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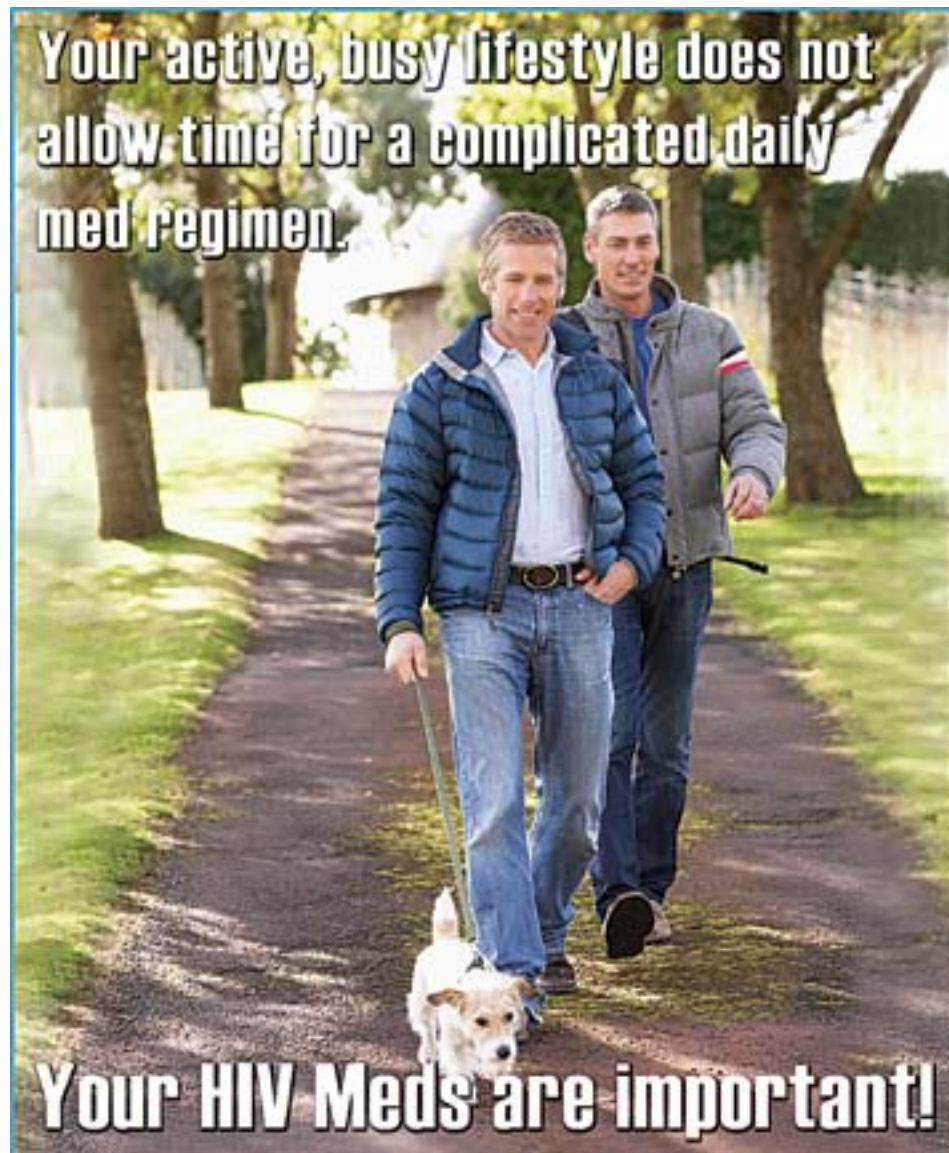
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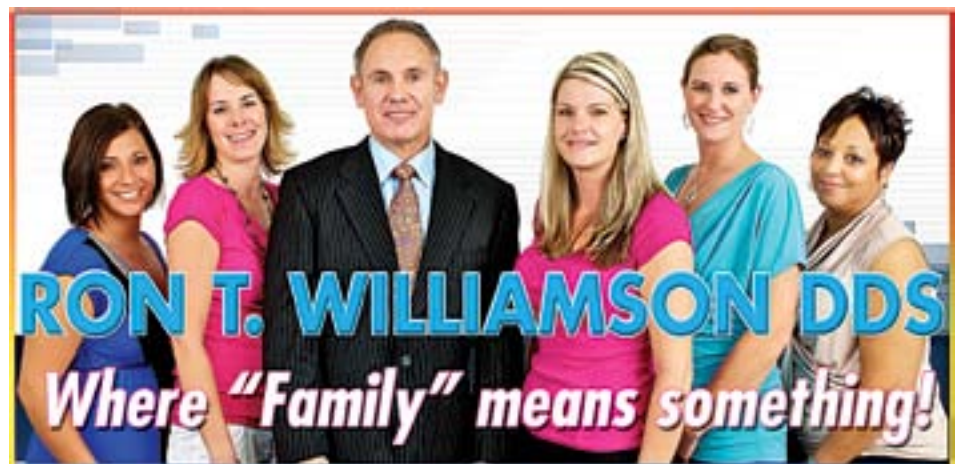


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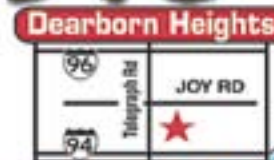
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Please see important safety information below.

INDICATION

VIRAMUNE is a prescription medication indicated for use in combination with other antiretroviral (ARV) agents for the treatment of HIV infection.

VIRAMUNE XR is a prescription medication indicated for use in combination with other ARVs for the treatment of HIV infection in adults.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

VIRAMUNE and VIRAMUNE XR can cause severe and life-threatening liver and skin reactions that can, in some cases, cause death. These problems can happen at any time but occur most often during the first 18 weeks of treatment, but can occur later. People who have abnormal liver test results before starting VIRAMUNE treatment and people with hepatitis B or C also have a greater chance of getting liver problems. Your healthcare provider (HCP) will closely monitor you and test the function of your liver during the first 18 weeks of therapy. Ask your healthcare provider how to recognize symptoms of liver and skin problems. Do not take VIRAMUNE unless you have been diagnosed with HIV.

You must stop taking VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR and call your HCP immediately if you have signs or symptoms of liver or skin problems. If you stop treatment with VIRAMUNE because you had any serious liver or skin reactions, you must never take VIRAMUNE again. For some patients, damage to the liver can continue to occur after VIRAMUNE is stopped.

Any patient can experience liver problems with VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR, but women and patients who have higher CD4+ counts when they begin nevirapine treatment have a greater risk. **If you are a woman with CD4+ greater than 250 cells/mm³, or a man with CD4+ greater than 400 cells/mm³, you should not begin taking VIRAMUNE unless you and your doctor have decided that the benefit of doing so outweighs the risk. Women, including pregnant women, with CD4+ cell counts greater than 250 cells/mm³ are at the greatest risk of severe liver problems.**

Do not take VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR unless you have been diagnosed with HIV. Do not take VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR if your HCP has told you that you have moderate to severe liver disease.

VIRAMUNE and VIRAMUNE XR can cause serious side effects, including changes to your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) and changes in body fat. The most common side effect of VIRAMUNE is rash. These are not all the possible side effects of VIRAMUNE. For more information, ask your HCP.

You should not take St. John's wort or efavirenz if you take VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR. Talk to your HCP about the additional drug to drug interactions associated with VIRAMUNE and VIRAMUNE XR.

VIRAMUNE and VIRAMUNE XR do not cure HIV or AIDS, and have not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients new to nevirapine must start treatment with a lead-in dose of one 200 mg tablet of immediate-release VIRAMUNE once daily for the first 14 days of treatment. The 14-day lead-in period is important because it has been shown to reduce your chances of getting a potentially serious skin rash. If you experience a rash during the first 14 days, immediately contact your HCP and do not increase your dose to VIRAMUNE 200 mg twice daily or start VIRAMUNE XR 400 mg once daily until the rash has resolved. If your rash persists longer than 28 days, stop taking VIRAMUNE and call your HCP for an alternative regimen. If you stop taking VIRAMUNE or VIRAMUNE XR for longer than seven days, talk to your HCP because you will need to restart the 14-day lead-in dose.

Adult patients already on a regimen of VIRAMUNE 200 mg twice daily can be switched to VIRAMUNE XR 400 mg once daily without the 14-day lead-in period of VIRAMUNE.

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

Please see Medication Guide, which includes dosing information and additional important risk information for VIRAMUNE XR, on the following pages.



VIRAMUNE® XR™
(nevirapine)
extended-release tablets



MEDICATION GUIDE

VIRAMUNE® (VIH-rah-mune) (nevirapine) Tablets

VIRAMUNE® (VIH-rah-mune) (nevirapine) Oral Suspension

VIRAMUNE® XR™ (VIH-rah-mune) (nevirapine) Extended-Release Tablets

Read this Medication Guide before you start taking VIRAMUNE and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking to your doctor about your medical condition or treatment.

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

VIRAMUNE can cause serious side effects. These include severe liver and skin problems that can cause death. These problems can happen at any time during treatment, but your risk is highest during the first 18 weeks of treatment.

1. Severe liver problems: Anyone who takes VIRAMUNE may get severe liver problems. In some cases these liver problems can lead to liver failure and the need for a liver transplant, or death.

People who have a higher CD4⁺ cell count when they begin VIRAMUNE treatment have a higher risk of liver problems, especially:

- Women with CD4⁺ counts higher than 250 cells/mm³. This group has the highest risk.
- Men with CD4⁺ counts higher than 400 cells/mm³.

If you are a woman with CD4⁺ counts higher than 250 cells/mm³ or a man with CD4⁺ counts higher than 400 cells/mm³, you and your doctor will decide whether starting VIRAMUNE is right for you.

In general, women have a higher risk of liver problems compared to men. People who have abnormal liver test results before starting VIRAMUNE treatment and people with hepatitis B or C also have a greater chance of getting liver problems.

You may get a rash if you have liver problems.

Stop taking VIRAMUNE and call your doctor right away if you have any of the following symptoms of liver problems:

- dark (tea colored) urine
- yellowing of your skin or whites of your eyes
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- fever
- nausea (feeling sick to your stomach)
- feel unwell or like you have the flu
- pain or tenderness on your right side below your ribs
- tiredness
- loss of appetite

Your doctor should see you and do blood tests often to check your liver function during the first 18 weeks of treatment with VIRAMUNE. You should continue to have your liver checked regularly during your treatment with VIRAMUNE. It is important for you to keep all of your doctor appointments.

2. Severe rash and skin reactions: Skin rash is the most common side effect of VIRAMUNE. Most rashes happen in the first 6 weeks of taking VIRAMUNE. **Rashes and skin reactions may be severe, life-threatening, and in some people, may lead to death. Stop using VIRAMUNE and call your doctor right away if you get a rash with any of the following symptoms:**

- blisters
- mouth sores
- red or inflamed eyes, like "pink eye" (conjunctivitis)
- liver problems (see symptoms of liver problems above)
- swelling of your face
- fever
- feel unwell or like you have the flu
- tiredness
- muscle or joint aches

If your doctor tells you to stop treatment with VIRAMUNE because you have had any of the serious liver or skin problems described above, you should never take VIRAMUNE again.

See the section "**What are the possible side effects of VIRAMUNE?**" for more information.

What is VIRAMUNE?

VIRAMUNE is a prescription medicine used to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

VIRAMUNE is a type of anti-HIV medicine called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI). VIRAMUNE works by lowering the amount of HIV in your blood ("viral load"). **You must take VIRAMUNE with other anti-HIV medicines.** When you take VIRAMUNE with other anti-HIV medicines, VIRAMUNE can lower your viral load and increase the number of CD4⁺ cells ("T cells"). CD4⁺ cells are a type of immune helper cell in the blood. VIRAMUNE may not have these effects in every person.

VIRAMUNE comes in 3 different forms. This Medication Guide provides information about all 3 forms of VIRAMUNE.

- VIRAMUNE tablets
- VIRAMUNE oral suspension
- VIRAMUNE XR extended release tablets

VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets are not for use in children.

VIRAMUNE does not cure HIV or AIDS, and it is not known if it will help you live longer with HIV. People taking VIRAMUNE may still get infections common in people with HIV (opportunistic infections). It is very important that you stay under the care of your doctor.

It is not known if VIRAMUNE lowers the chance of passing HIV to other people. Effective treatment combined with safer sex practices, may reduce the chance of passing HIV to others through sexual contact. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom or other barrier method to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids such as semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never re-use or share needles. Take your HIV medicines as prescribed.

Who should not take VIRAMUNE?

Tell your doctor if you have or have had liver problems. Your doctor may tell you not to take VIRAMUNE if you have certain liver problems.

VIRAMUNE is only for people diagnosed with HIV. If you have not been diagnosed as HIV positive, then do not take VIRAMUNE.

What should I tell my doctor before taking VIRAMUNE?

Before you take VIRAMUNE, tell your doctor if you:

- have or have had hepatitis (inflammation of your liver) or problems with your liver. See "**What is the most important information I should know about VIRAMUNE?**" and "**Who should not take VIRAMUNE?**"
- receive dialysis
- have skin problems, such as a rash
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if VIRAMUNE will harm your unborn baby.

Pregnancy Registry: There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of the registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk to your doctor about how you can take part in this registry.

- are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. VIRAMUNE can pass into your breast milk and may harm your baby. It is also recommended that HIV-positive women should not breast-feed their babies. Do not breast-feed during treatment with VIRAMUNE. Talk to your doctor about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your doctor and pharmacist about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins and herbal supplements. VIRAMUNE may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how VIRAMUNE works.

You should not take VIRAMUNE if you also take:

- St. John's Wort. St. John's Wort can lower the amount of VIRAMUNE in your body.
- efavirenz (Sustiva®, Atripla®). Efavirenz may cause you to have an increased chance of side effects.
- atazanavir (Reyataz®)
- lopinavir and ritonavir (Kaletra®)
- fosamprenavir calcium (Lexiva®)
- itraconazole (Sporanox®)

- ketoconazole (Nizoral®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®)
- Birth control pills. Birth control pills taken by mouth (oral contraceptives) and other hormone types of birth control may not work to prevent pregnancy. Talk with your doctor about other types of birth control that you can use to prevent pregnancy during treatment with VIRAMUNE.

Also tell your doctor if you take:

- clarithromycin (Biaxin®)
- fluconazole (Diflucan®)
- indinavir sulfate (Crixivan®)
- methadone
- nelfinavir mesylate (Viracept®)
- rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- warfarin (Coumadin®, Jantoven®)
- saquinavir mesylate (Invirase®)

If you are not sure if you take a medicine above, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show your doctor or pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

How should I take VIRAMUNE?

- VIRAMUNE is always taken in combination with other anti-HIV medications.
- Take VIRAMUNE exactly as your doctor tells you to take it. Do not change your dose unless your doctor tells you to.
- You should never take more than one form of VIRAMUNE at the same time. Talk to your doctor if you have any questions.
- Do not crush or chew VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets.
- You may take VIRAMUNE with or without food.
- Do not miss a dose of VIRAMUNE, because this could make HIV harder to treat. If you miss a dose of VIRAMUNE, take the missed dose as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose, just take the next dose at your regular time. Do not take two doses at the same time.
- If you stop taking VIRAMUNE for more than 7 days, ask your doctor how much to take before you start taking it again. You may need to begin taking the VIRAMUNE starting dose again, which is taken 1 time each day for 14 days.

Starting VIRAMUNE tablets:

1. Your doctor should start you with 1 dose each day to lower your chance of getting a serious rash. **It is important that you only take 1 dose of VIRAMUNE each day for the first 14 days.**
 - Call your doctor right away if you get a skin rash during the first 14 days of VIRAMUNE treatment and do not increase your dose to 2 times a day.
 - You should never take your starting dose for longer than 28 days. If after 28 days you are still receiving this starting dose because you have a rash, you and your doctor should talk about prescribing another HIV medicine for you instead of VIRAMUNE.
 - Do not increase your dose to 2 times a day if you have a rash.
2. Day 15, you will take 1 VIRAMUNE tablet two times a day.

Starting VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets and this is the first time you are taking any form of VIRAMUNE:

1. Your doctor should start you with 1 dose of VIRAMUNE tablets each day to lower your chance of getting a serious rash. **It is important that you only take 1 dose of VIRAMUNE each day for the first 14 days.**
 - Call your doctor right away if you get a skin rash during the first 14 days of VIRAMUNE treatment and do not increase your dose to 2 times a day.
 - You should never take your starting dose for longer than 28 days. If after 28 days you are still receiving this starting dose because you have a rash, you and your doctor should talk about prescribing another HIV medicine for you instead of VIRAMUNE.
 - Do not start VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets if you have a rash.
2. Day 15, you will take 1 VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablet each day.

Switching from VIRAMUNE tablets to VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablets:

1. Take VIRAMUNE XR extended-release tablet 1 time a day.

If you take VIRAMUNE Oral Suspension:

- If you or your child takes VIRAMUNE suspension (liquid), shake it gently

before each use. Use an oral dosing syringe or dosing cup to measure the right dose. The oral dosing syringe and dosing cup are not provided with VIRAMUNE Suspension. Ask your pharmacist for a syringe or cup if you do not have one.

- After drinking the medicine, fill the dosing cup with water and drink it to make sure you get all the medicine.
- If the dose is less than 1 teaspoon (5 mL), use the syringe instead of the dosing cup.

What are the possible side effects of VIRAMUNE?

VIRAMUNE may cause serious side effects, including:

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about VIRAMUNE?"**
- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your doctor if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV medicine.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in some people who take antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from your legs, arms, and face can also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these problems are not known at this time.

The most common side effect of VIRAMUNE is rash.

Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

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

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store VIRAMUNE?

- Store VIRAMUNE at 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C).
- Throw away VIRAMUNE that is no longer needed or out-of-date.

Keep VIRAMUNE and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about VIRAMUNE.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use VIRAMUNE for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give VIRAMUNE to other people, even if they have the same condition you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about VIRAMUNE. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for information about VIRAMUNE that is written for health professionals.

For more information, go to www.viramune.com or www.viramunexr.com or call Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc., at 1-800-542-6257, or (TTY) 1-800-459-9906.

What are the ingredients in VIRAMUNE?

Active ingredient: nevirapine

Inactive ingredients:

VIRAMUNE Tablets: microcrystalline cellulose, lactose monohydrate, povidone, sodium starch glycolate, colloidal silicon dioxide, and magnesium stearate

VIRAMUNE Oral Suspension: carbomer 934P, methylparaben, propylparaben, sorbitol, sucrose, polysorbate 80, sodium hydroxide, and purified water

VIRAMUNE XR Tablets: lactose monohydrate, hypromellose, iron oxide, and magnesium stearate

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

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Former U-M student president plans scholarship

ANN ARBOR (AP) – The openly gay former student assembly president at the University of Michigan says he and his family are starting a scholarship fund for students who have been victimized by bullying.

Chris Armstrong made the announcement Nov. 17 in a video on YouTube.

Andrew Shirvell, former Michigan assistant attorney general, had a blog that criticized Armstrong. Shirvell was fired last year after being accused of harassing Armstrong and is being sued in federal court in Detroit. In response, he's sued Armstrong's lawyer.

Shirvell is a 2002 University of Michigan graduate. He said in a statement that the video that describes his actions as "bullying" is defamatory.

The video was posted as part of the events marking the 40th anniversary of the Spectrum Center, the Ann Arbor school's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender support center.

Michigan students drive change on anti-bullying legislation

BY TODD A. HEYWOOD

LANSING – Students are driving lawmakers to make significant changes in legislation designed to eliminate bullying in Michigan schools.

Katy Butler and Carson Borbely, Michigan students who say they have suffered bullying, launched a petition on Change.org to protest the Michigan Senate's so-called anti-bullying bill. Over 50,000 people signed the petition within 48 hours.

State Sen. John Gleason (D-Flushing) said the petition is important.

"That's the purest form of democracy," Gleason said. "Under the right circumstances, one letter means a lot. One letter can change our mindset and when you have 50,000 that's a very zealous effort."

"It's been incredible to watch this campaign explode almost overnight," said Change.org Organizing Manager Mark Anthony Dingbaum. "Katy and Carson's campaign has effectively injected youth voices into a debate where students have been noticeably absent, and they've sent a very clear message to Lansing: We won't tolerate bullying in schools or at the state capitol."

The backlash comes after the Republican dominated Senate passed legislation in early November that Democrats said amounted to a "license to bully." The legislation contained a caveat that would allow bullying based on sincerely held religious beliefs or moral convictions. Outcry over the caveat made national headlines and was skewered by Keith Olberman and others in the national media. Kevin Epling, the father of Matt Epling for whom the legislation was named, said the bill did not reflect the values of his family or Matt.

Republican lawmakers in the House passed

legislation that did not include the "license to bully" provision, and it has been sent to the Senate for action. Ari Adler, spokesperson for House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall) has promised that the "license to bully" provision will not be in the final language of the bill.

Youth speak out, share horror of bullying

As to why these Ann Arbor based youth spoke out, they had much to say.

"I'm speaking out for all those students who suffer every day at school," said Butler, a 16-year-old junior at Greenhills High School in Ann Arbor. "As students, we deserve a bill that will actually protect us at school. Unfortunately, the bills being considered in Lansing fall short of doing that."

"People keep telling us youth that 'it gets better,'" Butler added. "Well, it can't get better if you don't make it better. I'm doing my part to help; please do yours."

In a personal statement posted online, Butler explained her experiences with bullying:

"I was in seventh grade putting my books in my locker when a few guys game up behind me calling me a faggot and a dyke and asking me why I even bothered to show my face at school because no one liked me. I ignored them because I was scared of what else they might say and who else they might tell if I stood up to them. I went to shut my locker when an eighth grader pushed me against the wall. I didn't know what to do, so I stood there, alone and afraid. One of his friends slammed my locker shut on my hand breaking my fourth finger. I held back tears while I watched them run away laughing. When I got home I lied to my parents about what happened to my finger because I didn't want them to tell the school. I

was afraid the school would do nothing except call me out in front of everyone. I told them that I accidentally closed my locker the wrong way on my own hand.

"The constant whispers, even comments to my face, and stares I got in the locker room during gym were enough for me to go talk with one of my teachers. They said that bullying was wrong and they would take care of it. They never did anything."

Borbely also posted a statement online about the harassment she has been experiencing:

"Being an eighth grader can be exceedingly challenging sometimes, even without this - but being the only openly gay kid in your school is even more difficult. There are some people who give you hope on this, they smile, say it's fine, move on. There are the people that laugh, make asinine comments, move on with their days.

"Something about it sticks with you. The thickness of the words grows on my skin, dissolving the confidence I thought I had. Slowly it wears me down, it's like a battle. Walking into school every morning feels like a sentence, and as the doors shut behind me I sigh deeply. It's an ache in my chest. Seven more hours for today... Four more days in the week... Seven more months of the school year... I tick the numbers off on my fingers, and for some reason it feels like they never, ever change.

"A few weeks ago in class, I brushed a friend's hair away from her face. A loud voice sharply interrupts my thoughts, 'Don't touch her. Trannies carry diseases.' The teacher didn't do anything. That was the fourth incident in her class that I had been harassed by the same boy. Nothing was done. The only reprimand he got was a sharp calling of his name. The teacher asked him passively to stop. He continued."

UN: AIDS epidemic stabilizing, still work to do

BY MARIA CHENG

(AP) - The AIDS epidemic is leveling off and the number of people newly infected with the virus that causes it has remained unchanged since 2007, the United Nations said in a report Nov. 21.

Critics say that the body's aim of wiping out the disease is overly optimistic, however, considering there is no vaccine, millions remain untreated and donations have slumped amid the economic crisis.

There were 2.7 million new HIV infections last year, approximately the same figure as in the three previous years, said the report from UNAIDS, the joint United Nations program on HIV and AIDS. The figures largely confirm

earlier findings released by the group in June.

At the end of last year, there were about 34 million people with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. While that is a slight rise from previous years, experts say that's due to people surviving longer. Last year, there were 1.8 million AIDS-related deaths, down from 1.9 million in 2009.

The outbreak continues to hit hardest in southern Africa. But while the number of new infections there has fallen by more than 26 percent since the peak in 1997, the virus is surging elsewhere.

In eastern Europe and central Asia, there has been a 250 percent jump in the number of people infected with HIV in the past decade, due largely to the spread among injecting drug

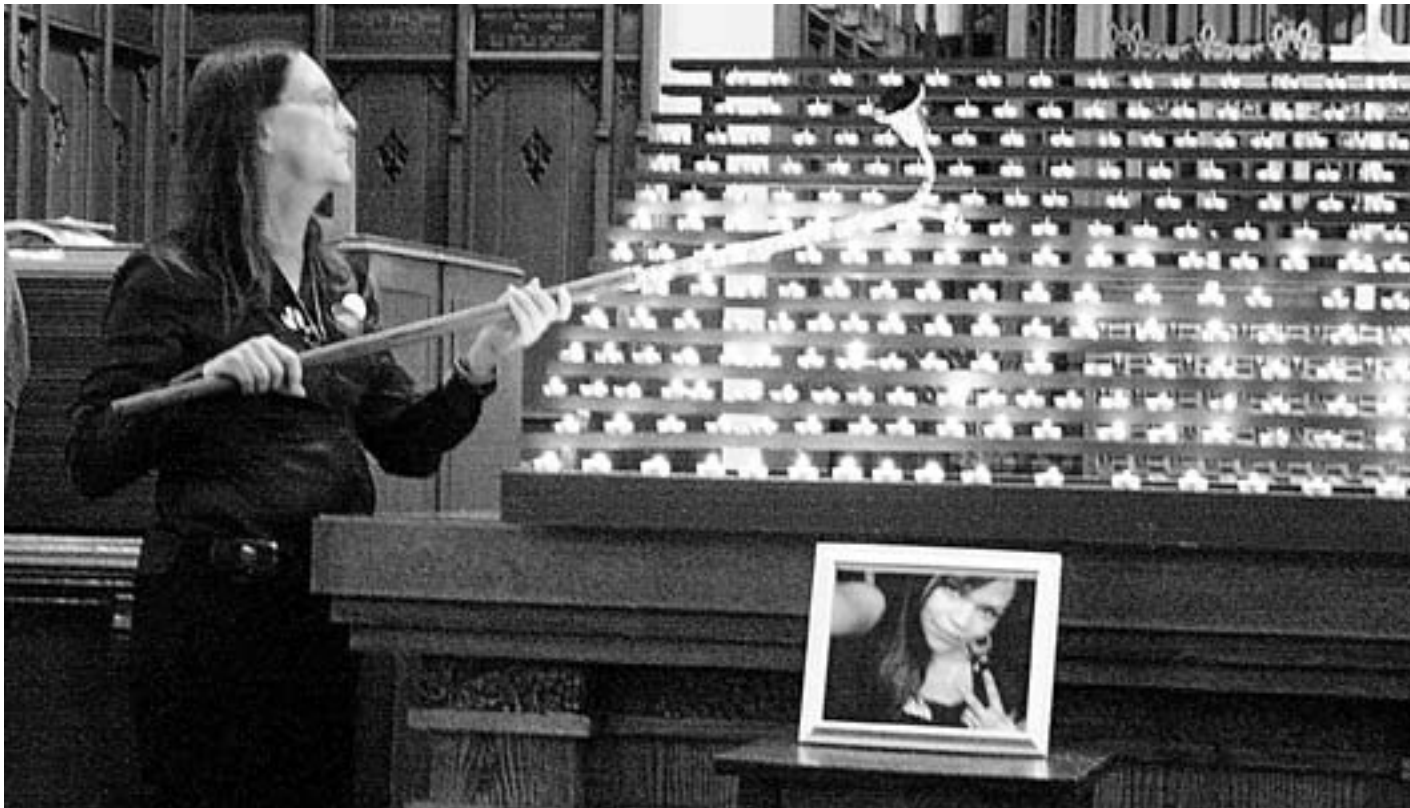
users. In North America and western Europe, the outbreak "remains stubbornly steady," according to the report.

"It's looking promising, but the numbers are still at a scary level," said Sophie Harman, a global health expert at City University in London. She was not connected to the UNAIDS report.

In its strategy for the next few years, UNAIDS says it is working toward zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths. Harman said that was an admirable goal but wasn't sure it was achievable. "They need to get real," she said. "Maybe they need to aim high but if their main goal is eradication, it's highly unlikely that will ever happen."

Dr. Paul De Lay, deputy executive director of UNAIDS, acknowledged the idea of eliminating AIDS infections and deaths is "more of a vision for the future," and would likely not be accomplished without new tools like a vaccine, which could take several decades. Earlier this month, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called for an AIDS-free generation and promised more money for programs in Africa.

De Lay said U.N. strategies will focus on more aggressive prevention and treatment policies, like treating people with HIV earlier. In Africa, people with HIV are not usually treated until their immune system reaches a certain threshold, and officials are now increasingly



Michelle Fox-Phillips, executive director of Transgender Detroit, lights candles at the Transgender Day of Remembrance service, which took place Nov. 18 at Central United Methodist Church in Detroit. On display in front of the candles is a photo of Michelle Moore, a 19-year-old transgender woman who was murdered in Detroit last month. BTL photo: Jason A. Michael

Mothers make this year's Day of Remembrance especially moving

Sylvia Guerrero and Lyniece Nelson speak at 11th annual service

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

DETROIT – More than 150 people came out to historic Central United Methodist Church Friday to commemorate the 11th annual Transgender Day of Remembrance. The names of 270 transgender individuals from across the world who were murdered over the past year were read aloud and a candle lit for each.

“Just last week, we found out that there was a murder here in Detroit,” said Michelle Fox-Phillips, making reference in her opening remarks to the death of Michelle Moore. “It’s just touched me. I was devastated and I’m still numb.

“Detroit lost one of its own,” Fox-Phillips continued. “There is so much work that needs to be done in Michigan and the world. We need to educate society that we are just as human as anyone else.”

Rachel Crandall, executive director of Transgender Michigan, is someone that’s been working on that education campaign for years.

“I am angry,” Crandall said. “I am outraged. (I’m here because) I wanted to put my anger to work, and I wanted to pay my respects to all the transgender individuals who lost their lives

simply because they were transgender.”

But no one’s anger compares to that of a mother’s whose child has been hurt, and the last two speakers of the night helped the audience learn what “mad” really means.

“You don’t frighten me,” said Lyniece Nelson, Moore’s mother, sending a message directly out to her daughter’s unknown killer. “You can’t hide from God.”

Sylvia Guerrero, whose daughter Gwen Araujo was murdered in 2002, was the evening’s keynote speaker. Araujo’s story was made into a Lifetime movie in 2006, titled *A Girl Like Me: The Gwen Araujo Story*.

“As a mom, I’m not going to tell you that with time it will get better because it won’t,” Guerrero said, speaking to Nelson. “I have learned to live with my pain. ... I was a mother of four. I now have three. Each and every one is different, but were all born in God’s image.

“People ask me if I was angry at God when she was murdered and, honestly, not for a second,” Guerrero went on. “Even now, her spirit is with me to comfort mommy when I need it. Just like Shelly is going to be there for her mother.”

A lighthearted moment in the evening came about when Rev. Delores Berry performed a version of the classic spiritual “Swing Low, Swing Chariot” with some special lyrics that included a band of “transgender angels” coming forth to carry her home.

“We’ve just heard a short list of the holocaust that is happening in our community,” said Berry. “Don’t let this scare you. I have always believed that God wanted us to experience some Heaven on Earth. Don’t let anyone take your Heaven from you.”

“We’ve just heard a short list of the holocaust that is happening in our community. Don’t let this scare you.”

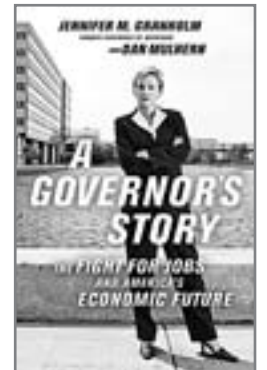
- Rev. Delores Berry, MCC Church

Granholm comes to Ferndale's AJ's Cafe Nov. 25

FERDALE – Former Governor Jennifer Granholm will be at AJ’s Café in downtown Ferndale Nov. 25 from 2:30 to 4 p.m.. She will be signing copies of her best-selling political book “A Governor’s Story: The Fight for Jobs and America’s Economic Future” that she co-wrote with her husband, Dan Mulhern.

Anyone who brings at least two cans of food to donate to those in need will receive a discount on their book purchase or a free latte from AJ’s.

AJ’s is located at 240 West Nine Mile Rd. For more information email boyd.liz@gmail.com.



Gay soldier shares reaction to GOP debate boos

BY LISA LEFF

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) – Army Capt. Stephen Hill says he wasn’t trying to score political points when he asked the Republican presidential candidates if they would reinstate the ban on gays serving openly in the U.S. military.

He wasn’t worried that his debate question, posed via a YouTube video recorded in Iraq, would generate boos or reveal his sexual orientation to millions of people, including his superiors and fellow troops.

All Hill was thinking about in September was his husband of four-and-a-half months, Joshua Snyder, in Columbus, Ohio.

Now that “don’t ask, don’t tell” has been lifted, he needed to know if the military would take the next step and recognize his marriage, or if a new president would try to force soldiers like him back into the closet.

“I was looking forward to the future and hoping everybody would realize we are soldiers first, always,” said Hill, 41, an Army reservist who returned last week from his yearlong deployment. “I was hoping ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ would be a distant memory for everybody.”

In an interview with The Associated Press, Hill reflected publicly for the first time on his

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Thinking Out Loud



Prop 8's slow crawl to the U.S. Supreme Court

BY ABBY DEES

Sometimes I wish lawsuits in real life were more like they are on TV. They'd wrap up in days rather than years, and they wouldn't spend most of that time in the mind-numbing quagmire known as legal procedure. Such is the case with California's Prop 8 trial, Perry v. Brown.

A quick refresher: Prop 8 is unique among state same-sex marriage bans for a number of reasons, perhaps the biggest being that it was found unconstitutional in federal trial court and is now moving, very slowly, through the appeals process. It's poised to go all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. No other LGBT marriage law has made it this far. This means that California's 2008 law could determine the fate of same-sex marriage for the whole country.

On Nov. 17, 2011 we all awoke to the cacophonous news that the California Supreme Court had issued a decision that will take Prop 8 to the next critical phase.

Wait, it wasn't at the top of your newsfeed? CNN didn't interrupt programming to tell you? OK, so maybe it was just me trawling the LGBT law-wonk websites and an email from Lambda Legal. Still, I can tell you that this is big news for us all.

Perhaps the reason you might have missed it is that for the last year Perry v. Brown has been stalled on a somewhat theoretical question of legal procedure. At issue is not any of the arguments about the fairness of Prop 8's same-sex marriage ban, but rather who should defend it during appeal. Normally, when someone challenges state law, the Governor and the Attorney General (AG) automatically step in to defend it. But in Perry, Governor (and defendant) Jerry Brown and AG Kamala Harris have offered what I'll call the "limp noodle" defense. In other words, they're totally fine with Prop 8 going down in flames on their watch. I think a thank you note to both of them is in order.

ProtectMarriage.com, the people who put Prop 8 on the ballot, desperately want to step in since the state won't – because if no one's there to defend the law, the marriage ban automatically ends with Judge Vaughn Walker's 2010 ruling that Prop 8 is unconstitutional. Same-sex marriage would

resume in California.

And they got their wish last week. Without going into the weird hot-potato specifics of how it came down, the gist is that ProtectMarriage.com gets to defend Prop 8 in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Same-sex marriage will remain unlawful in California at least until it all gets worked out, maybe two years or more.

If I seem happy about this, there's a reason. As a married lesbian in California I would have been thrilled to see Prop 8 off the books, and our state once again a model of equality. But then we'd have to start all over again somewhere else to tackle marriage equality nationwide, once and for all. I don't want to wait.

There's an old lawyer adage about Supreme Court cases: good cases make good law. And Perry is definitely a good case. Defense attorneys Olson and Boies built a thorough and nuanced record of exactly why

Prop 8 is morally and legally wrong, while the other side looked ignorant and petty. My God, someone even turned the trial transcript into a play, it so beautifully illuminated the ideal of justice.

That perfectly crafted trial record of Perry v. Brown is what the U.S. Supreme Court would be looking at closely to make their ruling. It's hard to imagine a better foundation for a U.S. Supreme Court victory.

Yes, our High Court has never been so far to the right and there is a chance we will lose – a loss that will reverberate

for perhaps generations. But two things are painfully clear: First, the Court will only continue to keep moving right; and second, the traditional strategy of fighting for marriage equality in the states is failing us as voters continue to enshrine bigotry into their state constitutions. I don't believe there will be a better time than now to make our next bold move toward equality.

Last week's quiet ruling on California's Prop 8 moves us closer to marriage equality for the entire country.



Pioneering mother's legacy lives on through PFLAG

BY MICHAEL K. LAVERS, EDGE MEDIA

A mother's simple act of walking alongside her gay son sparked a worldwide movement.

Jeanne Manford conceived the idea that would eventually become Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays in 1972 after she marched with her gay son Morty in New York's annual Pride parade. Nearly four decades later, the ally movement has come of age in the eyes of those who continue to carry Manford's torch.

"We are still on the frontlines of this work, and we have always known that family and community acceptance is key to the health and well-being of our loved ones," said Jody Huckaby, executive director of PFLAG.

More than 300 people from across the United States, Canada, Latin America and even Portugal gathered in Alexandria, Va., on Nov. 3-6 for PFLAG's National Convention. Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden once again spoke out against bullying as she stressed the importance of family acceptance in a speech she delivered at the opening of the conference on. The organization also honored Betty DeGeneres, mother of comedian and talk show host Ellen DeGeneres.

Nearly 200 PFLAG members lobbied members of Congress, to support the Safe Schools Improvement Act, which would require schools that receive federal funding to adopt an anti-LGBT bullying or harassment policy, and the Student Non-Discrimination Act, which would require any public school that receives federal funding to ban discrimination against any student based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.

"PFLAG demonstrated its power by sharing its members' most valuable currency on the Hill: their personal stories about how bullying has hurt their families and made their kids feel unsafe in the classroom," said Huckaby.

Doctor Caitlin Ryan, director of the Family Acceptance Project at San Francisco State University, highlighted data that shows a direct correlation on rates of family acceptance of LGBT youth and increased propensity of health and mental well-being in adulthood.

A trained social worker, Ryan and Rafael Diaz launched the Family Acceptance Project in 1999. It contains four components: study how parents, families and caregivers react to and adjust to a child's sexual orientation or gender identity and expression, develop data-based training and assessment materials for health care providers, juvenile justice officials and others who work with LGBT youth and their families, create resources and what Ryan describes as a

traditions and their cultural values."

The Platas of Modesto, Calif., are among the eight families that the Family Acceptance Project highlights in a series of videos that accompany its research.

A self-described "macho Marine dad," Edward Plata struggled to accept his eldest son E.J.'s sexual orientation. He threw away the Little Mermaid doll with which his son played when he was a child and replaced it with G.I.

his son and his boyfriend in San Francisco earlier this month. "A macho Marine dad doesn't put out gay kids. He puts out athletes and scholars and devil dog Marines."

Edward Plata was not surprised when he found out that his son is gay.

"E.J. really came out to her [Elizabeth], but I did have a talk with E.J.," he said. "With teary eyes I said, son, I love you and we will with every situation here."

The Platas soon began to reach out to other parents of LGBT children. They also began to host get-togethers for local LGBT teens at their home twice a month. "I'm very passionate when I speak about my son and the kids who are in our group; I feel like they are like my kids," said Edward Plata. "I try to respect people to have their own feelings because I've been there."

The Family Acceptance Project's findings came as no surprise to Romen Monteiro, a 22-year-old graduate student from Porto, Portugal, who attends Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. Monteiro's mother has become one of Portugal's highest profile LGBT activists. As founder of the Association of Mothers and Fathers for the Freedom of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, she regularly appears in the Portuguese media to discuss family acceptance and other LGBT-specific issues.

"It's very good that they finally showed it scientifically in a way that they can use this data to show the government, the schools, to all these entities that families and communities should accept their children because it's for their own health," he said.

PFLAG Omaha [Neb.] President Carrie Spencer agreed.

"PFLAG is all about families," she said. "Doctor Ryan's work takes it that much more further about family acceptance and the roles families play in the health and well-being of LGBTQ youth and just how powerful the family unit is."

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A mother's simple act of walking alongside her gay son sparked a worldwide movement. Jeanne Manford conceived the idea that would eventually become Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays in 1972 after she marched with her gay son Morty in New York's annual Pride parade. BTL file photo from NY Pride Guide 1988. Photo: Joseph T. Barna.

new family support model to help ethnically and religiously diverse families support their LGBT children.

"What we've learned over time is that families can learn how to support that LGBT person, but how one looks at them has to be culturally appropriate," Ryan said. "It has to really be done in ways that respect their religious

Joes - E.J.'s mother, Elizabeth, always replaced it. Edward Plata even scolded his son when he told him that his classmates had bullied him in school.

"As time went on, I started thinking about myself and what I'm going to tell my friends," said Edward Plata as he and his family drove back to their Central Valley home after visiting

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Creep of the Week

Tamara Scott

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Bravo to Michele Bachmann for her newly appointed Iowa co-chair Tamara Scott, a woman who will no doubt help woo anti-gay Iowans to Bachmann's dimly lit camp.

Scott, who is a director for the Concerned Women of America, a group that's never met a gay it didn't not like, is "concerned" about gay marriage. In fact, over the summer, she stood with



Tamara Scott

Bob Vander Plaats of anti-gay group The Family Leader, and outlined some of her concerns about pro-marriage equality arguments, specifically, the "red herring," a rhetorical tactic intended to divert attention from the real issues.

"We didn't bring up the objective sexualism," she says while she and Vander Plaats crack up. "I don't know if you've seen this one, where the woman marries the Eiffel Tower. Or someone marries an object."

Vander Plaats grunts in surprise. "I know you at home are thinking, 'This woman is nuts,'" she says, addressing the camera directly. "I'm not making it up. Get online and do the link."

Um, "do the link"? What does that mean? Does it have something to do with the YouTubes or the Googles?

Thankfully, I managed to find the scandalous story Scott referred to. Yes, indeed, there's a lady who had a commitment ceremony with the Eiffel Tower because of her love for it and also because she felt the Eiffel Tower was lonely or something that obviously makes total sense and speaks to this lady's 100 percent sanity.

Erika Eiffel, who changed her last name after the ceremony, told ABC News, "I just, it's almost like I heard her crying out, saying, 'Somebody, notice me. Somebody, really notice me. Here I am in the crowd crying out, somebody, somebody, hear my voice.'"

It occurs to me that people trapped under, say, rubble, cry similar things out. Perhaps they've been misunderstood all of these years, wanting a stranger to marry them

instead of dig them out. It may be time for search and rescue policies to be reviewed. Also, if there's one word that describes the Eiffel Tower it's "ignored."

But what's most important is that Erika Eiffel refers to the Eiffel Tower as "her." Meaning that her marriage is a gay marriage. Which means, um, something terrible probably. I mean, if the Eiffel Tower were a dude, then it would all be okay. And, also, how is the Eiffel Tower *not* a dude? Hello?

Scott is the same woman who, last year, declared that the country's economic woes could be solved if we just banned gay marriage harder.

Phallic symbol?

Apparently, "object orientation" is a thing. It is, according to the objectum-sexuality website, "widely known as Objektophil in Germany," and that many "objectum-sexuals" have Asperger's syndrome, which is all you really need to know to establish that marrying objects is obviously going to be the next big thing once same-sex couples can get married.

Before you start writing up pre-nups for all of the items covered by your property insurance, it's important to remember that Scott is the same woman who, last year, declared that the country's economic woes could be solved if we just banned gay marriage harder. "If we would correct the breakdown of the family by 1 percent, we could save the taxpayer \$3 billion a year," she told an anti-gay rally crowd. "When the family is healthy, the community benefits. When the family is hurting, society will pay the cost one way or another. We can fix this economic downturn very easily by fixing some hearts."

"Fixing hearts" obviously means making hearts un-gay, or whatever. And we all know that Marcus Bachmann specializes in that.

I hope that Scott is also Bachmann's economic advisor. You know, if only a certain President's jobs plan focused more on unmarried gay people. Maybe then Republicans would support it.

► Gay soldier

Continued from p. 11

reasons for submitting the pre-recorded question for the Sept. 22 debate, as well as his reaction to the heckles heard around the world; the answer that former Sen. Rick Santorum gave to thunderous applause; and the outrage expressed on his behalf by, among others, his commander in chief.

With Snyder on the telephone, Hill watched the debate live from Iraq at 4 a.m. And this is what he asked: "In 2010, when I was deployed to Iraq, I had to lie about who I was because I'm a gay soldier and I didn't want to lose my job. My question is, under one of your presidencies, do you intend to circumvent the progress that's been made for gay and lesbian soldiers in the military?"

Santorum replied that he would reinstitute the ban on open service by gay troops because "any type of sexual activity has absolutely no place in the military."

"What we are doing is playing social experimentation with our military right now. That's tragic," he continued. "Leave it alone. Keep it to yourself whether you are heterosexual or homosexual."

Hill says the fact that he just outed himself on national television had barely registered when he absorbed the boos and Santorum's answer followed by applause.

"When the actual booing occurred, my gut dropped out, because my first inclination was, did I just do something wrong?" he said. "The answer, obviously, wasn't very supportive of gay people, and there was a lot of fear of how the Army would take the question."

He did not have to wait long to find out. At breakfast later that morning, the segment was playing on the chow hall television. Hill immediately tracked down his commander, who told him she had



Stephen Hill, left, and his husband Joshua Snyder, pictured on the right. AP Photo: Jay LaPrete

no problem with what he'd done but that she would need to run it up the chain of command. She later relayed the response.

"She said, 'What the military's most concerned with is that you are OK, because it's a lot of pressure on you and we want to make sure if there is anything we can do to help,'" he recalled.

President Barack Obama, about a week later, chided the Republican contenders for staying silent when several people booed an American soldier. Santorum said he had not

"I'm fighting every day to protect everyone's rights ... and it seems counterintuitive for me to be fighting for those rights and not have them."

heard the booing but condemned the audience members who did it.

What Hill remembers most was that a presidential candidate defined his marriage and military service in terms of sex. He holds that up against the times he hid Snyder's photograph because Army buddies were coming over to play video games, introduced his husband as his roommate or brother, and the legal vows they exchanged at the grave of Air Force Sgt. Leonard Matlovich, who was discharged in 1975 after becoming the first gay service member to challenge the U.S. military's ban on gay troops.

Snyder and Hill last month joined other same-sex military couples in suing the government for the same benefits as straight military couples, which the Pentagon denies them on grounds that federal law defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman.

"This is not about sex," Hill said. "A special privilege is not hiding pictures in my house or God forbid, taking mortar fire again and not knowing if Josh will be recognized. I'm fighting every day to protect everyone's rights as human beings, and it seems counterintuitive for me to be fighting for those rights and not have them."

► UN: AIDS

Continued from p. 10

trying to start treatment before patients get too sick.

Future strategies might also include giving medicines to people at high risk even before they get infected. The World Health Organization is considering how to advise countries with major epidemics on giving drugs to healthy people vulnerable to catching the virus, such as prostitutes, gay men and injecting drug users, as a prevention method.

While studies have shown that could dramatically slow AIDS transmission, experts have voiced concerns about healthy people taking AIDS drugs, which have toxic side effects. It could also encourage drug resistance, and there are already millions of people in developing countries who qualify for treatment but are still waiting for it.

Sharonann Lynch, an HIV policy adviser at Doctors Without Borders, said many African countries are anxious to implement more aggressive strategies and that some are redrafting their guidelines

even before official U.N. advice is available. But she said the financial crisis is affecting treatment and that enrollment in some clinics, like in Congo, have stalled or even been suspended. That could allow the epidemic to resurge.

"Just at the moment when we know how to manage HIV, we're hitting the brakes," Lynch said. "Without more investment, we'll be squandering the best chance we have of getting ahead of the new wave of infections."

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Heard on Facebook

10-year-old Ashlynn Conner of Illinois killed herself after being called a boy and taunted for her short hair. Tell us how you feel.

Epic fail by the parents of the bullies, the bullies themselves. The schools could have done better as well.

-Elaine Mulligan

I agree with Elaine. Are these children getting the idea for suicide from all of the media publicity? I cannot comprehend a 10-year-old even thinking of suicide. Where is her support?

-Larry Johnson

Are you kidding me? Now we have ten year olds killing themselves? To be honest, I don't think I would have known about suicide at that age. People, a little kindness to others. WTF! At some point we need to stop the cruelty.

-Jason Vorva

We're going about the whole gender question all wrong if this is how our children are behaving towards each other.

-Freedom Toobe

As an androgynous queer woman, I can attest that harassment based on gender non-conformity is often more vicious than homophobic bullying. Each person who trains their children to obey gender norms inadvertently trains them to police their peers. Our society needs a new dialogue about the vast spectrum of sex, gender and sexuality. We must all do our part.

-Quinn Phillips

Comments may be edited for grammar and length.



Join the conversation ...

Search: "Between The Lines Newspaper"

S/he Said

Giving thanks, gender, drag

COMPILED BY HOWARD ISRAEL



"I am thankful for the small group of close friends who I have been able to come out to since I moved back home and back in the closet. Those friends mean the world to me, because they get to see the real me ... In rural America, there can be so few gay people, and it can be quite lonely. However, with a few who I can be open and honest with, it makes the loneliness a little easier. I am also thankful that on the 30th of this month, I will have another birthday. Some people fret over being a year older, but I like being a year older a lot better than the alternative. I am thankful for my health and for the fact that I live in a country where each year I get older, the GLBT community continues to gain the rights and struggles for equality that we deserve. There is so much to be thankful for, but these are the big ones."

—JoeBlow, blogger and graduate student living in the South, on his blog titled "The Closet Professor," in his blog posting titled "What I Am Thankful For," closetprofessor.blogspot.com, Nov. 21



Jude Geiger

"Every generation has seen the gender line blur and break a little more. It is my hope and prayer that we've pushed against it hard enough that not only have glass ceilings started to crack, but also that our children are starting to grow up knowing that their gender or sex need not determine the scope of their dreams or the breadth of their lives, loves and hopes. Maybe we've finally reached a point where our own actions, responses and inclinations have ceased to place limits on one another. But that's simply not true. Not yet."

—Rev. G. Jude Geiger, Minister of Lifespan Religious Education at the First Unitarian Universalist Congregational Society of Brooklyn, in his column titled "Transgender Day of Remembrance: Embracing Our Whole Human Family," huffingtonpost.com Nov. 20.

"How do we prevent these transgender children from being rejected? How do we end the climate of hatred and fear that has claimed the lives of many transgender people? We believe that K-12 schools and colleges must take the lead in recognizing and educating about gender diversity. For if we are to no longer need the Day of Remembrance in the future, society has to move beyond the binary of two unchanging genders — and if we teach our children well, they can be the ones who will bring about that day."



Sue Rankin

—Sue Rankin and Genny Beemyn, co-authors of "The Lives of Transgender People," in their column titled "Transgender Day of Remembrance 2011: A Hostile Climate Continues for Transgender People," www.huffingtonpost.com, Nov. 19.



Miss Coco Peru

"Drag for me was born out of a calling to be an activist. It was the late 80s and it was a scary time for a young gay man in New York City. It was a time when walking down the street you could see the effect of AIDS on people walking towards you ... I know you all might be thinking - so you became a drag queen? I made the choice to embrace everything I have ever been taught to hate about myself. Celebrate it. I would embrace my two-spirit nature with the intention that people would listen to my story and forget all (my) drag - they would realize that despite appearances, it is what is on the inside that matters. And what every human being really wants and deserves - is love, respect, equality and justice."

—Miss Coco Peru, an award honoree at L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center's 40th Anniversary Gala, explaining how the early years of the AIDS epidemic and his anger led him to create his drag alter ego, lgbtpov.com, Oct. 25.

(Editor's note: Miss Peru will be performing Dec. 3, 8 p.m. in Royal Oak. See ad on p. 42 for details.)

Parting Glances



So wise, the fabled snow

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

That silent night the sound of jackboots grew loud encircling our streets. The hosannas grew bold. Onward like soldiers marching as to war they came, letting no one bar their trampling way.

"We march in the name of all consuming love," they sang. But their hymn was harsh, too militant of brass and snarling drum to win our allegiance or gain our heartfelt trust.

For days we heard rumors of casting stones. ("A lie," they sneered.) We heard chants. Change! Change! We noted the marking of souls by chapter and verse: I accept! I kneel! I crown! ("Our truth is indelible," they three times crowed. "It scorches like fires of hell. It stains like crucifixion blood.")

For safety we fled to the woods, worried we might be pursued by their hounds of heaven, unleashed to snap, snarl, tear any – and all – who could not, would not, dare not, true believe with them.

Step! Step! Step! The jackboots echoed. Heil! Hosanna! Heil! The hour grew late. The indifferent moon shone cold. Few stars dared to shine.

"Are we next?" we wondered, pausing to embrace, to lock wearied arms, to press ahead. "Let our kinship sustain us 'til the dawn," we said.

They mocked and spat upon our gifts, our joy, our differences, our right to love.

And so, that once-silent night the snow fell gentle. Soft. Unsullied. It covered all with tiny gems of benediction. (Is there anything wiser than the falling snow? we asked.) Yet

still we heard the warlike din, and moved among the trees where sentinel shadows guarded our late-night watch.

Each brought a candle to light our way. His, red. Hers, blue. A youth's, pale lavender. Fairest green, a transgendered heart. A black youth, richest ebony. Amid that sheltered space our faces glowed. We shared warmth. Reflected light. We garnered hope. Breathed far, far cleaner air.

Hidden in the heart of natural things we affirmed who we are – who we have always been – who we must remain – come what may – whate'er the cost – whate'er betide setback, struggle, strategy. Having so pledged among ourselves, it seemed the woods in turn gave haloed radiance. And spectral voices, too.

"Remember us," we heard unnamed spirits call. "We paid the price for candor long, long years ago. Our honest courage paved the way for you and yours. Draw now upon our strength. Your struggle's ours."

"Hear us too," cried others moving near with sadder shape. "Our countless lives give honor. We yielded youth, talent, hope to rampant death, disease, dementia. Our suffering, our terror – though painful to recall – must not be banished from memory. Our loss, atone."

"And we, too, are here: victims of hate, cunning, murder, foulest play. We were despised, rejected of human kind. They mocked and spat upon our gifts, our joy, our differences, our right to love. Be strong!"

Then whispered a warming, healing wind: "Your time will come. Be resolute." And softly says the ever-gentle snow: "My peace I give. This night I blanket all. Be free. Yield not. Go out. Be whole. Be as one."

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The **one**  for me

Patient model. Pill shown is not actual size.

INDICATION

COMPLERA® (emtricitabine 200 mg/rilpivirine 25 mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) is a prescription HIV medicine that contains 3 medicines, EMTRIVA® (emtricitabine), EDURANT™ (rilpivirine), and VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) combined in one pill. COMPLERA is used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 infection in adults (age 18 and older) who have never taken HIV medicines before.

COMPLERA does not cure HIV and has not been shown to prevent passing HIV to others. It is important to always practice safer sex, use latex or polyurethane condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids, and to never re-use or share needles. **Do not stop taking COMPLERA unless directed by your healthcare provider. See your healthcare provider regularly.**

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Contact your healthcare provider right away if you get the following side effects or conditions while taking COMPLERA:

- Nausea, vomiting, unusual muscle pain, and/or weakness. These may be signs of a buildup of acid in the blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious medical condition
- Light-colored stools, dark-colored urine, and/or if your skin or the whites of your eyes turn yellow. These may be signs of serious liver problems (hepatotoxicity), with liver enlargement (hepatomegaly), and fat in the liver (steatosis)
- If you have HIV-1 and hepatitis B virus (HBV), your liver disease may suddenly get worse if you stop taking COMPLERA. Do not stop taking COMPLERA without first talking to your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider will monitor your condition

COMPLERA may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how COMPLERA works, and may cause serious side effects.

Do not take COMPLERA if you are taking the following medicines:

- other HIV medicines (COMPLERA provides a complete treatment for HIV infection.)
- the anti-seizure medicines carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Equetro®, Tegretol®, Tegretol-XR®, Tenil®, Eptol®), oxcarbazepine (Trileptal®), phenobarbital (Luminal®), phenytoin (Dilantin®, Dilantin-125®, Phenytek®)
- the anti-tuberculosis medicines rifabutin (Mycobutin), rifampin (Rifater®, Rifamate®, Rimactane®, Rifadin®) and rifapentine (Priftin®)
- a proton pump inhibitor medicine for certain stomach or intestinal problems, including esomeprazole (Nexium®, Vimovo®), lansoprazole (Prevacid®), omeprazole (Prilosec®), pantoprazole sodium (Protonix®), rabeprazole (Aciphex®)
- more than 1 dose of the steroid medicine dexamethasone or dexamethasone sodium phosphate
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- other medicines that contain tenofovir (VIREAD®, TRUVADA®, ATRIPLA®)
- other medicines that contain emtricitabine or lamivudine (EMTRIVA®, Combivir®, Eprvir® or Eprvir-HBV®, Epicom®, Trizivir®)
- rilpivirine (Edurant™)
- adefovir (HEPSERA®)

In addition, also tell your healthcare provider if you take:

- an antacid medicine that contains aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA
- a histamine-2 blocker medicine, including famotidine (Pepcid®), cimetidine (Tagamet®), nizatidine (Axid®), or ranitidine hydrochloride (Zantac®). Take these medicines at least 12 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA
- the antibiotic medicines clarithromycin (Biaxin®), erythromycin (E-Mycin®, Eryc®, Ery-Tab®, PCE®, Pediazole®, Ilosone®), and troleandomycin (TAO®)
- an antifungal medicine by mouth, including fluconazole (Diflucan®), itraconazole (Sporanox®), ketoconazole (Nizoral®), posaconazole (Noxafil®), voriconazole (Vfend®)
- methadone (Dolophine®)

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

COMPLERA is a prescription medicine used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV medicines before. COMPLERA does not cure HIV or AIDS or help prevent passing HIV to others.

New COMPLERA

A complete HIV treatment in only 1 pill a day.

Ask your healthcare provider if it's the **one** for you.

Before taking COMPLERA, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- have **liver problems**, including hepatitis B or C virus infection
- have **kidney problems**
- have ever had a **mental health problem**
- have **bone problems**
- are **pregnant or plan to become pregnant**. It is not known if COMPLERA can harm your unborn child
- are **breastfeeding**; **women with HIV should not breast-feed** because they can pass HIV through their milk to the baby

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

Serious side effects associated with COMPLERA:

- **New or worse kidney problems** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. If you have had kidney problems in the past or take other medicines that can cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider may need to do blood tests to check your kidneys during your treatment with COMPLERA
- **Depression or mood changes** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms: feeling sad or hopeless, feeling anxious or restless, or if you have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself
- **Bone problems** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do additional tests to check your bones
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the main part of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effect of these conditions are not known
- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV medicine

Common side effects associated with COMPLERA:

- trouble sleeping (insomnia), abnormal dreams, headache, dizziness, diarrhea, nausea, rash, tiredness, and depression

Other side effects associated with COMPLERA:

- vomiting, stomach pain or discomfort, skin discoloration (small spots or freckles), and pain

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away. These are not all the possible side effects of COMPLERA. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist. Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects.

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

Take COMPLERA exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it

- **Always take COMPLERA with a meal.** Taking COMPLERA with a meal is important to help get the right amount of medicine in your body. A protein drink does not replace a meal
- **Stay under the care of your healthcare provider during treatment with COMPLERA and see your healthcare provider regularly**

Please see Patient Information for COMPLERA on the following pages.



COMPLERA®
emtricitabine 200mg/rilpivirine 25mg/
tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300mg tablets

Learn more at www.COMPLERA.com

FDA-Approved Patient Labeling

Patient Information

COMPLERA® (kom-PLER-rah)

(emtricitabine, rilpivirine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) Tablets

Important: Ask your doctor or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with COMPLERA. For more information, see the section "What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?"

Read this Patient Information before you start taking COMPLERA and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking to your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

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

COMPLERA can cause serious side effects, including:

1. Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis). Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take COMPLERA or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death.

Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**

- feeling very weak or tired
- have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
- have trouble breathing
- have stomach pain with
 - nausea (feel sick to your stomach)
 - vomiting
- feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
- feel dizzy or lightheaded
- have a fast or irregular heartbeat

2. Severe liver problems. Severe liver problems can happen in people who take COMPLERA or similar medicines. In some cases these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis) when you take COMPLERA.

Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms of liver problems:

- your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice).
- dark "tea-colored" urine
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- loss of appetite for several days or longer
- nausea
- stomach pain

You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking COMPLERA or a similar medicine containing nucleoside analogs for a long time.

3. Worsening of Hepatitis B infection. If you also have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and you stop taking COMPLERA, your HBV infection may become worse (flare-up). A "flare-up" is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before. COMPLERA is not approved for the treatment of HBV, so you must discuss your HBV therapy with your healthcare provider.

- Do not let your COMPLERA run out. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your COMPLERA is all gone.
- Do not stop taking COMPLERA without first talking to your healthcare provider.
- If you stop taking COMPLERA, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do regular blood tests to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking COMPLERA.

What is COMPLERA?

COMPLERA is a prescription HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) medicine that:

- is used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have **never** taken HIV medicines before. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome).
- contains 3 medicines, (rilpivirine, emtricitabine, tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) combined in one tablet. EMTRIVA and VIREAD are HIV-1 (human immunodeficiency virus) nucleoside analog reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs) and EDURANT is an HIV-1 non-nucleoside analog reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI).

It is not known if COMPLERA is safe and effective in children under the age of 18 years.

COMPLERA may help:

- Reduce the amount of HIV in your blood. This is called your "viral load".
- Increase the number of white blood cells called CD4+ (T) cells that help fight off other infections.

Reducing the amount of HIV and increasing the CD4+ (T) cell count may improve your immune system. This may reduce your risk of death or infections that can happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

COMPLERA does not cure HIV infections or AIDS.

- Always practice safer sex.
- Use latex or polyurethane condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids such as semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.
- Never re-use or share needles.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions about how to prevent passing HIV to other people.

Who should not take COMPLERA?

- Do not take COMPLERA if your HIV infection has been previously treated with HIV medicines.
- Do not take COMPLERA if you are taking certain other medicines. For more information about medicines that must not be taken with COMPLERA, see "What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?"

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?

Before you take COMPLERA, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- have liver problems, including hepatitis B or C virus infection
 - have kidney problems
 - have ever had a mental health problem
 - have bone problems
 - are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if COMPLERA can harm your unborn child
- Pregnancy Registry.** There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. Its purpose is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.
- are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that mothers with HIV not breastfeed because they can pass the HIV through their milk to the baby. It is not known if COMPLERA can pass through your breast milk and harm your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

COMPLERA may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how COMPLERA works, and may cause serious side effects. If you take certain medicines with COMPLERA, the amount of COMPLERA in your body may be too low and it may not work to help control your HIV infection. The HIV virus in your body may become resistant to COMPLERA or other HIV medicines that are like it.

Do not take COMPLERA if you also take these medicines:

- COMPLERA provides a complete treatment for HIV infection. Do not take other HIV medicines with COMPLERA.
- the anti-seizure medicines carbamazepine (CARBATROL®, EQUETRO®, TEGRETOL®, TEGRETOL-XR®, TERIL®, EPITOL®), oxcarbazepine (TRILEPTAL®), phenobarbital (LUMINAL®), phenytoin (DILANTIN®, DILANTIN-125®, PHENYTEX®)
- the anti-tuberculosis medicines rifabutin (MYCOBUTIN®), rifampin (RIFATER®, RIFAMATE®, RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®) and rifapentine (PRIFTIN®)
- a proton pump inhibitor medicine for certain stomach or intestinal problems, including esomeprazole (NEXIUM®, VIMOVO®), lansoprazole (PREVACID®), omeprazole (PRILOSEC®), pantoprazole sodium (PROTONIX®), rabeprazole (ACIPHEX®)
- more than 1 dose of the steroid medicine dexamethasone or dexamethasone sodium phosphate
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)

If you are taking COMPLERA, you should not take:

- other medicines that contain tenofovir (VIREAD®, TRIUNADA®, ATRIPLA®)
- other medicines that contain emtricitabine or lamivudine (EMTRIVA®, COMBIVIR®, EPVIR® or EPIVIR-HBV®, EPZICOM®, TRIZIVIR®)
- rilpivirine (EDURANT™)
- adefovir (HEPSERA®)

Also tell your healthcare provider if you take:

- an antacid medicine that contains aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA.
- a histamine-2 blocker medicine, including famotidine (PEPCID®), cimetidine (TAGAMET®), nizatidine (AXID®), or ranitidine hydrochloride (ZANTAC®). Take these medicines at least 12 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA.
- the antibiotic medicines clarithromycin (BIAXIN®), erythromycin (E-MYCIN®, ERYC®, ERY-TAB®, PCE®, PEDIAZOLE®, ILOSONE®), and troleanomycin (TAO®)
- an antifungal medicine by mouth, including fluconazole (DIFLUCAN®), itraconazole (SPORANOX®), ketoconazole (NIZORAL®), posaconazole (NOXAFIL®), voriconazole (VFEND®)
- methadone (DOLOPHINE®)

Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you are not sure if your medicine is one that is listed above.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Your healthcare provider and your pharmacist can tell you if you can take these medicines with COMPLERA. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking COMPLERA without first talking with your healthcare provider or pharmacist. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a list of medicines that can interact with COMPLERA.

How should I take COMPLERA?

- Stay under the care of your healthcare provider during treatment with COMPLERA.
- Take COMPLERA exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.
- Always take COMPLERA with a meal. Taking COMPLERA with a meal is important to help get the right amount of medicine in your body. A protein drink does not replace a meal.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking COMPLERA without first talking with your healthcare provider. See your healthcare provider regularly while taking COMPLERA.
- If you miss a dose of COMPLERA within 12 hours of the time you usually take it, take your dose of COMPLERA with a meal as soon as possible. Then, take your next dose of COMPLERA at the regularly scheduled time. If you miss a dose of COMPLERA by more than 12 hours of the time you usually take it, wait and then take the next dose of COMPLERA at the regularly scheduled time.
- Do not take more than your prescribed dose to make up for a missed dose.
- When your COMPLERA supply starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. It is very important not to run out of COMPLERA. The amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time.
- If you take too much COMPLERA, contact your local poison control center or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

What are the possible side effects of COMPLERA?

COMPLERA may cause the following serious side effects, including:

- See "What is the most important information I should know about COMPLERA?"
- **New or worse kidney problems** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. If you have had kidney problems in the past or take other medicines that can cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider may need to do blood tests to check your kidneys during your treatment with COMPLERA.
- **Depression or mood changes.** Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms:
 - feeling sad or hopeless
 - feeling anxious or restless
 - have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself
- **Bone problems** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do additional tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the main part of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effect of these conditions are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV medicine.

The most common side effects of COMPLERA include:

- trouble sleeping (insomnia)
- abnormal dreams
- headache
- dizziness
- diarrhea
- nausea
- rash
- tiredness
- depression

Additional common side effects include:

- vomiting
- stomach pain or discomfort
- skin discoloration (small spots or freckles)
- pain

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of COMPLERA. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 (1-800-332-1088).

How do I store COMPLERA?

- Store COMPLERA at room temperature 77 °F (25 °C).
- Keep COMPLERA in its original container and keep the container tightly closed.
- Do not use COMPLERA if the seal over the bottle opening is broken or missing.

Keep COMPLERA and all other medicines out of reach of children.

General information about COMPLERA:

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use COMPLERA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give COMPLERA to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about COMPLERA. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about COMPLERA that is written for health professionals. For more information, call (1-800-445-3235) or go to www.COMPLERA.com.

What are the ingredients of COMPLERA?

Active ingredients: emtricitabine, rilpivirine hydrochloride, and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate

Inactive ingredients: pregelatinized starch, lactose monohydrate, microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, povidone, polysorbate 20. The tablet film coating contains polyethylene glycol, hypromellose, lactose monohydrate, triacetin, titanium dioxide, iron oxide red, FD&C Blue #2 aluminum lake, FD&C Yellow #6 aluminum lake.

This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

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Issued: August 2011

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World AIDS Day Dec. 1 to mark 30th anniversary of epidemic



Monday, Nov. 28

Saginaw County Red Ribbon. A giant lighted red ribbon will light up the Saginaw County Governmental Center. Volunteers will construct the eight-foot ribbon as a symbol of a "call to action" against the disease, said Rev. Charles H. Coleman Sr., president of the Saginaw HIV Task Force and pastor at New Faith Temple Church. Ribbon will stand from Nov. 28-Dec. 2. Saginaw HIV Task Force, 111 S. Michigan, Saginaw. 1-800-872-2437. saginawcounty.com

Women Living with HIV, 11 a.m. A presentation from women living HIV+. Physicians for Human Rights at UM, 1241 E. Catherine St, Ann Arbor.

Tuesday, Nov. 29

SexUs Hold Em, 5 p.m. This is poker with a twist: Poker chips are replaced with condoms, and your conversation with the card dealer may be about abstinence. The purpose of this event is to educate individuals about safer sex practices and other serious issues surrounding sexual activity while enjoying the a game of poker. No experience necessary. There will also be prizes available from the Safe Sex Store for those who have the most chips at the end. This event is free. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. - Delta Rho chapter, 1443 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor.

Film Screening: The Other City, 6 p.m. Washington, D.C., home to the capitol of the most powerful country in the world, has the nation's highest HIV/AIDS rate. "The Other City" is a tribute to ordinary people struggling to live their lives in dignity, to the compassionate ones who lessen their pain, and to those who stand up to fight the spread of HIV/AIDS every day. This event is free. Physicians for Human Rights at UM, 1241 E. Catherine St, Ann Arbor.

Wednesday, Nov. 30

Detroit World AIDS Day Commemoration, 7 p.m. Ecumenical Theological Seminary is gathering to

remember the dead, pray for the living, and draw strength for the journey. Meal and fellowship to follow the service. Detroit World AIDS Day Commemoration Planning Committee, 2930 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313-964-3113. WorldAIDSdaydetroit.com

The Silence is Broken Volume I, 7 p.m. Producer, Composer and Pianist, Conductor and Musical Director Patrick Gandy is on a mission to halt the spread of HIV in our communities. He is using the creative and performing arts to deliver his message that HIV is on the rise. Minority groups, specifically black women, are being afflicted disproportionately. Tickets: \$20 Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren Ave., Detroit. 949-240-4225. TheSilenceisbroken.org

Thursday, Dec. 1

The Criminalization of HIV/AIDS, 4 p.m. Todd Heywood will explore the intersection of the criminal law, social justice concerns and HIV stigma. Through an analysis of state laws and public policy, Heywood will show how criminalization of HIV has actually led to increased stigma of those with the virus and has resulted in increasing numbers of new infections. Grand Vallery State University's LGBT Resource Center, 215 Eberhard Center - Pew Campus, Allendale. 616-331-2530. gvsu.edu/lgbtrc

Harm Reduction, 6:30 p.m. A presentation on needle exchange, the sole public health response to drug related HIV/AIDS. Such programs focus on decreasing the harm associated with drug use without necessarily focusing on reducing drug consumption. Grand Vallery State University's LGBT Resource Center, 215 Eberhard Center - Pew Campus, Allendale. 616-331-2530. gvsu.edu/lgbtrc

World AIDS Day Mayor's Breakfast with Jeane White-Ginder, 8 a.m. World AIDS Day Detroit Honorary Host Committee Chair Max Fisher, Detroit City Council President Charles Pugh, Wayne State University President Allan Gilmour, and Wayne State University Medical School Dean Dr. Valerie M. Parisi host Mayors Breakfast with keynote speaker and mother of Ryan White, Jeanne White-Ginder. World AIDS Day Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313-961-5451. WorldAIDSdaydetroit.com

Michigan Department of Community Health World AIDS Day Meeting 9:30 a.m. MDCH hosts community meeting for Detroit-area schools and community members with educational sessions, workshops and special 30 years of AIDS presentation. Michigan Department of Community Health, 18100 Meyers Road, Detroit. WorldAIDSdaydetroit.com

Annual World AIDS Day Program, 12 p.m. This annual event is hosted by the WSU Community Advisory Board (focused on research) and the Holistic Care Community Advisory Board and supported by the entire clinical team at the WSU Adult HIV/AIDS Program. The event starts with lunch at noon and the program begins at 1:00 and includes an HIV update (provided by one of the HIV Specialists) Consumer testimony and presentation of the Omari Mallisham award to an individual in the HIV community that has fought to make HIV treatment more effective. Dr. Patricia Brown, Chief of Medicine at Detroit Receiving Hospital and Associate Professor in Infectious Disease, will provide this year's update. This event is for all persons infected and affected by HIV, healthcare providers, HIV staff (case managers, counselors) and all

interested in remembering those lost to this disease and the current status of the treatment of HIV. There is no cost and all are welcome. WSU Adult HIV/AIDS Program Community and Holistic Care Community, 4717 St. Antoine, Detroit. 313-993-8703. bmclatchey@med.wayne.edu

NOH8 on World AIDS Day, 2 p.m. In conjunction with World AIDS Day Detroit, NoH8 will have an open photo shoot at the Fillmore. This is the first time the NOH8 Campaign has traveled to Michigan. Reservations for photo shoots are not necessary. Solo portraits are \$40 and couple/group portraits cost \$25 per person. Come camera ready, wear white, pose and make a statement. NOH8 and the Fillmore Theater, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Noh8campaign.com

World AIDS Day Concert, 2 p.m. The Wall Clocks will be playing a concert to help spread awareness to the global epidemic AIDS. Amnesty International and the GSA will conduct an informational session during the intermission. GSA will be selling red AIDS ribbons for \$1, and all proceeds will go to the Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project. Schoolcraft College GSA, Schoolcraft College, Livonia. Facebook: GSA - Schoolcraft College

"Bad Blood" Documentary Public Screening and Panel, 3:30 p.m. Free screening of Bad Blood. Through the eyes of survivors and family members, Bad Blood chronicles how a "miracle" treatment for hemophilia became an agent of death for 10,000 Americans. Faced with evidence that pharmaceutical companies and government regulators knew the product was contaminated with deadly viruses from the 1960s through the early 1990s, the hemophilia community launched a powerful and inspiring fight to right the system that failed them and to make it safer for all. Meet the producer and director, Marilyn Ness and cast members Dana Kuhn and Eric Weinberg. World AIDS Day Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. eventbrite.com/event/2365770082/efbevent

Wine Cellar Fundraiser, 5:30 p.m. Commemorate World AIDS Day and support local HIV/AIDS services by joining HARC for the 8th annual Wine Cellar. Enjoy a tasting of holiday wines supplied by Everyday Wines, delicious appetizers from local caterers, European style chocolates, and live jazz performed by the Jesse Kramer Trio. Tickets: \$50 in advance or \$60 at the door. RSVP at <http://hivaidresource.org/winecellar>. HIV/AIDS Resource Center, 220 Felch St., Ann Arbor. HivAidsResource.org

HIV/AIDS Research Symposium, 6 p.m. Hear presentations from speakers who have done research and work with HIV and AIDS. Talks will vary in subject, showing the variance of work being done in the field. Presenters include Robert Wyrod (Women's Studies), Michael Woodford (Social Work), and the Sexuality and Health Lab (Public Health). HIV/AIDS Awareness Committee as part of the University of Michigan's Red Cross Club, 530 S. State St., Ann Arbor. WorldAIDSweekum.wordpress.com

Ignorance Kills, 7 p.m. Watch a short video and engage in conversation about prevention of HIV and how to break the stigma and misconceptions surrounding HIV. Free to the public. CoitusLove, 419 S. State Street, Ann Arbor. WorldAIDSweekum.wordpress.com

World AIDS Day Detroit Ceremony, 7 p.m. Join World AIDS Day Detroit for a special presentation on this 30th year of AIDS featuring Jeanne-White Ginder, a 30-year commemorative video, musical

performances and candlelight vigil. Tickets: \$10-125. The Fillmore Theater, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. eventbrite.com/event/2458583690/eorg

Friday, Dec. 2

Getting to Zero: How Youth Can Stop, HIV/AIDS 4 p.m. This is an AIDS week event put together for teenagers to learn more about HIV/AIDS from the HIV/AIDS Resource Center of Ann Arbor. There will be music, slam poetry, stories from positive speakers, as well as a performance by the Corner Health Centers Theatre Troupe on relationships and HIV/AIDS. All teenagers who attend are encouraged to showcase their talents at this event through music, slam poetry, photography, or personal stories. HIV/AIDS Resource Center and Corner Health, 591 Armstrong Dr., Ypsilanti. WorldAIDSweekum.wordpress.com

AIDS Memorial Quilt Viewing and Reception, 6 p.m. Join Affirmations in honoring those in the LGBT community and around the world that have died from AIDS. There will be a moment of silence, candlelight vigil, and we are excited to announce that we have partnered with the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD) to co-present the riveting film "Untitled" a film about HIV/AIDS activism by Jim Hodges, Carlos da Cruz & Encke King. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. GoAffirmations.org

Tuesday, Dec. 6

Spectrum Center 40th Anniversary Film Series Screening, of "Untitled" 6:30 p.m. "Untitled" is a non-linear montage of archival and pop footage recalling the passionate activism sparked by the early years of the AIDS crisis. Spectrum Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. 734-763-4186. spectrumcenter.umich.edu

-compiled by Benjamin Jenkins

Find more events online @ www.pridesource.com

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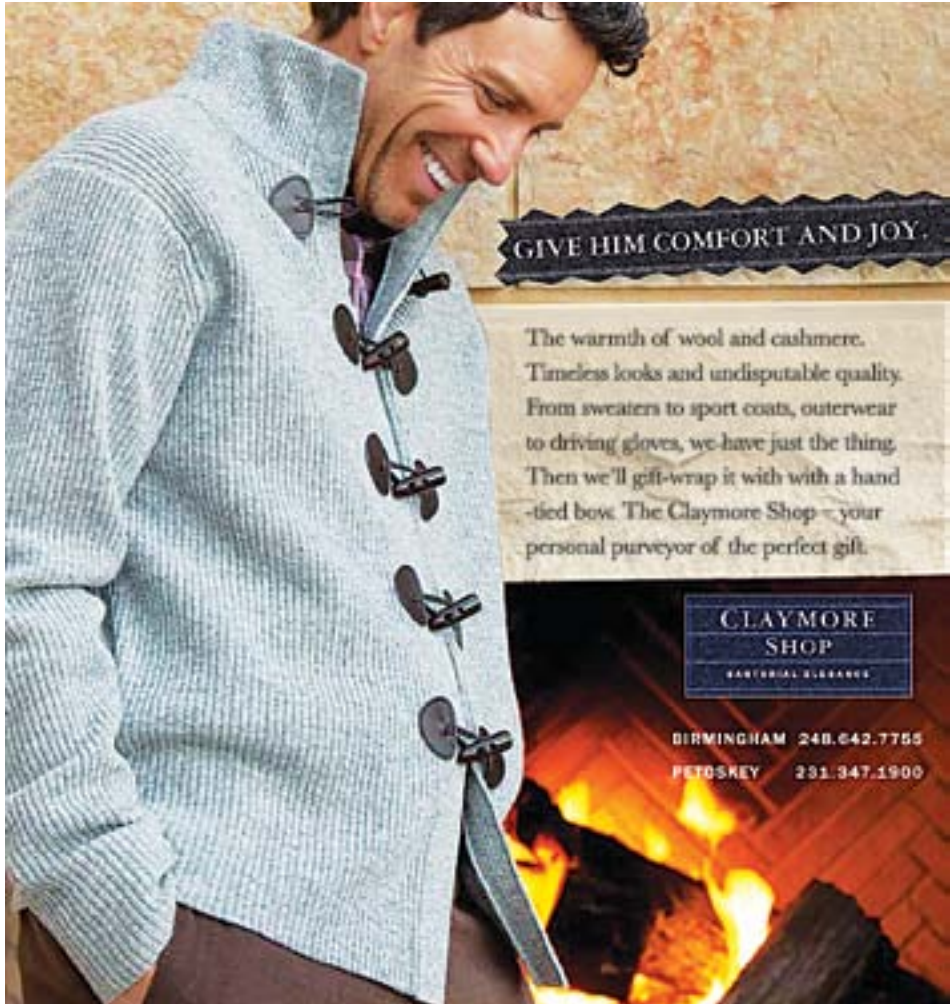
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BY MIKEY ROX

What do you get a gay who has everything? Take your pick from these ideas, perfect for LGBT homebodies, adventurers, activists and more.

Nobis Outerwear

They say that heat escapes the head faster than any other part of the body, which is why it's good advice to wrap it up when the weather outside is frightful. Nobis – whose Fall 2011 Collection includes beanies, berets, caps and hats (there's a difference, y'all) for everyone on your list – is the epitome of winter luxury featuring soft, detailed, handmade pieces on the cutting edge of style and comfort. (\$30-\$98; nobis.ca)

Nikon 1

Combining the portability of a point-and-shoot with the interchangeable lenses of a DSLR, the Nikon 1 introduces a new way to capture photos and high-def video. A touch of the shutter button instantly captures a high-quality image while simultaneously recording Full HD 1080p movies, and the exciting new Motion Snapshot mode preserves fleeting moments like never before with a combination of moving and still images, bringing memories to life. Wonder if spokesman Ashton Kutcher tested his out that night in San Diego. (\$650; nikonusa.com)



Loaded Questions

Be careful what questions you pluck from the pack with this exciting, multiplayer Q&A game – you might uncover a secret you never wanted to know. One of the best-selling games on the market, players can choose from more than 1,000 questions designed to spark laughter and discussions, and create lasting memories between friends, family and uncover lovers. (\$24.99; www.familyandpartygames.com)

Pig of the Month

Perhaps we chose this because of its tongue-in-cheek approach to pork, but we can honestly vouch for its quality, too. Rib enthusiasts will start salivating the moment they receive this finger-licking gift that offers customizable packages that can include up to 10 slabs of six styles of ribs, including Memphis Baby Back, Key West Citrus, Carolina Mustard, Carolina Red, Hawaiian and Texas – along with bottles of sauce that complement each style. Sides and desserts – like slow-roasted baked beans and red

velvet cake – make the gift a hearty meal. (\$15 and up; pigofthemoth.com)

Stonewall Equality Bracelets

Lyon Fine Jewelry's Stonewall Equality Bracelet deserves a special place in every stocking this year. Made of leather with silver detailing that resembles the equality emblem, the bracelet is a stylish accessory for the LGBT community and its straight allies. Twenty percent of the proceeds from the sale of each Equality Bracelet will be donated to Friendfactor, a gay-rights organization for straight supporters, which is building a movement to end discrimination. (\$95; www.lyonfinejewelry.com)

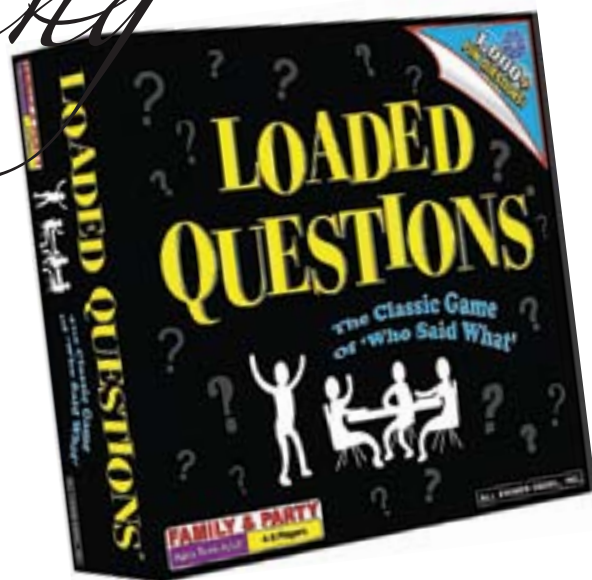


Archangel Academy Series

Consider this series of supernatural novels "Twilight" for the homo set. Michael Howard and Ronan Glynn-Rowley meet at Archangel Academy, an all-boys school in Eden, a rural town in northwestern England. The boys are outcasts – Michael for being gay; Ronan for being a hybrid vampire. When Ronan turns Michael into a vampire without his consent, both are drawn into a dangerous and sexy new world full of secrets. Two books of three, "Unnatural" and "Unwelcome," are available now; the third, "Unwelcome," will be released in early 2012. (\$9.95; kensingtonbooks.com)

See Gift Guide, page 28

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DVD Lowdown

'Beginners' gets to the heart of the matter

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Beginners

Love is at the quirky core of writer/director Mike Mills' brilliantly heart-on-sleeve "Beginners." Feeling it, expressing it, avoiding it – they're themes heartedly woven into a narrative about grief, starting over and how to react should your 75-year-old father come out just before he dies.

In Mills' delicately handled film, Christopher Plummer's Hal, based on Mills' own father, finally reveals his homosexual feelings – after his wife of 50 years passes – to his son Oliver (a sweet, empathetic Ewan McGregor). Hal navigates the gay world with gusto: He goes to gay clubs, subscribes to the Advocate, finds a gay circle of friends, falls in love with Andy (Goran Visnjic). And he doesn't expect Oliver to understand – why would he? He's not gay. But, of course, times have changed and, much to Hal's surprise, Oliver knows what a rainbow flag stands for and who the heck this Harvey Milk guy was.

Their relationship is lovely and ultimately heartbreaking, as Hal lives out his last few months fully with Oliver trying

West Side Story: 50th Anniversary Edition

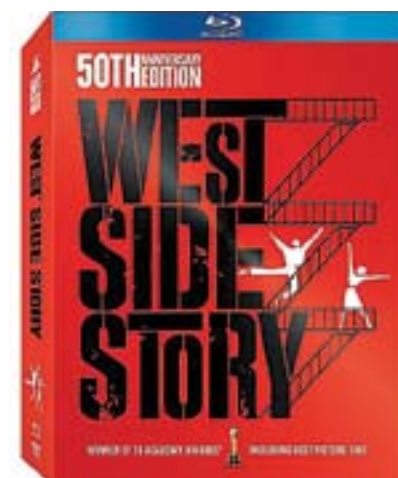
Fifty years ago it would've been near impossible to foretell the parallels of forbidden love to the marriage equality argument, but "West Side Story" – premiering to stupid controversy during the Civil Rights Era – feels just as relevant today, in the midst of that fight, as it did then.

It was 1961 when the film was released, four years after its Broadway opening, and it would go on to make an enduring mark on the world – and not just because it took home 10 Oscars, including Best Picture. It'd become a perennial favorite of elementary choir teachers to show their classes, pushing gay boys (like myself), who shamelessly hummed the timeless Steven Sondheim songs, one more step out of the closet. Even "Glee," performing numbers from the classic recently, tipped its hat to the musical phenomenon.

No matter the generation, we all grew up on "West Side Story," a bold



desperately in that time to understand the father he never knew (though his mother, played magnificently in flashbacks by Mary Page Keller, had a better idea). Through him, though, Oliver better understands himself and his place in the world. How to love, and how to live. And why it's better not to wait for the lion when you can have the giraffe, a touching and honest dialogue



dramatic musical, mostly right-on until its contrived end, that tells the tale of a doomed-from-the-start romance between Maria (Natalie Wood, who many argued shouldn't have been cast since her singing voice had to be dubbed) and Tony (Richard Beymer), two people bound by love but restricted because of their ties to opposing street gangs – one is Puerto Rican, the other a descendant

in Mills' script that really gets to the root of Oliver's love-conflicted character, a hesitant lover to new crush Anna (a charming and interesting Melanie Laurent).

"Beginners" is masterfully written with offbeat style and loving candor, an authentic slice-of-life that never feels phony. So much of that's also in Plummer and McGregor's immaculately mined father-son relationship, treated tenderly by both actors (Visnjic, who has a touching interaction with McGregor near the end, is also terrific as the doting boyfriend).

And that dog? Arthur, the cute pup with separation anxiety, is so damn adorable with his subtitled lines and don't-leave-me whimpering. It's a sweetness – also in the lounge music and use of photo montages – that the deeply personal "Beginners" knows how to access despite the tragic death-of-my-dad inevitably, making it one of the best, and most rewarding, films of the year by far.

We learn more about the dog in a behind-the-scenes documentary, featuring a bird's-eye-view into Mills' writing process and interviews with the cast. Only Mills does the insightful commentary, but he's so interesting to listen to that he's all you need.

of European immigrants. Remember the finger-snapping sequence that opens the film? So cool. Or how about the erupting-with-chemistry "Somewhere" scene that ended in a we're-about-to-do-it-but-you-can't-watch cutaway? Hot.

Diehards, and music teachers, have a new way to view the classic: on Blu-ray with this ultimate four-disc edition that already has its own built-in theme song: "I Feel Pretty." Because it is! Fox goes all-out with this special edition, the discs awesomely packaged in a fold-out book and featuring the newly remastered film in hi-def, a dance how-to, a wonderfully comprehensive look back at its legacy with original cast (and the people inspired by it) and Sondheim song commentaries.

And that's not it: There's a music go-to feature that allows easy access to favorites like "Tonight," "Somewhere" and "America"; an eight-track tribute CD featuring Julie Andrews, Gloria Estefan and Charlotte Church; and mini movie posters. "West Side Story" – in this fantastic 50th anniversary set – really is the gift that keeps giving.

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► Gift Guide

Continued from p. 25

Wantful

Still don't know what to buy your bestie? Enter Wantful, an online gift service that allows you to assemble a wish list based on the holiday you're celebrating and other personal information about the gift recipient, including his or her age and gender, your relationship to that person, in what type of dwelling they live, and some of their favorite activities. Wantful will cultivate a list of gift recommendations using your answers, along with the amount of money you'd like to spend. Once you click "Customize and Checkout," Wantful will send a printed catalog to the recipient displaying the items specifically chosen by you for them. Santa wishes he had it so simple. (Pricing varies; wantful.com)

Freehands Gloves



In a touch-screen world, winter can throw us for a loop.

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Zip-It

Make that long flight to Ibiza a bit more bearable with Zip-It, a two-player crossword race game that can be played anytime, anywhere in as little as 20 seconds. From the makers of Bananagrams, Zip-It features 24 high-quality letter cubes packaged in a unique cloth, zippered pouch that stores easily in your carry-on or day bag. (\$14.95; bananagrams.com)



Hugh Johnson's Pocket Wine Book 2012

Veteran oenophiles and wine newbies alike will enjoy the 35th edition of this best-selling guide from famed connoisseur Hugh Johnson. Highlights include a full-color supplement on wines from the South of France, reviews of major brands and newly available brands, quick reference vintage charts, and suggestions for matching food with wine – a skill that every self-respecting gay should possess. (\$14.99; amazon.com)



Just Dance 3

The booty-shaking sensation is back just in time for the holidays. Just Dance 3 – available for Wii, Kinect for Xbox 360, and PlayStation Move – gets the party started with more than 45 top hits, including LMFAO's "Party Rock Anthem," "Forget You" by Cee-Lo Green, the Scissor Sisters' "I Don't Feel Like Dancing" and more. Game highlights include modes such as Just Sweat It Out, with workout plans and playlists to help you stay fit, and Dance Crew, with up to four concurrent dance routines so even more people can join in on the fun. (\$39.99; gamestop.com)

Computer Apparel Laptop Sleeve

American Apparel is the undisputed champ when it comes to too-tight V-necks in colors you've never seen before, but when you want a coordinating top for your laptop, Computer Apparel has the market on lock. Handcrafted and machine washable, the Original V-Neck Sleeve is made from high-quality fabric and features thermal-knit padding for a tablet and a 13-, 15- or 17-inch laptop, and convenient pockets to stow chargers, documents, and phones or MP3 players. While the Original V-Neck is, by nature, fashion-forward, it also adds a level of unexpected security: Your sleeve will thwart would-be computer thieves – unless, of course, they also have a cotton fetish. (\$59.99; computer-apparel.com)



Cloud 9 Living

Reduce your carbon footprint this holiday season. The thoughtful and extremely fun activities offered by Cloud 9 Living eliminate the need to stand in line at a store and gives recipients the gift of a consumable experience – like a hot-air balloon ride or a snow-tubing adventure – that reduces landfill and time waste; there won't be any packaging to toss out or the need to return a tangible item that nobody wanted in the first place. An out-of-the-box – literally – gift idea for outdoor lovers and adventurers everywhere. (Pricing varies; www.cloud9living.com)

Holiday Spirits

The perfect holiday party is only as good as the spirits the shirtless mixologists serve. This year, stock your bar with the best of the best.



A Swedish liquor crafted with pure spring water and a freeze-filtration process, **Rokk Vodka** is chilled to subzero temperatures and charcoal filtered. Rokk is also a proud supporter of LGBT initiatives, most recently sponsoring the 22nd Annual GLAAD Media Awards. (\$12.99; rokkvodka.com)

Java and agave marry in **Patron XO Café's** blend of premium tequila and coffee essence to create an exquisite flavor that's perfect in cocktails and delicious on desserts. (\$24.99; patrongift.com)


Ultra-premium and artfully crafted, **Van Gogh Blue Triple Wheat Vodka** is a smooth and inviting blend of premium European wheat sourced from Holland, Germany, and France. Its distillery, recently renovated under the supervision of the Holland Monument Society, was given "Royal Appointment" in 2005 by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands. Totally enough reason to wear your tiara. (\$29.99; vangoghvodka.com)


You'll want to wait until the party bois say goodbye to uncup **Stoli Elit**, an ultra-premium, velvety smooth vodka ranked as The Best Tasting Vodka in the World by The Beverage Tasting Institute. It's best shared with that special someone. (\$59.99; elitbystoli.com)

It's Maker's Mark, but with a lot more body. **Maker's 46**, a full-flavored addition to the line, is bigger and bolder thanks to the addition of seared French oak staves. (makersmark.com)

Unless you plan to serve your bevs straight (as if), you'll need mixers. **Q Tonic** and **Q Ginger** are the safest bets this season – especially for those watching their weight. The Tonic contains just 24 calories per serving with 7 grams of carbs, while the Ginger has 60 calories and 15 grams of carbs. Compared to other leading national brands, Q is in a class of its own. (qtonic.com)


Mikey Rox is an award-winning journalist and blogger who lives in New York City with his husband and their two dogs. Follow him on Twitter @mikeyrox.






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Hear Me Out For the Holidays

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI



Michael Bublé, 'Christmas'

The crooner's sex appeal isn't just surface hotness, though no one's going to fault his boyish features. It's all over "Santa Baby," taking the typically-for-chicks tune and adding some machismo to it – baby becomes "bubby." And instead of a sable, he wants a manly watch. With his deep drawl, and his tongue firmly placed

in his cheek (don't get any ideas about getting your bells jingled), the time-traveling troubadour pulls off the Eartha Kitt classic most charmingly. Then again, he does justice to most of the classics – 14 of them, and a new one called "Cold December Night" – on his first full-length Christmas album, a project the Frank Sinatra-meets-Dean Martin singer was made for. It's why songs like "Holly Jolly Christmas" and "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas," both beautifully orchestrated by schmaltz master David Foster, fit his classic-sounding voice like hand and glove. To play up his old-soul appeal, he invites the Puppini Sisters for a very merry '60s-styled swing on "Jingle Bells." He stretches his chords on a divine "Ave Maria," has a "White Christmas" with Shania Twain and does a lovely, for-the-fireside version of "I'll Be Home for Christmas." Most surprising is his poignant change-up of Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas is You," pulling back on the pep and zeroing in on the

lonely lyrics of desperation for a lover who's away during the holidays. But not Bublé. He sounds right at home for "Christmas." *Grade: B+*

'Glee: The Christmas Album, Volume 2'

Not to be a Grinch, but is more "Glee" music really at the top of anyone's Christmas list? But here you have it anyway: 12 tracks from a TV show so in love with itself that every few months



we must be reminded of how awesome they think they are. The McKinley High kids are best when they're not being themselves – you know, gleeful. A standout on the second disc of Christmas songs from the glee club is, predictably, Rachel's (aka Lea Michele) appropriately gloomy reading of Joni Mitchell's "River," just her peerless voice and a piano. Moments of minimalism trump all else: "Let It Snow" is a charming duet between Chris Colfer's Kurt and Darren Criss' Blaine, with ad-libs, finger snaps and a similar whimsy to "Baby, It's Cold Outside" from the first set. But the strongest of all the songs doesn't even belong to a New Directions gleek. Instead, that honor goes to "Glee Project" runners-up Lindsay Pearce and Alex Newell, who sing "Do You Hear What I Hear?" like they're trying to win their way in (this stirring tour de force should do it). The rest? As tacky as those Christmas sweaters grandma knits. "Extraordinary Merry Christmas" isn't extra ordinary; it's Christmas-through-Katy Perry trash. Same goes for "Do They Know It's Christmas," originally a 1984 charity song that just sounds hokier in their hands, and the '80s romp "Christmas Wrapping" is completely lacking in melody. And they wonder why Sue Sylvester hates them. *Grade: C*

Also Out



Dave Koz, 'Ultimate Christmas'

'Tis the season for the saxophone. Dave Koz's fourth Christmas album is essentially a cash-grab compilation gleaned tracks from his three previous holiday albums – "December Makes Me Feel This Way," "A Smooth Jazz Christmas" and "Memories of a Winter's Night" – that tacks on two newbies: an intro and an outro (woopy doo!). Definitely not for people who get enough of this on the elevator, this smooth-jazz collection still offers some nice twists in composition, taking "Please Come Home For Christmas" into a bluesy direction with "Idol" finalist Kimberly Locke's singing. But it's a package that, despite tradition, needs some shaking up.



She & Him, 'A Very She & Him Christmas'

She & Him make this Christmas their own with carols that aren't cookie-cutter, taking gentler approaches to the same-old. Part of why it works without sounding monotonous is Zooey Deschanel's darling, no-frills voice, a force that pulls you in with just the first few notes of "The Christmas Waltz," tiptoeing in softly with guitar and a beautiful lilt that's delicately matched. More standard fare is just as solid: the intimacy on "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" captures the song's nostalgia and "Silver Bells" is performed prettily just with a ukulele. "A Very She & Him Christmas" is a very nice surprise – even for the hipsters who hate Christmas music.

Carole King, 'A Holiday Carole'

The legend shows her age on her first studio album in 10 years, disappointingly without a single new tune from the songwriting prodigy. Even her voice, ironed flat throughout, is a let down. "My Favorite Things" tries to recapture King's piano-pop work but comes off as a note-flubbed hack job. The over-enunciated ding-dongs on "Carol of the Bells" do it a disservice, though the choir helps conceal King's weathered voice. Laughably awful, "Sleigh Ride" sounds more suited for an episode of "Mister Rogers." Not until the coda, "New Year's Day," is there a truly memorable song that isn't upset by a completely off-key vocal. "A Holiday Carole," unfortunately, is the coal of Christmas.



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Books that make a difference

A holiday guide to inclusive reads for the kids

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

You walk into a major chain bookstore hoping to find a children's book to give as a holiday gift. But what if you're looking for something that's not your mainstream, hetero-cast, run-of-the-mill material? You won't find much at Barnes & Noble.

Julia Music, a bisexual mom with an adopted son, takes care to buy diverse books for her child. Three-year-old Quinn loves Liz Garton Scanlon's "All the World," which follows the day of a little boy and the variety of people he sees.

"It's important for children to see their world reflected in the literature they read," Music said. "I want my son to be exposed to characters that look like him, his friends and people he has never seen before so he recognizes that all people are different and special."

And those books are out there. We recently spoke to Jillean McCommons, head of youth services at the Ferndale Public Library, and Colleen Kammer, co-owner of Book Beat in Oak Park. Here, both give their recommendations for children/young adult books – holiday-themed or otherwise – that are inclusive and empowering.

"Donovan's Big Day" (Leslea Newman): "About a boy who prepares to be the ringbearer at the wedding of his two moms. "Newman does an excellent job building a suspenseful picture book that captures the festivities surrounding a joyous occasion," McCommons said.

"My Princess Boy" (Cheryl Kilodavis): "The story of Dyson, a boy who likes to express himself through what he wears; sometimes it's jeans, sometimes it's a tiara. His family embraces his choices and celebrates his creativity. A great choice for the junior fashionista in the family."

"The Great Big Book of Families" (Mary Hoffman): "A fine gift for parents looking for books that challenge heteronormativity, this book succeeds by including families with same-sex parents as just another possibility."

In the 29 years it's been open, Book Beat has carried LGBT and other inclusive books. Here are some of the titles Kammer recommends for young readers:

"GLBTQ": The Survival Guide for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered



A recent patron at Book Beat in Oak Park. BTL photo: Crystal A. Proxmire

and Questioning Teens" (Kelly Huegel). \$15.99. An information book that provides answers, insight and support for queer or questioning teens. Ages: 13 and up

"Boyfriends with Girlfriends" (Alex Sanchez). \$16.99. Four real teens who are trying to find their way in the world and with one another. Ages: 12 and up

"Monday is One Day" (Arthur A. Levine). \$16.99. Rhyming countdown of the days of the week with assorted families finding ways to spend cherished moments together. Ages: 3 to 5

"My Princess Boy" (Cheryl Kilodavis). \$14.99. A true story of compassion, acceptance and support of someone who expresses themselves differently. Ages: 4 and up

"Addie on the Inside" (James Howe). \$16.99. The much-anticipated follow-up to "The Misfits" and "Totally Joe." A strong, smart, sensitive girl is fighting her way out of the box that society wants to put her in, while trying to become the person she wants to be. Ages: 14 and up

"Will Grayson, Will Grayson" (John Green and David Levithan). \$17.99. Told in alternating voices, two teens with the same name cross paths and find their lives going in unexpected directions. Honor Winner of the 2011 American Library Association Stonewall Award. Ages: 14 and up



"The Boy With Pink Hair" (Perez Hilton). \$17.99. The story of a boy who is not afraid to be who he is with the help of loving and supportive parents, and a friend who appreciates his uniqueness and how his difference makes a difference. Ages: 4 to 8

"A Love Story Starring My Dead Best Friend" (Emily Horner). \$16.99. A 17-year-old takes a road trip and sorts out her feelings of love and friendship. A great coming-of-age novel with a lesbian heroine. Ages: 14 and up

"It Gets Better: Coming Out, Overcoming Bullying, and Creating a Life Worth Living" (Dan Savage and Terry Miller). \$21.95. A collection of essays to inspire hope for LGBT youth facing harassment. Ages: 14 and up

To purchase these and other LGBT-inclusive titles from a local, independent bookstore, visit Book Beat at 26010 Greenfield in Oak Park or online at www.thebookbeat.com.

A happy, happenin' 'Ain't Misbehavin'

BY MARTIN F. KOHN

It's been around since 1978, so "Ain't Misbehavin'" ain't no longer "The new Fats Waller Musical Show," but Tim Edward Rhoze's staging at Performance Network just might reclaim that subtitle. Without altering the number of performers (five) or the order of the songs – why should he? – Rhoze has indeed come up with something new.

He's taken what is essentially a concert and given it context, placing it in an after-hours Harlem nightclub where performers who've finished their gigs elsewhere gather to meet, greet and sing what they really want to sing. Set designer Daniel C. Walker obliges Rhoze with a cozy, convincing cabaret, with interior brick walls and candles on the tables, one flight down from the sidewalk outside.

Folks who have seen "Ain't Misbehavin'" before will appreciate the freshening; newbies will forever think that's the way it's supposed to be.

At first there's only a pianist (musical director R. MacKenzie Lewis) to accompany the singers, but pretty soon other musicians – a drummer, a bassist and a saxophonist – straggle down the stairs, and before long the joint is jumpin' just like the song says. Come in, cats, and check your hats. Speaking of which, Network patrons can now actually check their hats (and coats) instead of hanging them on a communal rack in the outer lobby.

Smart as they are, Rhoze's ideas about the show would amount to window dressing without strong performances, but he gets



Kron Moore, Darrian Ford in "Ain't Misbehavin'" at Performance Network Theatre. Photo: Sean Carter

REVIEW

Ain't Misbehavin'

Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Thursday-Sunday through Jan. 1; no performances Thanksgiving and Christmas Days. \$30-\$46; \$75 New Year's Eve. 734-663-0681.

www.performancenetwork.org

them in profusion from singers James Bowen, Jennifer Cole, K Edmonds, Darrian Ford and Kron Moore and musicians Brad Faryniarz, Billy Harrington, Chris Morelli and the aforementioned Lewis.

It's almost unfair to single anyone out, but a standout among standouts is Ford, a charismatic jazz tenor and clearly the best dancer of the group.

As for the songs, their titles alone should convince you of the show's excellence: "Honeysuckle Rose," "Your Feet's Too Big," "Keepin' Out of Mischief Now," "Two Sleepy People," "Ain't Misbehavin'" and the previously cited "The Joint is Jumpin," to name just a few.

My favorite, though, would have to be the ensemble-sung "Handful of Keys," originally a Waller piano solo without words. Show creators Richard Maltby Jr. and Murray Horwitz put lyrics to it that brilliantly and exuberantly describe stride piano, a style of playing that Thomas Waller (1904-1943) perfected.

Fats Waller may not be around to enjoy the results of this across-the-board collaboration at Performance Network, but we are. Lucky us.

Seasonal laughs, no schmaltz at Go Comedy!

BY DONALD V. CALAMIA

As the holiday season heats up with a plethora of family-friendly Christmas plays and musicals, those of us in search of more adult or non-traditional fare may want to celebrate the season by having a "Mid-Life Christmas" at Go Comedy! Improv Theater in fabulous downtown Ferndale.

Written by director Pj Jacokes and ensemble members Christa Coulter, Chris DiAngelo, Carrie Hall, Jen Hansen, Bryan Lark and Tommy Simon, "Mid-Life Christmas" is a fast-paced sketch comedy that explores the crazier side of the season. Like most original sketch comedies, some of the material works better than others, but for the most part, "Mid-Life Christmas" delivers plenty of laughs, wrapped mostly around a delightful spoof of that annual holiday chestnut, the "Nutcracker."

The production is at its sharpest in three continuing sketches. In the first, two sisters and their husbands exchange Christmas presents every year – but not everyone puts the same amount of thought into what they give. (Hansen's reactions are excellent!) In another, Lark is a TV weatherman forced to "track Santa" on his way from the North Pole.

REVIEW

Mid-Life Christmas

Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday through Dec. 23; closed Thanksgiving Day. \$15. 248-327-0575.

www.gocomedy.net

His eventual meltdown is one of the show's highlights. And Hansen and Hall serve as TV commentators of one of the longest and strangest Christmas parades ever televised.

The funniest moment of the night is also one of the quickest: an unusual rendition of "Carol of the Bells" by the show's three buxom women.

A few sketches would be better served with quicker pacing. That especially true of an otherwise humorous "who's on first" type of sketch in which Simon goes into an Apple store "looking for jobs." Conversely, there are also moments when the actors deliver their lines way too quickly!

And the closing number MAY have been funny – except those of us seated in the back could hear only half of the words. But maybe that's a GOOD thing, since



Jen Hansen, Christa Coulter, Chris DiAngelo, Tommy Simon, Carrie Hall and Bryan Lark star in Go Comedy! Improv Theater's comedy, "Mid-Life Christmas." Photo: SMyers

improvisers aren't usually known for their strong singing voices.

As usual, the technical aspects of the show – especially the sound design by new dad Pete Jacokes – are quite strong and add to the night's fun.

So if you're looking for a night of holiday cheer without the schmaltz, head to Go Comedy! And while you're there, double the cheer by sampling one of their special holiday drinks! I've been told they're tasty!

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Editor's Picks

Outings

Join downtown Ferndale in celebrating the holidays with any number of their many upcoming "Holidates." These special events emphasize small businesses and shopping local while celebrating the rich culture of the city and the holiday season.

Began officially by American Express in 2010, downtown Ferndale celebrates Small Business Saturday on Nov. 26 this year. In contrast to Black Friday, Holidates encourages shoppers to support small and local businesses.

Downtown Ferndale asks you to shop, dine and stay local on Nov. 26 to support the city's local business and foster a diverse economy. For more information and a full list of Holidates such as "Wings & Wishes Tree Lighting" and "Merry Midnight Madness," go to downtownferndale.com



Music & More



Seattle-born singer and songwriter Judy Collins has thrilled audiences with her musical talents for over 50 years. Her unique sound has included elements of folk, pop, rock 'n' roll, showtunes, and traditional pop standards. Known for classic renditions of "To Everything There is a Season" and "Amazing Grace," Judy was essential in bringing singer-songwriters such as Joni Mitchell and Bob Dylan to a wider audience.

In '68, Collins won a Grammy Award for Best Folk Performance or Folk Recording for the track "Both Sides Now." In 1993, she performed for Bill Clinton's first inauguration, performing "Chelsea Morning," the song that inspired the Clinton's to name their daughter Chelsea. Now 71, Collins continues to create music and perform 80 to 100 dates a year.

Collins performs at 9:30 p.m. Dec. 1 at The Ark at 316 S. Main St. in Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$49.50. For more information, go to theark.org.

Theater

EMU Theatre welcomes in the holiday season with the family friendly production "Go, Dog! Go." P.D. Eastman's classic comes to life in this vibrant adaptation filled with fun, song and dance. "Go, Dog! Go" will play in the Quirk Theatre Dec. 2, 9 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 3, 4, 10, 11 at 2 p.m.

Based on the beloved children's book by P.D. Eastman, this zany musical follows the antics of several colorful dogs who behave an awful lot like humans – driving cars, getting jobs, having parties and wearing hats! Audiences will enjoy the high energy of these canine characters playing baseball, singing, dancing, juggling and riding everything on wheels they can find!

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for students, and \$7 for ages 5-12.

Performances will take place in the Quirk Theatre in the Quirk Dramatic Arts Building on EMU's Ypsilanti Campus. For tickets, call 734-487-2282.



OUTINGS

Wednesday, Nov. 23

Thanksgiving Eve Celebration! 7 p.m. Come out and celebrate Pre-Thanksgiving with the LGBT community and allies at Via Nove. Three levels to mingle dance and lounge in. Billboard Reporting Artist DJ Jace from the Necto will be performing. Free hors d'oeuvres. Cover: \$5. Proceeds are going to the newly formed Great Lakes Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. This event is 21+ with proper ID. Where the GAYS R! 344 West 9 Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-336-9936.

Pre-Thanksgiving Party with MDSL 8 p.m. MDSL party the night before Thanksgiving. Selling 50/50 tickets all night to help raise funds for the Midwest Invitational Softball Tournament that MDSL is hosting in 2014. Metro Detroit Softball League, 23365 Hoover Road, **Warren**. MDSL.org

Friday, Nov. 25

Womyn's Film Night 7 p.m. Film: Secret Lives of Bees-Haunted by her mother's death, 14-year-old Lily Owens escapes her dreary life on her father's farm and heads to Tiburon, S.C., with friend and caregiver Rosaleen Daise, spawning a life-changing journey of self-discovery. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Saturday, Nov. 26

Small Biz Saturday 6 a.m. Second Downtown Ferndale Holiday: Shop-Dine-Stay Local. Avoid the malls and support your favorite merchants on this day, dedicated nationwide to promoting the good businesses that keep local economies prospering. Downtown Ferndale, Various Venues, **Ferndale**. 248-546-1632. downtownferndale.com

Sunday, Nov. 27

Conversation Station 5 p.m. LGBTQI 25 and over, join GOAL each week for discussion, food and fun. Topic: "Should prisoners be allowed to have sex change operations?" Please RSVP via e-mail or call 248-981-4227 so seating can be reserved. GOAL, 714 S Washington, **Royal Oak**. 248-981-4227. GetOutAndLive.me

Monday, Nov. 28

Saginaw County Red Ribbon 10 a.m. A giant lighted red ribbon will light up the Saginaw County Governmental Center. Volunteers will construct the eight-foot ribbon as a symbol of a "call to action." Ribbon will stand from Nov. 28-Dec. 2. Saginaw HIV Task Force, 111 S. Michigan, **Saginaw**. 1-800-872-2437. saginawcounty.com

Tuesday, Nov. 29

SexUs Hold Em 5 p.m. This is poker with a twist: Poker chips are replaced with condoms, and your conversation with the card dealer may be about abstinence. The purpose of this event is to educate individuals about safer sex practices and other serious issues surrounding sexual activity while enjoying the a game of poker. Free. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. - Delta Rho chapter, 1443 Washtenaw Ave., **Ann Arbor**.

Film Screening: The Other City 6 p.m. Washington, D.C.: The very city that is home to the capital of the most powerful country in the world has an HIV/AIDS rate the nations highest. "The Other City" is a tribute to ordinary people struggling to live their lives in dignity, to the compassionate ones who lessen their pain, and to those who stand up to fight the spread of HIV/AIDS every day. This event is free. Physicians for Human Rights at UM, 1241 E. Catherine St, Ann Arbor.

Transgender Life Support 7 p.m. Support group for transgendered people and allies. Transgender Life Support, 290 W. 9 Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Wednesday, Nov. 30

Anti-Gay and Anti-Transgender Hate Crimes in Michigan 5:30 p.m. Join Equality Michigan for a panel discussion on anti-gay and anti-transgender hate crimes and their impact in Michigan. Speakers will include Nusrat Ventimiglia, Equality Michigan, the Department of Justice Community Relations Service, FBI Civil Rights Investigators, and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Michigan. Free and open to the public. Equality Michigan, 471 W. Palmer, **Detroit**. Equalityymi.org

Detroit World AIDS Day

Commemoration 7 p.m. Join the Ecumenical Theological Seminary in gathering to remember the dead, pray for the living, and draw strength for the journey. Detroit World AIDS Day Commemoration Planning Committee, 2930 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 313-964-3113. Worldaidsdaydetroit.com

The Silence is Broken Volume I

7 p.m. Producer, Composer and Pianist, Conductor and Musical Director Patrick Gandy is on a mission to halt the spread of HIV in our communities. Tickets: \$20 Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 315 E. Warren Ave., **Detroit**. 949-240-4225. Thesilenceisbroken.org

Thursday, Dec. 1

World AIDS Day Mayor's Breakfast with Jeanne White-Ginder 8 a.m. World AIDS Day Detroit Honorary Host Committee Chair Max Fisher, Detroit City Council President Charles Pugh, Wayne State University President Allan Gilmour, and Wayne State University Medical School Dean Dr. Valerie M. Parisi host Mayors Breakfast with keynote speaker and mother of Ryan White, Jeanne White-Ginder. World AIDS Day Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 313-961-5451. Worldaidsdaydetroit.com

Michigan Department of Community Health World AIDS Day Meeting

9:30 a.m. MDCH hosts community meeting for Detroit-area schools and community members with educational sessions, workshops and special 30 years of AIDS presentation. Michigan Department of Community Health, 18100 Meyers Road, **Detroit**. Worldaidsdaydetroit.com

Annual World AIDS Day Program

12 p.m. This annual event is hosted by the WSU Community Advisory Board (focused on research) and the Holistic Care Community Advisory Board and supported by the entire clinical team at the WSU Adult HIV/AIDS Program. There is no cost and all are welcome. WSU Adult HIV/AIDS Program Community and Holistic Care Community, 4717 St. Antoine, **Detroit**. 313-993-8703. bmclatchey@med.wayne.edu

NOH8 on World Aids Day 2 p.m. In conjunction with World AIDS Day Detroit, NOH8 will have an open photo shoot at the Fillmore. This is the first time the NOH8 Campaign has traveled to Michigan. Reservations for photo shoots are not necessary. Solo portraits are \$40 and couple/group portraits cost \$25 per person. Come camera ready, wear white, pose and make a statement. NOH8 and the Fillmore Theater, 2115 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. Noh8campaign.com

World AIDS Day Concert 2 p.m. The Wall Clocks will be playing a concert to help spread awareness to the global epidemic AIDs. Amnesty International and the GSA will conduct an informational session during the intermission. GSA will be selling red AIDs ribbons for \$1, and all proceeds will go to the Nyaka AIDS

Orphans Project. Schoolcraft College GSA, Schoolcraft College, **Livonia**. Facebook: GSA Schoolcraft College

"Bad Blood" Documentary Public Screening and Panel 3:30 p.m. Free screening of Bad Blood. Through the eyes of survivors and family members, Bad Blood chronicles how a "miracle" treatment for hemophilia became an agent of death for 10,000 Americans. Meet the producer and director, Marilyn Ness and cast members Dana Kuhn and Eric Weinberg. World AIDS Day Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. eventbrite.com/event/2365770082/efbevent

Wine Cellar Fundraiser 5:30 p.m. Commemorate World AIDS Day and support local HIV/AIDS services by joining HARC for the 8th annual Wine Cellar. Enjoy a tasting of holiday wines supplied by Everyday Wines, delicious appetizers from local caterers, European style chocolates, and live jazz performed by the Jesse Kramer Trio. Tickets: \$50 in advance or \$60 at the door. RSVP at <http://httphivaidresources.org/winecellar>. HIV/AIDS Resource Center, 220 Felch St., **Ann Arbor**. Hivaidresources.org

HIV/AIDS Research Symposium 6 p.m. Hear presentations from speakers who have done research and work with HIV and AIDS. Talks will vary in subject, showing the variance of work being done in the field. Presenters include Robert Wyrrod (Women's Studies), Michael Woodford (Social Work), and the Sexuality and Health Lab (Public Health). HIV/AIDS Awareness Committee as part of the University of Michigan's Red Cross Club, 530 S. State St., **Ann Arbor**. Worldaidsweekum.wordpress.com

Ignorance Kills 7 p.m. Watch a short video and engage in conversation about prevention of HIV and how to break the stigma and misconceptions surrounding HIV. Free to the public. CoitusLove, 419 S. State Street, **Ann Arbor**. Worldaidsweekum.wordpress.com

World AIDS Day Detroit Ceremony 7 p.m. Join World AIDS Day Detroit for a special presentation on this 30th year of AIDS featuring Jeanne-White Ginder, a 30-year commemorative video, musical performances and candlelight vigil. Tickets: \$10-125. The Fillmore Theater, 2115 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. eventbrite.com/event/2458583690/eorg

Friday, Dec. 2

Getting to Zero: How Youth Can Stop HIV/AIDS 4 p.m. This is an AIDS week event put together for teenagers to learn more about HIV/AIDS from the HIV/AIDS Resource Center of Ann Arbor. There will be music, slam poetry, stories from positive speakers, as well as a performance by the Corner Health Centers Theatre HIV/AIDS Resource Center and Corner Health, 591 Armstrong Dr., **Ypsilanti**. Worldaidsweekum.wordpress.com

AIDS Memorial Quilt Viewing and Reception

6 p.m. Join Affirmations in honoring those in the LGBT community and around the world that have died from AIDS. There will be a moment of silence, candlelight vigil, a presentation of the riveting film "Untitled" a film about HIV/AIDS activism by Jim Hodges, Carlos da Cruz & Encke King. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Womyn's Film Night 7 p.m. Film: The Queens of Comedy - Following in the footsteps of The Original Kings of Comedy, these four brassy black women give the boy jocksters a run for their money here. Comediennes Adele Givens, Monique, Sommore and Laura Hayes go off on everything. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

For expanded listings & to add a listing, visit our website

MUSIC & MORE

CLASSICAL

Detroit Symphony Orchestra "DSO Chamber Concerts in West Bloomfield" As a part of its visionary Neighborhood Residency Initiative, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra announces two special Neighborhood Chamber Recitals in West Bloomfield and Grosse Pointe. Tickets: \$25 per concert for adults, \$10 for children and students. Planterra Conservatory, 7315 Drake Road, West Bloomfield Township. 6 a.m. Dec. 6. 313-576-5111. dso.org/neighborhood

Fort St. Chorale and Chamber Orchestra "G.F. Handel's Messiah" Fort Street Chorale and Chamber Orchestra in downtown Detroit present Handel's Messiah. Tickets: \$20, general admission. Group rates and patron seating also are available. Free, secure parking. Fort St. Presbyterian Church, 631 W. Fort, Detroit. Dec. 3 - Dec. 4. 313-865-6306. fortstreet.org

Kalamazoo Bach Festival "BachFest Christmas!" Capture the spirit of the Christmas season with a treasured Kalamazoo tradition. Since 1970 the Kalamazoo Bach Festival has rung in the holiday season. Tickets: \$22-15, \$5 students. Stetson Chapel, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo. 4 p.m. Dec. 4. 269-337-7407. Kzoo.edu/Bach

Kerrytown Concert House "Mad About Chamber Music" This is a free event. UM School of Music students perform chamber music works in a fun, informal setting. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. 4th Ave., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Nov. 30. 734-769-2999. kerrytownconcerthouse.com

University Musical Society "Handel's Messiah" Grammy Award-winning UMS Choral Union launches holiday season with Handel's Messiah. Ticket information available at ums.org. Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor. Dec. 3 - Dec. 4. 734-764-2538. ums.org

COMEDY

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase Heywood Banks It's the annual Thanksgiving Tickets: \$20. Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Nov. 25 - Nov. 27. 734-996-9080. aacomedy.com

Royal Oak Music Theatre "Comedians of Chelsea Lately" Sarah Colonna, Chris Franjola, Jen Kirkman and Brad Wollock. Tickets: \$37.50 advance, \$40 at the door. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W Fourth St, Royal Oak. 8 p.m. Dec. 3. 248-399-2980. royaloakmusictheatre.com

The Ark Mr. B Tickets: \$20. Hill Auditorium, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Nov. 26. 734-761-1800. theark.org

CONCERTS

Fox Theatre "Celtic Thunder Christmas" "The Celtic Thunder Heritage Tour." Tickets: \$37.50-65. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7. 313-471-6611. olympiaentertainment.com

Olympia Entertainment "Ho Ho Hoey Tour 2011" World-renowned rock guitarist Gary Hoey returns to City Theatre for his "Ho Ho Hoey" Christmas tour. Tickets: \$27. City Theatre, Hockeytown Cafe, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Nov. 26. 313-471-3224. olympiaentertainment.com

The Ark Judy Collins American singer and songwriter, known for her eclectic tastes in the material she records (which has included folk, show tunes, pop, rock and roll and standards) and for her social activism. Tickets: \$49.50. The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. 9:30 p.m. Dec. 1. 734-

761-1800. theark.org

The Palace "Kanye West and Jay-z's Watch the Throne Tour." Tickets: \$49.50-129.50. Palace of Auburn Hills, 5 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. 7:30 p.m. Nov. 26. 248-377-0100. palacenet.com

THEATER

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY THEATER

An Evening of Futurism and DaDa \$10. MSU Dept. of Theatre, Auditorium Arena Theatre, MSU Auditorium Bldg., East Lansing. Dec. 2 - 4. 1-800-Wharton. whartoncenter.com

Go, Dog! Go \$15. Eastern Michigan University Theatre at Quirk Theatre, Quirk Dramatic Arts Building, East Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Dec. 2 - 11. 734-487-2282. emutix.com

PROFESSIONAL

A Christmas Carol The familiar story of Scrooge, Tiny Tim and the ghosts that change a life is a holiday favorite and annual tradition for scores of families in the area. \$25-40. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Through Dec. 23. 248-370-3316. mbtheatre.com

A Christmas Story, The Musical! \$27-79. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Through Nov. 27. 313-872-1000. BroadwayinDetroit.com

A Winter Fantasy \$28. Michigan Opera Theatre Children's Chorus, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. 7 p.m. Nov. 28. 248-914-1966. motcc.org

Ain't Misbehavin' \$30-\$46; \$75 New Year's Eve. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through Jan. 1. 734-663-0681. performancenetwork.org

Cirque Dreams Holidayze \$25-55. Miller Auditorium, 2200 Auditorium Dr., Kalamazoo. Nov. 29 - 30. 269-387-2300. millerauditorium.com

Donny & Marie - Christmas in Detroit \$30-100. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Nov. 29 - Dec. 4. 313-471-6611. olympiaentertainment.com

Five Course Love \$15-\$20; \$49.95-\$59.95 per couple for dinner and show. HappenStance Productions at Andiamo Novi Theatre, 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi. Through Nov. 27. 248-348-4448. andiamonovitheatre.com

Fugue \$15. New Theatre Project at Mix Studio Theatre, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Nov. 30 - Dec. 18. 734-645-9776. thenewtheatreproject.org

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play \$15-\$20; or \$49.95-\$59.95 per couple for dinner & show. HappenStance Productions at Andiamo Novi Theatre, 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi. Dec. 1 - Jan. 15. 248-348-4448. ticketmaster.com

Les Miserables \$34.50. Broadway Grand Rapids at DeVos Performance Hall, 303 Monroe Ave., Grand Rapids. Nov. 29 - Dec. 4. 616-719-8050. broadwaygrandrapids.com

National Acrobats of the Performing Arts \$30-50. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison, Detroit. 8 p.m. Nov. 25. 313-887-8501. musichall.org

Puppet Scrooge \$12. Matrix Theatre, 2730 Bagley, Detroit. Dec. 2 - 18. 313-967-0999. matrixtheatre.org

The All Night Strut Holiday Show

\$20-45. Gem Theatre, 333 Madison St., Detroit. Nov. 23 - Dec. 31. 313-963-9800. gemtheatre.com

The Christmas Carol Caper, Scrooge

This \$14 opening night; \$16 all others. Broadway Onstage, 21517 Kelly Road, Eastpointe. Dec. 2 - Dec. 23. 586-771-6333. broadwayonstage.com

The Importance of Being Earnest

\$28-\$30. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Through Dec. 18. 248-347-0003. tippingpointtheatre.com

The Tempest \$40. Park Bar, 2040 Park Ave., Detroit. Dec. 2 - Jan. 21. 313-444-2294. parkbardetroit.com

Winter Wonderettes \$31-33. Farmer's Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Dec. 2 - 31. 269-343-2727. farmersalleytheatre.com

ART 'N' AROUND

323East "The Brooklyn - Detroit Connection" 323East's The Future is Now Part II. Kimyon Huggins, AVONE, and Ellis G all Brooklyn based artists in the Motor City Spotlight. 323East, 323 E. 4th St., Royal Oak. Nov. 5 - Jan. 4. 248-246-9544. 323east.com

Cranbrook Art Museum "No Object is an Island: New Dialogues with the Cranbrook Collection" First exhibition in the newly renovated and expanded museum exploring Cranbrook's continued influence in the world of Contemporary Art and Design. Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills. Nov. 12 - March 25. 877-462-7262. cranbrookart.edu

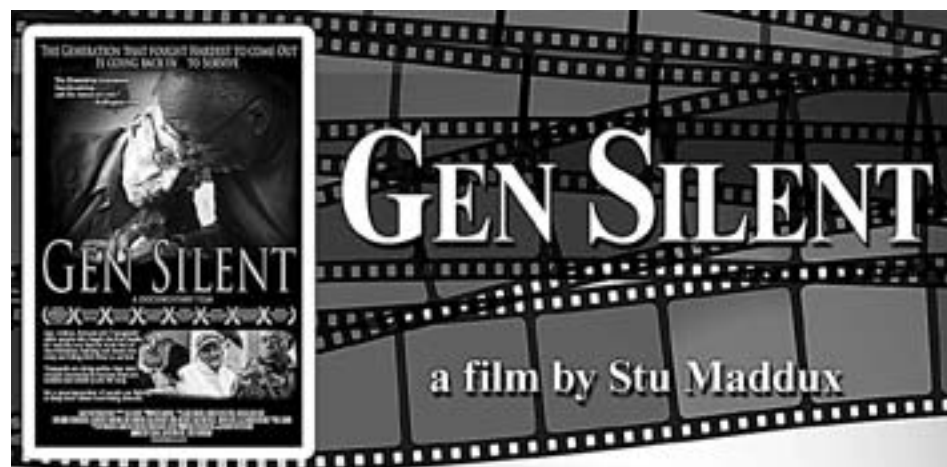
Gallery Project "Food for Thought" multimedia exhibits in which over 27 local, regional, and national artists explore the complex and varied relationships people in American culture have with food. Gallery Project, 214 S. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. Nov. 2 - Dec. 11. 734-997-7012. thegalleryproject.com

Kerrytown Concert House "Perennials: Drawings and Paintings by Nora Venturelli" Born in Rosario, Argentina, Nora Venturelli immigrated to California with her family in 1968. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. 4th Ave., Ann Arbor. Nov. 2 - Dec. 4. 734-769-2999. kerrytownconcerthouse.com

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit "Stephanie Nava: Considering a Plot (Dig for Victory)" A work in progress, developed by French artist Stephanie Nava. Its installation at MOCAD marks the artist's first solo exhibition in the United States. Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave, Detroit. Sep. 16 - Dec. 30. 313-832-6622. mocadetroit.org

Pittmann-Puckett Art Gallery "Mike McMath" Midland artist Mike McMath exhibits his work at the Pittmann-Puckett Art Gallery. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. Nov. 1 - Nov. 30. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

The Detroit Institute of Arts "Rembrandt and the Face of Jesus" Dutch master Rembrandt van Rijn's finest paintings, prints and drawings that portray Jesus and events described in the Bible. Tickets: \$16 adult, \$8 youth. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward, Detroit. Nov. 20 - Jan. 29. 313-833-7900. dia.org



Unlike any film before ... how oppression in the years before Stonewall now effects older LGBT people.

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200 N. Main, Royal Oak

Free Admission / Space Limited

Contact Jay Kaplan at jkaplan@alcumich.org
Judy Lewis at jewelewis@hotmail.com
or call 313-578-6812

Sponsored by LGBT Older Adult Coalition, Emagine Theatre and BTL

Add your events to next week's issue!

<http://www.pridesource.com/calendar.html>

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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 @ Livernois. 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 United Church of Christ, 12221 Martin Rd. East of Hoover. Closed/Discussion.

303 EMPLOYMENT - SALES

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428 PROF. SERVICES - MASSAGE

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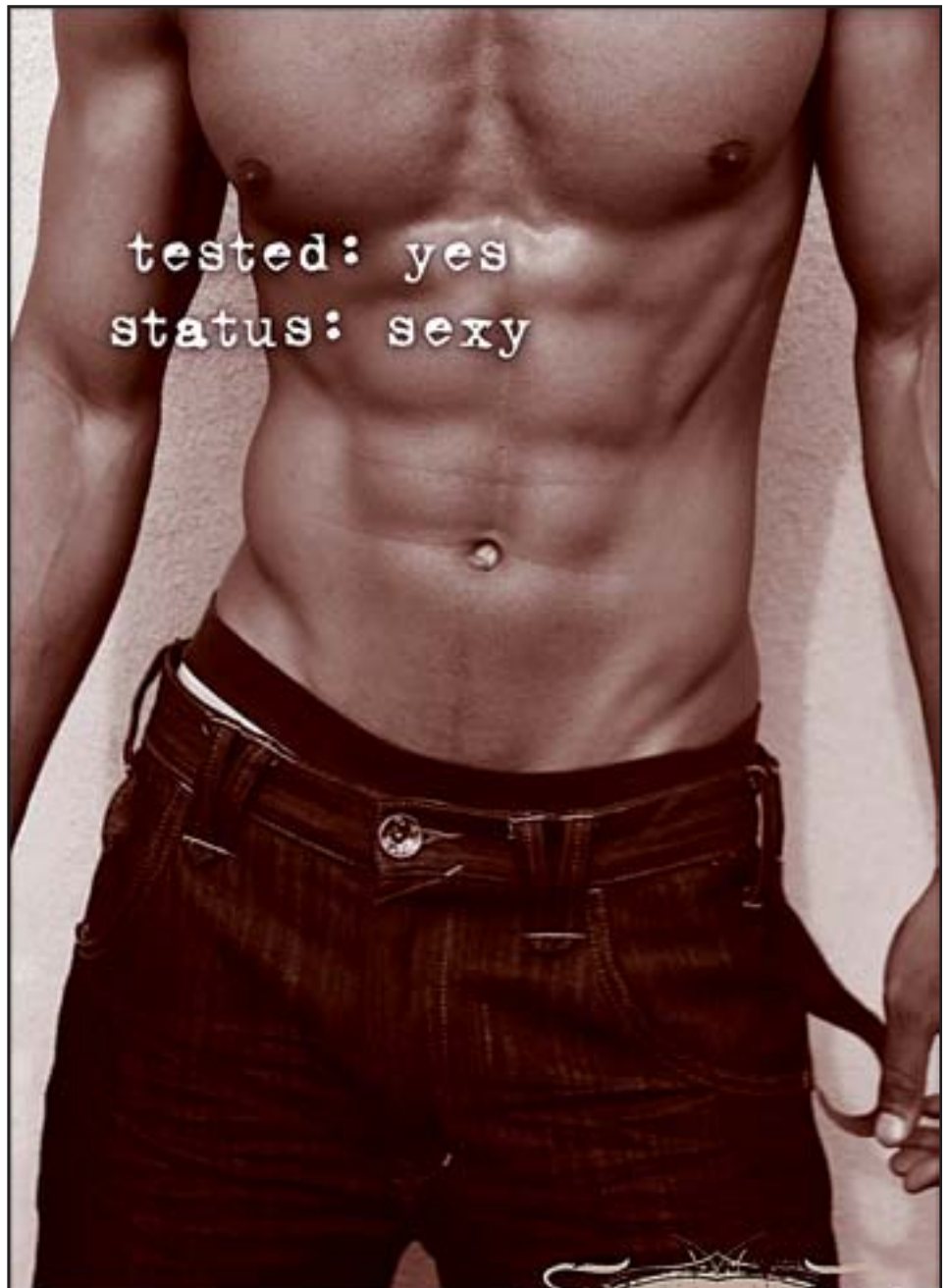
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(248) 545-1435 ext. 107
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Team Sexy.

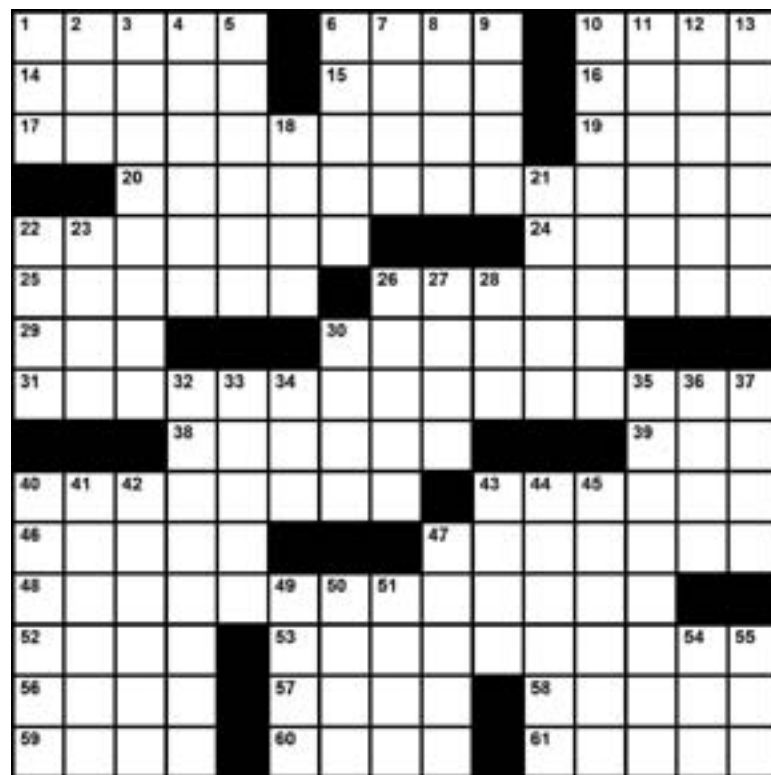
Find a schedule of World AIDS
Day events in our area at
worldaidsdaydetroit.com

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content, so
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God's Memoir



Across

- 1 Big name in foamy heads
- 6 Eagles, but not leather bars
- 10 Cabbage salad
- 14 When actors should come
- 15 Heterogeneous mixture
- 16 Common greeting
- 17 Hairy situation on Wall Street?
- 19 "Da Doo Ron Ron" opening
- 20 David Javerbaum's book about God's Memoir, with "The"
- 22 Aida, to the Egyptians
- 24 Particular "Advocate," e.g.
- 25 Straights, to PlanetOut?
- 26 One who goes both ways on the train?
- 29 Henry and June's Anais
- 30 Centers of research
- 31 Message from God in 20-Across
- 38 Kind of line, on Broadway
- 39 Monopoly abbr.
- 40 Lick it
- 43 Crossed swords
- 46 "There's ___ every crowd!"
- 47 Seaport of da Vinci's land
- 48 What God is, since we're created in God's image, per 20-Across
- 52 Some promises
- 53 Hear here
- 56 Fairy tale bad guy
- 57 Leave out
- 58 Part of a fashion name
- 59 Financial aid criterion
- 60 Guitarist Townshend
- 61 Second name in cross-dressing

Down

- 1 Choreographer Fosse
- 2 "Le Monde" article

- 3 Uncovering the head?
- 4 Parish priest
- 5 Cuts off from escape
- 6 Rich oral pleasure with nuts
- 7 "It's Not the Size That Counts" star Sommer
- 8 Bubbly drinks
- 9 "Today" co-host Lauer
- 10 Garb for Diana Nyad
- 11 Like the least convincing excuses
- 12 Q, in a theater
- 13 More like some dreams
- 18 Many P-town beach vehicles
- 21 Actress Anouk
- 22 Permission request
- 23 Went down (on)
- 26 Class clown
- 27 Adolph of publishing
- 28 "Boys of summer" org.
- 30 Emperor played by Charles Laughton
- 32 Towered over
- 33 "To ___ own self be true" ("Hamlet")
- 34 Lover that you can't get over
- 35 Putting off coming
- 36 Steven's opening
- 37 Decorate anew
- 40 It's for skin
- 41 Liable to blow
- 42 "The Raven" maiden
- 43 Bulb unit
- 44 Bill Clinton's number two
- 45 Got up like a stallion
- 47 Shoot off unseen
- 49 Grating sound
- 50 Vegetable dildo, for short
- 51 Cut
- 54 Hollywood's Hagen
- 55 Put a scuff on

Solution on 39



Pet of the Week

Meet Rocky!



A 10-month-old Maltese mix, you'll be down for the count when you lay eyes on this sweet and loving boy. At just 11 pounds, Rocky is the perfect size to cuddle with on a cold winter's night. He's waiting patiently to meet you today! The adoption fee includes sterilization, age-appropriate vaccinations and much more. For more information, visit or call the Michigan Humane Society's Rochester Hills Center for Animal Care at (248) 852-7420 and provide the pet ID number, 35592. Photo by Heidi Waeschle-Gabel.



Horoscopes

Beware, Aries!

BY JACK FERTIG

Mercury is turning retrograde and there's a solar eclipse, all in Sagittarius. Be open-minded and patient. New information will make you change your mind about important matters, though it may take weeks to figure out.

ARIES (March 20 – April 19): While you are feeling energetic and determined the rest of the world seems to be gumming up. Beware of rash outbursts and pushing too hard. You will be heard more than you know, so think carefully about what you want to say!

TAURUS (April 20 – May 20): A person can get enough flirtation and sexual adventures. A sudden realization about what you really want in that department can bring focus as you turn to more serious matters. Read the myth of Cassandra before sharing your hunches.

GEMINI (May 21- June 20): These next three weeks will have you backtracking and cleaning up, especially in your relationships. You'll be reminded of neglected promises if you don't fulfill them first. Listen carefully to your partner. Take complaints seriously; make no excuses or retorts! There's always room for improvement.

CANCER (June 21- July 22): Sudden changes in your health could be for the better, but consult a professional and review your exercise and hygiene regimens. Focus on what you enjoy most about your work; your colleagues will pick up on your energy.

LEO (July 23 – August 22): Your playfulness and creative efforts will make a huge impact on your work. That's not necessarily a good thing. Are they a constructive focus or a frivolous distraction? Channel that energy productively and you'll go far!

VIRGO (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22): Any neglected problems at home are about to blow up in your face. Think carefully and deal with them the best you can. Flawed efforts are better than none. At least consider carefully any "corrections" offered by roommates or family.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 – Oct.22): A homecoming can offer some very rude surprises. Take them in good humor and see what you can learn from them. An opportunity to heal a wounded relationship may require some changes in your routines.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21): Arguments at work can easily get out of hand and cost you big time. Do your best to keep conversations calm and open-minded while focused on finding solutions. Take time out for fun with friends to stay in balance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 – Dec. 20): Birthday plans are sure to go awry. Roll with the punches and make the most of it. With Mercury turning retrograde in your sign it seems you can do nothing right, except keep a sense of humor while cleaning up mistakes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 21 – Jan. 19): Being generous to those in need will boost your reputation, perhaps even your career. Feeling more sexy, beautiful and confident can start a row at home. Clear the air, try a daring, new solution and move on.

AQUARIUS (January 20 – Feb. 18): Your plans for the future need serious revision. Those changes could challenge some of your associations and friendships. Be ready to change some of those, too! Don't commit to those revisions yet. Take time to think it through!

PISCES (Feb. 19 – March 19): Professional advice will help you clear up recent snafus. More mix-ups make success look further away than ever. Actually how you deal with those problems can make or break your career. Balancing humor with responsibility, you can solve it and advance.

Reach professional astrologer Jack Fertig at www.starjack.com.



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Solution to puzzle from page 38

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Deep Inside Hollywood



Lady Gaga. Photo: Joe Seer / Shutterstock.com

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

A Very Gaga Thanksgiving

Leave it to Lady Gaga to avoid the typical when it comes to holiday specials. Instead of joining the Christmas onslaught and risking getting lost in the shuffle of one-off TV events, Gaga's "A Very Gaga Thanksgiving" will not only allow her to get the jump on every other entry but put her in the more rarefied atmosphere occupied by very few other Thanksgiving-themed holiday specials. In other words, she's chosen the esteemed company of Charlie Brown over Kathie Lee Gifford. The ABC special will feature Gaga performing her new single "Marry The Night" as well as her recent duet with Tony Bennett, "The Lady Is A Tramp." She'll be interviewed by Katie Couric, perform her version of "White Christmas" (it never hurts to hedge your bets) and help chef Art Smith make deep-fried turkey with waffles – presumably, while dressed as a bottle of Mrs. Butterworth's syrup. Set your DVR for Thursday, Nov. 24, Thanksgiving night.

Watch out, the 'Original Dragon Tattoo' Girl is coming back

Rooney Mara may be the woman American audiences eventually recognize most in the role of Lisbeth Salander after the English-language version of "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo" hits theaters in December, but it was Noomi Rapace, the star of the original trilogy of Swedish films, who carried those movies to this side of the world in the first place. As the hard-bitten, crime-busting lesbian computer genius, Rapace shocked audiences with her character's capacity for violence and her charismatic chilly presence left an indelible mark on every minute of the series. Now Rapace is re-teaming with Dragon Tattoo director Niels Arden Oplev for an English language film co-starring Colin Farrell. In "Dead Man Down," she'll play a woman who seduces a gangster just so she can blackmail him afterward. The film starts shooting in early 2012, with a probable 2013 release date to follow. Sounds like another role that calls for a strong woman, and Rapace is more than capable of it. Just don't call it typecasting; think of it as building a brand.

Queen Latifah needs to talk to you about...

Back in 1999, Queen Latifah was still transitioning from a hip-hop career, where she was known primarily as a rapper, to a film and singing career. And around that time she got her own talk show, "The Queen Latifah Show." It didn't last long, but that was before Oprah left the field wide open for a successor and the last 11 years saw Latifah's career skyrocket to the A-list (even though her sexual orientation remains the subject of public speculation, prompts discussions of "glass closets," and, to this moment, isn't quite 100-percent confirmed). So now a new show is in the works, produced by Latifah's Hollywood pals Will and Jada Pinkett Smith, and their business plan is a shrewd one: it's not hitting airwaves until the fall of 2013, which ought to give the current crop – Anderson Cooper, Bethenny Frankel, Steve Harvey, Ricki Lake and Jeff Probst – time to thin their own ranks via cancellations

Cheyenne Jackson and Nathan Lane, playing it straight?

What kind of sitcom would you expect to see from two gay actors like Nathan Lane and Cheyenne Jackson? How about one where there's no mention of any overly gay plot? No? Well here goes: USA has greenlit an untitled comedy pilot from Oscar nominee Douglas McGrath ("Bullets Over Broadway") that will star Lane, Jackson and "Scrubs" vet Ken Jenkins. Centered on an unlucky actor (Lane) whose fledgling Broadway career is derailed when his elderly father becomes ill, he'll return fish-out-of-water-style to his Texas hometown, befriend his father's doctor (Jackson) in the process. Obviously, one or both of the characters could turn out to be gay, but right now that's not information anyone's been given. Frankly, it would be an interesting development if neither character were written gay. Jackson already plays a heterosexual character on "30 Rock," and it would provide further proof that openly gay actors can take on any role they're asked. Neil Patrick Harris and Zachary Quinto can't be expected to carry that burden alone, right?

Romeo San Vicente has role-played convincingly in a variety of scenes. He can be reached at DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.

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