American LGBT people, then you can't erase the people who are taking the brunt of the casualties and discrimination. And it damned sure ain't the GL portion of the community."*

–Monica Roberts, writer and award-winning activist, about the panel discussion at the NAACP's first town hall meeting on LGBT issues during its 102nd Annual National Convention, [transriot.blogspot.com](http://transriot.blogspot.com), July 23, in which transsexual, transgender and bisexual panelists were not included. In the last two years, the NAACP has created an LGBT taskforce to help the African-American community fight the challenges of homophobia and transgender discrimination. The panel discussion was moderated by Don Lemon, CNN news anchor; with Julian Bond, NAACP Chairman Emeritus; Professor Beverly Guy-Sheftall of Spelman College; actor Daryl Stephens; comedian Wanda Sykes; and Kenyon Farrow, writer and activist.



## Editorial

### Hate is hate, no matter what it's called

It's easy to think that hate crimes are a problem of the past. But as we've seen recently, hate crimes do happen, and they still affect our community.

In Grand Rapids last week, a gay man was assaulted by two other men. They punched him, called him a faggot and told him he shouldn't be alive. This happened as the man was walking back to his car after a meeting for Equality Michigan. The two attackers did not seem to follow or target him. But when asked how the attackers knew he was gay, the man said he was wearing a West Michigan Pride t-shirt.

Perhaps the most frustrating part of this story is that the Grand Rapids Police neglected to call the incident what it truly was: A hate crime. We understand that police take caution when investigating crimes. Police tend to avoid upsetting a community, and they wait to make certain judgments or proclamations until they know all of the facts. News outlets follow suit, refraining from calling an incident a hate crime until police have done so first. But this incident was clearly a hate crime, and the police should have called it one. As one BTL reader pointed out on our Facebook page, if the incident had been between two minorities – if two men of one race had used racial slurs while attacking

a man of another race – the incident would have been labeled a hate crime immediately.

That's because our culture has become increasingly aware of racial tension. Colleges lecture on diversity; businesses hold diversity trainings; corporations have inclusive language written into policies and practices. We have all been schooled in politically correct language when it comes to race, gender, even religion. But sexuality is still not considered a class to respect in many circles.

One heartening aspect of this story is that it did receive plenty of media attention. Anti-gay hate crimes are no longer ignored by the press or swept under the rug. Clearly, the local news outlets that covered the story thought that the hate crime would be shocking and worrisome to the community. This signals that things are changing. But as we've written before, change is slow. The incident in Grand Rapids is not a lone incident: as we reported on this story last week, Equality Michigan issued an alert for people using dating services because a man was beaten and robbed on a date he set up on a chat line.

Our community is still a target. We need to be wary, and we need to look out for one another.



## Viewpoint

BY TODD HEYWOOD

### Starting meds

It's just a pill. Well, in my case, it's three pills. But still, it is medicine. But why is it imbued with so much emotional debris? That is something I am sorting through as I prepare to go on anti-retroviral treatment.

I have been HIV-positive since approximately March 2007, and I have known since July 17, 2007. I remember, very clearly getting the phone call from my doctor saying I needed to come in right away. It was 3 p.m. in the afternoon and I was meeting with the head of the Lansing Parks Commission about Shakespeare productions we had coming up. He offered to drive me.

When she showed me that paper, I literally went numb. Emotionally and physically. It also triggered off anxiety attacks of epic proportions. Attacks I continue to battle to this day. It was so overwhelming, I could not eat for days. Nothing tasted right. And the idea of being hugged by the loving members of the cast of Julius Caesar – which I was then directing – was enough to trigger a panic attack. It took three times the standard does of Lexapro and 10 days to get some emotional stability in my life again so that I could eat. I lost about 15 pounds in the process.

And when I met with the doctors for the first time, I was convinced that I was going to start on the meds right then and there. Why? I was not going to allow the then guidance be my guide because it was structured on a multi-person, multi-year study in which most of the cohort were HIV positive drug or alcohol abusers. The study guidance was created because at 350 of less CD4s that cohort was more likely to experience symptoms which made them more likely to adhere to the strict pill regime necessary to be successful with the medications.

But something funny happened. My blood work was excellent. I had no measurable virus at all. My CD4s were healthy. And this is how it has been for years. So much so, I have come to rely on having healthy CD4s and very low or undetectable virus measures. For four years I had the tiger by the tail, and was winning the battle.

This year, that has changed. While my blood viral load remains incredibly low (272 3 months ago and 277 in June – most people who start meds measure their viral loads in the thousands or more), my CD4s have crashed. My frontline defenders are so depleted I am at risk of additional infections. It is time to start the medications.

Yet this realization, while rational, has

elicited something different by way of emotions. For the first time since I had to normalize the idea that I was HIV positive, I must now normalize the fact that I am infected with a virus that is slowly but surely destroying my immune system. A march that could ultimately kill me if I did not take the chemotherapy being offered.

These medications, while certainly life saving, are not a walk in the park. They are heavy duty toxic chemicals with a bevy of horrendous side effects.

And let there be no mistake about it. These medications, while certainly life saving, are not a walk in the park. They are heavy duty toxic chemicals with a bevy of horrendous side effects. The medications themselves can be as dangerous and sometimes more so than the virus itself. These are medications that one takes and prepares for, requiring access to toilets throughout the day. They can cause the pancreas (which regulates insulin and thus blood sugar) to cease working. They can impact the liver, which filters all the waste products from the blood, by shutting it down completely. They can destroy the nerves on the fringes of the body and they can impact cognitive processes. This is not "taking a pill and everything will be alright" this is scorched earth warfare – and the earth of the battlefield is your body.

I don't now if I am actually ready to start the medication, emotionally anyway. But I will. Because I will be damned if a protein packet surrounding a bit of viral RNA is going to get the best of me.

Todd A. Heywood is senior reporter for the Michigan Messenger, an online news and policy website and a publication of the American Independent News Network. This editorial does not reflect the opinions of AINN, its staff or other sites. It is solely the opinion of the author. Heywood was diagnosed with HIV in July 2007. Until now, he has – without medications – kept the virus in check.



BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

## H2O! (HOPE to Order)

The temperature Friday, 1:30 p.m., is a sun-bleaching 85 degrees. I could use an ice-cold bottle of water. Free. Handed out with a smile by six young, white, twenty-somethings.

They are eager in their facial expressions. Eager to bring surcease to parched throats. Eager to be a helping presence to students and faculty still left on Wayne State U’s campus on a July summer.

I see their van parked on the corner of Warren and Cass, in front of Marwil’s bookstore, where I stop to check if a book on order, “Inside Scientology,” is available. A beaming youngster offers me a temptingly chilled, visually icicled thirst quencher. I resist his offer.

I sense an alternative motive in such unasked for generosity. OK. What’s the gimmick? I ask myself, once my business at Marwil’s is successfully concluded (at 20 percent discount). There’s no such thing as a free lunch or an on-the-spot hydration, I remind myself. Resisting temptation, fluid and otherwise.

Back on the street corner, an older woman, somewhat pleasingly plump – as the saying goes for overweight, matronly types – probably a chaperone to the bottle brokers, smiles and offers me her bottled wetness in the academic desert, with a wink and a postcard that says HOPE in large letters.

H-O-P-E! Baptist. That’s the only clue I need. It all falls into place. We’ll give you a bottle of free water, free ice-cold water, if you’ll – God knows that there’s the off chance that you just might – attend our church. The Way! The Truth! The Life!

Without hesitating I launch my verbal thirst quencher. “You people should be ashamed of yourselves. The way you treat gays, lesbians, transgendered people. It’s wicked, cruel, truly un-Christian. Your treatment of Muslims, Hindus, and persons of other faiths than yours isn’t much better.”

“You don’t know anything about how I feel about gays or lesbians,” says the somewhat startled chaperone Bible bottle bootlegger. “You don’t know me at all.”

“True, I don’t. I do know however what you Baptist fundamentalist, born-again evangelicals believe in collectively. Your track record on anything that has to deal with homosexuality is totally anti. It’s beliefs like yours that cause young gays to commit suicide and others to hate themselves. Shame! Shame on you!”

While my two-minute tirade I’m sure won’t make a dent in their biblical craniums, I suddenly feel invigorated. Suddenly calm. Cool. Refreshed. Looking directly at one of the young bottle brigadiers, I footnote my comments (just in case that some day he might be induced to think independently).

“Have you ever read Thomas Paine’s “The Age of Reason”? Or, how about Robert G. Ingersoll’s “The Mistakes of Moses”? Or, any of that Great American Agnostic’s essays?” Just for emphasis I repeat the names and the books. Then add: by the sweet bye and bye, are there any blacks in your church? Are you sure?”

This isn’t my first encounter with fundygelicals. Last time it was the Business Men’s Bible Club. They stood on campus corners gifting copies of the New Testament. (Whether the words of Jesus were printed in red for good luck, I’m not sure.)

I verbally assaulted one of their number standing on the corner near where I have my morning coffee. I began with my usual bully pulpit attack, “You guys should be ashamed of yourselves. The way you treat gays and lesbians is truly an abomination! ....”

I then enjoyed my morning coffee and nutty doughnut with added zest. When I finished and walked up to the corner, Bible Barney Barnstormer was gone. I doubt that my preaching to the choir made any difference. (Unless he was singing alto.)

But, damnit it all to hell in a beaded, Gucci hand bag, it made my day. (A rainbow day at that.)

Charles@pridesource.com

# Gay marriage: awkward issue for some Republican presidential hopefuls

## Opposing gay marriage no longer a safe strategy

BY DAVID CRARY

**NEW YORK (AP)**– Same-sex marriage might seem like a straightforward issue: You’re for it or against it. Yet for the field of Republican presidential hopefuls, it’s proving to be an awkward topic as public attitudes change and more states legalize gay unions, the latest being New York.

Numerous recent polls suggest a slim majority of Americans now back gay marriage. Support is highest among Democrats, but is growing across the political spectrum even while religious conservatives – a key part of the GOP primary electorate – remain largely opposed.

The result, according to political analysts from both major parties, is a dilemma for the leading GOP candidates, most of whom oppose same-sex marriage but tend to avoid raising the topic unless asked.

“They see the polling – more and more Republicans are supporting gay marriage,” said David Welch, a former research director for the Republican National Committee. “It puts them in an awkward position with the younger members of the party and also with independents whose votes you need to win.”

Richard Socarides, a former Clinton White House adviser on gay rights, said the political climate has changed rapidly and dramatically as leading Democrats celebrate the advent of gay marriage in New York and the imminent end of the ban on gays serving openly in the military under President Barack Obama.

“It’s now advantageous for Democrats to support gay rights, and a net negative for Republicans to oppose them,” Socarides said. “It’s become extremely complicated for many of the Republican candidates who are used to using anti-gay rhetoric as a way to gin up their base.”

Obama, though still not ready to endorse gay marriage, says he’s “evolving” on the issue and is supporting a bill that would extend federal recognition to same-sex couples who marry in the six states that allow it.

“More and more Republicans are supporting gay marriage. It puts (hopeful Republican candidates) in an awkward position with the younger members of the party and also with independents whose votes you need to win.”

–David Welch, a former research director for the Republican National Committee

New Hampshire is among those six states and also home to the first Republican primary next winter. According to conservative activists in the state, none of the major GOP presidential candidates has yet taken a public position on the ongoing effort by some Republican legislators to repeal the 2009 state law legalizing same-sex marriage.

Andy Smith, director of the University of New Hampshire Survey Center, predicted that most of the GOP contenders would continue trying to dodge the issue because of lukewarm public support for repeal.



Rep. Michele Bachmann, R-MN, holds fast to her anti-gay beliefs as other Republican presidential hopefuls avoid gay rights issues. Polls show a slim majority of Americans support same-sex marriage; Republicans risk losing young or independent voters. Photo by Christopher Halloran.

However, David Bates, one of the lawmakers pushing for the repeal, says he and his colleagues intend to put some heat on the GOP contenders by scheduling debate on the repeal bill in the weeks leading up to the primary.

“We will be seeing to it that each candidate addresses it,” Bates said. “They will not be able to duck it.”

In Iowa, where social conservatives are likely to play a key role in the GOP caucus next winter, two candidates – Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota and former Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania – both signed a pledge denouncing same-sex marriage rights. Former governors Mitt Romney and Tim Pawlenty were among those refusing to sign the pledge, but both issued statements stressing that they favored limiting marriage to one-man, one-woman unions.

Among the other major GOP candidates, former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman stands out as supporting civil unions, which would extend marriage-like rights to same-sex couples. Rep. Ron Paul of Texas, a favorite of many libertarians, says he supports the right of states to legalize same-sex marriage but opposes any effort to require recognition of those unions on a national level.

Both Bachmann and Texas Gov. Rick Perry – a possible contender – have said they respect the rights of individual states to legalize same-sex marriage, yet both also say they would support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would define marriage nationally as limited to heterosexual couples.

For Perry in particular, that stance involved some scrambling after he won applause at a Republican conference in Colorado on July 22 for his remarks about New York’s same-sex marriage law.

“That’s New York, and that’s their business, and that’s fine with me,” said Perry, who was highlighting his support for states’ rights.

Some leading social conservatives were dismayed by such comments from Perry, who they have strongly supported over the years. Eager to soothe the concerns, Perry did a broadcast

See GOP, page 11

# CA gay marriage ban case to be heard Sept. 6

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)**– California’s highest court says it will hear arguments right after Labor Day on an issue that is likely to prove decisive for the fate of the state’s voter-enacted ban on same-sex marriages.

The California Supreme Court scheduled a Sept. 6 hearing to consider whether ballot initiative sponsors have authority to fight court rulings on their measures if the governor and attorney general refuse to appeal.

The question is pivotal to the future of the 2008 ban, known as Proposition 8, because former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Gov. Jerry Brown, in his previous role as attorney general, refused last year to challenge a federal court ruling that struck down the law as a violation of gay Californians’ civil rights.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is reviewing an appeal brought by the group that qualified Proposition 8, but said it could not reach the broader constitutional issues until it determined if the group had legal standing. The appeals court has asked the Supreme Court for its guidance in interpreting state law.

## Bachmann refuses questions about husband’s gay therapy clinic

BY PHILIP ELLIOTT

**WASHINGTON (AP)**– Presidential hopeful Michele Bachmann says she – and not her husband – is running for the White House and that questions about their family business and finances are off-limits.

Speaking last Thursday in Washington, Bachmann again declined to answer questions about Marcus Bachmann’s Christian counseling center that has attempted to convert gay patients. She says she’s proud of her husband of 32 years but refused to answer a question on her beliefs on gay therapy.

She also faced questions about her opposition to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. The Washington Post this week reported its review of the Bachmanns’ loan documents suggests they took advantage of those lenders’ federally subsidized programs.

Bachmann says it’s impossible to buy a home without government involvement. She says she still wants to scrap those programs.

### ► GOP

Continued from p. 10

interview Thursday with Tony Perkins of the conservative Family Research Council to clarify his Colorado remarks and make clear he still supported the federal marriage amendment. “I probably needed to add a few words after that ‘It’s fine with me,’” Perry said. “Obviously gay marriage is not fine with me. My stance hasn’t changed. I believe marriage is a union between one man and one woman.”

Bachmann built her political career in Minnesota on staunch advocacy of socially conservative positions, including opposition to abortion and gay marriage. In recent days, however, she has balked at answering questions about various gay-related topics, including reports that her husband’s Christian counseling clinic has tried to convert gay patients away from homosexuality.

Chuck Donovan, a senior research fellow with the

# California OKs push to repeal LGBT teaching law

BY REX WOCKNER

California officials gave the go-ahead July 25 for anti-gay groups to begin collecting signatures for a voter referendum next June on the new law that requires public schools to teach about LGBT people’s history.

Attorney General Kamala Harris titled the proposal, “Referendum to Overturn Non-Discrimination Requirements for School Instruction.”

And she summarized it this way: “If signed by the required number of registered voters and filed with the Secretary of State, this petition will place on the statewide ballot a challenge to a state law previously approved by the Legislature and Governor. The law must then be approved by a majority of voters at the next statewide election to go into effect. The law would require school instructional materials to recognize societal contributions of various groups; and would prohibit school instructional materials that reflect adversely on persons based on their ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and other characteristics.”

Opposition forces now face the task of collecting 504,760 valid signatures from registered California voters and turning them in to

## American Bar Association honors Olson, Boies

BY REX WOCKNER

The American Bar Association will honor Ted Olson and David Boies, the famous odd-couple lawyers who got Proposition 8 declared unconstitutional last year.

The two star attorneys, who represented George W. Bush and Al Gore respectively before the U.S. Supreme Court in the 2000 “hanging chad” election debacle, teamed up with the American Foundation for Equal Rights to fight the voter-passed constitutional amendment that re-banned same-sex marriage in California in 2008.

A federal district judge in San Francisco agreed with their arguments and struck down the amendment, which has remained in force as the ruling is appealed.

On Aug. 8, Olson and Boies will receive the American Bar Association Medal, a rare honor that isn’t bestowed at all in some years.

“Ted and David show that excellence in the legal profession transcends partisan and ideological boundaries,” said AFER Board President Chad Griffin. “Thanks to these two world-class legal minds the dark walls of discrimination are beginning to crumble.”

Last year, Time magazine declared Olson and Boies two of the 100 most influential people in the world.

Same-sex couples remain unable to marry in California while three matters wind through the courts:

1. The appeal of the ruling that struck down Prop 8. The appeal is currently paused in the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.
2. Pending decisions from both the California Supreme Court and the 9th Circuit on whether the people who filed the appeal had a right to appeal. California state officials refused to defend Prop 8, so the

conservative Heritage Foundation, predicted that GOP candidates would face mounting pressure from left and right to be specific about the gay marriage issue, and not just fall back on endorsement of a federal constitutional ban that has no chance of passage any time soon, if ever.

On the other hand, Donovan said he understood why GOP candidates might soft-pedal their opposition to same-sex unions.

“Most of them sense they’re not going to get the warmest media treatment if they come out and take a stance on the marriage issue,” he said.

Jan van Lohuizen, who has done polling for George W. Bush and other Republicans, said most of the GOP contenders are faced with a common dilemma – if they trumpet their opposition to same-sex marriage to win conservative votes in GOP primaries, do they risk losing moderate votes in a general election?

His advice to GOP candidates on the marriage debate: “I would simply ignore it. The fiscal issues are so much more

county officials by Oct. 12.

Equality California, which sponsored the teaching bill in the Legislature, appears to have taken the lead in whatever LGBT effort will be made to thwart the signature drive or save the law at the ballot box.

The group has requested \$50,000 from its supporters “to launch a statewide education program,” vowed to provide information in the future on how people hoping to save the law can volunteer, and urged its supporters to “report signature gatherers.”

“If you spot a Stop SB 48 organizer gathering signatures in your community, let us know on Facebook,” EQCA Executive Director Roland Palencia said. (The law was Senate Bill 48.)

“Our opponents will use this signature-gathering time to make wild claims about the FAIR Education Act – that it will expose children to ‘gay sex’ and force them to ‘accept homosexuality,’” Palencia said. “These lies based on prejudice about LGBT people and kids have formed the foundation of every campaign, including marriage equality, they have ever waged against our community and every campaign they will wage – until we stop them.”

Palencia didn’t reveal what tactics EQCA may have up its sleeve.

sponsors of the ballot measure appealed the ruling that struck it down.

3. A pending determination by the 9th Circuit on whether the entire District Court ruling should be tossed out because the judge who issued it is in a same-sex relationship and, supposedly, could have had a desire to get married himself at the moment he issued the decision.

The alleged judicial conflict-of-interest issue is unlikely to go anywhere, but the question of whether the ballot-measure

“Thanks to these two world-class legal minds the dark walls of discrimination are beginning to crumble.”

–American Federation for Equal Rights Board President Chad Griffin

sponsors have legal “standing” to appeal is a real one. If they don’t, there will be no appeal and the ruling that struck down Prop 8 will take effect.

Should the appeal proceed on the merits of the decision, it would be heard first by the 9th Circuit and then likely go to the U.S. Supreme Court, which could uphold Prop 8, strike it down in a way that applies only to California, or strike it down in a way that legalizes same-sex marriage nationwide.

decisive than the social issues. Why go out on a limb with this one?”

The tea party movement, though its ranks include many social conservatives, has generally not sought to make same-sex marriage a dominant issue at this stage of the 2012 campaign.

“Because all the economic issues are going to explode, nobody except extreme hard-core advocates on each side will be talking it,” said Judson Phillips, founder of the Tea Party Nation.

GOP candidates might be better off under this scenario, according to Phillips, who depicted same-sex marriage as “a hugely awkward issue for them.”

Sal Russo, a strategist for the Tea Party Express, said the movement’s followers are primarily concerned about the size and cost of government and have diverse views about social issues.

“We have libertarians who support same-sex marriage, and Christian activists who adamantly oppose it,” he said.

## Creep of the Week Sally Kern

Haters gon' hate, am I right? And according to Oklahoma State Rep. Sally Kern, the most hateful thing you can say to a gay person is that they're okay the way they are.

In a July 27 radio interview with the American Family Association's Tim Wildmon, the two spun a rather perverse picture of the "compassion" they feel for homosexuals.



Sally Kern

"As you just said, nobody hates the individual homosexual," Wildmon says. "We want to see them come to repentance and know the Lord and have their lives changed, that's what we want to see. So we have compassion for people like that."

"People like that," eh Wildmon? Nice. Sounds super compassionate.

Kern responds, "To me what is hateful is when those people who say 'you're born this way, there's no hope in change, you're stuck in this, deal with it.' That is hate. There's no hope in that."

There's just no arguing with Kern's response. Definitely more compassionate to lie to gays, telling them that they're broken and can be "fixed" if only they love the Lord enough.

Mind you, this is the same woman who told a group of her supporters, "I honestly think (homosexuality is) the biggest threat our nation has, even more so than terrorist and Islam." Then she claimed that gays want to get "our children" ("two-year-olds!" she shrieked).

She again evoked the specter of the homosexual menace in her interview with Wildmon.

"(I)n my opinion the homosexual movement is the tip of the spear," she says. "They're the ones who right now are beating down the door, have their foot in the door, trying to tear down the moral fiber of America. We have to stand up to that. The reason it's the tip of the spear you don't see 'Adulterers Victory Fund' out there trying to promote adultery. God's people got to stand up to this."

"Adulterers Victory Fund" is her swipe at the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, a group she's not an especially big fan of ever since they exposed her "gays are worse than terrorism" comments.

She and Wildmon address that little incident while discussing the title of Kern's new book, "The Stoning of Sally Kern: The Liberal Attack on Christian Conservatism And Why We Must Take a Stand."

"I didn't choose that title, the publishing company did. I had 'No Apology and No Regrets' and they felt that was a little too bland. And so I came up with 'Holyphebe' because I was so sick and tired of being called a homophobe. I don't hate or fear homosexuals, they're sinners that need to be saved by grace, just like I'm a sinner. The only one I want to fear is the Lord," she said. "They kind of played it off of the stoning of Steven in scripture. He was literally stoned and I was figuratively stoned."

Figuratively stoned? Really? Sounds like someone has a persecution complex.

When Wildmon asks her to provide an example of her persecution, she offers the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund distributing her anti-gay rant, a rant, she says, that was only three minutes of a much longer talk. As if the rest of the talk would have somehow put "gays are worse than terrorists" in a more kindhearted context.

As if a public figure has any expectation of privacy when she gives public talks in which she says bat-shit crazy things, Wildmon goes out of his way to make clear that the Victory Fund "secretly taped" Kern's talk.

Chill out Tim. She was giving a speech, not taking a dump. Well, not a literal one, anyway.

According to Rep. Sally Kern, the most hateful thing you can say to a gay person is that they're okay the way they are.

## Colombia to have same-sex unions within two years

Colombia's Constitutional Court on July 26 gave Congress two years to extend the rights of marriage to same-sex couples and said that if it doesn't, then same-sex civil unions will become legal anyway.

The ruling was unanimous. "The court curiously delayed the date its ruling takes effect, on the ground that the Congress must legislate on the matter," said leading activist Germán Rincón-Perfetti. "In six attempts, Congress has shelved bills on homosexual issues because of problems of religious contamination. For the seventh time, the process will begin and if there is not a favorable decision, then the court's ruling will enter into force."

The court also said that although the nation's constitution defines marriage as between a man and woman, that doesn't exclude other definitions.

It further ruled that, legally speaking, same-sex families are families, which has the effect of opening up various avenues of equal treatment for same-sex couples.

## International youth group pulls conference from Israel

The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Youth and Student Organization (a.k.a IGLYO) on July 28 canceled plans to hold its December annual conference in Israel after being criticized by Palestinian LGBT activists and some of its own member groups.

"This (support from IGLYO members) can only be seen as a continuation of the beautiful spirit of global solidarity, dominant during the South African anti-apartheid struggle and ongoing in solidarity with the rights of the Palestinian people, and oppressed people everywhere," said the group Palestinian Queers for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions. (See [tinyurl.com/3pazvzs](http://tinyurl.com/3pazvzs).)

PQBDS said IGLYO's holding the gathering in Tel Aviv – and its "acceptance of funding from the Israeli government" – would have "directly implicate(d) IGLYO in Israel's occupation, colonization and apartheid, and Israeli efforts to 're-brand' Israel."

In cancelling the gathering, IGLYO said the final decision had been made by local host group Israel Gay Youth following passage of a new Israeli law that makes it a civil offense to support boycotting, sanctioning and divesting from Israel – tactics that some IGLYO member groups apparently favor.

"Recent legal changes in Israel raised some concerns of the board of IGLYO," the group said in a statement. "In robust discussions between IGLYO and IGY following the passage of the new law and following the decision of the board of IGLYO to open a new round of consultation with member organizations, IGY subsequently decided on July 24th to withdraw its proposal to host the 2011 General Assembly as the location of the GA was subject to further consultation and possible change. (This) created an unstable environment in which to plan the General Assembly." (See [tinyurl.com/3wlkftd](http://tinyurl.com/3wlkftd).)

IGLYO's statement said "there has been much debate on the proposed location of the GA (in Israel) by IGLYO member organizations and also by LGBTQ and human rights allies," and that the debate had a "complex nature." At one point, IGLYO's member organizations voted 55 percent in favor of holding the gathering in Tel Aviv, with 20 percent opposed and 25 percent abstaining from the vote. (See [tinyurl.com/3nmuk4v](http://tinyurl.com/3nmuk4v).)

Meanwhile, Israel Gay Youth will go ahead with an event that was to be a companion gathering to the IGLYO assembly.

The International LGBTQ Youth Leadership Summit will take place as scheduled, and IGLYO's board said it "acknowledge(s) the opportunity that such a meeting would present (for IGLYO's) member organizations, and therefore, support(s) IGY in this event."

The Palestinian Queers group denounced IGLYO for supporting the companion summit, accusing IGLYO of "blatant hypocrisy" and "de-facto crossing our picket line."

## Australian census to count married same-sex couples

In a first, the next Australian census will count same-sex couples who have gotten married abroad. "Census night" is Aug. 9.

"It is an important sign of respect that the Australian Bureau of Statistics will allow same-sex partners to indicate if they are married on the census," said Australian Marriage Equality spokesman Peter Furness. "It also highlights how nonsensical the federal government's failure to recognize same-sex marriage has become. We urge all same-sex partners who want to indicate they are married to take advantage of the fact that now they can."

Same-sex marriage is not allowed in Australia and Australian same-sex couples can't even get married in all countries where it is allowed because the Australian government refuses to issue them the "certificate of non-impediment to marriage" that some nations require of foreign couples.

Nonetheless, thousands of same-sex couples have managed to get married overseas. Many marry in Canada, which does not require a non-impediment certificate, AME said, while other couples acquired a certificate from their state government rather than the federal government.

"Only some places that allow same-sex marriages require the documents that the Australian government doesn't issue," said AME's Rodney Croome.

Nations that have accepted a non-impediment document issued by one of Australia's state governments include South Africa, the Netherlands and Portugal, Croome said.

The new census figures collected Aug. 9 will be made public next July.

"ABS will provide the government with a baseline figure for the number of couples they are discriminating against on July 12, 2012, which is expected to be a key time in the marriage-equality debate," said Furness, who got married in Canada in 2006.

Same-sex marriage is legal in Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Mexico (where same-sex marriages are allowed only in the capital city but are recognized nationwide). It also is legal in six U.S. states – Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York and Vermont – and Washington, D.C.

## Italian Parliament blocks homo/transphobia bill

Italy's Parliament on July 26 approved a motion declaring a draft bill against homophobia and transphobia unconstitutional, said the national LGBT organization Arcigay.

The move had the effect of blocking further discussion of the measure.

"Arcigay considers this act as the latest outrage against LGBT people across the country carried out by a center-right majority composed of men and women of mediocre human, political and cultural profile," the group fumed. "We denounce before Europe and the entire civilized world that in Italy there is a real democratic emergency."

## LGBTs march in Jerusalem

Thousands of people marched in Jerusalem's 10th LGBT pride parade July 28.

A spokesman said the parade was more about politics and solidarity than "sexuality."

The route was from Independence Park to a park at the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, where a rally was staged.

Police prevented anti-gay protesters accompanied by donkeys from coming near the march. The protesters hoped to denounce homosexuality as "bestial."

Tel Aviv's parade earlier this year attracted some 70,000 people.

## Hot stuff at Hotter Than July

Photos, clockwise: Rihanna S&M performed on stage Saturday at the festival and picnic in Palmer Park; Javan Star and Brown Bell hang out in the July sun at the picnic; mother and daughter Kennedy and Britney Graham enjoy the craft table sponsored by Karibu House; DJ Darryl G spins the hits for festivalgoers. BTL photos: Andrew Potter.



# Your business doesn't stop at 5:00. Does your business banker?

At Comerica Bank, we know that the most difficult time to actually "deal with your business" is during business hours. There's always a fire to put out or an issue to address NOW.

Which is why our relationship managers are willing to make themselves available for you, even outside of normal business hours.

**Just another reason why we're the leading bank for business.\***

\*Based on commercial and industrial loans outstanding. Data provided by Highline Financial LLC, a Thomson Reuters Company, December 2010.

PERSONAL \ SMALL BUSINESS  
CORPORATE \ WEALTH MANAGEMENT

MEMBER FDIC. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER.

**AMERICAN MATTRESS GALLERY** Michigan's Mattress Experts

American Mattress Gallery offers the full Serta mattress line and has Michigan's largest collection of Serta mattresses on display. Come to our mattress gallery in Michigan for all of your Serta mattress needs.

**Serta** 8" Queen Memory Foam Mattress **only \$399.95**  
(Twin full & King also sale priced)

**0% Interest** for up to 48 Months  
\*see store for details

**TEMPUR-PEDIC**  
NOBODY SELLS TEMPUR-PEDIC FOR LESS!  
Come to our mattress gallery in Novi for all of your Tempur-Pedic mattress needs.

**43235 12 Mile • Novi**  
corner of 12 Mile and Novi Road  
**248.349.2000** [www.americamattressgallery.com](http://www.americamattressgallery.com)

**OPEN SEVEN DAYS!** MON - WED

*"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](http://petesbroadwaycafe.com)

[twitter.com/broadwaycafe](https://twitter.com/broadwaycafe) • [facebook.com/broadwaycafe](https://facebook.com/broadwaycafe)



(From left) Aziz Ansari, Jesse Eisenberg, Danny McBride and Nick Swardson of "30 Minutes or Less." Photo: Sony Pictures

**GLBT BOOK CLUB**

THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLING NOVEL BY TATIANA DE ROSNAY

**SARAH'S KEY** by Tatiana De Rosnay

**Time** Tuesday Sept. 13th from 6:30 pm - 8 pm

**Location** Warrilow's 2140 Hilton Rd., Ferndale, MI

**Created By** MCC Detroit

Join a book club sponsored by MCC Detroit. We will meet at Warrilow's on the above given date and time. Eating is optional.

*Warrilow's* Food & Spirits

**MCC** METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF DETROIT

**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**

**RazorLawFirm.com**

**888-Razor-Law** 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.

## What's so gay about dude comedy '30 Minutes or Less'? More than you think.

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

It felt like a major coup – a gay journalist invited out to New York City to interview the cast of "30 Minutes or Less," a comedy that appeared to be made for men. Straight bro-talking, burp-expelling men.

But after the recent gay marriage ruling in N.Y., progress is just sweeping the nation. I mean, how else do you explain my presence among all this mainstream press covering a movie that, I was told, wasn't the least bit gay?

So just minutes into the Grand Rapids-shot movie, about a pizza-delivery guy forced to rob a bank, I couldn't believe what I was witnessing

– gayness, everywhere. Maybe I'm just trained to see gay – you know, like a sixth sense or something – because "30 Minutes or Less" was full of it: gay-adjacent relationships where having sex with your dude-friend's sister means you had sex with him too, humping Jason Voorhees via a movie screen (weird? or gay? or both?) and talk of a girl getting some OTPF (Over The Pants Fingering) from a gay guy. And that's not all – there's Jesse Eisenberg, Aziz Ansari, Danny McBride and Nick Swardson, the foursome who comprise the budding bromances.

When the all-guy cast casually assembles in their street clothes at the Ritz-Carlton Central Park for a press conference that's nearly as funny

as the film itself, my question is, naturally, the gayest: When does a bromance go full-on gay? "There is an alternate ending we shot where we all fuck each other," says a straight-faced Ansari, best known for his role opposite Amy Poehler on NBC's "Parks and Recreation." "But when we watched that, we're like, 'This is turning into a gay thing.'"

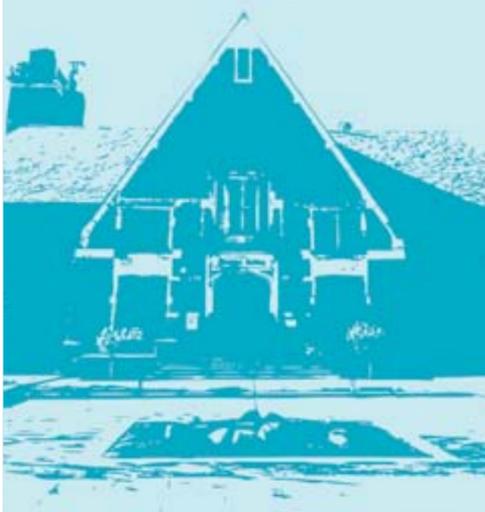
Even without the scene, sometimes "30 Minutes or Less," like so many halfway-gay buddy films where the guys have a complicated and unusually strong tenderness for each other (for instance, "I Love You, Man," "Superbad" and "Pineapple Express"), seems kind of like a gay thing – just not gay-gay, clarifies director

Ruben Fleischer. "I call it a double-buddy comedy," he says. "This is really two pairs of friends, and to me the friendship never strays too gay. It's just a true affection and support and love for a friend."

Because in the film, the well-off Chet (Ansari) throws his life on the line to help rob a bank so that his not-all-together chum, Nick (Eisenberg), doesn't explode into smithereens when two small-town twits, Dwayne and Travis (McBride and Swardson, respectively), strap a bomb to his chest and give him an ultimatum: get them the money, or die. What ensues is ridiculously, and probably surprisingly, hilarious.

See 30 Minutes, page 24

# Cool Cities Birmingham



**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

**Ready for A BETTER LIFE?**  
Jesus said, in John 10:10 Message Bible, "I have come that you might have a real and eternal life, a far BETTER LIFE."

**WHOSOEVER** Ministry,  
a Word Teaching, Life Application Ministry, presents:

AT OUR NEW LOCATION:  
1803 East 14 Mile Rd.  
at Woodward in Birmingham  
Noon Sundays  
313-259-0000

Hear what the Bible says about:  
• How to know when God is talking to you  
• How to break free from financial fears  
• How to deal with problems and much more  
Rev. Jeffrey Seals and Dr. Selma Massey, Pastors

Testimony: "I have seen Dr. Selma on television and I have learned so much about what the Bible says about many of my problems and concerns. Now, I hold on to the promises of God."  
Joyce

**Between THE Lines**

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

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

Follow us!  
@YourBTL

**HAGOPIAN**  
Cleaning Specials

**2 for 1**  
Rug Cleaning  
When you bring them to any of our drop-off centers, we'll clean every other one  
**FREE!**

**In Home Cleaning\***  
4 Rooms **99<sup>99</sup>**  
2 Rooms **59<sup>99</sup>**  
7' Sofa or 2 Chairs **59<sup>99</sup>**  
\*Some restrictions apply

Ask about our Expert Rug Repair

Rug Care Centers & Showrooms  
Oak Park • Birmingham • Novi • Ann Arbor • Ulica

1.800.HAGOPIAN (424.6742)  
[www.originalhagopian.com](http://www.originalhagopian.com)

**Robert Schefman**

Robert Schefman  
Allegory (Supporting My Compulsive Behavior)  
oil on canvas - 28" x 46"

**Robert Kidd Gallery**  
107 Townsend Street • Birmingham, Michigan 48009  
(748) 642-3509 email: [staff@robertkiddgallery.com](mailto:staff@robertkiddgallery.com)  
[www.robertkiddgallery.com](http://www.robertkiddgallery.com)

wear glasses...  
get compliments

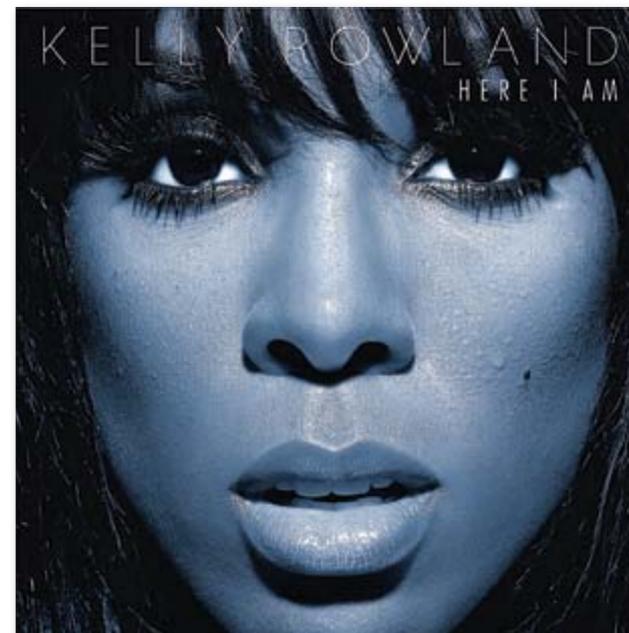
**OPTIK**  
BIRMINGHAM

245 W. MAPLE RD. 248.846.8899 OPTIKBIRMINGHAM.COM

Life HEAR ME OUT

by Chris Azzopardi

# Kelly Rowland can't live up to album's title. Plus: Kasey Chambers' must-hear CD



**Kelly Rowland, 'Here I Am'**

It's never a good sign when an album's street date gets pushed back – especially by a year. But for Kelly Rowland, whose junior LP was originally due last September, it could be just the thing the project needed. It's the best and most cohesive of the three, bent on selling the former Destiny's Child as a sex-obsessed Janet Jackson who wants a lover to "last more rounds" to "make mama proud," as she sexually coos on the especially horned-up "Motivation." Still confusing her with the other Destiny's Child chicks? Just remember: Rowland's the new Ms. Nasty. So much of this CD, which includes 10 tracks, is like sonic smut – but it's also more interesting than Rowland's been since she launched her solo career, and that's probably not saying much. She's swaggering on the opening club cut, "I'm Dat Chick," and then she simulates more sex than a night at the bathhouse: "Lay it on Me" (it sounds like a hit, and like everything else on radio), "All of the Night" (a mid-tempo about "bumpin'" in the bedroom) and "Down for Whatever" (about doing it on the dance floor). Backing her is a bevy of music heavyweights like Rodney Jerkins and RedOne with beats du jour that lean toward Euro-pop. And for "Commander," she grabs David Guetta, who helped her score a hit single with "When Love Takes Over." Their new collabo pales in comparison, which is the problem with a lot of "Here I Am" – the songs aren't bad for what they

are, but none of them really say: Yes, she's here. *Grade: B-*



**Kasey Chambers, 'Little Bird'**

Considering the kind of country gals we have in the down-home department, Kasey Chambers deserves to be right up there with the Taylors and Carries. And she is in her native Australia, where she's a big deal – her 2002 album, the seven-times platinum "Barricades & Brickwalls," sold more copies than any artist but Kylie Minogue. Four albums later, she delivers "Little Bird," a solid CD that maintains a pop-country appeal while also preserving the genre through some rustic flavor and old-school sounds. She does traditional terrifically with the rollicking "Georgia Brown" and the sweeping "Love Like a Hurricane." "Bring Back My Heart," though, is a keen heartbreaker with Patsy Cline's name stamped all over its classic swing sound. Chambers is just as convincing going the contemporary route: "Someone Like Me" is an adorable ditty that would be suitable for Swift, but Chambers gives it more than the sweetness it needs – there's a strong yearning, almost verging on begging, as she beautifully

draws out the chorus with her achy vocals. "This Story" could easily be a hit. Twisting the typical Swift genre of relationships-with-fairytale-endings into one that wasn't, she sings, "Tell this story, change it for me, take her out and put me back in." Because Chambers is so good, this doesn't just seem like a song for a lover – it could also be a justifiable cry for your attention. And you should give it to her. *Grade: B+*

## Also Out



**Roxette, 'Greatest Hits'**

Their songs are instantly recognizable, but the band name attached to them never seems to stick (and no, they're not The Ones Who Sing That "Pretty Woman" Song). Now, however, you won't have a choice but to remember, as the Swedish '80s duo hype their first all-new album in over 10 years with, well, it's pretty obvious – their greatest hits. Besides, obviously, killer power ballads like "Listen to Your Heart" and "It Must Have Been Love," there are 10 other take-you-back tracks. Among them: "Fading Like a Flower (Every Time You Leave)" and the charming "Church of Your Heart." Nothing ultra fans don't have, but a nice intro to... oh, what's their name?



**Hercules & Love Affair, 'Blue Songs'**

The New York clan's eponymous 2008 debut featured some of the best house revivalist music in years, but the same can't be said of its follow-up – there's just not much to latch onto here. Even when their lyrics intrigue with an incessant repetitiveness, like on the story-song "Step Up" (with guest vocalist Kele Okereke of Bloc Party), the music hangs in the backdrop like plain white walls, especially on the plodding closer "It's Alright." And it's not necessarily because of all the band member swaps, or that they're not doing the all-out disco thing. But "Blue Songs" could've been so much more. This love affair's on hold, Hercules.

Reach Chris Azzopardi at [chris@pridesource.com](mailto:chris@pridesource.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, Medicare  
[www.christinecantrell.com](http://www.christinecantrell.com)  
[christinecantrellphd@gmail.com](mailto:christinecantrellphd@gmail.com)

**BANKRUPTCY**

**\$499**

[www.ATTORNEYPIERCE.com](http://www.ATTORNEYPIERCE.com)  
**248.398.5000**  
Debt relief agency for 30 years.  
We have helped 15,000 people file bankruptcy!

**Michigan's LGBT Yellow Pages**

MICHIGAN'S LGBT YELLOW PAGES  
**PRIDESOURCE**  
2011 / 2012

IN PRINT & ONLINE

**PRIDESOURCE**

**BTL** Proud sponsors of Pride throughout the region!

**O'Dell Family Chiropractic**  
28245 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village, MI 48076 • Phone: (248) 552-1110

**DR. KEVIN O'DELL**  
A THIRD GENERATION CHIROPRACTOR WITH 17 YEARS EXPERIENCE

**NATURAL PAIN RELIEF**  
Complimentary complete spinal exam and nerve scan for all new patients! A \$150 value!

**Suffering from...?**

- Asthma
- Arthritis
- Digestion Problems
- Headaches/Migraines
- Hay Fever/Allergies
- Low Immunity
- Low Back Pain
- Neck Pain
- Headaches

**SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS**

**NO INSURANCE - NO PROBLEM! We accept all patients.**

You can be out and Catholic, too!

**dignity detroit**  
All Are Welcome  
313-278-4786  
P.O. Box 558, Royal Oak, 48068  
http://www.dignitydetroit.org/  
dignitydetroit74@yahoo.com

Join Us for Sunday Mass 8 p.m.  
Sacred Heart Chapel  
Margrove College  
Detroit, MI

Spirituality, Equality and Justice  
Nurtured in a Welcoming Catholic Community

# Wynter Time

## Pop-dance artist talks music industry burnout, finding her gay following and foreshadowing J. Lo's divorce

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Of course Wynter Gordon is named after Diana Ross, at least before the "Dirty Talk" singer changed it so she didn't have to explain that she wasn't *that* Diana. But she still has something in common with the Supremes legend — lots of gay fans.

Not only did she just release an EP, "With the Music I Die," but Gordon's also written a handful of songs for other artists, including Mary J. Blige, David Guetta and Jennifer Lopez, whom she wrote a post-breakup song for before the actress' recent split with Marc Anthony. Currently, Gordon's continuing work on her full-length debut, which she says is due later this year or early next, depending on the success of the singles — and so far, so good: "Til Death" recently made a Hot Shot Debut on the Billboard Club Play Chart.

The ethereal-voiced singer, who lives in New York, caught up with us during tour rehearsals to chat about the divas who influence her, growing up in a homophobic country and how she almost gave up music altogether.

**What can we expect from your live set?**

I'll be performing new songs from the album for the very first time. It's just going to be fun.

**I haven't been able to stop listening to "Still Getting Younger," one of the songs on your EP. Tell me about the song.**

That's my favorite song on the album. "Still Getting Younger" came about at a time in my life when I was feeling really discouraged about the music industry. But then I went to London and I met Nick Littlemore — the producer and co-writer of the song — and just being with him was so freeing. He just told me to forget all the rules and just make music that I love, and the song came about within minutes. I'd never really recorded a song like that. It was such a great experience and brought back my love for the project.

**Why were you so unhappy with the music industry?**

It's not that I wasn't happy with it, but I had spent a whole summer — the same summer I wrote "Dirty Talk" — in one room, within four walls, and I kept churning out music. I had over 100 songs, but they weren't getting any play. And I'd been in the music industry for such a long time, and I was like, "I'm kind of over it. I've been trying for a long time."

But I got the whole artist experience without actually being famous. I discovered what I like and what I don't like through trial and error, because working with Flo Rida on "Sugar," I got to travel the world with him. I experienced all the things that new artists experience, without

### Patrick Stump with Wynter Gordon

Doors 7 p.m. Aug. 7 (\$20)  
The Magic Bag  
22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale  
www.themagicbag.com

anybody even knowing who I was.

It was kind of like a shield, because at that point in time, people were telling me how I should dress, what the videos should look like or what my sound should be — and through trial and error, I learned what I'm comfortable with and I wasn't afraid to show it.

**When you were younger, you listened to big-voiced icons like Whitney, Mariah and Celine. How did they influence you musically?**

I love the runs that Celine does and the way she opens up her voice. I always tried to emulate her as a little girl. And then Alanis Morissette, her melodies are so original. When I make music, I try to bring melodies into a song that nobody's really using or hearing, and that's what I took from her.

**They all have a very distinctive way of moving their hands: Mariah has them in the air, Celine pounds her chest with them and Alanis does something with them that I can't really explain. What do you do with your hands when you're performing?**

I guess I have a very violent stance. I'm super muscular, so my hands are always balled-up in a fist; it looks like I'm going to punch somebody, like I'm angry. (Laughs)

**But you're not?**

No, no. I'm happy. It just looks like I want to hurt someone.

**Recently, the media was reporting that a song you wrote for Jennifer Lopez, "Starting Over," for her latest album had something to do with her ex, Marc Anthony. What's the deal with that? Did you write that knowing they'd split?**

No! I'm actually surprised. I was as shocked as everybody else, because Marc was on set with her (during "The Back-up Plan") when I was there and they were very loving to each other. But at the same time, I had to sit down and talk to her and she explained that marriage is work and you can love somebody but you still have to work on marriage — living in the same house, seeing that person every day — so I kind of ran with it, but I didn't realize it would be a testament to the future.



Photo: Andrew Zaeh

**What about some of the song lyrics, like when you refer to the guy as a "dog" and a "player"?**

I kind of made that up. (Laughs) I really had no idea.

**You were raised in South Jamaica, which is one of the most homophobic places on Earth.**

Is it homophobic? You know, I left when I was 17, so I didn't see it. I didn't really know any gay people on the block. It wasn't like there was any homophobia around me, and nobody said anything anti-gay, because I don't think anybody really knew anybody gay. You know, it wasn't in to be out back then. It wasn't really accepted as it is today.

A very close family member just came out to me, and I don't want to reveal his name because he's young and he's still struggling with his choice, but he grew up with me, so I knew before he knew.

**With music, how did you figure out you have a gay following?**

I did a song called "Surveillance" and I got called to a club — Deko Lounge in New Jersey — by the DJ who said, "I want you to come out, we love your music." I got there and it was a gay club and everybody showed me so much love.

**How did the song "Putting It Out There (Pride)," the Official Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras '11, come about?**

I didn't even write the song for that. I just put it out because I thought it would be perfect for it.

Those words are really strong to me. Sometimes those songs work for everything in your life.

**And the song was also used as part of the "It Gets Better" campaign the year before. Why did you feel a need to become involved in that?**

Because of my very close family member, and not really understanding the issues until it's firsthand in your face. I had to deal with the problems and talk my family member through it — just to be OK with it and the religion thing, because we grew up very religious. He didn't think God loved him anymore, and I love him more than I love myself. It just gave a new understanding of what gay people go through.

**Do you remember the response you got from that song?**

Nobody personally wrote to me. It was more comments on YouTube and people would say, "I love that song" and "thank you for doing that." I always feel, because I've been asked to speak at a lot of events, it's better to speak through my music than having me just speak. It makes more of an impact.

**So many artists have released empowering anthems lately, like Katy Perry and Lady Gaga. What do you think of how other artists have used their music as a platform for songs about acceptance and perseverance?**

The more the merrier. As an artist you have that huge audience, so it's your responsibility to do something positive with it.

SALON SECOND SUNDAYS  
"IT'S A CABARET, BITCHES"  
FRANCINE HACHEM & FRIENDS  
SUNDAY AUGUST 14TH 7PM

Royal Oak's Only Gay Coffeeshouse  
FIVE 15  
This Event is FREE!

Open Daily 11am till 8 pm Sun 11 - 6pm 248-515-2551 www.FIVE15.net 515 S.Washington, Downtown Royal Oak

**international Experience**

**Host an Exchange Student!**

We welcome gay and lesbian host families with open arms. Change a young person's life, and gain a new son or daughter!

**Expand Your World**

**www.ie-usa.com**

call today to learn more  
**Joe Bissell**  
517-455-7518  
j.bissell@international-experience.net  
**888-266-2921**



**DBD**  
**DINING BY DESIGN**

The Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC) in partnership with DIFFA: Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS, is pleased to announce DINING BY DESIGN.

**SEPTEMBER 22 - 24, 2011**

**30+** installations

**25+** restaurants, wine, vodka, beer

**100** juried pieces of art

**150** Silent Auction items

**1000+** people.

at Willy's Overland Lofts  
Detroit, MI

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:  
**MICHIGANAIDSCOALITION.ORG**



# Finding Ferrick

## Longtime musician on Womyn's Festival

BY SAMANTHA WHITE

Melissa Ferrick has played the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival before. Many times, in fact. But there was a time she turned down the request to perform due to the festival's "women-born-women policy," she says. After discussing the issue with some friends and organizers of the event, and reevaluating the importance of the festival, she made the decision to return this year.

"There are a lot of women out there that only feel safe there," Ferrick says. "The festival is the only place where some women can hold their girlfriend's hand. There are some women who go there and aren't even out yet."

Ferrick appreciates and revels in the love she receives from the audience at the festival. She says, "It's the one show I do that I get filled up (with love) to carry me into the fall."

She encourages her fans to come and say hello at the festival and pick up a copy of her upcoming album, "Still Right Here," which features 10 original tracks – one with Ani DiFranco, and another with guitar goddess Kaki King. The promo copies at the festival will include cover art not available in the version that's released Sept. 13.

The title of Ferrick's upcoming LP was inspired by her best friend who borrowed her car, got into an awful accident and miraculously walked away from it unscathed. It was also born from Ferrick's rebirth as a label artist, after producing music independently for over a decade. "For me, it has something to do with how I put records out and how I'm seen by other people," she says.

Ferrick may not have total control over her music as a newly signed artist on MPress Records, which she joined after deciding she finally felt comfortable collaborating with a label,

### Melissa Ferrick

Michigan Womyn's Music Festival  
Aug. 6, Night Stage  
(Festival runs through Aug. 7)  
For location and other details,  
visit [www.michfest.com](http://www.michfest.com)  
or call 231-757-4766

but "I don't want to do this by myself anymore," she says.

Ferrick is not only expanding and evolving in business, she's also growing as a writer. She says that she feels "more alive" than ever.

As a teacher at Berkeley in California she has broadened her writing horizon and finally jumped the hurdle of writer's block she experienced over the past five years, prior to her upcoming release.

"I've been teaching 14 to 18 year olds at Berkeley and writing and re-writing. I'm around other writers and it has catapulted my writing. The kids are forcing me to write stuff and listen to stuff I have never heard of."

But aside from her kids, she has her fans – who've been so loyal, she says, even in times where she was not producing any new music.

"A lot of people knew after 'Goodbye Youth' I had writer's block and I was struggling, and they let me get away with that."

That struggle is behind her, but she can't help thinking of what she would've told herself: "Don't be so hard on yourself," she says. "And I would've laughed a lot earlier. I would try to be present."

"I have become a new person over the last three years," Ferrick adds.

But she's still here, and not going anywhere.

WHERE THE RAINBOW STORES ITS  
**COLORS**



**Miner's Den**  
JEWELERS

3417 Rochester Rd. - Royal Oak, MI - 48073  
248.585.6950 - [www.minersden.com](http://www.minersden.com)

# 'Sex Maniac' on the loose in Eastpointe!

BY JOHN QUINN

"Summertime, and the livin' is easy," they sing. As temperatures rise, people turn to light clothing, light meals and light entertainment. And there's nothing in theater that says "light" like a traditional farce. Dennis Wickline's "The Sex Maniac," the opening effort of Broadway Onstage's 31st season, cries out for a farcical touch, but the cry goes largely unanswered.

"The Sex Maniac" introduces us to two generations of the dysfunctional Hudzinga family. Lawyer Lorraine (Krista Schafer) is a candidate for state Senate. A few years back she had parked her elderly parents at the Christian Women's Retirement Community. Unfortunately for Lorraine, her father's behavior has become a disturbance at the old folk's home, and the couple is unceremoniously delivered to their daughter's campaign headquarters. Lorraine finds her parents are not speaking to her, or to anyone, except for a few "choice" words. Neither Lorraine nor her sister, Madge (Elizabeth Rager), has had success dealing with their parents in the past, and they make a desperate attempt to find their other sister, Estelle (the only one of the three who had a relationship with her

## REVIEW

### The Sex Maniac

Broadway Onstage Live Theatre, 21517 Kelly Road, Eastpointe. Friday-Saturday through Aug. 20. \$16. 586-771-6333.  
[www.broadwayonstage.com](http://www.broadwayonstage.com)

parents), who's cavorting with a naturalist cult to South America.

There's a lot of comic gold in this script, but director Christopher Oakley may have used the wrong mining tools. Comedy is all in the timing, and glacier-slow line deliveries aren't helpful, even in the hottest weather. In addition, the back-story is repetitive, and a brisker delivery would avoid tedium. Schafer is a formidable protagonist – the doubly and trebly put-upon career woman – yet one would look for an utterly deadpan delivery to contrast with the zanies surrounding her. Old hands Stan Newman and Jann Hight are a well-matched pair as the feuding Hudzinga elders. Because they are limited to one repeated line each until the final scene, much of their characters are nicely developed physically, but dare I say this is one instance where out-and-out mugging



"The Sex Maniac" is the opening production of Broadway Onstage's 31st season. Photo: Dennis Wickline

would not be out of place?

The actors who seem to have best caught on to the spirit of the script are Eric Niece as Aaron, Lorraine's anxiety-prone campaign manager, and Sharron Nelson as Estelle. Their broad physicality and crisp delivery add the necessary spark to the comedic fire.

"The Sex Maniac," regardless of its name, is not too racy to entertain all but the youngest children. It's a pleasant enough diversion for the summertime blues.

To read the complete review, log on to ...  
[www.EncoreMichigan.com](http://www.EncoreMichigan.com) or [PrideSource.com](http://PrideSource.com)

# Augusta drama filled with steamy desire

BY BRIDGETTE REDMAN

When "A Streetcar Named Desire" rattled its way into Augusta, it discharged its passengers into an Elysium Fields filled with steamy sexuality, simmering violence and fantasies not quite powerful enough to dispel the unbearable realities of life.

The Tennessee Williams classic is fully realized in all its tragic proportions at the Barn Theatre in Augusta, with an ensemble of actors that brings to life deeply textured characters that we want to like rather than pity despite the despair and violence that colors their lives.

Meg Schneider and Eric Parker play Stella and Stanley, a New Orleans couple in the heat of a very physical marriage, lust bonding them together despite their different backgrounds. Parker is sexy and down-to-earth, while Schneider is sweet, eager and seems to be living a life she has chosen and wants. Even as things start to break down, her loyalty to her husband is intense, and she insists she does not want out of the life that from the outside looks bleak and threatening.

Penelope Alex creates a tragic Blanche whose snobbish clutching for a genteel and cultured life that is at odds with her reality cause shred after shred of sanity to fall away. She shows up at her sister's doorstep for an indefinite visit, claiming to be on a leave of absence from work because of her nerves. As the play progresses, she reveals ever more about how her life has fallen apart around her. These revelations are made all the more painful as her brother-in-law despises her as much as she detests him. The two are in a constant culture and

## REVIEW

### A Streetcar Named Desire

Barn Theatre, 13351 W. M-96, Augusta. Tuesday-Sunday through Aug. 7. \$34. 269-731-4121.  
[www.barntheatre.com](http://www.barntheatre.com)

class clash, pushing each other ever further into desperate acts.

There is a reason that those items normally illegal in hiring and job decisions are considered bona fide occupational qualifications when it comes to acting. Age and appearance matter. The age gap between the actors playing Blanche and Stella was too wide. They would have been believable as the mother-daughter pair in Williams' "The Glass Menagerie," but they were not as sisters. Given how frequently the play draws attention to Blanche's age, the gap was too noticeable and interrupted the suspension of disbelief. We cannot even characterize Blanche's statement that she is younger than her sister as a "fib;" it is farce. Both actresses were superlative in their performance of the individual roles, but they could not mesh together because they were too obviously multiple decades apart in age.

This gap is the one major flaw in a production that was otherwise intense and heartbreaking. Parker's Stanley is convincingly likeable. Even after his drunken violence instigated on Stella, he invites forgiveness not just from Stella, but from the audience as well. It's easier to excuse the affable Parker than the annoying



"A Streetcar Named Desire" continues through Aug. 7. Photo: Barn Theatre

snootiness of Alex's Blanche. Such choices make the final conflicts and outcome even more formidably moving. There is an indictment not of class differences but of the cruelty with which people treat each other and the destructive games that desire plays with our lives and our choices.

Roy Brown makes a meek and tender Mitch, quickly taken with Blanche and the act she plays for him. She makes herself into what he wants and he is the perfect suitor, right up until he learns of her past. He then presents a pain agonizing to witness.

"A Streetcar Named Desire" is by no means a feel-good production. It is, though, a highly meaningful evening of theater that challenges, provokes and asks biting questions about sex, relationships, reputation and mental health that are as relevant now as they were in 1947 when the play was first written.

To read the complete review, log on to ...  
[www.EncoreMichigan.com](http://www.EncoreMichigan.com) or [PrideSource.com](http://PrideSource.com)

# DAW

## SMALL(er) SHOW

AUG. 5—AUG. 27, 2011

Opening Reception:  
Aug. 5, 6pm—9pm  
Free and Open to Public



DETROIT ARTISTS MARKET  
4719 Woodward Ave. Detroit, 48201  
313-832-8540  
[www.detroitartistsmarket.org](http://www.detroitartistsmarket.org)  
Hours: Tues.—Sat., 11am—6pm

Have you been injured in an auto accident, slip and fall, or from a dog bite? Have you been denied Social Security Benefits?

**CONTACT THE LAW OFFICES OF MARC J. SHEFMAN**

NO RECOVERY, NO FEE

MARC J. SHEFMAN  
ATTORNEY | COUNSELOR AT LAW  
17000 W. Ten Mile, Ste 150, Southfield, MI 48075  
T (248) 298-3003 | (248) 298-3001 | F (248) 559-7710  
[mshelman@gmail.com](mailto:mshelman@gmail.com) | [www.shefmanlaw.com](http://www.shefmanlaw.com) | [www.detroitdisability.com](http://www.detroitdisability.com)

## ROSEMARY A. JOZWIAK

And Associates

Affordable  
Professional  
Services

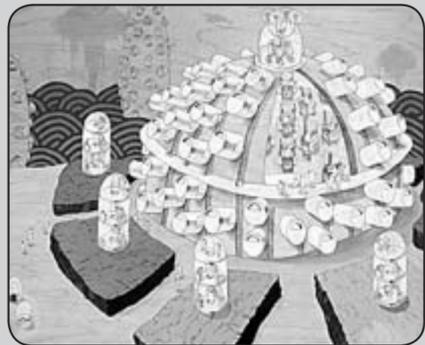
Anxiety – Depression – Trauma  
Anger Management  
Breakup Recovery – Grief / Loss  
ACOA – Addictions  
Relationship or Family Conflicts  
Life Transition – Chronic Illness  
Gender Identity Struggles

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](http://www.therapy4you.com)

# ART Happenings

## Art 'N' Around



Ann Arbor's Gallery Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing a venue for contemporary art that is culturally aware, individualistic and thought-provoking, is exhibiting a unique new gallery tackling social media, curated by Oakland University professor Chris Lee.

Social networking and media's growth has revolutionized the way that humans create relationships. Community, socialization and activism have all transformed rapidly within the last decade, no longer requiring geographic

proximity or even physical interaction. In this exhibit, over 20 artists were challenged to represent the transforming concepts of community and socialization generated by social media.

The exhibit is presented Tuesdays through Sundays, Aug. 10-Sept. 18. A reception will be held 6 p.m. Aug. 12. The Gallery Project is located at 215 S. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. For more information, call 734-997-7012 or visit [thegalleryproject.com](http://thegalleryproject.com).

## Music & More

Smooth jazz saxophonist and six-time Grammy nominee Dave Koz and his band hits Trenton this August on the summer leg of the "Hello Tomorrow Tour 2011." "Hello Tomorrow" debuted at No. 1 on both Billboard's Top Contemporary Jazz Albums chart and iTunes' Jazz Album chart and was named the "Best Smooth Jazz Album of 2010" by iTunes.

Koz was swept into the music industry only weeks after graduating from Howard Taft High in '86. He was recruited as a member of Bobby Caldwell's tour, and continued on to tour with many other jazz performers. In 1990, he began his solo career, writing music, hosting his own radio show and starting his own record label.

Koz performs Aug. 7 during Trenton's 16th Annual Jazz on the River in Elizabeth Park, 4461 Elizabeth Drive. For more information, call 734-261-1990 or visit [zonic.com/jazzontheriver](http://zonic.com/jazzontheriver).

## Theater

For its next production, Mount Clemens-based What's That Smell? is thinking "outside the box" and moving a few blocks to The Emerald Theater, where "Rent" will be performed Aug. 4-6.

"The Emerald Theater is an awesome place to see live theater," said producer John Forlini. "It has a great stage, awesome acoustics and great site lines for the audience. The Emerald is host to many rock bands and club nights, so it's only natural that if we were going to bring a show into this space, it should be something modern – so that's why we picked 'Rent.'"

Based loosely on Puccini's "La Boheme," "Rent" follows a year in the life of a group of friends struggling to make it in the big city. How these young bohemians negotiate their dreams, loves and conflicts provides the narrative thread to this groundbreaking musical.

Tickets are \$25 for reserved seating and \$20 for general admission. Call the box office at 586-954-2311 or The Emerald Theatre at 586-913-1920 for tickets or information.



## OUTINGS

### Thursday, Aug. 4

**Jewish Gay Network Family & Friends**, 7 p.m. LGBT group discussing issues impacting the LGBT and allied community. Meets 1st Thursday of every month. The Jewish Gay Network, 6600 West Maple Road, **West Bloomfield**. 248-432-5661. [jgnm.org](http://jgnm.org)

### Friday, Aug. 5

**Womyn's Film Night**, 7 p.m. Film-Suzanne Westenhofer: A Bottom on Top. Holding court in front of a receptive Indianapolis crowd. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. [GoAffirmations.org](http://GoAffirmations.org)

### Wednesday, Aug. 10

**LGBTIQ Support Group**, 7 p.m. An inclusive environment for all gender who are healing from domestic and/or sexual assault. YWCA of KGLRC, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234.

### Thursday, Aug. 11

**Meet 'n Greet**, 7 p.m. Meet new people, socialize and discuss age-related issues. Dinner at local restaurant afterwards. Ages 18-33. Metro Detroit LGBT 20Somethings, 222 E. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. The20somethings.org

### Friday, Aug. 12

**Older Lesbians Organizing**, 7 p.m. provides older Lesbians with the chance to meet like minded women in their common struggles, to share mutual interests and to play and work together. Meets the 2nd Friday of every month. Older Lesbians Organizing, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-678-2478. [jasnithers@sbcglobal.net](http://jasnithers@sbcglobal.net)

**Womyn's Film Night**, 7 p.m. Film-A Marine Story. A decorated officer from a military family, Alex is unexpectedly discharged from duty. When she returns to her conservative hometown, the Marine struggles to readjust to civilian life, but agrees to mentor Saffron, a troubled teen who's enlisting. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [GoAffirmations.org](http://GoAffirmations.org)

### Saturday, Aug. 13

**Equality Night at the Lansing Lugnuts**, 6 p.m. Ballgame the Equality Band of Michigan performing America the Beautiful on the field before the game. Wear a Pride shirt or other gay apparel. Lansing Association For Human Rights, Michigan Pride, MI-GOAL, 500 East Michigan, **Lansing**. 517-525-1732. [garyatmsu@aol.com](http://garyatmsu@aol.com)

### Sunday, Aug. 14

**PFLAG Detroit Meeting**, 2 p.m. Support groups, social gathering, community announcements, program presentations, guest speakers, and dinner. Every 2nd Sunday of the month. PFLAG, 3333 Coolidge Hwy, **Troy**. 248-656-2875. [Pflagdetroit.org](http://Pflagdetroit.org)

**Rainbow Book Club**, 4:30 p.m. Book club dedicated to reading and discussing classic and contemporary lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer literature. Meeting since before 1998, every second Sunday of the month. Rainbow Book Club, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-678-2478. [Catherine.herre@gmail.com](mailto:Catherine.herre@gmail.com)

**HARC provided HIV/AIDS testing**, 5 p.m. HARC provides anonymous and free HIV counseling, testing and referral services through its outreach at the Jim Toy Community Center. HARC, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-678-2478. [HivAidsresource.org/hiv-testing](http://HivAidsresource.org/hiv-testing)

### Monday, Aug. 15

**LGBT Adoptive Parent Support Group**, 7 p.m. Meet with other LGBT families and be supported in your adoption process or adoptive parenting. Hands Across The Water Adoption and Social Services

Agency, 2890 Carpenter Road, Suite 600, **Ann Arbor**. 734-477-0135. [Hatw.org](http://Hatw.org)

**Democrats LGBT Caucus Hosted Voter Registration Drive**, 10:30 p.m. The Michigan Democratic Party's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Allies Caucus hosts an LGBT voter registration drive to prepare for the 2012 national elections. The Michigan Democratic Party's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Allies (LGBT) Caucus, 516 E. Liberty St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-545-3768. [Necto.com](http://Necto.com)

## MUSIC & MORE

### CONCERTS

**Grand Rapids Symphony** "The Music of Michael Jackson" Michael Jackson's legendary hits performed by Grammy-nominated Grand Rapids Symphony and singer/dancer James Deliso. Cannonsburg Ski Area, 6800 Cannonsburg Road Northeast, Belmont. 6:30 p.m. Aug. 4, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 5. 616-454-9451 4. [grsymphony.org](http://grsymphony.org)

**Farmington Downtown Development Authority** "Rhythzm in Riley Park" Friday night concerts in downtown Farmington. Walter E. Sundquist Pavilion, 33113 Grand River Ave., Farmington. June 10 - Aug. 26. 248-473-7276. [downtownfarmington.org](http://downtownfarmington.org)

**Ferndale Public Library** "First Stop Friday" Free rock show featuring two local bands: SROS LORDS and Them Fostros Ferndale Public Library, 222 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 5:30 p.m. Aug. 5. 248-547-6008.

**Fox Theatre** Janet Jackson's "Number Ones, Up Close and Personal Tour." Tickets: TBA online. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Aug. 16. 313-471-6611. [olympiaentertainment.com](http://olympiaentertainment.com)

**Kerrytown District Association** "5th Nash bash 2011" Annual showcasing of the music of Nashville, headlined by country musician Paul Burch. After glow at Braun Court and Aut Bar. Ann Arbor Farmers Market, Kerrytown, Ann Arbor. 5 p.m. Aug. 18. 734-769-2999. [kerrytown.com](http://kerrytown.com)

**Olympia Entertainment** Kid Rock with special guest Sammy Hagar and the Wabos. Tickets: \$30-99. Comerica Park, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 6:30 p.m. Aug. 12. 3134713387. [kidrock.com](http://kidrock.com)

**Olympia Entertainment** "American Idol Live! Tour 2011" Tickets:\$45-65. Joe Louis Arena, 19 Steve Yzerman Drive, Detroit. 7 p.m. Aug. 7. 313-963-7000. [olympiaentertainment.com](http://olympiaentertainment.com)

**Olympia Entertainment** "An Evening with Angie Stone" Tickets:\$40-43. Sound Board Theater, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Aug. 5, 8 p.m. Aug. 5. 866-752-9622. [olympiaentertainment.com](http://olympiaentertainment.com)

**Royal Oak Music Theatre** "Carnival of Madness 2011" Featuring Theory of a Deadman, Alter Bridge, Black Stone Cherry, Adelitas Way and Empathic. Tickets: \$32-35. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W Fourth St, Royal Oak. 6 p.m. Aug. 16. 248-399-2980. [royaloakmusictheatre.com](http://royaloakmusictheatre.com)

**The Ark** Jan Krist Tickets:\$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Aug. 7. 734-761-1800. [theark.org](http://theark.org)

**The Ark** "Sumkall" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Aug. 18. 734-761-1800. [theark.org](http://theark.org)

**University of Michigan Museum of Art** "Quartex: The Canterbury House Jazz Ensemble" House band of the Canterbury House, the Episcopal student center for the University of Michigan. Forum, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Aug. 17. 734-763-4186. [umma.umich.edu](http://umma.umich.edu)

### FESTIVALS

**Michigan Womyn's Music Festival** The annual Michigan Womyn's Music Festival returns this August with a full lineup of rising new musicians and returning favorites. This weeklong festival brings together women of all cultures and generations inspired by feminist val through relaxation, outdoors, music, intensive workshops and music. Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, Walhalla. Aug. 2 - Aug. 7. [michfest.com](http://michfest.com)

### FILM & VIDEO

**Penn Theatre** "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial" Summer Cinema Series: Sponsored by Community Financial and Packaging Corporation of America. Tickets: \$3. Penn Theatre, 760 Penningman Ave., Plymouth. 1 p.m. Aug. 4, 7 p.m. Aug. 4. 734-453-0870. [penntheatre.com](http://penntheatre.com)

**Penn Theatre** "The Wizard of Oz" Summer Cinema Series: Sponsored by Community Financial and Packaging Corporation of America. Tickets: \$3. Penn Theatre, 760 Penningman Ave., Plymouth. 1 p.m. Aug. 11, 7 p.m. Aug. 11. 734-453-0870. [penntheatre.com](http://penntheatre.com)

**Penn Theatre** "Chicken Run" Summer Cinema Series: Sponsored by Community Financial and Packaging Corporation of America. Tickets: \$3. Penn Theatre, 760 Penningman Ave., Plymouth. 1 p.m. Aug. 18, 7 p.m. Aug. 18. 734-453-0870. [penntheatre.com](http://penntheatre.com)

**Michigan Theater** "Batleship Potemkin" Best known film of Soviet director Sergei Eisenstein. Tickets: \$12 adult, \$10 students, \$10 seniors and veterans. 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 1:30 p.m. Aug. 7, 7 p.m. Aug. 9. 800-745-3000. [michtheater.org](http://michtheater.org)

**Michigan Theater** "Sing-A-Long The Sound of Music" One of the most beloved musicals of all time, starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer from the original Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway classic. Tickets: \$15 adult, \$12 students, \$12 seniors and veterans. 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 1:30 p.m. Aug. 14, 7 p.m. Aug. 16. 800-745-3000. [michtheater.org](http://michtheater.org)

**Michigan Theater** "The Sound of Music" One of the most beloved musicals of all time, starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer from the original Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway classic. Tickets: \$15 adult, \$12 students, \$12 seniors and veterans. 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 1:30 p.m. Aug. 14, 7 p.m. Aug. 16. 800-745-3000. [michtheater.org](http://michtheater.org)

### OTHER

**Ann Arbor Companion Bird Club** "Exotic Bird Exhibition" Exhibit of rare birds supplemented by vendors, speakers and a prize raffle. Tickets: \$3 adult, children 12 and under are free. Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Ave., Ann Arbor. 10 a.m. Aug. 7. 734-769-3237. [aacbc.org](http://aacbc.org)

**Community Health Awareness Group** "Moonlight Masquerade Charity Cruise" Community Health Awareness Group presents 25th anniversary celebration and fundraiser event. More information on website. The Ovation Charter Yacht - Jefferson Beach Marina, 24400 E. Jefferson Avenue, St. Clair Shores. 5:30 p.m. Aug. 13. 313-963-3434 105. [chagdetroit.org](http://chagdetroit.org)

**Warren/Conner Development Coalition** "Eastside Farmers Market" Fresh produce, healthy foods, and unique artisan items. Everything locally made and sold directly by the growers and producers. Accepts cash, Bridg Card, Double Up Food Bucks, WIC, Project Fresh, credit, and debit. Weekly music and entertainment. Mack Alter Square, 14820 Mack Ave., Detroit. June 11 - Oct. 1. 313-571-8200 x.1117. [facebook.com/eastsidefarmersmarket](http://facebook.com/eastsidefarmersmarket)

**Warren/Conner Development Coalition** "Eastside Farmers Market" Fresh produce, healthy foods, and unique artisan items. Everything locally made and sold directly by the growers and producers. Accepts cash, Bridg Card, Double Up Food Bucks, WIC, Project Fresh, credit, and debit. Weekly music and entertainment. Mack Alter Square, 14820 Mack Ave., Detroit. June 11 - Oct. 1. 313-571-8200 x.1117. [facebook.com/eastsidefarmersmarket](http://facebook.com/eastsidefarmersmarket)

**Planetant.com** "Planetant.com" Planetant.com, 2357 Canfield Ave., Hamtramck. 29. 313-365-4948. [planetant.com](http://planetant.com)

**I Remember Mama** \$8-\$19. Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, DeWitt Theatre, 141 E. 12th St., Holland. Plays in rotating repertory through Aug. 13. 616-395-7890. [hope.edu/hrst](http://hope.edu/hrst)

**LIFE: In 4-Part Harmony** \$15-\$20. All For One Ink at International Institute, 111 E. Kirby Road, Detroit. Aug. 6 - 7. 313-727-1011. [allforoneink.com](http://allforoneink.com)

**Manifest Destiny!** (There was blood on the saddle) \$15. The Hinterlands at The Jam Handy Building, 2900 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Aug. 4 - 27. 313-454-1756. [thehinterlandensemble.org](http://thehinterlandensemble.org)

**Marie Antoinette: The Color of Flesh** Previews Aug. 4 (\$10-\$32), \$27-\$41. Performance Network, 120 East Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through Aug. 28. 734-663-0681. [performancenetwork.org](http://performancenetwork.org)

**Marie Antoinette: The Color of Flesh** Previews Aug. 4 (\$10-\$32), \$27-\$41. Performance Network, 120 East Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through Aug. 28. 734-663-0681. [performancenetwork.org](http://performancenetwork.org)

**Godspell** \$12. Downriver Youth Performing Art Center at Trenton Village Theatre, 2447 W. Jefferson St., Trenton. Aug. 5 - 7. 734-362-8253. [dypac.com](http://dypac.com)

**Laughing Wild** \$14. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing, Aug. 4 - 14. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com)

**Singin' in the Rain** \$25. The Crosswell, 129 E. Maumee St., Adrian. Aug. 5 - 14. 517-264-7469. [crosswell.org](http://crosswell.org)

**Will On The Water 2011** \$5. Enter Stage Right at Palmer Park, S. Riverside Ave., St. Clair. Aug. 13 - 14. 810-334-6415. [enterstageright.com](http://enterstageright.com)

### PROFESSIONAL

**100 Years of Broadway** \$22.50 reserved, \$15 general. Meadowbrook Music Festival, 3554 Walton Blvd., Rochester Hills. 8 p.m. Aug. 13. 248-377-0100. [palacenet.com](http://palacenet.com)

**A Prairie Home Companion** \$35-\$60. Wharton Center, Cobb Great Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing. 8 p.m. Aug. 13. 517-432-2000. [whartoncenter.com](http://whartoncenter.com)

**A Streetcar Named Desire** \$34. Barn Theatre, 13351 W. M-96, Augusta. Through Aug. 7. 269-731-4121. [barntheatre.com](http://barntheatre.com)

**And The Creek Don't Rise** \$18-\$24. Williamson Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamson. Through Aug. 14. 517-655-7469. [williamstontheatre.org](http://williamstontheatre.org)

**BoxFest Detroit 2011** \$10 per day or \$30 festival pass. opening celebration is \$7. BoxFest Detroit at The Furniture Factory, 4126 3rd St., Detroit. Aug. 5 - 20. [boxfestdetroit.com](http://boxfestdetroit.com)

**Children of Eden** Hope Summer Repertory Theatre at DeWitt Theatre, 141 E. 12th St., Holland. Plays in rotating repertory through Aug. 12. 616-395-7890. [hope.edu/hrst](http://hope.edu/hrst)

**Cinderella** \$34. Barn Theatre, 13351 W. M-96, Augusta. Aug. 9 - 21. 269-731-4121. [barntheatre.com](http://barntheatre.com)

**Consider the Oyster** \$25-\$40. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Through Sep. 3. 734-433-7673. [purplerosetheatre.org](http://purplerosetheatre.org)

**Ernie** \$20-\$25. City Theatre, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Through Aug. 21. 313-417-6611. [olympiaentertainment.com](http://olympiaentertainment.com)

**Five Guys Named Moe** \$26-\$39.75. Mason Street Warehouse, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. Through Aug. 7. 269-857-4998. [masonstreetwarehouse.org](http://masonstreetwarehouse.org)

**Fridays and Saturdays at Go Comedy!** Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-327-0575. [gocomedy.net](http://gocomedy.net)

**Great Expectations** \$18. Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Through Aug. 6. 810-237-1530. [flintyouththeatre.org](http://flintyouththeatre.org)

**Guys on Ice** \$10-\$26. Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Knickerbocker Theatre, 86 E. 8th St., Holland. Plays in rotating repertory through Aug. 10. 616-395-7890. [hope.edu/hrst](http://hope.edu/hrst)

**Hot Dog Mondays** \$5. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Canfield Ave., Hamtramck. 29. 313-365-4948. [planetant.com](http://planetant.com)

**I Remember Mama** \$8-\$19. Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, DeWitt Theatre, 141 E. 12th St., Holland. Plays in rotating repertory through Aug. 13. 616-395-7890. [hope.edu/hrst](http://hope.edu/hrst)

**LIFE: In 4-Part Harmony** \$15-\$20. All For One Ink at International Institute, 111 E. Kirby Road, Detroit. Aug. 6 - 7. 313-727-1011. [allforoneink.com](http://allforoneink.com)

**Manifest Destiny!** (There was blood on the saddle) \$15. The Hinterlands at The Jam Handy Building, 2900 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Aug. 4 - 27. 313-454-1756. [thehinterlandensemble.org](http://thehinterlandensemble.org)

**Marie Antoinette: The Color of Flesh** Previews Aug. 4 (\$10-\$32), \$27-\$41. Performance Network, 120 East Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through Aug. 28. 734-663-0681. [performancenetwork.org](http://performancenetwork.org)

**Marie Antoinette: The Color of Flesh** Previews Aug. 4 (\$10-\$32), \$27-\$41. Performance Network, 120 East Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through Aug. 28. 734-663-0681. [performancenetwork.org](http://performancenetwork.org)

**Much Ado About Nothing** \$30-\$36. Michigan Shakespeare Festival at Baughman Theatre at Jackson Community College Potter Center, 2111 Emmons Road, Jackson. Plays in repertory through Aug. 5. 517-998-3673. [michiganshakespearefestival.com](http://michiganshakespearefestival.com)

**Pippy Longstocking** \$17 adults, \$13 seniors, \$13 students; some 10 a.m. performances are "\$5 or more donation". 8th Wonder Theatre at The Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton Township, Aug. 5 - 13. 734-945-5316. [8thwonderllc.com](http://8thwonderllc.com)

**Posing** Previews Aug. 2-4 (pay-what-you-can). \$15. The New Theatre Project at Mix Performance Space, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Aug. 2 - 21. 734-645-9776. [thenewtheatreproject.org](http://thenewtheatreproject.org)

**Rent** \$20-\$25. What's That Smell? at The Emerald Theater, 31 N. Walnut St., Mount Clemens. Aug. 4 - 6. 586-954-2311. [theboxtheater.com](http://theboxtheater.com)

**Return to the Forbidden Planet** \$10-\$26. Hope Summer Repertory Theatre at DeWitt Theatre, 141 E. 12th St., Holland. Plays in rotating repertory through Aug. 11. 616-395-7890. [hope.edu/hrst](http://hope.edu/hrst)

**Shakespeare Unplugged** \$10. Michigan Shakespeare Festival at Bone Island Grill, 4614 Francis St., Jackson. Through Aug. 4. 517-998-3673. [michiganshakespearefestival.com](http://michiganshakespearefestival.com)

**Sundays at Go Comedy!** \$7 for the night. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-327-0575. [gocomedy.net](http://gocomedy.net)

**Tartuffe** \$30-\$36. Michigan Shakespeare Festival at Baughman Theatre at Jackson Community College Potter Center, 2111 Emmons Road, Jackson. Plays in repertory through Aug. 6. 517-998-3673. [michiganshakespearefestival.com](http://michiganshakespearefestival.com)

**Thank You For Being A Friend** \$20 general, \$10 on Mondays. Who Wants Cake? at The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Through Aug. 15. 248-545-5545. [whowantscaketheatre.com](http://whowantscaketheatre.com)

**The 39 Steps** \$26-\$39.75. Mason Street Warehouse, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. Aug. 12 - 28. 269-857-4998. [masonstreetwarehouse.org](http://masonstreetwarehouse.org)

**The Sex Maniac** \$16. Broadway Onstage Live Theatre, 21517 Kelly Road, Eastpointe. Through Aug. 20. 586-771-6333. [broadwayonstage.com](http://broadwayonstage.com)

**The Tempest** \$20. Water Works Theatre at Starr Jaycece Park, 1101 W. 13 Mile Road, Royal Oak. Through Aug. 7. [waterworkstheatre.com](http://waterworkstheatre.com)

**The Winter's Tale** \$36-\$30. Michigan Shakespeare Festival at Baughman Theatre, Jackson Community College Potter Center, 2111 Emmons Road, Jackson. Plays in rotating repertory through Aug. 7. 517-998-3673. [michiganshakespearefestival.com](http://michiganshakespearefestival.com)

**Thursdays at Go Comedy!** \$15. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. Through Aug. 25. 248-327-0575. [gocomedy.net](http://gocomedy.net)

**Urinetown** \$29. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Through Aug. 7. 269-343-2727. [farmersalleytheatre.com](http://farmersalleytheatre.com)

**Wednesdays at Go Comedy!** Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-327-0575. [gocomedy.net](http://gocomedy.net)

**Working** \$20-\$26. Tibbits Summer Theatre, 14 S. Hanchett St., Coldwater. Aug. 4 - 13. 517-278-6029. [tibbits.org](http://tibbits.org)

**YOUNG AUDIENCES** **Abracadabra: Poppcorn Magic Show** \$7. Tibbits Summer Theatre, 14 S. Hanchett St., Coldwater. July 29 - Aug. 6. 517-278-6029. [tibbits.org](http://tibbits.org)

**Banana for Turtle** \$10 adult,

# Central United Methodist Church

**"A safe sanctuary for the LGBT community to worship and have open dialog without fear"**

**George Jonté**  
Coordinator  
LGBT Ministries

23 E. Adams  
Detroit, MI 48226  
(313)965-5422

**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

— Since 1982 —

# Transmission Clinic

Transmissions • Rear Ends • Clutches  
Bob Skinner

25718 John R Madison Heights, MI 48071 Tel. (248) 543-7832 Fax (248) 543-9159

**Life** FILM



► **30 Minutes**  
Continued from p. 15

as they exert their masculinity by making homemade flamethrowers in the garage and blowing the hell out of watermelons – and yet Dwayne and Travis still come off, at times, like two big fruits themselves. And therein lies the setup of an endless barrage of gay jokes. That's not it, though: Gender and ethnicity, you're not getting off that easy.

"I kind of have this Lenny Bruce approach," Fleischer explains. "If you insult everybody, it's like you're not singling anyone out."

Says Swardson: "For me and Danny, we made a lot of off-color jokes and we did have to be in the mindset of those characters, because they are these kind of small-town – I mean, they're just jerks. It was really in the vein of those guys."

And so it makes sense that these dummies would talk and act like fifth graders who get a kick out of finding bad words in the Spanish dictionary. One scene has Dwayne calling out Travis on "being gay for this dude," referring to his softheartedness toward Nick.

"If wanting a lot of money is gay," he responds, "then yeah, I'm fucking Elton John."

For as much gay talk as there is, and with the so-close-they're-almost-gay bonds between the guys, it wouldn't have been terribly shocking had one of them come out by the time the movie reached its big finish.

But since they don't, we'll just have to call it a bromance.

"Can everyone stop saying bromance?" Ansari insists, admitting his distaste for the genre. And still, it's hard not to see "30 Minutes or Less" as exactly that. Fleischer even compares the two duos to Edward and Jacob of "Twilight" (and that's pretty gay), and Swardson, well, he has his own way of putting it: "The cool thing about the movie is that it does show

the relationships of guys and just how close guys can be without chowing each other's cocks," he says. "It just shows that guys are... awesome."

"It's so great," Ansari adds, "because you guys are like the bad guys in the movie and you have such a sweet relationship, and it really pays off."

In his most mockish tone, Swardson looks lovingly at Ansari: "It's very bromantic, right?"

### Real-life bromance

Nick Swardson is like that guy you've seen at the bar but can't quite place how or why he looks familiar. Even as he stood in front of me on an elevator in the Ritz, casually dressed in a T-shirt and jeans, it took me a good few minutes before it hit me.

That's because Swardson, a longtime comic actor who's gone gay in "Grandma's Boy" and "I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry," has a tendency to get lost in his characters. You might remember him as, and he puts it best, "a raging gay prostitute on roller skates" named Terry on Comedy Central's cop farce "Reno 911!"

"I really wanted to do the exact opposite of what I did in 'Reno 911!'" says Swardson, who jokes that he used audio loops from gay pornos to get him pumped for the action sequences in "30 Minutes or Less."

The movie's also a vehicle for the two sides of Jesse Eisenberg, who not only does his nerdy, average-guy thing, as seen in "Zombieland," but morphs into a fake-gun-totting badass. After "The Social Network," and last year's lesser-known "Holy Rollers," what's up with all these shady characters?

Eisenberg looks concerned when asked, and then deadpans his response: "Thanks, Mom."

"No, I mean, all of these characters have, like, a real inner life," he continues. "They're going through something real, experiencing it in a realistic way. This

one is very heightened, because he's experiencing this mortal fear at every moment, but it's all the same to me."

Even somewhat relatable, as his role as a pizza boy paralleled with a past real-life gig in musical theater. "I started doing musical theater when I was 10 years old, and I did a lot of musical theater," he says, "so maybe cumulatively that's a terrible job – but individually they were fun!"

The rest of the cast didn't fare much better. Fleischer darkened and cleaned up the Scantron bubbles while working at a standardized testing company. Ansari jokes that he's currently managing a Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., and McBride worked at an amusement park's candy store a half-hour from his house.

"I used to pray on the way to work, 'God, please help get me in a car accident,'" McBride recalls. "One where I don't get hurt but where I don't have to go to work today."

Says Eisenberg: "It's tough to find that middle ground in a car accident."

Swardson had lots of sucky stunts. "Before I started doing comedy and acting, I was a busboy at Planet Hollywood," he says. "It was kind of bizarre, but I also prayed for car accidents."

Who can say they have that in common? Oh, these two fellas, who don't just have that onscreen camaraderie, or bromance (sorry, Aziz), but a real-life relationship.

"Making a movie is long hours," McBride says. "Whenever you get to work with people that you dig, who you think are really funny and cool, it's always good. With this project, all these guys were awesome to work with. I'd want to do it again in a heartbeat with any of them."

Should a sequel happen, and Fleischer doesn't expect it to, Ansari already has the concept worked out: "It's, like, a couple day later and Jesse's character comes back, knocks on my door, has another bomb and he goes, 'Here we go again!' That's how the second film will start."

But the real question, Aziz, is: How does it end?

**Rear View** ODDS & ENDS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
17			18						19				
20								21					
		22		23		24							
25	26	27		28		29			30	31	32	33	
34			35						36		37		
38		39		40					41	42			
43				44				45					
46					47	48	49						
				50									
51	52	53	54		55				56	57	58	59	60
61					62				63				
64								65					
66									67				

# Good and Irritating

**Across**

- 1 Not nuts
- 5 Safari master
- 10 Emulates Eminem
- 14 Word on a gift tag
- 15 Put into law
- 16 Slumlord's declaration?
- 17 With 28-Across, allegedly good individuals
- 20 Like Hans Christian Andersen
- 21 Top of the world
- 22 Screw royally
- 24 Title used by Uncle Remus
- 25 Bedroom slipper
- 28 See 17-Across
- 30 Help with the heist
- 34 WWII command
- 35 Keyboard instrument
- 37 Mate in Montreal
- 38 "Gay Men's Friendships" author
- 40 Above-ground trains

**Down**

- 1 Force in "Milk," for short
- 2 Lot measurement
- 3 Time for cowboys to shoot off
- 4 Gore Vidal novel

- 5 Queen's abode
- 6 Opposite of ESE
- 7 Pleased sound
- 8 USMC barracks boss
- 9 Wanting water
- 10 Kahlo's husband
- 11 Baldwin of "Talk Radio" Now
- 12 Elizabeth of "Transamerica"
- 13 Margaret Cho's "Can't \_\_\_ Dancing"
- 18 Tigers of the NCAA
- 19 One of the decks
- 23 "Aida" backdrop
- 24 "Pastor, I Am Gay" author Howard
- 25 Head-oriented group
- 26 WNBA Starz fan, often
- 27 "Grumpier Old Men" star Sophia
- 29 "Beauty and the Beast" film frame
- 31 African tongue
- 32 Mike holder
- 33 Stadium sections
- 35 Athens, in Socrates day

- 36 Previously mentioned
- 39 To God, to Caesar
- 42 Little amphibian
- 44 Pose for pix
- 45 "Please respond" part, in Vivien's tongue
- 47 Most like Mr. Right Now
- 48 Sand inside a shoe, e.g.
- 49 Hindu deity
- 51 Smith of "Dawson's Creek"
- 52 Toward shelter
- 53 Diplomacy breakdown
- 54 Côte d' \_\_\_
- 57 Model Banks
- 58 What little things mean, in a Cher song
- 59 Place for a stud
- 60 "Charlie's Angels" role
- 62 Gravel-voiced actor Arthur
- 63 Dance noisily

Solution on 27

## Pet of the Week



**Meet Suki the sweetheart! A 3-year-old Boxer mix, Suki is a shade under 50 pounds and loves to go, go go. Suki would do best with an active family that can keep up with her. Her adoption fee includes sterilization, age-appropriate vaccinations and much more! For more information, call or visit the Michigan Humane Society's Rochester Hills Center for Animal Care at (248) 852-7420 and provide the pet ID number, 13560979.**

Pet of the Week made possible by  
**Patterson Dog & Cat Hospital**  
3800 Grand River Ave., Detroit  
**313-832-7282**  
www.pattersondogandcat.com



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*



**aut**  
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



**Dear Jody**

BY JODY VALLEY

## His parents are a pain

**Q.** My partner "Stephen" and I go every summer to California to see his mother and stepfather. We spend two weeks with them. The reason we go there for that long is because we have two children. Stephen's parents have been great as far as accepting us as a couple, and even more spectacular in accepting our adopted children. (Our kids are 3 and 5 years old.) In fact, they have our kid's pics all over the house, put them on Facebook, and I'm sure bore their friends with pocketbook albums of our kids.

Sounds ideal? Well, mostly it is. But the problem is that Stephen has unresolved issues with his mother. Less than 24 hours after we arrive, the shit hits the fan. The issues raise their ugly heads. Then, off go Stephen and his mother: same issues, different year.

At that point, the stepfather takes off and goes back to work, golfing, or whatever; he doesn't return home until late in the evening, obviously having a few drinks. I end up trying to be the peacekeeper and mediator. I try to get Stephen to let things in his past go, or recognize that everything his mother did to him isn't what is happening to our kids. I try to get his mother to say that she's sorry, or that she feels differently now, or she didn't mean what she said, or whatever I can come up with at the moment that I think will get them to stop their arguing and animosity.

Whatever we come up with that stops the anger doesn't last. It just puts it under the rug for later in the visit, or next time we're all together. It's exhausting, unpleasant and it never really resolves itself.

I'm tired of it all. It's gotten so that I don't want to go to Stephen's parents anymore. However, I know that it's good for the kids to be with adoring grandparents – which they certainly are! And, Stephen's sister and her kids live in California as well, and they are very supportive of us. My parents aren't there for us or our children, and my sister lives abroad – otherwise, she's accepting. My parents have disowned me and my family, and so have my two brothers. As you can see, my kids have no other extended family.

So, my question is: What can I do or say to both Stephen and his mother to stop these fights so that I can look forward to our trip, instead of feeling the dread of knowing that I'll be thrown

back into the middle of their dysfunction?

*Stuck in the Middle*

**A.** In the first place, you are not stuck in the middle, you've allowed yourself to be there, and Stephen and your mother-in-law have put you in that place. Without you, they wouldn't feel as safe venting their animosity. Your role as peacekeeper allows them to carry on with their grievances in a relatively safe manner – by your being there, you don't allow things to get as bad as they could.

The only way you will be able to extricate yourself from this drama is to get yourself out of the middle.

You might want to start with telling your partner that you will no longer be a part of his and his mother's arguments. Then, let his mother know the same thing. Inform them, in advance, that you will take the kids and leave, because it isn't good for either the children or you to be a part of their battles.

Then when you get to California, stick to it. Even if you tell Stephen and his mother in advance, and one or both of them commit to making things different, things probably won't change – not right away at least. No matter what, stick to your resolve to grab the kids and get out. Otherwise, you'll remain their referee, and give Stephen and his mother no chance to change or start to deal with their problems differently.

They don't have to deal with their issues, civilly or constructively, as long as you are there to save them from their anger. What they probably need is to consult with a counselor to deal with it; but first, you need to pull yourself out of their issues.

**Dealing with family issues requires effective communication skills. To learn more, go to Dear Jody Valley and Facebook.**

*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.*

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

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

**t Follow us!**  
@YourBTL

## Horoscopes

### Take charge, Capricorn!

BY JACK FERTIG

*Sun in Leo is beach weather! Vacations, fun, strut your stuff! But as Sol is sextile Saturn in Libra needful limits and responsibility are lurking behind the fun. A constructive project, maybe a charitable fundraiser, could even be the fun. Work with others to focus your creative juices.*

**ARIES (March 20 – April 19):** Let your partner help you to guide and focus your dazzling brilliance. Suggestions that may seem restrictive can be the most helpful. If you're single, a durable love may be out there in someone much older or younger.

**TAURUS (April 20 – May 20):** Parental responsibilities loom large. If you don't have kids or elderly parents who need your attention, think about what you've gotten from your community and how you can keep it strong for your own benefit as much as for others'.

**GEMINI (May 21- June 20):** Edit, trim, get more meaning in fewer words. Practice the fine communicative art of silence, the subtle nod, the lift of an eyebrow, the discreet gesture. You can find a lot of power saying more by talking less.

**CANCER (June 21- July 22):** What do you really value about yourself? You're at the beginning of a 15-year career upswing. Take good stock of your virtues (and your flaws) to have a clear idea of what foundation you provide to build on.

**LEO (July 23 – August 22):** Your birthday month is your time to roar, but for now keep it quiet. Words are too important to waste and quiet intensity can be stronger than loud declamations. Deal with serious issues; get them out of the way. Then you can celebrate!

**VIRGO (August 23 – September 22):** Tough times bring out your inner strength. Meditation as well as thoughtful organization will help you to economize better. Helping others less fortunate can also inspire you to greater effectiveness.

**LIBRA (September 23 – October 22):** You have a lot of hard work and challenge now, but keeping an eye to the future can help you see through the gloom of the present. Your friends will help you keep perspective.

**SCORPIO (October 23 – November 21):** Doubts can push you to try too hard in your work. Calm down, meditate. Family (genetic or chosen) can help you get solid grounding. They can also wear you down, so pick your confidants and approach them carefully.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 – December 20):** You need a mental challenge in a new venue. If you can't afford a real vacation, find movies or art shows that can take you to different worlds, or a good book to stimulate your brain. Invite a friend to suggest something that will really test you.

**CAPRICORN (December 21 – January 19):** Take charge in the bedroom. This is your chance to be supremely powerful and dominant – or to make an art form of being a "pushy bottom." How discreet is your partner? Your reputation is likely to spread.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 – February 18):** Disagreements with your partner (or with anyone else) are nothing new. The serious ones gain special importance – not in a divisive way, but as a challenge for you to learn something and grow closer.

**PISCES (February 19 – March 19):** Be very careful of sports injuries and sunburns. When was your last check up? Get very serious about your health! There may be some very serious problems lurking. The sooner you deal with them the better!

*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](http://www.starjack.com), and by email at [QScopes@qsyndicate.com](mailto:QScopes@qsyndicate.com).*

Let Us Provide the Right Caregiver  
to Meet Your Family's Needs.

**Our Promise to You**  
• Home Care Service for All Ages at All Times • Nationally Screened and Fully Insured Caregivers • 100% Satisfaction Assurance and Regular Follow Up • Careful Coordination Between Family and Caregivers

**Our Services**  
• Companionship • Light Housekeeping • Medication Reminders • Daily Living Assistance • Meal Planning and Preparation • Respite Care • And Much More!



Located on the Hill  
102 Kercheval  
Grosse Pointe Farms  
**313-794-9036**  
Serving all of Southeastern Michigan

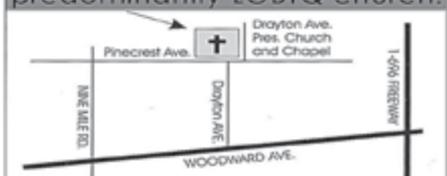
**SYNERGY HomeCare**  
synergyhomecare.com



**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

**Solution to puzzle from page 25**

S	A	N	E	B	W	A	N	A	R	A	P	S		
F	R	O	M	E	N	A	C	T	I	L	E	T		
P	E	O	P	L	E	W	H	O	H	A	V	E	N	O
D	A	N	I	S	H	I	C	E	C	A	P			
M	U	L	E	V	I	C	E	S	A	B	E	T		
E	T	O	C	E	L	E	S	T	A	A	M	I		
N	A	R	D	I	E	L	S	F	E	N	C	E		
S	H	E	E	T	S		S	O	F	T	E	R		
A	N	N	O	Y	I	N	G	V	I	R	T	U	E	S
				S	T	E	R	I	L	E				
K	A	R	A	T	W	I	S	S	T	A	L	K		
E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H	T	A	Y	L	O	R
R	E	F	U	T	E	S		N	A	I	R	O	B	I
R	E	T	R	E	A	T		U	P	D	A	T	E	S

## EVENTUALLY? WHY NOT TONIGHT?



488 SELDEN (313) 832-JOHN  
BETWEEN CASS AND SECOND  
BOOZE & FOOD DAILY 7am - 2am  
SUNDAYS 9am - 2am

## 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)

"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.

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>

# JUST 4 US

Celebrating over a decade serving the GBLT community

LUBE • DVDS • TOYS • GIFTS • MAGAZINES  
SANDWICHES • COFFEE BAR • CARDS • BOOKS  
GOODIES • FLAGS • JEWELRY • APPAREL • AND MORE!

**DVDS**  
OVER 1600 TITLES AVAILABLE TO RENT

**OVER 1400**  
GBLT GREETING CARDS IN STOCK!

**KINK WEAR**  
NOW AVAILABLE!  
MILITARY • LEATHER • UNIFORMS

PROUD  
LUSCUS  
BOYZ  
RETAILER

MI ONLY  
AUTHORIZED  
COLT  
DISTRIBUTOR



LARGEST SELECTION OF  
**LIQUID INCENSE**  
LOWEST PRICE AROUND!  
RIZE TO THE OCCASION • VIGRALIS  
STIFF NIGHTS • MAX STAMINA & MORE!

WE CARRY A FULL LINE OF  
**pink**  
LUBRICANT

WE SELL GRRLTOYZ  
SPECIAL ORDER YOUR TOYS  
**LELO**  
TOYZ MADE BY  
WOMEN FOR WOMEN

Now you can shop online! Visit our site today and be the first to know about exclusive discounts, new items and more!

**www.shopjust4us.com**  
Like Us on Facebook!

**HOURS:**  
Monday-Wednesday 11am-8pm • Thursday & Friday 11am-10pm  
Saturday 11am-8pm • Sunday 11am-5pm

211 West Nine Mile Road • Ferndale, MI 48220 • 248.547.5878

## Cocktail Chatter

# The Cosmopolitan

BY ED SIKOV

Before leaving for the July 4th weekend, I had to sit through an afternoon luncheon during which a jackass honoree turned a simple thank you into an interminable Castro-like State of the Planet allocation out from which I finally sneaked. I had to race for the train to Sayville, but by the time the ferry docked at the Pines harbor, the tensions of the city had receded. By dusk, when I finished my weekly "Killing Fields" war against our rampant poison ivy, I was thoroughly relaxed. (I patrol the place with Round-Up and spit "Die, mother\*\*\*\*er, die!" with every satisfying spray).

The front gate opened and in strolled Jack Fogg and Sammy and Dan, who had left work early to surprise me. *Surprise* doesn't describe the electric-chair jolt I felt. As you may recall - I sure did - I'd plowed Jack Fogg the last time he was out, and I hadn't seen him since. Now I had a sudden bad-trip rush. So many questions! Did Sammy know? Would Dan find out? Might it happen again? Could Jack Fogg and I talk our partners into a four-way? Did Jack Fogg remember how he moaned? I held the Round-Up in front of my jeans.

I hadn't seen the point of telling Dan about my new familiarity with Jack's ass. What good would it do? It would just make him sad. Moreover, it wouldn't help me get any more of Jack's ass. And how was I supposed to phrase it? "Hey Dan? We're out of mayo, your Amex bill came, and oh - I forgot to tell you - I screwed Jack Fogg?"

Let promiscuous partners lie - that's my motto. So lie I did. But it simply didn't register with me that we'd all be spending a sweltering Fourth of July together. Dan and I would be shirtless in our shorts all day while Jack Fogg would be showing off his fine pees in Madras trunks and Sammy would be displaying his

prize-winning beefsteak in Speedos. The sweat! The testosterone!

While prepping dinner, I squeezed past Jack between the kitchen island and the sink as Jack was fixing his first Madras. My front met his backside and greeted it as an old friend. "Did you tell him?" I asked in a low voice. "Of course!" he replied. "That was the whole point!"

I shrank. "You mean you were just getting back at Sammy for his Chicken Vindaloo?" (Jack had caught him in bed with a young Indian delivery boy.) Jack turned around and pressed me against the counter with his hairy stomach. "No, hot stuff," he whispered. "But there's nothing like a vengeance screw. I always tell Sammy and he always makes me pay for it. Everybody gets something, especially me."

Yeah, everybody but Dan. *What would I do about* Dan? I spent the weekend worrying and ended up doing nothing but choosing as *le cocktail du weekend* a little joke only I understood. Sammy with his Vindaloo, WASPY Jack, and two New York Jews, one of whom had a big, hot secret. How terribly cosmopolitan.

## The Cosmopolitan

2 parts Absolut Citron  
½ part Triple Sec  
1 part cranberry Juice  
Splash of lime juice

Pour ingredients into an ice-filled shaker. Shake and pour into a cocktail glass. Perch a thin orange slice on the edge of the glass.

Available now!

**IN PRINT OR ONLINE**  
Over 250 non-profits serving Michigan's LGBT community ... plus ... over 800 businesses who want to do business with you!

**PrideSource.com**



## Rear View CLASSIFIEDS

### 101-ANNOUNCEMENTS LGBT AA MEETINGS

**Ann Arbor-Friday**  
7:30 pm, St. Andrews Episcopal Church Gay AA, 306 N. Division St. Closed/Discussion.

**Bloomfield Hills-Thursday**  
7:00 pm, Sobriety in The Hills Gay AA, Kirk in The Hills Church, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd. Closed/Discussion.

**Detroit-Tuesday / Friday**  
8:00 pm, Downtown Gay AA, Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 West Fort St. Closed/Discussion (Open 1st Friday of every month).

**Farmington Hills-Monday**  
8:00 pm, Suburban West Gay AA, Universalist Unitarian Church, 25301 Halstead (Between 10 & 11 Mile Roads) Closed / Discussion.

**Ferndale-Monday / Wednesday / Friday**  
11:30 a.m., Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.

**Ferndale-Wednesday**  
8 p.m., Diversity Wednesday Gay AA, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 540 W. Lewiston / Illinois. Closed/Discussion.

**Ferndale-Saturday**  
1 p.m. Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.  
8 p.m. Go After Your Sobriety Gay AA, Drayton Ave Presbyterian Church, 2441 Pinecrest. Closed/Discussion.

**Livonia-Friday**  
8 p.m., West Side Story's Gay AA, Providence Medical Center, 7 Mile & Newburgh. Closed/Discussion.

**Pontiac-Tuesday / Thursday / Sunday**  
8 p.m., Pontiac Gay AA, Shrine of St. Joseph, 400 West South Blvd. Closed/Discussion.

**Warren-Monday**  
7:30 p.m., Eastside Serenity Gay AA, Faith-Trinity Unitarian Church of Christ, 12221 Martin Rd. East of Hoover. Closed/Discussion.

### 112 ANNOUNCEMENTS - VOLUNTEERING

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
DIFFA: DINING BY DESIGN  
Detroit's most original event, involving members of our fabulous design community!

• Cocktails by Design/Artworks for Life - Thursday, Sept. 22, 2011  
• Party by Design - Friday Sept. 23, 2011  
• Dining by Design - Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011

DIFFA: Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS Benefits Michigan AIDS Coalition  
[www.michiganaidcoalition.org](http://www.michiganaidcoalition.org)  
- click on DIFFA Dining by Design  
Located at Willys Overland Lofts, 441 W. Canfield 48201 (in Midtown)

For information, contact Monica Mills at (248) 545-1435, ext. 117, or [mills@michiganaidcoalition.org](mailto:mills@michiganaidcoalition.org)

### 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](mailto:Massage4@aol.com). <http://www.trymassage.com>

### 487 PROF. SERVICES - WOOD FLOORING

Four Seasons Hardwood Floors  
248-521-5706  
[www.fourseasonshardwood-floors.com](http://www.fourseasonshardwood-floors.com)  
See our ad on this page

To place a classified ad with us, visit [PRIDESOURCE.COM/classifieds](http://PRIDESOURCE.COM/classifieds) or call us at 888.615.7003 ext. 22

## AAA CARPET REPAIRS

Restretching  
Patching  
Water Damage  
Pad Replacement  
Carpet Sales

West Bloomfield  
248-626-4901

Thank you for 40 years of loyalty!

## GAY & BI CRUISE LINE

HOOK UP FAST!

Try it FREE!

USE FREE CODE 2031  
313.962.5000

For other local numbers call 1-888-MegaMates™  
[MegaMatesMen.com](http://MegaMatesMen.com)

four seasons  
**HARDWOOD FLOORS, INC.**

WE ...  
Install • Refinish • Maintain  
**ALL WOOD FLOORS**  
~ Guaranteed Quality ~  
Custom Borders & Medallions Available

INSURED • FREE ESTIMATES • LOTS OF REFERRALS

Servicing the Tri-County Area  
**(800) 404-2037**  
Cell: (248) 521 5706

National Wood Flooring Association

## Naked Men's YOGA

Meets in Ann Arbor  
TUESDAYS AND SATURDAYS 6:30-7:30 PM

Contact Dave at [massage4@aol.com](mailto:massage4@aol.com)  
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan\\_mens\\_clothing\\_optional\\_yoga](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan_mens_clothing_optional_yoga)

## PORN HARDCORE

10% Off DVD's With White Sticker  
\$29.95 Or more Everyday

7041 W 8 Mile  
(1 Mile West of Woodward)  
313-340-1730

Open Everyday  
Mon-Sat 10am-1am  
Sun 11am-10pm

[www.bluemoonvideodvd.com](http://www.bluemoonvideodvd.com)  
13,000+ XXX DVD's Toys And More!!

Join Our "TEAM PORN" Rental Club Free Rent 2 Get 2 Free Everyday (See Store Or Website For Details)

(For More Art, Go To) [www.DCHGraphicArt.com](http://www.DCHGraphicArt.com)



Do More ... Feel Better ... Live Longer  
Your Local Board Certified Family Doctor  
Providing Care & Supporting Our Community Since 1980

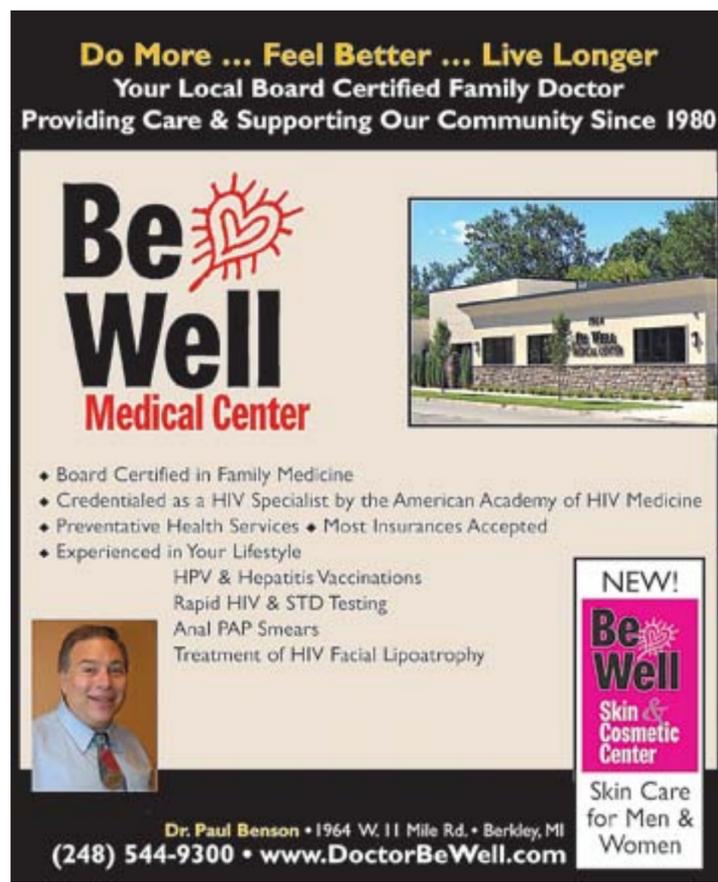
## Be Well Medical Center

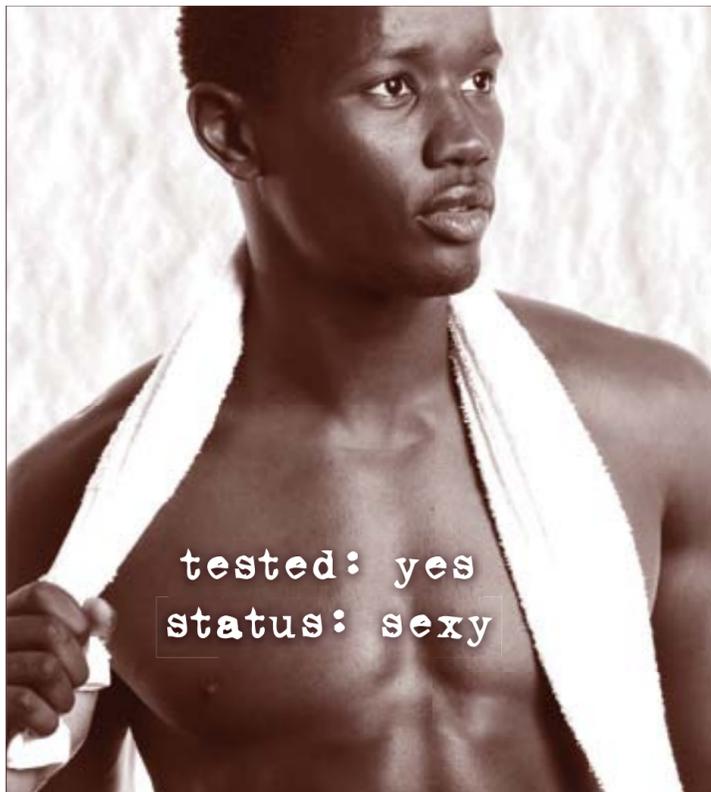
- Board Certified in Family Medicine
- Credentialed as a HIV Specialist by the American Academy of HIV Medicine
- Preventative Health Services • Most Insurances Accepted
- Experienced in Your Lifestyle
  - HPV & Hepatitis Vaccinations
  - Rapid HIV & STD Testing
  - Anal PAP Smears
  - Treatment of HIV Facial Lipoatrophy

NEW!  
**Be Well**  
Skin & Cosmetic Center

Skin Care for Men & Women

Dr. Paul Benson • 1964 W. 11 Mile Rd. • Berkley, MI  
**(248) 544-9300 • www.DoctorBeWell.com**





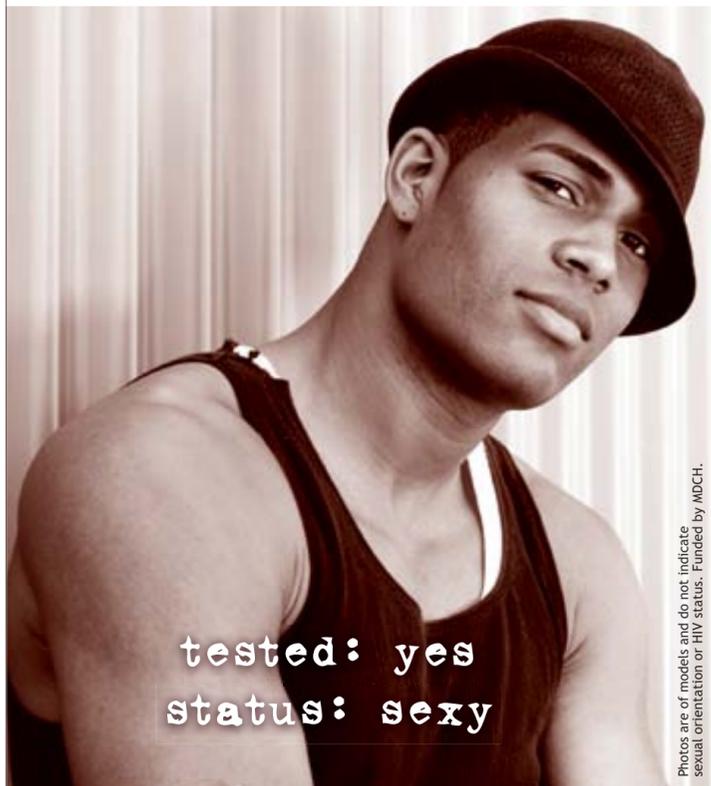
tested: yes  
status: sexy

Knowing your HIV status is a sign of confidence. And that's sexy. For a test site near you, call 800-872-2437 or hit up our website, where you can find out about events by our Team Sexy.



facebook.com/ssdotcom  
twitter.com/statussexy

statussexy.com



tested: yes  
status: sexy

Photos are of models and do not indicate sexual orientation or HIV status. Financed by MDCH.

# BTL Deep Inside Hollywood



Jillian Armenante. Photo courtesy of movieberry.com

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

## Dustin Lance Black's '8' is coming soon

During the Proposition 8 trial over the legality of marriage equality in California, Oscar-winning screenwriter Dustin Lance Black ("Milk") got down to work reading transcript after transcript of the proceedings. The result? A new play titled "8." The finished work consists of dramatized readings, dialogue taken verbatim from court records and Black's own observations and interviews he conducted with participants on both sides of the issue. The first staged reading will take place Sept. 19 at the Eugene O'Neill Theater in New York City and will then be produced at various universities. Broadway would be a nice final landing place, but this alternative approach insures more audiences in more places will really see the play. As Black recently told the New York Times, "One of my hopes about the trial was to get the opposition in court, hands raised swearing to tell the truth, and have the world see the opposition called to account for going on TV saying gay people harm children, harm families... Since the trial itself wasn't heard or seen, I wanted to get that story out another way."

## Yes, Russell T. Davies' new show is called 'Cucumber'

He created the original U.K. "Queer As Folk" (aka "the good version") and he's pretty busy right now making sure his BBB/Starz co-production "Torchwood: Miracle Day" gets the kind of American attention it deserves, so what's Russell T. Davies got cooking on the back burner? Something called "Cucumber." Here's everything we know: Showtime is interested, which is smart of them because the American "QAF" was the biggest hit they've ever had. And it involves gay men. But that's not a license for amateurs to go around making bawdy, lowest common denominator jokes involving the title. For all you know it could be a series about homosexual sous chefs. Or gay organic farmers. It might even be another sci-fi show like "Torchwood," and "Cucumber" could be the name of... a gay... spaceship. Oh, all right, let the jokes begin.

## Get to know: Jillian Armenante

This September sees the release of 'Contagion,' an everyone-in-the-world-is-going-to-die-of-bird-flu-right-now thriller (best line in the trailer: "Someone doesn't have to weaponize the bird flu. The birds are doing that."), and it's got a cast of heavy hitters: Matt Damon, Kate Winslet, Laurence Fishburne, Gwyneth Paltrow, Marion Cotillard, Jude Law and "Winter's Bone" Oscar nominee John Hawkes. But none of those people matter right now. Because Jillian Armenante is also in this movie. No, you don't know her name unless you were an obsessive "Judging Amy" fan, a series on which she was a regular. But she's a lesbian character actress, seen most recently in "Bad Teacher." And in a world where closeted A-listers still stare interviewers right in the face and lie about who they are, it's nice to recognize the not-quite-yet-famous out actors who don't make a big deal about going to work, doing their job and being honest all at the same time. So go see "Contagion" and give this hardworking woman the golf-clap when her name shows up in the credits. It's the least you can do.

## Trans drama 'Gun Hill Road' gets real

The coming out movie's been done to death, that's a fact on which most veteran viewers of gay-themed films can agree. But quality films about transgender issues are still a rarity, and quality trans films starring actual trans actors are even more scarce. All the more reason, then, to celebrate the upcoming theatrical release of the moving indie drama "Gun Hill Road." Esai Morales ("NYPD Blue," "Caprica") stars as an ex-con who comes home to his Bronx neighborhood to discover that his teenage son is transitioning to female. Dad has some catch-up to play, of course, but the real focus of "Gun Hill Road" is young trans actress Harmony Santana, who delivers a sensitive, intimate debut performance as the teenager searching for self-expression as well as for the love of her father. "Gun Hill Road"'s first stop will be arthouse theaters, but look for a DVD release before year's end.

Romeo San Vicente stopped getting real and started being polite. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.

### Pride Source Yellow Pages

BTL Advertisers

<b>AIDS/HIV ORGANIZATIONS</b> AIDS Partnership Michigan...30 Community Health Awareness Group .....2 Detroit Department of Health & Wellness .....4 Michigan AIDS Coalition .....20	<b>BOOK CLUB</b> LGBT Book Club.....14	<b>EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS</b> Ann Arbor Exotic Bird Expo.....5	<b>PERSONAL HYGIENE</b> Fleet ~ Naturals.....32	<b>RELIGIOUS &amp; SPIRITUAL cont.</b> Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit .....27 Whosoever Ministry .....16
<b>ART GALLERIES</b> Detroit Artists Market.....21 Robert Kidd Gallery.....16	<b>BOOKSTORES</b> Schuler Books .....31	<b>FLOORING</b> Four Seasons Hardwood floor29	<b>PHARMACY</b> American Mail Order Pharmacy 3	<b>RESTAURANTS</b> The French Laundry.....4 Honest John's.....27 Pete's Place Cafe .....14
<b>ATTORNEYS</b> Frego & Associates, PLC .....3 Gittleman, Steven .....24 Pierce, Robert .....17 Rasor Law Firm .....14 Shefman, Marc .....21	<b>CARPET CLEANERS</b> Hagopian Cleaning Services.16	<b>FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROGRAM</b> International Experience .....18	<b>PHYSICIANS</b> Benson, Dr. Paul, D.O. ....29 Kobold, D.O. and Smith, D.O., P.C.....26	<b>THEATERS</b> The Ark.....5 The Gem & Century Theatre.23
<b>AUTO REPAIR</b> Transmission Clinic .....24	<b>CARPET REPAIR</b> AAA Carpet Repair .....29	<b>GIFT SHOPS</b> Five 15 .....18	<b>RELIGIOUS &amp; SPIRITUAL</b> Central United Methodist Church .....24 Dignity Detroit.....18	
<b>BANK</b> Comerica Inc. ....13	<b>CHIROPRACTORS</b> O'Dell Family Chiropractic....18	<b>HOME CARE</b> Synergy Home Care .....27		
<b>BAR/CLUBS/DISCOS</b> aut Bar .....26	<b>COUNSELING</b> Cantrell, Christine, Ph.D.,LLC 17 The Center for Individual and Family Therapy .....23 Jozwiak, Rosemary, MA, LPC, CCBT, DVCe .....21	<b>INSULATION</b> Ace and Sons Insulation.....16		
	<b>DENTISTS</b> Williamson, Ron T., DDS .....31	<b>JEWELERS</b> Miner's Den .....20	<b>MASSAGE</b> Rosenberg, David.....27,29	
	<b>EROTICA</b> Blue Moon Video/DVD .....29 Just 4 Us .....28 Mega Mates.....29	<b>MATTRESS</b> American Mattress Gallery...14	<b>OPTICIANS/OPTOMETRISTS</b> Optik.....16	

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.



COMING SOON

BTL FALL PET ISSUE



BTL FALL HOME GUIDE

SEPT 22



BTL AUTO ISSUE  
SEPT 13

### 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!

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC presents

TALK & SIGNING  
NYT-Bestselling Author  
**SAPHIRE**  
7 p.m. Tuesday.  
August 9

Sequel to the bestselling book PUSH (adapted as the Academy-Award winning film PRECIOUS).

Tickets available at the Lansing location of Schuler Books or by calling the store at 517.316.7495.

Visit our website for event details at [www.SchulerBooks.com](http://www.SchulerBooks.com)

2820 Towne Center Blvd. • Lansing, MI 48912

Ron T. Williamson DDS  
"Dentistry for OUR family"

in a Gentle, Caring, Accepting, Comfortable atmosphere

Care Credit  
MasterCard VISA

ZOOM™ In Office Bleaching, Nitrous Oxide (relaxing air)  
No insurance? Ask about our in-office plans

11 Mile Rd. Lincoln Woodward  
26789 Woodward Ave., Ste. 101  
Huntington Woods, MI 48070  
248-399-4455  
[www.rontwilliamsondds.com](http://www.rontwilliamsondds.com)

Keep your backcountry clean.



No laxatives. No drugs. Just natural cleansing gentle enough for daily use. | [fleetnaturals.com](http://fleetnaturals.com)