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- Angela Davis



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Election Coverage & Analysis

Head over to Pridesource.com for in-depth analysis of Nov. 6 election results. Find out which LGBT politicians in Michigan were elected, which marriage equality proposals were approved and

who of BTL's endorsed candidates won! This year there are countless opportunities for progress for the LGBT community. Join us as we analyze just how much celebration is in order!



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"Between The Lines Newspaper"



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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



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Every year we put together a list of a few of our favorite things to give to "family" during the holiday season. This year we want to know: What gifts are you giving? Let us know and we may just choose to include it in our Holiday Gift Guide! E-mail Ben@Pridesource.com your gift ideas!

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HEARD ON FACEBOOK



Engage The Community

Last Tuesday night we chatted via Facebook with people all across the state about the election results as they came in. Come join the conversation with us by following "Between The Lines Newspaper" on Facebook!

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE



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Gay Couple Denied Insurance Claim After Harrowing Shipwreck Destroys Belongings

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

MACOMB TWP—Brian Nelson of Macomb Township said he hears stories all the time about how companies discriminate against LGBT people. Following a boating accident in July, it hit close to home when Nelson discovered that his homeowners' insurance did not cover any of the lost items that belonged to his partner Ryan Miller.

Their miraculous story made headlines after Nelson and Miller, along with Miller's son Dakota Mack, 10, and his friend Jackson Fisher Jr., 12, survived 14 hours in the waters of Lake Huron. Together, they planned to enjoy a day of fishing on an 18-foot boat borrowed from Fisher Jr.'s grandfather. Their adventure from Au Gres to Saginaw Bay began at 10 a.m. By 5 p.m., they contacted Fisher Jr.'s grandfather to report their intended return. While headed back, the weather changed dramatically and high winds caused three large waves to capsize the boat.

Nelson and Miller quickly grabbed Mack and Fisher Jr. to throw them out of harm's way to make sure the boat wouldn't roll on them. After the boat overturned, Nelson and Miller got the boys onto the hull. The boat was sticking up out of the water because of an air pocket underneath maintained, in part, by Nelson who was standing on the motor at the opposite end of the boat. Stranded for an hour, the group spotted another fisherman in the area. Nelson and Miller made a difficult decision and agreed that Miller should swim toward the boat to get help. Unfortunately, their voices could not be heard and they were unseen as Miller drifted away from the boat, spending the next 13 hours alone in the water with his life jacket keeping him afloat.

"I kept thinking how am I going to get these boys and Ryan home safe or is this really going to be the end. I grew up on that bay and I know firsthand that most people do not survive when this happens and usually they are searching for bodies, not survivors. Knowing the odds were stacked against us, I had no choice but to go into pure survival mode and do whatever it takes to get them home, and at the same time, worry about Ryan and whether or not he made it to shore or if he was floating dead somewhere," said Nelson.

When the group didn't return as



Ryan Miller and his partner Brian Nelson, left, spent a terrifying night in the waters of Lake Huron after their boat capsized in July. They survived, but their homeowners insurance denied their claim for lost possessions, a claim that would have been approved if they had the right to marry. Photo courtesy of Brian Nelson.

planned, Fisher Jr.'s grandfather contacted Coast Guard Sector Detroit at 6:40 p.m. While clinging to life, Nelson wondered if anybody was searching for them and where they might be considering so much time had passed. He said he kept the boys talking, praying, and even allowed them to sleep for a few hours. "I tried taking their minds off of what I thought was going to be the inevitable," said Nelson.

A rescue aircrew from Air Station Detroit finally located the boat in Essexville around 7:30 a.m. the next morning along with Nelson, Mack and Fisher Jr. They were transferred to a rescue boat to return to land. Shortly after, Miller was found floating in the East Tawas area. Although they weren't together right away, they all made it home safely to their friends and family where Nelson said they have recovered from this. "In fact, we have already been fishing again since then," he said.

In Nelson's mind, the worst part of the experience is the way Allstate handled his claim following the accident. "I never thought they would do this to us. I was honest in telling them what our true losses were and I never hid any facts from them and when they came back and denied only Ryan's

belongings, I was disappointed," said Nelson, adding that Miller is already on his auto insurance policy with Allstate.

"Even the claim rep said how sorry he was and I told him they should be ashamed of what they are doing. He said if we were married this wouldn't be an issue, but because Michigan does not recognize us they would not pay the claim. I could have lied and just added Ryan's belongings to my list of losses and they would have probably paid them, but that's not who I am. I refuse to lie and hide our relationship to anyone," he said.

Together for almost two years, Miller has health insurance through Nelson's employer and they have joint accounts at their bank. Allstate still denied the claim because Nelson and Miller are not "related."

"I told them he was my domestic partner. They told me if I wanted his things covered, I had to take out a renter's policy for him going forward. I said why does he need a renter's policy when he owns just as much of the house as I do?" said Nelson. "If we were husband and wife this wouldn't even be an issue or if it were recognized in Michigan we wouldn't have this problem. Once again it amazes me

how we are never treated or looked at as equals in society."

This is why attorney Amanda Shelton of the Shelton and Deon Law Group urges same-sex couples to be sure that they have coverage that will cover their partner as well as themselves. "This is particularly important if only one partner owns the home. It is also important for LGBT people to find out if the insurance company will recognize their domestic partnership despite the Michigan marriage amendment. Get it in writing! In general, it is of paramount importance that same-sex couples have the proper estate planning documents in place including wills, patient advocates, and financial powers of attorneys," said Shelton.

Nelson said the sheriff on duty when he and the boys were rescued gave him a hard time about releasing the boys to him. "In this case, if Ryan had executed a delegation of parental authority to Brian then Brian would have had the legal authority to take custody of their son from the sheriff," said Shelton.

Meagan Cass in the office of Allstate Insurance Communications confirmed that domestic partners are not automatically covered by their

“I never thought they would do this to us. I was honest in telling them what our true losses were and I never hid any facts from them and when they came back and denied only Ryan's belongings, I was disappointed,”

— Brian Nelson

homeowners' policies in Michigan, although heterosexual married couples are automatically and immediately fully covered. "Partners can be named as an additional insured individual if they have a financial interest in the property, such as being on the mortgage or the deed," said Cass. "Otherwise they would need a renters' policy to cover their belongings."

It is important that same-sex couples use an agent that fully understands the real family structure, said Allstate agent Otha Williams in West Bloomfield, so the policy is written to cover all risks. "I like to have relationships with my clients," said Williams, who is not Nelson's Allstate agent, "and to know them so I can help them make the appropriate decisions. There are lots of ways to determine an insurable interest in the property, so your agent needs to know what's going on. If you say 'this is my man,' or 'this is my woman' then I can help. I can write the policy so it covers both people's belongings. You have to step up and say what's going on."

Most major insurance carriers in Michigan have the same restrictions for same-sex couples on homeowner policies. State Farm agent Joan Warner said her company can also write homeowner policies with both partners even if they are not both owners of the property, but she had a caution. "You have to be careful because if there is a claim the check will be written out in both people's names. If the relationship ends, the homeowner better update the policy with their agent to avoid any complications at the time of any future claim."

'Shower Of Stoles' Exhibit Reminder Of Discrimination

Collection Pays Tribute To De-frocked LGBT Clergy, Musicians And Members

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

The stole is religious symbol in many faiths, identifying someone as clergy or somehow otherwise part of congregational services. But for those who have either been forced to leave their churches, or did not feel wanted there because of their same-sex attraction, giving up the stole can be an emotional and difficult choice.

The Stoles Project began in 1995 as a tribute to de-frocked ministers, pastors, musicians and others in the church. Since that time over 1,000 liturgical stoles from 26 denominations in six countries have been collected.

The collection tours the country, with dozens of stoles displayed to remind people about the sacrifice LGBT people have had to make when forced to choose between the rules of their faith that conflict with the feelings they have in their own hearts. The exhibition will be at Affirmations Community Center from Nov. 8 – 18, and on Nov. 15 there will be a special presentation by Rev. Cheryl L. Burke, an East Lansing-based Associate Conference Minister for the Michigan Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Burke joined the UCC after several years as an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church, where she kept her personal relationship in the closet. "After five years of 'hiding,' something new began to stir in me. After a year of discernment, First Congregational UCC, Huntington, West Virginia extended a call to me, and my journey as an 'out' lesbian in the United Church of Christ began. I received ordained ministerial standing in 1995," Burke told the Stole Project.

Burke hung up her Presbyterian stole and openly joined the UCC. With her entire spirit



embraced and affirmed, Burke continued to serve her religious calling. She was ordained in 1995 and has served as interim pastor at First Congregational UCC in Madison, Wisconsin, interim Association Minister for the Chicago Metropolitan Association, and in 2005 she began serving as an Associate Conference Minister in the Michigan Conference.

She and her partner, Rev. Dr. Julie Kilmer, who is also ordained through UCC, had a union service in 1998. Her stole from her closeted Presbyterian days is among those in the Shower of Stoles project, which will be on display.

Shower of Stoles helps to honor those who have given up their unaccepting faith in favor of faiths that are accepting, or no faith at all and it also demonstrates the tremendous loss of church leadership because of LGBT discrimination.

The project is being brought in by the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion, an organization that has worked on many civil rights issues over the years.

The event is free and open to the public, but RSVPs are requested so that organizers can plan for refreshments. A suggested donation is welcome. Contact Kevin Hogan at the Michigan Roundtable to confirm your attendance at khogan@michiganroundtable.org.

INFO

Find out more about the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion at

>> www.miroundtable.org/lgbtfaith.htm.

Learn more about the Shower of Stoles Exhibit at

>> <http://www.welcomingresources.org/sosp.htm>.

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Garden City Fires Gay City Manager

McClary Ousted By City Council Despite Strong Local Support

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

GARDEN CITY - One afternoon in 1998 Darwin Parks McClary was sitting in his new office as the city manager of Richmond, MI. As McClary recalled, a city council member walked in and stuck out his hand for an introduction. "I hope you don't mind, but I'm an openly gay councilperson," the official told him.

Without thinking, McClary returned the introduction. "Well, I am a not-so-openly-gay city manager, and I look forward to working with you."

The councilperson told others, and it wasn't long before the closet door was wide open. "Once I came out in Richmond, I decided I would never go back. I'm proud of who I am and I think it's important for young people to know they have leaders who are in the LGBT community in leadership positions," he said.

Since then McClary has had a career full of positive experiences, marred only by the occasional hurtfulness of bigotry. Most recently, McClary was released from his city manager position in Garden City at the urging of a small group of residents with money, political influence and a conservative agenda. McClary makes it clear that his sexual orientation was not their only complaint, and that the people of Garden City are "incredibly welcoming and accepting" of LGBT people. Yet when those who wanted him removed used homophobia as one of their weapons, it was a reminder of the obstacles that gay people still face in society.

In 2011, Garden City faced the same economic problems that many cities in Michigan struggle with, and city leaders pushed for a millage. A 12 mil increase was voted down by the public and economic consequences were hard for some residents to swallow. "We instituted a street light assessment, a rubbish collection assessment, restructuring of city hall where we laid off 11 city employees. To put it in perspective, we had a staff of 174 full time positions in 2001, down to 99 in 2011. We were operating with half the staffing as before and still maintaining most of the services, but the changes did not sit well," he explained.

The most vocal residents began attending meetings regularly and belittling McClary at every chance



they got. "More than anything they were anti-tax. But it was some of the more affluent citizens. It amazes me that people who are struggling to make ends meet are the ones who step up to the plate and pay more to make their community work, and those that can afford to do it don't want to help.

"The anti-tax people would use other wedge issues to defame me, or destroy my credibility. ... They would call me 'the drive-by city manager' at the city council meetings. One that was homophobic and racist made a comment that he thought I violated a law and said I should go to jail, but that I would probably like it."

On Aug. 27, McClary was blindsided at a city council meeting with a motion to have him suspended, which passed 4-3. Then in September, despite having over 100 residents turn out to support him, McClary was terminated, with a 4-3 vote of council to support it.

"The city manager is an at-will employee. They don't need any reason to terminate a city manager. There was a lot of concern. People believed this was a wrongful termination. But in Michigan the law does not work that way. And even if it did, it would be the taxpayers who would have to pay for it, and that's not fair." He noted that Garden City residents are still paying on a \$15 million judgment

from a 2003 dispute with a contractor, and is in general still struggling financially.

"Garden City is a community in transition. In many ways it is transitioning for the better. There is a lot of hope that the community can embrace diversity and drive the economy. I wasn't the only LGBT employee there. This is a small, vocal minority and they don't speak for Garden City.... Throughout all of it [the name-calling], I was getting calls from citizens saying to keep doing what I'm doing. I'd have straight guys calling me on the phone saying 'I'm a straight guy, but I have a brother or sister who is gay and those people don't speak for me.'

"I think it bothered other people, citizens, more than it bothered me. The citizens of Garden City weren't used to that type of vitriol. I've worked for the public before so I know how it can be. I'd listen and take it in strides. I'm not going to get deterred from what I need to do."

McClary has dusted off his real estate license and is keeping his eyes open for other city manager opportunities, ideally in southeast Michigan. He lives in Ferndale, a community he says attracted him because of the diversity. "I love it here. No matter who you are you should feel comfortable in Ferndale."

“ In the city manager profession we pride ourselves on diversity. In our degree programs that's something that's instilled in us. When I came out professionally, the Detroit News did a story on my family. I was surprised by some of the comments. 'Why do we have to talk about this?' 'Why can't you keep it to yourself?' This was the most hurtful. I always thought my colleagues in the city manager profession were more tolerant than that.”

- Darwin Parks McClary

Plus it's a good home base for his 19-year-old son who just left to serve in the Marines. Having his son grown up now gives him less reason to rush into a new position. "I'm fine," he said about his temporary break from the 9 to 5.

From 1998 to 2004 he was city manager in Richmond. From 2004-2006 he was hired by the state to help with the financial situation in Highland Park. From 2006 he was city manager in Eastpointe. In April 2011 he took the position in Garden City. He said that in all those years, his orientation was rarely mentioned, although there was one disappointing incident earlier this decade. "I had put in my resume for a city manager position, I don't want to say where, but I was one of the finalists. They scheduled me for an interview. Then they called me back to cancel. The person I talked to was honest with me and said that a council member had googled me and found out I was gay." He said that ultimately it was a good thing because he didn't want to work at a place where who he was would be a problem.

A Detroit News interview about his family also caused a stir, not in Richmond, but among fellow city managers.

"In the city manager profession we pride ourselves on diversity. In our degree programs that's something that's instilled in us. When I came out professionally, the Detroit News did a story on my family. I knew this was going to go beyond my office so I put out an email on ListServe letting them know first. I was surprised by

some of the comments. 'Why do we have to talk about this?' 'Why can't you keep it to yourself?' This was the most hurtful. I always thought my colleagues in the city manager profession were more tolerant than that."

McClary said he loves city manager work. "No two days are alike. There are different issues every day. I love working with the citizens. That's probably the most enjoyable part - working with different people, playing a small part in shaping the future of a community. It's exciting to know that you are helping to influence the lives of citizens."

As far as being gay goes, his identity is becoming more important as he looks at his career situation. "I have thought about the issue of being fired. We need to concentrate work on Elliot Larsen [Michigan's civil rights legislation]. We need to get that [anti-marriage] constitutional amendment repealed. These things affect us all. Discrimination in the workplace affects all of us. ... As time goes by I evolve in that. It's not good enough to say 'I'm gay' and hope that has a positive effect on the youth of the LGBT community. You have to back it up."

INFO

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

Learn about their "Don't Change Yourself" campaign at

>> www.DontChangeYourself.com

Injunction Issued Against Equal Access

Michigan Company Wins Temporary Right to Avoid Affordable Care Act

BY CRYSTAL PROXMIRE

On Oct. 31, U.S. District Court Judge Robert Cleland, in the Eastern District of Michigan, issued an injunction that temporarily allows the owners of Michigan-based Weingartz Supply Company to deny contraceptive coverage in their health plans because they claim it violates their Catholic faith.

The injunction will remain in place during the duration of the company's lawsuit against the Obama Administration, *Legatus et al. v Kathleen Sebelius, et al.*

Weingartz filed along with a Catholic business owners association called *Legatus*, claiming that the Women's Health Amendment of the Affordable Care Act violated their freedom of religion. The Act offers an exemption for religious-based institutions and employers. However this case is the first injunction in Michigan that allows a secular, non-religious-based business to make a claim of exemption.

The ACA has a provision which goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2013 that states that any company with over 50 employees, that is not in compliance, is subject to financial penalties. The temporary injunction delays those penalties while the trial goes on. It might also be used by other non-compliant businesses as a way to delay their implementation of women's health coverage requirements.

Weingartz Supply Company is an outdoor power equipment business where "equipment experts don't wear aprons," with locations in Utica, Ann Arbor, Farmington Hills and Cedar Springs. The family-owned business began in 1945, and according to court documents has only offered medical plans that do not include contraception.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan filed an amicus brief urging the judge not to grant the injunction stating, "The claims raised by Plaintiffs – that they have a right to discriminate against women and deny them benefits because of the companies' owners' religious beliefs – are, unfortunately, not new. Regrettably, not so very long ago, a secular school instituted a "Protestant-only" hiring policy based on the school's founder's religious preferences; employers claimed their right to religious freedom entitled them to pay men – who they considered to be the head of household based on their religious beliefs – more than women; businesses claimed that their right to religious liberty entitled them to discriminate against African-American customers in public accommodations; and universities claimed a religious liberty right

to discriminate against African-American students. Fortunately, in each of these cases, courts squarely rejected the claims, recognizing that the right to religious liberty does not encompass the right to discriminate against others. This Court should come to the same conclusion here. Indeed, acceptance of Plaintiffs' claims would not only contravene this clear and consistent precedent, but would also open the door for arguments that countless

“ *This court ruling is a defeat for the majority of Michigan residents, including people of faith, who feel that health care coverage should be provided free of discrimination.* ”

- Equality Michigan

anti-discrimination and other important laws should be unenforceable in the face of a claim that the discrimination is mandated by a religious belief.”

Equality Michigan also responded to the injunction stating, "This court ruling is a defeat for the majority of Michigan residents, including people of faith, who feel that health care coverage should be provided free of discrimination. Allowing organizations to pick and choose what benefits their employees receive, which patients receive treatment, and what services they will provide people in medical distress is a clear threat to gay and transgender people and other minorities who, according to research, are more likely to face discrimination in health care and be denied services deemed necessary by their doctors. Equality Michigan recognizes that this ruling is a continuation of Michigan extremists' efforts to write a license to discriminate into Michigan's public policy implementation.”

To learn more about the company that is working to set the precedent against access to basic women's healthcare, check out their website at <http://weingartz.com>.

To learn more about the organizations that are standing up for women's access, check out the ACLU at www.aclumich.org and Equality Michigan at www.equalitymi.org.



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Andrew Shirvell Gets Unemployment Benefits

Andrew Shirvell will get a little help paying off the \$4.5 million judgment against him for defaming gay University of Michigan Student Body President Chris Armstrong in 2010 and 2011.

Shirvell was working as an Assistant Attorney General under Mike Cox when he began a quest to destroy the reputation of Armstrong. Shirvell started a blog that likened the student to “the devil” and showed up at his home and at school events to degrade him and “his homosexual agenda.”

When the Attorney General’s office fired Shirvell for misconduct, Shirvell filed for unemployment benefits. He was denied repeatedly in the appeals process, but finally the case landed before Ingham County Circuit Court Judge Paula Manderfield who overturned the previous judgments on Oct. 16, claiming that benefits could not be denied to someone who was expressing their first amendment right to free speech.

According to the court order, the Unemployment Insurance Agency will now have to pay for Shirvell’s unemployment benefits.

LANSING

Michigan Gay Officers Action League Announces ‘LGBT Professional’ And Allies Of The Year’

The Michigan Gay Officers Action League (MI-GOAL) has announced the 2012 recipients of its annual “LGBT Professional” and LGBT Ally of the Year” awards.

MI-GOAL was established in 2010 and is an affiliate chapter of LEGAL International. MI-GOAL exists to advocate for the equal treatment of Michigan’s gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender law enforcement, public safety, corrections and criminal justice professionals, and their non-gay allies.

This year’s awards are in recognition of a collaborative initiative between the Ingham Co. Sheriff’s Office (ICSO) and MI-GOAL - developing and launching an agency training module on the subject of “Law Enforcement and the LGBT Community.”

Sheriff Gene Wriggelsworth and Major Joel Maatman of the Ingham County Sheriff’s Office are each recognized as a MIGOAL’s “LGBT Allies of the Year.”

Sheriff Wriggelsworth is acknowledged for his initiative and advocacy in seeking out a mandatory training for all department staff. Major Maatman is acknowledged for his helpful collaboration with MI-GOAL in coordinating and supporting the training throughout the department.

Officer Erin Linn, a K-9 Officer with the Meridian Township Police Department, is recognized as MIGOAL’s “LGBT Professional of the Year.” Officer Linn is acknowledged for leading the development of the training module, and for her tireless dedication in conducting the numerous training sessions fully training the department. She is also MI-GOAL Treasurer.

Sheriff Wriggelsworth reflected, “This is great training for today’s law enforcement officers. I truly appreciate the efforts of MI-GOAL and their trainers in presenting this important information. Great training, long over due!”

Major Joel Maatman reported that staff reviews were very positive, and that the agency was impressed with the quality of the trainers and that a lot of good comments and questions came from the program.

MI-GOAL extends its gratitude to each of these professionals, and congratulates them on their well-deserved honor.

BERKLEY

Leslie Thompson Headlines Fundraiser For Dyslexia

Lesbian comedian Leslie Ann Thompson will headline a comedy show Nov. 9 at O’Mara’s raising money for the Michigan Dyslexia Institute, Metro Detroit Chapter.

Also appearing are Jeff Hoste and Julie Lyons.

Thompson hopes to raise \$500 that evening to meet the Michigan Dyslexia Institute’s goal of \$2500 to sponsor one youth for a year of one-on-one tutoring.

Bagger Dave’s, Flagstar Bank, Raymond James and Ameritax and a number of other sponsors have contributed \$2000 and a variety of prizes for a raffle to take place that evening.

The show begins 9 p.m. Nov. 9. Admission will be \$15. Call 248-399-6750 for reservations and more information. O’Mara’s is located at 2555 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley.

Obituary: Dr. Burton Fogelman

Dr. Burton D. Fogelman, 67, of Cathedral City, CA, formally of Southfield, died on Nov. 4. Fogelman practiced podiatry in Detroit and Southfield for over 30 years, but his real passion was community service, in both the Jewish and secular communities, often bringing the two together.

Fogelman was one of the founders of the Motor City Business Forum and served as president of Michigan Jewish Aids Collation. In 2001, Burt was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 16th Annual Gay and Lesbian Pride Banquet and Awards Ceremony sponsored by Midwest AIDS Prevention Project, the Triangle Foundation and Affirmations Gay and Lesbian Community Center. He was the past president of the Brotherhood of Temple Beth El and was responsible for founding and running their Cuisine Committee that catered numerous Mother’s Day Brunches, Confirmation Dinners, Purim Carnivals and the like.

Fogelman moved to Palm Springs, CA in 2001 where he continued his passion for community service. He served as an active board member of the Jewish Federation of the Desert, the Jewish National Fund of Palm Springs and Desert Region, Mizell Senior Center,



Inland Empire HIV Planning Council and Temple Isaiah, and was a regular volunteer at the Desert Aids Project and AIDS Assistance Program. He founded SHALOM: a group designed to bring together Jewish gays and lesbians to celebrate their common cultural heritage. Many new transplants to the desert, Jewish or secular, gay or straight, found themselves for dinner or a barbecue in the welcoming home of Burt and his partner Don. “Our father was proud of

his Jewish heritage and was welcoming of people of all walks of life...making people feel welcome was his gift,” said his three children in a written statement.

In 2006, Burt was recognized for his years of service and his commitment to his community with the “Partners for Life” award at the Desert AIDS Project’s 12th annual Steve Chase Humanitarian Awards, the largest fundraising event in the desert.

He is survived by his partner of 22 years Donald Crouse, his mother Goldie Fogelman of Southfield, MI and his three children, Marlo of Boston, MA; Randall of Detroit, MI; and Ryan (Aimee) of Columbus, OH. He was the proud Zede of Olivia (7) and Layla (5) of Columbus, OH. Fogelman was the devoted son of the late Max Fogelman and the brother of the late Denise Fogelman and the late David Fogelman.

Contributions can be made to a fund being created in his name at the Mizell Senior Center in Palm Springs (www.mizellseniorcenter.org). Interment took place at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Cathedral City, CA. Those that wish to honor the life of Dr. Burton Fogelman are welcome to attend a memorial service in his honor at Temple Beth El in Birmingham, MI Nov. 10 at 5:30 p.m..

Ali Forney Center For LGBT Youth Drop-In Center Destroyed By Hurricane Sandy

NEW YORK, NY -Hurricane Sandy has destroyed the interior of the Ali Forney Center for LGBT youth’s drop-in center in Chelsea, Manhattan in New York City.

The Ali Forney Center is a non-profit agency committed to providing LGBTQ youth with a safe, dignified and nurturing environment where their needs can be met, and where they can begin to put their lives back together.

According to Executive Director of the AFC, Carl Siciliano, the water level reached four feet high, destroying phones, computers, refrigerators, food and supplies.

“Our worst fears (have been) realized,” says Siciliano. “I do not see us being able to return (to the drop-in center), especially since our lease is finished at the end of January.

“This facility provided care to the most vulnerable youth served by AFC, those stranded out on the streets awaiting shelter. While our new 24-hour drop-in center will open as planned in a different location, it will not be ready for full service for several months.”



Ali Forney Center staff at the drop-in center pre-Storm Sandy.

Fortunately, according to Siciliano, the center’s eight housing sites were undamaged and its residents were kept safe through the storm.

“We are pursuing every means possible to take care of our youth in

the interim. The (New York) LGBT Community Center has graciously offered us the use of its space, and we are currently evaluating this option.”

Donations to the AFC can be made at Aliforneycenter.org/hurricanesandy.

Upcoming Book Fair To Host Jewish Transgender Author Joy Ladin

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

WEST BLOOMFIELD – “I think the transgender community is overlooked. So, inviting author Joy Ladin to come speak about her book seemed like the right thing to do,” said Michael J Phillips, president of the Jewish Gay Network of Michigan. JGN was established in June of 2004 to provide support for the intersecting communities, and is described on the website as, “A community encompassing growth, empowerment and advocacy in the GLBT-Ally and Jewish communities.” JGN will be taking part in the Jewish Community Center’s 61st Annual Book Fair, with Ladin speaking at 4 p.m. on Nov. 11 at JCC of Metro Detroit, 6600 West Maple Road.

The book fair is a huge event which runs from Nov. 7 - 18, bringing in authors from all over the world. Phillips said he and the folks at JGN are excited to be a part of it, along with many other activities at the center.

“The JCC has been very supportive of the Jewish Gay Network of Michigan. The JCC has allowed us to maintain an office at the West Bloomfield JCC for 4 years. We now have a representative who sits on the JCC Board of Directors. We have many activities at the JCC. We have a support and discussion group, Family and Friends, that meets at 7 p.m. in the library of the West Bloomfield JCC on the first Thursday of



every month. We hold our monthly Board of Director’s meetings at the JCC. We have been supporters of the Jewish Book Fair, the Jewish Music Festival and the Jewish Film Festival and we have scheduled special events at the JCC,” Phillips said.

“Last spring, JGN sponsored the film, *Melting Away* as part of the Jewish Film Festival. It was a wonderful film from Israel, about a family dealing with a transgender child. We also invited Denise Brogan-Kator, at that time from Equality Michigan, to speak after film. She was great. After the film and Denise’s presentation, there was not a dry eye in the theater.”

Phillips expects visitors will be moved by Ladin’s story as well. Ladin is the

David and Ruth Gottesman Chair in the English Department at Stern College of Yeshiva University in New York, but the journey there was not an easy one. Ladin caused quite a stir back in 2007 when she announced, after securing tenure, that she was going to be transitioning. The university administration put Ladin on paid leave and barred her from coming to the campus that she loved. After two years the university allowed her back, paving the way for diversity and dialogue in a traditionally conservative educational environment. She has since written a memoir about her experience called *Through the Door of Life: A Jewish Journey Between Genders*. In it she talks about the conflicts she faced in her journey from Jay to Joy, and about how her love of teaching kept her committed to the Orthodox university and the students with whom she shares her love of language.

Ladin also has authored six books of poetry. Her books will be available at the fair. For more information visit www.jgnmi.org.

INFO

61st Annual Book Fair

Joy Ladin speaks at 4 p.m. Nov. 11 at JCC of Metro Detroit, 6600 W. Maple Road.

>> www.JGNMI.org

San Diego School Disinvites Pro-Gay Union Fellow

SAN DIEGO (AP) - A British theologian who has expressed support for gay marriage said the University of San Diego withdrew a fellowship because of her views.

Tina Beattie released a letter from the president of the Catholic school that said the invitation was being pulled because she dissents from church teachings.

University President Mary Lyons didn’t elaborate in her letter but her decision came less than three months after Beattie and 26 other Catholics signed a letter in *The Times* of London newspaper that said it was “perfectly proper for Catholics, using fully informed consciences, to support the legal extension of civil marriage to same-sex couples.”

University of San Diego officials had no immediate comment Friday.

“I hope you understand the difficulties associated with this decision, one to which I arrived with great and thoughtful consideration,” Lyons wrote in a letter dated Oct. 27.

Pope Benedict XVI and Catholic leaders in the U.S. and around the world have been increasingly vigilant about ensuring that groups and individuals that operate in the name of the church are adhering to core Catholic teaching.

Beattie, a professor of theology and religious studies at Roehampton University, said the San Diego school rejected her plea to reconsider pulling the fellowship at its Frances G. Harpst Center of Catholic Thought and Culture. She blamed “a hostile minority of bloggers” for trying to discredit and distort her views.

Beattie wrote on her blog that she planned to steer clear of controversy in her San Diego lectures and seminars to avoid problems for her hosts in the “currently febrile atmosphere of American Catholic politics.”

Gerard Mannion, the center’s director, said he was “very surprised, shocked and deeply disappointed” by the university’s decision. He said students and faculty were planning a series of protests.

In 2008, the University of San Diego withdrew its appointment of Rosemary Radford Ruether for serving on the board of an abortion rights organization, Catholics

for Choice. Ruether had been named the Monsignor John R. Portman Chair in Roman Catholic Theology.

Guards In Jamaica Accused Of Beating Gay Student

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) - Two security guards at a university in Jamaica have been released from duty as police investigate accusations that they assaulted a student believed to be gay.

A video posted on YouTube Friday shows the student being slapped, punched and kicked by one guard as he tries to shield himself from the blows while another guard holds him. One female guard is shown standing by, holding a large piece of wood. The assault occurred late Thursday at the University of Technology in the capital of Kingston.

The video was shot by someone in the angry crowd that gathered outside the guard station, breaking a window and yelling homophobic slurs.

University officials released a statement saying that they strongly condemn the assault.

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Anyone Blaming Hurricane Sandy on Gays

Gays should have seen it coming, frankly. It was only a matter of time before it happened. I'm not talking about the hurricane itself, but the inevitable parade of idiots claiming that Hurricane Sandy never would have happened if it weren't for all of those homos in New York taunting God with their gayness.

It takes a certain kind of person to make a natural disaster into an anti-gay event, but my guess is that a lot of these folks need something to blame this kind of destruction on since global warming isn't "real" and certainly God wouldn't do shit like this for no reason, right?

Obviously the Westboro Baptist Church of Idiots praised God for the storm. No surprise there. Every time something terrible happens to the United States, whether it's a storm or a soldier dying, these loons say, "God made that happen to you for loving fags so much."

But I think the Westboro Baptist Klan gets too much attention for this kind of thing, really, stealing the spotlight making it seem as if such anti-gay animosity is limited to them. In reality, there are many other anti-gay fanatics preaching some of the same crazy shit under the guise of religion.

Take Rabbi Noson Leiter of Torah Jews for Decency, who said on Oct. 30,

"The Lord ... could punish particular areas with a flood, and if we look at the same-gender marriage recognition movement that's occurring, that certainly is a message for us to learn..."

"We believe the Great Flood in the time of Noah was triggered by the recognition of same-gender marriages" and that he

and other "leading" rabbis "believe that there are messages in this particular storm for us." A message such as: "The Lord will not bring another flood to destroy the entire world but He could punish particular areas with a flood, and if we look at the same-gender marriage recognition movement that's occurring, that certainly is a message for us to learn," he said. "We, not just the bad people but the good people, we have to learn that the Lord does watch what we do and if we don't shape up He will deliver divine justice."

And where else would the Lord deliver such justice than in Lower Manhattan, "one of the national centers of homosexuality," according to Leiter. He also, and I shit you not, pointed to the fact that a double rainbow appeared in the sky after the storm hit as "evidence."

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo called Leiter's comments "as offensive as they are ignorant."

Then there's Kevin Swanson of Generations with Vision Ministry in Colorado who said, "The two worst storms, material-wise, in the history of America has happened in just the last five years and here's the interesting thing about this storm, it hit New York City," which he describes, along with New Orleans and San Francisco, as "the top three most pro-homosexual, pro-liberal cities in America."

He continued, "There is a God in the heavens and in the past, sins like homosexuality ... have really irritated Him."

Right wing preacher John McTernan declared on his blog, "Hurricane Sandy hit New York six-days after the state highest court sealed homosexual 'marriage.' The nation is paying an incredible price making sin an ordinance. This is not the end but the beginning unless the church acts to repent and cry out for an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit. There is not much time left. America has turned its back on God and is now offending His holiness."

And when God gets upset, He throws a hissy fit and destroys stuff, much like a toddler. Either somebody needs to call Super Deity Nanny, or these so called "believers" are full of hot air.

Angela Davis Visits Detroit

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

DETROIT - Forty years ago when Angela Davis visited Detroit, she addressed a crowd at the Michigan State Fair Grounds from behind a pane of bulletproof glass. The outspoken, big-haired, black, female activist for social justice was there to celebrate her release from jail after being acquitted of kidnapping, conspiracy and murder. Though she was free from wrongful prosecution, she was not free from danger. She and others seeking racial justice and equality were targets, a problem that has not yet gone away even 40 years later.

But this time as the 68-year-old lesbian met the people of Detroit, her fears were not physical, but political. She stood before a church house packed with nearly 2,000 people, flanked by U.S. Rep. John Conyers (D-Detroit), Detroit City Councilperson Jo Ann Watson, Metro Detroit AFL-CIO President Christos Michalakis, Former Circuit Court Judge Claudia Morcom, and Detroit Branch NAACP President Pastor Wendell Anthony, and spoke about the importance of the upcoming presidential election and of getting involved politically, not just at election time.

For the past 40 years Davis has lived in California, but travelled the world fighting for justice issues. She recalled coming to Michigan in the 80s to protest the closing of an auto factory, and chanting along with the protestors "Save Dodge Main."

"I don't know whether we could have predicted that capitalism would have so thoroughly penetrated the lives of people all over the planet. When we challenged union busting practices then, I don't know if we could have imagined the extent to which the labor movement would sustain such damaging blows over the coming years. I certainly could not have predicted that the prison industrial complex would become such a profit-generating sector of the global economy," Davis lamented. "The U.S. has become what we now call 'the Prison Nation.' And this prison nation, that's fueled by racism, by structural racism."

But she said that not all the changes in the past few decades have been negative.

"At that time none of us could have foreseen the election of a black president... Many people forgot the limits of electoral politics. They forgot that we were electing a President of the United States - the imperialist, militarist, racist, anti-union United States of America. But still, what was achieved was earth-shaking and we



Prof. Angela Davis spoke to over 2,000 people Oct. 24 at Fellowship Chapter Church in Detroit. Now a renowned thinker, teacher and lesbian activist, Davis was once on the FBI's most wanted list in the 1970s for her activism in prisoners' rights. She now celebrates the 40th anniversary of her acquittal of all charges in 1972. BTL Photo by Crystal Proxmire.

should not forget that."

She stressed that even after election day; there is work to be done. "We may want to reflect on the issues that we may

accord, unemployment insurance, and social security? Was it? It was not. It was masses of people in the streets, in many cases led by communists, in the 1930s.

“Those who were simply waiting for Obama to emerge as the new FDR have a very warped view of history,” she said. “Was it really only FDR who gave us on his own individual initiative, on his own accord, unemployment insurance, and social security? Was it? It was masses of people in the streets, in many cases led by communists, in the 1930s.”

- Angela Davis

have to take into our hands even after we have elected the best candidate,” Davis said.

Some had expected that President Obama would come into the White House and make sweeping reform, but that is not how politics works. Davis said he was likened to Franklin D. Roosevelt, under whom many social programs got their start.

“Those who were simply waiting for Obama to emerge as the new FDR have a very warped view of history,” she said. “Was it really only FDR who gave us on his own individual initiative, on his own

“There were marches all over the country. There were hunger marches, there were unemployed councils, and they prevented evictions. If we believe that it was Franklin Delano Roosevelt that was responsible... then we are absolutely wrong.

“And I ask you to imagine what it would be like if we'd taken to the streets the day after the inauguration, both to celebrate Obama's election and to pressure him to move on the issues we all care about?”

Davis went on to talk about issues that she feels passionately about. “Education not deportation” and “education not incarceration,” had their home among pleas for LGBT equality, protection of Roe v. Wade, supporting organized labor, the struggle of oppressed people in Palestine, U.N. monitoring of U.S. elections, and women's reproductive rights.

“I think it is time we stand up,” Davis said. “It's time we realized that justice is indivisible. ‘An injustice anywhere,’ as Dr. King said, ‘is an injustice everywhere. And so I conclude by saying we need peace, and equality, and justice and socialism.’”

To watch an edited version of the speech, see Kenny Snod's YouTube page at <http://youtu.be/YxGO6jCgLDQ>.

Hungry4Equality: Week 12

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Day 93



“One small step at a time definitely makes a larger impact than one would think.”

- Deb Holbrook

Day 94



“While I was honored to have had the opportunity to add my voice to the multitude of other strikers and supporters, and am happy to have met some wonderful new

friends, I look forward to the day when striking for LGBT rights is no longer necessary.”

- Kelli Marshall

Day 96



“It only makes sense that people be treated equally. It amazes me how this state actually got to this point, allowing so much discrimination to infiltrate our government. It's time we take it back and

get those people with their hateful personal agenda's out of office!”

- Angel Carrion

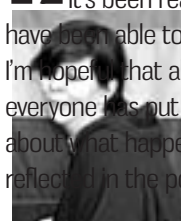
Day 97



“There are things happening and legislation being passed that directly affect my communities. If we continue to let things go unnoticed and remain silent, our rights will be silenced too.”

- Rhiannon Chester

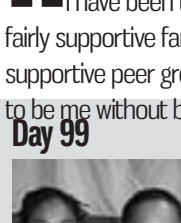
Day 98



“It's been really rewarding to have been able to help like this and I'm hopeful that all of this work that everyone has put into educating folks about what's happening out there, is reflected in the polls on Tuesday.”

- Deb Holbrook

Day 99



“I have been uniquely blessed with a fairly supportive family and an incredibly supportive peer group that has allowed me to be me without batting an eyelash. I want this for everybody. It's time Michigan. It's time to take off the blinders and realize that everyone deserves an equal chance, and equal rights, no matter who they are.”

- Kirsten Ussery & Erika Boyd

Day 100



“It's gratifying to see the strike through to its end. We have raised some amazing visibility around issues of equality that the LGBT community faces in Michigan. This is just the beginning!”

- Dave Garcia



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PUBLISHERS

Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief

Susan Horowitz
susanhorowitz@pridesource.com

Entertainment Editor

Chris Azzopardi
chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com

Associate Editor

Benjamin Jenkins
bj@pridesource.com

News Staff Writer

Crystal Proxmire

Arts & Theater Editor

Donald V. Calamia,
curtaincalls@pridesource.com

CREATIVE

Art Director

David Ano, davidano@pridesource.com

Webmaster & MIS Director

Kevin Bryant, kevinbryant@pridesource.com

Production Assistant

Benjamin Jenkins, bj@pridesource.com

Contributing Writers

Charles Alexander, Michelle E. Brown,
Abby Dees, Jack Fertig, Todd Heywood,
Martin Kohn, Richard Labonte,
Michael H. Margolin, Jenn McKee, Jason Michael,
Kate Opalewski, Anthony Paull, Andrea Poteet,
Eric W. Rader, Bridgette M. Redman,
Romeo San Vicente, Gwendolyn Ann Smith,
D'Anne Witkowski, Dan Woog

Cartoonists

Paul Berg, Dave Brousseau, Joan Hilty

Contributing Photographers

Andrew Potter

ADVERTISING & SALES

Director of Sales

Jan Stevenson, jan@pridesource.com

Sales Representatives

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Business Office

Diane Smith, dianesmith@pridesource.com
Nancy Blankenship

Circulation & Distribution

Diane Smith

Pride Source Media Group

11920 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48150
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NATIONAL GAY
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Transphobia Endemic In LGBT Movement



Viewpoint

OPINION BY ANTONIA CARETTO, PH.D.

A Gallup poll published Oct. 18 reported that 3.4 percent of Americans identify as LGBT. This is in sharp contrast with a Gallup poll conducted in May 2011 which found that over half of Americans estimated that at least 20 percent of the population is gay or lesbian and that 35 percent estimated that that more than 25 percent of the population is gay or lesbian.

It is interesting to note that the question asked this time was even more inclusive than the question asked in 2011, and still produced a significantly smaller result. The wording of this recent survey of 121,290 individuals Gallup states: 'Gallup chose the broad measure of personal identification as LGBT because this grouping of four statuses is commonly used in current American discourse, and as a result has important cultural and political significance.'

I applaud Gallup for including transgender but must say that American discourse, even within the LGBT community, fails to honor the important cultural and political significance. The LGBT community nominally includes transgender while effectively not including transgender individuals. The fact that transgender individuals are not included in the LGBT community is hypocrisy.

Why do Americans estimate the gay or lesbian population to be almost ten times larger than it is? Because Americans confuse gender expression with affectional preference. Lesbians, gays and bisexuals are not immune to this ignorance and distance themselves from transgender individuals for this very reason. Research has shown that even among lesbians and gays, 'gaydar' is nothing more than gender stereotyping. Gallup would have gotten the same results in May 2011 if they had asked individuals to estimate what percent of the population is gender non-conforming.

Homophobia is, at its core, intolerance of gender non-conformity and transgender individuals make it very uncomfortable for the rest of the LGBT community because of this internalized transphobia. The rest of the LGBT community distances themselves from the transgender individuals as a way to deny that their own non-heteronormative affectional preference, which is seen as gender non-conformity.

Those in the LGBT community that think they have conquered their internalized homophobia need to check themselves regarding transphobia. Research has confirmed the long suspected correlation between latent homosexuality and gay hate crimes. It is not surprising then that there are those in the LGBT community who are in such denial about their own gender non-conformity that they, through acts of exclusion, perpetrate hate toward transgender individuals.

Though it is natural for social animals to create a pecking order, especially when there is a perception of limited resources, it is not acceptable within a social group that professes equality. The fact that there are those in the LGBT community that are among the most transphobic members of the society may not be surprising, but it is sad and disappointing. The marginalization and exclusion of transgender individuals in the LGBT community is inexcusable.

If the LGBT community is in fact only 3.4 percent of the American population, is it wise

to disenfranchise the transgender community? The Lesbian, gay and bisexual community fails to remember that the gay rights movement emerged from protests led by transgender individuals. The protests that followed the arrest of four gender variant teens at Dewey's Lunch Counter in Philadelphia in April 1965 and the riot at Compton's Cafeteria in San Francisco in August 1966 were triggered by the mistreatment of drag queens, and they both pre-date Stonewall.

The transphobia within the LGBT community may be unconscious but it is not unchangeable. However, this time it is not up to the transgender individuals to lead the charge. It's up to the lesbians, gays and bisexuals do what is needed to make LGBT more than just discourse.

Dr. Caretto is a licensed clinical psychologist in Farmington Hills providing evaluation and treatment of transgender and gender variant children, adolescents and adults.

The transphobia within the LGBT community may be unconscious but it is not unchangeable. However, this time it is not up to the transgender individuals to lead the charge. It's up to the lesbians, gays and bisexuals do what is needed to make LGBT more than just discourse.



email: EditorialCartoon@QJIndicate.com

OJ Made Us Gay!



Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

It was shocking. Totally unexpected. Downright naughty, even. Yet so deliciously thrilling to the hundreds of angry gays who just happened to be watching Des Moines TV a late newscast 35 years ago.

Anita Jane Bryant, America's homophobe du jour, beaming her famous Sunshine State cocoa butter-wouldn't-melt-in-my-mouth smile ("as God is my witness"), got pie plastered right in her pert-and-pretty little kisser by a gay activist.

For once the demonessa of Dade County, Florida - the self-styled Queen of OJ, "orange juice" (the titular forerunner to gridiron grunt box, felon Simpson) was struck dumbfounded. Speechless. Gooley dripping. It was heavenly. Couldn't have happened to a nicer goody two shoes!

But in spite of her castor-oil-in-the-OJ hostility, her pulp-and-pits deceitfulness about us gays, in the long run we owe the 1959 Miss America runner up turned popular, saccharine "Paper Roses" songstress a footnote of thanks. It was she who, more than anyone else then (and perhaps now), served as a catalyst by default to bring our communities together, uniting our movement to an unexpected solidarity.

I had almost forgotten how Bible-belt zealous she was. How sweetly go-for-the-jugular in her rant and rancor. How holier than thou. (Sorta like Sarah Palin.) So, let's peel the orange for old time sake. Pulp, seeds, rind. Pesticide unavoidable . . .

Pert angelic Anita, spokesperson for the Florida Citrus Commission, wasn't too happy when a gay rights Dade County ordinance passed. Six months later, speaking as a Southern Baptist mom, she launched a Save Our Children repeal crusade. She mouthed lies, lip-synch'd stereotypes.

She crooned to the media rafters. Gay people are wicked. Godless. Out to stalk school playgrounds. "As a mother I know that homosexuals cannot biologically reproduce," she shrieked. "They must recruit children. If gays are granted rights, next we'll have to give rights to prostitutes, people who sleep with St. Bernards, nail biters."

Her blend of nail technician, canine venom worked. On June 7, 1977, Dade County's anti-discrimination ordinance was rescinded by a margin of 69% to 31%. But her cohorts didn't count on a gay backlash. "Anita brought us together big, big time," says a nameless lesbian interviewed in a late 1970s gay rights documentary. (Across America hundreds of thousands militantly marched.)

Sorry to say (yeah, sure you are, Mary!), things haven't gone too well for Anita Bryant. Gay activists brilliantly organized a nationwide OJ boycott (some enclosing \$2 and asking for a copy of a nonexistent pamphlet linking OJ with homosexuality.) The fallout from her political activism poisoned her career.

She lost her Florida Commission hefty salary, followed by Coca Cola, Kraft Food, Holiday Inn, and Tupperware TV commercial accounts. Her marriage to hubby Bob Green squeezed out. In 1980 she dumped him. She married a second spousal lemon, Charlie Hobson Dry, in 1990. They tried to salvage her career, booking a series of small venues, including Windsor, Ont.

Comeback proved elusive, and the Dries left behind them unpaid employees and creditors. Bankruptcy pie hit them twice. In 2005, Anita, matronly bigot of 65, was parodied on "Will & Grace." The lemon merin(gay) moment now plays Youtube.com. Let's drink to that! (Milk over OJ, anytime.)

Charles@pridesource.com

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1. Curtis Lipscomb, executive director of Kick!, with Steven Quinkert and Laura Hughes, executive director of the Ruth Ellis Center joined over 500 people at the ACLU dinner Nov. 2

2. Planned Parenthood Mid and South Michigan President and CEO Lori Lamerand, left, Desiree Cooper, PPMSM's director of community and media relations and Jan Stevenson, co-publisher of BTL on right mingled before the ACLU dinner at the Henry Ford Museum Nov. 2.

3. Susan Horowitz, BTL co-publisher, with attorney John Allen and Jeffrey Montgomery, former director of the Triangle Foundation.

4. Jay Kaplan, the director of the LGBT Project at the ACLU of Michigan greeted hundreds of activists and lots of lawyers at the ACLU dinner.

5. Writer and gay activist Dustin Lance Black delivered a vigorous, powerful keynote address, calling on activists not to settle for crumbs of freedom, but to stand up for full rights for all people. BTL photos: Andrew Potter

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Dustin Lance Black Galvanized Sell-Out Crowd at ACLU

BY JAN STEVENSON

DEARBORN – Dustin Lance Black rallied progressives not to settle for crumbs of freedom, but to continue the fight for full equality for everyone. “It is the ‘why’ of our lives that changes minds. Tell them your ‘why.’ Never underestimate the power of your personal story to change minds and bring people over to the side of equality, because once they come to the side of equality they never go back,” he told the crowd of over 500 activists, lawyers, union leaders and politicians at the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan annual dinner Nov. 2. at the Henry Ford Museum.

The diverse crowd include many LGBT leaders including Nancy Katz & Margo Dichtelmiller, Tom Wilczak and Steve Quinkert, Johnny Jenkins from

Affirmations, Laura Hughes from Ruth Ellis Center, Curtis Lipscomb from Kick, Jeffrey Montgomery, John Allen, Mark LaChey and Brian Hoffman, Carmen Garcia, Greg Varnum and Roland Leggett from Equality Michigan, Leo Romo from Perceptions and many others.

Black told of his personal struggle growing up in a Mormon household, coming out and pursuing his career in film and theater, reaching the pinnacle with an Oscar win for his screenplay of the movie “Milk” that chronicled the life and death of Black’s hero Harvey Milk, one of the first openly gay elected officials who was assassinated in San Francisco in 1978. He talked about his macho brother who gave him a hard time about being gay, but later in life told Black that he, too, was gay. But his brother felt he could not be free where

he lived in Holland, Michigan because of the oppressive anti-LGBT climate in the state. His brother’s death from cancer earlier this year devastated Black, and he shared his deep frustration with the limited rights for LGBT people in Michigan because it stymied his brother’s happiness.

Kary Moss, executive director of the ACLU of Michigan presented awards to three honorees including retiring Michigan Supreme Court Justice Marilyn Jean Kelly, ACLU State Board President Ralph C. Simpson, and the 12 individuals who chair the ACLU statewide lawyers committees: Peter Armstrong, Penny Beardslee, Gregory T. Gibbs, Steve Morse, Megan A. Reynolds, James Rodbard, Gayle Rosen, Nicholas Roumel, John A. Shea, Gillian Talwar, and Sally Wallace.

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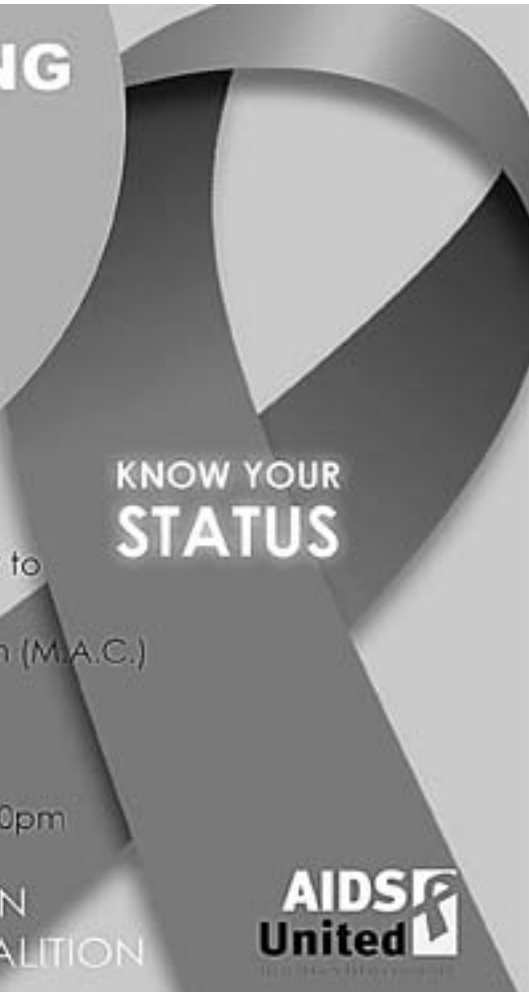
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Local Organizers To Host Second Annual AIDS Event



Photo: Jessica Everett

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

There are roughly 50,000 new cases of HIV each year in the U.S. Despite the non-discriminating infection and widespread effects, to the population at large, HIV is still an issue. With last year's HIV fundraising event World AIDS Day Detroit, organizer Phillip Kucab and others worked to help wake people up to the reality of HIV. With WADD 2012, they're trying to take it one step further.

The official WADD 2012 event will take place Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012. The details of events and guests are still being finalized,

though they will be hosting a fundraiser concert on Nov. 27, Mayor's Breakfast on Nov. 30 and a fashion show as a part of the main event.

"We still have young people becoming infected; we have an older generation living with HIV/AIDS," says Barbara Murray, executive director of AIDS Partnership Michigan, a WADD collaborator. "We have a responsibility to stand with each other. If we don't take care of each other, who will?"

It was this idea of personal responsibility and need for unity that sparked World AIDS Day Detroit 2011. After attending a lecture on the topic, Wayne State University medical student Phillip Kucab was interested in determining

events being held to mark Dec. 1, World AIDS Day.

To his pleasant surprise, there were many. Unfortunately, they were all independent of each other.

"I started thinking, 'Well, why are we doing all these separate things?'" he says. "Then I thought, 'What if we do an event where we all come together?' Some people loved that when I first said it and some people almost laughed it off because we don't do that in the HIV community in Detroit."

Some may have laughed, but Kucab was determined. Having lived with hemophilia all his life and being active within the hemophilia community, he is acutely aware of the devastation

HIV can cause.

"I had a family member that died of HIV. I've had more friends than I can count on my hands die from HIV that had hemophilia. As a teenager, I was going to other people's funerals. That impacts me."

With some passion and hard work, he was able to get people to listen. Organizations like Affirmations, the Hemophilia Foundation of Michigan and AIDS Partnership Michigan all joined in to help make WADD a success.

In the end, they raised over \$20,000 for charity. While the fundraising was a success within itself, some saw a victory that was much more important. For many, the success of WADD 2011 also marked an important moment in the fight



“We still have young people becoming infected; we have an older generation living with HIV/AIDS. We have a responsibility to stand with each other. If we don't take care of each other, who will?”

– Barbara Murray

against HIV.

“It marked the clarion call that there is a new generation of leaders in the fight against AIDS,” Murray says.

“Phillip Kucab is a key member of that new generation of leaders. He reached out to me last year and I listened and I learned from him. He is smart, articulate and passionate. He is a game-changer, and he knows that it is time to end it.”

For his efforts, he was awarded the Outstanding Community Impact Award from collegiate community service coalition Michigan Campus Compact.

Then WADD was born. The event that sprang from concerned curiosity had accomplished more than most people imagined in just a few short months. During the planning of WADD 2011, big names like Usher and Bono were in the mix to appear. While the celeb turn-out was less than they hoped, there were still many influential people in attendance.

Jeanne White-Ginder, mother of HIV/AIDS poster child Ryan White, was in attendance to share her son's story. During the '80s, Ryan's story of discrimination and, ultimately, martyrdom gripped America. Today, he's all but forgotten.

Being able to give new life to White's story was a symbolic victory for their fight and held great meaning to Kucab.

“Ryan White's mom told the Ryan White story on the eve of his 40th birthday. We recorded it professionally; that story will never be taken from us,” he says.

Before the success of WADD 2011, Kucab was understandably hesitant to do it all over

again. But he was struck by the out-pouring of support.

“Seeing that, it really fueled me to continue the work,” he says. “I could have just stopped last year and said we commemorated the 30th year of AIDS in a huge way. Organizations came together and created a lot of energy. I could have stopped there but the HIV/AIDS organizations are struggling; it's getting harder and harder every year.”

“The hope is that, with enough awareness, we'll be able to get to zero new infections, AIDS-related deaths and discrimination on the basis of HIV by the end of 2015. The goal is lofty but the team is hopeful.”

With WADD 2012, Kucab and co. are still focused on spreading the word about HIV prevalence and stigma. Much of the plans for this year's event are up in the air, but it already looks to repeat the success of last year. “How to Survive a Plague,” David France's critically acclaimed documentary on the AIDS crisis, will make its Detroit premiere during the event. Requests are also being sent to big names like Bill Clinton, Magic Johnson, Mary J. Blige and NeYo to appear at the event.

While getting a big-name celebrity to attend would remarkably spread their reach, they recognize that star power won't be enough.

“The work that we're doing in the HIV community is largely within our community,” he says. “So, what I want World AIDS Day to do is to be something that reaches the average person in Detroit. I would love for anyone that lives in Detroit to turn on the TV on Dec. 1 and know that it's World AIDS Day, because that's the start.”

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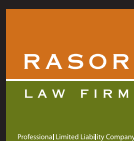
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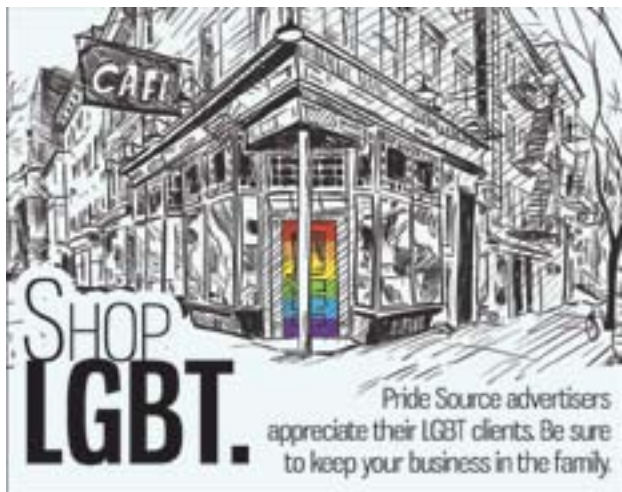
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BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

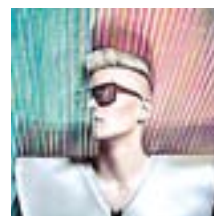
Taylor Swift's (Almost) Red-Hot Pop Album



Taylor Swift, 'Red'

Boys give Taylor Swift a lot of grief, but they're also sort of responsible for this little career she's got going – and for the world's vicarious interest in her life. Let's face it: She satiates our nostalgic sense of teen romance. Swift is 22 now, but on her fourth album, "Red," she acts both years older and years younger. If this is her not-a-girl-not-yet-a-woman phase, she's doing pretty all right – there's no evidence of head shaving, and the songs on "Red" offer more signs that Taylor Swift isn't the talentless hack people want her to be. She, like, totally comes off childish on the obnoxiously dippy "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together" (even though my inner teen-girl made me love it), but the emotional letting-go of "All Too Well" – an exemplary showcase of Taylor's observant songwriting – is far from Valley Girl frivolity. The 16 tracks on "Red" bounce between womanhood and girlhood, pop and pop-country, breakup and makeup – it's Swift's most complicated, cross-genre album yet. She's open to trying new things, even if they fail as bad as some of her relationships: I'd end it with "The Last Time," too. Taylor's tinkering works better in the hands of Britney Spears' producer Max Martin on the stupid-fun Ke\$ha wannabe "22," and there's other interesting gambles too: "State of Grace" goes the arena-rock route, and "Starlight" is a treat

for the gays – a dreamy dance song that needs remixes stat. "Holy Ground" ranks among her best; "Begin Again" is sweet and hopeful, this time about a boy who might just be the one. You know, until her next breakup song. *Grade: B+*



Diamond Rings, 'Free Dimensional'

"I walk the line between fact and fiction, define contradiction in every stride," a revealing moment

of swagger on Diamond Rings' sophomore album, suggests that you might think you know the guy behind the rainbow makeup, but you have no idea. The old adage of judging a book by its cover – in this case, Rings, born John O'Regan, looks like Adam Lambert from the future – is completely quashed with a voice that drops so low it debunks any of those pesky "gay lisp" stereotypes; this ain't no boy singing out of a helium balloon. And he raps. On "(I Know) What I'm Made Of," a simple delight of glitchy rock-flecked dance, the singing oxymoron takes you back to all the cheesy guilty-pleasure raps from the days when you didn't even have to feel guilty about listening to Vanilla Ice and New Kids on the Block. It's kind of great. He does a similar

breakdown on "Hand Over My Heart," a happy little ditty that wants so bad to be in an '80s movie. The raps are a bit jarring, but they're also endearing, goofy asides that become memorable for their weirdness; remember, Robyn's done it, and look at her – all cute and awesome. (Coincidentally, her producer, Damian Taylor, also had a hand in this release.) Robyn and Rings hit the road together a couple years ago, and someone was paying attention: John's "Free Dimensional," certainly a step up from his debut, embraces Robyn motifs of self-empowerment and individuality. It tells naysayers to eff off. It makes you two feet taller. You can finally feel good about yourself *and* the dance music you're listening to. *Grade: B+*

Also Out



Ellie Goulding, 'Halcyon'

Ellie Goulding's "Lights" wasn't an instant success; the U.K. import's album made its way up the charts,

but hardly at the speed of light. A polarizing pop release that was far more interesting in theory – ooh, "folktronica" – than it was in actuality, its path through my ear canal was even more rapid. But there's no forgetting her edgier sophomore album: It's not just more bizarre, working tribal beats into the mix, but it has a better grasp on how to make indie-dance complex *and* catchy. There's sadness and hope, and the title track captures both perfectly: Goulding wants this relationship to work, but it sounds more like a lost cause. Lights off; this is dark, mesmerizing stuff.



A Fine Frenzy, 'Pines'

If Max's journey in "Where the Wild Things Are" was a musical, it would sound a lot like Alison

Sudol's third album, a conceptual release that thematically parallels the classic children's book. This is not, then, the same Alison who bared her feelings for an "Almost Lover." Part of a multimedia hybrid, "Pines" is far more elaborate, turning out 67 minutes of magic. Sudol, known as A Fine Frenzy, makes lit references and casts feelings of isolation and loneliness in this commanding set that broadens her contemporary-pop canon. Just how far? Well, "Riversong" is a child's conversation with a gaggle of fish. And it'll melt you.

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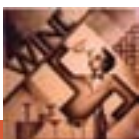


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The annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival, a fundraiser for The Ark, returns to Hill Auditorium for two dynamic and different nights of folk and roots music on Friday, Jan. 25, and Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013, beginning at 6:30 p.m. each night. The Folk Festival will celebrate its 36th year with a selection of the world's finest traditional and contemporary performers. Each night includes a blend of well-known and up-and-coming artists, providing you with an opportunity to hear artists you know and love while discovering great new talent.

The voice is unmistakable – immediately identifiable by those that know it and intensely intriguing to those who don't. It belongs to Dallas Green, perhaps better known as the man who writes, records and performs under the moniker of City and Colour. He will make his Ann Arbor Folk Festival debut as Friday night's headliner. Friday night's program also features Rodriguez, the enigmatic singer-songwriter whose rediscovery is at the heart of the astounding, Sundance Film Festival Award-winning movie, "Searching for Sugar Man."

Saturday will include Lucinda Williams, named "America's best songwriter" by Time Magazine, and longtime Ark friend and favorite Dar Williams. Saturday night's program is completed by several artists delving into the heart of folk and roots traditions, including Frank Fairfield and The Steel Wheels. A headliner is still being sought after The Civil Wars recently canceled.

Former Men At Work frontman, born entertainer and master of the one-man show, Colin Hay, will bring his humor and talent to this year's Festival, serving as Master of Ceremonies both nights.

Check out the information below to see how to Find Your Folk at the 36th Ann Arbor Folk Festival and follow the Festival



Lucinda Williams. Photo: Danny Clinch

on Tumblr for music, video, artist info and updates at www.findyourfolk.org.

Tickets are on sale to Ark annual members by mail only now through Nov. 21 and are priced at \$47.50 for a single night. Series tickets (both nights) are \$85. For information on becoming an Ark member call 734-761-1800. Tickets go on sale to the general public on Friday, Nov. 30 by phone at 734-763-TKTS or

in person at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Ark box office, or online at www.mutotix.com. General public tickets are \$35 and \$47.50 for a single night; \$60 and \$85 for series tickets.

All funds raised through the Festival benefit The Ark, Ann Arbor's non-profit home for folk, roots and ethnic music. More info at www.theark.org.

Call for Artists: Applications Being Accepted for 2013 Street Art Fair

Ann Arbor – The 54th Annual Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, the original of a collective of four concurrent fairs that transform central Ann Arbor into a massive outdoor art gallery each July, is now accepting applications from visual artists for participation in the 2013 Art Fair.

The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair is a 501(c)3 non-profit arts organization whose mission is to increase public knowledge and appreciation for contemporary fine arts and fine crafts by creating opportunities that connect artists, the Ann Arbor community

and the general public to their mutual benefit; culminating in a top quality juried art fair.

Located on the streets surrounding the historic Burton Carillon Tower and the tree-lined central campus of the University of Michigan, the Street Art Fair presents consistently high quality, all original work.

The Street Art Fair is the only one of the Ann Arbor fairs to be named to AmericanStyle Magazine's list of Top-10 Art Fairs and is known for attracting collectors, corporate buyers and gallery representatives. The combined Ann Arbor

Art Fair draws more than 500,000 fairgoers from across the nation.

The 2013 Art Fair dates are Wednesday, July 18 through Saturday, July 20.

Submissions are being accepted via the online jury management site, ZAPApplication.org. To apply, artists must first register for a ZAPApplication account then complete the Street Art Fair's application. Applications will be accepted through midnight Jan. 15, 2013.

For more information, go to www.ArtFair.org.

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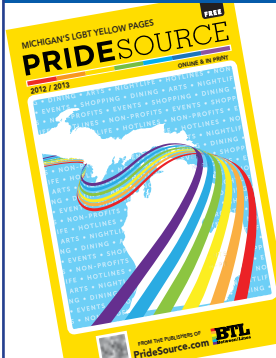
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Singing Out Loud



'Julius Caesar' Star David Daniels Of Ann Arbor Talks The Opera Closet

BY MICHAEL H. MARGOLIN

DETROIT – It began with castration: In the 17th and 18th centuries, young boys with exceptional voices were castrated so when they hit puberty, the nasty hormones would be inhibited and the high, sweet voice would be retained but with adult lung power. They were called castrati and sang opera in high, womanly voices.

They were the rock stars of their time, and this was the Baroque period in opera.

In Handel operas, castrati sang the heroic men's parts and, in parts of Italy where women were not allowed to perform on the stage, sometimes in the role of women. Michigan Opera Theatre's "Julius Caesar" ("Giulio Cesare") dates from 1724 and is the first time that MOT has ventured into this epic operatic form now a staple in the great opera houses. (It will be sung in Italian with supertitles.)

But the practice fell out of favor, and young men kept their integrity and mezzo-sopranos took over the roles

In the 20th century, the countertenor voice – sometimes compared to castrati – began to be heard in the land. These high, often fluted and sometimes thin voices were not engineered by medical intervention but very high tenors who sang more in head tones – a kind of falsetto voice.

But at the end of the century came a new voice.

In the 1990s, David Daniels completed his study at the Cincinnati Conservatory and came to the University of Michigan. He studied with George Shirley, one of the few African-American tenors to achieve an international reputation. "He came to study with me as a tenor; he had a good quality voice," says Shirley by phone from Ann Arbor.

But Daniels was not content. "It was a disaster technically," Daniels says between rehearsals of "Julius Caesar" at the Detroit Opera House, in which he sings the role of the Roman General in the time of Cleopatra's Egypt. "I was not happy how it felt technically."

"A month before graduation he came in for a lesson," remembers Shirley. "He was morose. He



David Daniels makes his MOT debut in the title role of the Michigan Opera Theatre's "Julius Caesar" that opens Nov. 10 at the Detroit Opera House. Photo: Courtesy MOT

said to me, 'Listen to this piece,'" a recording made at a party the night before of a mezzo-soprano aria. As Daniels recalls, he said that the recording was of "a friend of mine, see what you think of her." Shirley recalls that listening to the recording, he recognized Daniels and said: "Sing in that voice." And so the world's preeminent countertenor emerged.

Before he committed, he called his parents. Born in South Carolina to two singing teachers, Daniels recalls, "I wanted to sing since I was born."

In his new voice, according to Shirley, Daniels gave "a stunning graduation recital (in 1993)... and came back as a guest artist" a few years later to sing the role of Oberon in Britten's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." I saw one of those performances and was non-plussed: Here was a virile, handsome, husky man singing in a glorious

high voice with power – something I had never heard before. Wife Linda agreed.

When he did a concert for David DiChiera, MOT's general director, Shirley was in the audience and reports that "They were shocked to hear a full grown man with the voice of a woman."

To clarify: Usually, in the 20th century, the roles of men in the Baroque works were sung by mezzo sopranos; there were just a few countertenors, but without the full equivalent of a dramatic voice. Daniels, though, according to Shirley, "sang with a vibrato and dramatic instinct," vibrato being the term used to describe the variation in pitch of a musical note, unlike the child-like, unwavering tone of the castrati. The vibrato is part and parcel of operatic singing in the subsequent operatic periods – Classical, Romantic, Verismo and, generally, on today's operatic stage.

PREVIEW

Julius Caesar

7:30 p.m. Nov. 10, 14, 16, 17; and 2:30 p.m. Nov. 18

Michigan Opera Theatre at Detroit Opera House

1526 Broadway St., Detroit.

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www.Motopera.org

So Daniels brought modern singing to a nearly moribund category and then some: "The gold standard among countertenors," according to the Chicago Tribune.

Daniels has been singing in that voice for some 20 years and has been a sensation around the world in the operas of the Baroque period. And, as he said with confidence of the comparison to the countertenor sound and a woman's voice, "There is no such thing as a female countertenor."

Daniels, with his shock of dark hair, beard and eyeglasses, is one of a kind; he came out of the tenor closet just as "he makes no bones about the fact he's gay," Shirley says. One reason he is happy to be rehearsing and singing here in Detroit is to stay in Ann Arbor with his partner Scott, who is studying chorale conducting at the University of Michigan. When not performing or studying, he and his partner live in Atlanta.

"Not a whole lot of guys would have the courage to" base a career on singing in a "female" sounding voice, says Shirley. "He's got balls." (No pun intended.)

Recently, rising young tenor Noah Stewart made his third appearance with MOT. He, too, is out of the closet and sang the virile tenor role in "The Pearl Fishers" in April 2012. He acknowledged that some male opera singers who are gay do not acknowledge it publicly. Says Daniels, "There are singers who feel that the closet is necessary for their career – singing the dark-voiced roles" associated in the public's mind with masculinity. There is no judgment made, but as Oscar Wilde famously said: "Be yourself, the others are taken."

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The OutField

Chris Billig Is Gay For Soccer

BY DAN WOOG

The “gay soccer” stories come fast and furious.

* Major League Soccer sponsors Spirit Day, encouraging players and fans to wear something purple, drawing attention to bullying and LGBT youth.

* FC Edmonton goalkeeper – and staunch straight ally Lance Parker – is a finalist for Cosmopolitan Magazine’s 2012 “Bachelor of the Year” award.

* Openly gay player David Testo throws out the first ball at a Toronto Blue Jays game. Not coincidentally, it’s the first home appearance for Yunel Escobar after being suspended for writing “Tu ere maricon” – an anti-gay epithet – on his eye black. Escobar was also fined \$82,000 – which went straight to GLAAD and the You Can Play Project.

* A lesbian couple from Colorado flies to England, and has a civil partnership ceremony at Liverpool’s famed Anfield Stadium. The couple – longtime Liverpool fans – are feted by the team, which recently hired a “social inclusion officer.”

* Former Arsenal and MLS star Freddie Ljungberg talks about being taunted as “gay” after appearing in a Calvin Klein underwear ad.

* Out U.S. national women’s team coach Pia Sundhage retires – and is honored at her final match with a video, songs and a victory lap.

All those stories – and many more – are featured on the home page of Gay4Soccer.com. The brainchild of Chris Billig, it (and its companion Twitter feed) are proud examples of the enormous impact social media now has on gay sports.

Billig is a rabid soccer fan. He loves the international game, and the American pro leagues. But – like many gay men – he did not grow up playing sports, or hanging out with jocks.

In fact, he says, while growing up in Pennsylvania he was not even a spectator. He went to college intending to be a teacher, but got involved in political work. His current job is in information technology.

As a teenager, Billig was “a soccer-phobe.” But during college, while student teaching in England, his students taught him a bit about the game. “These little 8-year-olds had me supporting West Ham,” he says, referring to the London club.

Two years ago, living in Austin, Texas, a friend took him to a local theater. World Cup matches were shown on a large screen. “The spectacle, the hype, the anthems, the stories of the players” – all, Billig says, drew him in.

Yet as he scoured soccer websites and readidiscussion boards, Billig could



Chris Billig at the 2012 Castrol USA Media Cup.

not find much to relate to “from my perspective as a gay man,” he says. The soccer coverage on gay sites was limited to “pretty pictures.” He was frustrated that the accompanying information did not even get important facts right.

When Billig and his gay friends watch soccer, he says, “we balance the two parts of our lives. We admire the players, but we also admire the game.”

Billig started Gay4Soccer.com as a news site. He recruited writers, who posted from a broad range of angles. There were news stories, analysis, light pieces and – yes – photos of hot-looking athletes.

When former Montreal Impact midfielder David Testo came out, Billig wondered about other players. “What if someone else is thinking of coming out, but doesn’t know what the atmosphere would be like?” he thought. “How would they know who on their team would be supportive?”

Billig created an ally list. It grew rapidly. He then added a “pledge.” Signers promised to “make soccer a welcome, inviting and inclusive place for everyone — for those participating in the sport, those attending matches and for those working or volunteering in it — while making a deliberate effort to reach out to GLBT people. We will work with all these groups to ensure they have a voice, and to challenge unacceptable behavior, including working to eliminate homophobic language from the game.”

The hundreds of signers include current and former players, front office executives, the media, even entire teams and their fan clubs.

The reaction, Billig says, has been “really, really positive. I’m flabbergasted. I’ve gotten virtually nothing negative at all.”

Gay4Soccer added a popular Twitter feed. Followers of the website and tweets include players and fans at all levels. Billig says he’s heard from some Development Academy (top-tier) youth players.

On a personal level, he’s used his own site to connect with a gay soccer team in the Austin area.

“Social media is a great connector of people,” he notes. Soccer, he says, is particularly suited to social media. “Soccer players are very accessible. They’re grounded. You’re able to chat with them on a personal level.”

Gay4Soccer has carved out a nice niche. It too is accessible. It connects gay and straight players and fans, tying them together from youth to the pros.

Plus, it’s got a killer tag line: “Because soccer isn’t gay, but once in a while it kinda is.”

Dan Woog is a journalist, educator, soccer coach, gay activist, and author of the “Jocks” series of books on gay male athletes. Visit his website at www.danwoog.com. He can be reached care of this publication or at OutField@qsyndicate.com.



Eric Gutman and Sonja Marquis in Tipping Point Theatre's "Ordinary Days." Photo: Howard and Charlotte Meyer

Tipping Point's 'Ordinary Days' Isn't Your Ordinary Musical

BY JENN MCKEE

The intimate musical now playing at Tipping Point Theatre may be titled "Ordinary Days," but the production is hardly run-of-mill.

Focused on four New Yorkers – an assistant to an incarcerated artist; a frustrated grad student; and a couple struggling to adjust to living together – the 90-minute, intermission-free musical shows how they affect and alter each other's life, sometimes without even meeting.

Adam Gwon created the show's music and lyrics, and the latter clearly outline the former. For the songs' words do wonders to establish character and progress the story, often in witty, surprising and poignant ways. The music, meanwhile, is pleasant enough, but the songs tend to blend all together, making none of them particularly memorable.

They are, however, pretty well performed (minus very occasional pitch issues at Sunday's matinee performance) by TPT's strong cast. Eric Gutman and Sonja Marquis play the show's couple, Jason and Claire, who feel as though they're growing apart, despite the fact that they've just moved in together. One of the best scenes between the two is "Fine," which shows their characters, already feeling anxious about the relationship, gently tearing at each other about bringing the right wine to a dinner party ("Fine, I'll bring the red/

REVIEW

Ordinary Days

Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Thursday-Sunday through Dec. 9, plus Wednesday, Nov. 28. \$29-\$32. 248-347-0003.

www.tippingpointtheatre.com

You bring the white/ That way I'll still get drunk/ You'll still be right"), and about what route the taxi should take. The humor, sadness and truth of the number speak volumes to the sense of estrangement that entraps them.

Christopher L. Tucker, playing the artist's assistant, takes what could be a twee role and makes Warren plucky and charming – particularly in scenes when Warren's a bit maddeningly sunny. And the comical contrast between Warren and caustic grad student Deb, played by Kryssy Becker, is absolutely priceless. Though Becker's character is familiar – the fenced-in small-town girl who comes to New York to become something bigger or better than she would have been in her hometown – the way she performed numbers like "Dear Professor Thompson/Life Story" drew me in by way of laughter and compassion. By show's end, Deb was the character I connected to most.

Director Brian P. Sage ensures that this intimate musical fills, but doesn't overload, Tipping Point's intimate space, bringing out both the show's humor and

its gentle, sometimes subtle insights into humanity. Plus, in a sung-through show where clarity is king, music director Jeremy Ryan Mossman does outstanding work, letting even the slightest nuances shine through, and providing wholly unobtrusive, sensitive accompaniment onstage.

Joel Klain's set design, with Dana Naughton's props design, features graffiti, hanging road signs, a large, framed, painted cityscape, a mini-fire escape, a ventilation pipe and more, providing a kind of mashed-up, versatile urban playground. Suzanne Young's costume design affectingly informs our sense of the characters, particularly where Deb is concerned. And Chantel Pascente's lighting design thoughtfully guides our focus, so that we don't miss even the smallest moment.

And "Ordinary Days" is a show with a lot of small moments – but two big moments, one visual, one revelatory, come near the end, and both hit the mark beautifully.

Strangely, despite the modest scope of the show, I was reminded of "Avenue Q" several times while watching "Ordinary." Though "Ordinary" is far less snarky than "Q" (and has neither puppets nor gleeful crudeness), both shows feature a handful of young New Yorkers trying to find themselves in the middle of an overwhelming crowd.

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Editor's Pick

Quick dialogue, fast-paced scenes and zany characters are common elements for a good farce, and Stagecrafters' production of "Meanwhile Back on the Couch" has them all and more. Add some stage debuts and an incredible set design into the mix, and the formula makes for a fresh, fun and "feel good" show. This farcical comedy runs through Nov. 17 at the Baldwin Theatre in downtown Royal Oak.

A comedy performed in three acts, psychiatrist Victor Karleen (Alan Longstreet) struggles financially to keep his posh office apartment and provide for his fiancée's (Sarah Lovy) expensive tastes.

This comedy marks Rich Wilson's directorial debut with Stagecrafters. "I fell in love with the play in high school and have always wanted to see it come to life on the 'big stage.' In a season billed as 'feel good,' I thought this show was a perfect fit," says Wilson.

Advance tickets are \$16 (Thursdays) and \$18 (Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays). Tickets may be purchased by calling 248-541-6430.

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Broke-ology \$10-12. WSU Studio Theatre, 4743 Cass Avenue, Detroit. Nov. 15 - 24. 313-577-2972. www.wsustudio.com

Don Giovanni \$10-26. UM School of Music Opera Theatre at Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 N. Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. Nov. 8 - Nov. 11. 734-764-2538. http://tickets.music.umich.edu

Ruined \$5-20. Western Michigan University Department of Theatre at The University Theatre, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo. Nov. 8 - 18. 269-387-6222. www.WMUTheatre.com

Spring Awakening Not suitable for children under the age of 17. \$10-18. Oakland University Dept. of Music, Theatre and Dance, Varner Studio Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Rd., Rochester. Nov. 8 - 18. 248-370-3013. www.oakland.edu/tickets

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A Little Night Music Previews Nov. 15-18 & 21 (\$27-\$37). \$30-\$46. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron, Ann Arbor. Nov. 15 - Dec. 30. 734-663-0681. www.performancenetwork.org

A Paradise of Fools \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door; Nov. 10 is special Black Tie Event for \$75. . Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Through Dec. 23. 313-868-1347. www.detroitreptheatre.com

Antigone in New York \$25. The Elizabeth Theater, Park Bar, 2040 Park Ave., Detroit. Nov. 9 - Jan. 12. 313-444-2294. www.ParkBarDetroit.com

Cancer! The Musical \$25. Planet Ant Theatre at Boll Family YMCA Theatre, 1401 Broadway St., Detroit. Nov. 9 - Dec. 15. 313-365-4948. www.brownpapertickets.com

Champions \$10. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff St., Hamtramck. Through Nov. 10. 313-365-4948. www.planetant.com

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

Dreamtigers \$10 adult, \$5 children. PuppetART at Detroit Puppet Theatre, 25 E. Grand River, Detroit. Through Nov. 24. 313-961-7777. www.puppetart.org

Ebenezer Previews Nov. 15-18 & 23 (\$15). \$20-25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. Nov. 15 - Dec. 23. 517-655-7469. www.WilliamstonTheatre.org

Fully Charged \$13-82. The Palace of Auburn Hills, 5 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. Nov. 7 - 11. 800-745-3000. www.Ticketmaster.com

Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet) Plays in rotating repertory. \$12-30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Nov. 16 - Feb. 9. 313-577-2972. www.Hilberry.com

Improv at the Point \$15. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 Cady St., Northville. 7 p.m. Nov. 11. 248-347-0003. www.Tippingpointtheatre.com

Julius Caesar \$25-125. Michigan Opera Theatre at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. Nov. 10 - Nov. 18. 313-237-SING. www.Motopera.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. Through Nov. 11. 248-788-2900. www.JETTheatre.org

Ordinary Days \$29-\$. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Through Dec. 9. 248-347-0003. www.tippingpointtheatre.com

Stomp \$20-45. Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. Nov. 16 - Nov. 17. 586-286-2222. www.Macomb.edu

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

Sweeney Todd \$18-20. What A Do Theatre, 4071 W. Dickman Road, Springfield. Through Nov. 17. 269-282-1953. www.WhatADo.org

Thankstaking \$7-10. Crawspace Eviction at Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Nov. 9 - Nov. 10. 269-599-7390. www.Crawspacetheatre.com

The Comedy of Errors \$6-12. Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Company at Dog Story Theatre, 7 Jefferson Ave., Grand Rapids. Nov. 15 - Nov. 18. www.DogStoryTheater.com

The Empire Builders \$10-20. UDM Theatre Company at Marygrove Theatre, 8425 W. McNichols, Detroit. Nov. 9 - 18. 313-993-3270. http://Theatre.UDMercy.edu

The Homosexuals \$10-20. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Nov. 16 - Dec. 10. www.TheRingwald.com

Woyzeck \$10-15. The New Theatre Project at Mix Studio Theater, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Through Nov. 10. 734-961-8704. www.TheNewTheatreProject.org

ART 'N' AROUND

Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church "Ridge Fine Art & Handmade Wares Show" The 14th Annual Ridge Fine Art &

Handmade Wares Show is a celebration of Michigan artists. \$2 Admission, free parking, complimentary treats and refreshments. Start holiday shopping and support local talent. Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church, 2441 Pinecrest St., Ferndale. 10 a.m. Nov. 17. 248-398-8107. Facebook.com/pages/Ridge-Fine-Art-Show/214775811895328

Michigan State University Museum "Echoes of Silent Spring: 50 Years of Environmental Awareness" The MSU Museum revisits the publication of the landmark book, Silent Spring by Rachel Carson, credited with launching the modern environmental movement. Michigan State University Museum, 409 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing. June 1-Nov. 30. Museum.msu.edu/?q=node/527

Michigan State University Museum "Cruisin' the Fossil Freeway" Brings together the best of the MSU Museum's fossil collection and the fossil-inspired artwork of celebrated artist Ray Troll to explore questions about evolution, extinction, and early life on Earth. Michigan State University Museum, 409 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing. Oct. 6-Dec. 30. Museum.msu.edu

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit "Vision in a Cornfield" Based on an unexpected encounter shared by artists Mike Kelley and Cary Loren, which took place in a cornfield in Wixom, Michigan. 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Sep. 7-Dec. 30. 313-832-6622. Mocadoetroit.org

The Gallery Project "Grammar of the Elite" 35 local, regional, and national artists focus on the language, networks, and power of the informal rulers of America: their obfuscation and mystique, ownership and control of institutions and power structures, and the determination of context in which we all function. The Gallery Project, 215 S. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. Oct. 11-Nov. 18. 734-997-7012. TheGalleryProject.com

Toledo Museum of Art "Made in Hollywood" Showcasing more than 90 prints by the most important photographers working in Hollywood from 1920XX1960, celebrating the finest portraits and still photography drawn from the London-based archive of John Kobal. Toledo Museum of Art, 2445 Monroe St., Toledo. Oct. 7-Jan. 30. 419-255-8000. ToledoMuseum.org

University of Michigan Museum of Art "Benjamin West: General Wolfe and the Art of the Empire" Benjamin West's iconic painting The Death of General Wolfe (1776) depicts the death of James Wolfe, the British commander at the 1759 Battle of Quebec, one of Great Britain's most famous military victories, during what in this country is known as the French and Indian War. University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Sep. 22-Jan. 13. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu



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by

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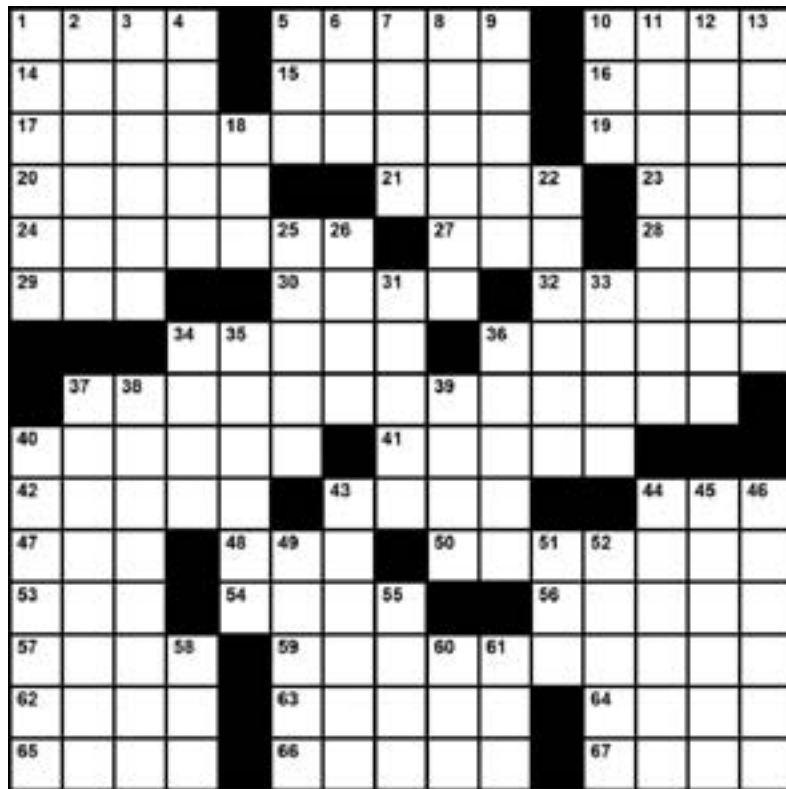
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Pandering To Male Gay Voters



Across

- 1 "Nuts!"
- 5 Kind of basket
- 10 Force in "Milk," for short
- 14 Vehicle for the high C's?
- 15 Porn director Chi Chi
- 16 Kind of loser
- 17 With 19-Across, attire of Joe Biden, at meetings, in a joke
- 19 See 17-Across
- 20 Anesthesia of old
- 21 Vermont, to Vivien
- 23 R. E. Lee's nation
- 24 Star wearer
- 27 Part of a Stein line
- 28 "___ was saying ..."
- 29 Abe Lincoln's boy
- 30 Very plentiful
- 32 Trojan rival
- 34 Trial figure
- 36 Govt. notes
- 37 With 57-Across, comment by Barack Obama about Biden
- 40 Margaret Mead interviewee
- 41 Slight variation
- 42 Paces in races
- 43 Matches a poker bet
- 44 "___ Were a Rich Man"
- 47 Summer hrs. at Key West

- 48 La leader
- 50 Doyle's lover
- 53 Here, in Le Havre
- 54 Casa chamber
- 56 Hacks it
- 57 See 37-Across
- 59 Host of "The Daily Show," where this joke was told
- 62 Rubik of cube fame
- 63 Colette's love
- 64 Peace Nobelister Wiesel
- 65 Silence for Saint-Saens
- 66 "Daisy Miller" author James
- 67 Bottomless

Down

- 1 Most like some porn
- 2 "Queen of Soul" Franklin
- 3 Supported Metropolitan Community Church, e.g.
- 4 It may stick out in front of a cavalryman
- 5 Initial course at lunch?
- 6 Sound of the New York Liberty cheerleaders
- 7 Lake traveled by Ohio ferries
- 8 Em's title
- 9 Painter of ballerinas
- 10 Teakettle sound

- 11 Philosopher Michel
- 12 How a queen may walk
- 13 Holds up
- 18 Paul Newman role in "Exodus"
- 22 Designated
- 25 Refrigerator gas
- 26 Squealer
- 31 Choreographer Bob
- 33 Circumcision, for one
- 34 One-armed bandit's opening
- 35 Says "Bottoms up!"
- 36 Refuse
- 37 Like some gay porn
- 38 They may be worn on one's sleeve
- 39 "That stinks!"
- 40 Rod on a screen
- 43 Oscar Wilde tragedy
- 44 Run through
- 45 Like Spenser's Queene
- 46 It may be under the tongue
- 49 Indian chief
- 51 Frozen dessert
- 52 Dragged behind
- 55 Soon, to Shakespeare
- 58 Decimal point
- 60 Kerouac's "Big ___"
- 61 Give it a go

Solution on pg. 31

Adopt Tate, a 1-year-old Pit Bull Terrier/Mix

This handsome Red Brindle fellow is looking for his forever home after misplacing his old one. He already knows basic commands and walks well on the leash. Now all he needs is a fun-loving family who will enjoy teaching him some new tricks. Tate is a happy-go-lucky guy who promises to make you smile everyday!

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SHOULD'VE CHECKED HER WITH THE LUGGAGE.

HUH. LUGGAGE HANDLER CHICK'S WAVING AT ME.

HI!

A Couple of guys

Dave Grossman

"No No!"

I JUST GOT THE STRANGEST TEXT FROM ANDY!

HE SAID HE AND TIM AND MARIA ARE HANGING OUT IN A BAR... WITH A PROSTITUTE!

WHAT?!

HE EVEN SAID, "YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHAT WE'RE DOING."

HE'S RIGHT, I WOULDN'T HAVE GUESSED THAT. NOT EVEN FROM YOUR BROTHER.

I HEARD THEY'RE IN A 3-PM. DID THEY NEED ANOTHER WOMAN? IS MARIA BI, TOO?

ARE YOU SURE THAT'S WHAT HE SAID?

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HE SAID.

...WELL, EXCEPT HE USED A SLANG WORD FOR "PROSTITUTE."

I'LL BET ERIC WAS SURPRISED WHEN YOU TOLD HIM ABOUT THIS!

Classifieds

101-ANNOUNCEMENTS LGBT AA MEETINGS

- Ann Arbor-Friday**
7:30 pm, St. Andrews Episcopal Church Gay AA, 306 N. Division St. Closed/Discussion.
- Bloomfield Hills-Thursday**
7:00 pm ,Sobriety in The Hills Gay AA, Kirk in The Hills Church, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd. Closed/Discussion.
- Detroit-Tuesday / Friday**
8:00 pm, Downtown Gay AA, Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 West Fort St. Closed/Discussion (Open 1st Friday of every month).
- Farmington Hills-Monday**
8:00 pm, Suburban West Gay AA, Universalist Unitarian Church, 25301 Halstead (Between 10 & 11 Mile Roads) Closed / Discussion.
- Ferndale-Monday / Wednesday / Friday**
11:30 a.m., Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.
- Ferndale-Wednesday**
8 p.m., Diversity Wednesday Gay AA, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 540 W. Lewiston @ Livernois. Closed/Discussion.
- Ferndale-Saturday**
1 p.m. Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.
- 8 p.m. Go After Your Sobriety Gay AA, Drayton Ave Presbyterian Church, 2441 Pincrest. Closed/Discussion.
- Livonia-Friday**
8 p.m., West Side Story's Gay AA, Providence Medical Center, 7 Mile & Newburgh. Closed/Discussion.
- Warren-Monday**
7:30 p.m., Eastside Serenity Gay AA, Faith-Trinity United Church of Christ, 12221 Martin Rd. East of Hoover. Closed/Discussion.

110 ANNOUNCEMENTS - SPIRITUAL SERVICE

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Solution to puzzle from page 30

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Deep Inside Hollywood

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

Jodie Foster to direct money monster

Jodie Foster's next turn behind the camera – her fourth as director – is called “Money Monster” and it already sounds tailor-made to star the Oscar-winner herself. The story involves a financial advice-giving TV personality who, after delivering a series of bad tips, is taken hostage live on the air by a man who lost all his money following the advisor's lead. In turn, the life-or-death kidnapping becomes a “Network”-style ratings sensation. Casting is underway (nobody confirmed just yet) and production is set to begin in 2013. But let's talk fantasy rosters for a minute. Wouldn't it be cool if this lead character were a Suze Orman-gone-bad? And wouldn't it be amazing if Foster played her? With Michelle Rodriguez as the hostage-taker? And Lily Tomlin the negotiator? And Latifah the worried spouse? And Amber Heard and Heather Matarazzo and Kate Moennig part of the SWAT team? Casting department, please make this early Christmas wish a reality. You're Hollywood, after all; dreams are your business.



Jodie Foster at the DGA Awards. Photo: S. Bukley

Like Tyra, only not

Celebrities: you like them so much you'll even watch sitcoms based on their lives. Or at least that's what TV executives are banking future shows on. Tyra Banks, celebrity fashion stylist Rachel Zoe, songwriter Diane Warren and “Modern Family”'s Ty Burrell are all involved in sitcom pilots about themselves, with plots based on incidents from their own lives. Obviously, that doesn't necessarily mean that the main characters in these show are named Tyra, Rachel, Diane and Ty, but the idea is to create laughs and future syndication deals from the lives of really successful people, brands the public knows and follows. And, of course, none of this is unheard of. NBC, after all, scored prestige points, if not ratings, with seven seasons of “30 Rock,” loosely based on Tina Fey's years as head writer of “Saturday Night Live.” So there you go: hope. Wait. What's that? What about the disastrous 2001 sitcom “Emeril,” you ask? Well... sometimes... look, let's agree to pretend that one never happened.

Araki's 'White Bird' set to fly

The resolutely independent, often iconoclastic queer filmmaker Gregg Araki is getting his next project together and it's called “White Bird.” And in what is now part of the director's working model, he's hiring a cast of young, pretty up-and-comers to work through his script. The story is about a young woman (Shailene Woodley) whose life careens out of control after the disappearance of her mother (Eva Green). Woodley is well known from “Secret Life of The American Teenager” and “The Descendants” (for which, it should be remembered, she was the recipient of the 2012 Cannes Film Festival Chopard

“Female Revelation” Trophy). Her male co-star, meanwhile, is the soon-to-be-everywhere-at-once Shiloh Fernandez. Not a household name yet by any means, Fernandez was last seen in the box-office bomb “Red Riding Hood,” but “White Bird” and five other films – including “The East” with Ellen Page and Alexander Skarsgard, as well as 2013's “Evil Dead” remake – ought to go a long way toward raising his Hollywood profile. Keep your arthouse eyes peeled for this one sometime next year.

Casey Wilson: writing and acting 'Ass Backwards'

“Gay Dude,” director Chris Nelson's first feature, is complete though not yet released. But he's already at work on his next film, titled “Ass Backwards,” written by the “Bride Wars” team of Casey Wilson and fellow writer-actor June Diane Raphael. A female buddy road-trip comedy starring Wilson and Raphael as best friends on a quest to win a pageant they always lost as children, it features Alicia Silverstone, Vincent D'Onofrio and Jon Cryer, as well as a cast of supporting lesbians (part of the action involves the women stopping at an all-female commune where singer/comic Lea DeLaria performs something akin to a striptease). And if none of this news means anything to you because you're not yet aware of Wilson's comic chops, then while you're waiting for the film to hit theaters you can watch her nearly-insane behavior weekly on “Happy Endings” as the manic best friend of network television's most slovenly homosexual character, Max (played by Adam Pally). And you should; it's the “Friends” where everybody talks really fast.

Romeo San Vicente is a fan of all happy endings. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.

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Between Ourselves KGLRC Program Director Jay Maddock

BY BENJAMIN JENKINS

On Oct. 15, the Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center announced that, after an extensive search, Jay Maddock was hired as the center's new Program Director. BTL sat down with Maddock to talk about what has brought him to this new position and what he has planned for the KGLRC.

1 Tell us about the Calhoun County Coalition for Inclusion. What purpose is it intended to serve?

Calhoun County Coalition for Inclusion, or 3Ci as we affectionately call it, is a coalition of faith leaders, medical professionals, students, teachers, youth and community members who are dedicated to creating an inclusive and welcoming community for LGBTQ youth and adults alike in Calhoun County. We hold annual events such as Peace Prom, a dance held at an open and affirming church that is

with any program, strengths and weaknesses are discovered when the program goes from proposal to action. I want to strengthen the Triangle Mentorship Program, by equipping

our adult mentors with some more training on youth facilitation and youth empowerment as well as adding some new structure to the program's calendar. I think the Triangle Mentorship Program is an amazing initiative and I can't wait for it to get bigger and better over the years.

4 What brought you to work in LGBTQ advocacy?

I got involved in LGBTQ advocacy as an ally in high school during my freshman year. My

parents taught me that everyone should be treated equally and I didn't think it was fair that people were getting teased and bullied in school just because of their perceived or actual sexual orientation. As I got older, I realized it wasn't just about bullying – discrimination was written into our legislation, which lit a fiery passion for social justice that won't blow out. Of course, coming out as transgender to myself and eventually publicly after denying it for so long, has also contributed to my interest in LGBTQ advocacy.

2 You've mentioned feeling eager to amp up transgender programming at the center, as the transgender community has been overlooked at times. What kind of programming are you hoping to bring to KGLRC?

To be perfectly honest, I have some ideas for programming but I won't know how those ideas can fit into the KGLRC until I have a better understanding of the current programs from the inside. I think the KGLRC has some great programs, like the Triangle Mentorship Program and it's many committees like the Health and Wellness committee, the Queer Women Committee, and Transcend – the transgender committee. What I'm excited to do is ensure that we don't leave out any group of people when we create programming, and that we do more for groups that might have unintentionally not been considered for programming in the past.

parents taught me that everyone should be treated equally and I didn't think it was fair that people were getting teased and bullied in school just because of their perceived or actual sexual orientation. As I got older, I realized it wasn't just about bullying – discrimination was written into our legislation, which lit a fiery passion for social justice that won't blow out. Of course, coming out as transgender to myself and eventually publicly after denying it for so long, has also contributed to my interest in LGBTQ advocacy.

5 Any idea what your first day on the job, Nov. 1, will look like?

(Laughs) I have no idea. I imagine it's going to be a busy day and, for me, the beginning of my next amazing chapter. If Zach and David are reading this, I am hoping it involves a lot of coffee and bagels! I look forward to working with all of the amazing community members I already have met and know, and am excited to start working with all of the incredible community members I haven't yet had the opportunity to meet. Please feel free to stop by the KGLRC to introduce yourself - and sign up to volunteer!

3 As Program Director, you'll also be working with the Triangle Mentorship Program. Can you tell us a bit about the program and what you'd like to strengthen/change once you're on the job?

The Triangle Mentorship Program pairs youth with an LGBTQ identified adult professional and an ally identified adult professional to allow the youth to have two mentors for the school year. It premiered last year and I was actually a mentor for a (lucky) high school student. Just

For more information about upcoming Triangle Mentorship opportunities, stop by KGLRC is located at 629 Pioneer St., Suite 102 in Kalamazoo or go to www.KGLRC.org. 3Ci meets at 5 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month at the Planned Parenthood Battle Creek Health Center. For more information about 3Ci, go to www.PPMSM3ci.org.



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