

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993

**BTL**  
Between THE Lines™

ROMNEY: HIGH  
SCHOOL BULLY

PREP WORK FOR  
ELLIOT-LARSEN

EXPERIENCE  
QUEER COLUMBUS

OBAMA PROCLAIMS  
'SAME-SEX COUPLES SHOULD  
BE ABLE TO MARRY'

**THANK YOU  
MR. PRESIDENT**

FREE | MAY 17, 2012 | VOL. 2020



PRIDESOURCE.COM

# The Power to Surprise<sup>®</sup>

## 2012 Kia Optima LX w/conv package!

Bluetooth, Sirius Xm radio, remote start and more!!!

\$199 a month

Total due at signing \$1799 must qualify for competitive or owner loyalty rebate. Ask for details. Discounts for Between the Lines readers available.



**NOT YOUR AVERAGE MID-SIZE SEDAN**



**KIA MOTORS**  
Glassman Kia

On Telegraph at the Tel-12 Mall, Southfield, MI (248) 809-1019

www.glassmankia.com

**WARRANTY** - The Kia 10-year/100,000-mile warranty program includes various warranties and roadside assistance. Warranties include powertrain and basic. All warranties and roadside assistance are limited. See retailer for details or go to [kia.com](http://kia.com). **PRICE** - \*MSRP for Optima base model is \$22,590. Includes freight. Excludes taxes, license, options and retailer charges. Actual prices set by retailer. Vehicle shown may include optional equipment. See retailer for warranty details or go to [www.kia.com](http://www.kia.com)



## SIGN & DRIVE

# Feels as good as it looks.

## 2012 SUBARU LEGACY 2.5i

- Premium Package 2
- All Weather Package
- Automatic, all wheel drive
- Heated Seats, Bluetooth

**\$249\*** PER MONTH 42 MONTH LEASE

\$5,000 Down Payment  
\$0 Security Deposit  
\$0 First Month's Lease Payment  
\$0,000 Total Due at Lease Signing



CAD

Performance meets efficiency with the 2012 Legacy. Symmetrical All Wheel Drive standard, a SUBARU BOXER® engine and 31 mpg! Feel the love.



## Glassman Subaru

On Telegraph at the Tel-12 Mall, Southfield, MI (248) 809-1019

www.glassmansubaru.com

Open Saturday 10-4

Subaru, Forester, Outback, Tribeca, Legacy, Impreza, WRX, STI and SUBARU BOXER are registered trademarks. EPA-estimated city fuel economy for Legacy 2.5i CVT models. Actual mileage may vary. Lease is 10,000 miles per year with approved credit. Plus Tax, title & plates. \$0 security deposit. Expires 5/31/12.



In downtown Birmingham's Shain Park

BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD  
**ArtCenter**

31st Annual

**art**  
birmingham

Presented by:

**SOMERSET**  
BUICK GMC

**MAY**  
**26 & 27**  
**SAT, 10AM-6PM**  
**SUN, 10AM-5PM**

www.ArtBirmingham.org



**Miner's Den**  
JEWELERS

SERVING THE  
COMMUNITY  
SINCE 1971



BEAUTY



STRENGTH



ELEGANCE

FOREVER BEGINS HERE

www.minersden.com

3417 Rochester Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48073  
248.585.6950



In association with:



With special thanks to:



# BTL THE Lines™ 5.17.2012

## Cover story

4 | President Obama completes 'evolution' on gay marriage

## News

4 | Gay rights backers see history in Obama's stand

5 | Romney bullying story comes to light

5 | State Senate Democratic Leader: 'Romney owes students an apology'

6 | Department of Civil Rights seeks stories as Elliot-Larsen amendment considered

6 | Let your legislators know how you feel at May Lobby Day

7 | Motor City Pride: Educate, liberate & celebrate June 2-3

9 | Michigan gay prisoner wins discrimination case

## Opinions

8 | Viewpoint  
Marriage: We fall down but we get up

9 | Creep of the Week  
Mitt Romney

10 | S/he Said  
Reactions to Obama

10 | Heard on Facebook  
Could Obama turn the tides?

11 | Parting Glances  
Pages past tense #1

11 | Speak Out  
Yes he did!

12 | North Carolina approves ban on same-sex marriage  
31st state in 8 years to deny rights

## Life

15 | Columbus... queer?  
Hey, it's not just cornfields!

22 | Book Marks  
Reviews of "A Queer and Pleasant Danger" and "Purgatory"

20 | Cool Cities: Birmingham

23 | The tears of a clown at MOT

24 | Happenings  
Featured: Dignity Detroit's 38th anniversary celebration May 19

## Rear View

26 | Puzzle

27 | Horoscopes

28 | Classifieds

30 | Deep Inside Hollywood

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

@ PRIDESOURCE  
DOT.COM



Get breaking news updates. Follow us @YourBTL



Email your op-eds and letters to editor@pridesource.com



Receive our E-Digest - just sign up today online



Chat on our FB Fan Page. Search "Between The Lines Newspaper"

**RON T. WILLIAMSON DDS**  
*Where "Family" means everything!*

All done in a gentle, caring, accepting, comfortable atmosphere.  
No additional charges for emergency patients.  
No insurance? No problem. Ask about our in-office club.

**SALE**  
**\$25 OFF**  
YOUR PERSONAL BALANCE  
(NEW PATIENTS ONLY)  
MUST MENTION COUPON  
EXPIRES 5/31/12

Care Credit  
MasterCard VISA

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

**STAY COOL THIS SUMMER with these Early Bird Specials**

"It's The Air You Breathe"  
**AIR MASTER**  
Heating • Air Conditioning • Air Quality  
Fireplaces • Barbecues

**LENNOX**  
"Quality Work. Every Time. No Excuses."  
We're Not Just A Service, We're An Asset.

Get a rebate for preventative maintenance!  
ASK US HOW!

**\$250.00 OFF** Any Furnace and Air Conditioning System  
Not valid with any other offer. Expires 6/30/12.

Up to **\$1375.00** Lennox Rebate\*\*  
Limited time only. Call for details.

Up to **\$450.00** Utility Rebate

**TUNE-UP SPECIAL**  
**\$99.00** AIR CONDITIONER TUNE-UP  
Regularly \$149  
Save **\$46!**

- Check & Clean All Filters for Greater Efficiency
- Check & Tighten All Electrical Connections
- Check Refrigerant Charge/Level
- Check & Adjust All Electrical Components
- Take All Working Parts
- Check All Safety Temperature Limits
- Secure Handlines for Summer Operation
- Calibrate Thermostats

Save up to 30% on Your Electric Bills!  
Not valid with any other offer. Some restrictions may apply. See our website for complete details at [www.airmastermi.com](http://www.airmastermi.com). Expires 6/30/12.

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL**  
Buy a Complete Premium Heating and Air Conditioning System and We'll install a High-Efficiency Heat Pump at **NO CHARGE!**  
UP TO A \$1000 VALUE. Not valid with any other offer. Some restrictions may apply. Expires 6/30/12.

2870 Coolidge Hwy. • BERKLEY  
[www.airmastermi.com](http://www.airmastermi.com) **248-399-1800**  
Sales • Service • Installation • Residential & Commercial • Free Consultation • 24-Hour Emergency Service

## Gay rights backers see history in Obama's stand

BY DAVID B. CARUSO

**NEW YORK (AP)**—At a birthplace of the modern gay rights movement, patrons of New York City's Stonewall Inn said they felt like they were living history. In Wyoming, the mother of a man beaten to death because of his sexuality said words couldn't express her gratitude. An 82-year-old photographer who chronicled protests in the 1960s called it "a new dawn."

President Barack Obama's declaration Wednesday that he supports gay marriage may have lacked the urgency of Kennedy's 1963 push for the Civil Rights Act, or the force and finality of the Emancipation Proclamation, but it was still being greeted as a major milestone among people who care about gay rights.

"It signifies a history-changing moment when a president finally says, 'I'm on your side.' It's a critical moment," said Stacy Lentz, a co-owner of the Stonewall, a reincarnated version of the unlicensed gay bar in Manhattan's West Village that was the site of riots following a police raid in June 1969.

Just how big of a moment remains to be seen. While public opinion polls show an increasing number of Americans are receptive to gay marriage, and accepting of homosexuality in general, the movement hasn't fared well at the ballot box. On Tuesday, North Carolina voters overwhelmingly approved a constitutional amendment defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

Still, at mileposts and bastions in the struggle, Obama's words were being welcomed.

### Michigan

In the early 1970s, a waiter left his shift at a restaurant in the college town of East Lansing, Mich., and was greeted affectionately by his boyfriend. His manager saw. The waiter was fired on the spot. It was legal.

George Griffiths, who turned 83 on Thursday, was a member of both the local American Civil Liberties Union board and the East Lansing City Council at the time.

He knew the ACLU couldn't regulate a private employer - but

thought maybe the city could protect its employees or job candidates from discrimination.

In 1972, he became among the majority of council members to adopt an anti-discrimination measure in hiring practices for the city - the first such ordinance in the nation.

He experienced little backlash within the communities of East Lansing and Michigan State University, he said, though he recalled occasional criticism by voters during subsequent - but successful - campaigns for higher office. He served as Ingham County's drain commissioner for 12 years, retiring in 1993.

Griffiths sees Obama's announcement as a natural progression from the steps he and his colleagues took 40 years ago.

"It's a glacial movement," he said, "but I think people are coming around."

### Vermont

Holly Puterbaugh, 65, and her partner, Lois Farnham, were among the three Vermont same-sex couples who sued the state in 1997 after they were denied a marriage license. Their lawsuit led to the 1999 court decision that made Vermont the first state to recognize same-sex civil unions.

Back then, Puterbaugh never would have believed a president would someday back same-sex marriage, she said in a phone interview Thursday.

"We've come a lot further a lot faster than I thought we would," she said. "In '99, civil union was considered the most outrageously liberal thing going. Now it's the conservative fallback.

"That tells me people are looking, they are thinking, they are starting to really examine this as a true issue," she said.

Another couple in that landmark lawsuit, Nina Beck and Stacy Jolles, had also viewed same-sex marriage as a romantic ideal, and maybe a legal longshot, when they took up the fight. Now, things have changed.

"When we went to the city hall in South Burlington to ask for a marriage license, it was very simply the first step on what we thought would be a very long road, but we

# President Obama completes 'evolution' on gay marriage

BY LISA KEEN

**WASHINGTON D.C.** - President Obama said in a White House-arranged interview Wednesday afternoon that "same-sex couples should be able to get married."

The statement, in an interview with ABC, marks a significant and long expected "evolution" for President Obama in his political position concerning same-sex marriage.

"I've always been adamant that gay and lesbian Americans should be treated fairly and equally," said Obama. "...I had hesitated on gay marriage, in part because I thought civil unions would be sufficient." But after talking to friends and family, neighbors and staff, he said, "I've just concluded that for me personally it is important for me to go ahead and affirm that I think same-sex couples should be able to get married."

Reactions were dramatic.

Evan Wolfson, head of the national Freedom to Marry group, said, "The President's support marks a historic turning point for the freedom to marry movement."

Incoming Human Rights Campaign President Chad Griffin said Obama's remarks today would be "celebrated by generations to come."

"For the millions of young gay and lesbian Americans across this nation, President Obama's words provide genuine hope that they will be the first generation to grow up with the freedom to fully pursue the American dream," said Griffin. "...As President Obama recognized today, the fight to secure marriage equality is the defining element of our generation's search for greater freedom."

MSNBC commentator Chris Matthews called it "earthshaking" and predicted right-wing conservatives "will use everything they can to exploit this" politically in the November campaign.

Ted Olson, lead attorney for the same-sex couples challenging California's Proposition 8 ban, said, "Today is a proud day for all Americans."

"The bedrock American principles of freedom and human dignity are central to the political and legal convictions of Republicans, Democrats, liberals, and conservatives alike," said Olson. "President Obama's words remind us that marriage and equality are universal values that unite

us all. They remind us that we are all - as a People and a Nation - striving to form a more perfect Union."

The interview, according to numerous media reports, was pre-arranged by the White House to take place with ABC Good Morning America anchor Robin Roberts of Good Morning America. The media speculated the interview was set up hastily and deliberately to quell the political conflagration that erupted Sunday, when Vice President Joe Biden told NBC Meet the Press that he

error was 3.5 points, making the difference as small as 4.5 points.

Although there were many big news stories erupting at the same time--including news that the CIA had stopped a plot to blow up a plane--the mainstream media swarmed all over the Biden story. CNN media commentator Howard Kurtz wrote, in a DailyBeast.com blog, "There is absolutely no question that Biden's response was cleared by the White House. Vice presidents are not allowed to freelance on talk shows, especially on such a

---

"I think same-sex couples should be able to get married."

---

President Barack Obama May 9, 2012

---

is "absolutely comfortable" with gay couples marrying and that he believes they should have the "exact same rights" as straight couples to do so.

Prior to Wednesday, President Obama has not previously expressed pro-active legal support for same-sex marriage equality. In October 2010, he told gay political blogger Joe Sudbay that he was "unwilling to sign onto same-sex marriage primarily" because of his "understandings of the traditional definitions of marriage." He said "attitudes" about same-sex marriage "evolve, including mine." And he reiterated that position two months later, in an interview with The Advocate's Kerry Eleveld, saying, "My attitudes are evolving on this."

Numerous times since then, Obama and White House Press Secretary Jay Carney have been asked whether the president's position had yet evolved. With the Republican presidential race settling onto Mitt Romney, one national poll indicated the public didn't see much difference between Obama and Romney on same-sex marriage.

The ABC-Washington Post poll, conducted in early April, found 46 percent of 1,103 adults nationwide thought President Obama would "do a better job" at "dealing with social issues such as abortion and gay marriages," and 38 percent said Romney would. But the margin of

sensitive issue. So Obama was sending out Biden to further mollify the gay community without having to actually take a stand himself." MSNBC's news anchor Chuck Todd said the White House was being especially "sensitive" about the remarks because "gay money, in this election, has replaced Wall Street money."

Interest in Obama's position on same-sex marriage was in the news even prior to Biden's remarks. The Obama re-election campaign had issued a statement in March, opposing the North Carolina Amendment One, which bans legal recognition of any same-sex relationship. The statement said: "While the President does not weigh in on every single ballot measure in every state, the record is clear that the President has long opposed divisive and discriminatory efforts to deny rights and benefits to same sex couples. That's what the North Carolina ballot initiative would do - it would single out and discriminate against committed gay and lesbian couples - and that's why the President does not support it." The campaign sent out a similar statement April 9 in opposition to a similar ballot measure before voters in Minnesota in November.

Asked about same-sex marriage on the campaign trail, Republican Mitt Romney said he supports neither same-sex marriage nor civil unions.

# Romney bullying story comes to light

BY LISA KEEN

Just one day after President Obama's big announcement that he supports the legal right of gay couples to marry, Republican nominee apparent Mitt Romney was scrambling to hurry past an unexpected revelation.

A close friend of Romney's, when the two were attending Cranbrook, a private boarding school outside Detroit during their high school years, said Romney forcibly held down and cut the hair of a fellow student despite the student's screams for help.

The Romney friend, Matthew Friedemann, told the Washington Post, in a story published May 10, that the victim of the attack had tears in his eyes and was screaming for help when he, Romney, and several other students tackled the non-conforming student whom many presumed to be gay.

The Washington Post said four of the other students who participated in the attack confirmed it. One recalled it as "vicious." Friedemann said Romney organized and led the attack.

Asked about the Post story, Romney told FoxNews Radio Thursday that he didn't recall the incident but added, "I certainly don't believe that I ... thought the fellow was homosexual."

Although he didn't remember the incident, he characterized the attack as a prank, acknowledged that it might have gone "too far," but said he considers himself to be "a very different person" now.

The victim of the 1965 attack, according to the Post, was John Lauber, who died in 2004. In high school, Lauber had grown his hair long, bleached it, and wore it in a style that it draped

The Washington Post said four of the other students who participated in the attack confirmed it. One recalled it as "vicious." Friedemann said Romney organized and led the attack.

over one eye. That, according to Friedemann, led many students to presume Lauber was gay.

Friedemann said Romney saw Lauber's hairstyle and said, "He can't look like that. That's wrong!" A few days later Friedemann said he found Romney leading a group of students into a room where Lauber was. Friedemann recounted how Romney and the group grabbed Lauber, pinned him to the floor, and enabled Romney to cut his hair.

The Washington Post got confirmation of the attack from five of the students who participated in it.

Alex Shriver, a Romney campaign spokesman on MSNBC Thursday afternoon, blew off a question about the incident, calling it a "temporary media distraction, with sort of questionable timing."

But the Washington Post found another fellow student of Romney's, Gary Hummel, who was gay at the time and recalled Romney mocking him with "Atta girl!" whenever he spoke out in class.

## State Senate Democratic Leader: 'Romney owes students an apology'

LANSING - Senate Democratic Leader Gretchen Whitmer spoke on the Senate floor May 10 to denounce Republican Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney after media reports detailed stories in which Romney bullied and attacked a fellow classmate while a student at Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills.

"What kind of message does it send to our students when Republicans continue to support a candidate who thought it acceptable to bully a classmate while in high school and shrugs it off with a laugh when asked today," said Whitmer. "Romney needs to not only own up to his past mistakes but listen to our students who struggle far too often today with this exact type of bullying so he understands the terrible impact it can have on their lives."

Reports from classmates of Romney describe detailed incidents of harassment,

bullying and even an attack on a fellow student in which Romney had him pinned down on the floor and cut his hair off simply because he thought the student was a homosexual. The victim of that attack described in later years that the incident was "horrible" and something that had stayed with him throughout his life.

Whitmer pointed out that this is the exact type of behavior the Legislature worked to prevent when they passed Matt's Safe School law in 2011.

"It appears Mitt Romney believes he had his own personal license to bully and that he is above having to apologize to those he hurt," added Whitmer. "Perhaps this explains why Governor Romney eliminated a program designed to help implement bullying prevention programs in Massachusetts schools. It's a disturbing pattern of behavior."

the Ringwald theatre Presents  
a heavenly comedy from the  
team and playwright of  
*Die! Mommie! Die!*


the  
*Divine*  
Sister  
By Charles Busch

May 11 -  
June 4, 2012

Fri, Sat, Mon at 8pm  
Sun at 3pm

The Ringwald Theatre  
22742 Woodward Ave  
Ferndale, MI

www.theRingwald.com



*PartridgeCreek*  
Obstetrics & Gynecology



Rhonda L. Kobold, D.O.      Robert A. Valice, M.D.  
Beth K. Mutch, FNP      Teresa C. Kuz, WHNP

www.partridgecreekobgyn.com  
15959 Hall Road, Suite 301 • Macomb Twp. • 48044  
586.247.8609  
Comprehensive Women's Health Services • 3D & 4D Ultrasound Imaging  
On Staff at William Beaumont-Troy



## Let your legislators know how you feel at May Lobby Day

On Thursday, May 24 over 100 people and their allies will meet in Lansing for Lobby Day where they will have a chance to meet with elected officials and talk with them about gay and transgender issues.

The day is organized by Unity Michigan, a coalition which includes ACLU of Michigan, Affirmations Community Center, Equality Michigan, KICK, The Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion and the Ruth Ellis Center.

Roland Leggett, field director for Equality Michigan is one of the organizers. "We want people to get in the practice of having conversations with their representatives consistently," Leggett said. The event will begin with training at the AFL-CIO Office in Lansing at 419 Washington Square South, where attendees will be taught how to stay on message, how to set up phone banks, and other methods for communicating with legislators and the media.

Equality Michigan has done similar events on a smaller scale, once bringing a group of LGBT seniors to the capitol, and more often arriving with student groups. "This is the first time we have organized a group like this, with other LGBT leaders. Our Policy Director and PAC President will be there as well as several of the elected officials who are part of LEAD, which is our Local Electeds Against Discrimination movement."

Once training is complete, the group will march to the capital building and have a rally. After listening to the speakers, attendees will be free to stop by their representatives' offices, mingle with other activists, and practice speaking about equal rights.

Members of the public are encouraged to come out and get involved. For more information go to <http://equalitymi.org/take-action/events/equality-action-day>.

For more information, visit [www.equalitymi.org](http://www.equalitymi.org).

# Department of Civil Rights seeks stories as Elliot-Larsen amendment considered

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

The push to amend the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act is on, and the Michigan Department of Civil Rights needs your help gathering information on instances of discrimination in the state.

On April 17, Senator Rebekah Warren introduced Senate Bill 1063 which would add "Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression" to the list of groups that are protected against discrimination by law. Michigan's Civil Rights law currently prohibits discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations based on religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status. Senate Bill 1063 hopes to add sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression to this law.

Currently, 21 states and Washington DC prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and 16 states and Washington DC prohibit discrimination based on gender identity. In Michigan there are local ordinances that protect these groups in some manner in Ann Arbor, Birmingham, Dearborn Heights, Detroit, Douglas, East Lansing, Ferndale, Flint, Grand Ledge, Grand Rapids, Huntington Woods, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Muskegon, Saginaw, Traverse City and Ypsilanti.

The Michigan Department of Civil Rights is gathering information on the proposed amendment, and they are asking that people share their opinions and experiences around LGBT discrimination. "Do you think protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people should be added to the ELCRA? Have you experienced discrimination in Michigan because of your sexual orientation or gender identity? Please consider sharing your thoughts on the proposed amendments to this law. We are interested in hearing from individuals in favor of and opposed to such changes to the law.

Please email, anonymously if you prefer, [calcagnor@michigan.gov](mailto:calcagnor@michigan.gov) to share your opinion," said a recent request for information.

## Unity Michigan

Across the state, local officials have joined together through Unity Michigan to show support for the bill. Their LEAD (Local Electeds Against Discrimination) statement has 70 signatures from elected officials at many levels of government. "All hardworking people in our state, including those who are gay or transgender, should have the chance to earn a living and provide for themselves and their families. No one should have to live in fear that they could be legally fired for reasons that have nothing to do with their

job performance – especially in this uncertain economic climate," the statement said. It went on to say "Diversity helps to keep our cities strong, and our gay and transgender residents are a part of that diversity.

"We know that young, bright, creative-minded professionals are more likely to choose places that foster diversity and inclusion. They are just the kind of workers, thinkers, and doers that Michigan needs to help revitalize our economy."

The Mayor of Grand Rapids, George Heartwell, was among those who took a stand. "Especially in these days when bigotry and homophobia seems to be settling back in to plague communities, Grand Rapids' ordinance, adopted 17 years ago, stands as a hallmark of open-mindedness and welcome. The rich arts and culture of our city, the robust design and research industry and the expansive higher education presence benefit from the inclusiveness signaled by our ordinance.

"Our ordinance has no enforcement teeth without state statute. While it represents an important symbol, its effectiveness is otherwise minimized until Elliot-Larsen is amended.

"We had a tragic case in our metro area where a teacher was fired by a suburban district simply because he was gay. The LGBT community, together with allies in the straight community, came together to publicly support him. Unfortunately, he died of a heart ailment before the School Board could address the issue," Heartwell said.

It isn't just leaders of affirming communities that are getting involved. Elected officials from School Boards and Library Boards have signed on too. Jennifer Suidan sits on the Library Board in White Lake. She's not gay or transgender and her community does not have inclusive protections. "I signed onto this letter because I believe firmly that it is beyond time for Michigan to protect all of our residents. This shouldn't be a task handled municipality to municipality. Every Michigan resident deserves the same protections under the law."

Surprisingly, Suidan underestimates the

strength of her voice in this issue. "I think that it is important to realize that there are plenty of signers to this letter that are openly LGBT elected officials. Their voice hasn't been made nearly as prominent as I think would be ideal, considering that they are in the best position to speak for their community. I am always happy to lend my name, my voice and answer any questions that are sent to me about this topic but I do want to insure that those that this amendment directly impacts and that this is even more personal for get their voice represented."

While LGBT elected officials are important in the fight and serve as good role models for the community, it's going to take allies standing up to really create change. Suidan signed for the same reason that more and more allies are stepping forward in the fight for equality, and should be noted for their efforts.

"I don't view my particular community as entirely welcoming," she said. "My decision to sign this letter, as an ally, as a young woman and as a local elected official, was in hopes that maybe it does make my community even slightly more welcoming. I want to make it so people know that they aren't alone, no matter where you live."

The Unity Michigan Coalition works to ensure that all Michiganders are treated fairly in the workplace by advancing nondiscrimination policies.

## Coalition partners

The Unity Michigan Coalition includes the ACLU of Michigan, Affirmations, Equality Michigan, KICK, the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, and the Ruth Ellis Center. LGBT people and allies are welcome to get involved. Check out <http://dontchangeyourself.com>.

To send your opinion or experience to the Michigan Civil Rights Department, email [calcagnor@michigan.gov](mailto:calcagnor@michigan.gov)



# Motor City Pride: Educate, liberate & celebrate June 2-3

BY CRYSTAL PROXMIRE

**DETROIT** - After last year's packed turnout at Hart Plaza, Motor City Pride planners are looking for another year to "Educate, Liberate and Celebrate" Detroit's LGBT community with the biggest party of the year. Dave Wait, who chairs the planning committee, said there's a lot to look forward to in Downtown Detroit this June 2 and 3.

"We've got some great corporate support this year, especially from the Big Three [Ford, Chrysler and GM] who have pooled together, and we've got the UAW. Amp Radio will be there and we've got more groups coming in doing little things to add activity," Wait said.

"We added a lot more activities this year, because we want everyone to be comfortable and have a good time," Wait said. Saturday will be the family picnic, and there will also be puppet shows, stilt walking, a dinosaur area, and face painting.

On Saturday, over a dozen same-sex couples will exchange vows in the annual commitment ceremony thanks to collaboration with Metropolitan Community Church, and a large parade will cap off the weekend.

"Affirmations is getting involved as well, with their youth program hosting a Prevention Ball, which is a ball-style dance-off mixed with positive messages," Wait said. "They're really working hard to put this together."

There will be three stages of entertainment for Motor City Pride-goers.

The Pride Stage will be home of the Affirmations Prevention Ball as well as performances by dance-pop superstar Kimberly Cole, folk duo Nervous But Excited, and the iconically beautiful Detroit rock lady, Barbara Payton. Plus there will be Motor City Drag presented by Sabin, and something called Hyper Crush, which the website describes as "Live and Direct from the Honky Tonk of Electro. Three shit-faced extraterrestrials known amongst the elite simply as Donny, Preston and Holly. A couple of real gentlemen and one broad with a steady diet of cotton candy and flat soda pop to calm the nerves."

The Underground Stage is the spot for super-hot club music, with mixes from some of the area's most renowned DJs, including DJ Maestro, DJ Jace and DJ Lena. Necto, MGM Gand, Gigi's and Perfecto all have representation in this weekend-long lineup.

The schedule is not yet finalized for the main festival stage, but Wait promises that more will come as Motor City Pride weekend draws near.

The history for this massive event, according to the Motor City Pride website, goes back to 1985 when, "a relatively new organization, the Michigan Organization for Human Rights (MOHR) hired an Executive Director from Ohio, Craig Covey, in part because of the large and successful Gay and Lesbian civil rights marches he organized in Columbus. In 1986, Craig Covey and MOHR organized Michigan's first Gay and Lesbian march in Detroit. From 1986-1988,

the civil rights march took place down Woodward Avenue followed by a rally at Kennedy Square. A party took place at the McGregor Center on the campus of Wayne State University following the rally, organized by a small number of dedicated Gay and Lesbian groups and volunteers." Over the years the event has moved around a bit, at times occupying the parking garage in Downtown Royal Oak and other times filling up Downtown Ferndale. But last year the event was so large that it fit perfectly in Hart Plaza, in the heart of the Motor City. The event now benefits Equality Michigan, a group dedicated to fighting for equal rights, ending discrimination and providing services for victims of hate.

Motor City Pride is the largest gathering of LGBT people and allies in the State, attracting over 44,000 people last year.

*There is still time to get involved! Volunteers, visitors and vendors can find more information at [www.motorcitypride.org](http://www.motorcitypride.org).*

**Check out BTL's complete June Pride coverage of events around the state online at [www.pridesource.com](http://www.pridesource.com)**

## ► Gay rights backers

Continued from p. 4

had to take the first step," Beck said. "I don't think either of us ever imagined that we necessarily would be, you know, 15 or 16 years later in the position of hearing the president of the United States come out in support of same-sex marriage. But it's an amazing and wondrous thing that, here we are."

## Wyoming

To social conservatives and some church leaders, the debate over gay marriage is partly about government intrusion on an institution that, at its core, is based in the deepest religious traditions.

To others, it's about eradicating hate.

In late 1998, Matthew Shepard, a slender, 21-year-old student at the University of Wyoming, was robbed, fatally beaten and tied to a fence by two men he met in a bar in Laramie. The killers, police said, targeted him because he was gay. His death prompted changes. Congress passed hate crimes legislation bearing his name in 2009.

Now, Shepard's mother, Judy, hopes Obama's words might get people thinking again, and not just about marriage.

"To me, that's what this issue is — a matter of civil rights," she said.

"He's following the change of the nation as a whole, I think," Shepard said of Obama. "But to have the actual president say he's in favor of it, when our previous president was so public about being against it, is just so big. I can't even ... there's no words."

The Wyoming Legislature, where Republicans outnumber Democrats 76-14, last year considered but ultimately rejected a proposal that would have barred recognition of same-sex marriages performed in other states.

State Rep. Cathy Connolly, D-Laramie, a lesbian, said she believes that feelings about gays and lesbians in the state are different than they were in 1998. Even in a state Legislature that could be defined as very conservative, she said anti-gay measures are seen as inappropriate. "Times have changed," Connolly said.

## New York

In 1969, the New York Daily News trumpeted the dawn of the gay rights movement with this headline: "Homo Nest Raided, Queen Bees Are

Stinging Mad."

In the story that followed, about riots in a gay neighborhood following the police raid at Stonewall Inn, the paper taunted the club's patrons as "little girls" and "ladies-in-waiting." They didn't speak or walk, they "lisped" and "pranced," and were described as being more concerned about their hairdos being disturbed than social justice.

That kind of disparaging language hasn't disappeared from the American dialogue quite yet, and even as Obama's remarks were celebrated, gay and lesbian leaders like Christine Quinn, the speaker of New York's City Council, noted that they came shortly after the hurtful vote in North Carolina.

"It is an upsetting thing, to think about people going into the voting booth and casting a vote that, in essence, is against who I am and against what my family is. That's upsetting," she said. "Whether you're the speaker of the City Council or a 13-year-old girl, that hurts. Who likes to think about people not liking them? ... It's something that eats at you, whether you want to admit it or not."

Quinn said the president's words were an emotional salve after that ballot-box loss — a sentiment that was shared by patrons at the Stonewall, where a sign outside the door Wednesday night said, "Obama supports gay marriage. Let's drink."

"We've never had a president that stood up for us," said patron Nancy Pizarro, as she sat with friends at the bar. "I feel like I'm living history."

New York last year became the largest state to recognize same-sex marriage, with a surprise vote in the legislature, quickly signed into law by Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

## Virginia

Lilli Vincenz, 74, was one of about a dozen people who were part of the first gay rights protest in front of the White House in 1965, back in an era when almost no one in power took the issue seriously.

"It was so important that we become visible, because we weren't really visible before," said Vincenz, who now lives in Arlington, Va., and for decades has driven a car with a license plate that reads "Change."

Vincenz said she was proud to march that day, and she is thrilled that Obama has embraced gay marriage.

"It's very important, and it's very important for the rest of the United States," said Vincenz, who was discharged from the Army in

**pride**source  
media group

Vol. 2020 • Issue 764

May 17, 2012

**PUBLISHERS**

Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

**EDITORIAL**

**Editor in Chief**

Susan Horowitz  
susanhorowitz@pridesource.com

**Entertainment Editor**

Chris Azzopardi  
chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com

**Associate Editor**

Benjamin Jenkins  
bj@pridesource.com

**Arts & Theater Editor**

Donald V. Calamia,  
curtaincalls@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 Woug

**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  
www.pridesource.com

Our rate cards are available online

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

Copyright 2012 Pride Source Media Group, LLC



# Viewpoint

## Marriage: We fall down but we get up

BY MICHELLE E. BROWN

Are you feeling good about our chances in November? Still sitting on the sidelines because you're just not that into politics? Are you leaving all the heavy lifting to your local and national organizations? Are you still waiting for equality to come to you, instead of grabbing the bull by the horns?

Well listen up people. Here's your wake up call.

On Tuesday, May 8, 2012 North Carolina voters passed a sweeping ban on gay marriage with Amendment One enshrining discrimination in their state constitution.

Our movement has seen tremendous progress and growing support in recent years. Since 2008 Connecticut, New Hampshire, Iowa, Vermont, New York, Washington DC, and most recently Maryland have embraced marriage equality. And after a crushing defeat in California, LGBT families were given new hope when the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals declared Prop 8 unconstitutional.

Support for constitutional amendments banning same-sex couples from marrying has been dropping as support for marriage equality continues to rise. Reportedly 52 percent of Americans now support marriage equality.

Our unions, our relationships, even without marriage, are real. And at long last are receiving recognition and acknowledgement particularly at the federal level where benefits have been extended to partners of Federal employees, including hospital visitation rights; and issuing diplomatic passports and benefits. Small steps, yes, but progress none-the-less.

The long arc of the moral universe at last seems to be bending toward justice for LGBT couples and families. We have not made it to the proverbial Promised Land, but we have been to the mountain top and have tasted that better day in LGBT history.

And then North Carolina passed Amendment One joining 30 other states having some sort of constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

I don't hate North Carolina. As a matter of fact I have North Carolina roots. Although my mother was born in Michigan, the rest of her/my family came to Detroit as part of the great Northern migration.

I have friends in North Carolina - some transplanted from Michigan some native born. All are out, proud and, while not ignoring the challenges of being gay in a southern state, were for the most part pretty optimistic about life for the LGBT community in North Carolina.

North Carolina - it's a part of me. It's a state I had considered for relocation; and the ancestral home I had planned to visit this summer but all of that was before North Carolinians voted to deny my community our civil rights.

So what the hell happened in North Carolina? Polling by the Coalition to Protect All North

Carolina Families showed that when voters understood how far-reaching Amendment One was, they turned against it - but only 40 percent even knew the amendment banned civil unions.

Although there was record primary turnout, that turnout represented only 34.37% of eligible voters - sad in comparison to the 70% turnout when President Obama took North Carolina in 2008. Then the turnout in North Carolina was among the states with the highest voter turnout in the country.

With a larger turnout, it's just possible this thing could have been defeated. But with no contested Democratic race and the GOP nomination all but a "done deal," we (liberals, progressives, etc.) didn't take care of job one - getting out the vote.

Just look at the statistics and it becomes clear why Amendment One was put on a primary ballot - when voter turnout is expected to be low. It was no coincidence. The people behind this Amendment and every other assault on our civil rights know exactly what they are doing. It's called strategy - a strategy to systematically turn back the hands of time and dismantle any progress for full LGBT equality.

It's how they have been able to keep their issues in the fore-front for months during the long drawn out GOP primary/caucus cycle gaining free press for divisive issues.

While we've been waiting for the big dance in November, they - the bigoted far-right are using every opportunity to cement their stranglehold on American politics; wrapping fear, bigotry and prejudice in a cloak of religious self righteousness that is contrary to the very beliefs this country was founded on and far from WWJD.

So how do we fight future challenges to our civil rights by these discriminatory amendments? We must be as strategic, as opportunistic, and as vocal as the other side.

We say it again and again. When our

communities (and I mean OUR communities where we live, work and raise our families side by side with the same people who would deny us equal rights), when OUR communities know us, know our stories, they are against far-reaching, discriminatory legislation.

Remember "Don't ask. Don't Tell." We told our stories again and again. When Congress asked, we told of serving in fear of being discovered, stripped of not only benefits and years of service but our self-respect. They asked and we told. They asked and our comrades, superiors and allies testified on our behalf joining our voices for the end of this discriminatory policy.

DADT provided a level of discourse, a teachable moment and ultimately a defining moment where America saw that the LGBT community was not asking for special rights but reclaiming our place as an integral part of the fabric of America.

So maybe the time has come for us to take on a "Do ask! Do tell!" campaign. Let's ramp up our ground game and take it to the streets.

We need to show up at every neighborhood meeting, town hall, and candidate forum, in collaboration/cooperation with our friends, allies and progressive partners, take advantage of every teachable opportunity to dispel the fear and ignorance about our community while reclaiming our place as valued members of every community.

On May 8th in North Carolina we fell down, but we got up. And, with President Obama's endorsement of marriage equality, there will plenty of opportunities to engage in conversations that will not only educate but change hearts and minds in 2012 and beyond.

It's on and poppin' folks! So roll up those sleeves and let's get busy.

Michelle E. Brown is a Public Speaker, activist and author follow her activities at [www.mychangeiam.com](http://www.mychangeiam.com)





# Michigan gay prisoner wins discrimination case

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

**CINCINNATI** - The American Civil Liberties Union received a favorable decision last week from the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in a case on behalf of the plaintiff, Ricky Davis, a gay prisoner at the Florence Crane Correctional Facility in Coldwater.

Davis filed an employment discrimination case on his own alleging that he was improperly removed from his employment in the prison public works program because of his sexual orientation, claiming that it was in violation of his rights under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. A federal judge in the district court, without the benefit of any briefing, dismissed the complaint pursuant to the Prison Litigation Reform Act stating that Davis failed to claim that he was treated differently from other similarly-situated prisoners. According to court documentation, Davis, an insulin-dependent diabetic, was screened and medically cleared for his off-site assignment by prison health officials. Although there were other insulin-dependent diabetics who participate in the public works program, Davis claimed that he is the only one who is gay.

Davis also claimed that the public works officers were looking for a reason, “even if that reason was invalid,” to have him removed from the public works program in order to “eliminate the need to have to deal with a homosexual.” When Davis suffered from what he believed at the time to be a diabetic episode while on duty, he was deemed a security risk because his diabetic episode caused the public works crew to return to the facility early. Davis alleges that he did not return to the facility early and was able to finish the remainder of his shift after receiving a honey packet.

A public works officer had Davis fill out a medical health care request and meet with a nurse upon his return to the facility. His episode was determined by the nurse to be a “false alarm.” Davis claims that he had never previously experienced a low blood sugar episode while on a public works assignment. Despite these facts, the prison health

Davis also claimed that the public works officers were looking for a reason, “even if that reason was invalid,” to have him removed from the public works program in order to “eliminate the need to have to deal with a homosexual.”

unit manager ordered that Davis be removed from the public works program. Davis alleged that the public works officers persuaded the prison health unit manager, apparently either by colluding with her or providing her with false information about the incident, to use concerns about his diabetic condition as the pretext for removing him from the program.

Davis further alleged that because of his sexual orientation, the public works officers supervising his crew treated him differently than other inmates, ridiculed and belittled him, and “made a spectacle” of him when they brought him back to the correctional facility after the incident occurred. He provides specific details of the defendants’ anti-gay animus by alleging that the public works officers were uncomfortable with his sexual orientation and sought to avoid strip-searching, or otherwise interacting with him because he is gay. He also alleges that heterosexual diabetic prisoners were allowed to perform identical jobs in the public works program without being labeled as a safety risk.

Davis argues that the district court erred in dismissing his complaint at the pleading stage. The Michigan’s ACLU Chapter stepped in to represent Davis on appeal arguing that, as most courts across the country have held, the government cannot discriminate against any LGBT person when there is no rational basis for the adverse treatment.

The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals agreed and held that Davis alleged

enough facts to raise a claim of sexual orientation discrimination in the public works program of the Department of Corrections.

“That when someone raises a sexual orientation discrimination claim as violating the Equal Protection Clause of the Constitution, gay people constitute an ‘identifiable group’ for the equal protection challenge. What happened in the Davis case is that District Judge Bell had improperly treated Davis’ complaint for sexual orientation discrimination as a ‘class of one’ claim. Class of one claims or legal claims that allege that someone was ‘arbitrarily treated differently’ from others, not for the reason that they belong to a particular identifiable group. Bell failed to recognize gays as an identifiable minority subjected to discrimination in society,” said Jay Kaplan, ACLU of Michigan LGBT Project Staff Attorney.

What this means for LGBT people in Michigan is if they file a complaint for discrimination in the federal court, based on sexual orientation discrimination by local, state or federal governments, they have alleged an equal protection argument and the court has to make a determination of whether the government has a rational basis to justify that discrimination.

“What’s important about this case is that the sixth circuit has made it clear that LGBT people are an identifiable group of people who have been subjected to discrimination by our government. This means that complaints that allege discrimination based on sexual orientation by the government have to go forward and cannot be dismissed based on the pleadings themselves,” said Kaplan. “This is an opportunity for the case to be briefed on its merits and to give Mr. Davis his day in court, which he deserves.”

The lawsuit names the Prison Health Services Department, Health Unit Manager Scharfnaar, Public Works Supervisor Decline and Corrections Officer Kast as the defendants. Davis is represented by Michael Steinberg and Kary Moss with the ACLU of Michigan in Detroit, Joshua Block and Leslie Cooper at the ACLU Foundation and Miriam Aukerman with the ACLU of Michigan in Grand Rapids.

## Creep of the Week Mitt Romney

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

As you surely already know, President Obama came out of the closet last week as totally gay – for gay marriage, anyway. Obama’s support for marriage equality had been, let’s face it, an open secret of sorts. I mean, everybody knew that he supported it, but he pretended to be all conflicted about the issue, going so far as to say he believed marriage was a one-man one-woman operation.



Mitt Romney, Cranbrook student

This, in spite of the fact that back in 1996 he told *Outlines*, a gay newspaper, “I favor legalizing same-sex marriages, and would fight efforts to prohibit such marriages.” Needless to say, Obama’s painfully slow “evolution” on the issue was a sore spot for many lesbian and gay folks.

Hell, even after he said publicly and on purpose into a TV camera that marriage equality is cool with him, it’s still a sore spot for some. The Log Cabin Republicans were quick to piss all over the announcement and the Internet was atwitter with grumblings about the whole thing being too little, too late.

Evoking that terrifying scene from *Mommie Dearest*, Romney hacked the kid’s hair off with scissors while Romney’s friends held him down.

But I say, screw all that. The bottom line is, for the first time in history we have a sitting president who acknowledges that our families not only exist, but they are valid and should be afforded equal treatment enshrined in law. And this is huge.

Oh, but that Newsweek cover with the neon rainbow halo over Obama’s head with the headline, “The First Gay President?” That shit is crazy. Obama is no more gay than Bill Clinton is black.

Still, with Obama giving the thumbs up to marriage equality and talking about repealing the Defense of Marriage Act, the choice between him and Mitt Romney is starker than ever.

After Obama’s pro-gay marriage announcement, Romney told the audience during a commencement address at Liberty University, “Culture matters. As fundamental as these principles are, they may become topics of democratic debate. So it is today with the enduring institution of marriage. Marriage is a relationship between one man and one woman.”

On May 10 Romney said, “And if two people of the same gender want to live together, want to have a loving relationship, or even to adopt a child - in my state individuals of the same sex were able to adopt children. In my view, that’s something that people have a right to do. But to call that marriage is something that in my view is a departure from the real meaning of that word.”

The very next day Romney backpedaled, saying that he was just saying that same-sex couples adopting kids together was something that does happen, not something that should.

And then there’s that horrifying Washington Post report about Romney bullying a kid everybody thought was gay in high school, complete with an episode recalled by “five students, who gave their accounts independently of one another.” Evoking that terrifying scene from *Mommie Dearest*, Romney hacked the kid’s hair off with scissors while Romney’s friends held him down.

Oh, and don’t forget that Romney’s foreign policy advisor, Richard Grenell, was given the ol’ heave ho after right-wing conservatives pitched a fit because Grenell is a homo.

It’s no wonder that Bill White, a “well-known, openly gay supporter of Mitt Romney” according to CNN, switched teams. White, who now supports Obama, even demanded Romney refund his big campaign contribution. Ouch.

My guess is that White isn’t the only LGBT defector. And with good reason. Even this early in the 2012 election, it’s pretty clear that any LGBT person who votes Romney might as well beat themselves with a wire hanger.

## Heard on Facebook

Reports are saying local LGBT communities are stepping up the pressure on politicians to follow Obama's stance on same-sex marriage. Do you think Obama's announcement could play a key role in the tide turning?

Maybe in the deep South where religion trumps all else, but not so much in the rest of the country where people are trying to find a job or save their home from foreclosure.

**-Ken Warnock**

I think the states will look at it differently now.

**-Jeremy McConnell**

His stance *could* play a key role, because he has the power to say, "It is unconstitutional to pass legislation that prevents/withholds rights." I haven't heard him playing the hand he is actually dealt being the head of the executive branch. The fact is, it's not a matter of "could," but of "should." He *should* be changing these things at local and state levels, because it's a federal issue directly connected to the Bill of Rights.

**-Shelby Clark**

It's a ploy to gain support during an election year. He's changed his position from four years ago. The decision should not be up to the government. It's a social issue. Social issues have no place in a civic realm. I personally believe the government shouldn't recognize any marriages, gay or straight. But since they are, banning marriages amounts to state sanctioned discrimination. Gay marriage needs to be decriminalized.

**-Jay Topham**

Comments may be edited for grammar and length.



Join the conversation ...

Search: "Between The Lines Newspaper"

# S/he Said Reactions to Obama

COMPILED BY HOWARD ISRAEL



**Dianne Feinstein**

*"From a personal point of view, I can tell you what happened because it happened to me. You get to know more and more gay couples and you see the happiness. You see the economic security that marriage brings. And even more fundamentally, you can see children who otherwise would not have an adopted home being able to have that home. And so same-sex couples raise children, they do a fine job. And I think when you see this - and it has happened in California - more and more people say, 'What is wrong with people being happy?'"*

-Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), in a column titled "Dianne Feinstein Defends Obama On Gay Marriage," [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com), May 15.



**Stephen Henderson**

*"What I'd like to see Obama do next is turn the tables on conservative opponents of gay marriage, whose position has never made sense to me. Republicans are supposedly about small government and individual liberty, and the GOP has dug in deep to oppose what it calls a creeping encroachment of government into people's personal choices on issues such as health care. But how can the same party believe it's okay for the government to deny equal treatment under the law to an entire class of citizens, based solely on who they are, and who they love? How can freedom in the most personal sense (who we marry) be less cherished than the economic freedom to choose whether or not to buy health insurance?"*

-Stephen Henderson, Detroit Free Press Editorial Page Editor, in his column titled "President Obama and gay marriage," [www.freep.com](http://www.freep.com), May 09.



**Sharon Lettman-Hicks**

*"It is an honor to witness our President take such a strong stand in support of gay and lesbian couples across the country. This affirmation reinforces the Administration's ongoing commitment to LGBT Americans and our families. Here is President Obama, the nation's first Black president, taking a position that no sitting president in history has had the fortitude to ever take. If anyone in America has ever wondered what courageous leadership looks like, here it is."*

-Sharon Lettman-Hicks, Executive Director/CEO, National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC), in a statement titled "NBJC Applauds President Obama's Endorsement of Marriage Equality," <http://nbjc.org>, May 09.



**Janet Murguia**

*"NCLR applauds President Obama for his historic remarks expressing support for marriage equality. This issue is about doing the right thing and being on the right side of history. Ensuring fairness and equality while protecting people from discrimination is at the heart of NCLR's mission. Like other Americans, Latinos have shifted their views on LGBT issues in recent years. Acceptance and support for loving couples to have the right to marry is now shared by a majority of Latinos. We celebrate this historic moment with our allies in the LGBT community and with the millions of LGBT Latinos across the nation, and we look forward to working together to advance equal rights for all in the days ahead."*

-Janet Murguia, President/CEO of National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the U.S., in a statement titled "President Obama Joins Majority of Latinos in Support of Marriage Equality," [www.nclr.org](http://www.nclr.org), May 09.

## Parting Glances



### Pages past tense #10

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Two popular Rosemary Clooney hits of the late-1950s were “Come on a my house” and “Sisters.” Both took over the air waves, juke boxes and drag

queen lip-synch stage routines.

As a lark my friends Richard, a pharmacist assistant, and Gary, a would-be writer (one story published in Scholastic Magazine), and I (a soon-to-be OR Tech, six weeks in training) as a joke would hold hands, sashay unseen down a Toledo street, and sing, “There were never such devoted sisters.”

Of the three of us gay “siblings” Gary was the least, might one charitably say, “marketable.” Over weight and facially uneventful, he would often sigh with envy, as blond Richard and occasionally lanky, 175-pound, 29” waist me – hey! I had a good run for the pocket money – got lucky.

Gary said he made out when he was alone, and had what he claimed was a sure fire gimmick for attracting potential romantic suitors. (“Only if they’re intelligent,” he stressed.) Gary, who took the bus to and from work daily, would sit next to an empty seat, carrying a book with an intriguing title.

He told me he got lucky twice flashing “Gone With the Wind” and had a week-long affair that resulted from an in-depth conversation about “War in Peace,” all 650 pages of it in hard cover edition. His contactee spoke Russian and immigrated here at the end of World War I.

### My grandmother lived in England during the infamous three Wilde trials. She was 19

It was with Gary’s literary ploy in mind that one late spring day I took a Michigan Avenue street car out to see Richard at work at his pharmacy on Detroit’s west side. My choice for conspicuous reading consumption was Oscar Wilde’s “The Picture of Dorian Gray.”

(My grandmother Mary Petty took me as a nine-year-old to see the 1945 movie, starring Hurd Hatfield as Dorian and Angela Lansbury, as his ill-fated paramour. My grandmother lived in England during the infamous three Wilde trials. She was 19.

There’s a slight possibility – very slight – that seeing the movie made me gay.)

Making sure that the Wilde book cover was face up on my lap I pretended to be looking out the window. “Am I fortunate to find this seat next to you vacant,” said – and I mentally caught my breath – a handsome thirty-something guy smiling at me. “Do you think you, like Dorian, can become eternal through degradation,” he continued.

Never having been degraded (at least I was certain I hadn’t), I answered, “I saw the movie as a kid. I liked Hatfield’s performance,” and, dropping a hair pin, “actor George Sanders was a bit of a camp.”

During the twenty stops remaining I learned that my companion Jack Jacobs, was an artist, and that were I available he would like to see me again and take me to a “g-a-y” party in Ann Arbor Saturday next.

“You’ll fit right in for sure,” said Jack, beaming like a Pepsodent ad, not unlike the one facing across from our seats. “It’s college profs, grad students, scholars. They’ll simply adore you. You like the right kind of books.”

I couldn’t wait to tell Gary. Saturday Jack picked me up as promised. Unfortunately his “Miss Liberties” came later.

Charles@pridesource.com



## Speak Out Yes he did!

BY ERIC W. RADER

The evolution of President Obama is complete. After months of speculation about his position on same-sex marriage, the president announced last Wednesday that he does indeed support the right of gay and lesbian couples to marry. Earlier in his political career, Obama supported equal marriage rights, but then backed away from this view when he ran for the U.S. Senate in 2004. Now he is once more squarely in the equal marriage rights camp, and we in the LGBT community should welcome the president back to our side of this important issue of equality.

Of course, the president’s decision to come out in favor of equal marriage rights doesn’t change the current legal status of gay people. In most states in this country, it is illegal, either by statute or constitutional amendment, for two people of the same gender to marry each other. Presidents cannot alter existing laws through executive orders, but they can direct their executive powers toward bringing about change. Several years ago, Obama asked Congress to repeal the so-called “Defense of Marriage Act.” Since congressional action has not been forthcoming, his administration stopped defending the law in court when LGBT citizens brought legal challenges against it. Ultimately, achieving marriage equality nationally will require a U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning anti-gay marriage laws and declaring them to be a violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment. The need for federal court review of the constitutionality of these laws became even more critical last week. On Tuesday, voters in the state of North Carolina enshrined anti-gay bigotry in their state constitution by approving an amendment outlawing same-sex marriage, civil unions, and even domestic partnerships.

What’s most important about Obama’s statement last week is its historical significance. In the struggle

Ultimately, achieving marriage equality nationally will require a U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning anti-gay marriage laws and declaring them to be a violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment.

for civil rights in the early to mid-20th Century, presidents were reluctant to give a full-throated endorsement to the quest for equal rights for African Americans. Over time, our leaders became stronger in their opposition to the Jim Crow system in the American South. But it took a long time before presidents announced their support for full legal desegregation in this country.

On the issue of gay civil rights, the country has actually moved far pretty quickly. In 2004, Massachusetts became the first state to legalize same-sex marriage, while that same year, then-San Francisco mayor Gavin Newsom began marrying same sex couples in his city, even though no law permitted it; California courts quickly stopped the mayor. Later that year, a number of anti-gay marriage amendments were passed in several states, including Michigan. Many, if not all, of these amendments were initiated by groups and people close to President George W. Bush, whose campaign saw this as a wedge issue that could divide the Democrats. Less than a decade later, we now have a president who supports the right of gay people to get married. Barack Obama has brought equal marriage rights into the political mainstream of the United States.

Now that he has “evolved,” it’s our responsibility to work hard to ensure that the president’s decision is not a lonely one.

What happens next? Many leaders in our community pushed the president hard to change his position on gay marriage. Now that he has “evolved,” it’s our responsibility to work hard to ensure that the president’s decision is not a lonely one. We should all recognize how courageous the president is for taking this issue on during a contentious election year. It appears that the contest between President Obama and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney will be very close. On the same day the president came out for marriage equality, his Republican opponent once again stated his unequivocal opposition to changing the definition of “traditional marriage” to include same-sex couples, and even stated that he opposes civil unions and domestic partnerships. While the economy remains the number one concern of most voters, we in the LGBT community should consider the candidates’ positions on LGBT equality very carefully. Last week the president took a strong moral stand in favor of equal rights for all of us. A lot more work needs to be done on equal rights, and it will take cooperation between the LGBT community and our political leaders to accomplish it. President Obama showed last week that he is more than willing to work with us, and we should return the favor.

### Thank the President

Thank President Obama for endorsing equal marriage rights:

E-Mail: [www.whitehouse.gov/contact/submit-questions-and-comments](http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/submit-questions-and-comments)

Phone: 202-456-1111

► **Gay rights backers**

Continued from p. 7

1963 for being gay.

Vincenz and her partner, Nancy Ruth Davis, held a commitment ceremony in Key West, Fla., in 1986, but they are not legally married. Obama's announcement got her thinking about marrying legally, she said, though she doesn't particularly want to travel to one of the six states and the District of Columbia that allow same-sex marriage.

Kay Tobin Lahusen, 82, a photojournalist who chronicled the early gay rights movement in the 1960s and marched in many early protests, called the president's announcement "a new dawn for our movement."

She said that during one of the early protests at the White House, demonstrators handed a letter to someone at the White House gates, hoping it would get to President Lyndon Johnson. They never learned if it did.

In those early days, she said, gay marriage seemed "out of the question" and "the impossible dream."

"Much of the movement thought it was just impossible and fanciful and perhaps just a little bit trivial," she said. "I felt it was absolutely key to our movement. I always believed it was something we should fight for."

Lahusen, who now lives in Kennett Square, Pa., never married her partner of 46 years, Barbara Gittings, who died in 2007. But she said the two were "married in our hearts."

**Massachusetts**

Politically, Obama might be taking a big risk by weighing in on gay marriage, just as the presidential contest is taking shape.

David Wilson, 68, one of the first gay men to legally marry in Massachusetts, said he would have been content if the president waited until after the election to declare his support, but was ecstatic he didn't.

"It was a complete validation of all the work that we've done," he said.

Wilson and his husband, Rob Compton, 62, were married on May 17, 2004, the first day they could legally wed. They now live in Provincetown, Mass.

Wilson said he thought most of all about what the announcement says to his five adult children and seven grandchildren, who talk

about marriage equality in school.

"They always look for other role models to help tell the story, and what better role model than to have the president of the United States stand up for their two papas," he said.

"President Obama has legitimized our marriage and also the word that comes to mind is normalcy. It feels like it's one step closer to normalcy," Wilson said. "So this is just one more way for the country to see our relationships, our marriage, as not just legal, but legitimate and normal."

**San Francisco**

There were limits to Obama's support for gay marriage. Notably, he said he believed that it was up to individual states to decide whether they would legalize same-sex marriages. That contrasted sharply with President John F. Kennedy's forceful condemnation of segregation in a nationally televised address in 1963, during which he called for federal legislation to end racial discrimination, and said states couldn't be left to deal with matters on their own.

At low-key celebrations in San Francisco's historically gay Castro District on Wednesday night, Cleve Jones, a protégé of slain gay rights pioneer Harvey Milk, said he spent time trying to explain "how long it's taken us to get to this point" to young people who reacted cynically to the president's announcement.

He said the closest historical precedent to Obama's statement was the opposition from then-President Jimmy Carter and his soon-to-be successor, Ronald Reagan, to a 1978 California ballot initiative that would have prevented gays and lesbians from teaching in the state's public schools.

"It is historic. It would be difficult to overstate the significance of it to the movement," Jones said.

Stuart Gaffney, a plaintiff in a lawsuit challenging the legality of a California constitutional amendment outlawing same-sex unions, also said there was much to celebrate in the president's remarks.

"I have never felt so proud to be an American," he said. "I think the president looked at this with his heart, not as a political calculation, but what's the right thing to do? That's what any president should do. He stood on the side of love."

# North Carolina approves ban on same-sex marriage

## 31st state in 8 years to deny rights

BY LISA KEEN

For those in the LGBT community who have watched state after state pass constitutional amendments to ban same-sex marriage, the results in North Carolina were expected: Voters approved the ban by a margin of roughly 61 percent to 39 percent, as of late Tuesday night.

Passage makes North Carolina the 31st state to pass a state constitutional amendment to block legal recognition of same-sex marriage. And North Carolina's ban goes even farther - banning recognition for any relationship other than a male-female marriage.

Local papers reported record turnouts for the vote Tuesday, even though some had anticipated a lighter turnout due to the lack of a contest in the Republican presidential primary vote.

But interest was apparently high - spurred in part, perhaps, by robo-calls from former President Clinton (against the amendment) and other advertisements from the Rev. Billy Graham (for it). The Obama campaign issued a statement in March, saying, "While the President does not weigh in on every single ballot measure in every state, the record is clear that the President has long opposed divisive and discriminatory efforts to deny rights and benefits to same sex couples. That's what the North Carolina ballot initiative would do - it would single out and discriminate against committed gay and lesbian couples - and that's why the President does not support it."

Also lining up against the amendment were the state's governor, the state NAACP, U.S. Senator Kay Hagan (D-NC), and many of the state's big city mayors.

One of the state's most popular native sons, Rev. Billy Graham, 93, issued a statement in support of Amendment One that appeared in many of the state's daily newspapers Sunday. Graham said, "The Bible is clear - God's definition of marriage is between a man and a woman. I want to urge my fellow North Carolinians to vote for the marriage amendment."

In a television ad, Mark Creech, executive director of the Christian Action League of North Carolina, told viewers that Amendment One "is an unprecedented opportunity for the

church to bring the will of god, the righteousness of god, the teachings of scripture to bear on the political process."

Amendment One was on the ballot Tuesday by virtue of approval by the state legislature last September.

The latest campaign finance reports available through the state elections division showed the anti-gay National Organization for Marriage had contributed more than \$100,000 for Amendment One support by the end of March. But the News Observer of Raleigh-Durham said the organization contributed more than \$400,000 by the end of the campaign. The paper said the Human Rights Campaign "and its affiliates" had contributed \$500,000 to defeat the measure.

An election finance report filed by the Vote for Marriage coalition pushing the initiative showed it raised \$1.2 million by April 30. The Coalition to Protect NC Families raised \$2 million by April 30, according to state records.

### The polling trends

HRC tried to look at the bright side of Tuesday's numbers, noting that, in 2004, similar ballot measures passed by margins of 71 percent to 29 percent, and noted that the average for southern states has been 75 percent to 25 percent.

As late as April 24, Public Policy Polling reported that momentum was turning against Amendment One. The poll, taken April 20 to 22, showed 54 percent said they would vote for the ban while 40 percent said they would vote against. Six percent said they were unsure. When PPP first polled on Amendment One, in October 2011, 61 percent of respondents said they would vote for it, 34 percent against.

Polls in Minnesota, where a similar constitutional ban will be on the ballot in November, currently show a much closer contest. A PPP poll in January showed 48 percent for and 44 percent against, with eight percent unsure.

A PPP poll in Maine, where a proactive measure seeking to establish a statutory law allowing same-sex couples to marry, reported that 54 percent of respondents were in favor of allowing gays to marry and 41 percent opposed, as of March.

Opponents of a same-sex marriage

law passed in February by the Maryland legislature have until June 30 to collect more than 55,000 signatures. And opponents of a newly passed marriage equality law in Washington State have until June 6 to turn in more than 121,000 signatures to put Referendum 74 on the ballot there, seeking to prevent the new law from taking effect.

On the ballot, Amendment One stated: "Marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this state."

A second sentence, which did not appear on the ballot, stated "This section does not prohibit a private party from entering into contracts with another private party; nor does this section prohibit courts from adjudicating the rights of private parties pursuant to such contracts."

According to the Independent Weekly newspaper of Chapel Hill, many voters did not understand that Amendment One will affect heterosexual couples, as well as same-sex ones.

"Local governments, including those in Durham and Orange counties, would be forced to drop health insurance and other benefits now offered to the domestic partners of unmarried employees, gay or straight. Other local governments would be precluded from offering these benefits."

Jeremy Kennedy, campaign manager for Protect All NC Families, issued a statement late Tuesday night saying the group was, naturally, "disappointed" in the results, but vowed, "our fight for fairness is not over."

"This fight was about more than marriage," said Kennedy. "Amendment One was overreaching and will have unintended consequences for families, children, women, and seniors in North Carolina. We will continue to work with our partners across the state to ensure fairness, equality, and common sense prevail."

**More coverage on  
North Carolina can be  
found online at  
[www.pridesource.com](http://www.pridesource.com)**



# HYUNDAI

## NEW 2012 VELOSTER

**PICK YOUR PAYMENT**  
**\$245<sup>†</sup>** BASE VELOSTER  
**\$270<sup>†</sup>** UPGRADE TO A STYLE PACKAGE  
**\$300<sup>†</sup>** OR GET THE BEST STYLE & TECH



\*42 month lease 12¢ with approved Tier One Credit thru FHM. Payment is plus tax, title - new plate extra. Out of stock unit. See dealer for limited warranty details. Hyundai is a registered trademark of Hyundai Motor America. All rights reserved. © 2012 Hyundai Motor America

**OFF HYUNDAI Assurance**  
TRADE-IN VALUE GUARANTEE  
**America's Best Warranty**  
10-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty



**\$9.95 Oil Change**  
**FREE 27 Point Inspection**  
**All Makes and Models**  
 Mon & Thurs: 9am - 9pm  
 Tues, Wed & Friday: 9am - 6pm  
 Saturday: 10am - 3pm



**Eric Hay**  
ehay@lafontaine.com

**LAFONTAINE HYUNDAI**

1847 S. Telegraph Rd  
 Dearborn, MI 48124  
 toll free 866-568-6530  
 direct 313-724-5132  
 LaFontaineHyundai.com

**Firepits from \$194.00 & up!**





## ROCK SHOPPE

Landscape Supplies  
 North off M-14 Plymouth, MI

**6275 Gotfredson Plymouth, MI 48170**

Artificial Boulders	Garden Benches
<b>Bird Baths</b>	Garden Ponds
Brick Pavers	<b>Garden Art</b>
Compost & Peat	Gravel, All Types
Exotic Boulders	Limestone
<b>Decomposed Granite</b>	Patio Blocks
<b>Flagstones</b>	<b>Ponds &amp; Pumps</b>
Fountains	<b>Pet Memorials</b>
<b>Rock Siding</b>	Statuary
Sands, All Types	Topsoil
Shredded Mulches	<b>Wallstones</b>
<b>Slag Sand</b>	<b>Waterfall Rocks</b>

**The shoppe that will turn your yard into a treasure.**

**50% OFF**  
 cast stone fountains, benches, birdbaths, pots & statuary.  
Certain restrictions apply. Not to be combined.

**734.455.5560**

[www.rock-shoppe.com](http://www.rock-shoppe.com)

**THE PURPLE ROSE THEATRE COMPANY**

734.433.7673 | [PurpleRoseTheatre.org](http://PurpleRoseTheatre.org)









**WHITE BUFFALO**

by Don Zolidis

Now playing through June 2



**ROOSTERS MEN'S GROOMING CENTER**

## NOW OPEN



**Roosters**  
MEN'S GROOMING CENTER

The experience brings you back

The highly qualified stylists at Roosters are specially trained in men's precision shaves and haircuts, complete with hot steam towel, dry & style, head massaging shampoo, brush of powder around your neck and a splash of aftershave, while relaxing in an oversized leather barber chair.

37015 W. Twelve Mile Rd. • Farmington Hills  
**248.987.4844**  
[WWW.ROOSTERSMGC.COM](http://WWW.ROOSTERSMGC.COM)

THE EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR IS FINALLY HERE.

Call today to schedule your appointment!

Hart Plaza, Detroit: May 26-28, 2012



# MOVEMENT

*Electronic Music Festival*

**LIL LOUIS CASSY DERRICK CARTER DJ SNEAK GREG WILSON**  
**JESSE ROSE MACEO PLEX MICHAEL MAYER MK NINA KRAVIZ**  
**SBTRKT STACEY PULLEN THE MARTINEZ BROTHERS TODD TERJE**  
**AND MANY MORE!**

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

[WWW.MOVEMENT.US](http://WWW.MOVEMENT.US)



**BTL**  
 Between Lines  
ONLINE AT PRIDESOURCE.COM



# crust

a new artisan bakery  
in Downtown Fenton

artisan breads  
fine pastries  
pies, cakes, cookies  
muffins, scones, bialys  
toasts and sandwiches  
inside seating

Join our Flour Power eClub  
for great rewards and benefits.  
Visit our website to register  
and see more of what we are  
doing at CRUST.



104 W. Caroline at River  
Downtown Fenton 48430  
810-629-8882  
www.crustandbeyond.com  
7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
seven days a week





## Plenty of tailroom.

The 2012 Forester comes with road-gripping Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive standard, 27 mpg\*, plus plenty of cargo room for your favorite friends.



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

HOURS: OPEN SATURDAYS 10-3 AND  
EXTENDED HOURS TILL 1PM MONDAYS & THURSDAYS

# HODGES SUBARU

Metra Detroit's "Subaru-Only Dealer"

### All Subaru vehicles are built in a zero landfill plant

\*EPA-estimated highway fuel economy for 2012 Impreza 2.0i CVT models. Actual mileage may vary. Subaru, Forester, Outback, Tribeca, Legacy, Impreza, WRX, STI and SUBARU BOXER are registered trademarks.



## fashion floorward SAVINGS EVENT

Donate your gently used shoes, and save up to

# 50%

on select Resist® SoftStyle carpet.

UPON VERONA  
Soft, versatile carpet style that's strong enough to stand up to whatever your family can dish out.  
SALE PRICE \$1.39 SF REGULAR PRICE \$2.79 SF  
RESTRICTIONS APPLY

RISK & REWARD  
Traditional styling plus great color choices will transform any room in your home.  
SALE PRICE \$1.79 SF REGULAR PRICE \$3.69 SF  
RESTRICTIONS APPLY

50% OFF LAMINATE BONUS BUY  
Sale Price \$1.99 SF REGULAR PRICE \$3.99

30% OFF HARDWOOD BONUS BUY  
Sale Price \$4.89 SF REGULAR PRICE \$6.99

# MODERN FLOORS CARPET ONE® FLOOR & HOME

The ONE store for your perfect floor™ • ModernCarpetOneWV.com

1145 PONTIAC TRAIL (2 miles W. of M-5) • WALLED LAKE  
248-624-0333  
www.moderncarpetonevl.com

STORE HOURS:  
Mon-Thurs. 9am - 8pm  
Fri. 9am - 6pm  
Sat. 10am-5pm  
Sun. Noon-4pm

PLUS, help others put their best foot forward. 36

Step up in style with Resist® SoftStyle carpet. 50%

Beautiful Carpet One Floor & Home promises you'll love the way your new floor looks, or we'll replace it - free!

HARDWOOD | CARPET | LAMINATE | TILE | VINYL | AND MORE



Your active, busy lifestyle does not allow time for a complicated daily med regimen. DirectRx makes it easier.

## DirectRx is your health and wellness partner.

We manage your monthly refills by working with you, your doctor, and insurance company. All your meds conveniently packaged & delivered, AT NO COST.



Timely, Accurate and Confidential Prescriptions

855-328-5130 x 8  
www.directrx.com

Locally owned and operated in SE Michigan



# COLUMBUS

Hey, it's not just cornfields!  
... QUEER ?



BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Ohio has this reputation of being flat, cornfield-crazy nothingness: the kind of place people drive through... only to get somewhere else.

It was always the longest strip of vacant land on the drive down South, where I'd gone a couple of times as a kid. It's where I'd tucker out just in time for a new state.

But not this time. I couldn't. I was behind

the wheel, heading to Columbus on my own for an LGBT-only media excursion, hosted by the good folks at Experience Columbus ([experiencecolumbus.com](http://experiencecolumbus.com)). I thought I'd seen everything in Ohio (you know, cornfields) until I got to this cozy college town, recently named the Best NewNowNext Up-and-Coming LGBT Travel Destination – an award bestowed upon the city by Orbitz and LogoTV. During my summer stay last year, though, it didn't seem like Columbus was on its way to being a gay city at

all, ranking among infamously 'mo meccas like San Francisco and New York. It was already there.

Gay was everywhere: Over martinis during happy hour at Hyde Park ([hydeparkrestaurants.com](http://hydeparkrestaurants.com)), a premier place for steaks and chops. In Sugardaddy's, a place with brownies so delicious Ellen DeGeneres served them for a time to her show's guests. Scattered about the nooks in the 32-room literary-lovers' dream house called The Book Loft. Crazy to think,

but Ohio is cool. And queer. For a Columbus quickie, here are my recommendations.

## Best Bites

Foodies should have no trouble satisfying their cravings. North Market is full of deliciousness: a one-stop shop for a smorgasbord of eats from local butchers, fishmongers, greengrocers and farmers.

See Columbus, page 16

**BUTTERFLY**  
BY DAVID HENRY HWANG  
Directed by Arthur Beer

**MAY 227, 2012**

Constructed as a series of flashbacks narrated by imprisoned diplomat Galimari, the play is an intricate series of Chinese homes of realities inside themselves, and then turned inside out. Even as we follow the narrative of the lovers' affair, it is being refracted through both overt and disguised historical deconstructions of Madame Butterfly.

And finally, despite indisputable evidence that from the film's stately, season-ending conclusion, we have nothing to talk all summer long about how and why this could ever have happened.

**GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**  
Call 248.788.2900 or visit [www.JetTheatre.org](http://www.JetTheatre.org)

- Hanging Baskets
- Vegetables
- New line of wildflowers
- Herbs
- Huge line of perennials – “Lots of varieties”
- Great selection of 4” Annuals
- Exotic Tropicals
- Organic Planting Mix
- 5” potted Ghost peppers, one of the worlds hottest peppers.

For great looking plants all summer, use what we use—Jack’s Classic from J.R. Peters, Inc.

### Your Pond Headquarters

Custom-made filtration systems  
Liners • Pumps • Bulk Fish Food  
Fish and Plants

*Brenda's Butterfly Habitat*

Opening June 1 at Barson's

**BARSON'S BUICKS**  
**\$5.00 OFF**  
With any purchase of \$50.00 or More  
Valid Monday thru Thursday only. Not valid with any sale items. Expires 6-30-12

**6414 N. Merriman • Westland, MI**  
Located between Ford and Warren  
**734-421-5959**  
Check our website for more information  
[www.barsons.com](http://www.barsons.com) [find us on facebook](#)

## Denise Joseph, Ph.D.

Fully Licensed Psychologist & Counselor  
Consultant & Supervisor

... **Consider Compassion** ...

**NAVIGATE YOUR LIFE'S JOURNEY:**

- ♥ Learn Strategies for Today's Challenges
- ♥ Lead a Healthy and Complete Life
- ♥ Live in the Now

**248.613.9230**  
[dr.dj@comcast.net](mailto:dr.dj@comcast.net) • [www.denisejoseph.com](http://www.denisejoseph.com)  
1026 W. ELEVEN MILE, SUITE C • ROYAL OAK, MI • 48067

## ► Columbus

Continued from p. 15

Over 30 vendors reside here, including Best of the Wurst, Flavors of India, Pam's Market Popcorn, Heil's Family Deli and Holy Smoke Barbecue. It's the place to be if you're with a bunch of picky, penny-pinching eaters, or if you're looking for a quick bite – perhaps a pastry or gourmet sandwich – for breakfast or lunch.

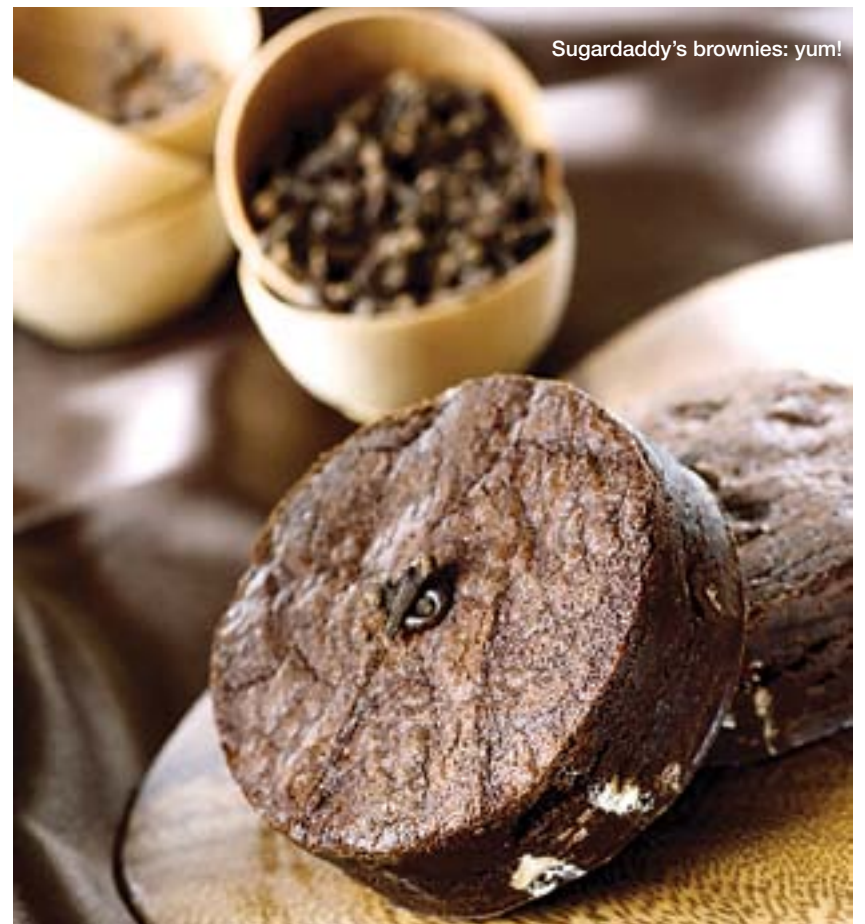
Set in historic German Village, Barcelona ([barcelonacolumbus.com](http://barcelonacolumbus.com)) is the dinner go-to with its posh sophistication, Old World European charm and refreshing seaside sangria. Paellas and gazpachos, fishes and filets – expect all that and more from the menu. Wanna make it easy? Just do the tapas tasting.

Like to chow and sightsee? Milestone 229's patio ([milestone229.com](http://milestone229.com)) is in the epicenter of one of Columbus' most popular parks, Bicentennial Park, facing a remarkable illuminated, 15,000-square-foot fountain along the Scioto River waterfront. Expect to get your nom-nom on, too, with the restaurant's scrumptious twists on traditional cuisine. Contemporary and chic and glass-wall enclosed, Milestone is comfort food done differently, all reasonably priced and made from local produce: Skillet Mac 'n Cheese with double-smoked hickory bacon, Really Good Hummus that keeps its promise and hearty salads (do the Roasted Gerber Chicken with dried cranberries, candied pecans, goat cheese and house-made apple cider vinaigrette). Other highly suggested stops: Surly Girl Saloon for premium microbrews and pizza pies, zesty wraps and cupcakes; Northstar Café, a healthy locale known particularly for their breakfast foods; and the European-inspired Vienna Ice Cafe.

Sweet eaters must not miss out on Sugardaddy's ([sugardaddys.com](http://sugardaddys.com)): all brownies, all the time. And not just straight up. Outside the (brownie) box with its brownie biscotti, bites, bark, cheesecakes and ice creams, the pink boutique boasts a whopping 20 signature flavors. The place – owned, of course, by two gay men, partners Tom Finney and Mark Ballard – is a Food Network fave. It's no wonder.

## Keeping Busy

You won't go bored in Columbus, at night or during the day. Hang with hundreds of exotic butterflies in a breathtaking exhibit at the Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens ([fpconservatory.org](http://fpconservatory.org)), a supremely beautiful nature walk that feels otherworldly – not like Ohio at all. Built in 1895, the historical landmark is two miles east of downtown Columbus and showcases exotic plant collections, special exhibitions and a signature collection of work by glass artist Dale Chihuly. Set within the 88 acres of Franklin Park, the Conservatory houses 400 species of plants from a variety of global climate zones and features a Victorian palm house with more



Sugardaddy's brownies: yum!

than 40 species of palms. Beautiful gardens and floral displays surround the locale.

Hop on a segway for a two-hour tour of the city along High Street, and see the quaint parkland along the Scioto River, the Short North area and the historic downtown ([segawaytoursofcolumbus.com](http://segawaytoursofcolumbus.com)). It's a zippy way – and lots of fun – to explore the city for anyone unfamiliar with all the must-sees: The Peanut Shoppe, Veterans Plaza, the Mona Lisa mural, the Santa Maria and the Ohio Theatre, among others.

Up for some gay-peep schmoozing? You got it. A study done by the William Institute at UCLA Law School reported that 50,250 gay citizens reside in Columbus, outnumbering the percentage in Chicago. And there are plenty of homo happenings to make you believe it: along High Street, and nearby, are establishments such as Exile (for leather lovers), Axis Nightclub (where all the Ohio State boys go), Level (a swanky dining club), Club Diversity (the place for martinis) and Wallstreet (for the girls). And the people? A strong sense of community, where people are ultra friendly and charmingly Midwestern, is among them. You'll feel right at home.

## Super Shopping

Besides three shopping malls, there are lots of walkable opportunities to throw down more money than you have in the Short North arts district ([shortnorth.org/shopping](http://shortnorth.org/shopping)). The tree-lined downtown, a charming Ann Arbor-like strip, is where the city houses a mishmash of specialty shops that offer a delightfully unique shopping excursion.

Looking for one-of-a-kind antiques or quality furniture? Try ReVue, a 12,000-square-foot consignment store housing modern and old-fashioned finds. Hundreds of items arrive daily, and there are lots of good buys. Want something for your animal friends? Posh Pets Boutique ([poshpetsboutique.com](http://poshpetsboutique.com)), with funky pet apparel and toys, is a cute retail store for the at-home critters. Save time for Flower Child ([flowerchildvintage.com](http://flowerchildvintage.com)), a vintage store overflowing with mid-1990s trinkets, accessories and clothing. Each nook is like a time warp, with furniture, art and house wares spanning decades. More than just a store, Flower Child is a neat experience. Shout-outs also to Tigertree ([shoptigertree.com](http://shoptigertree.com)), a hip clothing and odds-and-ends space that's almost an indie take on Urban Outfitters, and TORSO ([torsoonline.com](http://torsoonline.com)), the town's proverbial gay-aimed underwear store.

Over in German Village is Book Loft ([bookloft.com](http://bookloft.com)), which is more than just any readers' retail establishment: It's a 32-room maze of books. In this post-Borders age, it's nice to see a local bookstore still thriving. Other stops that take pride in being local include Middle West Spirits ([middlewestspirits.com](http://middlewestspirits.com)), an urban micro-distillery notable for using all Ohio ingredients (take a tour, and don't leave without a bottle of their smooth-tasting Vanilla Bean Vodka), and Brothers Drake Meadery ([brothersdrake.com](http://brothersdrake.com)), a popular – and very charming – hangout with a fine selection of organic meads. Bottoms up!



# SWAP YOUR RIDE

SALES EVENT

Save big now on America's favorite brand.

**"40 miles per gallon? We can save so much money. And it's way more spacious than I thought it would be."**

John Lim, Detroit, Michigan

**"EcoBoost" does what it's supposed to do. You get 22 miles per gallon? That's better than my Chevy. And the F-150 just seems tougher."**

Lisa Howard, Chicago

**"The big-screen nav is easy to read. And with EcoBoost, you get 30 miles per gallon and more than 500 miles on a tank." I'll take that to the bank."**

John VanDer, Dallas

Test-drive a Ford today at Fairlane Ford during our Swap Your Ride Sales Event and find out for yourself what everyone's talking about.

**SWAP YOUR RIDE AND GET INTO AMERICA'S FAVORITE BRAND.**

**FAIRLANE**

14585 Michigan Avenue • Dearborn 1 MILE EAST OF THE SOUTHFIELD RAY ON MICHIGAN AVE.  
www.FairlaneFord.com **1-855-301-FORD** (3673)

**Randy Woods**  
New & Used Car Sales  
355-301-3673  
rwoods@fairlaneFord.com

Excludes taxes, license, title, destination, dealer fees, and options. Dealer sets actual price. ©2012 Ford Credit. All rights reserved. Ford, EcoBoost, Ford EcoBoost, and Ford EcoBoost are trademarks of Ford Motor Company. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. \*Optional. †Based on EPA-estimated 20 mpg city/28 mpg hwy/21 mpg combined. \*\*Based on EPA-estimated 27 mpg city/24 mpg hwy/21 mpg combined. ††Based on EPA-estimated 30 mpg city/30 mpg hwy/30 mpg combined. †††Based on EPA-estimated 33 mpg city/30 mpg hwy/25 mpg combined. ††††Based on EPA-estimated 24 mpg city/28 mpg hwy/25 mpg combined. †††††Based on EPA-estimated 27 mpg city/28 mpg hwy/25 mpg combined.

# GOGOL BORDELLO

## ERNST & YOUNG Annual Women's Golf OUTing 2012

Good Golf,

Important Cause,

Great Food,

The Finest Women!

St. John's Golf & Conference Center  
44034 Five Mile Road  
Plymouth, MI

Team Scramble, 10:30am

Shotgun Start: Come early for coffee

To benefit:  
**EQUALITY MICHIGAN**

**\$99 per person**

## SATURDAY JUNE 9, 2012

Sign up today at [www.equalitymi.org](http://www.equalitymi.org)!

A special thank you to our sponsors:

# SATURDAY MAY 26

# THE FILLMORE

2115 WOODWARD AVENUE • 313-961-5451 DETROIT

BUY TICKETS AT

[WWW.THEFILLMOREDETROIT.COM](http://WWW.THEFILLMOREDETROIT.COM)

[FACEBOOK.COM/FILLMOREDETROIT](https://FACEBOOK.COM/FILLMOREDETROIT)

[TWITTER.COM/FILLMOREDETROIT](https://TWITTER.COM/FILLMOREDETROIT)

## Prism of Possibilities Psychotherapy

**Christine Cantrell, PhD**  
Fully Licensed Psychologist

Give yourself an extreme self makeover ...

- ▼ Speak Your Truth
- ▼ Discover What You Want
- ▼ Create Your True Self
- ▼ Heal Old Hurts, Find Wholeness

**CALL NOW!**  
248-591-2888

Located in Royal Oak  
Accepting Aetna, BCBS, Cofinity, Medicare  
www.christinecantrell.com  
christinecantrellphd@gmail.com



## American MATTRESS GALLERY

### Michigan's Mattress Experts

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

featuring the latest in technology...  
**Cool Action™ Gel Memory Foam**

**icomfort™**  
Sleep System by Serta®

**Comfort from \$ 899.00 a set.**

**8" Queen Memory Foam Mattress only \$399.95**  
(Queen Full & King also available)

**We Carry a Full Line of TEMPUR-PEDIC mattresses and Pillows**

**0% Interest**  
For up to 48 Months  
(See store for details)

**NOBODY SELLS TEMPUR-PEDIC FOR LESS!**

**43235 12 Mile • Novi**  
In the Hagopian World of Rugs Building  
www.americanmattressgallery.com

248.349.2000

# HAGOPIAN

**RUG CLEANING** | **IN-HOME CLEANING**

**2 for 1**

Bring your rugs to any of our drop-off centers and we'll clean every other one FREE!

4 ROOMS \$99<sup>99</sup>  
2 ROOMS \$59<sup>99</sup>  
7' SOFA OR 2 CHAIRS \$59<sup>99</sup>  
Some restrictions apply

Ask about our expert rug repair!

**1-800-HAGOPIAN (424-6742)**  
www.originalhagopian.com

RUG CARE CENTERS AND SHOWROOMS  
OAK PARK | BIRMINGHAM | NOVI | UTICA | ANN ARBOR




**Joe Kort, Ph.D. AND ASSOCIATES**

**Your One-Stop Resource for**

- Sexual Addiction Therapy
- Sex Therapy
- IMAGO Relationship Therapy
- Sexual Infidelity Issues
- GLBTQ Teen Groups
- Coming Out Groups

Straight, Lesbian and Gay Therapists on Staff  
Offices in Royal Oak, MI  
(248) 399-7317 or www.JoeKort.com




## WE'RE NOT JUST OUT... WE'RE OUTSTANDING!

Bankruptcy | Criminal Defense  
Auto Accident and All Personal Injury  
Divorce/Family Law  
Employment Discrimination  
Police Misconduct | Commercial Litigation  
Business Formation | Workers Comp  
Social Security Disability  
Unemployment Benefits  
Driver's License Restoration

**AGGRESSIVE \* SHARP \* RESPONSIVE**



**RazorLawFirm.com**

**888-Razor-Law** FREE ONLINE CHAT AND CASE REVIEW

We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the Bankruptcy Code.  
Pictured attorneys may be of counsel.

# BANKRUPTCY

# \$395

www.ATTORNEYPIERCE.org  
248.398.5000

Debt relief agency for 30 years.  
We have helped 20,000 people file bankruptcy!

*Edward Korkoian Funeral Home*  
*Spiller-Spitler Chapel*

Offering Three Generations of Caring, Compassionate and Dedicated Service

836 N. Main Street • Royal Oak  
248-541-8325  
248-541-4800  
www.edwardkorkoianfuneralhome.com

Proof to be a member of the  
**ROYAL OAK**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





## ► Columbus

Continued from p. 16

## Peace & Quiet

Paradise... in Ohio? Look no further than Hocking Hills, a natural sightseeing retreat that's a gorgeous middle-of-nowhere getaway only an hour drive from Columbus. Their motto: "Close to home. A million miles from ho-hum." No kidding. Waterfalls, caves and some of the prettiest hiking trails – this is not the sleep-through-state I grew up with. It's also not, for better or worse, the kind of place for uninterrupted Facebooking or Grindr access. Expect spotty cell-phone service and Internet (but hey, they have an iPod dock in the rooms!), though that's the point – to disconnect from everyday craziness, to "status update" with real faces (even strangers), and to sit around a board game or a crackling fire. My stay at the Inn & Spa at Cedar Falls ([innatcedarfalls.com](http://innatcedarfalls.com)), in its 25th year, was pleasantly out of touch with everything but myself and the welcoming community, including the lovely innkeepers themselves: married couple Ellen Grinsfelder and Terry Lingo, both accommodating and super gay-friendly.

The backstory made the experience that much more interesting: The site began as a vision of Anne Castle, a well-respected businesswoman (and Ellen's mother) who gave up her corporate life to establish a place where the ever-growing number of urban dwellers could retreat to a



natural setting. After two-and-a-half years in the making, the vision became a reality when the inn opened in 1987. But it wasn't without hiccups. Friends, however, believed in Anne's dream and turned it into a reality. Now her family, who runs the inn and spa, likes to think of it as a place where guests "come home." They certainly do everything to make it feel that way.

One night wasn't enough, but in that time I browsed the gift shop, took a nature walk through the flowery fields and had one of my favorite meals ever – filet prepared by in-house chef Anthony Schulz (not to mention a sinful cotton-candy martini) – at their lovely log-cabin restaurant. My stay in one of their cute cottages off in the woods was peaceful and reinvigorating, and I adored flipping through the journal – one's kept in every room – to read handwritten notes on what other people had experienced in the very place I stayed in. This oasis of serenity is a little gem of Ohio that's not to be missed. Who knew?

**K.D. LANG**  
 & THE SISS BOOM BANG  
 AUGUST 9

**SOUND BOARD**

*MotorCity*  
 CASINO-HOTEL

QR code: tickets

**ticketmaster**

**MotorCityCasino.com**

Michigan Department of Community Services  
**MDCH** If you bet more than you can afford to lose, you've got a problem. Call 1-800-270-7117 for free, confidential help.

MotorCity Casino Hotel and MotorCity Casino Hotel design are trademarks of Detroit Entertainment, L.L.C. ©2012 Detroit Entertainment, L.L.C. All rights reserved.

# BTL

## Cool Cities Birmingham

### YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ♦ YOUR MARKET

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

Advertise in the next Cool Cities TO PLACE AN AD CALL 734.293.7200 x 13

# BLOSSOMS

Full Service Florist

**NEW!** PARTY BLOSSOMS

DETROIT'S MOST CREATIVE FLORIST!

www.blossomsbirmingham.com www.partyblossoms.net  
248.844.4411 248.723.4200

simple. elegant. affordable.

Next Generation Wedding & Party Flowers

3386 Woodward Avenue at Adams, Birmingham, MI 48009

## Robert Schefman

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

## Robert Kidd Gallery

107 Townsend Street - Birmingham - Michigan - 48003  
(248) 642-3909 email : staff@robertkiddgallery.com  
www.robertkiddgallery.com

## Available at Pride

MICHIGAN'S LGBT YELLOW PAGES

# PRIDESOURCE

2012/2013  
Published in May  
ONLINE & IN PRINT

# HANDCUFFS OF LOVE

## DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT RINGS

**SALE \$3,150**  
1.10 Carats in Diamonds

**SALE \$3,150**  
.99 Carats in Diamonds

**SALE \$3,150**  
1.24 Carats in Diamonds

**SALE \$3,150**  
.99 Carats in Diamonds

**SALE \$3,150**  
1.21 Carats in Diamonds

**THE LOWEST DIAMOND PRICES AROUND TOWN!**  
M/C, VISA, AMEX, DISCOVER

**ASTREINS.COM**  
CREATIVE JEWELERS  
248.644.1651  
120 WEST MAPLE | DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM  
HOURS: MON - SAT 10-5:30 | THURS 10-8  
WWW.ASTREINS.COM

**All Rings Shown Only \$3,150**  
\$4,500 Value

# 'The Dictator' is no good

## Baron Cohen's shtick gets old in latest film

BY CHRISTY LEMIRE, AP MOVIE CRITIC

In analyzing Sacha Baron Cohen and the array of offbeat characters he's created, it's clear that it's become a matter of diminishing returns.

In 2006's "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan," the observations of his bumbling, thoroughly inappropriate foreign TV journalist provided sharp, satirical insight into our prejudices and foibles. Three years later, "Bruno" felt like a one-note gimmick, with his flamboyantly gay Austrian fashion correspondent merely trying to shock everyone with his flamboyant gayness.

Now, Baron Cohen is back with "The Dictator" (now playing at the Birmingham Palladium), his least-focused film yet, despite the fact that it has an actual script compared to the guerrilla-style mockumentaries that preceded it.

Baron Cohen stars as Admiral General Aladeen, who has ruled the oil-rich, fictitious north African nation of Wadiya cruelly and cluelessly since he was 7 years old. Aladeen oppresses his people from the comfort of his sprawling, opulent palace, sleeps with movie stars (including Megan Fox in a cameo) and orders the execution of his underlings for the silliest of perceived offenses.

But when he travels to New York to make a speech before the United Nations, he finds he's been double-crossed by his right-hand man (Ben Kingsley) and forced



to survive as a commoner. Stripped of his trademark thick beard, Aladeen is rendered unrecognizable and ends up working at an organic grocery store in Brooklyn run by the androgynous, ultra-politically correct Zoey (Anna Faris, who's nearly unrecognizable herself with short, dark hair).

For a long time, it's hard to tell what Baron Cohen's point is in spoofing this type of despot: that torture and rape are bad? Could it really be that simple? A climactic speech Aladeen gives toward the end highlighting the benefits of a dictatorship hits close to home, but it's a long slog through hit-or-miss gross-out gags to get there.

Baron Cohen is once again working with Larry Charles, who directed "Borat" and "Bruno," but the results are more scattershot than ever. An early bit works in which Aladeen plays a personalized Wii

game that allows him to kill Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics (anti-Semitism has long been a main target of Baron Cohen, who's an observant Jew). A helicopter ride over Manhattan that Aladeen takes with his former nuclear weapons expert (Jason Mantzoukas) creates some cultural misunderstandings that freak out the pasty tourists sitting across from them "that's good for some uncomfortable laughs.

But more often, "The Dictator" relies on crass sexual jokes and easy fish-out-of-water hijinks. At times, it even plays like Eddie Murphy's "Coming to America," which was amiable enough but didn't exactly represent cutting-edge comedy. About two-thirds of the way in, Kathryn Hahn shows up out of nowhere, with no introduction, for the film's most graphic sight gag. Surely, there must have been more from this reliable comic actress, and her brief inclusion feels like the product of an awkward edit.

As always, Baron Cohen fully commits to this character and even manages to find some glimmers of tenderness beneath the cold exterior. Like Kim Jong Il (to whom "The Dictator" is dedicated), who was at the center of the brilliant puppet musical "Team America: World Police," Aladeen is just plain lonely. But playing this type of out-there satirical figure has really run its course.

Clearly, Baron Cohen is a smart, gifted and versatile actor; it's time for him to stretch his abilities and dictate to himself a new kind of challenge.



**BTL ADVERTISERS**

- Astrein's Creative Jewelers.....1
- Birmingham Ballroom.....2

- Blossoms.....3
- Claymore Shop.....4
- Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel...5
- Comprehensive Women's Health 6

- First Presbyterian.....7
- Church Of Birmingham.....7
- Golling Fiat Of Birmingham.....8
- Hall & Hunter.....9

- Prudential HWWB.....10
- Robert Kidd Gallery.....11
- Schokolad Chocolate.....12

**BTL**  
**Cool Cities**  
**Birmingham**

**YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ♦ YOUR MARKET**

Pinpoint your ad dollars where they will do the most good . . .  
 Advertise in the next Cool Cities  
**TO PLACE AN AD CALL 734.293.7200**

**COLDWELL BANKER** Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel  
 244 East Brown St.  
 Birmingham, MI 48009  
 248 644-6300

**WEIR MANUEL**

[www.MaddingAndMcCaleb.com](http://www.MaddingAndMcCaleb.com)  
 Mary Frances McCaleb  
 248 760-4807  
 mmccaleb@cbweirmanuel.com  
 Bradley Madding  
 248 255-8809  
 brad105@hotmail.com

**Your Real Estate Consultants**  
**Serving SE Michigan**

**MLS** If your property is currently listed with another company, please do not consider this a solicitation.

Serving the Woodward corridor communities for over 20 years

**Hall & Hunter**  
 REALTORS

**SAL IMPASTATO**  
 Realtor, Multi-Million Dollar Producer  
 248-763-2223 cell  
 248-593-0387 office  
 248-644-2227 fax  
[www.SALIMPASTATO.com](http://www.SALIMPASTATO.com)  
 SImpastato@hallandhunter.com  
 442 S. Old Woodward, Birmingham MI 48009

# JUST 4 US

Celebrating over a decade  
serving the GLBT community

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

DON'T FORGET TO  
**SHOP SMALL BUSINESS!**  
ONE SMALL PURCHASE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE



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

MI ONLY  
AUTHORIZED  
COLT  
DISTRIBUTOR

PROUD  
JUSTUS  
BOYZ  
RETAILER

LARGEST SELECTION OF  
**LIQUID INCENSE**

**LOWEST PRICE AROUND!**

RIZE TO THE OCCASION • VIGRALIS  
STIFF NIGHTS • MAX STAMINA & MORE!

**DVDS**  
OVER 1600 TITLES  
AVAILABLE TO RENT  
**OVER 1400**  
GBLT GREETING  
CARDS IN STOCK!

WE CARRY A FULL LINE OF

**pink**  
LUBRICANT

WE SELL GRRLTOYZ  
SPECIAL ORDER YOUR TOYS

**LELO**

TOYZ MADE BY  
WOMEN FOR WOMEN

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



HOURS:

Monday-Saturday 11am-8pm • Sunday 11am-6pm

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

# Book Marks

BY RICHARD LABONTE



**"A Queer and Pleasant Danger: The True Story of a Nice Jewish Boy Who Joins the Church of Scientology and Leaves Twelve Years Later to Become the Lovely Lady She Is Today,"** by Kate Bornstein. Beacon Press, 258 pages, \$24.95 hardcover.

Back before she was Kate, a well-deserved genderqueer celebrity, he was oft-married Al. For more than a decade, through the 1970s, Bornstein – still seen as a handsome man by the world, but struggling with the woman within – was a committed Scientologist, first a crewman aboard founder L. Ron Hubbard's Sea Organization flagship vessel and then a top salesman of the church's cultish offerings. The author's account of her Scientology years is both sobering and chilling, even more so when she reveals that she hasn't been in touch with her daughter – now a high-level Sea Org official – for years, nor has she ever seen two grandchildren, also Scientologists. Post-church, and "first a girl" at 38, Bornstein writes about feminist and lesbian activism and her performance career, about integrating gender desire with real life, about bouts of anorexia and "orgasmic" self-cutting and, with beguiling matter-of-factness, about a passion for S&M. This memoir manages to be both wrenchingly transformative and luminously wondrous, a sumptuous literary combination.

**"Purgatory: A Novel of the Civil War,"** by Jeff Mann. Lethe Press, 286 pages, \$18 paper.

Larry Townsend, Jack Fritscher and John Preston, S&M literary masters (and Masters) of yore, have a worthy heir. First with "Fog" and now with this Civil War-set second novel, Mann – a prolific contributor to erotica anthologies as well as a profoundly sensuous poet and an elegantly personal essayist – merges deliciously erotic and decidedly literary writing with whiplash precision. The premise: young Confederate soldier Ian Campbell, slight but wiry and hiding a hankering for man-love, is tasked by his spiteful squad-commanding uncle with guarding captured Yankee Drew Conrad, a Herculean hunk whose tortured fate – after he's been bound, gagged, whipped, bloodied and near-starved for Rebel soldier amusement – is to die. That the two young soldiers fall in love is a given. But the majesty of Mann's masterful storytelling is that he depicts their transformation – from dominant captor and submissive captive to a couple determined to realize their romantic destiny – with a sublime blend of accomplished research and intense S&M action. Elegant historical fiction meets orgasmic queer prose in this nuanced (if predictably-ending) novel.



**"David Hockney, The Biography, 1937-1975: A Rake's Progress,"** by Christopher Simon Sykes. Doubleday, 364 pages, \$35 hardcover.

Kudos to this first volume about famed British artist Hockney: the biography never shies away from addressing and assessing how central being queer is to both his assuredly flamboyant life and his often-vividly homocentric art. How queer? Hockney's cheeky 1962 work, "Life Painting for a Diploma," featured a beefcake model drawn from the muscle mag "Physique Pictorial." Sykes' breezy take on the artist's life is an engaging blend of chatty artist-as-a-young(ish)-man anecdotes and cogent analysis of several of his career-making paintings, among them 1967's "A Bigger Splash" and 1968's "Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy." The author's overview of the artist's art satisfies a need for critical (but never stuffy) analysis; his account of Hockney's often-unsettled love life – particularly of his first real relationship with artist Peter Schlesinger, 18 when he enrolled in a UCLA class that Hockney, a decade his elder, was teaching – satisfies the standard of candor for a well-wrought biography. Vol. 1 is an expansive, entertaining and illuminating (and lavishly illustrated) half-a-life, heralding what is likely to be an equally authoritative Vol. 2.

**"Fugitives of Love,"** by Lisa Girolami. Bold Strokes Books, 228 pages, \$14.94 paper.

When a romance's story arc is preordained – lesbian one and lesbian two, despite impediments, are destined to be together – the reason to read the story stems from twists in its plot and a distinctive setting. Girolami's fifth novel attains both those goals nicely. Lesbian one is art gallery owner Brenna Wright, once-bitten by love and now relationship-shy, committed to her gallery's success to the exclusion of anything like a personal life. Lesbian two is Sinclair Grady, a reclusive creator of sea-polished-glass art eschewing the possibility of love while shielding a horrific past. When Brenna spots one of Sinclair's pieces hanging in a Manhattan window, she's determined to track her down for a show. But when gallerist meets artist, more than art appreciation ensues; both women get past their romantic inhibitions and, for a while, revel in uninhibited sex, until Sinclair's past intrudes. Cue a truth-telling reveal, a loutish stepbrother, and a pushy but effective attorney, and, hey, the impediment to true love is vanquished in this slight but seductive tale.

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

Go to the OnlineXtra!

<http://www.pridesource.com>



Michigan Opera Theatre's "I Pagliacci" continues through May 20. Photo: John Grigaitis

# The tears of a clown at MOT

MICHAEL H. MARGOLIN

In 1904, Enrico Caruso's recording of "Vesti la giubba," the aria from the conclusion of Act One of Ruggero Leoncavallo's 1892 opera "I Pagliacci," became the first million-selling record in history.

It is a justly famous aria, dramatizing the irony of men who love too well – Canio, the "clown," like Othello, is tortured by jealousy and it ends badly, while Tonio, who reveals his wife Nedda's inconstancy, gets off, as does Iago. But while Othello's jealousy is forefront, Canio is one of the clowns, men who betray their humanity. And so the title of the opera, "The Clowns," is more Everyman than hero.

That is where the Romantic movement in opera shades into Verismo opera, that style in which reflections on the reality of the lives of rather ordinary people – meanness, pettiness, revenge without greatness or ideals – creates a much-loved genre in opera.

Traditionally, "I Pagliacci" is paired with "Cavalleria Rusticana," another verismo piece in which machismo leads to a tawdry finale. This time out Michigan Opera Theatre has chosen Bernard Uzan's production, enhanced with a 10-minute pantomime at the beginning of Act Two, as a stand-alone. Uzan has supported his vision with two clowns in the commedia dell'arte style, one in black and one in white, comedy and tragedy, who act as commentators on the action, in mime.

Uzan takes a line of Canio's to the effect that he discovered Nedda (a poor, young girl), took her under his wing and made her into a performer in his traveling company, roaming the environs of southern Italy, here updated to what appears to

## REVIEW

### I Pagliacci

Michigan Opera Theatre at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. May 16, 18-20. \$29-\$121. 120 minutes. 313-237-SING

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

be the 1920s (it debuted in 1892). The pantomime, set to Leoncavallo's music from "Zaza," shows a stage upon which Nedda's development, portrayed by three progressively older actresses, is nurtured by Canio, Pygmalion to her Galatea. The accompanying music is very much like a band of the era. This morphs smoothly into Act Two, as the stage moves forward to become the portal on which the final drama is enacted.

Cleverly rethought, it stands alone as a work of drama and music – rich, urgent, demanding of singers.

Antonello Polombi returns to MOT (2010's smooth, powerful Cavaradossi in "Tosca") to play the consummate clown. The role is written with high tessitura, and Polombi delivers golden, sustained notes tapering many into beautiful near-pianissimo, and, importantly, imbues the character with real humanity. His aria "Vesti..." which means "put on the costume," tells all we need to know about this man and his ego, his devotion to his art while bristling with regret and sorrow. A great performance.

There are two other major roles and two important supporting roles. As Tonio, who forces the central action of the plot, Gordon Hawkins opens the opera with his plangent baritone, describing actors who have the same feelings as all people,

and ends the opera with that magnificent line, "The comedy is finished." Hawkins last appeared at MOT in 2006's "Porgy and Bess."

As Nedda, soprano Jill Gardner appears here for the first time. Initially, ironically reflecting her line about the "shrill screeching" of birds, she warmed up to provide forceful, dynamic singing, and in Act Two, a beautifully delineated impersonation of Colombina in the play within the play.

In that play, her Pagliaccio was transformed from second banana, the actor Beppe, into a facile, romantic tenor, whose balcony serenade revealed a light, attractive tenor – sung by Phillippe Pierce, new to MOT. As Silvio, Nedda's loverboy, Luis Ledesma – who sang a solid, affecting Germont in MOT's 2008 "La Traviata" – is good-looking with a suave baritone.

In the pit, Steven Mercurio returned for his 17th podium assignment with MOT. He brought out the great intensity of the score, and the musicians of the MOT Orchestra gave him what he asked for – though the low strings were not as strong as they needed to be. Again, Suzanne Mallare Acton, the chorus master, encouraged the fine MOT chorus to produce gorgeous singing.

For the most part, Cynthia Savage's costume design hit the vernacular nail on the head (though plaid walking shorts for 1920 Italy looked absurd). Claude Girard's set design was the real thing, and Donald Thomas' lighting design was exquisite.

MOT, even in the toughest of financial times, continues to produce singular opera, beautifully cast, a dynamic orchestra and one of the best choruses one could ask for – at the top of Michigan's cultural pyramid.

**The Ark**  
where music lives  
316 S. Main, Ann Arbor  
[www.theark.org](http://www.theark.org)



### MICHELLE SHOCKED

Monday, May 21, 8pm  
"Music is not a commodity, it's a resource." – Michelle Shocked

**STELLA!**  
w/sg Joshua Davis  
Friday, May 25, 8pm  
A supergroup of Michigan women



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

In person at Michigan Union Ticket Office and Herb David Guitar Studio Online at [TheArk.org](http://TheArk.org). Doors open 1/2 hour before showtime. Call The Ark hotline at (734)761-1451.



**MCC.**  
METROPOLITAN  
COMMUNITY CHURCH  
OF DETROIT  
Reverend Jim Lynch  
Associate Pastor Rev. Deb Dysert

40 years of serving God and Community through  
Worship, Social Justice and Activism

**Service at 11am**  
**2441 Pinecrest Ave., Ferndale**  
**248-399-7741**  
Find us on Facebook (search: MCC Detroit)

Detroit's oldest and largest  
predominantly LGBTQ church!



# Editor's Picks

## Outings

Dignity Detroit celebrates 38 years of ministry to the LGBTQ community of the metropolitan Detroit area with an evening of dining and dance as well as a special liturgy during the weekend of May 19.

Dignity Detroit is a faith community of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied Catholics rich with diversity that worships in an affirming and supportive setting. Dignity's festivities begin with dinner and dance at Park Place Banquet Hall in Dearborn. Along with cocktails, food, dancing and a silent auction, guest Dr. John Corvino, a noted author and *Between The Lines* contributor, will attend the celebration to speak. Dr. Corvino has educated and entertained professional organizations, government contractors, churches and hundreds of college and university audiences.

The banquet begins at 6:30 p.m. May 19 with dinner served at 7 p.m. No tickets at the door. While the liturgy is open to anyone interested in attending, tickets are required for the dinner/dance. The tickets are \$50, are available until May 13 and will not be sold at the door. Heart Chapel of Marygrove College is located at 8425 W. McNichols in Detroit. Park Place is located at 23400 Park St. in Dearborn. For further information, e-mail [dignitydetroit74@yahoo.com](mailto:dignitydetroit74@yahoo.com).



## Music & More



Out Loud Chorus is singing "Yes" to Michigan May 18 and 19 at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor during their state-themed concert, "Sing 'Yes' to Michigan!"

Out Loud Chorus is a non-auditioned LGBT and allied community chorus. OLC will be singing a variety of songs either Michigan-themed, such as "I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo" and the "Michigan Rag," or by Michigan artists such as Verve Pipe, Bob Seger, Madonna and various Motown artists.

OCL will perform 8 p.m. May 18 and 19 at the Michigan League Building's Koessler Room, 911 N. University St., in Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$13 in advance,

\$16 at the door and \$10 for students, seniors or people who are unemployed. For more information, go to [OLCOnline.org](http://OLCOnline.org).

## Theater

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre's Junior Theatre will present a stage version of Norton Juster's beloved children's book "The Phantom Tollbooth," adapted by Susan Nanus and directed by Jenny Anne Koppera and Ariel Jones. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. May 17-19, and at 1 p.m. May 19-20 at WCC's College Theater.

"The Phantom Tollbooth" tells the story of a young boy named Milo who is bored by school and studying. He receives a mysterious package containing a magical tollbooth and sets off on great adventures in the Land of Wisdom. Milo encounters, among others, the Mathemagician and the Princesses Sweet Rhyme and Pure Reason. Milo's adventures continue as he's dispatched to rescue the princesses from the Land of Ignorance, and his thinking about thinking will never be the same.

All tickets are \$5 and are available by calling or visiting the A2CT office 734-971-2228, or at the door of WCC's College Theater before each performance.



## OUTINGS

### Thursday, May 17

**Legal Referral Services** 4 p.m. Weekly advocacy program and referral services provided by AJ Skillman. AJ Skillman P.C., 290 W. 9 Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [GoAffirmations.org](http://GoAffirmations.org)

**KGLRC Youth Group** 7 p.m. The Resource Center Youth Group helps young people, ages 13 to 18, who are trying to come to terms with their sexuality in a sometimes-unaccepting society. Meets every Thursday from 7-9 p.m. at a confidential location. To attend, call or e-mail the resource center. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer, **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. [kgllrc.org](http://kgllrc.org)

### Friday, May 18

**2012 Season Grudge Match** 6 p.m. See one of the final games of the Detroit Derby Girls 2012 Season. The Grudge Match pits the current third and fourth place teams against each other for what promises to be an exciting bout. Detroit Derby Girls, 500 Temple St., **Detroit**. 313 832 7100. [Events@detroitderbygirls.com](mailto:Events@detroitderbygirls.com) [Brownpaperickets.com/event/222093](http://Brownpaperickets.com/event/222093)

**Genesee County PFLAG Bowling Fundraiser** 9:30 p.m. \$20 minimum donation for bowlers covers two games, shoes, pizza and pop. Reserve your lanes by donating today. Genesee County PFLAG, 750 S. Center Road, **Flint**. 810-547-1911. [Trose@yahoo.com](mailto:Trose@yahoo.com)

**Bisexual Peer Group** 7 p.m. Meets monthly on the third Friday of each month. Discuss relating to bisexuality, pansexuality, and/or omnisexuality. Allies are encouraged and welcomed to attend. Meeting usually followed by dinner at aut Bar, two doors down. Bisexual Peer Group, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-678-2478. [Biprideannarbor@gmail.com](mailto:Biprideannarbor@gmail.com) [www.facebook.com/groups/110918256984/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/110918256984/)

**OutGirls** 7 p.m. An offshoot of OutCenter's women's support group, designed to be a relaxed and supportive dinner gathering for the LBT and allied community. E-mail to RSVP. OutGirls, 190 Territorial Road, **Benton Harbor**. [Glosunhine1751@comcast.net](mailto:Glosunhine1751@comcast.net)

**Womyn's Film Night** 7 p.m. Film: "Tipping the Velvet - Part 1 and 2" An unusual love story told in three episodes charts the course of Nan, who discovers a sexually charged world of male impersonators, actors and affluent women looking for female companionship in the usually controlled and corseted 1890s. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [GoAffirmations.org/](http://GoAffirmations.org/)

**Drag Queen Bingo** 8 p.m. "This ain't your grandma's bingo." Hosts Sabin, Trixie Deluxe or September Murphy. Open to all 18+. Refreshments and bingo food fare. Reservations available by phone. Five15, 515 S. Washington, **Royal Oak**. 248-515-2551. [Five15.net](http://Five15.net)

**MDFFL Mixer** 9 p.m. Meet the MDFFL football players the night before our football camp begins. Come join and support Metro Detroit Flag Football. Metro Detroit Flag Football League, 8070 Greenfield Road, **Detroit**. 313-581-8913. [Info@MDFFL.org](mailto:Info@MDFFL.org) [MDFFL.org](http://MDFFL.org)

### Saturday, May 19

**Champagne Brunch** 10 a.m. In Braun Courtyard (or ShAut in the event of bad weather), there will be brunch, catered by Aut Bar, and live music! Tickets: \$25, purchasable online or at Common Language Bookstore. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-678-2478. [Jimtoycenter.org](http://Jimtoycenter.org)

**Football Camp** 12 p.m. Weekend event open to anyone interested in playing flag football. From beginners to pros. Includes social activities outdoors and local establishments. Contact MDFFL for details. Metro Detroit Flag Football League, Contact for location, **Livonia**. 248-910-7200. [Info@MDFFL.org](mailto:Info@MDFFL.org) [MDFFL.org](http://MDFFL.org)

**Alternative Prom** 7 p.m. A safe and supportive night of fun for LGBTQ high schoolers and allies. For additional information or to RSVP, check Facebook/West Michigan Alternative Prom or e-mail [altpromgr@aol.com](mailto:altpromgr@aol.com). Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain Street NE, **Grand Rapids**. [AltPromGR@aol.com](mailto:AltPromGR@aol.com)

**Dignity Detroit's 38th Anniversary Dinner/Dance** 7 p.m. Dignity Detroit celebrates 38 years of ministry to the LGBTQ community of the metropolitan Detroit area. Festivities include silent auction, cocktails, dinner, dancing and a raffle. Guest speaker John Corvino. Tickets: \$50. Dignity Detroit, 23400 Park St., **Dearborn**. 313-274-4499. [DignityDetroit74@yahoo.com](mailto:DignityDetroit74@yahoo.com)

**Sing Yes to Michigan!** 8 p.m. Out Loud sings the music of Michigan. Songs by Michigan artists, Motown and classics like "I've Got a Gal in Kalamazoo." Tickets: \$13 advance/\$16 at door, \$10 students/seniors/unemployed. Out Loud Chorus, 911 N University, **Ann Arbor**. 734-265-0740. [Outloudchorus@gmail.com](mailto:Outloudchorus@gmail.com) [olconline.org](http://olconline.org)

**Genesee County PFLAG Bowling Fundraiser** 9:30 p.m. \$20 minimum donation for bowlers covers two games, shoes, pizza and pop. Reserve your lanes by donating today. Genesee County PFLAG, 750 S. Center Road, **Flint**. 810-547-1911. [Trose@yahoo.com](mailto:Trose@yahoo.com)

### Sunday, May 20

**Football Camp** 12 p.m. Weekend event open to anyone interested in playing flag football. From beginners to pros. Includes social activities outdoors and local establishments. Contact MDFFL for details. Metro Detroit Flag Football League, Contact for location, **Ann Arbor**. 248-910-7200. [Info@MDFFL.org](mailto:Info@MDFFL.org) [MDFFL.org](http://MDFFL.org)

**Equality Band of Michigan Rehearsal** 4 p.m. Join the Equality Band of Michigan as we rehearse for June Pride events in Detroit, Grand Rapids, and Lansing. We are open to all skill levels and no auditions are required. Equality Band of Michigan, Corner of Turner and Grand River Ave., **Old Town Lansing**. 517-525-1732. [Equalitybandmi@gmail.com](mailto:Equalitybandmi@gmail.com)

**Conversation Station** 5 p.m. LGBTQI (and allies) 25 and over, join GOAL each week for discussion, food and fun. This week's topic: Who is the strangest or weirdest person you ever knew? 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)

**Dignity Detroit's 38th Anniversary Liturgy** 6 p.m. Dignity Detroit celebrates 38 years of ministry to the LGBTQ community of the metropolitan Detroit area. Liturgy open to all interested in attending. Dignity Detroit, 8425 W. McNichols, **Detroit**. [DignityDetroit74@yahoo.com](mailto:DignityDetroit74@yahoo.com)

### Monday, May 21

**Should the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act Be Amended?** 6 p.m. The Michigan Department of Civil Rights will co-host a public hearing on the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act with the Jackson Human Relations Commission. A number of guest speakers with expertise on the current nondiscrimination law and related issues will be present. The general public is encouraged to attend the forum, particularly those who wish to provide testimony on whether and how ELCRAs lack of protections for the LGBT population has affected them personally. Both written and verbal testimony will be accepted. To provide written testimony, please email it to [calcagnor@michigan.gov](mailto:calcagnor@michigan.gov) before May 18. Michigan Department of Civil Rights-Jackson Human Relations Commission, 161 West Michigan Ave., **Jackson**. 517-241-4319. [Calcagnor@michigan.gov](mailto:Calcagnor@michigan.gov) [michigan.gov/mdcr](http://michigan.gov/mdcr)

**Sexual Compulsives Anonymous** 7 p.m. A weekly anonymous 12-step

group for those who are facing sexually compulsive behaviors. Affirmations, 290 W. 9 Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [GoAffirmations.org](http://GoAffirmations.org)

### Tuesday, May 22

**Transgender Life Support** 7 p.m. Offering support, education, resources and a social structure for Transgender individuals. Facilitated by Arlene Kish, Lorraine Brown, Jessica Manko, Tracy Hoover, Helena Blakemore, Marty Howland and Colt Stacer. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [Transgenderlifesupport.org](http://Transgenderlifesupport.org)

### Wednesday, May 23

**5th Annual Detroit River Cruise** 12:30 p.m. Join AIDS Walk Detroit and MIC for an afternoon cruise along the Detroit River. Tickets are \$25 per person and all proceeds benefit AIDS Walk Detroit and Motown Invitational Classic. AIDS Walk Detroit, 13000 Denmark St., **Detroit**. 248-399-9255. [Aidswalkdetroit.org](http://Aidswalkdetroit.org)

**Coping with Disabilities** 1 p.m. For anyone with a mental or physical illness that makes every-day life more challenging. Discussions about LGBT friendly doctors, counseling, health benefits, and activities. Every second and fourth Wednesday. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [GoAffirmations.org](http://GoAffirmations.org)

**Wild Wednesday** 5 p.m. A supportive LGBT youth group that meets every Wednesday. All youth are welcome. Dedicated to Make a Change, L3C, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-657-1792. [Gailwalkoff@gmail.com](mailto:Gailwalkoff@gmail.com)

**Dinner & Drinks Como's Patio** 7 p.m. Get Out and Live invites all to dinner and drinks at Como's patio in downtown Ferndale. Get Out And Live!, 22812 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. 248-548-5005. [GetOutAndLive.me](http://GetOutAndLive.me)

**Network Men's Group** 7 p.m. A support group for bisexual, gay, and coming out men, 21 and up. Single or partnered are invited to join the group. Weekly discussion topics and issues. The Network, 345 Atlas Ave., Grand Rapids. 616-458-3511. [Grlgbt.org](http://Grlgbt.org)

**Suicide Prevention in LGBT Youth** 7 p.m. Farmington Hills hosts a community conversation focusing on LGBT youth suicide prevention. The event is targeted at parents, youth, teachers, the faith community, service club members and others with regular contact with young people. Featuring speakers Naomi Khalil, Frances Brown, Mike Neubecker, Dave Garcia and GSA reps. Farmington Agea Suicide Prevention Task Force, 3155 W. 11 Mile Road, **Farmington Hills**. 248-871-2500. [FHgov.com](http://FHgov.com)

### Thursday, May 24

**Civic Engagement Committee** 1 p.m. Fourth Thursdays, May 24, 1PM at the OutCenter. Empowering people to advocate and speak out for themselves and the LGBT community is key to creating effective change. Our Civic Engagement committee organizes to educate and resource our community members to make a difference in our community. E-mail to learn more. OutCenter, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. [CivicEngagement@OutCenter.org](mailto:CivicEngagement@OutCenter.org) [OutCenter.org](http://OutCenter.org)

### Friday, May 25

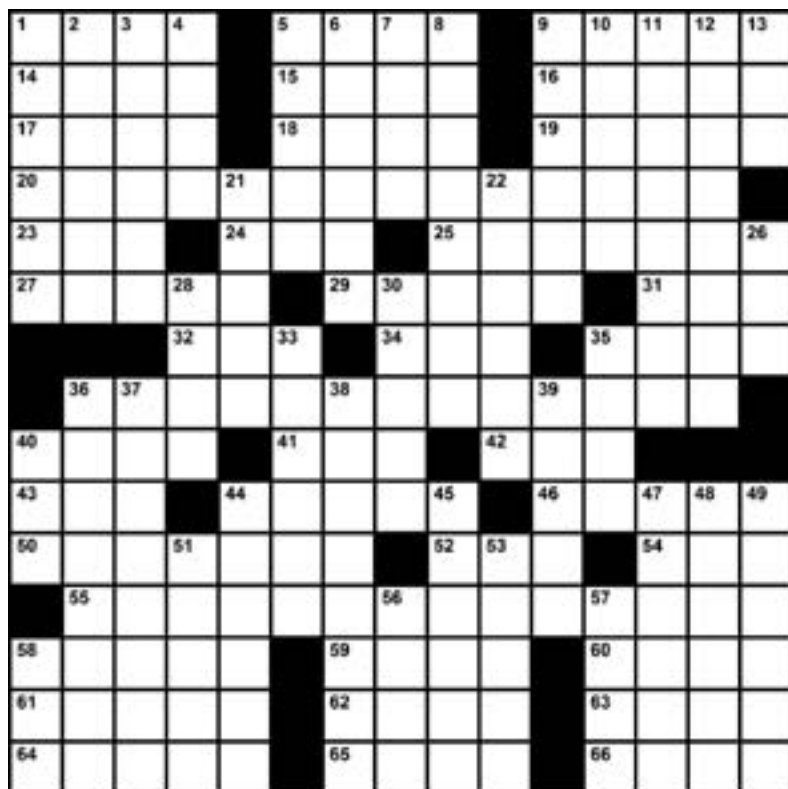
**Womyn's Film Night** 7 p.m. Film: "Tipping the Velvet - Part 3" An unusual love story told in three episodes charts the course of Nan. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [GoAffirmations.org/](http://GoAffirmations.org/)

**MDFFL Mixer** 9 p.m. Meet the MDFFL football players. Come join and support Metro Detroit Flag Football. Metro Detroit Flag Football League, 23365 Hoover Road, **Warren**. 586.806.2390. [MDFFL.org](http://MDFFL.org)





# First Lesbian



## Across

- 1 Four-posters for foreplay, for some
- 5 Deep throat sound
- 9 Astronaut Schirra
- 14 Carbon compound
- 15 Soft drink favorite
- 16 Homer-erotic tale?
- 17 Barry Humphries' Dame
- 18 One that attacks the fly with the tongue
- 19 Fruit of Greek myth
- 20 With 55-Across, short title of the History of a Lesbian Community coauthored by 36-Across
- 23 JFK info
- 24 Angular opening
- 25 Bad-mouthed
- 27 Like some porn
- 29 Brought into alignment
- 31 Request to Sajak
- 32 "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" mountain
- 34 Son of Prince Valiant
- 35 "Beatle Bailey" dog
- 36 Teacher of the first course on lesbianism in the US
- 40 New York college
- 41 Mandela org.
- 42 P. Hearst's kidnappers
- 43 One that's hairy and has a master

- 44 Some are urban
- 46 Hispanic family org.
- 50 Robin Williams' " \_\_\_ Photo"
- 52 Simpson case judge
- 54 Nuts or bananas
- 55 See 20-Across
- 58 Chew the ass of
- 59 Edible pocket
- 60 Bit to split
- 61 Long in the past?
- 62 Tops a cupcake
- 63 Wang in fashion
- 64 Transvestite boast?
- 65 Pub projectile
- 66 Biblical garden

- 9 Needed some Viagra?
- 10 Honolulu hello
- 11 Patricia Highsmith and others
- 12 Playwright Arthur
- 13 Ft. trios
- 21 Concern of Todd Oldham
- 22 Changes, as the Constitution
- 26 To God, to Caesar
- 28 Syllables of triumph
- 30 Dressing type
- 33 Pretend to have an erection?
- 35 Track shape
- 36 It can't go long enough to get to Uranus
- 37 She played tomb raider Lara
- 38 Having balls
- 39 " \_\_\_ Me" (Lily Tomlin movie)
- 40 Illegal same-sex vow, in most states
- 44 Cheap wheels
- 45 She doesn't have sex with men
- 47 Chewed the scenery
- 48 Aplenty
- 49 One who's out
- 51 Makes oneself hard to find
- 53 Say "Bottoms up!"
- 56 Costa \_\_\_
- 57 Became a donor
- 58 Cost-of-living meas.

## Down

- 1 Director Kidron of \_Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit\_
- 2 Agnes Moorehead role
- 3 Anonymous dads for some lesbian families
- 4 Supporter of bedroom activity
- 5 One who gets screwed by an agent?
- 6 Go on foot
- 7 Jerusalem server
- 8 Took no chances

Solution on pg 28



MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY

## Meet Roxy!

This beautiful 8-year-old tortoiseshell cat loves to be around people and enjoys being petted. Roxy prefers to be the only cat in your life. She has been waiting for a loving home for almost three months, and would love to meet you today! The adoption fee includes microchipping, sterilization, age-appropriate vaccinations, the MHS Adoption Guarantee and much more!

For more information, please visit or call the MHS Berman Center for Animal Care at (734) 721-7300 and provide the pet ID number, 702752.

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



# Horoscopes

## You'll be OK, Taurus!

BY JACK FERTIG

*A lunar eclipse in Gemini has people blabbing about feelings, revealing too much. Be quiet, attentive and philosophical. Learn what you can.*

**ARIES (March 20 – April 19):** Long bottled-up energy comes out like gangbusters. You should be able to focus that into constructive work and healthy exercise, but overdoing it can be harmful. Think, prioritize and pace yourself! Give yourself an occasional break. You need them more than you know.

**TAURUS (April 20 – May 20):** Your ruler Venus turning retrograde can exaggerate worries about money. Focus on the root of your anxieties and explore constructive solutions and improvements with a confidante. Sometimes things have to unravel a bit to be properly mended. You'll be OK.

**GEMINI (May 21- June 20):** When little things that worried your mother come back to haunt you look at how her anxieties might have seeded your own. Facing that can be challenging, but clarity can make you a lot stronger.

**CANCER (June 21- July 22):** Anxiety about your career and your future are exaggerated. Sure, your friends are painting an optimistic picture just because they're your friends, but they could be right! Schedule time in the coming weeks for long, warm, soul-nurturing soaks.

**LEO (July 23 – August 22):** If too much work has you neglecting your partner, get ready to hear about it and make some changes! A recent good run on the job may have ended with you hitting a brick wall. Some time off will give you a fresh start.

**VIRGO (August 23 – September 22):** Being so sure of the "facts" will get you more points for confidence than for accuracy. You will soon realize your own mistakes even if nobody else does. When you really want to challenge others with information challenge yourself first.

**LIBRA (September 23 – October 22):** Competitiveness should push you to your limits. You may have gone a bit beyond, offering more than you can deliver. Quick apologies and

reparations will give you credit for honesty and grace. Stewing over problems can undermine your health and credibility.

**SCORPIO (October 23 – November 21):** Few people want to be with a pessimist. Finding others who share your bleak view may offer some assurance now, but they'll likely drag you down later. Find a creative outlet, perhaps scribing a romantic tragedy or dystopian sci-fi story.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 – December 20):** Open honesty with your partner could reveal a lot more than either of you ever wanted to know. Keeping your relationship together may require revising agreements. You can make it work; this could improve things over the long run.

**CAPRICORN (December 21 – January 19):** Whine, moan and criticize about your job with your friends. Get it together, sharpen those observations, take responsibility for your share of the problem and then take that back to your boss and colleagues. Well-considered, constructive observations will be appreciated.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 – February 18):** You will be heard! Don't worry about that but rather about what people will hear. Make an effort to be kind and thoughtful. Remember the Golden Rule. Some of your insights may reveal more about you than you'd intended.

**PISCES (February 19 – March 19):** Unlike the Trojan princess Cassandra, you can find friends who will at least listen to your bleak foresights and maybe even believe them. At least get it all off your chest with someone who can sympathize and help you make a plan.

*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).*

### Ready for A BETTER LIFE?

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

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

AT OUR NEW LOCATION:  
2930 Woodward Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48201  
Sundays 11:00 am  
313-259-0000



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

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

## BUTTERFLY CENTER

The Recovery Corporation

A non-profit 501(C) (3) GLBT therapy center, specializing in:

- ▼ GLBT Relationships ▼ Individual Therapy
- ▼ Couples Counseling ▼ Alcohol/Drug Dependency
- ▼ 12 Week Drunk Driver Program ▼ Hypnosis
- and issues and problems in daily living related to:
- ▼ EMDR ▼ Sexual Abuse ▼ Dual Diagnosis
- ▼ Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- ▼ Bipolar/Depression ▼ Transgender

24865 5 Mile Rd., Suite 4 A licensed substance abuse agency  
Redford, MI 48239 Most Insurances Accepted  
(313) 533-1550 Sliding Scale Fee

## ROSEMARY A. JOZWIAK And Associates

Affordable  
Professional  
Services

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

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

(248) 546-9402 – Royal Oak, MI  
[www.therapy4you.com](http://www.therapy4you.com)

## STEVEN M. GITTLEMAN

Attorney and Counselor at Law

Estate Planning Tax Business Transactions

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

### ARE YOU AN AFRICAN AMERICAN "OFFSPRING" OF AFRICAN AMERICAN PARENTAGE, AND HAVE EXPERIENCED THE TRANSITION FROM A HETEROSEXUAL TO SAME-SEX FAMILY ENVIRONMENT?

"WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE?"

Your participation is needed in a research project about how African American "offspring" of African American parents experience the transition from a heterosexual to a same-sex relationship family lifestyle. This involves a one to two hour confidential interview with Sydney L. Jackson, a doctoral student at Capella University.

If you would like to participate in this study, share "your" story, and you are African American (age 18 years or older), please contact:

**SYDNEY L. JACKSON** at 313-820-9224 or 313-286-3279

The interviews will be conducted at a time and location that is convenient for you.

By participating in this study, African Americans will add to the body of knowledge about "how" these families and their offspring experience the transition from heterosexual to same-sex relationship family lifestyles. This study provides an opportunity for those who desire, to share their stories, while informing and educating the public by providing a much needed perspective. Your participation will also help this doctoral student complete her dissertation.



Visit our website!

<http://www.pridesource.com>



Add our fan page!

Search: "Between The Lines Newspaper"



Follow us!

@YourBTL

## A Tension Getter Massage Therapy

by David Rosenberg  
(734) 662-6282

Therapeutic Massage  
gets rid of back, neck and  
shoulder pain

2 Downtown Locations

Ann Arbor  
209 West  
Kingsley

Berkley  
W. 12 Mile Road  
(just west of Greenfield)

(Couple blocks  
west of  
main, between  
Ashley & 1st.)

"I can bring my  
massage table to your  
home, too!"

## Massage Class for Men

Sheets, showers and  
lotions provided

Learn some  
massage techniques.

Meet others in a  
safe and caring environment.

Thursday at 2 pm.  
Tuesdays & Saturdays at 8pm  
\$10 per session  
209 W. Kingsley St.  
Ann Arbor, MI  
(734) 662-6282

Find me on the Internet at  
<http://www.trymassage.com>

**aut\ BAR**  
Where LGBT Ann Arbor meets, eats, drinks, and plays!  
315 Braun Court  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
734.994.3677  
www.autbar.com

**SH \aut\ Cabaret and Gallery**  
325 Braun Court  
Ann Arbor, MI

**Common Language Bookstore**  
317 Braun Court  
Ann Arbor, MI  
734.663.0036  
www.glbttbooks.com

# HARD CORE PORN!!!

**BLUE MOON VIDEO/DVD SALES & RENTALS**

C'MON IN... CHECK OUT OUR 13,000+ XXX DVD'S!... THE LARGEST SELECTION OF GLBT PORN IN TOWN!!

BUY ANY 2 XXX DVD'S GET A \$4.95 DVD FREE!!

JOIN OUR "TEAM PORN" RENTAL CLUB FREE DAILY RENTALS! (see store or website for details)

Check our website for your 20% OFF coupon  
[www.bluemoonvideodvd.com](http://www.bluemoonvideodvd.com)

OPEN EVERYDAY MON - SAT 10AM - 1AM SUNDAY 11AM - 10PM  
7041 W. 8 MILE 1 MILE WEST OF WOODWARD 313-340-1730

LUBES  
DILDOS  
FLESHLIGHTS  
FLESHJACKS  
HEAD CLEANER  
ENHANCEMENT PILLS  
GLASS WANDS  
C/RINGS  
PUMPS  
& MUCH MORE!

DISCOVER  
VISA

## Classifieds

### 101-ANNOUNCEMENTS LGBT AA MEETINGS

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Ferndale-Saturday**  
1 p.m. Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Ferndale-Saturday**  
1 p.m. Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.

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

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

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

**410 PROF. SERVICES - GENERAL**

**1109 EROTICA - ADULT PRODUCTS**

### 410 PROF. SERVICES - GENERAL

**RON & KEN'S GARAGE**  
Licensed Master Mechanics  
LAWNMOWER/SNOW BLOWER SALES AND SERVICE. 248-477-2922 FARMINGTON HILLS.

### 428 PROF. SERVICES - MASSAGE

**GROUP MASSAGE**  
- For Gay and Bisexual Men. Learn some massage techniques and meet others in a safe and caring environment. Tuesdays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Thursdays at 2 p.m. \$10 per session. 209 West Kingsley in downtown Ann Arbor. (734) 662-6282 or email Massage4@aol.com. <http://www.trymassage.com>

### 1102 EROTICA - MASSAGE

**Erotic Massage**  
Caress Now offers discreet sensual and erotic massages. Call 406-686-6669 248-678-1361 [www.caressnow.com](http://www.caressnow.com)

### 1109 EROTICA - ADULT PRODUCTS

**Sexy Black Women**  
For free samples of the hottest amateur female talent of the Mid-West and/ or interested attractive females (18+). Call I.G.P. now at 313-289-2008.

**MEET REAL MEN!**  
313.962.5000  
FREE to Listen & Reply to Ads!  
FREE CODE: 2141  
For other local numbers call 1-888-MegaMates™  
MegaMatesMen.com

**To place a classified ad with us, visit PRIDESOURCE.COM/classifieds or call us at 888.615.7003x22**

## Naked Men's YOGA

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

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

**Solution to puzzle from page 26**

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

# THERE'S POWER IN OUR PRIDE.



Please participate in the largest Gay & Lesbian Community Survey in history, and help demonstrate the growing Power in Our Pride.

Recent surveys have had 45,000 respondents from over 100 countries!

Everyone who completes the survey by June 30, 2012 will be entered into a drawing to win one of five US \$100 cash prizes. (Or if you win, you may designate a non-profit charity to receive the prize.)

Please take the survey today, and tell your friends!

# [www.LGBTsurvey.com](http://www.LGBTsurvey.com)

**About the Gay & Lesbian Community Survey®:** Tremendous strides toward full equality have been achieved by our communities over the past decade. There's Power in Our Pride. Power to make a difference!

Gay and lesbian survey studies have opened doors (and minds) in leading corporations and organizations, which in turn have recognized the value of their LGBT employees through the establishment of equal hiring policies and domestic partner benefits. This has been a catalyst, leading to sweeping changes in political and social inclusivity.

Demographic reports also influence marketing investment. Virtually absent until recently, we now see a growing variety of products and services represented in gay media, celebrating our diversity. Ads keep LGBT publications and websites in business, serving their communities with independent news and information.

Beyond simply advertising, though, these companies support us in many ways, including sponsoring community events and funding community-based charities in order to earn our loyalty.

Taking an annual pulse on market trends through surveys helps demonstrate the LGBT community's growing power, and influences positive change.

**We respect your privacy.** All personal survey data is held securely by Community Marketing, Inc., a gay-owned and operated, independent market research and communications firm based in San Francisco, and will not be sold to third parties or used for marketing purposes. CMI was founded in 1992 and is proudly NGLCC-Certified. Thank you!



Gay Market Research +  
Development Lab™



**Community Marketing, Inc.**

Lesbian Market Research +  
Development Lab™

**3 DOORS DOWN**  
head shop

FOR ALL YOUR  
**SMOKING ACCESSORIES**

CUSTOM MICHIGAN BLOWN GLASS  
PIPES  
HOOKAHS  
GLASSWARE  
SCALES  
HIPPIE APPAREL  
INCENSE  
URINE KITS  
VAPORIZERS  
DETOX DRINKS  
TIE-DYES & MUCH MORE!

PHO ROOM  
CONVICT GLASS

All products for tobacco use, or legal herbs only!

(248) 618-3554 5326 Dixie Hwy. Waterford, MI  
(989) 402-1213 4116 Wilder Rd. Bay City, MI  
(231) 421-9091 1890 U.S. 31 Suite 8. Traverse City, MI

MON-FRI 10-8 SAT 10-6 SUN 12-6

## Deep Inside Hollywood

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE



T.R. Knight. Photo: ABC

### The return of T.R. Knight

There was that “f-word” scandal, he quit “Grey’s Anatomy” and then... whatever happened to T.R. Knight? Well, first he took some time off, appeared on “Law & Order” the way everyone does eventually, and then spent time under the media radar doing theater – the perfect route to insure that Hollywood will ignore you for as long as you like. But now Knight is back on the screen in “42,” the upcoming Jackie Robinson biopic from Legendary Pictures. In the role of Robinson will be Chadwick Boseman (“The Express”), while Knight will portray Harold Parrott, the Brooklyn Dodgers’ traveling secretary. Meanwhile, Harrison Ford will star as Branch Rickey, the man who signed Robinson to the Dodgers in 1947, making him the very first black Major League baseball player and ending segregation in the sport. In other words, baseball fans would do well to bring something to discreetly sniffle into when the film opens in the spring of 2013.

### Amber Heard machetes her way through Hollywood

Hey ladies, Robert Rodriguez has a new movie in the works. Of course, you’ll have to look past its most obvious qualities to see what’s specifically in store for you, since it’s called “Machete Kills” and is, in fact, the sequel to the “Grindhouse” director’s crazy, Danny Trejo-starring revenge-exploitation film of last year. And OK, yes, it also stars Mel Gibson, which is clearly a turnoff. But before you go looking for a third strike against it, know that in all things there exists a balance. In this case it’s lesbian bombshell Amber Heard, who’s taken a role in the violent action movie. Plot: Machete battles an arms dealer who wants to launch weapons into space. She’ll be featured alongside Jessica Alba (straight) and Michelle Rodriguez (on the books as straight at the time of this writing), both reprising earlier roles in the first installment of the intentionally pulpy fiction. It comes out sometime in 2013; plenty of time for you to figure out once and for all how Jodie Foster manages to enjoy Gibson’s company.

### Wentworth Miller joins Killer behind the camera

Maybe you were one of the vast throngs of gay guys who thought that Wentworth Miller’s talents were limited to looking hot on “Prison Break.” If so, then that just shows how much you know. Are you aware that he also wrote the screenplay for the upcoming film “Stoker,” starring Nicole Kidman and Mia Wasikowska? Or that his latest scripted effort, “The Disappointments Room,” has been picked up by power-lesbian Christine Vachon’s Killer Films, which will join forces with Voltage Pictures (“The Hurt Locker”) to produce the project? Well, now you do. The brief plot synopsis for “Disappointments” makes it sound like a typical haunted house/something-bad-happened-here movie – family moves into mysterious old dwelling where dark secrets lie – but the fact that Killer (“Mildred Pierce,” “Boys Don’t Cry”) is into it means there’s already some sort of secret wrinkle we don’t know about. This is a company that puts vision before money, so we’ll be happily following the progress of this one.

### Set that DVR: Margaret Cho finally returns to ‘30 Rock’

When Margaret Cho played North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il on “30 Rock” last season, kidnapping Avery (Elizabeth Banks) and setting a bizarre plot line in motion for Jack Donaghy (Alec Baldwin), it was pretty clear she’d be back this season to renew the role. And then Kim Jong Il died. What to do? And the answer to that long-simmering question is: bring back Margaret Cho as Kim Jong Il, of course. This is a show, after all, that successfully and hilariously tackled Tracy Morgan’s real-life offensive anti-gay statements during a stand-up routine, so the death of a real-life character isn’t going to slow them down. Just how this will all shake out is under wraps right now, but Cho will return to the show for the May 10 and May 17 episodes. And as long as she’s playing a dead man now, who’s to say she won’t do it again in the future?

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993

**BTL**  
Between the Lines

Coming May 31st  
**Pride 2012**

**The Largest Issue of the Year**

Over 287,000 LGBT people shop, vacation, have families and work in Michigan! Don't miss out! Reach this loyal, affluent market with our publications! **Great discounted rates!** Get your message out to a terrific and loyal market for as low as \$75! Call BTL Sales at 734-293-7200 ex. 15 Or e-mail Ed@pridesource.com

**PRIDESOURCE.COM**

# PHARMACY UPGRADE




**MEDCART**  
Pharmacy

**248.542.2300**  
www.medcartpharmacy.com  
1964 West 11 Mile Road, Berkley  
Between Woodward & Coolidge

**Do More ... Feel Better ... Live Longer**  
A Healthcare Team Dedicated to Your Lifestyle  
Led by Dr. Paul Benson, Supporting Our Community Since 1980




**Be Well**  
Medical Center

- Board Certified in Family & Internal Medicine
- Accredited as a "Patient-Centered Medical Home" by BCBS, a high standard of excellence in healthcare
- State-of-the-art facility, with xray and lab on site
- Cosmetic and Skincare Services for men & women: Laser resurfacing and hair removal; botox and facial fillers; anti-aging treatments

**Experience Counts**  
Three Credentialed HIV Specialists from the American Academy of HIV Medicine

- HPV & Hepatitis vaccinations
- Rapid HIV & STD testing
- Anal PAP smears
- Treatment of HIV Facial Lipoatrophy



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

Funded by MDCH



**Hello?**  
I've got a question.

**Talk to a live expert about STDs**

**800 872 2437**

*The Michigan HIV/STD Hotline. Live on weekdays.*



Learn how to protect yourself and others, what the symptoms are, and where you can get tested locally. We'll take the time to answer all your questions and explain things in detail. All calls are handled anonymously. The Michigan HIV/STD hotline. Here to help.

Scan to save this number to your phone.

Funded by MDCH. AIDS Partnership provides FREE HIV testing at Affirmations in Ferndale. Thurs., 5:30-8pm, Sat., 1-2:30pm, 2nd & 4th Fridays, Youth Only, 5:30-8pm.

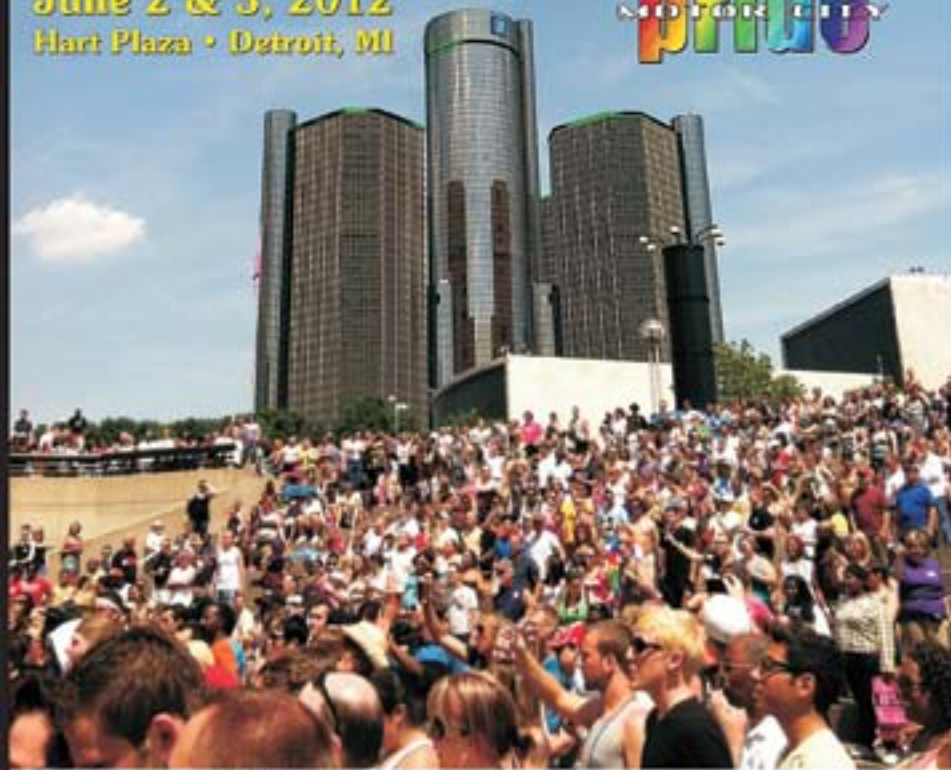
A program of  
**AIDS PARTNERSHIP MICHIGAN**

educate  
liberate  
celebrate



June 2 & 3, 2012  
Hart Plaza • Detroit, MI

Motor City  
pride



Motor City Pride is looking for volunteers to make Pride happen  
Sign up at [www.motorcitypride.org/get-involved](http://www.motorcitypride.org/get-involved)

Enter your group or company in our Parade for Equality



Sunday, June 3, 2012  
Step off is at 11:00 a.m.

Applications are available at [www.motorcitypride.org/parade](http://www.motorcitypride.org/parade)

Vendor Spaces are still available,  
applications can be found at

<http://motorcitypride.org/vendors-and-exhibits>

Keep up-to-date on all of the latest updates



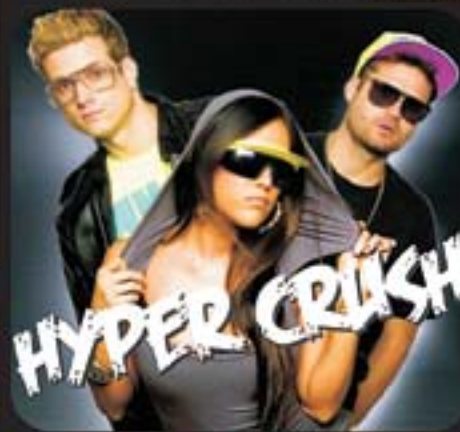
Prizes will be  
given for the  
following categories:

Best New Performer  
Best Corporate Entry  
Most Colorful

JOSEY  
GREENWELL



HYPER CRUSH



NINA SKY



KENNETH  
THOMAS



DAVE BLUDE



JULISSA VELOZ  
KERLI

KIMBERLY COLE  
KILLER FLAMINGOS  
NERVOUS BUT EXCITED  
BARBRA PAYTON  
DANI RICE

DI SACE, JOHN CRUZ, DI NEDY, DI CHICO,  
DI NIKONI, DI CAPINGO, DI UENA, DI JINK