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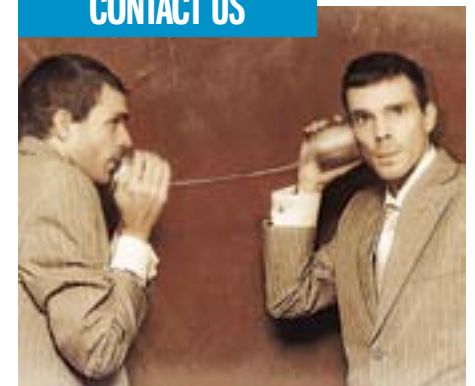
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Photo: Ford

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Detroit City Council President Charles Pugh addressing the audience. Behind him, left to right, are Tony Johnson, Marlin Colyer, Bre Campbell, Dr. Marjorie Hill and Rosemary Linares with her seven year-old stepson in tow. BTL photo: Kyle Williams

# Young LGBT Leaders Of Color Share Stage With Dr. Marjorie Hill

“Leadership is about recognizing what needs to happen and what needs to change.”

– Marjorie Hill

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

**FERDALE** - Recognition in the media is one way to encourage young leaders and show them that what they do matters to the community. Such stories also help inspire others. Another way to help young leaders grow is to connect them with adults who have been down similar great paths.

The Young LGBT Leaders of Color Project tied all of those tools together, giving 14 Detroit Area youth the chance to have their determination and their dreams recognized. Each was featured in a cover story for *Between The Lines*, plus in a video for *Model D*. The project culminated with an Oct. 11 event held at *Affirmations* which featured a speech by New York-based activist Dr. Marjorie Hill, then a panel where she and five of the youth discussed what leadership they have seen in their lives. About 100

people attended the discussion, browsed a display of each profile in the gallery space, and watched the individual videos projected on a big screen. The project was initiated and supported by the Racial Equity Initiative of the HOPE Fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

Hill, who serves as executive director of the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, talked about her journey; from the days of donning sunglasses at night to sneak into a lesbian support group meeting and being called out to serve on their board, to boldly seeking a job at City Hall and the Mayor of New York giving her a chance, and through her career path that led to AIDS work.

She did not do it on her own. Others helped her along the path, particularly New York Mayor David Dinkins. "I'll never forget the day walking up the steps of City Hall. And I'm sure you've seen the image of the little girl that has on her mother's heels and the pearls are down to here and she has the mother's bag? Well that's how I felt walking up the steps, like I was going to be a grown up," she said.

Thankfully the Mayor recognized Hill's spirit and offered her a job. "I was immediately put at ease," she said, "because Mayor David Dinkins asked me, 'Do you care about the gay and lesbian community and why?'"

With Hill under his wings, Dinkins made an historic stand in 1991. The

Mayor gave up his traditional spot at the head of the St. Patrick's Day Parade and instead walked with the Lesbian and Gay Irish Organization. Never before had LGBT people been allowed to march in the parade. "It was frightening, as they would literally throw beer cans and little Irish grandmothers were saying we should go to hell and die of AIDS," she said.

Hill recognized from early on that, as she said, "Leadership is about recognizing what needs to happen and what needs to change." While leaders like her were learning how to stand up for what was right, she also saw firsthand what happened when people did not stand up.

"The first person I knew who contracted AIDS was a heterosexual African American woman who was living in San Francisco with her husband in 1983. She came home to New York to die," she said. Hill visited her at the hospital and was appalled to the mistreatment she received because people on staff would not treat her with basic compassion. "Technicians would not risk their life to turn on the TV. Her food was always cold because dietary techs would not bring her food to her room." It was the first of many times she would see unfairness rear its ugly head, though the encounters made her determined and strong.

Detroit is full of strong, determined people like those recognized in the LGBT Leaders of Color Project. Tony



“I’m actually thankful for the people that teased me when I was younger because I was not your typical kid... But eventually as time progressed you get those people who actually nurture you, who accept you for who you are and just let you be you. So in that moment my light began to shine. When you are light to other people, you attract people of like minds. And being in that space with people of like minds makes your light shine brighter.”

– Marlin Colyer

Johnson has fought AIDS, two strokes and a two-month coma, but remains strong and active through volunteering at KICK. Marlin Colyer, who turned 30 the night of the event, has gone through a LEAD training program and is now training other youth to be leaders. Bre Campbell is actively changing the stereotypes of young black transgender women. Rosemary Linares blurs lines as a married, bisexual half-Cuban woman who looks white, and who advocates for all people. And Kibibi Blount-Dorn is part of the local food revolution in Detroit, particularly though Eastern Market. These speakers were just a handful of those recognized by the program. They talked about their experiences and what leadership means to them.

“Before I was thrust into this status, I was at a crossroads,” Campbell said. “I felt that I am a transperson but I didn’t have to go out and tell people ‘well oh, I’m Bre and I’m a transperson.’ So I kind of reverted back and that was something that I kept to myself. I stopped being active in the community and I got a job living the heterosexual lifestyle without problem. So one of the transwomen was murdered. And I remember posting on Facebook how hurt I was and how she wasn’t getting the fairness in news coverage. And someone posted, ‘Bre what are you worried about, you’re not like those girls.’ And it really struck a course [sic] with me because I was like, ‘but I am.’ We share something in common and that thrust me back into the

community. ...Now I tell my story not for my own benefit but to be able to show that there is a difference... and so other transwomen may want to be more like me.”

For Colyer finding like-minded people has been the key to personal and professional growth. “I’m actually thankful for the people that teased me when I was younger because I was not your typical kid... But eventually as time progressed you get those people who actually nurture you, who accept you for who you are and just let you be you. So in that moment my light began to shine. When you are light to other people, you attract people of like minds. And being in that space with people of like minds makes your light shine brighter.”

The youth talked about their need for older leaders to educate and encourage them. “A lot of our fear is not being understood,” said Rhiannon Chester, sitting in the audience. “My experience is like ‘oh, you’re young, you’ll understand when you’re older.’” Colyer wants knowledge to be shared, not coveted. “Knowledge is infectious. Talk to somebody else and make it grow.”

To see the stories of The Young LGBT Leaders of Color Project, go to <http://www.pridesource.com/section.html?section=news-leadership>. To learn more about how you can support similar projects through the HOPE Fund, go to <http://cfsem.org/hope-fund>.



Celebrating after the panel discussion are, from left to right, Tony Johnson, Dr. Marjorie Hill, Marlin Colyer, Bre Campbell, Curtis Lipscomb and Kibibi Dorn. BTL photo: Kyle Williams



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## KGLRC Names Jay Maddock New Program Director



Photo: Terry Johnston  
Photography

On Oct. 15, the Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center announced that, after an extensive search, Jay Maddock has been hired as the center's new Program Director.

Maddock comes to the KGLRC with new energy and immense experience working with youth and people of color.

"I'm very excited to continue the great work that the KGLRC has been doing in the Kalamazoo community,"

says Maddock. "I find myself very fortunate to be picking up this role after the bar was set so high by my predecessor, Tracy Hall, and at a time of growth for the Resource Center."

Formerly of Planned Parenthood Mid and South Michigan, Maddock has previously worked to develop and strengthen the Calhoun County Coalition for Inclusion - a gathering of church leaders, educators, mental health professionals, social service agencies, students, youth, advocates and community members dedicated to creating a welcoming and inclusive community for LGBTQ youth in Calhoun.

"One of the opportunities that I'm most looking forward to, is the chance to become more deeply vested in the transgender community, which I think has been overlooked for quite some time, but now we have the fortuity to take on new programming and expand our reach," says Maddock.

Maddock's primary responsibility will be developing and implementing new programming, while also overseeing the Triangle Mentorship Program. The Triangle Mentorship Program is the KGLRC's trademark program for LGBT and allied youth, pairing them up with two mentors to provide them with role models.

Maddock begins at the KGLRC on Nov. 1. For more information about the KGLRC, go to [www.KGLRC.org](http://www.KGLRC.org).

## Affirmations To Talk Racial Inclusion And Moving Forward

Affirmations and its Multicultural Advisory Committee will host a public event to formally release "A Blueprint for Change," the final report from its more than four years of work in racial inclusion.

The Multicultural Advisory Committee was established in 2008 to address systemic racial inequities and to develop best practices for racial and ethnic inclusion at Affirmations. The committee will present copies of the finished report, along with a presentation detailing the history of the project, the model followed, a summary of recommendations, and plans for follow-up. Led by long-serving members of the committee, the presentation will be followed by a presentation from Affirmations' leadership on its 2012-2015 Strategic Plan to take the organization forward.

"We're very excited about providing Affirmations with a research-based, and solid set of recommendations for best practices on racial inclusion," says former Affirmations' staff member Kathleen LaTosch, who facilitated the initiative. "The Blueprint for Change provides a clear set of directives and creative suggestions for board development, staff enhancement, and program effectiveness."

The event begins at 7 p.m. Oct. 25. For more information go to [www.GoAffirmations.org](http://www.GoAffirmations.org)

# Shelia Johnson For Supreme Court Brings Perspective, Compassion And Toughness

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

Michigan citizens have the opportunity to do something monumental in Nov. by electing the first African-American woman to the Supreme Court.

Judge Shelia Johnson has made history before, when she was elected in 2002 to serve as the first African-American female judge in Oakland County's 46th District Court. In 2008, she was re-elected for an unopposed second term to continue serving the communities of Southfield, Lathrup Village, Bingham Farms, Beverly Hills, Franklin and Southfield Township.

"I appreciate the opportunity to serve the community and the degree of confidence that people put in me. I make a big impact on people's lives and it's fulfilling," said Johnson, who is running to fill the partial two year term of former Justice Maura Corrigan, who left the bench to lead the Michigan Department of Human Services.

Johnson has a unique perspective. She spent a short time in the Deep South as a child during a time when segregation was rampant. "We moved to Detroit and when I went back, I recognized the examples of injustice. As I grew older, I understood

**“I believe that judges must reach out into the community to educate citizens on the law and the legal process in order to foster an understanding, comfort, trust, and a sense of fairness with the judicial system. I frequently participate as a speaker for community events and on panel discussions on legal issues in furtherance of this goal.”**

– Shelia Johnson

why we are doing what we're doing and wouldn't want to see this ever happen again. I wanted to right the wrong. Everyone should be equal and that's how I knew this career was for me," said Johnson, a resident of Southfield for 23 years.

In the court room, Johnson has met all kinds of people, including LGBT people. "I don't care who they are attracted to or who they establish families with. Overall, when we're talking about America protecting its citizens, we're currently leaving out a large group of people that deserve the same respect and rights as anybody else."

Johnson is connected to the people. "I believe that judges must reach out into the community to educate citizens on the law and the legal process in order to foster an understanding, comfort, trust, and a sense of fairness with the judicial system. I frequently participate as a speaker for community events and on panel discussions on legal issues in furtherance of this goal," she said.

With a degree from the University of Michigan Law School, Johnson gained 18 years of legal experience in both state and

See Johnson, page 13

# Ken Ross For Ingham Count Judge Rugged, Experienced, Grounded – And Gay

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

LANSING - For Ken Ross, candidate for Ingham County 30th Circuit Court Judge,



Ken Ross

the decision to run for the position was simple. After Judge Paula Manderfield announced her retirement in March of 2012, he was faced with a set of replacements that didn't represent

his ideal. Drawing on what he calls "fundamental principles of democracy," Ross felt it was time to stop complaining and simply do better.

"I think it's a fundamental principal in democracy that when you're presented with a choice of people running and you don't like the people running... You basically have two choices: you can complain about it or run yourself," he said. "I didn't particularly care for the options that we had when Judge

Manderfield announced she wasn't running. So, I threw my hat in the ring."

"A big part of being a judge is having a well-grounded... decision making process so that you're equipped to make tough decisions..." he said. "I think my background has prepared me well for that."

Ross' approximately three-and-a-half-year stint as Commissioner for Insurance, Banking & Securities for the Michigan Office of Financial & Insurance Regulation through April 2011, coincided with the recent economic crash. Having successfully navigated the financial downturn is a source of pride for him and, he suggests, a great measure of his abilities.

"The time that I was commissioner also happened to be during the financial turmoil," he said. "It was the biggest upheaval in our financial market since the Great Depression. That presented us with a lot of challenges that we met and overcame."

"Most of my predecessors used that position to essentially facilitate the business of insurance in their state, to essentially offer aid and comfort to the insurance

industry. Instead, I used that position as a way to be a consumer financial advocate for Michigan's working families."

He points to his fight against the use of credit scores to determine insurance policy rates and so-called "gotcha clauses," which gave insurance companies a way to avoid covering certain claims, as two hallmarks of his everyman, woman and in-between approach to justice.

Ross claims to have a bug for civil service. He has been involved in the revitalization of Lansing's Durant Park and fundraising for Planned Parenthood and the Greater Lansing Housing Commission, among others.

On Oct. 11, he spoke on a panel for Michigan State University College of Law's Triangle Bar Association's National Coming Out Day celebration with openly gay Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope about the experiences of being an openly gay professional.

During his time living in DeWitt he was elected to the City Council twice, sat as the Mayor Pro Tem, was active in the Lion's

See Ross, page 13





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## Five Reasons To Stay Awake Nov. 6 Polls Show Marriage Ballot Battles Will Be Tight

BY LISA KEEN

Anti-gay activists opposing marriage equality for same-sex couples are counting in fives. They're distributing videotapes to pastors laying out a five-step plan-of-action for each church. They're distributing another video offering five reasons voters should defeat marriage equality ballot measures at the polls. And they've got their eyes on five votes Nov. 6: four statewide ballot measures and one Iowa Supreme Court justice up for a retention vote. Here's how things are stacking up:

### Maine

Tony Perkins of the national Family Research Council has distributed a video aimed specifically at pastors, giving them a five-point action plan to implement in their church to defeat Question 1. The five steps are: Recruit a leader, hold a voter registration event by Oct. 14, deliver a "Vote No on 1 Sunday" sermon, collect an offering for [ProtectMarriageMaine.com](http://ProtectMarriageMaine.com), and push to get congregants to the polls to vote No on Nov. 6.

There are 19 political action committees in Maine listed as providing funds on the state's same-sex marriage initiative, Question 1; 12 in support of its passage, 7 opposed. To look at their totals, one might expect passage to be a slam dunk: \$4.7 million in support of same-sex marriage, \$697,000 against.

The latest poll by the Portland Press, Sept. 12-16, looks good, too: 57 percent in favor, 36 percent opposed, seven percent

undecided - numbers which were essentially unchanged since June. The latest poll by Public Policy Polling, Sept. 17-18, showed 52 percent favor allowing same-sex marriage while 44 percent oppose, and four percent are undecided.

But the pollster says this is "a very close race."

"Our experience in polling gay marriage is that if people say they're undecided it usually means they're opposed to it," said Dean Debnam, president of Public Policy Polling, in a press release.

And many LGBT activists suspect that the National Organization for Marriage is pouring a lot more into the contest than they are indicating on state campaign reports. As of the latest of those reports, NOM claims to have given only \$252,300. NOM has been in a court battle for several years now, seeking to circumvent Maine campaign reporting requirements. It lost its most recent battle before the U.S. Supreme Court, but the organization is still fighting the state law with the state ethics commission over the 2009 marriage ballot battle. In a statement released October, NOM chairman John Eastman said, "NOM has not solicited donations in order to contribute to the Protect Marriage Maine campaign." But the statement also says, "NOM has made organizational contributions to the effort from our general treasury, and all those contributions have been fully disclosed by both NOM and Protect Marriage Maine."

On the pro-marriage equality side, there are some new major money players this time around. The Freedom to Marry Maine

group has pitched in more than \$1 million and Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders has raised \$218,000, to supplement the \$3.4 million raised by the pro-Question 1 group Mainers United for Marriage.

If they're successful in passing Question 1, the marriage equality law would go into effect 30 days after the governor proclaims the results of the election.

### Maryland

The latest poll in Maryland found that support among African American voters had increased significantly between January and September - from 33 percent then to 44 percent now. The Gonzales Research group that conducted both surveys noted that a majority of African Americans (52 percent) still say they'll vote against marriage equality, but the improved numbers, it said, suggest "public pronouncements in the interim from the President and others have had an ameliorative impact for proponents."

This matters in Maryland. Thirty percent of the state's population is African American, compared to 13.5 percent of the population nationally, and low single digits in the other ballot battle states this year. And that's why the support of the NAACP is seen as critical to preserving the legislative victory won for marriage equality in February. The group launched its own radio ad October 8, featuring its chairman emeritus Julian Bond telling voters that voting for Question 6 is "the right thing to do."

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share the same values and they should share in the right to marry," says Bond.

Overall, the polls in Maryland promise a tight contest. The latest indications are 51 percent for Question 6 (for marriage equality) and 43 percent against, with six percent undecided. That lead offers no real comfort. If the six percent undecided vote "No," as Public Policy Polling warns, it's a loss. And historically, most polling prior to similar ballot measures has shown a pro-equal rights position winning, only to have a flip-to-loss on election day.

## Minnesota

Polls in Minnesota have been roller coasting on the issue. A Minnesota Star-Tribune poll of 806 likely voters in May 2011 found only 39 percent for and 55 percent against a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage, with seven percent undecided. But by November of 2011, it was 48 percent for, 43 percent against, nine percent undecided.

The latest Star-Tribune survey of 800 likely voters, between September 17 and 19, showed a "statistical dead heat." Forty-nine percent would vote "Yes" for the constitutional ban on same-sex marriage, 47 percent would vote "No," and four percent said they were undecided. The margin of error was plus or minus 3.5 percent.

The Star-Tribune said the strongest support for the ban lies in the suburbs, a reality that seems to echo the tribulation of Proposition 8.

An exhaustive analysis of pre-election polls and voting on California's same-sex marriage ban found that the votes of more than half-a-million parents with kids living at home were prepared to vote against Proposition 8, sending it to defeat. Then, in the last weeks of the 2008 campaign, proponents of the ban saturated the airwaves with advertisements that warned parents that the legalization of same-sex marriage would require public schools to teach children that same-sex marriage is a viable option for them. The No on 8 campaign failed to respond directly and quickly to that claim, said the study's author David Fleischer, and the parents' votes were converted to "Yes." Proposition 8 passed 52 percent to 48 percent--or barely 600,000 votes in an election in which 13.7 million votes were cast.

But Minnesota's constitution has a quirk. It requires that amendments must be passed by a number of votes that totals a majority of all ballots cast. That means that anyone who votes for president and some of the other offices on the ballot but does not vote on Proposed Amendment 1 will be counted as a "No" vote on Proposed Amendment 1. So, if 100 people go to the polls, it would need 51 "Yes" votes to pass, even if only 60 people voted on the marriage measure and a majority of 60 would total only 31.

## Washington

In Washington State, the Preserve Marriage Washington coalition seeks to overturn the legislature's approval of marriage equality by offering five reasons the state doesn't need to approve same-sex marriage. They are:

\* "same-sex couples already have the same legal rights as married couples,"

\* "children do better when raised by a married

mom and dad,"

\* "anyone who does not comply with the new definition of marriage will face legal consequences,"

\* "public schools will have no choice but to teach this new genderless institution," and

\* businesses, like Chik Fil-A, doctors, and others "will risk their state licenses if they act on their beliefs" against same-sex marriage.

Anti-gay activists in Washington State are going for the Prop 8 jugular. In ads that began airing October 8, they claim passage of Referendum 74 will mean homosexuality will be taught in schools.

"Whenever schools educate children about marriage, they have no choice but to teach this new genderless institution," says one ad, "Consequences of Redefining Marriage."

"In Massachusetts, kids as young as the second grade have been taught homosexual marriage," claims the ad, being aired by Preserve Marriage Washington.

"Everyone in Washington must comply with the new definition of marriage or face negative consequences. Anyone who does not accept this new definition of marriage will soon find themselves at odds with the law and facing legal consequences." Among those negative consequences, it claims, is Catholic Charities loss of "its adoption services" when Massachusetts legalized same-sex marriage.

In truth, of course, Catholic Charities voluntarily gave up its adoption services after the state government said it could no longer fund the organization because it was violating a state human rights law prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination.

But voters cannot be expected to know or look for the veracity of certain claims in a fast-moving television advertisement.

## Iowa Justice

Iowa Supreme Court Justice David Wiggins was one of seven justices who voted unanimously that the state constitution guarantees same-sex couples equal protection under the law. Three of those justices were up for their retention votes in 2010 and were ousted. Now, Wiggins is due a retention vote and press reports in Iowa say it's a fierce fight once again - even three years beyond the landmark decision.

The usual suspects are back to try and defeat the justices: Bob Vander Plaats, the National Organization for Marriage, and even failed Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum. Santorum rode a "NO Wiggins" bus around the state late last month, and making stops to tell voters a vote against Wiggins is "vitaly important."

"Seven individuals decided to change the entire fabric of the state of Iowa," said Santorum, at a stop in Des Moines Sept. 24. He suggested that by removing Wiggins and having four new justices on the court, opponents of same-sex marriage could "maybe even reverse this horrific decision."

The Des Moines Register reported Oct. 3 that 49 percent of likely voters polled said they would vote to retain Wiggins, 41 percent would vote to remove him, and nine percent were undecided.

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NATIONAL GAY  
NEWSPAPER GUILD  
Nothing average about it

# It's The Supreme Court, Stupid!



## Viewpoint

OPINION BY MARC PAIGE

No community has more at stake in this presidential election than the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. In Barack Obama, we have a Democratic candidate who has embraced full equality for LGBT people. We have a Republican candidate in Mitt Romney who is against the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), was against ending Don't Ask, Don't Tell (DADT), and is against marriage equality or civil unions for gay couples.

In Romney's vice-presidential pick Paul Ryan, we have a man who not only voted against ending DADT, but also voted against allowing gay people to adopt in the District of Columbia. Paul Ryan has told the president of Focus on the Family that a Romney/Ryan administration "will protect traditional marriage and the rule of law and we will provide the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) the proper defense in the courts that it deserves." It doesn't get clearer, or meaner, than that.

The most profound and lasting legacy for any president tends to be their lifetime appointments to the Supreme Court of the U.S. (SCOTUS). The Romney campaign has turned to Robert Bork to lead a committee devoted to finding his SCOTUS nominees. Bork is a radically conservative former judge who's own appointment to the Supreme Court by President Reagan was blocked by the Senate in 1987. Romney's choice of Bork as co-chair of his Justice Advisory Committee wasn't merely a dog whistle to the extreme right; it was a bullhorn.

Robert Bork is rabidly anti-gay. In making the case for a Federal Marriage Amendment to the Constitution to block gay marriage, Bork writes, "Compassion, if nothing else, should urge us to avoid the consequences of making homosexuality seem a normal and acceptable choice for the young." Bork warns that if same-sex marriage passes, "I think we'll become much more accommodating to man-boy associations, polygamists and so forth." When Romney announced Bork as his advisor on court appointments, he said of Bork, "I wish he were already on the Supreme Court."

The next president will almost certainly need to replace at least one justice, liberal-leaning Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who at 79 and a cancer patient, is very likely to retire within the next four years. Obama already has a history of SCOTUS appointments with Justices Sotomayor and Kagan. Bill Keller writes in the New York Times that for his part, Romney "is committed to filling any Supreme court vacancies with Scalias."

Twenty-six years ago Antonin Scalia was

confirmed to a lifetime seat on the U.S. Supreme Court, as a legacy of the Reagan presidency. As a Supreme Court Justice, Scalia voted in 2003 to uphold state laws criminalizing gay sex. He says the Constitution does not protect the privacy of consenting adults in their own

homes, and believes states are entitled to pass laws singling out LGBT people for discrimination. At a book signing earlier this month, Scalia was scornful over the idea that equal protection applies to gay people. "Homosexual sodomy? Come on. For 200 years, it was criminal in every state."

LGBT Americans are on the cusp of achieving the full equality under the law sought for decades. The nation is also only one Supreme Court appointment away from overturning Roe v. Wade, and ending hopes for federal marriage rights for gay couples for a generation. The Romney/Ryan ticket is committed to the latter.

The 2012 Republican Party platform is clear in its hatred for LGBT people. The responsibility for drafting the document's language on gay issue was given to Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council (FRC), a man who calls gay-rights activists vile pawns of Satan. In 2010 Perkins attacked Obama when the President denounced proposed legislation in Uganda that would punish homosexual "repeat

offenders" with death.

Predictably, the Republican platform calls for an anti-gay amendment to the Constitution, and criticizes President Obama for not defending DOMA and for ending DADT. But the GOP document also berates the U.S. for advocating an end to foreign anti-gay laws as well: "The effectiveness of our foreign aid has been limited by the cultural agenda of the current Administration, attempting to impose on foreign countries, especially the peoples of Africa, legalized abortion and the homosexual rights agenda... We will reverse this tragic course." The New York Times accurately calls this platform "more aggressive in it's opposition... to gay rights than any in memory."

Under a second Obama/Biden term, the forward movement on LGBT equality of the last four years will continue. Under a Romney presidency, this progress will end. A Romney shaped SCOTUS will stop LGBT equality, especially on marriage rights, not only for four years, but for a generation. Anyone who says otherwise is either uninformed, or lying.

Now go vote as if your life depends on it. In many ways, it does.

Marc Paige is a writer, gay activist, and HIV/AIDS Prevention Educator





# Gay History: Nazis Pt. 1



## Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

A BBC documentary DVD, "Hitler's Body Guards," claims there were 40 attempts on his life. Two came close. None succeeded.

For shockers, a just-published book, "Grey Wolf: The Escape of Adolf Hitler" provides newly uncovered documentation that Hitler with his mistress, later wife, Eva Braun managed at war's end in 1945 to abscond to South America (as did the notorious 'Angel of Death' Dr. Josef Mengele, who sent tens of thousands to their concentration camp death).

Hitler as Fuhrer - leader - was responsible for the murders of 55 million people, six million of whom were Jews who perished in gas chambers. He came to power in 1933.

Hitler claimed repeatedly that Destiny (he was Catholic by birth) had chosen him to lead the Third Reich, a fascist state that would last for "a thousand years." It lasted 12, but in the early years of World War II, Hitler conquered France, Belgium, Amsterdam, Norway, Finland, Latvia, Romania, Poland. England barely held on.

In 1934, the Nazi government established two watchdog organizations, one for the suppression of abortion; the other, for elimination of homosexuality. (The rationale was that Germany had lost over 3 million men during the previous World War I.)

As for homosexuality (lesbianism was for the most part ignored) sexual activity of any kind was punishable by prison sentence under Paragraph 175 of the penal code. (Following World War I and under Germany's fledgling Weimar Republic, 1920 - 1933, gay bars flourished in Berlin. About 40 were immediately closed by Hitler.)

Homosexuals were among the first "antisocials" to be sent to concentration camps to be worked to death. It's estimated that the number who were murdered, designated as such by the wearing of pink triangles on prisoner concentration camp tunics, is about 15,000.

Among the egregious lies being circulated these days by right-wing religious fundamentalist, Tea party antigay strategists, is that members of Germany's S.A. brown shirts were mostly gay, and responsible for initiating pogroms against Jews and in important ways abetting the Holocaust.

These salacious homophobes insist that Hitler was homosexual. He wasn't. Among those who were close to him at headquarters - adjutants, secretaries, diplomats, staff - the consensus later documented is that he was straight. (His sex life with mistress Eva Braun was certainly complicated by the fact he had an undescended testicle, bad breath, and, near the war's end, he suffered from Parkinson's disease.)

In spite of his funny Charlie Chaplin mustache and his penchant for haranguing guests with his opinions for hours, he had a svengali-like affect on women. They swooned over him; wept in his presence from sheer adulation, and three of his female devotees committed suicide over him, including wealthy English socialite Unity Mitford.

Hitler wasn't gay, but the leader of the several-million-strong Brown Shirts, a street-brawler bully brigade, Captain Ernest Rohm, was. Rohm's immediate staff included a sex-swapping gay clique. Hitler tolerated this until what is known as "The Night of the Long Knives," June 6, 1934, when he had them murdered. He ordered Rohm to commit suicide, which Rohm did, shooting himself with a craven, "Heil Hitler!" (Continued next BTL issue.)

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## Rick Santorum



Look, loyal readers of my column. I know what you're going to say: "Rick Santorum again? Haven't you written enough about this douche bag filled with methane gas? He's not even running for or even in office. At this point paying him any mind, even to call him a creep, is just encouraging him."

And to that I say, you are correct.

But what can I say? He's just so, well, creepy. And so obsessed with gays. So if

making Rick Santorum Creep of the Week for the millionth time is wrong I don't want to be right.

On Oct. 11, National Coming Out Day no less, Santorum spoke before the Family Policy Institute of Washington. As you know, Washington is one of three states that could legalize marriage equality in November. Naturally Santorum waxed pathetic about how two dudes marrying is the worst thing ever. Worse than killing babies, even.

Seriously.

"The movement that you are fighting," says Santorum, "is the most important cultural movement." He then interrupts himself midsentence to make very clear that he means the most important, saying, "I'm a prolife warrior, I'll match up my credentials with anybody," and then continuing, "It is the most important movement to win because if we do not win this issue of marriage not only will the family disintegrate. It is disintegrating."

Santorum then cites some statistics about 19 year olds not getting married as often as they did in 1972 or some shit "because we are destroying the institution."

But let's look again at his declaration. Santorum and "prolife warriors" like him believe very strongly that abortion is akin to murder. And now Santorum is saying that keeping two ladies from saying "I do" is more important than protecting the life of the unborn.

This shows how very desperate the fight against marriage equality has become and how low Santorum, an anti-gay poster boy, has sunk. Granted, not everybody thinks of abortion as baby murder, but for folks who do – ahem, Santorum – it's hard to imagine anything trumping that issue. Until now.

"We want to be on the side of truth," Santorum says. And, let's face it, babies don't understand abstract concepts like truth. Or freedom. Or equality. They can't make protest signs. They can't vote. They can't run for office.

Gays and lesbians, on the other hand, are actually formidable opponents. And they know good and damn well what truth, freedom, and equality mean.

Santorum, however, has a very different definition. Regarding marriage equality he says, "Are all things equal? Is everything equal to everything else? Or are there differences? Are some things better than other things? Are some things more worthy of support than other things? Equality is a great term just like freedom is a great term but in excess it undermines the virtue that each is. The greatest threat to freedom is unbridled freedom. Everybody going out and doing whatever they wanna do. Red light, green light, I don't care I'm free! The greatest threat to equality is equality that shows no discernment, has no basis for value."

Hear that homos? Stop fucking up equality with your valueless lives.

The Constitution, Santorum says, "is the operator's manual of America." He then holds up a facsimile of his vision for what an amendment to ban gay marriage would look like: An Ikea-like diagram of a penis going into a vagina, resulting in heterosexual American flag baby.

"America at its soul," he says, "is a moral enterprise." Yes. Just ask the Native Americans. Santorum then rambles on about building a just society. But don't get any funny ideas, gays. It doesn't include you.

# National News At A Glance

## Gay Marriage Advocates Call On Obama's Support

**PORTLAND, Maine (AP)** – A gay rights group is urging President Obama to speak in support of same-sex marriage in Maine and three other states that have ballot initiatives next month.

An organization called LegalizeLove.com says it will air a one-minute TV ad in those states using Obama's own words when he declared support for gay marriage in May.

To drive home their call for Obama to speak out, two of the group's leaders were delivering a bullhorn and a wedding cake with two grooms to Obama's campaign headquarters in Portland on Monday as the first stop of a campaign that will visit all four states with marriage votes on the Nov. 6 ballot.

Maine, Maryland and Washington are holding up-or-down same-sex marriage referendums. Minnesota's ballot measure proposes a constitutional ban on gay marriage.

## Gallaudet Official's Lawyer Speaks About Petition

**ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP)** – An attorney for Gallaudet University's chief diversity officer who has been placed on leave for signing a petition to put Maryland's same-sex marriage law on the ballot says she only signed it so the issue could be decided by the democratic process.

J. Wyndal Gordan, an attorney for Angela McCaskill, said Monday that McCaskill is not "anti-gay," and he notes that she has not expressed her personal view on the matter. He says she will do that in the voting booth.

McCaskill is scheduled to speak in Annapolis on Tuesday.

Gallaudet is the nation's leading university for the deaf and the hard of hearing. McCaskill, who lives in Upper Marlboro, was placed on leave last week. Gordon says he is exploring legal options to get her reinstated.

## Hoyer Explains Change Of View On Same-Sex Marriage

**ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP)** – Maryland Rep. Steny Hoyer is speaking out on how his view of same-sex marriage has evolved.

Hoyer, who voted 16 years ago to define marriage as a union between a man and a woman, tells The Baltimore Sun (<http://tinyurl.com/8wxgvvt>) that he had believed for a while that civil

unions would offer protections to same-sex couples. However, he now tells the newspaper that he believes full marriage benefits are needed.

Hoyer says his 1996 position on the Defense of Marriage Act was "probably a mistake." Since then, Hoyer also has learned that one of his three daughters is gay.

Hoyer says that throughout his career he has thought people should be treated equally. He says his position has evolved into thinking marriage has a broader meaning.

## US Seeks Testimony Of Va. Man In Lesbian Custody

BY WILSON RING

**MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP)** – A Virginia pastor is scheduled to testify next month before a grand jury investigating the kidnapping of a now-10-year-old girl by her mother, who fled the country rather than share custody of the child with the Vermont woman who was once her civil union partner, the pastor's attorney said Monday.

Court documents filed in the case do not indicate who federal prosecutors are investigating or what information they are seeking from Kenneth Miller of Stuarts Draft, Va.

Miller's attorney, Joshua Autry, of Camp Hill, Pa., said Monday they are not going to appeal a decision by U.S. District Court Judge William Sessions rejecting their motion to quash the subpoena, served on Miller after his conviction on a charge of helping Lisa Miller and daughter Isabella travel from Virginia to Canada and then on to Nicaragua in 2009.

Kenneth Miller is scheduled to testify on Nov. 15, Autry said.

He was convicted by a federal jury in August on a charge that he arranged for Lisa Miller and Isabella to travel from the U.S. to Nicaragua, where they are still believed to be living. He faces up to three years in prison. No sentencing date has been set.

Lisa Miller and Kenneth Miller are not related.

Janet Jenkins, of Fair Haven, and Lisa Miller were joined in a Vermont civil union in 2000 and Isabella was born to Lisa in 2002. The couple split up in 2003. A Vermont family court awarded custody of Isabella to Lisa Miller but gave Jenkins regular visitation.

Lisa Miller returned to Virginia, became a conservative Christian, renounced homosexuality and sought full custody of the girl. She and Isabella disappeared in September 2009, two months ahead of an expected decision by the Vermont

family court to transfer custody to Jenkins because of Miller's refusal to abide by the visitation orders.

Lisa Miller is a fugitive.

Jenkins has filed a civil lawsuit against Kenneth Miller and a number of other groups she alleges helped Lisa Miller and Isabella flee the country. The defendants in that case are expected to file their response to that lawsuit by Oct. 29.

## Group To Promote Chastity Among Gays In Louisville

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)** – A group that preaches chastity among homosexuals is starting a local chapter in Louisville with the permission of Archbishop Joseph Kurtz.

Kurtz says the Connecticut-based group known as Courage has a goal to "promote chaste living" by abstaining from sex outside of a heterosexual marriage. The group was founded in 1980.

The Courier-Journal reports (<http://cjky.it/WowKkC>) the voluntary meetings usually consist of five to 10 males.

But the director of gay-rights group in Louisville says the group is asking homosexuals to suppress a part of who they are. Fairness Campaign director Chris Hartman says he is a Catholic but has avoided the church for years because of its stance on homosexuality.

Courage has more than 100 chapters worldwide, including in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

## Church Called Out For Judicial Retention Pamphlet

BY DAVID PITT

**DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)** – Politics and religion have collided at a Burlington church after a pamphlet encouraging people to vote to remove an Iowa Supreme Court justice surfaced at a Sunday service.

A woman who attended the City Church service on Sept. 30 told the pastor it was illegal for the church to display the pamphlets.

The Internal Revenue Service could revoke a church's nonprofit status for promoting candidates or ballot issues.

The incident has been reported to the IRS, which declined to comment.

Pastor Steve Youngblood says the woman's rebelliousness isn't proper Christian behavior. In a sermon Oct. 7, he acknowledged wanting to slap her.

Justice David Wiggins faces a retention vote Nov. 6. Social conservative groups have sought his ouster because he joined in a unanimous 2009 decision legalizing gay marriage.



## ► Johnson

Continued from p. 6

federal courts where she practiced both civil and criminal litigation. Later, when Johnson assumed the bench, she presided over cases as a trial judge.

"It can be a thankless job at times and somebody may walk out of the court room unhappy, but they will get a fair trial even if they lose. Citizens, regardless of race or gender, have said to me that they love what I'm doing," she said.

Together with other Democratic candidates Judge Connie Marie Kelley and University of Michigan Law School Professor Bridget McCormack, Judge Johnson is hoping to balance the



Shelia Johnson

Supreme Court. Republican-nominated justices have held a majority on the state's highest court since 1999 for all but a few months in 2010.

"Some justices don't respect others enough to listen. We need to be able to reach across the aisle, make a good argument that's grounded in law, leave bias to the side, and gain trust and respect from colleagues. This is one area that needs to be addressed by fresh blood," she said. "We're at a unique point in time and this is a great opportunity to run with these women who identify with regular people. It's a historic ticket and says a lot about where we are in society. It speaks to the respect we have garnered and the people's trust in the job women will do," she said.

Right now, women and children are major focus for the candidates. According to Johnson, it is a judge's responsibility to impact children as role models and to encourage compliance with the law. She spearheaded the establishment of a "Court In Schools" program where she holds actual court sessions at local high schools and middle schools with the goal of deterring youth from criminal behavior and inspiring them toward positive

career choices. Additionally, Johnson serves as a "Community Partner" with Southfield Public Schools, making regular appearances at "Career Days" at all level schools to mentor students interested in law through regular sponsorship of a summer intern in her office.

"I came from a small family. I am an only child. I became strong and learned to stand up for myself. I relate to children so well and it hurts my heart truly to the core when I see a child standing before the court. It's a very unique way that I run my court room in that regard," she said. "This is the future of our country and many have lost respect for the law. I try to help children see how this affects themselves, other people and the environment. I care about each young person that comes before me, but I'm not scared to be tough

when I need to be."

Johnson wants to make it clear that she does not exclude men and the elderly in her fight for equality. "I advocate for access to justice and balanced decisions for all of us, but women haven't had the opportunity to play on the same playing field. There are biases inherited in the judicial system. The way women are viewed is still a little different. Children can't advocate for themselves. We need to protect them and make sure things are done right and equally for them. Historically, women and children haven't had that voice and it's very important to make sure their interests are understood and their voices are heard just as equally as we do for other aspects of people in society," she said.

That's why Johnson said it's so important for people to vote. "We live in a democracy and a free society. The only reason we do is because people fought for it. In fighting for it, they knew the issues, they knew the people, and they cast their votes accordingly. Legislators and justices have the biggest impact on your life. Educate yourself and vote."

don't automatically and reflexively rule for who has the most expensive attorney in court that day."

Outside of his judicial responsibilities, he spends his time with his children and partner of five years, realtor Brian Huggler. They maintain a sizeable garden and split maintenance responsibilities. Ross takes vegetables while his partner cares for the flowers.

Unlike many urban gardeners, Ross and co. enjoy the bounty of their labors. What's not eaten fresh is preserved through canning. A few chickens provide them with fresh eggs. Never one to shy away from getting a little dirty, Ross also enjoys hunting. It's a hobby he's enjoyed since he was a child. "My dad was a big sportsman so I grew up hunting and fishing," he said. "Whenever I have a chance to go fishing I'm up for it."



## GET LOST.

### Artist Lecture & Film

Photographer Alec Soth captures the people, places and everyday moments of contemporary America. On Thursday, October 25 at 7 p.m., Soth discusses his work, followed by a screening of a film documenting his most recent photographic project featuring men who live on the fringe of society.

### Museum Mystery Tours

Bring the family and explore the artists whose works haunt the museum's galleries. Follow a map to spaces featuring eerie lighting, sounds in the dark, and secret-spilling guides. Friday, October 26, 6-9 p.m. and October 27 and 28 from 1-4:30 p.m. Free with museum admission.

### Friday Night Live!

The Aerial Angels conjure up their dark side and perform a special Creepfest for the Halloween weekend. These high-flying circus artists perform feats of grace, beauty, and strength. Friday, October 26 at 7 p.m. in the Detroit Film Theater.

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# HI, TECH :)



The 2013 Chevy Spark features the MyLink system and OnStar service. Photo: GM

## BTL Auto Guide

### Car Companies Introduce New In-Dash Entertainment Systems To Consumers

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

Technology moves fast. Car tech is moving even faster. From Bluetooth and voice commands to 17-inch touchscreens, increasingly complex in-dash “infotainment” systems are redefining what it means to be behind the wheel. For a long time, car tech meant you had a few extra speakers, automatic locks and maybe an aux jack. These days, automakers are pushing tech in ways many never conceived.

It’s nothing new for music to be a major feature in car tech. But instead of the AM/FM duopoly or XM/Sirius tragedy, users now have access to

a slew of music streaming services like Zune Music Pass, Pandora, Stitcher and iHeartRadio.

On board navigation isn’t a new feature to cars either. But now that navigational powerhouses Garmin and Google Maps are available directly through your in-dash systems, figuring out which way to go isn’t so hard. Figuring out where to eat or what movie to see is much easier with large touch-screen displays and intuitive voice commands, which are paired with apps like Bing and OpenTable.

Now that smartphones are the center of most people’s digital life, car makers are adjusting to

See Hi, Tech, page 16



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The Chevy Spark's MyLink system. Photo: GM

## ► Hi, Tech

Continued from p. 14

meet usage and demand. Although once a luxury add-on, the little, ultra-powerful slab silicon, glass and metal in your pocket is forcing automotive innovation and will soon be crucial to the driving experience.

“Ultimately, I think that the mobile phone is going to be at the center of the driving experience,” says Richard Read, writer for GayWheels.com. “What most auto makers seem to be doing these days is trying to figure out a consistent way to make that mobile phone central, so that you have access to all your favorite apps, all of your favorite music.”

Although apps and smartphone integration are the big trends, don't expect to go cruising Grindr, Growlr or Scruff.

Read says, “I would be very surprised if, say, Scruff turned up on the Cadillac app system anytime soon.”

Although the lack of cruising apps – let alone games like Angry Birds, Words With Friends and Feed Me Oil – is a huge missed opportunity for automakers to corner the twink and bear markets, there is still a lot of fun to be had. Gay-friendly automakers like Ford, GM and Toyota have a plethora of options available to tech-happy car buyers.

First announced in 2007, Ford Sync is an

in-car communication and entertainment system that gives users the ability to control their phone calls, navigation and music with their voice. The Sync system will also read your text-messages aloud and automatically import your phone's address book via Bluetooth, which also allows the Sync system to act as a caller ID and call log.

Ford has this technology available on 28 of their 2013 models, including city-friendly hauler the Escape, road trip-ready Mustang and gay-popular Focus.

Former Postal Service supervisor Alen Fyfe of Ann Arbor is the proud owner of a 2012 Ford Focus and Ford Sync. He says he enjoys the GPS navigation and music options available.

“I use the satellite radio every day and the GPS feature on my MySync,” he says. “It's great because all I have to do is activate it from the steering column and speak my requests and they are sent back almost immediately.”

Ford also offers companion technology, MyFord Touch, which expands upon Sync with touch-screen navigation and more granular controls of system functionality. Although a fan of his Sync system, Fyfe thinks his next vehicle will be a bit Touch-ier.

“I think the next car I get would be MyTouch,” he says. “The screen is

bigger and does more things. In addition to directions, you can also get sports, weather, financials and more. (It's) very easy to use and activate. I wouldn't want to drive a car without it.”

Sync and MyFord Touch are powered by Microsoft and runs Windows Embedded Compact, formerly known as Windows CE. No, you can't get classic games like Solitaire or Minesweeper but you do get the use of expected apps like Pandora, Stitcher and 3rd party Twitter client OpenBeak through its AppLink feature.

Sync still continues to be a popular choice but a recent break in exclusivity for the underlying Microsoft technology is allowing other car makers to jump on the “Powered by Microsoft” bandwagon. One of those being Toyota's Entune system.

It's based on the same technology as Ford's Sync and Touch offerings and has most – if not all of its features – but Entune is trying to differentiate itself. With so many different technologies available, that may be difficult. But with tight integration of lifestyle services like OpenTable and MovieTickets.com, as well as contextual search services like Bing, it might be what some people are looking for.

While Sync offers some smartphone integration, Toyota pushes that idea one step further. With Entune, users have

See Hi, Tech, page 18



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# Pretty In Pink

## Chevy Offers Distinct Line Of Colors On New Spark

**BTL AUTO GUIDE**

**B**ecause your car isn't gay enough, GM has released their 2013 Chevrolet Spark mini car in a color that's sure to get you noticed as you drive away from the gay bar: Techno Pink.

"Pink is moving to a more feminine side with an injection of tropical flavor," says Michelle Killen, GM lead creative designer for exterior paint. "With the feminine color of soft rose it intensifies to a sugar pink. In the future, we see pink starting to blend into the red color space as purple gains popularity in China and Korea."

Chevy's first mini car for the U.S., the Spark is a sporty four-passenger, five-door hatch. It is designed to excite first-time buyers and city dwellers with its bold styling and colors, affordability, the safety of 10 standard air bags, fuel efficiency and maneuverability.

Spark also is the only car in its segment to provide MyLink Radio—a seven-inch color touch screen radio capable of displaying smartphone-based music, videos, photos and contacts for hands-free calling. MyLink Radio comes with two embedded apps for Pandora internet radio and Stitcher Smart Radio and later, BringGo, an embedded app for full-function GPS navigation, will be available for purchase.

The Spark has already proven itself in major global markets, where minicars

are popular family vehicles. In the U.S. and Canada, Spark is offered in LS, 1LT and 2LT models.

"Spark is ideal for active city dwellers because it is easy to drive, easy to park and easy to own," says Chris Perry, Chevrolet vice president for global marketing. "For these customers, Spark is their key to the city."

In a segment of "cute" cars, Spark's solid, powerful stance is designed to challenge the status quo, and its interior reflects refinement, craftsmanship and personal technologies normally associated with larger, more expensive vehicles.

One look at the Spark's color palette proves designers intended for it to stand out in a crowd. For buyers who are all about self-expression, attention-grabbing exterior finishes include Salsa Red, Jalapeno, Denim, Lemonade (late availability) and Techno Pink, as well as traditional hues such as Black Granite, Silver Ice and Summit White.



Photo: GM

### ► Hi, Tech

Continued from p. 16

access to the aforementioned apps in their car. But, with the eponymous app for Android, iOS and Blackberry, they also have access to those in-car apps directly from their phone. This feature works without having to download any of the respective phone apps but does use your phone's data plan.

Toyota currently offers this feature on 13 of its 2012 and 2013 models and has more coming down the pipeline.

GM's Chevy brand is one of the few manufacturers that has chosen to forgo a partnership with Microsoft. Regardless, their new MyLink system and OnStar concierge-ish

service offer a unique combination.

Although not nearly as finessed or integrated as Microsoft's offerings, MyLink has voice controls, Pandora, XM, USB connectivity and other industry-standard features. OnStar is really where this system shines, with tons of life saving and useful features such as turn-by-turn directions, stolen vehicle assistance and automatic crash response.

While most of the spotlight features in car tech deal with entertainment, the info portion of the infotainment moniker has seen many improvements as well.

For car nerds, tinkerers or people who simply like to stay on top of their car's health, today's rash of sensors and digitally aided mechanics opens new avenues of insight into a car's inner workings.



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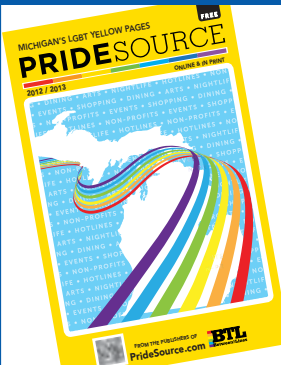


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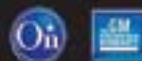
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# Chevrolet, Lexus, Allstate Nominated For GLAAD Amplifier Awards In Advertising

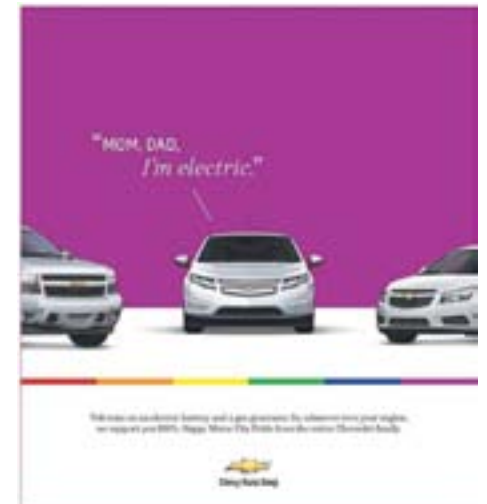
## BTL AUTO GUIDE

LOS ANGELES - The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) announced its nominees for the 2012 Amplifier Awards, and included are two automakers and one auto insurance company.

General Motors' widely acclaimed "Mom, Dad, I'm Electric" ad for the Chevrolet Volt was nominated in the "Hot Spot" category, which recognizes advertisements directed specifically at LGBT consumers. The ad has gone viral though it so far has only been published in *Between The Lines*, having debuted in the Pride issue. "GM designed that ad just for BTL, but now they're getting a big push from all around the country to do a national campaign," said BTL co-publisher Susan Horowitz. "It's amazing to see how it is taking off."

Lexus was nominated in the same category for its "Lexus Celebrates The Advocate's 45th Anniversary" ad, which was placed in the 45th-anniversary issue of *The Advocate*. The ad praised the magazine for its work "to ensure equality to all people, at work, at home, and every place in between."

Allstate was recognized in the digital category for its "Equality Is \_\_\_\_" online campaign. Not only did that promotion encourage Americans to discuss what LGBT equality means to them, but it also raised money for LGBT centers in California. When Allstate's website visitors agree to get a free insurance quote, Allstate donates \$10 to the



GM placed this ad in BTL this past June as part of Motor City Pride celebrations. It quickly took off virally around the globe, garnering millions of views.

San Francisco LGBT Center or the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center.

GLAAD president Herndon Graddick expressed real excitement about the growing visibility of the LGBT community, especially in ads. "Americans expect to see their worlds reflected in advertising, and today that includes LGBT people and families. This year's nominated campaigns are not only smart business decisions, but set the bar high for future images of our community in advertising and marketing," Graddick said.



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# UAW Stands With Obama On Support Of Marriage Equality

## BTL AUTO GUIDE

**DETROIT** – President Bob King on the United Auto Workers issued a statement in May that supports President Obama's announcement on marriage equality:

"The UAW applauds President Obama's remarks on same-sex marriage, and we regard it as a historic and courageous leap toward equality for all Americans. We oppose all discrimination and believe there is a definite connection between civil, human and workers' rights. This belief continues to define us today. The ongoing struggle for civil and human rights for everyone – including LGBT Americans – cannot be separated from the fight for justice for all workers. That's something the UAW has known from the start."

Support for same-sex marriage is another

step in the UAW's strong history of support of LGBT rights in the workplace. The UAW fought hard for domestic partnership benefits for same-sex partners during contract negotiations in 2002, which resulted in all three of the "Big 3" simultaneously implementing benefits for all unionized auto workers.

"Solidarity means economic and social justice for all, regardless of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation," said King. "The UAW helped organize African-American workers during the 1930s when companies used race as a divisive anti-union strategy. In 1955, we were the first industrial union to establish a Women's Department, its mission to encourage female participation in the predominantly male UAW – and to ensure that a woman's place was in her union. We were arm in arm with the civil rights movement in the 1950s and '60s."

## Gay-Friendly Automakers

Research among LGBT consumers shows that the majority of us want to spend our money with companies that have progressive policies toward their LGBT employees. The only problem is, that information hasn't been easy to find.

Gaywheels.com has done the footwork and offers this list of gay-friendly manufacturers that sell vehicles in the USA. To be considered gay-friendly, an automakers must, at a minimum, have a policy that prohibits workplace discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Once you're armed with the information, you

have the choice whether or not to spend your money with companies that are gay-friendly. Of course, we encourage you to vote with your checkbook and support companies who treat their LGBT employees equally.

*The brands listed below are gay-friendly. Please consider their progressive policies toward their LGBT employees when shopping for your next vehicle.*

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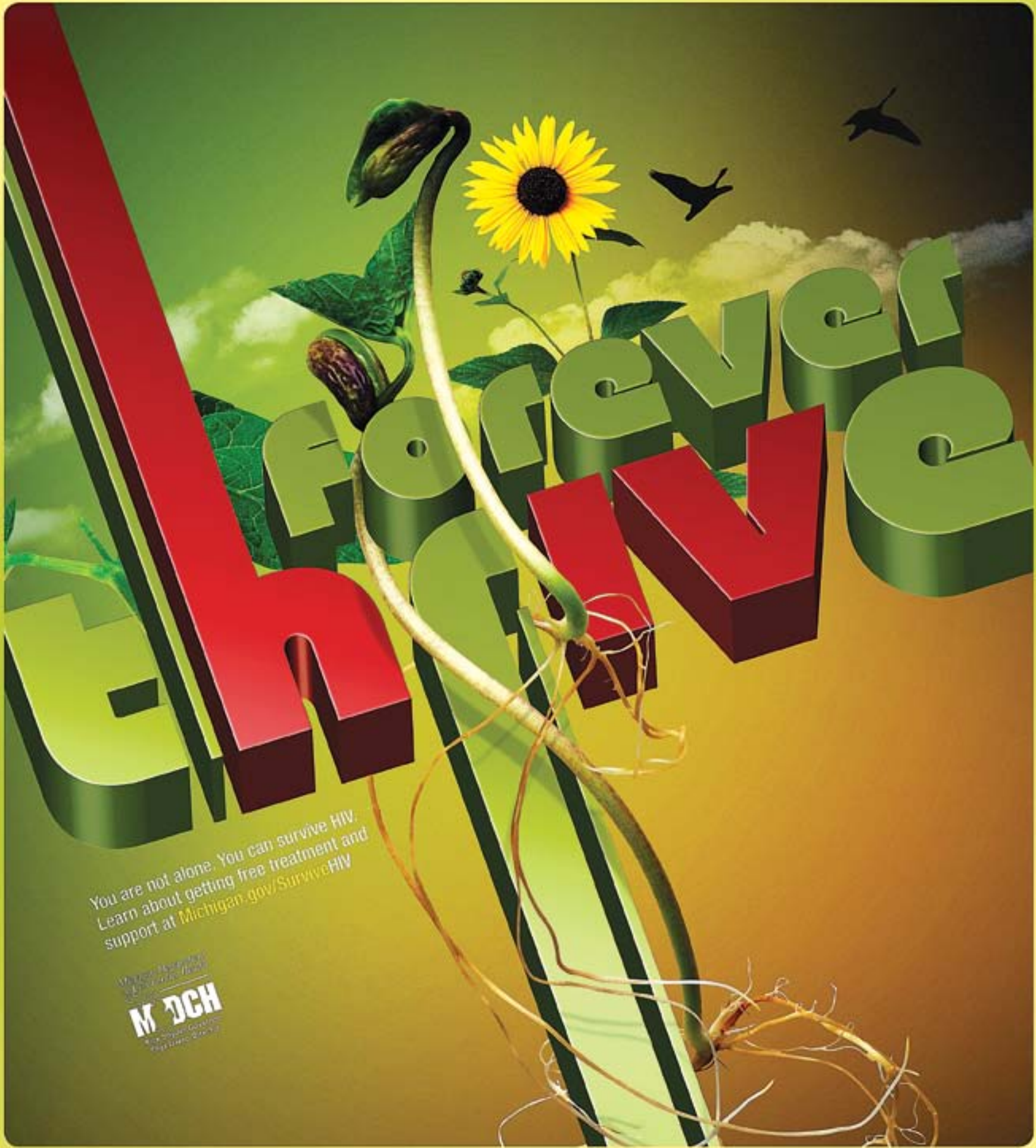


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# SCREEN QUEEN

## Halloween Edition

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI



### American Horror Story: The Complete First Season

No series in recent memory has as many creepy twists, truly terrifying boos or half-naked backside shots of Dylan McDermott as “American Horror Story,” a Ryan Murphy production that transformed Jessica Lange into an Emmy-winning psychopath. FX’s horror hit, in its first button-pushing season, turned us on (sometimes literally) to all things horrific – Rubber Man (and Piggy Man), a freaky home invasion and mistresses that come back from the dead – as a family regrettably uncovered the dark secrets of “Murder House.” One of those secrets? What happened to the gay couple that used to live there (half of that twosome being the newly out Zachary Quinto). It wrapped after 12 episodes (the second season, currently airing, comes with an “Asylum” tag), all of which are included here, but the haunts keep coming: The bonus features include a making-of, a cool look at the menacing opening sequence, an introduction to the ghosts and a tour of the house where it all started – and ended.



### Hocus Pocus

When “Hocus Pocus” flew into multiplexes on a broomstick in 1993, it was a silly farce that, in hindsight, had lots of gay cred going for it: Besides Bette Midler, it also starred a pre-“Sex and the City”/“Glee” Sarah Jessica Parker. Ahead of its time, it was already mirroring a culture that would become obsessed with using Botox to erase wrinkles. But these three witches, also including Kathy Najimy as the really stupid one, were more resourceful than us when it came to hiding the fact that they’re actually three centuries old. Just give them the youthfulness of a child and those years go bye-bye. (Talk about some hocus pocus.) The tricky trifecta ham it up in this Disney flick – especially Midler, with her serious rabbit grill – that’s as much for kids as it is for diva-obsessed, Carrie Bradshaw-loving queers who revel in the awesomeness of seeing their girls cause trouble and ride on hard sticks. The hi-def experience certainly makes the movie more magical, but someone should conjure the Spirit of Special Features – they’re nowhere on this Blu-ray.



The cast of season one of “American Horror Story.” Photo: FX





## Universal Classic Monsters: The Essential Collection

Before “torture porn,” scary movies weren’t all boobs and guts; they could scare you without sawing off a foot. Universal’s gone back over 80 years to remaster the classic “Dracula” and unleash the other beasts that followed the less-is-more approach: With eight films in all, the studio that defined the horror genre goes all out with this must-have for monster-movie fans. The first dates to 1931, when Bela Lugosi turned Dracula into a legendary nutcase full of weird ticks; the original is included here, and with a striking cleanup – check out the cool restoration process during one of the many special features – that should scare up new horror fans. How some of these movies inspired contemporary fright films should be apparent with not only “Creature from the Black Lagoon” – a trailblazer for underwater spooks that now, some six decades later, comes off as delightfully hokey, “did they really think that was scary?” camp – but also “The Wolf Man,” which might feature the most empathetic “villain” ever. Also included are both “Frankenstein” and “The Bride of Frankenstein,” the 1943 version of “The Phantom of the Opera,” “The Mummy” and “The Invisible Man.” Besides the better-than-ever Blu-ray transfers, all the films are tucked in a neat book with a supplemental info guide that breaks down their beginnings. And the special features? Lots to sink your teeth into.



## Dark Shadows

If anybody knows bizarre, it’s the bromantic movie-making duo of Johnny Depp and Tim Burton. Together they turned

“Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” into a freak show and brought the musical story of knife-wielding barber Sweeney Todd to the big screen. Weird isn’t a problem for either. So, naturally, “Dark Shadows,” based on the ’60s series, throws ghosts, vampires and, uh, werewolves into the

gothic mix, starting off with promise as we meet a family of distinctly dysfunctional characters and a cursed vampire, Barnabas Collins (Depp), who returns to his ancestral home – and tries to adapt to things like, you know, cars. It’s got wackiness – and standout roles from Helena Bonham Carter and Eva Green – but where’s the bite? The last half of the directionless “Dark Shadows,” which does look fantastic, collapses on itself with incongruous storytelling and off-the-wall hysterics, dragging itself to a “Death Becomes Her” finish that’s all frills but no fun. The extras are just as disappointing: six minutes of deleted scenes and scene-specific interview snippets. Not even a full commentary to make up for this mess.



## Prometheus

Even without Sigourney Weaver going all butch on some killer mutants, this prequel to “Alien” has all the necessary components of a Ridley Scott flick:

kick-butt babes, alien-baby births and stomach-turning ickiness. Only if Michael Fassbender, who stars as a deceitful android, showed his very large penis – again – could this movie be everything you ever wanted. It’s the year 2089 and a crew of inquisitive explorers sets out to seek the origins of humanity in uncharted territory that’s obviously a breeding ground for all sorts of human-hungry gross things. Questions aren’t answered like the film promises, but it’s sure hella fun watching aliens tears apart these people – not to mention seeing Charlize Theron play rough and a pretty incredible finale that lays the foundation for Scott’s great quadrilogy. Originally released in 3D, “Prometheus” gets the same fancy treatment for its home-release (with many hours of special features), but the two-disc Blu-ray still pops with visual splendor and a few cool extras: a Ridley Scott commentary, deleted and alternate scenes and The Peter Weyland Files for the “Alien” diehards.

*Chris Azzopardi is the editor of Q Syndicate, the international LGBT wire service. Reach him via his website at [chris-azzopardi.com](http://chris-azzopardi.com).*

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Photo: Shervin Lainez

# Regina Spektor: What I Saw From The Not-So Cheap Seats Pianist's Detroit Show Full Of Charming Moments

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Don't you just wanna be Regina Spektor's friend and have tea parties and go vintage-clothes shopping with her? Spektor, who performed at The Fillmore in Detroit on Saturday, Oct. 13, has that effect on you: Her smile is big like a little girl on her birthday – and though it's hard to hear anything the soft-spoken songstress says when she speaks between songs (especially with these overzealous fans), you know whatever it is, it's charming.

You couldn't *not* be instantly endeared by her awkward side-to-side swaying when she walked out onto the stage to sing a cappella, tapping on her mic like a drum for "Ain't No Cover." Bridging the gap between Tori Amos and Sarah McLachlan, Spektor's piano pop can be wildly out-there (I mean, she has an entire song about a wallet) or more universally tangible.

One of her biggest hits, "On the Radio," came early into the hour-and-40 minute set, and performed live it's a powerful thing to behold – thousands of people in a packed theater, singing to the gods about life and death, and everything

in between. All was illuminated in that moment, even a beaming Spektor who also got really excited over a shoebox diorama a fan handed her. The boozy crowd, however, was a little too... illuminated. (Hey people, let's talk concert etiquette for a quick sec: Shut the fuck up.)

Spektor went back to her major-label debut "Soviet Kitsch" for "Ode to Divorce," a staple that established her quirkiness; subsequent albums like "Far" softened her a little too much for the hipsters. Some shady business started going down during "Dance Anthem of the 80s," stopping Spektor just seconds into the jive to call it out. Who knows what was going on, but Regina clearly elicits some strange behavior: I can honestly say I never expected to see crowd-diving at a Regina Spektor show.

"How" came just in time to tame the raucous. Though pretty straightforward, the ballad is a gem from her latest album, "What We Saw From the Cheap Seats," a marvelous work that merges all her idiosyncrasies. The other, "Firewood," was so pure-hearted and warm with its message of perseverance – a genius line: "the piano

is not firewood yet" – that it felt like a big hug. The song, with its nostalgic desire for childhood innocence, really makes me miss my Rainbow Brite.

"All the Rowboats" had her mouthing drum thrashes, and "Don't Leave Me (Ne Me Quitte Pas)" exercised her foreign tongue to a chirpy beat that made me want to slip her in my pocket and take her home for cuddles. She closed with "The Party," appropriate not because the show sometimes seemed like one – but because of the words themselves. "You're like a big parade through town," she sang, brighter than the lights hovering above. "You leave such a mess but you're so fun." By then, she had the crowd wrapped around her finger, which I assume is cute, as well. "May I propose a little toast? For all the ones who hurt the most, for all the friends that we have lost." Drinks went up, and everyone cheered.

Foot-stomping drew Regina back out for a four-song encore that included "Fidelity" and "Samson," the one everybody was obviously looking forward to most. Yup, Regina: Bet you didn't know you'd be joined by the Detroit Chorus of Crazy Drunk People.





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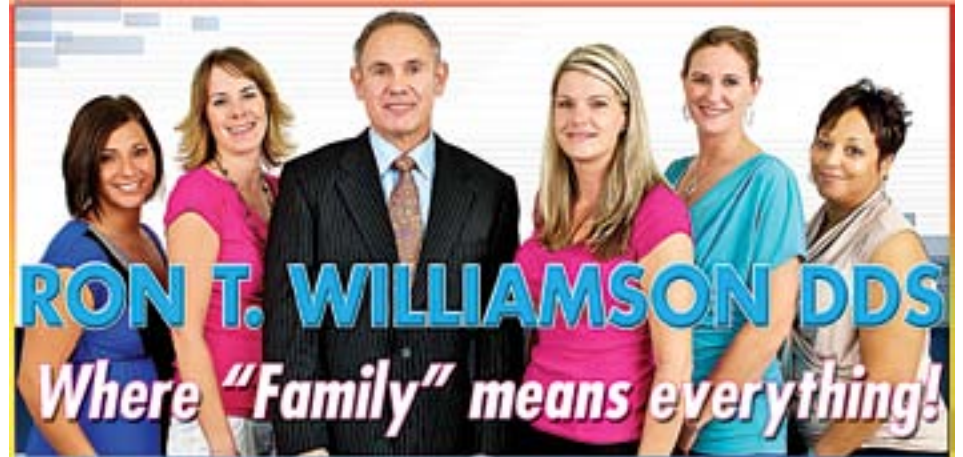
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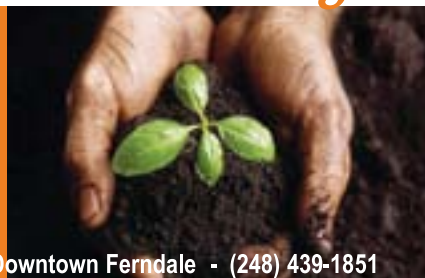
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Day 73



“People are leaving Michigan daily because there are other states that make them feel like they're being treated equally. Michigan's legislators should be embarrassed to have such an anti-equality label slapped all over the state. It's like sending a 'you're not invited' note to every out-of-stater in the country.”

- Debbie David

Day 70



“It is so important we ensure that members of our own community understand the condition of our rights in Michigan and what's at stake in the upcoming election. We need to mobilize our friends who understand just how vital it is to be engaged in this process.”

- George Westerman

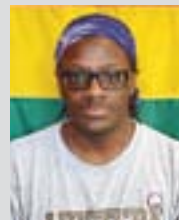
Day 74



“The more people see us, hear us, work with us, hang out with us, and all the other ways we connect with other folks in Michigan, the better chance we have of actualizing the equality that is necessary for this state.”

- Michelle Mahoney

Day 71



“For our state to truly be a world-class destination, it must become inclusive of all LGBT Michiganders.”

- Johnny Jenkins

Day 75



“This is a cause I feel passionately about. Members of our government are often heard saying that we need to retain talent in our state. If they want to keep people interested in living, working, and investing in Michigan, then they need to provide equal rights to the LGBTQ population. I'm striking to build awareness and encourage voters to elect supportive representatives.”

- Kris Lewis-Grinwisr

Day 72



“There are many reasons I'm striking, but the top two are: 1) my best friend, co-mama, soulmate, and love of my life; and 2) our amazing and beautiful son. In Michigan, my relationship to both of them is not legally recognized, which I find both terrifying and infuriating. I look forward to the day when my family will be treated the same as anyone else. It doesn't seem like too much to ask.”

- Kim Phillips-Knope

Day 76



“I will continue to stand up until everyone has the same rights in Michigan.”

- Deb Holbrook



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# Happenings

## OUTINGS

### Thursday, Oct. 18

**Pride Action Night** 6 p.m. Equality Michigan and Affirmations are looking for pro-equality volunteers to help mobilize the community as the upcoming election year approaches, building up momentum to ensure that LGBT rights are on Michiganders' minds as they head out to the polls. Equality Michigan and Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. EqualityMI.org

**Polyamory Network** 7:30 p.m. Open and inclusive community of people living polyamorously, people interested in polyamory and people of, friendly to and curious about polyamory. Welcomes diversity of sexual orientation and gender identity. Polyamory Network, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-995-9867. Jimtoycenter.org

### Friday, Oct. 19

**50 and Better Friday Group** 7 p.m. Designed for those 50 and better looking for an excuse to get out of the house. Goes out every other week or so for miniature golf, a movie, or other activity, per vote. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. PhoenixChurch.org

**Bisexual Peer Group** 7 p.m. Meets monthly on the third Friday of each month. Bisexual Peer Group, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-678-2478. Biprideannarbor@gmail.com Facebook.com/groups/110918256984/

**Womyn's Film Night** 7 p.m. Film She Likes Girls 4 Tomboys & Tough Girls; From awkward hilarity to heartwarming drama, this installment of the popular She Likes Girls series features a collection of short films that run the gamut of the lesbian experience. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

### Sunday, Oct. 21

**LGBT Ferndale School Board Mimosas Brunch** 11 a.m. LGBT community members talk about why they are supporting BOLD for Ferndale School Board and Ferndale citizens should care who gets elected. Meet the candidates. This event is hosted, sponsored and paid for by private citizens. Covey, Garcia, LaTosch, Lemon & Westerman, 290 West Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-807-1557. Klatosch@gmail.com

**PFLAG Ann Arbor Meeting** 2 p.m. 3rd Sunday of every month. Support group and monthly speaker at each meeting. PFLAG Ann Arbor, 306 N. Division St., **Ann Arbor**. Pflagaa.org

**PFLAG Tri-Cities Meeting** 2 p.m. PFLAG offers support, education and advocacy for equality. PFLAG Tri-Cities, 2525 Hemmeter Rd., **Saginaw**. 989-941-1458. Pflag@pflag-mbs.org Pflag-mbs.org

**Conversation Station** 5 p.m. LGBTQI (and allies) 25 and over-join GOAL each week for discussion, food and fun. New topic each week. Topic What would you like to be remembered for? Get Out And Live!, 714 S. Washington St., **Royal Oak**. 248-981-4227. MarciWilliams@yahoo.com GetOutAndLive.me

### Monday, Oct. 22

**Mysterious, Marvelous Monday** 6 p.m. Mysterious, Marvelous Monday is the metamorphosis of Wild Wednesday. Youth group for ages 13-18. Fostering a kind and supportive environment. Dedicated to Make a Change, L3C, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-657-1792. Gailwolkoff@gmail.com Dedicatedtomakeachange.com

**PFLAG Battle Creek** 7 p.m. Meets monthly at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Affiliated with BC Pride. PFLAG Battle Creek, 16 E. Van Buren, **Battle Creek**.

### Wednesday, Oct. 24

**Coping with Disabilities Group** 1 p.m. Ongoing discussion group for adults with disabilities. Discussions about LGBT friendly doctors, counseling, health benefits, and activities. Every second and fourth Wednesday. Handicapped accessible. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

**Senior Koffee Klatch** 1 p.m. A lively, discussion and social group for LGBT adults over 45. Group covers topics pertaining to aging and outside speakers. Potluck dinners at members homes, lunches out and holiday parties. Meets ever Wednesday on the upper level of the Affirmations building. Senior Koffee Klatch, 290 W. Road Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 586-573-9932. GoAffirmations.org

**Newly Single Support Group** 6:30 p.m. Group for all dealing with the end of a relationship and want to talk-or listen-to others who share similar experiences. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

### Thursday, Oct. 25

**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. 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 OutCenter.org

**Euchre Tournament-Benefit for Out Loud Chorus** 7 p.m. Entry \$10. Cash prizes awarded. No partner necessary, all levels of ability welcome. Food and beverage service available. Out Loud Chorus, 1950 S. Industrial Hwy, **Ann Arbor**. 734-652-0801. OutLoudChorus@gmail.com Olconline.org

### Friday, Oct. 26

**Halloween Dance** 7 p.m. Tickets \$45.00. Family style dinner, open bar, 5050 raffle, silent auction, and dancing. Co-Hosted by MCC Detroit, proceeds from silent auction to benefit MCC Detroit. The Forum Foundation, 26601 Ryan Road, **Warren**. 586-573-9932. Jdidonatog932@comcast.net TheForumFoundation.org

**Womyn's Film Night** 7 p.m. Film The World Unseen; In a world where boundaries are rigidly defined, two wildly different women tentatively cross them in this story that focuses on their budding romance in apartheid South Africa. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

**Monster Bash** 9 p.m. Sober dance to benefit TWC, a GLBT organization that sponsors an AA/Al-Anon conference in the spring. Admission \$5. Costumes encouraged! AA Open talk at 8 pm before dance! Together We Can, 2441 Pinecrest, **Ferndale**. 248.838.9905. Twc@twcdetroit.com twcdetroit.com

### Saturday, Oct. 27

**ALIVE Youth Group Meeting** 2 p.m. All LGBT and allied youth 14-20 encouraged to join. 4th Saturday of every month is Social Justice Saturday. As some meetings are held around town, contact ALIVE prior to attending meetings. ALIVE Youth Group, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. Youthgroup@outcenter.org

**2012 Annual State Equality Celebration** 6 p.m. Join EQMI for a celebration of our collective victories over the past year as they honor members of the community and hear from community leaders. Host reception begins at 6 p.m., Main event at 7 p.m. Tickets \$75-250. Equality



With gay marriage on the front burner in the upcoming election, audiences with a penchant for thought-provoking theater will appreciate the richly layered content and dialogue peppered with wit and true emotion. "Next Fall" runs through Oct. 21 on Stagecrafters' 2nd Stage at the Baldwin Theatre in downtown Royal Oak.

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Advance tickets for performances are \$14 per person. Call 248-541-6430 for tickets of information.

Michigan, 712 Cass Ave., **Detroit**. 313-537-7000. Equalitymi.org

## MUSIC & MORE

### CLASSICAL

**Kerrytown Concert House** Anthony Romaniuk, fortepiano; Tickets \$10-30. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N Fourth Ave., **Ann Arbor**. 4 p.m. Oct. 21. 734-769-2999. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com

### COMEDY

**Olympia Entertainment** Bill Maher; Stand-up comedian, television host, political commentator, author, and actor, performs at the Fox Theatre. Tickets \$35-50. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 8 p.m. Oct. 27. 313-471-6611. Olympiaentertainment.com

**Olympia Entertainment** George Lopez; Multi-talented entertainer whose career encompasses television, film and stand-up comedy, will return to Detroit's Fox Theatre. Tickets \$44.50-54.50. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 8 p.m. Oct. 20. 313-471-6611. Olympiaentertainment.com

### CONCERTS

**Detroit Symphony Orchestra** "New Beginnings Jazz Concert" Music composed by Doug Halladay. Featuring some of Detroit's finest Jazz Artists. Tickets \$15. Historic First Congregational Church of Detroit, 33 E. Forest Ave., **Detroit**. 8 p.m. Oct. 18. 313-576-5111. DSO.org

**Detroit Symphony Orchestra** "Sibelius Second Symphony" Schubert's Selections from Rosamunde and Concerto for Violin and Orchestra and Sibelius' Symphony No. 2. Tickets \$15+. Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. Oct. 25-Oct. 26. 313-576-5111. DSO.org

**Kerrytown Concert House** "The Elina Duni Quartet" Tickets \$10-30. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N Fourth Ave., **Ann Arbor**. 8 p.m. Oct. 26. 734-769-2999. KerryTownConcertHouse.com

**Michigan Philharmonic** "The Jazz Effect" A jazz-inspired tribute to "the Duke", featuring our principal flutist Dennis Carter. Italian American Club, 39200 Five Mile Road, Livonia. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 26. MichiganPhil.org

**Royal Oak Music Theatre** Silversun Pickups; Alternative rock band from Los Angeles. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., **Royal Oak**. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 23. 248-399-2980. RoyalOakMusicTheatre.com

**The Ark** Bob Malone; Tickets \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main, **Ann Arbor**. 8 p.m. Oct. 25. 734-761-1800. TheArk.org

**The Fillmore Detroit** Brandi Carlile; Tickets \$25-39.50. Fillmore Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 7 p.m. Oct. 19. TheFillmoreDetroit.com

## Editor's Pick

With gay marriage on the front burner in the upcoming election, audiences with a penchant for thought-provoking theater will appreciate the richly layered content and dialogue peppered with wit and true emotion. "Next Fall" runs through Oct. 21 on Stagecrafters' 2nd Stage at the Baldwin Theatre in downtown Royal Oak.

Luke (Bailey Boudreau) is an aspiring young actor living in Manhattan who struggles to balance his gay lifestyle with deeply in-grained Christian beliefs. He believes being gay is a sin. Adam (Jamie Richards) is a middle-aged teacher who is a bit of a hypochondriac and agnostic. When the two meet at a party, there is an instant spark, they become lovers, and the unlikely relationship develops. Through a series of flashback vignettes, their relationship is chronicled from the beginning. The audience discovers the obstacles, adjustments and commitment of their five-year partnership.

Advance tickets for performances are \$14 per person. Call 248-541-6430 for tickets of information.

## THEATER

### CIVIC/COMMUNITY THEATER

**A Bard by Any Other Name** \$12. Ann Arbor Civic Theatre at A2CT Studio Theatre, 322 W. Ann St., **Ann Arbor**. Oct. 19-21. 734-971-2228. a2ct.org

**From Broadway to the Huron River** Free for members of the Ann Arbor Senior Center, \$5 for non-members. The Penny Seats at Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin Ave., **Ann Arbor**. 1:30 p.m. Oct. 21. 734-794-6250. PennySeats.org

**It Came From Mars** \$18-\$20. St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook, 400 Lone Pine Rd., Bloomfield Hills. Through Oct. 28. 888-71-TICKETS. stdunstantheatre.com

**Next Fall** \$14-\$16. Stagecrafters at Baldwin Theatre's 2nd Stage, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., **Royal Oak**. Through Oct. 21. 248-541-6430. stagecrafters.org

**Steel Magnolias** \$20-33 (dinner); \$10-\$15 (show only). Starlight Dinner Theatre at Waverly East Cafeteria, 3131 W. Michigan Ave., **Lansing**. Oct. 19-27. StarlightDinnerTheatre.com

**The Dixie Swim Club** \$14-16. Farmington Players, 32332 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hill. Through Oct. 27. 248-553-2955. FarmingtonPlayers.org

**The Imaginary Invalid** \$12-19. Kalamazoo Civic Theatre at Parish Theatre, 426 S. Park St., **Kalamazoo**. Through Oct. 27. 269-343-1313. KazooCivic.com

**Wait Until Dark** \$11-12. The Twin City Players, 600 W. Glenlord Road, St. Joseph. Through Oct. 28. 269-429-0400. TwinCityPlayers.org

### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY THEATER

**Broken Glass** \$10-\$12. Wayne State University Studio Theatre, 4743 Cass Avenue, **Detroit**. Oct. 18-27. 313-577-2972. wsustudio.com

**James and The Giant Peach** \$8-\$15. Michigan State University Department of Theatre at Pasant Theatre at Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University, East Lansing. Through Oct. 21. 1-800-Wharton. theatre.msu.edu

**Spring Awakening** \$18-20. Western Michigan University Department of Theatre, Gilmore Theatre Complex, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. Oct. 26-Nov. 4. 269-387-6222. Wmutheatre.com

**The Merchant of Venice** \$9-15. Eastern Michigan University Theatre at Quirk Theatre, 103 Quirk, Ypsilanti. Oct. 19-28. 734-487-1220. EMich.edu

**The Three Musketeers** \$5-20. The University Theatre at Shaw Theatre inside the Gilmour Theatre Complex, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., **Kalamazoo**.

Through Oct. 21. 269-387-6222. Wmutheatre.com

### PROFESSIONAL

**boom** \$20-22. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. Through Oct. 21. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org

**Cirque Chinois** \$30-35. Miller Auditorium, 2200 Auditorium Drive, **Kalamazoo**. 8 p.m. Oct. 26. 269-387-2300. MillerAuditorium.com

**Dial 'M' For Murder** \$15-18. Broadway Onstage, 21517 Kelly Road, Eastpointe. Oct. 19-Nov. 17. 586-771-6333. BroadwayOnStage.com

**Evil Dead: The Musical** \$15-26. The Ringwald & Olympia Entertainment, City Theatre, 2301 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. Through Oct. 27. 313-471-6611. OlympiaEntertainment.com

**Firebird** \$10 adult, \$5 child. PuppetART at Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 Grand River, **Detroit**. Through Oct. 27. 313-961-7777. PuppetArt.org

**Flowers Up Her Attic** \$10. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. Through Oct. 29. 248-545-5545. TheRingwald.com

**Francis The Holy Jester** \$25; advance sales only, as no tickets will be sold at the door. Italian Film Festival USA at Wayne State University, General Lectures 150 Auditorium, 5045 Anthony Wayne Dr., **Detroit**. 8 p.m. Oct. 19. 248-930-6017. ItalianFilmFests.org

**Frog and Toad** \$12 adult, \$8 child and senior. Wild Swan Theater at Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., **Ann Arbor**. Oct. 18-Oct. 20. 734-995-0530. wildswantheater.org

**Laughter on the 23rd Floor** \$38-45. The Jewish Ensemble Theatre Company at DeRoy Theatre on the campus of the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Rd., West Bloomfield. Oct. 24-Nov. 11. 248-788-2900. JETTtheatre.org

**Madame Sherry** \$12-\$15. Comic Opera Guild at Vitoshka Concert Hall, 1917 Washtenaw, **Ann Arbor**. Oct. 20-21. 734-763-8587. mutotix.com

**Mary Poppins** \$34+. Broadway in Detroit at Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., **Detroit**. Oct. 23-28. 313-872-1000. BroadwayinDetroit.com

**Othello** \$12-30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., **Detroit**. Oct. 27-Jan. 17. 313-577-2972. Hilberry.com

**Picking Palin** \$15-18. Magenta Giraffe Theatre Company at The Abreact Performance Space, 1301 Lafayette, #113, **Detroit**. Through Nov. 3. 313-408-7269. MagentaGiraffe.org

**Superior Donuts** \$18.50-42. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., **Chelsea**. Through Dec. 15. 734-433-7673. purplerosetheatre.org



## Editor's Pick

Singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile is coming to Detroit this fall, bringing both her powerful voice and unique sound to the Fillmore.

Last June, Carlile released her fourth studio album, "Bear Creek," produced by Grammy Award winner Trina Shoemaker and named after Bear Creek Studios – a rural studio in the northwest built from a 100-year-old barn. Her latest album moves further toward the Americana genre of Carlile's childhood influences.


Carlile won Seattle's City of Music Breakthrough Award in 2010. The same year, she was nominated for "Outstanding

Music Artist" at the 21st GLAAD Media Awards.

Brandi Carlile performs at 7 p.m. Oct. 19 at the Fillmore Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. Tickets are \$25-40. For more information, go to [www.TheFillmoreDetroit.com](http://www.TheFillmoreDetroit.com).




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# Horoscopes

## No Excuses, Capricorn!

BY JACK FERTIG

*A new moon in Libra opposing Eris is likely to trigger animosities and make competition harsher. Dark intent may be lurking behind beautiful manners. Style is nice, but pay more attention to substance.*

**ARIES (March 20 - April 19):** An amorous adventure can make a new relationship or break an old one. Either way, buckle your seatbelt. It's going to be a bumpy ride. If you're having relationship problems, deal with them directly. "Letting off steam" will just get you scalded.

**TAURUS (April 20 - May 20):** You and your partner have plenty to talk about. Being too nice is likely to backfire. State the facts of the situation graciously, but don't hold back. This will open up much deeper questions, but honesty and openness yield better answers.

**GEMINI (May 21- June 20):** If you treat your family or home a little more like a business it will be easier to say what needs saying. Sugarcoating the truth or sweeping unpleasantness under the rug is a big mistake.

**CANCER (June 21- July 22):** Changes at home can get off to a rocky start. Remember that you and your family or roommates are all in this together. Accept constructive criticism as a chance to improve on your ideas. The more you're seen listening, the more you can do.

**LEO (July 23 - August 22):** Arguments may leave you needing to mend a lot of fences. If you need to prove your brilliance, how brilliant can you really be? Just stick to your own little patch of Earth and offer gentle hospitality to a few good friends.

**VIRGO (August 23 - September 22):** Being sweet, brilliant and clever will charm your friends, but at work you could come off as glib and smarmy. Relax. Keep it simple and straightforward and don't say anything you can't back up with facts.

**LIBRA (September 23 - October 22):** Some time alone will help you sort out your priorities, but don't hide in a closet! Get out and see some foreign film or other arts that you normally wouldn't experience. The challenge will do you good!

**SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21):** It's too easy to get into arguments over money, especially with your partner. Better to work with your partner on clearing accounts and organizing finances. Stay cool and focused. Remember you're both on the same side.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 22 - December 20):** Don't be paranoid. The whispering behind your back is probably about a pleasant surprise. Even if there is a knife aimed at your back you have good friends, some in high places, looking out for you.

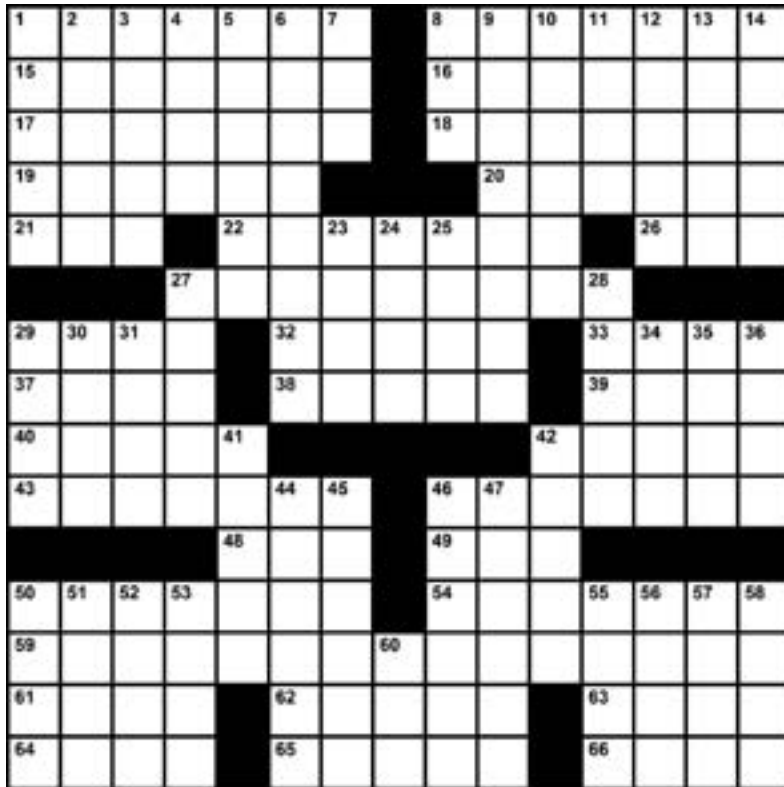
**CAPRICORN (December 21 - January 19):** Making excuses for a friend's drinking, abuse, incompetence, law-breaking, etc. will just drag you into a complicated mess. The best thing your pal can do is shape up and face the music. If you can't stay out of that wreck, call Al-Anon.

**AQUARIUS (January 20 - February 18):** Your friends' most "brilliant" ideas are likely to get you into trouble. Use your own brain. Play devil's advocate. An argument with your pal could get boisterous, but that's better than the consequences of an ill-considered act.

**PISCES (February 19 - March 19):** Supporting your partner doesn't mean you have to endorse ideas you disagree with or plans you don't like. Insincerity can undermine a relationship too. Share your reservations as constructive criticism. Instead of doubt offer helpful alternatives.



# Easy As ABC



## Across

- 1 Margaret Cho's comedy, often
- 8 Match penile lengths, e.g.
- 15 Blanche Wiesen Cook subject
- 16 It could leave a salty taste in your mouth
- 17 Lists of tasks
- 18 Record of a meeting
- 19 With 20-Across, ABC's Best Comedy Emmy winner
- 20 See 19-Across
- 21 Cunning
- 22 Added just under the wire
- 26 Top-secret org.
- 27 St. Peter's et al.
- 29 Go lickety-split
- 32 Like Mary's little follower
- 33 Per person
- 37 Genesis brother
- 38 Capitol Hill prizes
- 39 Bamako's country
- 40 With 42-Across, Emmy winner for Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy
- 42 See 40-Across
- 43 Bears witness
- 46 Queer, literally
- 48 Wee one
- 49 Shoe spec

- 50 Greg of "As Good As It Gets"
- 54 Symbols of Marilyn and Diana in the wind
- 59 Emmy winner for Best Supporting Actor in a Comedy
- 61 Fey of "30 Rock"
- 62 Give the slip to
- 63 Look up and down
- 64 Peter I, for one
- 65 Recipient of Bugs' kisses
- 66 Message at LesbiaNation.com

## Down

- 1 Petticoat junctions?
- 2 Star in Perseus
- 3 How saxes sound
- 4 Peppermint stick you can lick
- 5 Mitchell of NBC News
- 6 Assholes
- 7 Doubtfire's title
- 8 Rotating engine part
- 9 Openings of porno flicks
- 10 "Later!"
- 11 Juicy job for a fruit?
- 12 Husband of a Duke
- 13 Rods' partners
- 14 Cushy school course
- 23 Collapse
- 24 "East of Eden" director Kazan
- 25 By \_\_\_ of (owing to)
- 27 Refute
- 28 Island of Mead's research
- 29 Indian head
- 30 Go up against
- 31 Boston cager, for short
- 34 Man who can become a queen
- 35 He did Jackie's clothes
- 36 "Six Feet Under" box material
- 41 Rob on the screen
- 42 Sportscaster Musburger
- 44 Where Patty Sheehan takes her driver?
- 45 Boardwalk diversion
- 46 Withdraw in a "stately" way
- 47 Prick stimulator
- 50 "Etta \_\_\_" (old comic strip)
- 51 "The Unicorn" author Murdoch
- 52 Lesbian porn star Hartley
- 53 Tenn. neighbor
- 55 Go down
- 56 Blocks off the toy aisle
- 57 Phallic swimmers
- 58 Keep in
- 60 \_\_\_ Lock

Solution on pg. 36



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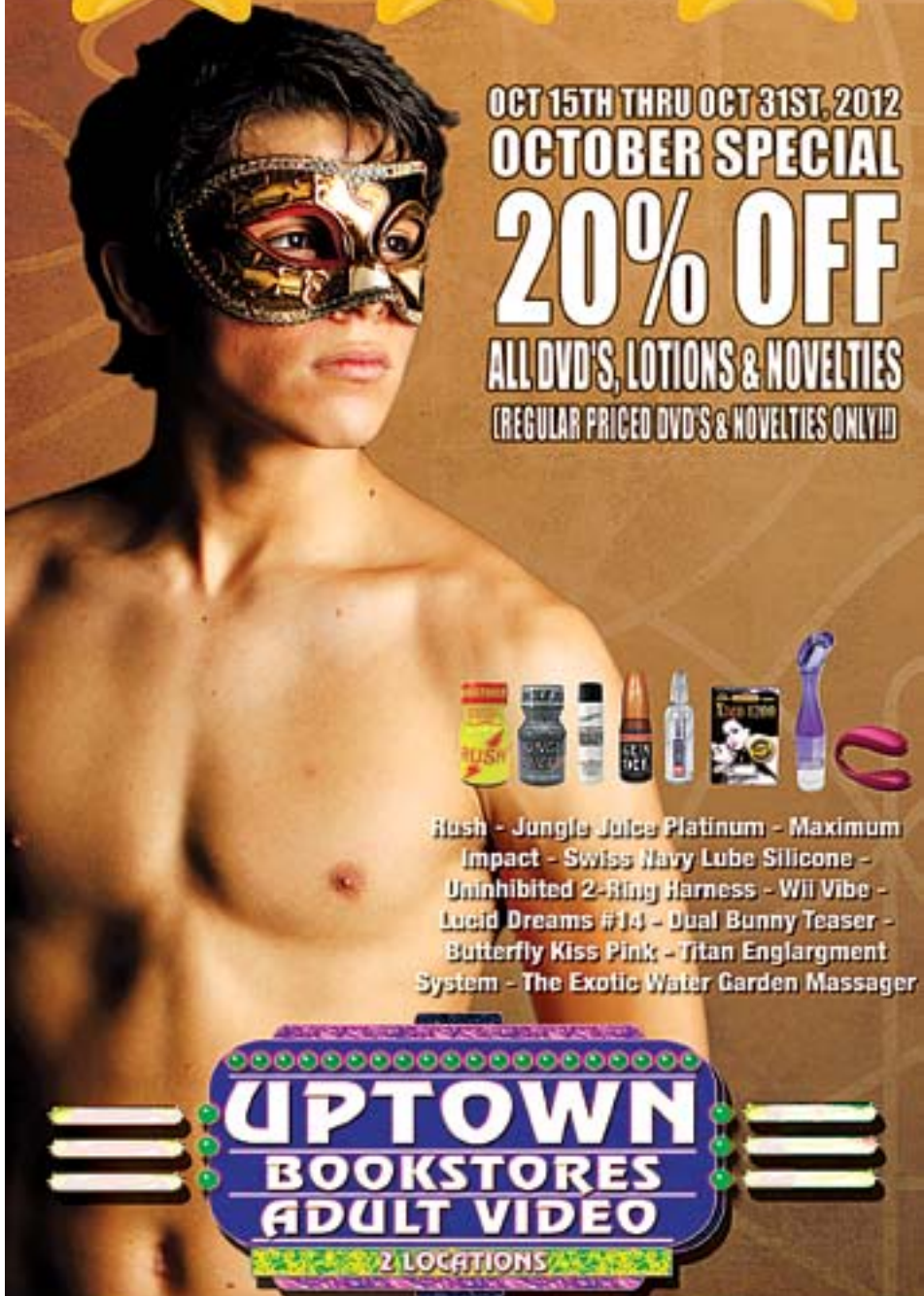
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# Fifty Shades Of Cray Cray



**Dating  
Diet**

BY ANTHONY PAULL

I can't say why I'm reading "Fifty Shades of Grey." A coworker insisted I'd love it so I finally agree, hearing it might lead to sexual cravings and, ultimately, pregnancy. I've been secretly trying to have a kid for years so I figure the book might steer me in the right direction. But what I discover is I need a steely vagina and a man willing to beat me into submission. I don't have either, but I continue on, hoping to be swept up in a land of forbidden sex. My coworker swears it's like "Pretty Woman" with bondage. "Twilight" with kink.

The thought leaves me beaming. "Prostitutes AND vampires?" I ask.

"Basically," she replies.

That's enough to pique my interest. And reading, the vampire reference rings true, with Christian Grey's long fingers and eloquent vampire-slang. But prostitutes? The heroine Anastasia Steele is a college senior and virgin (I'm calling bullshit) who signs up to be Grey's submissive. The contract includes vaginal fisting.

I bring up the correlation and my coworker laughs. "I know. It's a stretch. But she doesn't actually agree to that part of the contract."

"Good. Because then we'd have an episode of 'Grey's Anatomy' on our hands." I envision Anastasia being wheeled in the emergency room, murmuring like she often does in the book. He said it wouldn't hurt! Oh Mr. Grey, spare a tourniquet to quiet the bleeding? Mr. Grey, you make me gush! Literally. I'm gushing. Blood.

"That's not funny," my friend Allie says when I make similar comments about the book at a coffee shop. "I just finished the trilogy. Believe me. It gets better. The story improved my sex life."

"How?"

She speaks matter-of-factly. "I drafted a contract of my own."

"Tell me your kidding."

She tightens her lips. "Look. After five years of marriage I need one. There are only so many times I can take my husband convulsing on me in bed like he's having a seizure. I need more than soggy bread sex." Noting my bemused state, she stands, grabbing my hand. "Ugh. Follow me. We can't talk about this here."

Outside I stop dead in my tracks. "Don't tell me you want your husband to fist you."

She gasps. "Nasty. No! I want him to fuck me. Not kill me."

I walk again, remaining cautious. "So. Soggy bread sex?"

"It's like he's afraid of my vagina."

"I'm not sure my readers wanna know that."

"I mean, my vagina is pretty fierce so I kind of understand."

“A contract to have sex? I thought having a ‘sure thing’ was the only good thing about getting married. It seems crazy. But then again, how different is it from signing a marriage contract? The specifics of ‘I do’ are vague.”

"Can we get back to the contract?" I ask.

"Oh. Sure. It's simple," she says, nonchalantly. "I had him sign a list, agreeing to the things I need...sexually...each week." She smiles proudly. "Brilliant right?"

I go quiet. A contract to have sex? I thought having a "sure thing" was the only good thing about getting married. It seems crazy. But then again, how different is it from signing a marriage contract? The specifics of "I do" are vague. Perhaps this is just adding more fine print, more attention to detail. I wonder if more couples would benefit from it.

Ally recites her list of expectations. "He has to have sex with me on a surface other than a bed at least once per week. My ankles need to be over my head. And it has to hurt."

"Hurt?" I question. "That's vague. How do you measure that?"

"It's explained in the contract. I need to scream 'God' or 'Marco Polo' at least once."

"Marco Polo."

"That's code for mamma's wet. Smack me harder."

I shudder, covering my ears. "Anything else?"

"Just the basics," she says, eyeing new books in a store window. "He needs to perform oral at least twice a week. Once a month we must have semi-public sex. Not at the beach. Too generic. And he needs to eat when I cook dinner for him."

"Dinner? What does that have to do with sex?"

"Nothing. But if I cook this big meal and he puts his nose up at it, it pisses me off and I don't want sex. It ruins the mood." I chuckle, as she contemplates purchasing another book that has an erotic tinge to it. Three replicas of Grey are on display in the window, each on the bestseller list. "It's sad. With all this sex I just don't have time to read romances anymore."

"Is it bad that I do?"

She considers it. "Not if you make time to act on it." Taking my hand she leads me along the street. "Everyone has a real list of needs that should be written down." She tightens her grip. "That's why Grey is so popular. We needed a piece of fiction to remind us."

Anthony Paull's debut novel "Outtakes of A Walking Mistake" was recently chosen as an NPR Finalist for Best Teen Novel Ever.





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You're going to love **TCF® Free Checking** with no monthly maintenance fee. Open a new TCF Free Checking account today and see how it feels to be really free! See a TCF Representative for other applicable fees.

## FREE Checking

No monthly maintenance fee. Other fees may apply.

*It's a better way.*

**As a TCF Free Checking customer, you will enjoy all of these benefits:**

- **NO** Monthly Maintenance Fee
  - **NO** Minimum Balance Requirement
  - **OPEN 7 DAYS** with Extended Hours
  - **FREE** Coin Counting
  - **FREE** Mobile and Online Banking
  - **FREE** Withdrawals and Deposits at TCF ATMs
  - **CONVENIENT** Branch and ATM Locations
- and more!*

### **OPEN YOURS TODAY**

Visit [tcfbank.com](http://tcfbank.com) to find a location near you or to open your account online. **1-800-TCF-BANK**



*your convenience bank.™*