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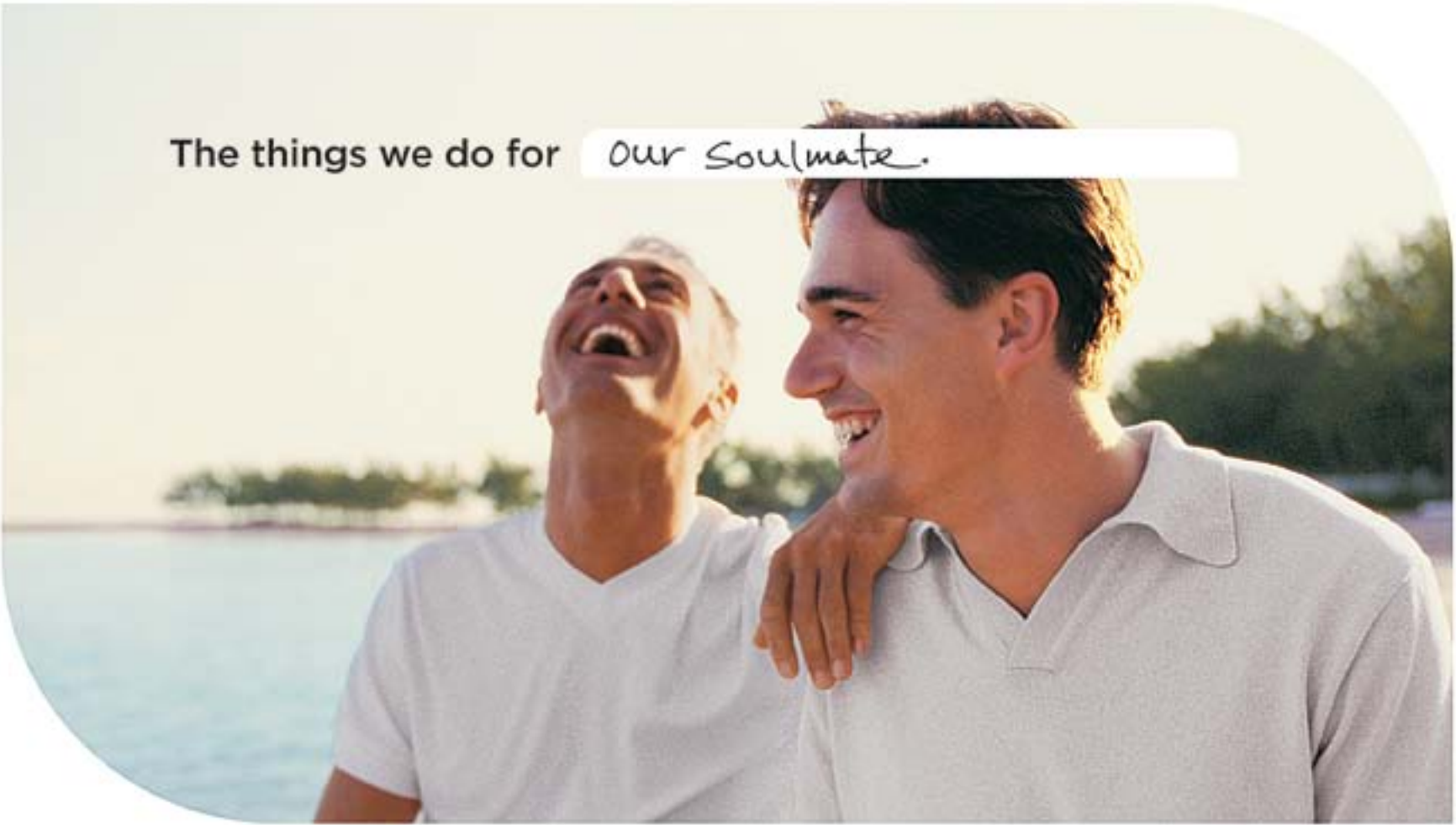
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# BTL THE Lines™ 12.22.2011

## Cover Story

21 | **The (Bi) Girl with the Dragon Tattoo**  
Cast of American remake talks character's sexuality – and why it doesn't matter

## News

6 | **2011: The most anti-gay legislature in Michigan history**

6 | **Cops target gay men in Kent County parks**

7 | **An 'epic' year for marriage equality**

9 | **Max Fisher shares stories of being AIDS activist's son**

9 | **OBITUARY: Gordon Barnard Feb. 27, 1936 - Nov. 26, 2011**

11 | **Anti-gay graduate student's appeal denied, EMU decision next**

12 | **Aging coordinator visits HUD's LGBT Elder Housing summit**

14 | **HIV-positive man fired by nationwide dental chain**

## Opinions

8 | **Speak Out**  
GOP Presidential candidates continue to denigrate LGBT citizens

10 | **S/he Said**  
Mayor of Troy, societal privilege

10 | **Heard on Facebook**

14 | **Creep of the week**  
Chuck Norris

12 | **Parting Glances**  
Truth stranger than fiction

## Life

17 | **Mary J. Blige shows us some real love**  
Queen of Hip-Hop Soul on gay fans, bullying and "Rock of Ages" role

18 | **Hear Me Out**  
Special LIVE Edition: Adele, Kylie Minogue, Tegan & Sara

23 | **Theater**  
Review of "God of Carnage"

24 | **Happenings**  
Featured: The Ark's annual Crossroads Ceili on Dec. 29

## Rear View

26 | **Deep Inside Hollywood**

27 | **Classifieds**

27 | **Horoscopes**

28 | **Puzzle**

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## Cops target gay men in Kent County parks

BY BTL STAFF AND AP WIRE

**GRAND RAPIDS** - Activists in western Michigan say sheriff's deputies have been unfairly targeting gay men in Kent County parks by striking up conversations with them while working undercover. Thirty-three men were arrested in the parks in 2010 under Michigan's soliciting law but many simply were talking or holding hands, critics told county commissioners Dec. 13.

"In these cases, it's the officers who are making the approaches. It's the officers who are doing the accosting and soliciting," said Miriam Aukerman of the American Civil Liberties Union.

The Grand Rapids Press reports that Sheriff Larry Stelma defended his deputies and said they're simply trying to keep parks safe.

"This is sensationalizing and a distortion of what's happening," Stelma said. "We do not arrest anybody, male or female, for holding hands."

Aukerman said in half the reports she examined law officers initiated the contact with those they later arrested. She noted that the practice of using undercover cops in search of gay men seeking companionship has a long history.

Michigan law makes it illegal for someone to use a public place to invite another to commit a "lewd or immoral act." The statute states: "A person 16 years of age or older who accosts, solicits, or invites another person in a public place or in or from a building or vehicle, by word, gesture, or any other means, to commit prostitution or to do any other lewd or immoral act is guilty of a crime."

"If you look at the exact language of the statute, you could apply it to what happens in bars and restaurants in Kent County on any Friday or Saturday night," Aukerman said. "We have concerns about laws that limit the behavior of consenting adults."

She said there's nothing illegal about flirting.

Kent County attorney Dan Ophoff said changes in how deputies deal with such situations are already in the works, although authorities believe past arrests complied with the law. He said some cases were dropped before getting to court.

Some commissioners wanted to know why no men stepped forward to talk about their treatment.

"These are just devastating experiences for these men," said Collette Seguin Beighley, a member of Equality Michigan and director of Grand Valley State University's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Resource Center, "Many of them are closeted and the consequences are so huge, the cost of having their cars impounded and the risk of being on the sex offender list. I know men who had hoped to be (at the meeting) but said, 'If they're targeting gay men, I'm not going to give my name and address.'"

# 2011: The most anti-gay legislature in Michigan history

BY TODD A. HEYWOOD

**LANSING** - When the new GOP majorities took office on Jan. 1, it didn't take long for the red wave to begin introducing and pushing measures targeting the LGBT community and other progressive causes.

And once the proposals began coming, there was a tidal wave assailing gay and lesbian equality - from a proposal to eliminate local anti-discrimination ordinances, to an assault on partner benefits for unmarried partners to proposals to strike specific funding mechanisms for Michigan's HIV/AIDS programming. The red wave has turned Michigan's 2011 legislative session, one supposedly focused on jobs and deregulation, into the most hostile legislature in Michigan's history.

The proposals were not limited to the gay community either. The state has passed a restrictive so-called "partial birth abortion ban," which echoes the federal law already in place, as well as legislation that requires remains of aborted fetuses to be cremated or buried. Lawmakers have unleashed legislation aimed at immigrants - from forcing local businesses to use the questionable federal documentation-checking program to forcing applicants for voting cards to prove their citizenship.

The GOP has also unleashed its legislative assault on collective bargaining rights, state and public employee pay, and slashed public education funding.

"Making Michigan less welcoming - that's the Republican majority's slogan for our state - and it's a message that will not be lost on anyone thinking about staying in Michigan or coming here. At least the skilled, educated, talented people we need the most," says David Holtz, executive director of Progress Michigan.

And Holtz is not alone in his belief about the impact of the GOP policies.

"These bills absolutely go against trying to attract new businesses and entrepreneurs to our state. By this legislation, our elected leaders seem to be saying that all people are not welcome in Michigan - that we are neither a place of fairness nor a place that is supportive of diversity. This will do nothing to attract and retain talented people in our State," said Jay Kaplan, staff attorney for the ACLU of Michigan LGBT project. "If you look at what the most successful businesses in the country are doing - it's recognizing and supporting the diversity of its workforce. The legislators who have come up with bills to discriminate against LGBT people will not create a single job in our State and will only accelerate the exodus of young college grads from Michigan."

Emily Dievendorf, policy director at Equality Michigan echoed Kaplan and Holtz.

Anti-equality policies repel the best and



brightest from our state and disable our attempts to attract new industry to Michigan. Over half of all Fortune 500 companies already offer non-discrimination policies and domestic partner benefits. The nation's most successful businesses invest in fairness because the stability it creates for their workforce and the climate it helps to cultivate in their communities are good for a company's bottom line," she said.

"While Equality Michigan is grateful that most large businesses prioritize for the good of all employees, it should not be left on the shoulders of our largest employers to build a state where business and a creative workforce will thrive and put down roots. Convincing workers to move to and stay in Michigan despite Michigan conservatives' apparent disregard for tens of thousands of our residents, is a large, costly, and increasingly impossible burden to place on corporations."

## Term limits and constituency core of problem

However Senate Judiciary Chair Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) says there is no anti-gay agenda in the legislature, and that the proposals being pushed do not have an impact on young people staying in the state or businesses moving here.

"Young people go wherever there are jobs. Hopefully with the change of policy we will have a better business climate and thus more jobs," Jones tells BTL.

"The Michigan GOP has been taking its cues from far-right hate groups, and in trying to

"In trying to satisfy the extremists the party has encouraged Michigan's Republican legislators to only represent the outliers and not the interests of the majority of their constituents. Over 65 percent of polled Michigan voters are in favor of non-discrimination policies and domestic partner benefits. The majority of Michiganders are pro-equality."

- Emily Dievendorf, policy director  
at Equality Michigan



Far-right Republicans Dave Agema and Tom McMillin have a history of anti-LGBT bias reflected in the legislation they have put forth in 2011 directly attacking LGBT citizens.

satisfy the extremists the party has encouraged Michigan's Republican legislators to only represent the outliers and not the interests of the majority of their constituents," said Dievendorf. "Over 65 percent of polled Michigan voters are in favor of non-discrimination policies and domestic partner benefits. The majority of Michiganders are pro-equality. A legislative agenda that is crafted and dictated to state leadership by wealthy extremists makes our state laughable in the saddest way to the rest of the country."

Kaplan said the issue is that elections have consequences - and the November 2010 elections opened the door to the onslaught against the LGBT community and progressives. That election allowed the GOP to take control of the State House, increase its majority in the Senate to a super majority, and capture the governor's office, the secretary of state's office

# An 'epic' year for marriage equality

BY DANA RUDOLPH

One leading advocate called 2011 an "epic" year for marriage equality. Was it?

While only one state – New York – enacted full marriage rights for same-sex couples, it was the most populous state to do so. Five other states also moved closer to marriage equality than ever before. Public opinion shifted dramatically towards supporting equality. And the Obama administration announced that it no longer considers a key part of the Defense of Marriage Act constitutional.

On the negative side, however, three states failed to pass marriage equality bills that had been introduced in their legislatures, and two states passed bills to put measures on their ballots in 2012 that will seek to ban marriage for same-sex couples under their state constitutions.

Despite the negatives, Evan Wolfson, president of the national Freedom to Marry group, said in an interview that 2011 was "an epic year of real transformation."

## DOMA unconstitutional

On the federal level, Attorney General Eric Holder wrote a letter to Congress in February, stating that the administration believes Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional and will no longer defend it.

Section 3 of DOMA states that the federal government will not, for any federal purposes, recognize the marriages of same-sex couples.

Holder's letter said the administration believes laws disfavoring persons based on sexual orientation should have to pass the most stringent judicial review – heightened scrutiny. And it said the administration would argue so in two cases challenging DOMA in the 2nd Circuit.

LGBT legal advocacy group Lambda Legal, in its December "State of the Law 2011" report, called Holder's letter "game changing."

Wolfson said it represented "an immense historical shift."

Another sign of this shift, he said, was the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the military's ban on openly gay servicemembers. DADT repeal will help fuel the marriage equality effort, Wolfson said, "because Americans are now going to see the women and men serving our country as openly gay members of couples and openly gay members of families."

## New York, New York

On the state level, the biggest win in 2011 was in New York, where the legislature passed a marriage equality bill in June. When Governor Andrew Cuomo (D) signed the bill, he doubled the percentage of same-sex couples living in states that allow them to marry. New York is also the only state to have passed marriage equality through a Republican-led legislative chamber, its state Senate.

Governor Cuomo, by adding his vocal support to the bill, "put his political capital on



New Yorkers celebrate the passage of legislation that gives same-sex couples the right to marry. Gov. Cuomo signed the historic legislation the Friday before NYC Pride this past June making it the largest gathering of Pride attendees in the city's history. AP photo.

the line," Wolfson said. His success prompted politico.com to call him a "national contender" and leader of the Democratic Party's progressive base. The Washington Post said his triumph made him "a first among equals when it comes to the jockeying for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination."

"The freedom to marry went from being a perceived and presumed 'third rail' that politicians ran from to now being a pathway to political gain," said Wolfson.

Five other states came closer to marriage equality than ever before. Maryland for the first time passed a marriage equality bill out of a legislative chamber, its Senate, although the measure fell short of winning in the House. And Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, and Rhode Island each passed civil union legislation.

But there were disappointments. In Colorado, a civil union bill was killed on a party-line vote in the Republican-led House Judiciary Committee, after passing the Democrat-controlled Senate.

And in Rhode Island, the civil union bill disappointed many because a bill for full marriage equality had been on the legislature's agenda. It was dropped after it failed to gain enough support, despite large Democratic majorities in both chambers and Gov. Lincoln Chafee's (I) promise to sign it.

LGBT groups were also disappointed with a provision in Rhode Island's civil union bill providing extensive exemptions on religious grounds for those who don't wish to recognize those unions. Chafee himself said the civil union law "fails to fully achieve" the goal of providing same-sex couples with equal rights.

## Lawsuits to equality

Two states saw progress in lawsuits that

could lead to marriage equality. In New Jersey, marriage equality advocates have sued the state, claiming that the state's existing civil union laws do not provide them with full equality - an

equality the state Supreme Court said, in October 2006, is guaranteed by the state constitution.

In California, a three-judge panel of the federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals heard oral arguments Dec. 8 on procedural matters related to the case to determine the constitutionality of Proposition 8, the state's ban on marriage for same-sex couples. Regardless of the outcome, the case will almost certainly be appealed to the full 9th Circuit court and/or the U.S. Supreme Court.

Three states successfully played defense in 2011.

Iowa, New Mexico, and Wyoming held firm against attempts to pass bills for ballot measures that sought to ban marriage for same-sex couples under their state constitutions. If passed, Iowa's bill would have taken away the right to marry that same-sex couples gained in 2009.

But there were some clear setbacks in 2011 as well.

## 2011 setbacks, polling progress

North Carolina and Minnesota passed bills for ballot measures in 2012 that seek to ban marriage for same-sex couples under the state constitutions. And Indiana and Pennsylvania

See Marriage, page 14

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**PUBLISHERS**

Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

**EDITORIAL**

**Editor in Chief**

Susan Horowitz  
susanhorowitz@pridesource.com

**Entertainment Editor**

Chris Azzopardi  
chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com

**Arts & Theater Editor**

Donald V. Calamia,  
curtaincalls@pridesource.com

**Calendar Editor**

Benjamin Jenkins  
calendar@pridesource.com

**CREATIVE**

**Art Director**

David Ano, davidano@pridesource.com

**Webmaster & MIS Director**

Kevin Bryant, kevinbryant@pridesource.com

**Contributing Writers**

Charles Alexander, Michelle E. Brown,  
Zach Childree, Jack Fertig, Lisa Keen,  
Jeremy Martin, Anthony Paull, Andrea Poteet,  
Crystal Proxmire, Bob Roehr,  
Hannah Schwab, Jody Valley,  
D'Anne Witkowski, Rex Wockner, Dan Woog

**Cartoonists**

Paul Berg, Dave Brousseau, Joan Hilty

**Contributing Photographers**

Andrew Potter

**ADVERTISING & SALES**

**Director of Sales**

Jan Stevenson, jan@pridesource.com

**Sales Representatives**

Ed Bohach, ed@pridesource.com  
Ann Cox, anncox@pridesource.com

**National Advertising Representative**

Rivendell Media, 212.242.6863

**Business Office**

Diane Smith, dianesmith@pridesource.com  
Nancy Blankenship

**Circulation & Distribution**

Diane Smith

**Pride Source Media Group**

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

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BY ERIC W. RADER

With just a few weeks left in 2011, the Republican presidential nominating contest is about to enter a new phase. Early in 2012, GOP voters in Iowa will participate in their quadrennial caucuses, followed by the New Hampshire Primary a week later. While there are currently several Republican candidates for president, the number will be reduced quickly in January as the less-viable contenders drop of the race. It is likely that only a couple of candidates will be remaining by the beginning of February.

Over the course of the last few months, several Republican candidates have risen and fallen in the polls. Initially, former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney was considered to be the GOP front-runner, having already run a competitive campaign in 2008. However, ultra-conservatives in the party have never been passionate about Romney's candidacy, and other challengers have achieved front-runner status at different points. Currently, former House speaker Newt Gingrich is leading the Republican primary polls, but his poll numbers are already starting to decline.

The Republican presidential candidates have engaged in a series of contentious debates since last summer. The value of these forums is questionable, since the debate format has allowed very little substantive discussion of the important issues facing the nation. Beyond the debates, the candidates have been running ads on stations in Iowa and New Hampshire, recognizing that they need to get their message out to the voters. Candidates have also been shaking hands with voters in the early primary and caucus states, something that works well in these relatively small places.

Based on the campaign so far, it appears that GOP presidential candidates don't really want support from anyone in the LGBT community. Two weeks ago, Texas governor Rick Perry ran an ad in Iowa that has now gone viral and inspired ridicule, even from some in the Republican Party. In his now infamous (and much-spoofed) commercial, Perry proclaimed his view that while gays are now allowed to serve in the military, children are no longer allowed to

White House Fact Sheet on efforts to expand LGBT rights in the world:

[www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/12/06/fact-sheet-working-advance-human-rights-lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transge](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/12/06/fact-sheet-working-advance-human-rights-lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transge)

GOP Presidential candidates who have signed anti-gay marriage pledge:

[www.hrc.org/blog/entry/gingrich-signs-noms-anti-gay-marriage-pledge](http://www.hrc.org/blog/entry/gingrich-signs-noms-anti-gay-marriage-pledge)

# Speak Out

## GOP Presidential candidates continue to denigrate LGBT citizens

Based on the campaign so far, it appears that GOP presidential candidates don't really want support from anyone in the LGBT community.

celebrate Christmas in their schools. This ad was a not-so-subtle call to the evangelical community in Iowa to let these voters know that Perry agrees with their bigoted views on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Not long after Perry's ad, Romney approached a Vietnam War veteran in a New Hampshire restaurant, believing, based on the man's rugged appearance, that he could be a potential Republican voter. The man asked Romney whether he thought the state should repeal its law allowing gays and lesbians to marry. Romney said yes, expressing his view that marriage should only be recognized as being between a man and a woman. The Vietnam War vet did not like Romney's answer—the man was in the restaurant with his husband. Romney pressed forward with his views on this topic, disagreeing with the gay veteran's position that his right to marry should be protected by the Constitution.

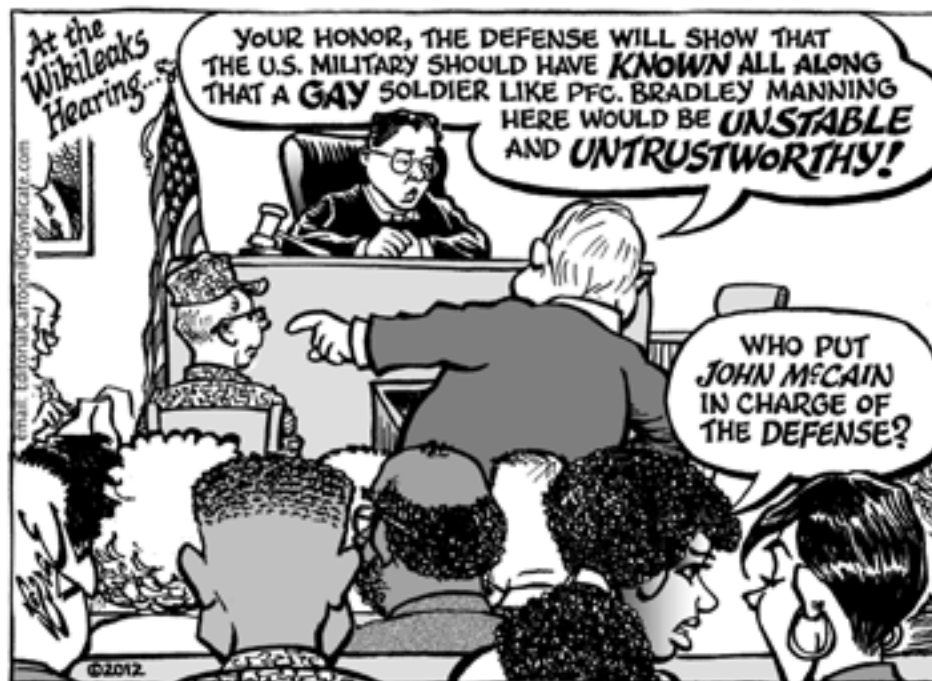
Republicans continue to denigrate and malign the LGBT community, all in a cynical ploy for votes. The modern-day Republican Party has made the calculation that LGBTs will not support them anyway, so they go forward with their overt bigotry. National Republicans

seem to believe that limited government is fine, unless it means letting people live their own personal lives.

All members of the LGBT community should weigh their political decisions carefully in 2012. Most people consider a range of issues when deciding who will receive their votes. Economic issues will certainly play a significant role in next year's election. Some in our community might be inclined to look toward the GOP candidates to fix the economic problems facing our nation. No one, however, should vote for any candidate for president if he or she would make decisions that would deny the LGBT community, or any group, their basic rights as citizens. All of us deserve to be treated as full and equal citizens in our democracy.

While President Obama has not been perfect on issues of LGBT equality, he is light years ahead of his Republican challengers on issues of gay civil rights. The president may not support equal marriage rights for LGBTs, but is persuadable on the issue, stating that his views on this issue are evolving. He also supports legislative repeal of the "Defense of Marriage Act" (DOMA), and is no longer defending its constitutionality in court. Last year, the president signed the law that repealed the military's "Don't ask, don't tell" policy.

In contrast, many of Obama's Republican opponents wish to add a constitutional amendment to prohibit same-sex marriage and some wish to reinstate the DADT policy. We all need to be aware of where the candidates are on issues of equality. Values should mean something and it's important we keep that in mind in 2012 when we vote.





# Max Fisher shares stories of being AIDS activist's son

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

**FERNDALE** – Max Fisher was four years old when his mother spoke out about AIDS at the 1992 Republican National Convention. Her words legitimized the fight against the disease at a time when it was considered to be “gay cancer,” and something that should not be talked about. Fischer was the all-American mom, from a family tied to business and political powers, when she transacted the disease from her first husband. The speech she gave forced the public to look at AIDS differently, and her family became a spokes-family for the cause.

Max Fischer is now all grown up, and running his own film company called Fish Soup Films. He came to Michigan last Wednesday as the keynote speaker for a luncheon at Michigan AIDS Coalition to help attract attention and funding to the cause. He shared news of a documentary that he has been working on for the past year, his way of carrying his mother's work forward.

He also spoke about growing up with an activist mom and with the knowledge that his parents were destined for an early death. His father passed away because of the infection, and his mother is only alive because medicines have been created that are able to help in her case. Max grew up always aware that the end could be imminent.

“She told me that people die all the time,” he said. “I don't think I told her how much that idea troubled me... She worked on her funeral. She arranged her estate. She made plans for my brother and for me, who would raise us and how our lives would be structured as orphans. She did this out of love and full understanding. To say the obvious, this has some impact on a child.

“I remember, for example, a warm evening in Washington DC in 1996 when

the Names Project was last displayed in its entirety. Our family was there throughout the day. We found the panels for my father and others we had known. And that evening we carried candles with thousands of people with HIV and AIDS and those who loved them. We walked quietly by the light of the

“I want to reach all generations with the evidence that this epidemic has not ended and we are all responsible to respond.”

- Max Fisher

flickering candles from the Senate building to the Lincoln Memorial where they were going to have speakers.

As I walked holding my candle in one hand and my mother's fingers in the other, I could hear a chorus of voices ahead. People standing on the sidewalk not far from our destination were signing and chanting something.

“I thought it was neat.

“Until I got closer. And even in the twilight darkness I could see the look that crossed my mother's face as the voices grew louder and we could hear what they were saying. ‘Die. Die. Die,’ the screamed as those with AIDS walked past them. These were people from some strange church where injustice and hatred were somehow contorted into grace. As we reached their street corner they changed their chant. ‘God hates fags. God hates fags.

“I saw my mother's cheeks as a tear streamed down. I did not ask why. ...It was not hatred that produced her grief. It was

because her sons were there with her and the fury and the prejudice were raining down on them.”

In addition to Max's speech, attendees watched the video from the 1992 GOP Convention which epitomized Mary's struggle and brought AIDS to the political arena and the living rooms of mainstream America.

Michael Bartus, a member of the LGBT Aging Coalition, was among those who attended the luncheon. “What really moved me is that he experienced death of a parent from AIDS, suffered ridicule and harassment and he could have been broken by his experience, and he was not. He's turned it around and is using it to move forward.”

Pam Wong of the Greater Detroit Area Health Council was also moved. “I thought it was very compelling. You can't be tacit. You have to speak out on things. To hear firsthand the hatred, it's terrible. And it's just ignorance,” she said.

Max hopes to change that ignorance with his work. “I want to reach all generations with the evidence that this epidemic has not ended and we are all responsible to respond. It is up to us to call for life protecting education in our schools, in our homes and in our congregations. We all, all of us individually and together, are able to make a difference.”

The luncheon was a benefit for Michigan AIDS Coalition, with food donated by the Matt Prentice Restaurant Group. The generosity of donors at events like the luncheon helps MAC with their work doing HIV testing, counseling and education. A \$5,000 donation can underwrite an AmeriCorp volunteer for a year. A \$2,500 gift can secure a development assistant. And \$1,000 can cover printing for a major prevention brochure.

To find out more about MAC, go to <http://michiganaidcoalition.org>

## OBITUARY: Gordon Barnard February, 27, 1936 – Nov. 26, 2011

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

**ROSEVILLE** – He was known as a character, a diva and a legend – at least in his own mind – by those who loved him and knew him well. Gordon Barnard, 75, died Nov. 27th after suffering a series of serious falls.

Born in Eldorado, Ill., Barnard moved with his parents to Detroit when he was five.

He went on to study commercial art at Cass Technical High School. Immediately upon graduation in 1955, he was hired as graphic designer for the Michigan Consolidated Gas Company. He would go on to work for the company for 35 years.

“He was an expert in hand lettering, a long lost art,” said his longtime friend and fellow Cass Tech classmate Charles Alexander. “Everything these days is

digital, but he did it all by hand.”

An only child, Barnard was particularly close to his mother. Coming out in the 1950s though, the two soon quarreled about his sexual orientation and became estranged.

“She confronted him about being gay and told him he would have move out if he didn't go to a psychiatrist,” Alexander said.

See OBITUARY, page 11

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## Heard on Facebook

**Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation has deemed ABC's new cross-dressing comedy 'Work It' offensive to the transgender community. What do you think?**

I don't like it.  
—David E Ferrell

Personally I think it's going to be funny. If everyone takes time to remember their was another show very similar called Bosom Buddies. Don't read too much into a bunch of nothing!  
—Delmas Mayle

It looks like that old Tom Hanks show Bosom Buddies?  
—Ellen Cohen

I've been circulating a letter I wrote to them, that I've posted on my blog. I don't think the show will make it past the second episode, but the damage it could do seems pretty bad. You can read the letter here: [suddenly-sara.com/2011/12/letter-to-abc-regarding-work-it.html](http://suddenly-sara.com/2011/12/letter-to-abc-regarding-work-it.html)  
—Sara Jakubowski

It would be nice if we could evolve beyond laughing at people who are different from us. Yes, there was "Some Like It Hot" and "Bosom Buddies", but have we not grown at all since then?  
—Stephanie White

I think the most offensive thing about this show is that it's creators thought anyone would think this garbage is funny. I give it a month before it gets canceled. How did this crap make it onto the air in the first place?  
—Santana

Comments may be edited for grammar and length.



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# S/he Said

## Mayor of Troy, societal privilege

COMPILED BY HOWARD ISRAEL



**Mary Elizabeth Williams**

*"Michigan resident Amy Weber really schooled Daniels – and all the other bigots out there – when she stood up with her wife, Tina, and two daughters to address the mayor at a city council meeting. 'I always like to think of challenges like this as opportunities to grow,' she said, introducing her children to the assembly. Weber explained that in her family, 'We talk every day about different families and different types of people, and teaching respect and kindness. That is the heart that beats in our home.' Weber added, 'I would love to see you at the next gay pride parade, leading the march, saying these are my brothers and sisters just like everybody else.' It was a straightforward and profoundly moving moment, one that breaks this thing issue down to its most basic element - the rights of American citizens to just plain love each other. It was a sincere and compelling call to basic human decency."*

—Mary Elizabeth Williams, in her column titled "A homophobic mayor's lesson in love," about Michigan resident Amy Weber who addressed Troy Mayor Janice Daniels and the Troy City Council in response to the mayor's homophobic Facebook comments, [salon.com](http://salon.com), Dec. 13.



**Kai M. Green**

*"The last couple of days have been a lesson in my own educational and societal privilege. In my day to day interactions with people on the planet, I'm generally privileged to interact with people who respect my gender and racial identity. Microaggressions happen but for the most part, I can choose to move through the world in ways that limit my contact with people who don't support or respect my identities. That's not the case for a lot of my queer and trans kindred."*

—Crunk Feminist Collective author Moyazb's review of the short documentary, "It Gets Messy In Here," by artist Kai M. Green, which challenges gender assumptions and gender identities of all kinds by delving into the bathroom experiences of masculine identified queer women and transgendered men of color, [crunkfeministcollective.wordpress.com](http://crunkfeministcollective.wordpress.com), Dec. 12.



**Greg Davis**

*"At this point in my life and in my career, while I have tried to maintain separation between my personal and public life, it is obvious that this can no longer remain the case. While I have performed my job as mayor, in my opinion, as a very conservative, progressive individual – and still continue to be a very conservative individual – I think that it is important that I discuss the struggles I have had over the last few years when I came to the realization that I am gay."*

—Mayor Greg Davis, Southaven, Mississippi, coming out for the first time publicly, after a criminal investigation revealed he allegedly misused \$170,000 of city money on unsubstantiated expenditures including a \$67 charge at a "gay lifestyle store and sex shop" while on a business trip, [nems360.com](http://nems360.com), Northeast Mississippi News, Dec. 16.



**Navi Pillay**

*"In all regions, people experience violence and discrimination because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. In many cases, even the perception of homosexuality or transgender identity puts people at risk ... United Nations mechanisms, including human rights treaty bodies and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, have documented such violations for close to two decades."*

—First official report by the UN on the human rights of LGBT people around the globe, titled "Discriminatory laws and practices and acts of violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity," issued by the Navi Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Nov. 17. Pillay called on governments to protect LGBT people, repeal laws that criminalize homosexuality, abolish the death penalty for offences involving consensual sexual relations, and enact comprehensive anti-discrimination laws.

► **Obituary**

Continued from p. 9

“As a result, he moved out. He was proudly gay, even way back when.”

An avid film fan, Barnard’s favorites were Rita Hayworth and James Dean, and friends often referred to him as the latter. He amassed a large collection of movie memorabilia and other art in his lifetime and, friends say, had a general taste for the finer things in life.

Barnard loved to tell stories of his younger years and many escapades. He claimed to have once been propositioned by Tennessee Williams and met Joan Crawford at Hudson’s in downtown Detroit. He also corresponded with legendary burlesque star Lili St. Cyr for more than a decade before her death.

“Gordon thought nothing of going up to anyone who was famous and speaking to them on a very friendly basis, as though he had known them for a long period of time,” said Alexander.

Donna Faye Bradley said she’ll always remember her cousin’s flamboyance.

“He was ‘The Gord’ and he would tell you,” she said. “But he had a kind heart. He had a good heart – as long as you didn’t cross him. Now if you crossed him, look out.”

In 2004, Barnard spoke about growing older to *Between The Lines* for a story on gay seniors.

“I regard myself as a curiosity because here I am, at the age of 68, and yet I can’t relate to older people,” he said. “I will take advantage of the senior benefits and all that, but I could not live in a commune or a retirement home because I’d feel out of place. I aim to keep aware and abreast of current events. I don’t want to fall into that trap, which seems to be an easy thing for people to do, and ease into old age. I see that all the time. I witness people who are younger than I am acting older than I am. There’s something about people that they seem to relax into old age, and I won’t let that happen.”

Barnard and Alexander had drifted apart after high school but reconnected in 1998, when Barnard saw a column of Alexander’s in BTL. The two spoke every day and met for lunch once a week in Royal Oak until Barnard’s health began to fail. Then, in true Hollywood fashion, Barnard became a recluse and rarely ventured out.

He fell and broke his hip this summer. Shortly following surgery and his return home, he fell and broke it a second time. The falls led to a quick decline and Barnard was unable to recover.

Barnard was preceded in death by his partner of 22 years, Bill Owmbly. Bailey is taking her cousin home to Illinois one last time and he will be interred in Woodlawn Cemetery in Newton.

# Anti-gay graduate student’s appeal denied, similar EMU ruling up next

BY BTL STAFF

**ATLANTA** – On Dec. 16, a three judge panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit unanimously upheld a lower court’s ruling against Jennifer Keeton, a graduate student in counseling at Augusta State University. The court ruled that the school could expel Keeton, who refused to comply with graduate degree program requirements citing her “Christian beliefs that homosexuality is immoral.”

Keeton had stated her intent to recommend “conversion therapy” to gay clients and to tell them that they could choose to be straight.

In a statement issued by ASU in July 2010, the university stated that it does not discriminate on the basis of students’ moral, religious, political or personal views or beliefs.

“The Counselor Education Program is grounded in the core principles of the American Counseling Association and the American School Counselor Association, which defines the roles and responsibilities of professional counselors in its code of ethics,” the statement read. “The code is included in the curriculum of the counseling education program, which states that counselors in training have the same responsibility as professional counselors to understand and follow the ACA Code of Ethics.”

The Code of Ethics prohibits counselors from discriminating based on a number of factors, including gender identity and sexual orientation. “Counselors do not discriminate against clients, students, employees, supervisees, or research participants in a manner that has a negative impact on these persons,” the code says.

In applauding the decision, Lambda Legal said Keeton expressed intent to engage in discriminatory and harmful professional practices when working with LGBT students as a school counselor. Keeton claimed her first amendment rights were violated when the



EMU graduate student Julea Ward refused to counsel LGBT students.

school required her to complete a remediation program to better understand LGBT issues.

In the Court’s opinion, Judge Rosemary Barkett writes, “Keeton does not have a constitutional right to disregard the limits ASU has established for its clinical practicum and set her own standards for counseling clients in the clinical practicum.”

Lambda Legal filed a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays and Georgia Safe Schools Coalition in opposition to a Keeton’s legal claim against Augusta State University. Keeton is represented by the Alliance Defense Fund.

“We are grateful to the Court for recognizing how potentially dangerous it would be for a counselor to allow her personal beliefs to get in the way of her ethical obligation to promote the well-being of all students, including LGTBQ youth,” said Greg Nevins, supervising senior staff attorney in Lambda Legal’s Southern Regional Office.

The decision placed the counseling department’s actions at ASU in a broader context, “Just as a medical school would be permitted to bar a student who refused to administer blood transfusions for religious reasons from participating in clinical rotations, so ASU may prohibit Keeton from participating in its clinical practicum if she refuses to administer the treatment it has

deemed appropriate,” says the decision.

“Every profession has its own ethical codes and dictates. When someone voluntarily chooses to enter a profession, he or she must comply with its rules and ethical requirements. Lawyers must present legal arguments on behalf of their clients, notwithstanding their personal views.... So too, counselors must refrain from imposing their moral and religious views on their clients.”

## EMU suit ruling up next

Keeton’s suit is one of two brought by Christian students in graduate counseling programs against public universities in the past year-and-a-half. The Sixth Circuit is hearing a similar appeals case against Eastern Michigan University by a student named Julea Ward. In July 2010, Judge George Caram Steeh dismissed Ward’s suit, saying her dismissal “was entirely due” to her “refusal to change her behavior.”

Motivated by Ward’s ongoing case, some Michigan legislators have proposed legislation that would allow counseling students to decline serving certain clients without jeopardizing their academic success. Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette said in a March 11 statement that he supports the rights of Ward, who was dismissed after she refused to counsel gays.

In 2009, EMU dismissed Ward and she filed suit against EMU in U.S. District Court, asking to be reinstated. Schuette’s office filed an amicus brief in support of Ward in January of this year. “The religious freedoms enshrined in our Constitution do not evaporate when you step on campus,” Schuette said in the statement. “Unless these freedoms are vigorously defended, it sets a dangerous precedent that threatens education for all students of faith. We must strongly defend and protect the rights of any citizen to ensure the rights of all citizens.”



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## Parting Glances

### Truth stranger than fiction



BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

I've been told about a well known TV preacher who had an unexpected visit from none other than the True Ghost of Xmas Past.

I'm omitting his name and church affiliation because, the true truth is, you probably know who he is. He's loud. Not too bright. He cheats on life when he can.

If reading this spoils your holiday, I'm sorry. Come visit me. (A gift's not necessary, but thoughtful nonetheless.) Sit on my knee. We'll sing Jingle Bell Rock. I'll offer hospitality of hot apple cider, and dust off last year's plastic mistletoe.

Our preacher, so I'm told by reliable Fox News sources,

I bring haunting images of oppression that you and your kind conjured into being, for lack of love, charity, compassion.

hadn't been drinking when his ghostly visit occurred – at least not drinking spirits to excess – when he fell into a stupor. Half awake. Half asleep. His normal self. Hearing voices that seemed to echo across distant years. One by one seeing squinty-eyed images...

...Costumes of other times. Sad plantation music. Haunting suffragette voices. Sounds of endless cattle cars slowly moving through darkly, airtight nights. He tossed. He turned. But couldn't look away...

"Preacher! Preacher! Hear me! You who profess to love the sinner, hate the sin. It's midnight. I am the True Ghost of Xmas Past. I bring haunting images of oppression that you and your kind conjured into being, for lack of love, charity, compassion. See these, thou son of perdition. Tremble!"

And looking up at his whitewashed condo wall with it's 24-karat gold-framed sign that says simply, Jesus Saves!, this is what the preacher saw and heard, so I'm told.

"See these heavy, clanking chains. I and my kidnaped brothers endured backbreaking hardships, because you and your self-righteous followers said the Bible endorses slavery. That black is the mark of Cain. That Jesus is lily white. Whiter than snow. My bleeding stripes made your race top dog. For shame!"

Said another, "Touch my weary, wrinkled face. For decades you self-righteous clowns denied me the right to vote. My civil rights. Suffer not a woman to speak in church your Good Book says. Woman is made from Adam's generous rib. Keep her quiet. Her place is in the home. Be fruitful. Multiply. Be obedient chattel, daughter of sinful Eve."

And still another, "I'm the guy who supports my family. I work hard to raise my kids. You conned me into feeding your greedy ministry. Give ten percent or more, you mooched me. With my money you buy a house, three cars, a private plane. Jesus says, 'The poor you have with you always.' Goddamn it! Ain't that your gospel truth!"

And last, a many-voiced chorus sadly echoing, "Your version of faith says we killed your God. Your centuries of evil lies made genocide of our millions possible. Your burning hatred fanned Auschwitz's fiery furnaces. Who have you found to hate today? What group to boxcar and bully to death? To damn eternally? Pray tell, if you dare."

And so awakening the TV preacher cried, "Blame the devil. Don't blame me. Peace on earth. Goodwill to all. Amen." (And promptly fell back to sleep. And snored.)

Charles@pridesource.com

# Aging coordinator visits HUD's LGBT Elder Housing summit

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

For the first time in history the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has come forward publically with concern for the housing needs of aging LGBT adults. Among those in attendance at their Dec. 7 LGBT Elder Housing Summit was Kat LaTosch, who is part of the Detroit area's LGBT Older Adult Coalition.

The summit addressed the issues facing older LGBT adults, and brought together leaders from around the country who are working to address those concerns. LaTosch traveled at her own expense to the conference, held at the HUD headquarters in Washington DC. Speakers included John Trasviña of HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Raphael Bostic of HUD's Policy and Research Development, Hope Barrett from the Center on Halsted in Chicago, Lore Cook-Daniels of the Transgender Aging Network, Sheila Moore of Triangle Square in Los Angeles, and Jay Silver of Rainbow Vision in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

"In California there is Triangle Square, which is a beautiful facility with about 100 apartments for low income older LGBT adults, and they are in the process of developing a new community, but are still in the planning stages," LaTosch said. "In Chicago the Center on Halsted has a home sharing project that connects young people who need a place to stay with older adults who need live-in care. This gives young people low rent and gives the elder the care they need.

"There are a lot of people doing interesting things to address this issue, and we can learn from how they do it," says LaTosch.

The LGBT Older Adult Coalition is working to unite seniors in the community to address many needs, including housing and care. Their plans were outlined in last week's edition of BTL, including the intent to form a local SAGE chapter and to present at care provider conferences to educate caregivers about the needs of the community.

"In Michigan there are over 70,000 LGBT adults who are 65 and older. Based on the census, we can conservatively estimate that there are 22,000 in the tri-



Kat LaTosch attended the historic HUD summit last week that addressed LGBT senior issues.

county area. Add to that an additionally 22,000 in the 55-65 year old range, and there are a lot of people who need services or will be needing them," LaTosch says. "We've had over 100 people participate in the summits we have held already, and

Senior LGBT individuals are more likely to live alone, less likely to have children to take care of them, less likely to have supportive families of origin, and more likely to fear institutions that might be able to help them with care. They also face legal battles in estate rights and paying more taxes because they are not afforded the same rights couples get when they are married.

over 100 attended the GenSilent film last week. That is a lot, but there are a lot more people that we need to reach, and more people out there who should be getting involved."

Senior LGBT individuals are more likely to live alone, less likely to have children to take care of them, less likely to have supportive families of origin, and more likely to fear institutions that might be able to help them with care. They also face legal battles in estate rights and paying more taxes because they are not afforded the same rights couples get when they are married. On top of it, over half of the people infected with HIV are age 50 or older.

LaTosch has been working on the Coalition for the past year and a half, contacting care providers and organizing seniors to help determine their needs. "I've always had a soft spot in my heart for older adults. I had a particular grandparent that I would go and visit. I know several seniors who are in horrible living situations. I know several who are oblivious to old age coming. People tend to ignore old age. They want to live at home and be independent as long as they can instead of facing it and making plans."

She noted that one couple she's talked to is so much in the closet that they refuse to use the word "lesbian."

"They're in their 70s and they live together but they won't even go to get a will done because they are so afraid," LaTosch said. "How many people out there are like that? These are people that grew up in a time that homosexuality was considered a mental illness. People who were homosexuals could be committed or even arrested. It's hard for people from that era to open up about who they are."

The HUD summit allowed LaTosch to appreciate what's being done in other communities, and to feel good about the direction of public policy. "This was very official," she said. "It clearly spoke to the institutional and governmental support to address this need. It was a very public statement that they are working on policy issues for LGBT older adults."

In order for the LGBT Older Adult Coalition to move forward, the group needs to identify more than just seniors in need. "One thing we need is people to start serving on boards and committees. We need people in care facilities and agencies at all levels who work with seniors to get involved. We need nursing homes and home care agencies that are willing to come out as LGBT affirming. And we need elders to come forward and speak about this."

For those interested in being part of the LGBT Older Adult Coalition, contact Kat LaTosch at 248-398-7105.



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## Creep of the Week

# Chuck Norris

BY DANNE WITKOWSKI



Chuck Norris

It's no secret that Chuck Norris is a physical force to be reckoned with. So if you're gay, stay out of his way. Because he

doesn't like you very much. I'm not saying he would kick your ass. I'm just saying he could. Easily. I don't care how many hours you put in at the gym.

Norris is already on the record as an anti-gay conservative, but he apparently worried that he was not sufficiently on record about the gay-led War on Christmas. In a Dec. 19 opinion piece in praise of the good anti-gay works of the American Family Association he has done just that.

"Anyone who knows me knows that for my whole life I've been a huge supporter of our U.S. military personnel, who I too congratulate about their victory in Iraq," he writes. "But when our president and officials in the U.S. Department of Defense exchange a war abroad for a religious war at home, can't we see something else is seriously awry in this administration?"

"Seriously awry" would be an understatement if President Obama actually pulled out of Iraq in order to wage war against religious people at home. That would be totally fucked up.

The key word is "if," of course. Because that didn't happen. Obama wasn't all, "Hmm, I'm bored with Iraq. I need those troops back on U.S. soil to gun down live nativity scenes and water board Salvation Army Santas ringing those annoying bells." That would be intolerable by even the most godless heathen's standards. Thank God or any other deity/non-deity that such a thing is not happening.

Norris then bemoans how "Merry Christmas" is "omitted from

signs in your favorite department store."

This is another figment of Norris' imagination. Look folks, I was at Rite Aid the other day and the piped in Christmas music mentioned Jesus so many times I'm surprised the cashiers weren't wearing choir robes.

Norris also laments that military chaplains are now forced to gay marry everybody, which is also fiction. And, as AmericaBlogGay's John Aravosis points out, for proof Norris links to a Washington Post article that say the exact opposite of this. I suspect someone may need to give his research skills a workout.

---

So during "this sacred Christmas week" we need to embrace the Christian values of torture and execution of gay people as it says in the Book of Norris.

---

But by far the biggest whopper in Norris' piece is his claim that "Secretary Hillary Clinton demonizes other countries' religious beliefs as an obstacle to radical homosexual rights."

Aravosis writes, "Actually, Secretary Clinton was criticizing other countries incarcerating, torturing and executing gay and trans people."

Norris continues, "In many respects, we need to turn back the clock in America to our founding principles, values and liberties, and those include the intricate and pivotal role that religion and Christianity played in our early republic. It is not time to flee religious liberties but re-embrace them, especially during this sacred Christmas week."

Got it. So during "this sacred Christmas week" we need to embrace the Christian values of torture and execution of gay people as it says in the Book of Norris.

And that's why, as I said before, you should stay away from this guy. He's fucking nuts.

# HIV-positive man fired by nationwide dental chain

**DETROIT** — Thousands of people have joined a growing campaign on Change.org in support of James White, a 26-year-old Michigan resident recently diagnosed with HIV who claims his coworkers at Great Expressions Dental Center subjected him to systematic abuse and harassment, including spraying him with Lysol and prohibiting him from touching doorknobs, before firing him.

The petition campaign on Change.org was started by James Harris, a fourth-year student at the University of Oklahoma who directs an HIV/AIDS action group on campus. Harris' campaign calls on Great Expressions Dental Center to apologize and provide reparations to White.

"It's absolutely tragic and

shocking that thirty years after HIV was first discovered, we're still seeing vile acts of discrimination toward those who are HIV-positive," said Harris.

Lawyers for James White have called his case the worst case of alleged HIV-related job discrimination they have ever handled. According to White, who was an office assistant at Great Expressions Dental Center, his superiors leaked news of his HIV-positive status to fellow coworkers, several of whom began spraying White with Lysol, prohibiting him from touching doorknobs, and wiping down office furniture and equipment after he used it. Finally, during a stint in the hospital to seek care for his HIV, Great Expressions allegedly called White

and told him not to return to work.

The Detroit chapter of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ruled in White's favor earlier this year, writing that there was "reasonable cause" to believe White was discriminated against because of his HIV-status. Great Expressions has so far ignored the ruling made by the EEOC.

Great Expressions Dental Centers is a national chain of dental care providers that operate 150 offices in seven states: Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, and Virginia. They are owned by OMERS, an international private equity firm with offices in Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom.

## ► Marriage

Continued from p. 7

started the process for such ballot measures, which could see further action in 2012.

In Maine, however, LGBT advocates gained enough signatures to place a measure in favor of marriage equality before voters on the 2012 ballot although advocates in California and Oregon decided to postpone such attempts and continue to build support.

These ballot measures could be impacted by what was perhaps the most significant win in 2011: a shift in public opinion towards support for marriage equality.

Support for marriage equality nationwide rose about one percent per year between 1996 and 2009, but jumped to a rate of five percent per year in 2010 and 2011, according to a July analysis of over a decade's worth of polling data by Joel Benenson, President Barack Obama's lead pollster, and Dr. Jan van Lohuizen, President George W. Bush's lead pollster. Freedom to Marry commissioned the study.

The average level of support for marriage equality was 41 percent in 2009, but 51 percent in 2011, based on four leading national polls – CNN-ORC International, Gallup, Pew, and Washington Post-ABC News.

This change is driven in part

by "overwhelming generational momentum," Wolfson explained, with almost 70 percent of voters under 40 supporting marriage equality.

But the analysis also concluded that since 2006, support has risen 15 percent among seniors, 13 percent among Independents, and 8 percent among Republicans.

Additionally, it found that marriage equality supporters now hold their views as strongly as opponents, which was not the case in the past.

"The politics of the freedom to marry have changed dramatically, as has public support," said Wolfson.

All told, he said, the events of 2011 mean that "We now have real wind in our sails as we go forward."

## ► 2011: Michigan

Continued from p. 6

and the attorney general's office.

"I believe that as a result of the 2010 elections, Michigan voters voted in a number of legislators who were on the extreme end of the ideological perspective, probably not being informed about their stands on many issues – such as LGBT civil rights. In addition, having both the House and Senate in one party majority control, gave incumbents who were re-elected, like Dave Agema and Tom McMillin positions of power, serving as chairpersons of several committees where they could shepherd their legislative pet projects," Kaplan says. "Both Agema and McMillin have a history of anti-LGBT bias. I think the lesson to be learned here is

the importance of being an informed voter and understanding that the way we vote has consequences for our state. Every branch of our government is in one party control as a result of the November 2010 election, which makes it difficult for disenfranchised communities, including the voice of the LGBT community to be heard."

There is also the consideration of the impact of term limits on the legislative process in Michigan. Lawmakers are forced to adhere to ideologically rigid concepts in order to curry favor with the funding bases of either party or risk losing out on moving to the next rung of elected office.

"Term limits are, at the very least, partially responsible for legislators being petrified of voting for any weighty issue. Legislators don't want to offend large donors and feel they

need to appeal to their established base in order to hold onto their seat," said Dievendorf. "Unfortunately, Michigan legislators are underestimating the value of fairness held by their base. It is especially important, under restrictive term limits, that we are voting into office pro-equality legislators and that we continue to tell elected leaders, to their face and while they are in office, what we expect from them."

"Term limits have produced a legislature with short-term institutional memory and in my opinion lawmakers who are more interested in immediate results than the long-term effects and consequences. I doubt that many legislators in support of this (anti-gay) legislation are looking at the long term effects of treating LGBT people like second class citizens, and are more focused on scoring political points with their base," said Kaplan.

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# Mary J. Blige

## Shows Us Some Real Love

Photo: Klinko & Indrani

## Queen of Hip-Hop Soul on gay fans, bullying and 'Rock of Ages' role

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

**Y**ou could say this is Mary J. Blige's second life. Her first, candidly chronicled on her confessions-of-a-wreck album "My Life," was an early glimpse into one of the biggest singing superstars in the world, who not only went public with her pain but eventually overcame it. "My Life II... The Journey Continues (Act 1)" is the Queen of Hip-Hop Soul 17 years later, after releasing nine other studio albums, taking home just as many Grammys and becoming, as she now calls herself, "the living proof." That's also the title of a song on her latest release, originally recorded for "The Help," that nabbed her a Golden Globe nomination this year.

In a recent chat, Blige let us in on her "Life," how she became aware of her gay following and – when asked about pal P. Diddy's "faggot" controversy – why she thinks "people should be careful with their words."

**Your middle initial isn't visible on the album cover. Is there significance to that? Does that symbolize a new era in Mary J. Blige's life?**

Nah. Just didn't have any space for it! (Laughs) I'm in the middle of the picture and the J is in the middle of the thing, so it's like, where we gonna put it? But no, I'm not ever dropping the J. That's my name.

**The hair is the problem, then.**

Yeah, exactly! That's what happened. (Laughs)

**One of the biggest reasons you turned your life around from "My Life" to "My Life II" was because you wanted to set a positive example for fans who look up to you. A lot of them are gay. When in your career did you know so many gay fans were leaning on you as a source of inspiration?**

Wow, it was a gradual thing that I started to see a lot on "Mary" and "No More Drama." I had no idea and it gradually started happening. I did something at some club – it was a gay club – and it was just crazy. That's when I really knew that I had a gay following.

I love it. I just love my brothers and I love my sisters. I love them all. We're all in this together. And I have gay friends. It's a beautiful thing to be able to heal together the way we've been healing over the years.

**The new album features "Need Someone," a track written and originally recorded by Matt Morris. And he's gay.**

Oh, I didn't know that! See, a lot of things I don't know. (Laughs) That's why I said it's a gradual thing. I'm just finding out. The song is

See Mary J. Blige, page 22

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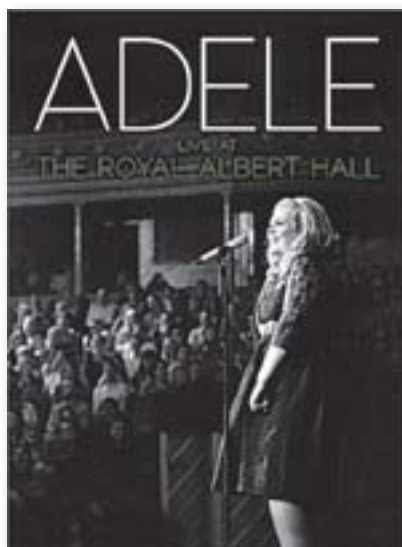
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## Hear Me Out ... Special LIVE Edition



BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

## Adele, 'Adele Live at the Royal Albert Hall'

Adele sings sad love songs, but when she speaks? The British belter is a cursing firecracker (so much so that there's an "edited" version of this package; don't get it) with a biting sense of humor and a boisterous cackle that doesn't seem very sad at all. Her live album, recorded in London, is a candid extension of the super-powered singer we've come to know from her many hits this past year with the release of her monster disc "21," all of which are performed here: "Rolling in the Deep," "Set Fire to the Rain" and "Someone Like You." Previous gems from her debut, opener "Hometown Glory" and "Chasing Pavements," and covers of Bonnie Raitt's "I Can't Make You Love Me" and "Lovesong" are also performed with one-of-a-kind greatness from those bulldozer-built lungs of hers. Particularly special: her version of "If It Hadn't Been for Love," a bit of bluegrass that really just proves that, with her voice alone, Adele can set fire to anything. *Grade: A-* (CD/DVD/Blu-ray)



## Kylie Minogue, 'Aphrodite Les Folies: Live in London'

She doesn't tour often, but when the Aussie princess does, she goes all out. Kylie's

immaculate and majorly homoerotic show, her biggest yet, of impressive aerialists, a breathtaking ancient-palace set and half-naked men (and their glistening abs) as Greek gods – Minogue obviously knows her audience – is, alone, an eye orgasm. And how about that water? Gallons of it are used as stage geysers at the end like a delayed climax. The music, then, is just a footnote in this spellbinding, bar-setting stage show (see all that went into the spectacle with behind-the-scenes access), but most of the faves are there: "I Believe in You," a herd of hot men pulling her chariot; "Can't Get You Out of My Head," set to a gothic ballroom dance scene; and one of the most beautiful concert moments ever, "All the Lovers," with its soup of sexy bodies surrounding the goddess herself. Gay heaven welcomes you. *Grade: A* (CD/DVD/Blu-ray)



## Tegan &amp; Sara, 'Get Along'

Sometimes it's OK to let the songs speak for themselves. Lesbian supertwins Tegan & Sara go that route in this laid-back performance of their indie-pop with an intimate living-room feel that's more a documentary than a straight-up concert. Three films by just as many filmmakers are featured: the anecdotal, life-on-the-road "States" – and "India," a 24-minute video diary of their first-ever tour of the country (an acoustic "Walking with a Ghost" is performed beachside). The real treat, though, is the hour-plus of live acoustic performances in a chill Vancouver venue, where the Quin sisters play their most-adored ditties from five albums – including "I Know I Know I Know," "I Won't Be Left" and "Nineteen" – and go mostly guitar-only with them. Highlights: "Not With You" from their 2000 debut and the harmonic heartbreak of "Call It Off." Double trouble? Nah. Double talent? Definitely. *Grade: B+* (CD/DVD)

## Also Out

## Lady Gaga, 'The Monster Ball Tour'

Gaga works a crowd better than most with her bizarre sense of sarcasm – a giant fame monster during "Paparazzi"? Why not. And for these two hours (of live singing!), shot at Madison Square Garden during her multi-

year and ever-morphing Monster Ball Tour, she infuses sex and songs to a "Wizard of Oz" storyline set to her hits (turn on the "Lyrics" feature for some karaoke fun), like a futuristic "Bad Romance" and final encore "Born This Way." Gaga's flamboyant showmanship knows no bounds: It's all very gay (including, on a backstage feature, a meet-and-greet with The Liza and a gay fan). If only Mother Monster's preachy rants didn't feel so much like a performance, too. (CD/DVD/Blu-ray)

## Shakira, 'En Vivo Desde Paris'

When you can move like Shakira, you don't need anything but hips. Those she has, and believe me, they don't lie. For two hours, the Colombian bum-bumper jerks, gyrates and gets down (for real: She humps the floor to a mad drumbeat) to a mix of her Spanish and English songs, including the howling good "She Wolf" (sans super vagina), "Underneath Your Clothes" (her Jewel phase) and the wonderful one-two punch encore of "Hips Don't Lie" and "Waka Waka (This Time for Africa)." Keeping it to Shakira's music – which, in concert, is fantastically well-rounded with folk, dance, ballads – there's no confetti, no pyro. Just Shakira doing her thing. (CD/DVD/Blu-ray)

## Taylor Swift, 'Speak Now World Tour'

For all the flack she gets for her shoddy live performances, Taylor Swift still knows how to rock a show. A few bum notes can't stop the fuzzy feeling of hearing the starlet – in a flashy fairytale of her own – sing about young love (first-date theme "Enchanted"), being "Fifteen" again and making timeless memories (the liberating anthem "Long Live"). The tweeny fans eat up the songs, mostly from her "Speak Now" album but also including covers like "Drops of Jupiter," and her persona that casts her as one of us. Not convinced? See the extras: adorable home movies and rehearsal footage. (CD/DVD/Blu-ray)


## Beyoncé, 'Beyoncé Live at Roseland: Elements of 4'

"This night is gonna be magical," says Beyoncé, turning her live performance in New York into a history lesson: from "Star Search" to Superstar, all set to some archival footage and charismatic behind-the-music chatter. Act I backtracks over a decade, with snippets of Destiny's Child songs, "Dreamgirls" and solo hits like "Irreplaceable" and "Single Ladies." She saves her voice for Act II, performing her latest album, "4," in its entirety (another disc presents music videos from this era). Most remarkable: fitting finale "I Was Here," the belted retro-fun "Love on Top" – and the fact that Bey stays in the same glittery, baby-bump-hiding one-piece. The. Whole. Time. (DVD)

Reach Chris Azzopardi at [chris@pridesource.com](mailto:chris@pridesource.com)

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Rooney Mara in "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo." Photo: Columbia Pictures

# The (Bi) Girl with the Dragon Tattoo

## Cast of American remake talks character's sexuality – and why it doesn't matter

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

**T**attooed and pierced, dressed in full black and the very type of social recluse who's as mysterious as her body art, Lisbeth Salander is the quintessential outsider. She's also sexually ambidextrous, something seldom portrayed in a movie as mainstream as "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo." Bisexuality, for once, is no big deal.

"Thank you," says the thriller's director David Fincher, where he's come together with the cast during press day at New York City's Crosby Street Hotel.

Proud but opposed to taking all the credit for any kudos having to do with downplaying the character's swinging sexuality, the "Fight Club" director continues: "We started with the source material, and that's what the book described. One of the things we were very particular about was when she meets Miriam Wu in the bar; we wanted it to be a moment of happiness. There are two times you see (Lisbeth) smile in the entire movie – and one of those is (that scene)."

The eagerly anticipated film, brutally

unflinching in Fincher's wicked hands (remember "Se7en"?), has them waking up to each other naked the next morning. For Rooney Mara, who plays Lisbeth in this American adaptation of the popular Stieg Larsson novel – the first in a trilogy that sold over 65 million copies and became a Swedish film in 2009 – it was no biggie.

"Growing up in New York and L.A., it didn't seem that crazy to me to have a bisexual character," says Mara. "She's incredibly comfortable with her sexuality, and I went into it the same. It didn't really faze me."

Plus, Fincher adds, it has more to do with Lisbeth's emotionally guarded self than who she sleeps with. "Her sexuality is less of an ambidextrous thing than something that she has to act on," he says. "Intimacy is a problem for her, so that was the important thing to show."

To understand Lisbeth's intimacy problems, you have to understand her: She's raped and tortured, scarred and traumatized, always scrounging for money and, for some obvious reasons, not very trusting. Why she's on the outside makes complete sense.

Regarding the character and what's already

known from the films and novels, Mara says: "To be honest, I didn't really think much about what other people imagined it to be. I used what I imagined it to be. I read all three books and I had a really clear picture of who this girl was."

She's an information-age Nancy Drew who teams with financial reporter Mikael Blomkvist (Daniel Craig) to get to the bottom of a family mystery.

"What I love about this character and the relationship he has with Salander is that he doesn't have to prove he's a man," Craig says. "He's a guy and he's very happy to fall in this relationship where she's literally wearing the trousers."

Together they investigate what's been haunting Henrik Vanger (Christopher Plummer), one of Sweden's wealthiest industrialists, for 40 years: What happened to his niece, Harriet?

"Nazis and serial killers and the evil that people do with power tools weren't the thing that was (interesting)," Fincher says. "First and foremost was this partnership. I hadn't seen these two people working together, so I liked the thriller, the vessel of that, but I really was more

interested in the people."

Before auditioning, Mara was told of the harsh extremes that would be required of her: lots of nudity, chain smoking, riding a motorcycle, being brutally raped... and faux sex with Daniel Craig (oh, the horror). She was up for the challenge.

"I couldn't pick one thing that was the hardest; it was all challenging," Mara says. "The motorcycle was the thing that I was the least excited about doing. It just seemed very dangerous to me."

Next up was the butch transformation: her hair was chopped, she was pierced all over and the wardrobe department gave her a grungier look.

"She put a dress on at the end of each day," Craig jokes.

Filming took place in Stockholm and L.A., and after it wrapped, Mara was able to completely disconnect from the insanity. "It was harder to leave the whole experience behind," she says. "You work at 100 mph for over a year on

## ► Dragon Tattoo

Continued from p. 21

something and then wake up one day and have nothing to do.”

Craig was cast first as the film’s anchor, and then everything else – including Mara – was fleshed out. “I wanted a very masculine center,” Fincher says. “The androgynous side of the movie would be carried by Rooney; that was her job.”

Because Fincher and Mara already established a working relationship on Fincher’s “The Social Network,” where Mara plays Mark Zuckerberg’s girlfriend, he sensed something in her – “an inherent quality” that he always looks for – that could feed the role of Lisbeth.

“In the beginning of ‘Social Network,’ she was intensely feminine, very mature, warm, verbal – and none of those qualities apply to this movie. In fact, it’s the antithesis.”

Of all Lisbeth’s characteristics, one that seems to barely register – because her sexual intentions have less to do with sex and more to do with her psychologically wounded character – is the gender of whom she beds.

Plummer, walking into the room halfway through the interview, overhears the bisexuality talk. “Was that referring to my character?” he says, kidding that the old, eccentric man he plays is a switch-hitter.

Fincher gets in on the joke: “Why isn’t he married?!”

Plummer, Golden Globe-nominated for his role as a person living out the last moments of his life as an openly gay man in this year’s “Beginners” (Mara also scored a nod for “Dragon Tattoo”), thought nothing of Lisbeth’s sexuality.

“(Her bisexuality) didn’t occur to me at all when I was watching it,” Plummer says. “Anything that affords a kind of helping hand and a soothing presence she would be attracted to underneath all that cold unpleasantness.”

But the fact that a bisexual person is even at the center of a major motion picture is a big deal, right? “I’m not an expert,” he continues, “because it really doesn’t occur to me; it’s rather like race, it never occurred to me when I was a child. I do think (LGBT people) are treated with a little bit more sophistication now.”

“And sex – please have fun with whatever you wish to do. That’s always been a philosophy of mine.”

Who can argue with that?



Daniel Craig and Christopher Plummer star in “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo.” Photo: Columbia Pictures

## ► Mary J. Blige

Continued from p. 17

friggin’ amazing.

### What about that song drove you to record it?

Jimmy Iovine brought the song to me, and when he played the song my bones were chilled and my hair on the back of my neck was standing up. It was so haunting because of the deepest part about that record: Not only do we need someone to love us – but why and who that is. I think we’ve all grown to know that that person is us. We need to love ourselves before anyone else can love us, and that’s the message I got from it immediately. I was like, “Wow, I could see myself singing this to my younger self.” Jimmy was like, “I want you to do this song” – and he didn’t need to say any more.

### Seems like a track that you could’ve used during the original “My Life” era.

You know, I wish I had the strength to do that song then but I didn’t, so I had to give the world the album in the condition that I was in. Somebody asked me a question while I was doing a radio interview: “If ‘My Life’ was to meet up with ‘My Life II’ on the street somewhere, what do you think they would do?” I said, “They would give each other a hug and say, ‘Thank you for saving my life.’” “My Life,” the first one, would say to “My Life II,” “Thank you for having the strength to pull us through this.”

### Other artists on the music scene around the time you launched your career in the early ’90s burned out; you’re still going strong two decades later. What’s the key to your longevity?

First, I never denied the fact that God is the reason responsible for every single thing. I remember praying and asking for a “why” to stay alive, and I know that if there wasn’t praying and making

God first in my life, I wouldn’t have the fans that I have. And if it weren’t for the fans and the love that they have for my life, period, and not just my career – the fans that really respect my walk and everything I’ve done – there would be no “My Life II,” or III or IV. There would be no “No More Drama,” no albums. So also the fact that my fans really mean a lot to me – because when I spoke out on the “My Life” album, they responded and they saved my life – and responded to that album and let me know I wasn’t the only one suffering in the things I was suffering in.

### Obviously you’re a very spiritual person; you regularly quote proverbs on your Twitter. Because of your faith and growing up in a religious household, was it ever a conflict for you to be as accepting as you are of gay people?

I’m not a religious person. Religion is religion and I don’t need a deep relationship with God to have a religion. That’s not why I believe Christ died. I believe he died to give us a deep relationship with God, and in having a deep relationship and walk with God, there is no judgment. We cannot judge or think we’re better than anybody.

I have nothing but love for everyone in the universe. I believe we can all teach each other something, and I believe we can all grow and learn from one another. I’m a spirit, so I need spiritual assistance – that means I need to pray, I need to read The Word, I need to share The Word with people. That’s what it’s for. It’s not for me to be like, “You’re gonna burn in hell.” That’s not what I believe God wants me to testify about.

The fact that I’ve been through so much, and my trials and tribulations are out in the open, is to heal other people. And that I’ve come through it isn’t to say I’m better; it’s to say we all can do it.

### As someone who’s said she won’t tolerate homophobia, what did you make of friend/

### collaborator P. Diddy’s recent lash out at a club-goer, whom he called a “faggot”?

I can’t make the judgment call one way or the other on what Puff was going through that day. All I can say is he apologized, and I know it’s a harsh word but I have to speak for Mary J. Blige. We have to all be careful with what our thoughts are so they don’t become our words, and that’s what prayer and being spiritually grounded (are for) – because if you’re spiritually grounded, you put yourself in other people’s shoes. I gotta speak for Mary, though. I can’t really speak for Puff. As far as I’m concerned, I think people should be careful with their words. You gotta think before you jump out there.

### Especially with how much words hurt and all the bullying we’re hearing more about lately.

Yeah, that’s not cool. That’s horrible. It’s killing people, because you don’t understand what they’re going through or what their life may be. That’s not fair.

### You can relate, I’m sure. You weren’t understood by a lot of people early in your career.

Totally, 100 percent. And I’m still misunderstood by a lot of people. But the one thing that I do know about me that’s real is that I have love and respect for mankind, period.

### Tell me about working on the upcoming “Rock of Ages” film, due out in the summer.

I had a good time! It was a lot of fun going to work when we were shooting “Rock of Ages” because my role as Justice is to be a strip club owner. She’s a lot of fun but she’s strong, and we sang some of the really good classic songs from the ’80s like “Any Way You Want It” and “Here I Go Again.” It was just fun, man. The little part that I did with Tom Cruise? Amazing! Julianne Hough and I became really good

friends because she’s a sweetheart, and I love (director) Adam Shankman to death. Adam knew exactly what he wanted. He told us what he wanted and he just made me feel like I was already a seasoned movie star. He was like, “Just do what you do.” He’s so down-to-earth.

### Of course he’s lovable: He’s gay.

Yeah, and some of my best friends are. Like Elton John is super down-to-earth and he’s not into all that fluff. He is what he is and he’s like, “Look, man, you are my friend and I’m your friend.” I love him.

### Did you hit up strip clubs for research?

I sure did, and I had fun doing it! (Laughs) I went to one in New York called Sin City. It ended up being fun because all of my fans were in there. I went with all the guys and they were going to have fun and I’m going because I’m doing, like, homework. I got a chance to see what everything is and do some method acting.

### Recently, you were a part of VH1 Divas. Why is it that divas are always getting pitted against each other like it’s a competition?

They make it a competition because they make it sound like it is. But the bottom line: We get in there, we work together and we’re around each other for a couple of hours. We gotta get along and love and respect each other.

### When will you duet with Mariah and make my diva dream come true?

Whenever she says the word. I love Mariah! I mean, come on. (Laughs)

### You’re the Queen of Hip-Hop Soul – don’t you have her digits? Call her and be like, “Mariah, let’s do it.”

(Laughs) I do have her number!

# 'God of Carnage': When good people go bad

BY JOHN QUINN

Civilized adults acting like spoiled brats may be fodder for that senseless entertainment genre and total oxymoron, "reality TV." Whether its popularity is due to a "there but for the grace of God" self-righteousness or the morbid fascination of a traffic accident is not relevant. The point is that bad behavior can actually be entertaining when scripted by Yasmina Reza, as her sizzling comedy "God of Carnage" heats up The Jewish Ensemble Theatre these cold winter nights.

Consider two families, both with 11 year old sons, living in the Cobble Hill neighborhood of Brooklyn. In a playground squabble, Benjamin hit Henry with a stick, breaking a couple of his teeth. Our scene opens at Henry's home, as his parents, Michael (Joseph Albright) and Veronica (Sarab Kamoo), prepare to host Ben's parents. They would be Alan (Phil Powers), a busy and rather self-centered attorney, and Annette (Suzi Regan), into "wealth management," presumably Alan's. The couples tactfully dance around the issue at hand, exchanging small talk as polite strangers are wont to do, but conflicting opinions lead to utterly irrational arguments. In short, we learn that bad apples don't fall far from the family tree. Far from being capable of disciplining their children, they can't even discipline themselves.

What make Reza's script a complex, satisfying work are the fluid loyalties evident. As the arguments grow more heated and off-topic, unlikely alliances spring up and are just as quickly severed. What might have been a couple-to-couple, "us against them" evening



Joseph Albright, Sarab Kamoo and Phil Powers in "God of Carnage." Photo: Jan Cartwright

## REVIEW

### God of Carnage

God of Carnage: The Jewish Ensemble Theatre Company at The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. Dec. 18-22; Dec. 28, 29, 31; Jan. 1. \$36-\$43. 248-788-2900.

www.jettheatre.org

is also a "men versus women" and "I agree with your spouse" evening. Played in a single act, "God of Carnage" packs a lot of comedy into a small package.

On the other hand, 90 minutes spent with really awful people would be too much like an extended episode of "Real Housewives" were it not for an exceptionally talented cast. The quartet is in top form; Suzi Regan and Sarab Kamoo, two very classy ladies, show a real flair for broad, physical comedy. Director David J. Magidson builds the madcap pace as manners fall by the

wayside, leaving us about as breathless as the characters are when they finally come to terms with their personal foibles.

Monika Essen's soaring set is a tasteful nod to mid-century retro – clean, angular lines in black and white, punctuated with bright red upholstery. While the play is intimate enough to have been staged in the smaller Aaron DeRoy Theatre, also on the campus of the Jewish Community Center, Essen's sense of scale and balance retains the spaciousness of The Berman stage without upstaging the actors. In addition, the acoustics of the Berman Theatre are excellent. If the attendance opening night is sustained, the choice of the larger house was the right one.

"God of Carnage" is a parable for our time. We have a primitive core papered over by social convention. As Michael puts it in the play, we're "(expletive) Neanderthals." For those of you who insist on letting the shaggy side show, TLC Network has a reality series with your name on it.

## Penny Seats' 2012 season and annual campaign

ANN ARBOR – Ann Arbor theater company The Penny Seats is excited to announce its 2012 annual campaign, the company's sole fundraising event for the year. Fresh from a successful and exhilarating first production, the company will begin its second season in Performance Network Theatre's Second Stage (also called the Mosh Pit), before staging another splendid summer show in the city's West Park Band Shell. The company is also introducing new donor perks, including a free chance to win Detroit Red Wings tickets.

The Penny Seats incorporated last year with the mission of bringing exciting, high-quality theater to Ann Arbor for the price of a movie ticket. Hundreds of people came to West Park last August to see the company's zany, wondrous debut, Anne-Marie MacDonald's "Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)" and to enjoy a delicious picnic lunch courtesy of the company's catering partner, What's Cooking Ann Arbor. The Penny Seats' efforts were met with an overwhelmingly positive response –

and many questions about what they would do next. They now have an answer: Grow.

Though the company came together to perform outdoor theater, its members believe that enthralling, inexpensive theater ought to be just as easy to find in February as in July; as such, it is proud to announce that its first indoor show will be Jeffrey Hatcher's "What Corbin Knew," a witty tale packed with shocking plot twists and disarming humor.

In July, the company will return to West Park with "She Loves Me," a classic musical by Joe Masteroff, Jerry Bock, and Sheldon Harnick about two workplace rivals who spend their days bickering...and their nights falling in love as secret pen-pals. The show offers comedy and romance, trickery and harmony, and you can enjoy it all with a delicious picnic dinner.

However, the Penny Seats cannot achieve these high goals without your help. To maintain its commitment to keeping ticket prices at \$10, these shows and other events are entirely funded through private donations. Contributions of all sizes are welcome, but



A scene from last season's "Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)." Photo: The Penny Seats

the company is offering two free tickets to both shows with a \$100 donation. And just for visiting the website, donors will receive a free chance to win two sixth row Red Wings tickets, courtesy of law firm Trott & Trott.

Please visit [www.pennyseats.org](http://www.pennyseats.org) to donate, or call 734-276-2832 for information on how to make an offline donation.



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# Editor's Picks

## Music & More

The Ark's annual Crossroads Ceili is a great way to mark the turning of the year. It's a gathering of local Irish music singers, instrumentalists and dancers, all sharing the stage with the nationally known headliner, Bua.

Bua, Irish Music Awards' 2009 "Top Traditional Group," is a quartet from Chicago known to play Irish traditional music with a precision and intensity that is rarely heard on this side of the Atlantic.

Crossroads Ceili is an opportunity to witness the depth of southeastern Michigan's Irish music scene, which starts with the still Irish neighborhood of Corktown in Detroit and radiates out to the farthest corners of the area. Other artists appearing along with the usual Crossroads Ceili gang include Mick Gavin, Michael Gavin, Colleen Shanks-Gavin, Kelsey Lutz, Siobhan McKinney, Lance Wagner, and the Dolowy family.

Crossroads Ceili is at 7 p.m. Dec. 29 and 30 at The Ark, 316 S. State St., in Ann Arbor. For more information, call 734-761-1818 or go to [www.theark.org](http://www.theark.org).



## Art 'n' Around

Just in time for the grade schools' holiday break, Ann Arbor's Hands On Museum presents the "Hands-On Holiday Winter Games" program. This program features outdoor activities for kids and the science behind them. Children can learn how to build igloos out of blocks, try ice fishing simulation, witness ice sculpture demonstrations and even meet mushers and sled dogs from the Mid-Union Sled Haulers.

This week-and-a-half long program motivates kids to enjoy the winter season, exercise and get interested in natural science. Admission to the museum is \$10 for ages 2 and up. The Hands-On Holiday Winter Games program runs Dec. 26-Jan. 6 during museum hours. For more information, go to [aahom.org](http://aahom.org) or call 734-995-5439.



## Theater



Simone Revue. Sky is entering her 16th year as a professional entertainer; her magnetic presence creates a sultry stage atmosphere and dazzles audiences with numerous costume changes.

Tickets are \$10 the day of event. For more information about the concert call 313-399-6051.

Sky Covington Production and NuTrends Media Group will present "The Nina Simone Revue" with MJ Robinson and pianist Alina Morr as part of the Jazz Cafe Soul Series at Jazz Cafe Music Hall on Dec. 30. Doors open at 8 p.m.

When Nina Simone died on April 21, 2003, she left a timeless treasure trove of musical magic spanning over four decades. Her music has been enjoyed by the masses due to the CD revolution, discovery on the Internet and exposure through movies and television. Nina had sold over one million CDs in the last decade of her life, making her a global catalog best-seller.

Chanteuse, jazz poet and thespian Sky Covington will perform The Nina

## OUTINGS

### Saturday, Dec. 24

**Partnerships in Parenting** 1 p.m. Promoting the importance of relationship and family development for LGBTQ parents and their children. Seeking to build a stronger connection between parents and children through social networking and community outreach. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 734-574-5953. [Ky.intimates@gmail.com](mailto:Ky.intimates@gmail.com) [GoAffirmations.org](http://GoAffirmations.org)

**Lezread** 4 p.m. Ann Arbors book group for Lesbians. Meets the last Sunday of every month. Lezread, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-678-2478. [lezread@yahoo.com](mailto:lezread@yahoo.com)

### Sunday, Dec. 25

**Christmas Potluck** 1:30 p.m. Bring a dish to pass or a non-alcoholic drink to share. Food, music, fun and games at Affirmations til 5 p.m. on Christmas Day. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-981-4227. [MarciWilliams@yahoo.com](mailto:MarciWilliams@yahoo.com)

### Friday, Dec. 30

**Todds Reunion Retro Dance Party** 8 p.m. Featuring DJ Charles English and hosted by Stirling & Sue Static. Join Corktown Tavern for a night of retro fun, flashing back to the nights of Todds. Cover: \$7 with a portion of proceeds to benefit Michigan Aids Coalition in memory of the Todds employees. Static Network, 1716 Michigan Ave., **Detroit**. 313-964-5103. [Info@staticrecords.com](mailto:Info@staticrecords.com) [corktowntavern.com](http://corktowntavern.com)

### Saturday, Dec. 31

**Games Night & Karaoke** 9 p.m. Board games, card games & karaoke. Benefit for TWC, an AA/Al-Anon conference in the spring. Coffee and snacks provided for free, soda \$1. Suggested donation: \$5. This is a substance-free New Year's Eve celebration. Together We Can, 2441 Pinecrest, **Ferndale**. 248-838-9905. [Twc@twcdetroit.com](mailto:Twc@twcdetroit.com) [twcdetroit.com](http://twcdetroit.com)

### Thursday, Jan. 5

**Euchre Tournament** 7 p.m. Euchre tournament fundraiser to benefit Out Loud Chorus, Washtenaw County's original GLBT chorus. \$10 entry, cash prizes. Out Loud Chorus, 1950 South Industrial Hwy, **Ann Arbor**. 734-265-0740. [Outloudchorus@gmail.com](mailto:Outloudchorus@gmail.com) [olonline.org](http://olonline.org)

### Friday, Jan. 6

**S.P.I.C.E.** 7:30 p.m. S.P.I.C.E. works to empower and enhance the lives of women of color in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning community in Metropolitan Detroit, by eradicating the health, social and educational barriers facing them. Meetings are on the first Friday of every month. S.P.I.C.E., 290 W. 9 Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [GoAffirmations.org](http://GoAffirmations.org)

### Saturday, Jan. 7

**Wintergreen Euchre** 6 p.m. A friendly card game and a social outing for Womyn of all ages, meeting the first Saturday. No RSVP or partner is needed. There is a \$5 donation. Arrive a little early to get settled in and registered for a seat. Wintergreen Euchre, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. [Home.comcast.net/~vern909/site/](http://Home.comcast.net/~vern909/site/)

### Sunday, Jan. 8

**Rainbow Book Club** 4:30 p.m. Book club dedicated to reading and discussing classic and contemporary lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer literature. Meeting since before 1998,

every second Sunday of the month. Rainbow Book Club, 319 Braun Court, Ann Arbor. 734-678-2478. Catherine. [herne@gmail.com](mailto:herne@gmail.com)

**The Conversation Station** 5 p.m. LGBTQI 25 and over, join GOAL each week for discussion, food and fun. Topic: What is on your Bucket List (things you want to do before you kick the bucket)? Get Out And Live!, 714 S. Washington St., **Royal Oak**. 248-981-4227. [MarciWilliams@yahoo.com](mailto:MarciWilliams@yahoo.com) [GetOutAndLive.me](http://GetOutAndLive.me)

## MUSIC & MORE

**Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase** Nom Stulz. Norm Stulz started his professional comedy life back in 1981 and has gone on to become the industry's premier comic storyteller. Tickets: \$7-12. Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Dec. 29 - Dec. 30. [Acamedy.com](http://Acamedy.com)

**Kerrytown Concert House** "Randy Napoleon Sextet" Join Ann Arbor's own Randy Napoleon for his December CD release party. Tickets: \$10-30. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. 4th Ave., Ann Arbor. 7 p.m. Dec. 30. 734-769-2999. [Kerrytownconcerthouse.com](http://Kerrytownconcerthouse.com)

**Olympia Entertainment** "Christmas Eve on Woodward Ave." For nearly two decades, Newman has captivated crowds at Joe Louis Arena with her signature rendition of the national anthem and now metro-Detroit can celebrate the holidays with the local iconXXs debut on the Fox Theatre stage. Tickets: \$23.50-\$48.50. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 21. 313-471-6611. [Olympiaentertainment.com](http://Olympiaentertainment.com)

**Olympia Entertainment** Karen Newman, Detroit's own, Karen Newman, invites you to experience 'Christmas Eve on Woodward Avenue', presented by People's Plus. Tickets: \$13.50-26. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 21. 313-471-6611. [Olympiaentertainment.com](http://Olympiaentertainment.com)

**Olympia Entertainment** New Edition, influential and multi-platinum R&B group, New Edition, will ring in the New Year at Detroit's Fox Theatre with all six original members, including Bobby Brown, Johnny Gill, Ralph Tresvant, Michael Bivins, Ricky Bell and Ronnie DeVoe. Tickets: \$49-150. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 9 p.m. Dec. 31. 313-471-6611. [Olympiaentertainment.com](http://Olympiaentertainment.com)

**Royal Oak Music Theatre** Wu-Tang Clan This show is restricted to those 18 years of age or older. Government issued photo ID must be shown to enter the event. Tickets: \$35. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. 4th St., Royal Oak. 8 p.m. Jan. 4. 248-399-2980. [Royaloakmusictheatre.com](http://Royaloakmusictheatre.com)

**Royal Oak Music Theatre** "Young Country Night Before Christmas" Featuring Gloriana. Tickets: \$15. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. 4th St., Royal Oak. 6 p.m. Dec. 21. 248-399-2980. [Royaloakmusictheatre.com](http://Royaloakmusictheatre.com)

**The Ark** "Crossroads Ceili" Annual Crossroads Ceili is a great way to mark the turning of the year. It's a gathering of local Irish music singers, instrumentalists, and dancers, all sharing the stage with a nationally known headliner, Bua. Get an idea of the depth of southeastern Michigan's Irish music scene, which starts with the still Irish neighborhood of Corktown in Detroit and radiates out to the farthest corners of the area. Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Dec. 29 - Dec. 30. 734-761-1818. [Theark.org](http://Theark.org)

**The Ark** "Deep Fried Pickle Project" Tickets: \$10. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 1 p.m. Jan. 8. 734-761-1818. [Theark.org](http://Theark.org)

**The Ark** "The Fred Eaglesmith Traveling Show" Spend New Year's Eve with Ontario's roots-country original. There are other songwriters who populate their creations with small-time crooks, small-town loners, and working-class heroes. But Fred Eaglesmith's songs stand out for their edge of desperation and their raucous yet bemused humor. Tickets: \$27.50. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Dec. 31. 734-761-1818. [Theark.org](http://Theark.org)

**The Detroit Symphony Orchestra** "DSO Neighborhood Concert" The DSO kicks off its brand new Neighborhood Series in West Bloomfield Township with Leonard Slatkin leading the orchestra in performances of Aaron Copland's evocative story of American pioneers Appalachian Spring and Brahms idyllic First Serenade. Tickets: \$25. Berman Theatre, 6600 West Maple Road, West Bloomfield. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 5. 313-576-5111. [Dso.org](http://Dso.org)

**The Detroit Symphony Orchestra** "Lee Ritenour with Dave Grusin" As a teenager, Ritenour was a renowned session player. Today he stands at the summit of guitar masters, fusing funk and rock, blues and Brazilian. Ticket information available at [dso.org](http://dso.org) Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Jan. 6. 313-576-5111. [Dso.org](http://Dso.org)

**The Magic Bag** "The Kenny Olson Cartel Debut Album Release" Kenny Olson, the monster guitar player responsible for the licks on multi-platinum recordings by Kid Rock, will celebrate the release of his debut album from The Kenny Olson Cartel at The Magic Bag. The self-titled release features vocals by Paris Delane, Brandon Calhoun, Hugo Ferreira and Jon Nicholson, drums by Emanuel Cole, keyboards by Peter Keys, bass by Billy Cox and more. Admission: \$10. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 29. 248-544-3030. [Themagicbag.com](http://Themagicbag.com)

## THEATER

### CIVIC/COMMUNITY THEATER

**Sunday Night** \$17. Motor City Musical Theatre at Grantland Street Playhouse, 27555 Grantland, Livonia. Jan. 6 - 15. 313-535-8962.

### PROFESSIONAL

**A Beer Carol** \$15. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. Dec. 22. 269-756-3879. [Acorntheater.com](http://Acorntheater.com)

**A Christmas Carol** \$16. Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Through Dec. 24. 810-238-1350. [Flintyouththeatre.org](http://Flintyouththeatre.org)

**A Christmas Carol** \$25-40. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Through Dec. 23. 248-370-3316. [Mbtheatre.com](http://Mbtheatre.com)

**A Jazzy Christmas** \$32-\$38. Plowshares Theatre Company at Virgil H. Carr Cultural Arts Center, 311 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. Through Dec. 31. 313-593-0926. [Plowsharestheatre.org](http://Plowsharestheatre.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](http://Performancenetwork.org)

**Engagement Rules** \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Through Dec. 23. 313-868-1347. [Detroitreptheatre.com](http://Detroitreptheatre.com)



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

**Escanaba in da Moonlight** \$25-\$40. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Through Dec. 31. 734-433-7782. Purplerosetheatre.org

**Fridays and Saturdays at Go Comedy!** Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 248-327-0575. Gocomedy.net

**God of Carnage** \$36-\$43. The Jewish Ensemble Theatre Company at The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. Through Jan. 1. 248-788-2900. Jetttheatre.org

**It's a Wonderful Life** \$28. The Encore Musical Theatre, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Through Dec. 23. 734-268-6200. TheEncoreTheatre.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. Through Jan. 15. 248-348-4448. Ticketmaster.com

**Months on End** \$25. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Dec. 29 - Dec. 31. 248-347-0003. Tippingpointtheatre.com

**Sister's Christmas Catechism** \$18-40. Century Theatre, 333 Madison St., Detroit. Through Dec. 31. 313-963-9800. Gemtheatre.com

**Super Happy Funtime Burlesque** \$10. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 9 p.m. Dec. 31. 269-756-3879. Acorntheater.com

**The All Night Strut Holiday Show** \$20-45. Gem Theatre, 333 Madison St., Detroit. Through Dec. 31. 313-963-9800. Gemtheatre.com

**The Christmas Carol Caper, Scrooge This** \$16. Broadway Onstage, 21517 Kelly Rd., Eastpointe. Through Dec. 23. 586-771-6333. Broadwayonstage.com

**The Nina Simone Revue** \$10. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison St., Detroit. 8 p.m. Dec. 30. 13-399-6051. Eventbrite.com

**The Rob English Show** \$10. Go Comedy! Improv Theater & The Basement Theatre, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 8 p.m. Dec. 27. 248-327-0575. Gocomedy.net

**The SantaLand Diaries & Season's Greetings** \$10. Who Wants Cake? at The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Through Dec. 23. 248-545-5545. TheRingwald.com

**The Tempest** \$40. Park Bar, 2040 Park Ave., Detroit. Through Jan. 21. 313-444-2294. Parkbardetroit.com

**This Wonderful Life** \$20-\$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. Through Dec. 23. 517-655-7469. Williamstontheatre.org

**Thursdays at Go Comedy!** \$15. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 248-327-0575. Gocomedy.net

**Wednesdays at Go Comedy! Go Comedy!** Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 248-327-0575. Gocomedy.net

**Wicked** \$39-99. Broadway in Detroit at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. Through Dec. 31. 313-237-7464. BroadwayinDetroit.com

**Winter Wonderettes** \$31-33. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Through Dec. 31. 269-343-2727. Farmersalleytheatre.com

## YOUNG AUDIENCES

**The Snow Queen** \$10 adults, \$5 children. PuppetART, Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River, Detroit. Through Jan. 28. 313-961-7777. Puppetart.org

# 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

**Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum** "Hands On Holiday Winter Games" Just in time for the grade schools' holiday breaks Ann Arbor's Hands On Museum presents the "Hands-On Holiday Winter Games" program. This program features outdoor activities for kids and the science behind them. Children can learn how to build igloos out of blocks, try ice fishing simulation, witness ice sculpture demonstrations, and even meet mushers and sled dogs from the Mid-Union Sled Haulers. Admission: \$10. Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor. Dec. 26 - Jan. 6. 734-995-5439. Aahom.org

**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. Designed by renowned Finnish architect Eilii Saarinen, the exhibition will pair the work of 50 leading contemporary artists and designers with an equal number of objects from the Cranbrook's permanent collection. Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Nov. 12 - March 25. 877-462-7262. Cranbrookart.edu

**Downriver Council for the Arts** "The Colors of Winter" Winter Mixed Media Fine Art Show at the Wyandotte Arts Center. Work inspired by Winter and activities that relate to the season. Downriver Council for the Arts, 81 Chestnut, Wyandotte. Dec. 1 - Jan. 13. Downriverarts.org

**Lawrence Street Gallery** "Small Works Exhibition" Annual "Think Small" juried exhibition, over 75 local artists will submit work in all media, two and three-dimensional. The only limiting factor is size -- no piece will exceed 12X in any direction. Lawrence Street Gallery, 22620 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Nov. 30 - Dec. 24. 248-544-0394. Lawrencestreetgallery.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. The installation is based on the specifications and history of English allotments, or subsistence gardens. Started in London in 2005 as part of the Institut Francais Villa Medicis Hors les murs residency program. Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Sep. 16 - Dec. 30. 313-832-6622. Mocadoetroit.org

**The Detroit Institute of Arts** "Detroit Revealed: Photographs 2000-2010" Contemporary artists present photographs and video inspired by Detroit, its people, diverse culture, and

industries in work created from 2000-2010. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward, Detroit. Oct. 16 - Jan. 29. 313-833-7900. Dia.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. The exhibition includes 70 works. Tickets: \$16 adult, \$8 youth. Group rates available via grouprequest@dia.org. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward, Detroit. Nov. 20 - Jan. 29. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

**The Detroit Institute of Arts** "Gift of a Lifetime: The James Pearson Duffy Collection" The DIA received the rich art collection from James Pearson Duffy, Detroit's most unorthodox collectors. Showcases drawings, paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs. Free with museum admission. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward, Detroit. Sep. 15 - Feb. 29. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

**The Gallery Project** "Post Apocalypse" Exposes all the doomsday scenarios that are out there, everything from the end of the world to the Rapture. The Gallery Project, 215 S. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. Dec. 14 - Jan. 21. 734-997-7012. Thegalleryproject.com

**The Henry Ford** "The Wizard of Oz" Children's Exhibit" Visitors will step into a child-size Land of Oz with stops at the Gale Farm, Munchkinland, The Crossroads, The Witch's Castle and The Emerald City before heading back, because, of course, "there's no place like home." The Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood, Dearborn. Oct. 1 - Jan. 9. 313-982-6001. thehenryford.org

**The Scarab Club** "98th Annual Gold Medal Exhibition" 98th annual exhibition of Scarab Club member artwork. The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. Nov. 23 - Jan. 8. 313-931-1250. Scarabclub.org

**University of Michigan Museum of Art** "Mark di Suvero: Tabletops" Best known for his dynamic and monumental works made of industrial steel and salvaged materials that populate museum grounds, landscapes, and urban environments around the world. In addition to countless exhibitions and awards, in March 2011 President Obama honored Di Suvero with the National Medal of the Arts in a White House ceremony. University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 South State St., Ann Arbor. Oct. 8 - Feb. 26. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

**University of Michigan Museum of Art** "Face of Our Time" Examines more than 100 works by five photographers-Jacob Aue Sobol, Jim Goldberg, Zanele Muholi, Daniel Schwartz, and Richard Misrach-who operate within what Walker Evans referred to as the "documentary style." University of Michigan Museum of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Nov. 12 - Feb. 29. 734-764-0395. Umma.umich.edu



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## Deep Inside Hollywood



Sarah Silverman. Photo: IFC Films

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

### Is a major network ready for Sarah Silverman?

Did you ever watch “The Sarah Silverman Program”? That thing was so gay it wound up on Logo after Comedy Central couldn’t afford to produce it anymore. In addition to its rotating cast of guests – God, ghosts and cartoon dinosaurs – it also routinely featured a gay stoner bear couple, a drag queen host of a cookie-themed reality competition show and a lesbian cop that Sarah fell for accidentally in one episode. In other words, not the sort of thing you ever see on “Two and a Half

Men.” So what’s up with NBC giving Silverman the green light for a new primetime sitcom pilot? It’s happening, but that’s all anyone will say right now beyond the loose premise, which is that it will be based on Silverman’s own life. Just trust that it will shake up the status quo if and when it hits your DVR, and that it will be hilarious. It’s almost as if she’s genetically incapable of anything else.

### Hot new TV pilot trend: lesbian(ish) sitcoms

Now that it’s been properly established that both Sue Sylvester and Coach Bieste are man-hungry heterosexuals, where is a comedy-loving lesbian to turn for representation? Well, for starters, there’s Sara Rue, who already plays a lesbian on “Rules of Engagement” and plans to enter “I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry” territory for a sitcom pilot called “Poseurs.” The premise: two straight Manhattan women pretend to be lesbians in order to keep a co-op that doesn’t allow roommates. You know how these things happen when you live in a big sophisticated city like New York, right? And the lez-com trend kickstarted by the still-in-development lesbian couple project called “I Hate That I Love You” just added another contender to the mix with “Swordfighting,” the latest pilot from gay producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron. That one’s about two friendly married couples whose relationships turn upside down when the wives

fall in love with each other. Nobody’s been cast yet, but at least it’s a novel premise with actual lesbian characters. Sorry “Poseurs,” but your game is already tired.

### Adam Shankman wants to make ‘The Nutcracker’ dance again

After the excruciating debacle that was last year’s theatrical bomb, “The Nutcracker in 3D,” a torturous family film that featured hip-hop-based songs sourced from Tchaikovsky’s ballet score and that came and went without making much money or endearing anyone its source material, you’d think that nobody would want to touch it as a movie property for a while. But you’d think wrong. Adam Shankman (“Hairspray” and the upcoming “Rock of Ages”) believes that he’s the man to send “The Nutcracker” to rehab. His vision involves returning to the book by E.T.A. Hoffman and turning it all into an Alice in Wonderland-style event film for the 2013 holiday season, a family adventure vehicle that, for all we know at this point, will still involve 3D. And there’s no mention – yet – of dancing, which is kind of strange considering Shankman’s career as a choreographer. Everybody’s probably scared of that B-word. More on this one as it develops...

### ‘Tim And Eric’s Billion Dollar Movie’ will be extremely weird

It’s one of the Cartoon Network’s few live-action programs and it’s also, hands down, the most bizarre show on television. It’s called “Tim and Eric Awesome Show Great Job!” and it defies description. But imagine an American “Little Britain” with no budget, a debilitating head injury and the most scatological humor in television history and you’ll be halfway there. Among its jarring cable-access-esque qualities are some of the weirdest drag characters ever, most notably star Eric Wareheim’s recurring role as an obese woman involved in a masochistic sexual relationship with her boss, played by Tim Heidecker. Will they appear in next spring’s feature length freakout “Tim and Eric’s Billion Dollar Movie”? It’s anyone’s guess, but the 2012 release – in which Tim and Eric are given a billion dollars to make a movie, naturally – will feature the talents of “Awesome Show” regulars John C. Reilly (who once found himself shooting an episode segment in Los Angeles leather bar The Eagle) and Zach Galifianakis (who regularly plays a gay-ish children’s drama coach). In other words there’ll be no shortage of sexual anarchy to unsettle just about anyone not already on their wavelength. Finally, gay weirdoes, the un-rom-com you’ve been waiting for.

Romeo San Vicente is accustomed to hearing “Great Job!”

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# Horoscopes

## Be ready for anything, Taurus!

BY JACK FERTIG

*Just before the solstice when the Sun enters Capricorn, Venus will leave Cap for Aquarius. It makes a good combination for looking forward with good imagination and your feet solidly on the ground. Start making sensible plans for next year!*

**ARIES (March 20 – April 19):** Get wild and creative. Explore and express new ideas. Just remember you are experimenting; keep it light and fun. Being too sure of yourself can make you look pompous and/or get you into trouble.

**TAURUS (April 20 – May 20):** New ideas have hidden value. Make every effort to be open-minded. Your ability to assimilate and gain insight from those ideas can prove very helpful at work. Opportunity will come soon and unexpectedly; be ready for anything.

**GEMINI (May 21- June 20):** Difficult issues need addressing. Be very considerate when telling your partner how you really feel. The middle ground between saying too much or too little can be hard to negotiate. Think ahead about what's really important and how to say it kindly.

**CANCER (June 21- July 22):** High hopes and expectations for the holidays are easily disappointed. Reconciling between high ideals and realistic expectations is part of the bothersome business of growing up. Taking a longer view will help you keep a positive perspective.

**LEO (July 23 – August 22):** Christmas is supposed to be whose birthday? Not yours! You just want to make things fun and bright, but it's too easy to overdo it. A quiet hug or a small, elegant gesture is often more effective than a big to-do.

**VIRGO (August 23 – September 22):** Holidays are about symbols and sympathy, not about getting historical facts right, disturbing your family with uncomfortable revelations, or needing to prove something. There's a time for all that. For now think about what matters, and when and how best to tell them – later!

**LIBRA (September 23 – October 22):** Shocking your partner can be a good thing, but not with a cattle prod. (Well... if it's consensual...) When newfound

exuberance and creative passions go overboard let your sweetie reel you in. Just let that be a further creative challenge.

**SCORPIO (October 23 – November 21):** Your critical eye on community affairs is not always appreciated at first. Getting the diplomacy right – being nice, but not wishy-washy or obtuse – can be a challenge. Solicit a friend to help you get your point across.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 – December 20):** Being helpful at holiday parties can get you into a better job. Keep a clear head and your fun “appropriate.” The rest should fall into place. Recently missed opportunities could come knocking again. Don't rule anything out!

**CAPRICORN (December 21 – January 19):** While your intuitions about money are generally on the mark it helps to double-check the facts with someone whose job it is to know. Avoid dithering and second-guessing yourself. Being rigorous is good; beating yourself up isn't.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 – February 18):** There is such a thing as being too nice – syrupy, cloying, manipulative – especially when you can't hide the bitchy undertones. There are no secrets. Whatever you say will slip out. If you can't be truly nice, talk about celebrities and politicians.

**PISCES (February 19 – March 19):** Your intuition and advice are worth more than you realize. If you listened to yourself as your friends do, you'd be better off! Blurting out a secret could prove to your advantage if it's your secret and nobody else's.

*Jack Fertig, a professional astrologer since 1977, is available for personal and business consultations in person in San Francisco, or online everywhere. He can be reached at 415-864-8302, through his website at [www.starjack.com](http://www.starjack.com), and by email at [QScopes@qsyndicate.com](mailto:QScopes@qsyndicate.com).*

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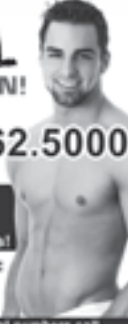
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**Solution to puzzle from page 28**

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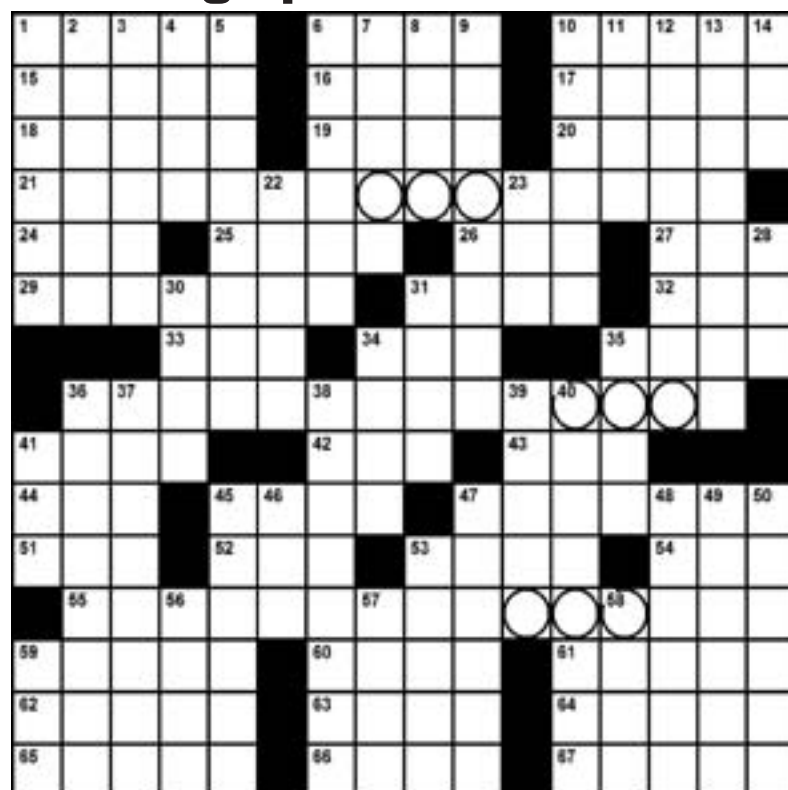
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# Breaking Up the Band



## Across

- 1 Rub it in
- 6 Half of the Odd Couple, for example
- 10 Dinah of a golf classic
- 15 Milk, in Madrid
- 16 Judy Garland concert persona
- 17 Some bounders
- 18 Like Machu Picchu
- 19 Chi-town's paper
- 20 Have words
- 21 Robin Williams
- 24 Blow it
- 25 Walk nervously
- 26 Be in the hole
- 27 Pen end
- 29 Order more of
- 31 The rainbow flag has six
- 32 Juan's tail?
- 33 Malt drink
- 34 Neth. neighbor
- 35 River of 34-Across
- 36 Richard Chamberlain
- 41 Absolutely positive
- 42 Band "broken up" in 3 answers
- 43 Mar. basketball tourney
- 44 "Very interesting ..."
- 45 Russian river
- 47 In your face

- 51 Merchandise ID
- 52 "Swan Lake" step
- 53 Emulate Dr. Callie Torres
- 54 Homer's outburst
- 55 Othello
- 59 Cole Porter's "\_\_\_ Men"
- 60 Oscar-winning Patricia
- 61 "The evil that \_\_\_" (Shakespeare)
- 62 Black to Rimbaud
- 63 Art Deco design name
- 64 Able to bend over
- 65 Jock's Johnson support
- 66 Essen's river
- 67 Attachments for fake glasses

## Down

- 1 Eagle, at times
- 2 Poe poem
- 3 Comes about
- 4 Moby Dick chaser
- 5 Camper's erection
- 6 Comic theme
- 7 Short Peter on the screen
- 8 "Village Voice" honor
- 9 "Black Sheets of Rain" musician
- 10 Pink and lavender
- 11 Do damage to
- 12 Take two letters from this for an orgasm

- 13 Like 42-Across someday, maybe
- 14 Ethnic suffix
- 22 It may be hard to keep straight ones
- 23 Leave open-mouthed
- 28 Limbo need
- 30 Crack the whip at, e.g.
- 31 A sailor may grab it while cruising
- 34 Jessica of "The Illusionist"
- 35 Himalayan humanoid
- 36 New York Liberty maneuver
- 37 Type of quarterback
- 38 Paul of the underground
- 39 Some lend it
- 40 He shoots off with a long barrel
- 41 Moo \_\_\_ pork
- 45 Maintenance cost
- 46 Comic Charlotte
- 47 Distributor of queens
- 48 Handsome young man
- 49 Head
- 50 Spasms, like orgasms
- 53 Ledger of "Brokeback Mountain"
- 56 Razor choice
- 57 Cole Porter's Indiana hometown
- 58 "Let \_\_\_!"
- 59 November winners

Solution on page 27



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