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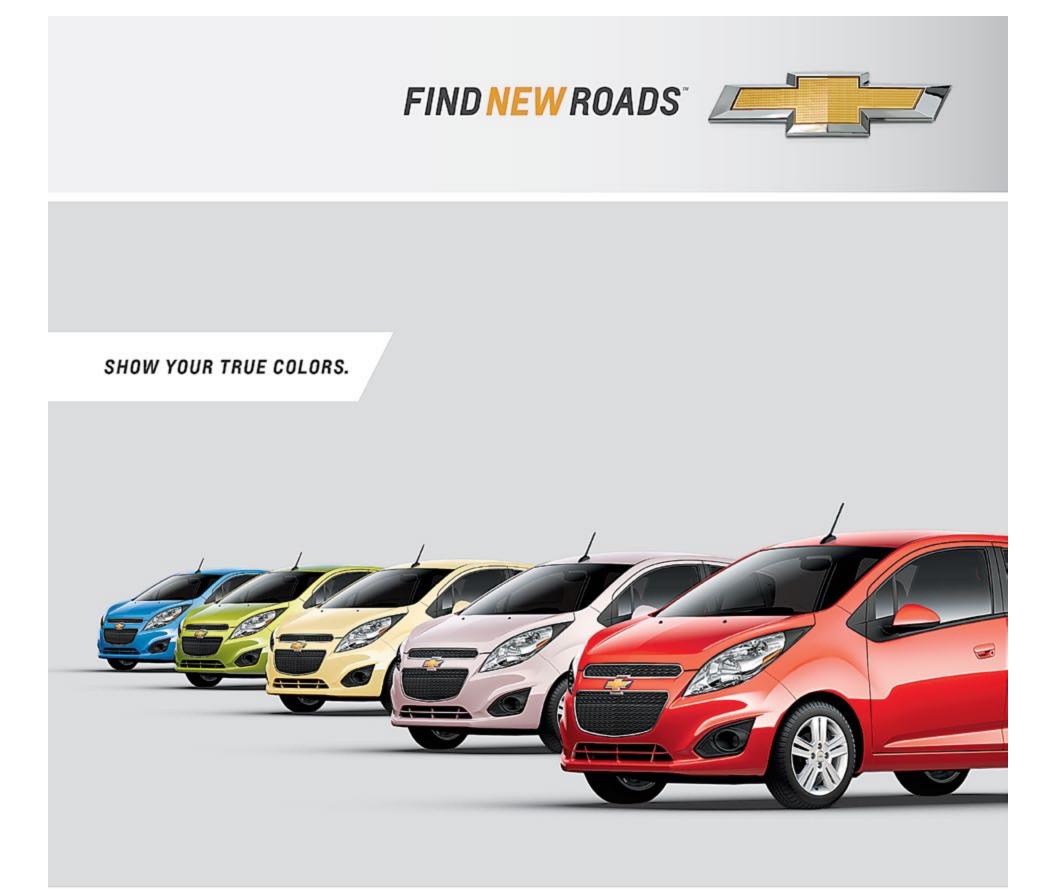
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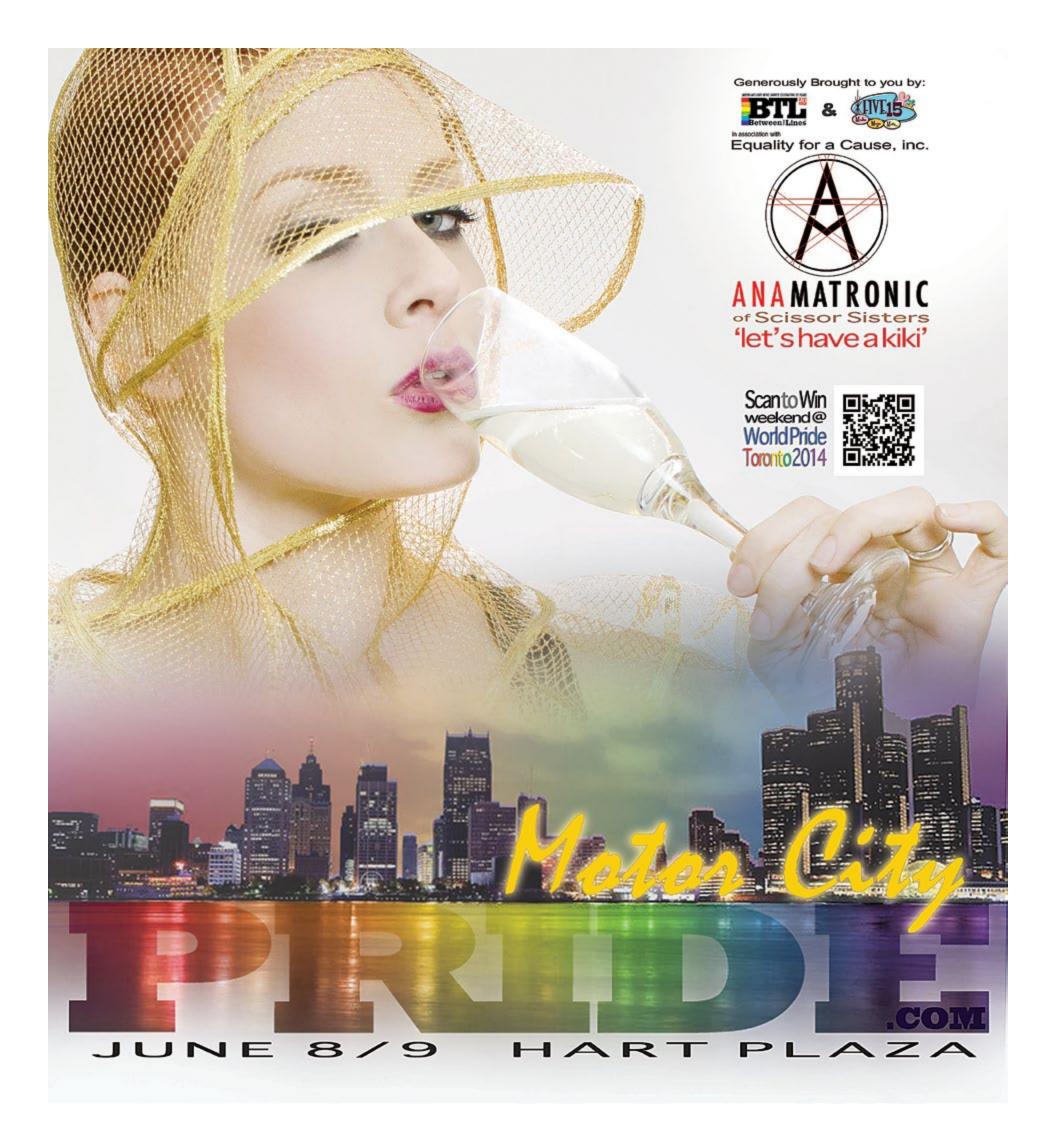


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2013/2014 Yellow Pages

Pick up a copy of the new Pride Source Yellow Pages this weekend, handed out at the gates of Motor City Pride!

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Pride Season Volunteers

BTL is seeking volunteers for a community outreach project throughout the June Pride season. Volunteers will work with BTL to collect contact information at Pride festivals who are interested in furthering nondiscrimination policies.

E-mail Ben@pridesource.com for more information or to sign up.



Show Us The 'Hart' Of Pride

Tweet and share your photos with us from this weekend's festivities and we'll collect our favorites for an online album capturing the "Hart" of Pride!

COVER



Illustration: Benjamin Jenkins Photo: Crystal Proxmire Special thanks to Jose Zamudio

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Balloons, Powdered Paint, Politics At Ferndale Pride

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

FERNDALE - Pride month kicked off in Michigan with Ferndale Pride June 1. The event brought over 6,000 people to the four square mile city which is home to the state's largest LGBT community center, an openly gay mayor and previous mayor, a clear nondiscrimination ordinance and many LGBT businesses and families

For the third year in a row, Ferndale Pride's focus was on a family-friendly festival with plenty of music and ways for the community to connect. But there was also a strong political element to the festivities, reminding people of the struggles LGBT people face and the need for allied and politician support.

Congressman Gary Peters helped open Ferndale Pride, with a speech about the historic end of the Don't Ask Don't Tell policy of 1,800 people signed a Unity defense. the US Military, the need to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act, and

said. "When I first got elected to the United States Congress in 2009, one of the first caucuses that I joined was the LGBT Caucus because it was the right thing to do and I'm proud to be part of that."

Among the booths was the Oakland County Democratic Party, and among the crowds Ferndale Mayor Dave Coulter collected signatures for his reelection campaign, and openly gay Southfield City Commissioner Jeremy Moss also networked with people about his plans to run in 2014 for the Michigan House of Representatives seat. That seat is currently held by Rudy Hobbs who is planning to run for Peters congressional seat in 2014, since Peters will be running for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by the retiring U.S. Sen. Carl Levin.

Also at Ferndale Pride over Michigan pledge to help raise

to stand up. "These are issues I for being gay. The coalition, Participants were sprayed with a We have parents, kids and allies care very deeply about," Peters with the help of BTL, will be at Pride festivals throughout the state gathering signatures for the cause. "This project represents the best in collaboration," said BTL publisher Jan Stevenson, who helped get people signed up. "All the Unity partners are working together, and we are helping them, to identify LGBT friendly voters in Michigan. This will be invaluable information when we gear up for the 2014 elections.

> The festival kicked off balloons into the air. Friday with photo shoot party at Affirmations to raise money for "Second Class Citizens," a documentary in progress to raise awareness about major issues facing the LGBT community including marriage, adoption, education, private organizations, religion, employment, donating blood, anti-bullying laws, housing,

The day began Saturday with

they ran past sponsored stations. They were also given a packet for themselves. By the time the festival officially opened at noon, the intersection of 9 Mile and Allen was turned into a rainbow colored path that was perfect for the festivities

led into a mass balloon launch, with over a dozen paint-covered Pride attendees sent multi-colored

Other groups were on hand to educate the public about various LGBT interests and issues. PFLAG Detroit members reached out to parents and loved ones of LGBT youth and all people who would like to know more about relating to the gay and transgender people they may know. President Tony DeOrio, who has been with homelessness and the gay panic PFLAG Detroit for about five years, said, "We have a warm, embracing, loving group. About awareness about the fact that in a 1,000 person Rainbow Run 50 to 60 people come each month the need for supporters of equality Michigan people can still be fired through the streets of Ferndale. and there is a lot of diversity.

cornstarch-based powder paint as of all different ages, races, and backgrounds. There are parents with transgender children and that has grown in the past few years." Each month the group hosts a different speaker, and then takes time for the families to talk, mingle and get support. Meetings are held the second Sunday of each month Congressman Peters' remarks at 2pm at The Lutheran Church of The Master, 3333 Coolidge Hwy, Trov

> Other groups included Transgender Michigan, National Organization for Women, Michigan AIDS Coalition, Dykes on Bikes, Motor City Bears, Dignity Detroit, FernCare, AIDS Walk Detroit and Higher Ground. In all there were about 75 organizations and vendors showing their wares at booths lined up and down Nine Mile Road.

For more on Ferndale Pride go to www. ferndalepride.org. For info on the rest of the Prides this month around the state, go to http://www.pridesource. com/guidearticle.html?article=60479.

BY CONGRESSMAN GARY PETERS



serving openly in our military.

honorably.

We have also seen action from the Obama Administration. Federal regulations now allow hospital patients to decide who has visitation rights and who can make medical decisions on their behalf, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or family makeup. Despite these significant advancements, there is still much work to do in the fight for equality. First and foremost, we need to roll back the discriminatory Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). While President Obama and Attorney General Holder have formally recognized that DOMA is unconstitutional and decided not to defend DOMA in court, the federal government has continued enforcement by denying federal benefits to the spouses of Americans in valid same-sex marriages.

Unfortunately, the Republican majority in the House opposes repeal, effectively blocking legislative action at this time. Republican leadership even appointed a

Historic Progress, More Work To Be Done

ince first being elected to Congress in 2008, I have fought for a better future **V** for the people of Michigan and for the principles I believe in. I fought to save

our auto industry, help small businesses get the loans they need to grow and create jobs, reform Wall Street, and cut wasteful spending. Besides being good policy, I believe backing these causes was simply the right thing to do.

This is the same approach I bring to LGBT equality. We have made historic progress in this fight. I have had the honor to work with my colleagues to enact legislation extending hate crimes protections to LGBT Americans and repealing the misguided "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) law which prevented LGBT soldiers from

The repeal of DADT was of deep, personal significance to me. As a former Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy Reserve, I served with many brave, patriotic, and dedicated men and women. I was never concerned about their sexual orientation, just their ability to serve the United States

We must allow our military to recruit and retain any qualified, patriotic, and courageous American who wants to serve our nation. I am proud that our Armed Forces implemented the repeal of DADT efficiently and professionally; I expected no less.

legal team to defend DOMA in court in place of the Department of Justice. This has cost upwards of \$3 million in legal bills at a time when Congress should be focused on creating jobs and putting our country on a sustainable fiscal path.

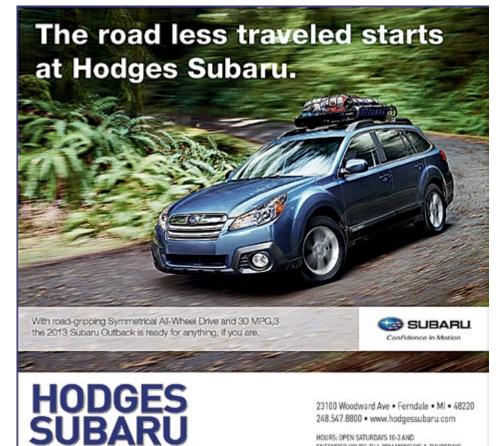
We are all waiting to see how the Supreme Court rules on the matter of DOMA's constitutionality – likely in late June. I am proud to have joined more than 200 of my colleagues in the House and Senate in filing an amicus curiae ("friend of the court") brief, arguing that the Supreme Court should strike down the law.

While the future of DOMA currently resides in the Supreme Court, I believe there are opportunities for bipartisan, legislative cooperation on equality. All students deserve to feel safe at school, regardless of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, or gender identity. Unfortunately, students who are, or are perceived to be LGBT are subjected to higher rates of discrimination, including bullying, intimidation, violence, and harassment. Surveys show that upwards of 90 percent of LGBT students have been bullied. This is harmful to both students and our educational system.

This is why I helped introduce the bipartisan Student Non-Discrimination Act (SNDA), which establishes a federal prohibition of discrimination in public schools based on actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, and provides victims with effective remedies modeled on Title IX. This legislation would also protect the friends and allies of LGBT students, who are frequently targeted for harassment themselves. Hate has no place in our schools. LGBT students should be able to attend school and get a quality education without fearing of harassment and intimidation.

We cannot rest in the wake of our progress toward equality. We must keep working to get rid of DOMA, enact SNDA, and achieve true equality. Throughout our nation's history, Americans from all walks of life came together to stand up for our own rights and those of our friends, neighbors, and loved ones. The work ahead of us will not be easy - but it is a necessary fight and one I know we will win. Our Constitution guarantees equal protection under law, and as a Member of Congress, I firmly believe it is my duty to defend the rights of all Americans. It is simply the right thing to do.

Democrat Gary Peters represents the 11th District in the U.S. House of Representatives. He recently announced that in 2014 he will run for the U.S. Senate seat that will be vacated by the retiring U.S. Sen. Carl Levin.



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13-Year-Old's Suicide Shocks Kalamazoo

BY BTL STAFF

On May 19, 13-year-old Isabella "Bella" Angelique Bruinekool of Kalamazoo took her own life. Just weeks before, she had uploaded a video to YouTube where she talked about herself, things she liked, and the fact that she was a lesbian. According to the video, she enjoyed



skateboarding and had five pets, plus multiple fish. She was an eighth grade honor roll student at Milwood Magnet School. Bruinekool only

posted one video, but she commented on many others

having to do with sexuality. "I want to know why they don't have a gay/lesbian part of sex Ed they act like there is no gay/lesbian people in the world," she commented on one. And "Your right little girl suck it haters go fuck off cause I was born this way [sic]" on another.

Her mother, Camille Bruinekool came forward about her daughter's death in hopes of spreading awareness about bullying. She told WWMT Channel 3, "My daughter was on a mission and that mission was to spread love in the schools and to take away the judgment and the pain that all of her friends felt," said Isabella's mother.

Channel 3 also reported that Kalamazoo Public Schools released the following statement:

"With the death of Isabella Bruinekool. Milwood Magnet School lost a bright and valued 8th grade student with her whole life in front of her. Clearly, this is a tragic story. We have no incident report in Isabella's file of Isabella being judged or claiming to have been judged. Isabella did not share concerns with any administrator at the school or, to the best of our knowledge, with any staff member at the school.

"Children everywhere judge one another, and can be rough on one another. In our diverse school district and our diverse community, we work to teach children that it is important to accept and appreciate differences. We will continue to work with programs and partners such as Gryphon Place, Peace Jam, Peace Pizzazz, Western Michigan University, and others to educate our children about the importance of acceptance and valuing of differences."

A celebration of Bella's life will be held at The Celery Flats Amphitheatre in Bi-Centennial Park, 7335 Garden Lane, Portage on June 23, at 2:30 p.m. In appreciation of Bella's great love of her pets and all animals, donations may be made in her memory to Kalamazoo County Humane Society, 4239 South Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49008. Friends may visit www. joldersma-klein.com to share a condolence message with the family.

Delta Township Begins Ordinance Consideration Process

BY TODD A. HEYWOOD

DELTA TWP. – The Delta Township Board of Trustees Monday heard from residents about a proposed comprehensive non-discrimination ordinance despite removing the proposal from the body's agenda.

The proposal, which is still in the discussion phase and does not include any introduced draft legislation, was slated for an end of the meeting Committee of the Whole, however, board members voted six to one to remove the item Monday night, but allow the 20 or so residents who attended to speak to them about the issue.

Trustee Douglas Fedewa made the motion to remove the item from the agenda saying, "I think this deserves our full attention.'

The board had met two weeks ago and reviewed the basic idea of an ordinance and had received ordinances from other municipalities. Fedewa was concerned that the board would not be able to have the full conversation on the ordinance he believes it deserves.

"I think our discussion would entail laborious and particularly long discussions." he told the board, noting that they would need to sift through other ordinances in order to decide what best worked for Delta Township.

Township Clerk Mary Clark, the sole no vote on the proposal, called the move "disrespectful" to citizens that had come to talk to the board.

"We're not solving anything tonight," she noted

Supervisor Kenneth Fletcher, who announced the initiative last month as part of a press event in which Delta and two other Lansing area townships announced plans to introduce nondiscrimination ordinances, said there was no rush to pass the ordinance.

Trustee Douglas Kosinski said he did not think the board was ready for "the full discussion." and called for more information.

"I would very much like to know how much we are dealing with a real versus a potential problem," he said. He added that he wanted to know what the incidence rate of allegations of discrimination was in the state. "I would like to see more hard information on the scope and nature of the problem."

At issue is the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity protections in the proposed ordinance,



The Delta Township Board of Trustees heard comments from residents June 3. BTL photo Todd Heywood.

which are currently not covered by Michigan's Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act. Earlier this year the Michigan Department complaints for discrimination - including of Civil Rights released a year-long two related to sexual orientation or gender investigation into discrimination against people in those categories and found that discrimination had "real," and "substantial"

Nathan Triplett, mayor pro-tem of the City of East Lansing, is spearheading of the issues through formal and informal the regional nondiscrimination ordinance mediation. strategy with One Capital Region. He was on hand Monday night to answer questions from the Delta officials on the impact of the East Lansing ordinance - the oldest non-discrimination law including sexual orientation in the country.

He said since 2001, the City's Human Relations Commission had received nine identity. None of the complaints went to a formal hearing. The Commission, to his knowledge, has never taken a complaint impacts on the economic future of the state. all the way through a hearing; instead, he said, the body is capable of solving many

> Triplett also noted that the Commission costs the city about \$2,000 a year including support staff time to operate.

> Following Triplett's presentation, the board seemed mollified and prepared for next steps.

Dems Go For Marriage In Michigan With Three New Bills

LANSING – Democrats Rebekah Warren of Ann Arbor, Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer of East Lansing, Bert Johnson of Highland Park and Virgil Smith of Detroit have introduced legislation May 29 into the State House that would remove the provision against same sex marriage from the state Constitution, and another bill that would recognize same sex marriages performed in other states.

Changing the Constitution would require 2/3 of the legislature, which is currently controlled by a Republican majority. In 2004 Michigan voters approved a Constitutional Amendment banning same sex marriage, which got 59 percent of the vote. Recent polling, however, shows that views have changed and opposition to same sex marriage is now at less than half.

In introducing the bills, Warren told fellow Representatives "Ideologies should no longer dictate a matter that would strengthen our families, our communities and our economies.'



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Funding Campaign Brings AIDS Service Agencies Together MAC And AIDS Partnership Michigan Join Forces With 'Red Ribbon Campaign'

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

The world of AIDS Service Organizations is not the same as it was in the 1990s. There are fewer agencies, with fewer resources, covering broader areas. In order to survive, organizations across the state know that the time has come to stop working in their own bubbles, collaborate on projects, and listen to their donors

Emerging from this cooperative spirit, is a new campaign by Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC) and AIDS Partnership Michigan (APM) called the Red Ribbon Remembrance.

The campaign makes it easy for people to chip in toward the fight against HIV and AIDS by using one fundraising mechanism to funnel resources to multiple agencies. The program is being tested by the two agencies, which serve southeast Michigan, in hopes that other agencies will join in as the campaign grows.

In April, the nine ASOs remaining in Michigan gathered for an unprecedented work session where they discussed the state of ASO funding, challenges they may face as the nation's healthcare system changes, and opportunities to work together. Traditionally agencies have worked independently from one another, sometimes even competitively. The limited funding from grant opportunities, and the fact that organizations had their own specialties made isolation the norm.

Coming out of that meeting with the first collaboration was MAC Chief Operating Officer Terry Ryan and APM Chief Operating Officer William VanHemert, who both recently moved into the leadership positions at their respective is earmarked for specific programs," organizations

Their friendship actually dates back to 1989, when VanHemert was volunteering at Wellness Network on a hotline program that Ryan was running at the time. "We've stayed in touch over the years as we've both been in and out of AIDS work." VanHemert said, "and now we're working together again.'

Historic Opportunity

Rvan considers the collaboration historic, and said he hopes that the teamwork is "an opportunity to create trust" that can lead to more partnerships. "There's this fear that in order to work together organizations have to merge, and that's not the case. We all have our own place in this. Working together doesn't take away from what any one organization does, it makes us all stronger.

Money collected through the Red Ribbon Remembrance Campaign is considered "unrestricted funds," meaning that organizations can use

in terms of getting the message out there and in advances, that people don't realize what a problem HIV still is. And it is still our community that is at the highest risk. We're at a point that people don't feel like it's a danger. It's the third generation of the epidemic. A lot of clients don't know anyone who has died of HIV, or even someone living with it. We are re-introducing this discussion to our youth

VanHemert added, "If we are going to stop this, the LGBTQIA community needs to come back and take ownership of the AIDS issue." The biggest battles for ASOs

come in the form of the unknowns.



APM Chief Operating Officer William VanHemert and MAC Chief Operating Officer Terry Rvan both recently moved into the leadership positions at their respective organizations. They are collaborating on a fundraising project launched this month.BTL photo by Crystal

it to pay for any expenses. "The majority of the money we currently get comes from the Michigan Department of Community Health Ryan explained. "A lot of grant money is specific. Unrestricted funds help us keep the lights on, pay rent, and give us flexibility in the services we provide."

Both organizations have suffered cutbacks in grant funding, corporate donations and personal donations. "Even traditional supports are focused on other things, like the said. "We've done such a good job advance.

"We have more questions than answers," Ryan said.

Funding Changes

In the past the government set aside special funding for HIV and AIDS in the form of the Ryan White Act. "We have not heard yet about Rvan White," VanHermert said. "It's the only carve-out for federal funding and it comes up for renewal so it's always an uphill battle." Without certainty that they will get federal funding, it's hard for ASOs marriage equality issue," Ryan to plan budgets and programing in

He also said that Ryan White in the New Center area of Detroit funding ensures partnerships with pharmaceutical companies to make sure patients get the most up-todate medicines, a benefit that could disappear if funding does.

when the Affordable Care Act C. Their Empowerment Program kicks in.

"There's a lot of discussion, but we don't know what will happen," VanHemert said. One speculation is that as low income people gain insurance, the responsibility for care will fall to general practitioners and federally-qualified health clinics. Ryan added that it could mean investing resources in educating doctors and care providers about HIV prevention and treatment.

"One thing is the Michigan

📕 🖿 A lot of grant money is specific. Unrestricted funds help us keep the lights on, pay rent, and give us flexibility in the services we provide.

Department of Community Health is considering re-classifying HIV as a 'chronic disease.' It used to be an epidemic and a pandemic. But as a chronic disease they can go to what's called a 'medical model,' where the emphasis is on treatment - take a pill and you're fine - rather than on prevention," VanHemert said. "One problem with that is that there is still not a cure for AIDS, so a medical model can only go so far."

"Prevention is still the most cost effective and most compassionate way of reducing HIV," Ryan said. "We need this work to continue." Hopefully this new spirit of cooperation will help attract new donors and convince donors that have donor fatigue to reconsider investing in our community."

The Agencies

MAC offers several prevention programs, including a drop in center

where young African-American men who have sex with men ages 14-29 can come and feel safe. They offer testing and condoms and have even expanded their scope Another area of uncertainty is to include syphlys and hepitits gives youth the tools to make good decisions, and they've expanded into a transgender-specific group for that community. MAC's fundraising efforts have been successfully tied to large community events in Ferndale, with restaurants during Dining Out for Life, and with DIFFA: DINING BY DESIGN, which connects the design community with the cause. Learn more about MAC at http:// michiganaidscoalition.org.

APM is celebrating their

- Terry Ryan, MAC Chief Operating Officer 30th anniversary. They provide prevention programs as well as medical case management. A reentry program reaches out to people in jails to give individuals support and education while assisting them return to their community upon release. Their youth program, REC Boys is also an empowerment-based program meant to enable young men. Their Status Sexv campaign opened up dialogue about safer sex and knowing one's status, making it sexy to discuss. They also do prevention, testing and

Learn more at www.facebook.com/ redribbonremembrance and consider a donation today. Visit page 4 of this issue to learn more about this campaign.

counseling, and even offer a men's

testing initiative and couples-based

program. For more on APM visit

www.aidspartnership.org.

Broader LGBT Movement Urged To Re-engage In Fight To End HIV/AIDS MI Agencies Join In Joint Statement

Take the Pledge: United to Fight HIV

Curtis Lipscomb were among the signers.

While issues like marriage equality and employment protections for LGBT workers have taken center stage, HIV continues to ravage the LGBT community. In an excerpt from the video found online. "Over the last 30 years, the [LGBT] community has seen great strides in the movement for full equality. Much of this success is the result of a concerted movement, which was galvanized in response to the AIDS about the issue. This must change."

increasing.

"We are at an important crossroad in our fight against HIV," said National Minority AIDS Council Executive Director Paul Kawata. "The evidence behind treatment as prevention, and expansions in health care coverage that will accompany implementation of the Affordable Care Act, have provided a

WASHINGTON, DC - As the nation unique opportunity to end this epidemic,

marks the opening of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual which has ravaged our community for more and Transgender Pride Month, executive than three decades. But this will not happen directors from 35 LGBT and HIV/AIDS without the full engagement of those most organizations from across the U.S. have impacted by the disease, and no community released a joint letter committing themselves has been more heavily affected than the and their organizations to re-engaging the LGBT community. I am thrilled to be a part broader LGBT community in the fight against of this campaign to re-energize the LGBT HIV. Affirmations Executive Director Dave response and work together to realize the Garcia and KICK-Detroit Executive Director vision of an AIDS free generation."

< 0

1:32/4: KICK Executive Director Curtis Lipscomb seen here on video for project. epidemic in the 1980s...In the decades since our movement has seen incredible victories... Unfortunately, our community hasn't maintained the same momentum in our fight against HIV...Each day, more than 80 gay and bisexual men become infected with HIV in the United States...Despite these alarming statistics, which have galvanized our community in the past, the HIV epidemic has seemed to fall by the way side. Many in our community have simply stopped talking

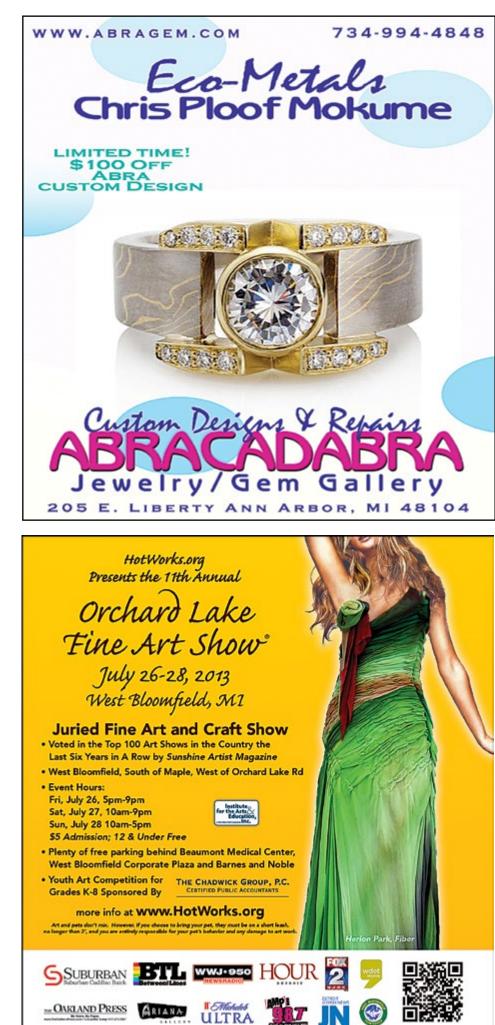
Despite making up just two percent of the population, gay and bisexual men accounted for more than 63 percent of new HIV infections in 2010. In fact, gay men are the only group in which HIV infections are

to combat HIV discrimination since the beginning of the epidemic we are excited to see the LGBT movement re-commit to this work," said Kevin Cathcart, Executive Director of Lambda Legal. "Because gay and bisexual men and transgender people are disproportionately affected by the epidemic and because we see the effects of discrimination and laws targeting people with HIV for criminalization it is incredibly important for the LGBT community to step

"As an organization that has been working

"The LGBT community always has been at the epicenter of the AIDS epidemic. As the community most impacted, we are the ones who must step-up and recommit to ending future transmissions. To have a new generation of LGBT young people grow up free from HIV and AIDS will be a fitting legacy to those we have lost to this disease," said National Center for Lesbian Rights Executive Director Kate Kendell.

The entire letter and accompanying video can be *viewed online at www.wethelgbt.org*



What is STRIBILD?

STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. It combines 4 medicines into 1 pill to be taken once a day with food. STRIBILD is a complete single-tablet regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.

STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. To control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses you must keep taking STRIBILD. Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to reduce the risk of passing HIV-1 to others. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

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

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects:

- Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious medical emergency. Symptoms of lactic acidosis include feeling very weak or tired, unusual (not normal) muscle pain, trouble breathing, stomach pain with nausea or vomiting, feeling cold especially in your arms and legs, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, and/or a fast or irregular heartbeat.
- Serious liver problems. The liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and fatty (steatosis). Symptoms of liver problems include your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice), dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored bowel movements (stools), loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach pain.
- You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or serious liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking STRIBILD for a long time. In some cases, these serious conditions have led to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any symptoms of these conditions.

Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV)

infection. If you also have HBV and stop taking STRIBILD, your hepatitis may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health. STRIBILD is not approved for the treatment of HBV.

Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you:

 Take a medicine that contains: alfuzosin, dihvdroergotamine,

ergotamine, methylergonovine, cisapride, lovastatin, simvastatin, pimozide, sildenafil when used for lung problems (Revatio[®]), triazolam, oral midazolam, rifampin or the herb St. John's wort.

 For a list of brand names for these medicines, please see the Brief Summary on the following pages.

 Take any other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection, or the medicine adefovir (Hepsera®).

What are the other possible side effects of STRIBILD?

Serious side effects of STRIBILD may also include:

- New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure. Your healthcare provider should do regular blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with STRIBILD. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD.
- Bone problems, including bone pain or bones getting soft or thin, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.
- Changes in body fat can happen in people taking HIV-1 medicines.
- Changes in your immune system. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking STRIBILD.

The most common side effects of STRIBILD include nausea and diarrhea. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or don't go away.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

All your health problems. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis virus infection.

All the medicines you take,

including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist. Do not start any new medicines while taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.

- If you take hormone-based birth control (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc).
- If you take antacids. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD.
- If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
- If you are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk. Also, some medicines in STRIBILD can pass into breast milk, and it is not known if this can harm the baby.

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

Please see Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information with **important warnings** on the following pages. STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.

I started my personal revolution

Talk to your healthcare provider about starting treatment.

STRIBILD is a complete HIV-1 treatment in 1 pill, once a day.

Ask if it's right for you.



elvitegravir 150mg/ cobicistat 150mg/ emtricitabine 200mg/ tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300mg tablets

Patient Information

STRIBILD[™] (STRY-bild)

(elvitegravir 150 mg/cobicistat 150 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/ tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) tablets

Brief summary of full Prescribing Information. For more information, please see the full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.

What is STRIBILD?

- · STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. STRIBILD is a complete regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.
- STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.
- · Ask your healthcare provider about how to prevent passing HIV-1 to others. Do not share or reuse needles, injection equipment, or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them. Do not have sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

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

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects, including:

- 1. Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis). Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take STRIBILD or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:
- · feel very weak or tired
- have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
- have trouble breathing
- have stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
- · feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
- · feel dizzy or lightheaded
- have a fast or irregular heartbeat
- 2. Severe liver problems. Severe liver problems can happen in people who take STRIBILD. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:
- · your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
- · dark "tea-colored" urine
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- · loss of appetite for several days or longer
- nausea
- stomach pain

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

- 3. Worsening of Hepatitis B infection. If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take STRIBILD, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking STRIBILD. A "flare-up" is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.
- Do not run out of STRIBILD. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your STRIBILD is all gone

- Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider
- . If you stop taking STRIBILD, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking STRIBILD

Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you also take a medicine that contains:

- adefovir (Hepsera[®])
- alfuzosin hydrochloride (Uroxatral[®])
- cisapride (Propulsid[®], Propulsid Quicksolv[®])
- ergot-containing medicines, including: dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45°, Migranal®), ergotamine tartrate (Cafergot®, Migergot[®], Ergostat[®], Medihaler Ergotamine[®], Wigraine[®], Wigrettes®), and methylergonovine maleate (Ergotrate®, Methergine®)
- lovastatin (Advicor[®], Altoprev[®], Mevacor[®])
- · oral midazolam
- pimozide (Orap[®])
- rifampin (Rifadin[®], Rifamate[®], Rifater[®], Rimactane[®])
- sildenafil (Revatio[®]), when used for treating lung problems
- simvastatin (Simcor[®], Vytorin[®], Zocor[®])
- triazolam (Halcion[®])
- . the herb St. John's wort

Do not take STRIBILD if you also take any other HIV-1 medicines, including:

- Other medicines that contain tenofovir (Atripla[®], Complera[®], Viread®, Truvada®)
- Other medicines that contain emtricitabine, lamivudine, or ritonavir (Combivir®, Emtriva®, Epivir® or Epivir-HBV®, Epzicom®, Kaletra®, Norvir®, Trizivir®)
- STRIBILD is not for use in people who are less than 18 years old.

What are the possible side effects of STRIBILD?

STRIBILD may cause the following serious side effects:

- · See "What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?"
- · New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure. Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before you start and while you are taking STRIBILD. Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD if you develop new or worse kidney problems.
- Bone problems can happen in some people who take STRIBILD. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your bones.
- Changes in body fat can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known.
- Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having any new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.

- Nausea
- Diarrhea Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.
- . These are not all the possible side effects of STRIBILD. For more information, ask your healthcare provider.

including:

- . If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
- There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk with your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.
- . If you are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed if you take STRIBILD.
- You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
- Two of the medicines in STRIBILD can pass to your baby in your breast milk. It is not known if the other medicines in STRIBILD can pass into your breast milk.
- Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

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

- · STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works.
- · Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you take any of the following medicines:
- Hormone-based birth control (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc)
- Antacid medicines that contains aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD
- Medicines to treat depression, organ transplant rejection, or high blood pressure

- bosentan (Tracleer[®])
- buspirone
- carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Epitol®, Equetro®, Tegreto®)
- clarithromycin (Biaxin[®], Prevpac[®])
- clonazepam (Klonopin®)

- medicines that contain dexamethasone
- diazepam (Valium®)

The most common side effects of STRIBILD include:

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

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

- Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions,
- . If you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis B infection

- amiodarone (Cordarone®, Pacerone®)
- atorvastatin (Lipitor[®], Caduet[®])
- bepridil hydrochloric (Vascor®, Bepadin®)
- clorazepate (Gen-xene®, Tranxene®)
- colchicine (Colcrys®)

- digoxin (Lanoxin®)
- disopyramide (Norpace®)
- estazolam
- ethosuximide (Zarontin®)
- flecainide (Tambocor®)
- flurazepam
- fluticasone (Flovent[®], Flonase[®], Flovent[®] Diskus, Flovent® HFA, Veramyst®)
- itraconazole (Sporanox®)
- ketoconazole (Nizoral[®])
- lidocaine (Xylocaine[®])
- mexiletine
- oxcarbazepine (Trileptal®)
- perphenazine
- phenobarbital (Luminal®)
- phenytoin (Dilantin®, Phenytek®)
- propafenone (Rythmol[®])
- quinidine (Neudexta[®])
- rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- rifapentine (Priftin®)
- risperidone (Risperdal[®], Risperdal Consta[®])
- salmeterol (Serevent®) or salmeterol when taken in combination with fluticasone (Advair Diskus®, Advair HFA®)
- sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®) or vardenafil (Levitra®, Staxyn®), for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (ED). If you get dizzy or faint (low blood pressure), have vision changes or have an erection that last longer than 4 hours, call your healthcare provider or get medical help right away.
- tadalafil (Adcirca®), for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension
- telithromycin (Ketek®)
- thioridazine
- voriconazole (Vfend®)
- warfarin (Coumadin®, Jantoven®)
- zolpidem (Ambien®, Edlular®, Intermezzo®, Zolpimist®)

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.

Keep STRIBILD and all medicines out of reach of children.

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

Issued: August 2012



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Sticking Up For LGBT Victims Of Violence Public Reporting Key To Equality Michigan's Victim Services Success

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

DETROIT - Victimization of LGBT people comes in many forms. Whether it's through hate crimes, discrimination, pick-up crimes, harassment, intimate partner violence or sexual assault, Equality Michigan's Victim's Service Team is there to help.

Yvonne Siferd is a graduate of Wayne State University Law School where she studied civil rights and sexuality related law. With her previous experience at Amnesty International and Wayne State University, Siferd has developed skills that make her a strong advocate for victims and their legal rights. She had interned at Equality Michigan back when it was known as the Triangle Foundation and in January she returned, taking the position of Director of Victim Services.

Sara Spurgeon is a victim services advocate who has been out and active in the LGBT communities since coming out at the age of 14. She has more than 15 years of experience in community-building, non-profit organizing, volunteerism, fundraising, event planning, public speaking, and grassroots activism within the LGBT and HIV-affected communities. She is a licensed social worker and a graduate of the Crime Victim Assistance Academy.

Together they stick up for the rights of victims and help them get the support they need.

"There is an incredible feeling of satisfaction that I'm lucky to glean from doing challenging work," said Spurgeon, "Boots forever on the ground, this job keeps my problemsolving skills well-honed. Several years of providing direct intake and services to people experiencing crises have made me well-seasoned, but not salty.

"Many people think that mucking about in the worst of what happens to - and even within - our communities is a 'hard' job. Perhaps they haven't met some of our youth, doing survival sex work for supper and a warm bed. That is hard work, folks. Though the subject matter of my work is at least indelicate, it is

Calls to Equality Michigan Emily Dievendorf. vary, and victims' needs are different. According to Siferd the most common victims are those of employment discrimination. This is also one of the hardest for them to help with. "Because of the way the law is, our hands are and harassment. "We hear from tied. We can help file an EEOC

Harassing Neigbors

Beyond employment discrimination cases, there are many calls that involve violence people who say 'my neighbors are

currently working with the Stonewall Bar Association to develop a training for lawyers on the needs of LGBT clients, and her next step is to revive and revamp the organization's police department trainings.

department trainings is because there has been an increase in complaints



Yvonne Siferd is Director of Victim Services and Sara Spurgeon is a Victim Services Advocate at Equality Michigan. BTL photo Andrew Potter

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission] complaint. We have a good relationship with the EEOC and they are working hard to try cases of LGBT discrimination as sex discrimination since there is not protected status for LGBT workers." Siferd said.

"The key is having a clear case. Discrimination is a hard thing to pinpoint. You know it's happening, but unless they say 'it's because you're gay,' there's not much someone can do. There's a lot of work that needs to be done legislatively." Sifert pointed out that another job of Equality Michigan is advocacy, which is happening thanks to the work of Equality

harassing me,' and from people who are victims of sexual violence," said Sifert. "I recently worked on a case that was a cyber-stalking, bullying, exploitation thing. In that instance a young bisexual client had been blackmailed online. I called up the DOJ [Department of Justice] and those agents were able to catch the guy. It was exciting to be able to released publicly yet, Siferd shared help.

In addition to taking calls directly, Equality Michigan works with other community partners on referrals, and they do trainings and outreach programs. They work with the Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crimes, and recently did trainings at Out Center in Benton Harbor

against law enforcement officials. with 21 percent of complaints being against first responders.

Equality Michigan was a founding member of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NACAVP) and reports incidents of violence to the coalition each year. While the 2012 report has not been officially some of the findings that Equality Michigan submitted.

Reporting Findings

"Reporting these incidents is important because it helps us identify what issues are going on and where

amazing and it keeps me humble." Michigan's Managing Director and with a PFLAG group. Siferd is they're happening. It tells us where we should be targeting our efforts," Siferd said.

> Reporting also gives them a chance to help. "Each person's report is unique, and presents different issues that I get to research One reason for the interest in police and, sometimes, to help resolve. For nearly every situation there are options to be uncovered. In each case, someone gets more than they had to begin with – and in the best of cases, both mercy and justice are served," Spurgeon said.

"Things haven't changed since the inception of this non-profit." Spurgeon continued. "We're still dying. We're still afraid to talk about what happens between the sheets or in the streets, sometimes ashamed. With me, shame does not exist - and I'm ready to help people begin to regain what was lost and live without fear again. People are safe to tell me whatever they have to say"

The majority of survivors who reported incidents to Equality Michigan identified as cisgender (80 percent), gay (45 percent), male (51.09 percent).

Lesbians were the second largest reporting population at 30 percent.

Transgender identified individuals were 10 percent of all reporting victims/survivors, however, antitrans bias was indicated by 25 percent of all survivors. The types of violence directed toward trans people tends to be more brutal and is disproportionately large for such a small population, for example, 2 out of the 3 murders Equality Michigan reported to the NCAVP were transwomen of color. The number of anti-trans bias crimes increased from 2011 to 2012 by 32 percent

36 percent of reporting victims/ survivors were of unknown race/ ethnicity, 35 percent identified as white, 24 percent identified as African-American, 4 percent identified as Latino, 3 percent identified as Native American and 5 percent identified as "other."

In terms of types of victimization, 31 percent of victims/survivors reported discrimination of some sort

See Violence, page 21

American Bar Assoc. **Seeks To Help LGBT Victims Of Crimes**

BY BTL STAFF

them in court.

"This resolution puts an end to a longstanding injustice in our legal system and gives a voice to countless lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender victims of violence, one we never hear because they are no longer here to speak for themselves," said D'Arcy Kemnitz, executive director of the LGBT Bar.

Gay and trans "panic" defense tactics ask a jury to find that a victim's sexual orientation or gender identity is to blame for the defendant's excessively violent reaction. The perpetrator claims that the victim's sexual orientation or gender identity not only explain - but excuse - their loss of self-control and subsequent assault of an LGBT individual. By fully or partially acquitting the perpetrators of crimes against LGBT victims, these defenses imply that LGBT lives are worth less than others. The 15th anniversary is approaching of the murder of Matthew Shepard, a 21 year old college student who was beaten to death by two men. The men attempted to use the gay panic defense to excuse their actions. Despite widespread public protest, the defense is still being used today; most recently in connection with the February murder of Mississippi mayoral candidate Marco McMillian. McMillian was the state's first openly gay candidate for office. Lawrence Reed, the man who admitted to killing McMillian, has made comments to the press indicating that he might use the gay panic defense to mitigate the charges against him.

heinous crimes."

► Violence

Continued from p. 20

to Equality Michigan, which was the most reported type of victimization. 14 percent of victims/survivors reported verbal harassment in person, 12 percent reported threats/intimidation, 12 percent reported financial victimization (such as blackmail i.e. 'if you don't give me \$, I'll tell everyone you are gay'), 9 percent reported some type of harassment, 5 percent reported physical violence, 3 percent reported being stalked and 2 percent reported sexual violence.

Victims of Violence can call Equality Michigan at 313.537.7000 x107 to reach Victim Services Advocate Sara Spurgeon. If there is an emergency, people should call 911. There is also an online form for reporting violence or discrimination at www.equalitymi.org/report.

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On June 3 the National LGBT Bar Association applauded the American Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section for taking up a resolution to protect victims of so called gay and trans "panic" legal defenses. The resolution supports the LGBT community by no longer allowing defense attorneys to use victims' identities or their sexual orientation against

"We have been fighting against gay and trans panic defenses for more than 15 years," said Kemnitz. "We must protect the LGBT community by refusing to allow defendants to use a victim's sexual orientation or gender identity to justify their

The National LGBT Bar Association developed the resolution, calling for jury instruction and providing for training for judges, attorneys and juries geared toward supporting victims by minimizing the use of the gay and trans "panic" legal defenses. The ABA House of Delegates must pass the resolution at the 2013 ABA Annual Meeting this August for the recommendations to become official ABA policy.



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BRIEFS

Duke University to Publish First Transgender **Studies Journal**

If all goes well with fundraising, in 2014 Duke University will begin publishing the first nonmedical journal dedicated to transgender studies in the country. Headed up by Editor Susan Stryker, associate professor of gender and women's studies at the University of Arizona, and Editor Paisley Currah, professor of political science at the Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly will "explore the diversity of gender, sex, sexuality, embodiment and identity. The journal will focus on publishing interdisciplinary work from fields including cultural studies, political economy, art, health and sexuality studies."

The project is being funded through Kickstarter, and with just about two weeks remaining they are close to their \$20,000 goal.

"This project began in 2008, when we were invited to co-edit a special transgender studies edition of Women's Studies Quarterly. We received more than two hundred submissions for publication, yet we could only publish twelve of them. We knew then that it was time for transgender studies to have its own high-profile publications venue. Five years later, there is still no place to accommodate the kind of conversation we want to foster on transgender issues," explains the Kickstarter page description.

A total of five issues are slated to be printed, each highlighting a different aspect of the transgender community. To learn more about funding the journal visit www.kickstarter.com/ projects/tsg/tsg-transgender-studies-guarterly.

N.J. Senator's Death Loss For LGBTs

U.S. Senator Lautenberg's (D-N.J.) death Monday, means the Congress has lost a supporter of equal rights for LGBT people. The duty to appoint an interim replacement for Lautenberg falls to Republican Governor Chris Christie, so it's likely to mean a loss of a Democratic seat.

The Human Rights Campaign Congressional Scorecards awarded Lautenberg a perfect 100 score on his support and votes for LGBT-related issues, every year since 2003 when he was first elected to the Senate.

HRC President Chad Griffin issued a statement calling Lautenberg a "beacon for equality."

"Nothing better sums up his undying legacy than his 2004 floor speech opposing a federal constitutional amendment banning marriage equality," said Griffin.

In that speech, Lautenberg urged his colleagues against being "shameful" and "spineless" in their response to efforts to discriminate against LGBT people.

Extended briefs are available online at: >> www.PrideSource.com

Whole Foods Comes Out In Detroit

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

DETROIT - When Whole Foods Market opens in the Midtown Detroit area June 5. the team intends to put the community first. They've asked a lot of questions through social media outlets like Facebook and did a lot of listening to what people in the city want from their new grocery store.

In response, "We've created a space that's welcoming to anyone that walks through the door. We'll maintain a clean store, one that has healthy foods, and one that is really serving our community by offering the amazing customer service that we're known for," said Tiana Oldford, Associate Store Team Leader for the Detroit location since January 2013.

Oldford began her career with Whole Foods Market in 2006 as a cashier at the first Ann Arbor location. "I was an education student at Eastern Michigan University. I was going to guit Whole Foods to start student teaching and an opportunity presented itself. I kind of quit school and took a risk and really went for it," she said about helping to open a second Ann Arbor location in 2008. By 2010, Oldford became a Customer Service Team Leader. Then in 2012, she became the Associate Team Leader at Whole Foods in Rochester Hills.

"I'm really excited to be a part of the Detroit store opening. There's a lot of passion and pride in the people that live here. It's been a really great experience for me as far as learning how to open a store and



INFO

Whole Foods Market 115 Mack Ave. Detroit. MI 48202 (313) 576-5300 Grand opening is Wednesday, June 5 at 9 a.m.

>> www.wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/detroit



Tiana Oldford getting ready for Whole Foods Detroit opening June 5. BTL photos Andrew Potter

challenging my thoughts on what community means," she said.

Oldford resides in Royal Oak with her partner, Melissa, and their son, Henry. "As a lesbian at Whole Foods, I have been just another team member. My family has afforded the same rights that any other team member has. My partner has health insurance here as well as my son. My partner receives the 20 percent discount that Whole Foods offers. Whole Foods is our family," she said.

Whole Foods as a company is welcoming to the LGBT community. "Whole Foods people are Whole Foods people no matter where you are. There are lots of LGBT people working for Whole Foods just because it feels like home. Part of what we really love about our community is that we accept you for who you are no matter what," said Oldford, who is in a great position to lead by example. "I think it's the best thing I can do to live every day with integrity."

In an effort to do this, one of the goals she has is to offer job opportunities to people within the community. "We made a commitment to hiring Detroit residents. We have 91 team members here. We've created 61 new jobs. In a city with an 18 percent unemployment rate, that means a lot. It's really important," said Oldford. "We are looking for someone who is passionate, preferably passionate about food, but any passion can be translated into what we're looking for. Someone who is a hard worker, a team player, believes in the language of

🗖 🗖 "As a lesbian at Whole Foods. I have been just another team member. My family has afforded the same rights that any other team member has. My partner has health insurance here as well as my son.



'we,' and our core values...community, environment and healthy food."

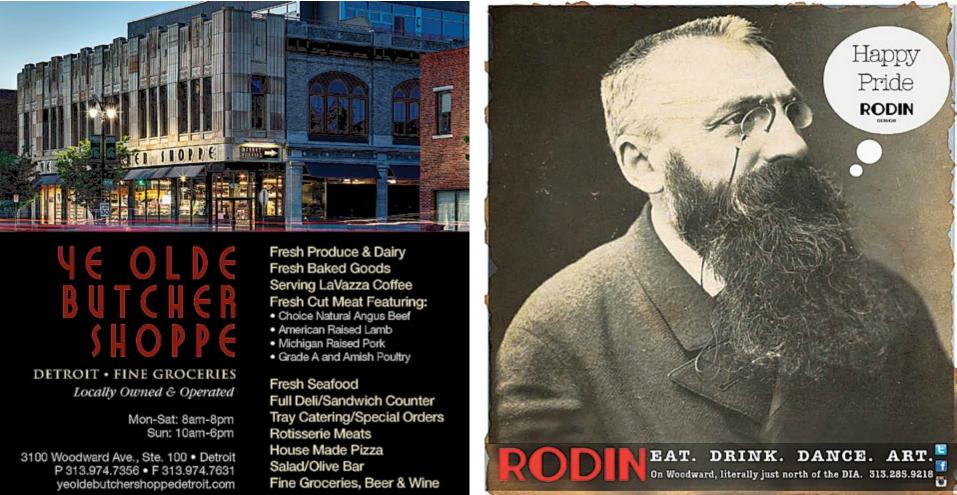
Sponsoring Pride

As an active sponsor of Motor City Pride since 2005, Oldford said she is excited to kick things off a few days before the festival. "We'll have several activities in the parking lot including lots and lots of samples, which is kind of what we're known for," she said. 'There's a lot of amazing things going on in the city...the growth of urban agriculture and passionate food culture. We're just really excited to be a tiny part of it."

In collaboration with the City of Detroit, the DEGC, Midtown Detroit, Inc., the MEDC, Detroit Eastern Market, and many others, the new location on John R and Mack will feature foods that are free of artificial preservatives, colors, flavors, sweeteners and hydrogenated fats. Emphasizing their quality standards, Whole Foods offers organically grown foods that are fresh, wholesome and safe to eat.

See Whole Foods, page 24

www.PrideSource.com

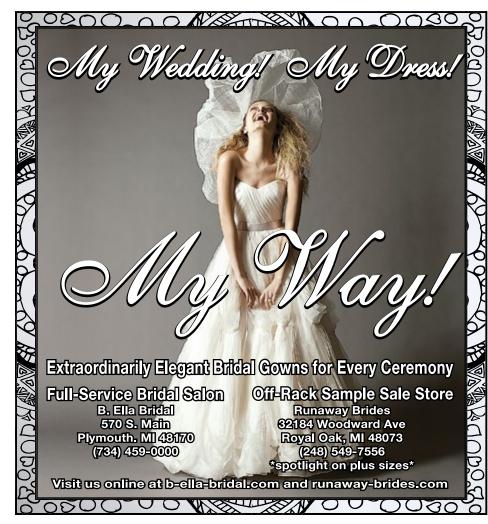














Creating An LGBT Business District

BY JASON A. MICHAFI

DETROIT – Chicago has Boystown, San Francisco has the Castro and Washington, D.C. has Dupont Circle. So what's Detroit got? Well, nothing at the moment, but maybe someday soon it will if Detroit City Council President Charles Pugh has his way. His office is spearheading a community effort to create a LGBTs business district in the Motor City.

Step one was distributing a survey to interested community members to nail down some basics. Three potential neighborhoods for the district were selected out of seven. They include downtown, the East Riverfront district and the Milwaukee Junction, which is near the intersection of Woodward Avenue and West Grand Boulevard in the New Center area.

"This is a community-driven process, so we want to get more input and decide the best course for how the area should be selected," said Pugh, making it clear that nothing has been decided yet. "This will be a long process that will take time to evolve."

But at least the ball is rolling, thanks largely to Pugh.

"The idea has been floating around for years, and Detroit really needs (an LGBT business district)," he said. "Right now, there seems to be the right kind of synergy in place to make it happen with the movement of Motor City Pride back to the city and greater cooperation between Motor City Pride and Hotter than July. So, instead of continuing to talk about it, I along with LGBT members of my staff decided to start the process. We facilitated a

conversation among a few key leaders in the LGBT economic development and business communities to talk about how we could get this going."

In true Detroit fashion, Pugh and crew decided to go their own way.

"In our research, we've found that other cities who have LGBT business districts started out with a group of businesses or investors who bought properties and opened businesses, a 'if you build it, they will come' approach," said Pugh. "The way we're going about it is more community driven, which is unique and may have its own set of challenges. We have not yet scratched the surface of what all the hurdles may be.'

So what would a successful LGBT business district in the city of Detroit look like?

"I think that we as a team working on this initiative would like to see a diverse neighborhood that serves the business needs. retail needs, recreational needs, and residential needs of LGBT people and allies," Pugh said. "This is a very exciting initiative that could evolve into a competitive and fun area of the city

Though he has announced he will not run for reelection, Pugh plans to see that the business district idea does not die with the end of his term

"The intent is that this is a community initiative, not necessarily an initiative of my office," he said. "We brought people to the table, facilitated initial conversations, but this is a community-driven process and I'm excited to see how it evolves."

Whole Foods

Continued from p. 22

The team, according to the Whole Foods website, looks forward to offering a wide range of local products ranging from Avalon baked goods, McClure's pickles, Good People Popcorn, Garden Fresh salsa and chips, Drought raw juices, and Ellis Island Tropical Tea, along with a great selection of seasonal Michigan produce.

Each Whole Foods Market is uniquely designed for the community. A décor and construction team put their special touch on the 21,000-square-foot location complete with muriels and photos showcasing local farms and community gardens in Detroit. To honor the unions in Detroit, character is given to the bakery with a sign made out of conduit from the IBEW Local 58. The dairy section proudly displays a timeline of Detroit events. Motown Records light up the cash registers and old car hoods make up tabletops for cozy booths where

customers may enjoy prepared foods or soups of the day in the café.

Detroit is not the first to face the issue of gentrification as residents of lower-income neighborhoods have protested the arrival of Whole Foods. With more than 340 successful stores in the U.S., the UK, and Canada, Whole Foods is overcoming the nickname "Whole Pavcheck.

"We are aware of our nickname and our price image. Whole Foods began talks three and a half years ago about the Detroit location. We've put a lot of time and energy into shopping six to seven different local grocery stores. We will be very competitive and are close in price to other sellers," said Amanda Musilli, Whole Foods Community Liaison since 2005. "All healthy cities have lots of options and Detroiters deserve to have those options."

The company has famously said that shoppers can eat well by spending just \$5 per day, and Oldford is committed to making consumers and potential customers feel comfortable shopping at Whole Foods.

Owners Seek Tenants To Reopen Detroit Legend BY JASON A. MICHAEL creative owner-operated businesses in urban

DETROIT – It has a storied past, but if current owners Norman Silk and Dale Morgan have anything to say about it, there are still chapters to be written. The Willis Show Bar, former jazz hotspot turned den of iniquity and then shuttered for longer than it had ever been opened, may live again. The story of the Willis Show Bar, which is

bar opened its doors and joined with venues like the Flame Show Bar in hosting the hottest live jazz and rhythm and blues around. By the mid-1960s, however, the bar was beginning to be known more for flesh peddling than

www.PrideSource.com

The Willis Show Bar May Live Once Again

located at the corner of Third Street and Willis, in the area now known as Midtown, began in 1949. That's when the Art Moderne styled

spaces which set them apart from the mass produced suburban chains."

So now Silk and Morgan are looking for tenants for both retail spaces and for the bar as well.

"We are planning to renovate the two storefronts first," Silk said. "One is about 2000 square feet, the other 1000. We hope to attract small business owners that are style driven and will create creative attractive businesses. Creativity and well-designed stores are important. This is a good opportunity to start



plaving music. Prostitution was running rampant in the bar and the area in general. Things got so bad that the bar was shut down - by order of the city - in 1975.

Five years later, the building that housed the Willis, was purchased by a couple of florists. "We were starting our business, Silk and Morgan, which later became BLOSSOMS," said Silk. "We lived in the West Canfield Historic District nearby and needed a place to design flowers. So we rented one of the retail storefronts then later purchased the building, which consists of the Willis Show Bar and two retail storefronts."

But even though they owned the bar, they never put it back in operation.

"We have used the space as a warehouse for the past several years," said Silk. "It has always been our dream to put the building, especially the bar, back into use. We were urban pioneers, renovating an 1885 Victorian house in the 1980s nearby and now, 30-plus years later Midtown is a popular place that can support this kind of development. With the influx of new residents, the new stadium and M1 rail, the district can support independent,

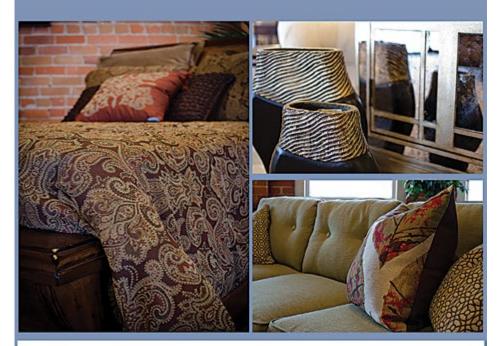
a small business. Rents in the area are \$12-\$15 per square foot, much less than the suburbs, and it's a good opportunity to reach a creative young market.'

As for the bar, Silk envisions it reopening as a casual bar and grill with a large outdoor dining area added on Willis. The original enameled steel exterior would be exposed and the original backlit neon art deco ceiling would be restored.

"With regard to the bar space, we want a tenant that will appreciate the great original Art Moderne interior ceiling," said Silk. "This unique architectural detail cannot be duplicated. We hope the tenant will recreate the 1940's feeling of the original bar. We hope to attract a tenant that might serve micro-brew beers, artisan pizza, burgers and simple good fresh local food. We are not looking for a slick modern suburban looking restaurant. It should be uniquely urban."

If you think you have the vision to bring The Willis back to life, reach out to Silk and email him at normalsilk@gmail.com. Perhaps you can help him write the next chapter in the story of this unique bar.

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VOL 2123 • JUNE 6. 2013 • ISSUE 819

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Tleft the "strictly political" world in 2010,

Michigan. I brought with me the assertion

that we must be at the table to weigh in

on social justice fights in general and, as

movement because freedom and equal

protection under the law regardless of

sexual orientation, gender identity, gender

expression or HIV status truly is a battle that

At this point in Michigan history our

broadly and overwhelmingly. While the

LGBT community in Michigan makes up

approximately 3.8 percent of the state's

population, recent polling supports that at

least 65 percent of Michigan residents support

equality on all fronts for LGBT communities

- including in parenting, relationship

recognition, domestic partner benefits,

hospital visitation access, and protection from

discrimination in the workplace, housing and

of Michiganders supported marriage equality,

request to share what the LGBT community

needs and how somebody can help. I have

found reasonable people, strong in their ethics

and sense of fairness for all Michiganders

in every corner. Regardless of faith or

ignorance and prejudice.

everybody has a stake in.

surprised.

without hesitation, to join Equality

For The Love Of Michigan. For The Love Of Love.

What we lack is not a progressive citizenry on both sides of the political aisle, but rather political leadership that owns and can harness power, a voice for us, and a spine – all at the very same time.

importantly, we must invite people to our harm LGBT families, and an unwillingness to look at big picture implications of poor economic and social policies are keeping Michigan in the dark ages. What we lack is not a progressive citizenry on both sides of the political aisle, but rather political leadership that owns and can harness power, a voice for allies are scattered throughout Michigan us, and a spine – all at the very same time.

This year, the LGBT movement in Michigan is facing a brand new challenge. We do not need to search coyly or frantically for allies to our cause. For the first time in Michigan history it is clear that most people want in on the barrier-breaking. Fair-minded citizens are craving an influential role in victories for LGBT equality. They are itching to stop the insanity, to mold Michigan into a state of which they can once again be proud, to stand public accommodations. Last year 44 percent up for their LGBT friends and neighbors, and as soon as 2016. to bring real change. We are encroaching on today that number is over 56 percent. I am the mountaintop in great numbers, we can always thrilled with this progress but never see the other side and are thrilled with the possibilities. Now we need to ensure that I have rarely had the door shut on my we complete the voyage on our terms - with nobody left behind.

> It is time to get organized and engage everybody around us. It is past time to call an end to the turf wars. At this moment we have no choice but to take a hard look at what

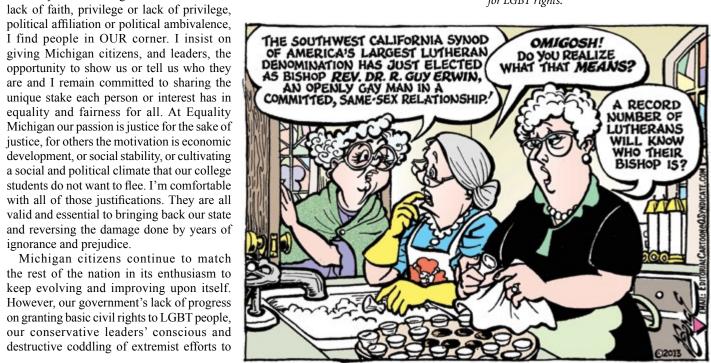
we can contribute, what talents we can leverage, and how our energy, skills and time can fit into the larger plan. We have no time to reinvent the wheel, work against each other or overlap purposes in any way that isn't complimentary to the work of those also on our side. I want to see a strategic, three steps ahead, welloiled coordinated effort in which we will all admit that everyone has a valuable place that is not just helpful

but is essential to victory.

If we continue to learn from and build on both our victories and failures, and fulfill our potential, we will see real change in the coming years. Equality Michigan believes that an end to legally sanctioned firings of LGBT people is on the horizon. Laws affirming second-parent adoptions are on their way as well, finally providing legal recognition for both parents in an LGBT family. Following the federal government's lead, Michigan is poised to amend its hate crimes law to include LGBT peoples. At this rate, and with a few victories under our belts, Equality Michigan believes we may even be able to reverse the harm done to LGBT families in 2004 with the constitutional ban on same-gender marriages

I consider myself fortunate to be leading Equality Michigan at this time in Michigan's history. We should all celebrate the accomplishments and momentum we have achieved together. We are still here for the same thing. For the love of Michigan. For the love of love.

Emily Dievendorf is the managing director at Equality Michigan, the statewide organization for LGBT rights.



www.PrideSource.com



his Motor City Pride 2013 I am closing my eyes – I invite you to mentally close yours as you read - and counting back 44 years, 35 years, 20, 10, five years, cold months, heated days to June 28, 1969, when in a Sunday morning's wee hours Judy Garland's fiery, long-dreamed-of rainbow lit a raucous sky, following her untimely death just the week before. Instead of her eternal song, angry voices of discontent, ages-long

invite you to add yours.

bastards!"

Another throws a handful of pennies. Soon someone tosses a brick. Things are getting out of hand. In the distance a siren sounds. Oh. my God!

we brazenly shout.)

into the bar. Whistles blow

Wow! Hey, guy. This is show down time. Inside you bastards, we shout loudly, waving arms and fists. Time to settle an old, old score. A drag queen pops into view on the other side of the Stonewall window. Boldly she signals, giving the finger, before being pushed aside by one of New York's finest. Our crowd roars approval, as we move as close to the bar as we can safely get.

Including the two of us – assuming concerned PG reader that you've still along for the mental ride into our liberating past, however momentarily – we are now surrounded by a crowd estimated at 600. We are angry. Damned angry because of years of abuse, brutality, being put down as inferior. Marginals. Name called. Perverts. Fairies. Fags ..

And, as our shared imagination wakes into the present – remembering written approximation is never reality, only suggestive of how it might have been were we there in 1969 – let us honor those countless many who were there fighting for us that long-ago, hot summer night, as we celebrate Motor City Pride 2013.

(Last year over 40,000 rallied.) Judy's rainbow once more is touching down at our river's edge. As it arcs into the sky, it shines brighter, more radiant than ever. (Are you with me? Rhetorical question. I know you are.)

Sirens At A Distance Sound

Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

frustration, pent-up hurt and rage, are heard - I add my voice; I

For the first time we are collectively fighting back in response to yet another police raid, yet another hate-filled harassment of gays, lesbians, drag queens, yet one more abducting paddy wagon howling through the streets on a bar raid, wailing entrapment, incarceration, beatings, abuse, fag arrests.

We're part of the loud, vocal crowd that's gathered outside the Stonewall Inn, watching as its gav patrons are bully-clubbed outside the bar to await arrest. Eight cops surround, prod, harass these frightened patrons in line. Someone to my right yells, "You

The police wagon arrives. The crowd outside keeps growing, as nearby parks and bars feed into the tension filled area. There must be at least a couple hundred here. (We're surely seeing history – maybe a revolution – in the making. Can you believe this! Just maybe it's finally time to fight back. Hey! Fuck you, Dick Heads!

As a feisty, young dyke is shoved screaming into a paddy wagon, more rocks and bottles are thrown. About 400 are now crowding the narrow, dim-lighted street. The cops make a hasty retreat back

The tension is tactile. Contagious. Sweeping. This is bigger than any of us could imagine in our wildest dreams. We wonder, is there now possible such a thing as our liberation? GAY LIBERATION! It's 3:30. Wide awake. Energetic. More police are arriving. More black vans. Gays, lesbians, shrill-voiced drag queens, raucous bystanders are being shoved, forcefully, billy-clubbed into subjection. The war-mongering cops are tense. They look straight ahead. Come hell or high water, as the saying goes, they have a nasty, bad-assed job to do. Some officers smirk.





I am confident that one day soon, from coast to coast, all of our young people will look to the future with the same sense of promise and possibility. I am confident because I have

seen the talent, passion, and commitment of LGBT advocates and their allies, and I know that when voices are joined in common purpose, they cannot be stopped. NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month. I call upon the people of the United States to eliminate prejudice everywhere it exists, and to celebrate the great diversity of the American people.

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THE WHITE HOUSE: June 2013

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and **Transgender Pride Month**

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

or more than two centuries, our Nation has struggled to transform the ideals of liberty and equality from founding promise into lasting reality. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Americans and their allies have been hard at work on the next great chapter of that history -- from the patrons of The Stonewall Inn who sparked a movement to service members who can finally be honest about who they love to brave young people who come out and speak out every day.

This year, we celebrate LGBT Pride Month at a moment of great hope and progress, recognizing that more needs to be done. Support for LGBT equality is growing, led by a generation which understands that, in the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." In the past year, for the first time, voters in multiple States affirmed marriage equality for same-sex couples. State and local governments have taken important steps to provide much-needed protections for transgender Americans.

My Administration is a proud partner in the journey toward LGBT equality. We extended hate crimes protections to include attacks based on sexual orientation or gender identity and repealed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." We lifted the HIV entry ban and ensured hospital visitation rights for LGBT patients. Together, we have investigated and addressed pervasive bullying faced by LGBT students, prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in Federal housing, and extended benefits for same-sex domestic partners. Earlier this year, I signed a reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity in the implementation of any VAWA-funded program. And because LGBT rights are human rights, my Administration is implementing the first-ever Federal strategy to advance equality for LGBT people around the world.

We have witnessed real and lasting change, but our work is not complete. I continue to support a fully inclusive Employment Non-Discrimination Act, as well as the Respect for Marriage Act. My Administration continues to implement the Affordable Care Act, which beginning in 2014, prohibits insurers from denying coverage to consumers based on their sexual orientation or gender identity, as well as the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, which addresses the disparate impact of the HIV epidemic among certain LGBT subcommunities. We have a long way to go, but if we continue on this path together, I am confident that one day soon, from coast to coast, all of our young people will look to the future with the same sense of promise and possibility. I am confident because I have seen the talent, passion, and commitment of LGBT advocates and their allies, and I know that when voices are joined in common purpose, they cannot be stopped.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 2013 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month. I call upon the people of the United States to eliminate prejudice everywhere it exists, and to celebrate the great diversity of the American people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

BARACK OBAMA





Creep of the Week

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Setting Captives Free

"that" is, because there's an app for everything. You want the photos you take with your \$300 phone to look like they were taken with a disposable camera from 1993? There's an app for that. Do vou wish vou had a talking cat who repeats everything you say? There's an app. You want to find an app that will make your phone emit the sounds of copious flatulence? There are so, so many apps for that.

So it really shouldn't be surprising that there's an app for praying the gay away, which makes the fart apps seem like a good use of your data plan because at least farts have some kind of scientific basis.

Setting Captives Free, "a nondenominational ministry which teaches the biblical principles of freedom in Jesus Christ," is behind the app. They promise they'll help you quit things like drinking, overeating, gambling, and cutting. Which are all noble goals, really, since those are all things that can cause a lot of problems in a person's life.

The problem with Setting Captives Free, however, is that they also provide a course to help you to stop being gay, as if being gay is the same thing as drinking boxed wine alone in your basement or spending your kid's college tuition money at a riverboat casino. It isn't, and claiming otherwise is both insulting and dangerous.

The SCF anti-gay course, called The Door of Hope, is a "60-Day interactive course that will teach you to enjoy a newfound relationship with the Lord and how to find freedom from homosexuality."

Wait a minute, 60 days? That's two whole months! I mean, if you want to quit smoking there's an app that promises you can do it in one hour! So basically, in the time it would take you to quit being gay, you could quit smoking over 1,400 times!

Looking at SCF's other course offerings, it appears that 60 days is their standard. Which is forever! I mean, this is 2013 where everybody carries a mini super computer in their pockets with instant access to all the information in the world at

here's an app for that. It all times. And SCF expects people doesn't even matter what to wait 60 days for results? How does this app expect to compete with Grindr?

> The Door of Hope assures its pupils, "[D]espite what you may have heard elsewhere, you do not have a 'homosexual gene,' nor were vou born this way with no hope of freedom. You can be set free from the bondage of homosexuality through the power of Jesus Christ

It really shouldn't be surprising that there's an app for praying the gay away.

and the cross! If you will apply the biblical principles found here, you can walk through the Door of Hope into a new life with Christ, free from sexual impurity and selfgratification '

Got that? Being gay is not "normal" and being Christian and gay are incompatible. You must reject one in order to be the other. Mind you, plenty of gay Christians would disagree, but hey, they can get their own app. (Note: I just checked. They have one, actually).

Under "Helpful Tips" there's this unintentionally ironic statement: "Be transparent and honest. Since you are likely someone who is quite used to hiding your sin from others, we would encourage you to walk in the light and speak forthrightly about what is happening in your life and in your heart. This will help you to receive the most benefit from these lessons.

Note that SCF is not advocating that you be honest in real life. They're calling you a sinner and telling you to "confess."

They continue, "However, by encouraging you to walk in the light we are not saying that you are to be graphic or overly detailed in your responses. Satan has received enough glory and attention."

In other words, they don't want you to gross them out. Because you, gay person, are icky and damaged. says the "Christian" group who is trying to "cure" you out of the goodness of their "hearts."

Lutherans Elect First Openly Gay Bishop

churches

Hills. California.

broader acceptance.

not be very important."

according to the ELCA.

area that includes Los Angeles.

His election took place an annual

three-day assembly in Woodland

in 2011, played down his election

as the ELCA's first openly gay

very "existence" was a symbol for

church is to lift up the church's

message of grace and peace in the

wider society, to administer the

church's work in our area, and to

teach and preach," Erwin said in an

e-mail to CNN. "In this regard, the

sexual orientation of the bishop may

Still, the bishop-elect said, "The

very fact I exist will be a signal to

others that GLBT folks are respected

and have a full place in our church."

Erwin is also part Osage Indian and

is active in the Osage Indian Nation,

Erwin's election symbolizes a

bishop. But acknowledged that his

"The work of a bishop in our

Erwin, who was ordained a priest

(CNN) - For more than two 2009, clearing the way for decades, the Rev. R. Guy Erwin priests like Erwin, but angering couldn't officially be a priest in the conservatives. By some Evangelical Lutheran Church in estimates, some 600 conservative America. On Friday, he was elected a bishop.

Erwin's election signals a shift not only for the ELCA -- the nation's seventh largest church -- but also for American Christianity. To date, only one other mainline Protestant church, the Episcopal Church, has elected openly gay and lesbian bishops.

"In these days such milestones seem to be coming at an everfaster rate." Erwin told CNN. "and eventually what seems revolutionary now will (later) seem normal and predictable.'

With more than 4 million members in 10,000 congregations, the ELCA is the largest of several Lutheran denominations in the United States. The ELCA's decision to allow gay clergy has strained ties between those denominations, some of whom have partnered for relief work.

"The ELCA is a church that belongs to Christ, and there is a place for all here," said church spokeswoman Melissa Ramirez Cooper. "The election of Pastor Erwin illustrates what many in the 4-million-member church believe that God calls each of us by name."

The ELCA lifted its ban on openly gay, partnered clergy in

ExxonMobil Rejects LGBT Discrimination Ban

(CNN)} - For the 14th year in a row, shareholders at oil giant ExxonMobil overwhelmingly shot down a proposal that would specifically prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

The proposal, sponsored by New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli and brought before shareholders on Wednesday, asked ExxonMobil to add wording to its Equal Employment Opportunity policy that would explicitly protect lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees from discrimination.

But opponents said the company already broadly prohibits discrimination of any kind,

according to the proxy statement provided to shareholders ahead of the meeting. And shareholders ultimately voted 80 percent to 20 percent against the proposal on Wednesday

"Based on these existing allinclusive, zero-tolerance policies, the Board believes the proposal is unnecessary," according to comments from board members in the proxy statement. ExxonMobil declined to comment beyond what was said in the proxy statement.

This decision puts ExxonMobil in the small pool of 12 percent of Fortune 500 companies that don't specifically ban discrimination based on sexual orientation in their Equal Employment Opportunity

congregations have since left the ELCA for more conservative Erwin, a scholar and theology at California Lutheran University, will serve a six-year term representing the Southwest Rev. R. Guy Erwir California Synod, a five-county

> noticeable change for a church that once banned clergy who were in same-sex relationships, said Ross Murray, director of news and Faith initiatives at GLAAD.

Prior to the 2009 change, "hundreds of gay and lesbian clergy were forced out of congregations or served under secrecy," Murray said.

"Dr. Erwin demonstrates how far the ECLA has come with LGBT inclusion," said Murray in an e-mail to CNN. "He could not have been ordained just four years ago, and now he is a leader for the church. It makes me proud as a gay man, and as a Lutheran.'

Although the ELCA church did not allow clergy in same-sex relationships while he was attending seminary, Erwin said that he "always believed that this would someday be possible.'

Erwin also said the church's 2009 change in policy was more of a "culmination of God's work" than a "start of something new."

policies, according to the Human

And while the average Fortune

500 company received a "corporate

equality" score of 54 out of 100 last

vear-based on how LGBT-inclusive

their policies are – ExxonMobil

received a negative 25, according

"No company has proven itself a

worse corporate citizen by betraying

its LGBT employees time and again

than ExxonMobil," HRC president

Chad Griffin said in a statement.

"By failing once more to do the

right thing, ExxonMobil places itself

firmly on the wrong side of history.

Fair-minded consumers should take

their business elsewhere."

Rights Campaign.

to HRC's ratings.



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BTL@20: Looking Back At The Early Years



Tbecame involved with BTL at the outset thanks to David Rosenberg. I _met David at his portable massage table at what was then called PrideFest at Oakland Community College in Royal Oak. In early 1993, David mentioned that his friend Mark was looking to start a new gay newspaper.

As it happened, another local gay paper called the Michigan Tribune (formerly Ten Percent) had just suspended publication when its publisher Steve Culver moved to San Francisco. Southeast Michigan had a vacuum, and Mark Weinstein (now known as MaxZine) set out to fill it. I was eager to join in.

Mark was a 27-year-old Radical Faerie of Jewish heritage originally from suburban New York and something of a refugee from high school in Iowa. He moved to Ann Arbor in the early 1980s to attend the University of Michigan but dropped out to pursue radical queer and anti-militarist activism. In 1990, Mark, his boyfriend Spree Vance, and David Rosenberg formed ACT UP/Ann Arbor.

Between The Lines started out of Mark's bedroom at Heiwa House, a progressive, vegetarian co-op on Hill Street in Ann Arbor. I was 29 at the time, still living in my hometown of Flint, and new to sporting a goatee, which was then much the style. Being a coney-loving Flint kid. I was enthralled with Heiwa. I'd never heard of a vegan before. Whenever I visited, the large house felt like the quiet aftermath of a wild hippie party. I came to adore the residents I met there: Gaia who later ran for Washtenaw sheriff on the Green Party ticket. Cecilia who juggled and rode a unicycle, and dear, dear Mark.

A printer in Northville disapproved of the paper and refused to print the first issue, but this didn't deter Mark. He established the paper's identity early on with two cover articles. In one, BTL exposed the straight owners of Maxie's nightclub for featuring a homophobic rapper at another venue they owned. The other defining article gave an account of the "Revolting Queers" who staged a guerilla protest at a Republican fundraiser in Southfield for Senate minority leader

and presidential contender Bob Dole. This BTL was independent from the bars and fiercely leftist. I was probably the most conservative person involved.

Shannon Rhoades

at a blowout party and performance at the anarchist theater space Trumbullplex. Shannon took the paper to new heights, fostering a true community publication. She and Julie Enszer, both

graduates of U of

M, convened an editorial board that met It also ran, sit-down interviews with the monthly in the Pioneer Building, the old location of Affirmations on Nine Mile in Ferndale. Among the board members were Curtis Lipscomb, who was just launching a small magazine called Kick!; Carla Gillard, who took me to meet her bashful uncle, a onetime acolyte of Prophet Jones; and John Burchett, who was cochair with Shea Howell of the Michigan Campaign for Human Dignity, a coalition assembled to combat a statewide anti-gay ballot measure. As a group we decided the content of each issue and volunteered to write stories.

I remember on more than one occasion writing at the computer site in U of M's North University Building, popularly known as NUBS, as Shannon raced to wrap up an issue. Among the topics BTL covered over the twenty months under the helm of Shannon and Julie were teens with AIDS, gay and lesbian teachers coming out in the classroom, Full Truth Unity Fellowship Church, heretofore unsung Ten Influential Queers of 1995, and the shotgun murder of Scott Amedure by Jonathan Schmidt after the two appeared on a Jenny Jones talk show segment about secret crushes

And Matt Ostrander and I interviewed Craig Covey, he of the solid biceps, during his first run for Ferndale City Council. Even though we represented the gay press and knew the candidate from his regular Covey's Corner column in our very paper, we did not hold back on tough questions. Craig impressed me with his answers and proved himself ready for elective office.

When Susan Horowitz and Jan Stevenson took over the paper in late 1995, I had the good fortune to be hired on in the part-time position of assistant editor. From the basement of their home in Farmington, BTL became truly a statewide paper and much more mainstream. By then I was

probably the most liberal person involved. Over the next year and a half, it

chronicled the tragic ouster and premature death of Byron Center music teacher Gerry After running the paper for a year, Crane, Detroit's first Hotter Than July Mark passed the reins to BTL writer celebration, the battle to pass and later secure by

mayors of Ann Arbor, Flint, Grand Rapids,

and Lansing, and a landmark interview

with Allan Gilmour in which the retired

In my four and a half total years with

BTL, I wrote on a range of topics, from

an early two-part series about coming out

online, to a profile of Team Great Lakes

preparing for Gay Games IV, to an account

written with Anne Harris about a day

in the life of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual

Program's Office (now the Spectrum

Center) at the University of Michigan. I

once shaved my goatee to go undercover

for a legislative agenda briefing at the State

Capitol held by the Citizens for Traditional

Values. On occasion I even got to share

some LGBT history. My favorite story.

however, remains the 1996 profile I did

of Pat Teal and Phyllis Erb. a longtime

lesbian couple then finishing a five-year

adventure of running a bed-and-breakfast

Since I left in August 1997, Susan

and Jan (with the phenomenal help of

managing editor Cheryl Zupan) took the

paper biweekly and then weekly. Theirs

is an astounding achievement. Through

two decades, they've sustained the paper

while the American press has been in

crisis. Over twenty years, Between The

Lines has served as a vital institution in

our community, documenting change that

was barely fathomable in 1993 when a

vivacious Radical Faerie decided to start

a gay newspaper. I am ever proud to have

witnessed its beginnings and played a

Tim Retzloff, a Lansing resident and a Ph.D.

candidate at Yale, is currently finishing

his dissertation on gay and lesbian life in

www.PrideSource.com

metropolitan Detroit from 1945 to 1985.

small part in its history.

in Gavlord.

Ford vice president came out as gay.

referendum

a gay civil

ordinance

in Ypsilanti,

and the hate

slaying of

State Journal

sports writer

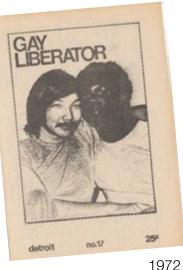
Bob Gross.

Lansing

rights

Over twenty years, Between The Lines has served as a vital institution in our community, documenting change that was barely fathomable in 1993...

come and gone.



Newspapers:

1970-1976 Sunflower (Lansing) – monthly, 1972 Gayscene Detroit (Detroit) - monthly, 1973-1974 1000-1002 monthly, biweekly, weekly, began 1993 1995 OutSpoken (Ann Arbor) – monthly, 1995 a newspaper)

Other publications:

Lesbian Connection (East Lansing) - bimonthly, began 1974 Rapping Paper (Toledo) - monthly and bimonthly, 1975-1978 IC Exchange (Detroit) – monthly, 1976-1977 Midwest Gay Academic Journal (Ann Arbor) guarterly, 1977-1978 Leaping Lesbian (Ann Arbor) – monthly and bimonthly, 1977-1980 Gay Detroit (Chicago) – biweekly, 1978 Cruise (Detroit/Ferndale) - weekly, 1979-?

The LGBT Press In Michigan

the Lines continues as the longest published LGBT newspaper in Michigan. The Gay Liberator lasted for six years. Ten Percent a.k.a. the Michigan Tribune, later renamed OutPost, had six cumulative years as a newspaper. The Lesbian Connection and Metra have each endured more than 30 years in magazine format. Since 1970, many other LGBT publications have

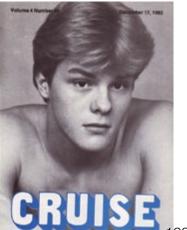
Gay Liberator (Detroit) - monthly and bimonthly,

Spectre (Ann Arbor) - bimonthly, 1971-1972 Gavzette (Grosse Pointe) – monthly, 1973

Metro Gay News (Detroit) - monthly, 1976-1978 Ten Percent/Michigan Tribune (Ann Arbor) -

Between The Lines (Ann Arbor/Detroit/Livonia) -Metro Gay Monthly (Detroit) - monthly, 1994-

OutPost (Ann Arbor) - biweekly, 1996-1998 (as



Metra (Ferndale/Madison Heights) - monthly. biweekly, began 1979

The Voice (Detroit) – monthly, 1985-1986 Guide Magazine - Michigan edition (Ferndale) monthly, 1987

Gayscene (Detroit) - monthly, 1990 The Gavzette (Battle Creek) - monthly, 1992-

1993

Kick! (Detroit) - monthly and guarterly, 1995-1999

The Third Coast (Grand Rapids) - monthly, 1995-2000

Hype! (Detroit) – monthly, 1996-1998 OutPost (Ann Arbor) - biweekly, began 1998 (as

a newspaper) G-Spot (Ann Arbor) – quarterly, 2000

Hott Magazine (Macomb/Troy) – biweekly, began 2007

Xpress (Birmingham) – monthly (3), 2012-2013 Flame Magazine (Royal Oak) – began 2012



Bright Side Dental



Here Comes The Kiki

Scissor Sister Ana Matronic Talks First Pride Performance, Solo Album & Detroit Love

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

ower the blinds and throw on some heels: Kiki time is upon us as Ana Matronic – the Scissor Sisters' lone lady – glitters the stage at 5 p.m. Sunday, June 9 during Motor City Pride. Her first-ever Pride event, with or without her fellow Scissors (the band's on an indefinite hiatus but they are "definitely not breaking up"), Matronic caught up with BTL to chat about the marvelous party she has planned, why she's drawn to Detroiters and the international phenomenon that is "Let's Have a Kiki."

What kind of kiki are you bringing to Detroit?

I'm really looking forward to bringing the kiki. It's funny, 'cause it's different and yet the same as being with Scissor Sisters; it's been so much fun to do. I'm coming and I'm bringing my two ferocious dancers from the House of Ninja - Benny Ninja and Javier Ninja - who I've been working with since the beginning of the year. They have been whipping me into shape, so we are going to bring our fierceness and our fabulousness and hopefully inspire a lot of people to dance and get down in the name of gay pride.

What do you plan on performing? Scissor Sisters songs? New solo material?

There's definitely gonna be some Scissor tunes in there and then one of my new ones from my upcoming album, which will hopefully be out before the end of the year.

Aren't you working on a book, too?

A comic book, actually. I'm writing a comic book and have been for the last three years. It's a horror comic book based on a short story by H.P. Lovecraft. I didn't really realize what I was getting into, but then I opened this can of worms, and inside that can of worms was another can of worms. It's going well, but the real focus right now is on the album and getting that out this year sometime.

Do you have a title for the album yet?

I do. The working title is "Afterlife of the Party." The whole thing is about the spirituality of a good time with your friends. It's something people in the gay community can really understand and embrace as a concept.

Do you have any memories of being on tour in **Detroit with Scissor Sisters?**

Unfortunately, I have never been out on the town in Detroit, and I would love to. My memories of Detroit are always just amazing shows with great people. I have a bunch of friends who lived in Detroit at one point and who moved to New York from there, and I just love them. Detroit is great because it's very much like New York; it's not an easy place to live, and so the people who do live there and stay there and love it have a real character that I get into. There's a real strength and ferocious character to the people who live there, and I appreciate that a great deal.

MOTOR CITY PRIDE

Ana Matronic 5 p.m. June 9 Hart Plaza, Detroit Pride Stage

motorcitypride.org

What's been your experience performing at other Prides, either solo or with the Sisters?

Actually, it's funny, I think, being in Scissors, we really tried to fight against being pigeonholed as a gay band – and we really strove for so many years to be accepted widely - that we never actually played a Pride event. So this is my first.

One of the gayest bands ever has never played Pride?

I know! I was in the San Francisco gay Pride parade on the Trannyshack float back in, I think, 1997, and that was some of the most fun I've ever had ... but I've never actually graced a Pride stage before!

What was the Trannyshack float like?

It was some of the most fun I've ever had. San Francisco Pride is really something. The whole city shuts down for it. Being on the back of a flatbed truck, seeing the sidewalks literally rammed with people, was so much fun - and the best part about it was, we're going down the street and all of a sudden I see, standing on a fire hydrant, my dear friend Barry. Barry is an appropriate name for him because he's quite a bear, and he had borrowed his friend's high school drill team outfit. So he was standing on a fire hydrant in a little cheerleader skirt - I think it was yellow and white and blue -(and) festive varsity top, and he was giving me cheerleader moves off the top of that fire hydrant. It was one of the best things ever, because it's just a sea of people and then there's my darling sweet Barry in this outfit! (Laughs)

Does it surprise you that Scissor Sisters has been around for a decade and never performed in Pride?

Never performed; never been asked. It's a little surprising to me, but I mean, our success in the States has been quite underground – not necessarily in the gay community, because we're really well known there. But I think for a lot of Pride events, they try to get grand marshals that are not necessarily gay public figures or are more widely known in straight circles to attract or make it known that gay pride is something that is inclusive of everyone. So yeah, we've never been asked. I'm waiting.

At least we got one of you.

And I'm very happy to be a part of this.

See Ana Matronic, page 50

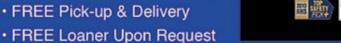


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Gay Marvine: The Disco King

Chuck Hampton On Old-School Grooves & What Music Needs Now (More Dirt?)



BY CHRISTOPHER J. TREACY

When we talk about trimming fat, normally we're dispensing with it in favor of something leaner and, perhaps, healthier. But sometimes folks hold on to the fat, using it to create something delicious and new. It's an old-school technique.

Chuck Hampton likes to trim the fat off disco and classic house tunes, looping the sinewy bits in an artfully arranged manner. More widely known as Gay Marvine, a native Michigan DJ with a sweet-tooth for reimagined classics, Hampton will bring his special brand of hot-disco-grind to the Festival Stage at Motor City Pride at 7 p.m. June 8.

As is the case with many of us, it sounds as if house music helped shape his coming-out experience – something he enjoys reliving this time of year, when Pride festivals gather people and inspire them to connect in ways they might not otherwise.

"I loved disco from an early age," he confessed during a recent chat. "I drove my family crazy cranking out WDRQ on the household stereo. I grew up in Ypsilanti, so when I became a teenager I started going to clubs in Detroit and Ann Arbor. I fell in love with the music I heard in those places. The first guy I dated was a DJ, and I was fascinated by beat mixing. He showed me the basics and I took it from there."

Becoming a regular at Ann Arbor's Nectarine Ballroom (now Necto), as well as at Menjo's and Heaven in

MOTOR CITY PRIDE Gay Marvine 7 p.m. June 8 Hart Plaza. Detroit

Hart Plaza, Detroit Festival Stage motorcitypride.org at Menjo's and Heaven in Detroit, Hampton developed a knack for zeroing in on ear worms, eventually learning to transform them into ear candy by repurposing sample edits of his favorite tracks (and in the process, breathing new life into older, familiar tunes).

"House music changed everything for me," he says.

"These were records made exclusively for the dance floor, not remixes of pop songs, and it could be so wonderfully repetitive and abstract. It literally put you in a trance; the next thing you knew, hours had gone by and you were drenched in sweat."

In a way, what Hampton does as Gay Marvine makes certain that the soul of house music lives on for younger folks that know a great groove when they hear it. At the same time, it tugs at the heart-strings of middle-aged listeners that have never lost their fondness for the disco and early house that soundtracked their younger club days.

"There came a time when I wanted to start integrating disco into my house sets, and somewhere around 2006 technology had evolved to where I could do this," he explains. "The edits I do are an amalgamation of house and disco. I take old stuff and strip it down and end up using the part that I want to hear over and over, but it's usually a brief moment in the original. Strip out the unnecessary bits and get to the good stuff! I make it more

See Gay Marvine, page 40



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From Broken Dreams To Rhinestone Queen, Local Drag Superstar Shares Her Story

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

The world of drag is tough. One day you're fierce and the next you're getting smacked in the dressing room by a jealous queen in a bad wig. To survive in the queen-shankqueen world of drag, it takes a lot of grit, dedication, talent and heels high enough to rise above it all.

To become a name known, loved and respected across the country, it takes something a little more: perseverance.

As a little gay boy growing up in Ithica, local drag superstar Sabin, born Tyler Cooper, lived on the stage and wanted nothing more than to stay there forever. While things didn't work out exactly as she planned, she eventually found herself on the stage – and on a journey that would take her from being virtually unknown to once again hosting Motor City Pride June 8-9.

In her past life, Sabin was a dancer. Classically trained, energetic, passionate and talented, she was a force. Unfortunately, a major injury to her knee stopped her cold.

"It was out of my control. It was just a freak accident – and in one night, my career ended," says Sabin, 30.

The injury was a crushing blow for her; up until that point, she'd never thought about anything more than dance. During that time, out of desperation, she tried to end her life.

"I had no idea (what to do) because dance was the only thing I ever felt like I was good at," she admits. "I had no backup plan; I had never thought about a life without dance. I tried to kill myself. I didn't know where else to turn. I didn't know what else to do. Dancing was the only thing I'd ever been good at – and it was taken away from me. I didn't think I had anything else to contribute. I was miserable ... because everywhere I turned, I was reminded of dance."

After being released from the hospital, her aunt stepped up and offered her a trip to Orlando to clear her mind. The trip changed her life. Less than two weeks after returning to Michigan, Sabin found herself packing up and moving to Florida.

There she began to flirt with the idea of doing drag. After a standout dance number at an amateur talent show, Sabin had a conversation that would set the heels of her drag career in motion.

MOTOR CITY PRIDE Sabin

June 8 and 9 Hart Plaza, Detroit motorcitypride.org

"I went in and I danced and I won the contest," she says. "There was a big performer in Florida who came up to me after the contest and she said, 'I know everybody and I don't know you. Who the hell are you?' I said, 'Um... Tyler.' She said, "I don't know who the hell you are but I'm going to make you a sickening queen one day.' I laughed in her face. Drag was so foreign to me; it never even entered my realm of thought.

"About a month later, I was in a pair of platform boots and performing on

the amateur night."

Maybe it was fortuitous that her reason for entering that fateful competition was the same one that motivates drag queens around the world: cash.

"I did it because I needed the money," she says, laughing. "It was a \$250 grand prize."

But it was also a way to get back to where she felt like she belonged.

"It was a way for me to get back on stage," she says. "I didn't have to dance as hardcore as I always had. It was something my body could take."

Over time she began to settle into life as a burgeoning drag queen, but it wasn't until another knee injury, a knee replacement and then a stagename change that Sabin moved back home to Michigan and really

blossomed.

"I started doing shows and I wasn't very successful; I wasn't sure how to use my dancing to my advantage," she says. "I was doing a show at Spiral (Nightclub) and they didn't have a host. They'd given me the microphone because I'd hosted a couple times in Florida. I started getting more and more comfortable on the microphone. There was one night where we were packed (and) I got up on stage and I started dancing. I kind of forgot to lip-sync but the crowd went crazy.

"I started to incorporate more and more dancing into my routine and stopped trying to be like everyone else. Everything just started to take off."

Calls to book Sabin started rolling in and she eventually scored the Drag Queen Bingo hosting gig at Five15 in Royal Oak. Over time, she polished her now-trademark wit and honed her skills as a performer and seamstress. But for the record, she doesn't wear sequins.

"I wear rhinestones," she insists. "So, please don't cheapen me, just saying."

Unlike many other drag queens, she decided not to take the glamorous route. Instead, she opted for a more club kidesque appearance.

"I've never really claimed to be a pretty girl," she says. "I've always kind of been the oddity or the freak. I'm comfortable with that because it allows you so much more artistic freedom to do so many things that most other performers can't or wouldn't be willing to do."

Despite her unabashedly wigless aversion to glamour, Sabin was able to win pageants, fans and the respect of her peers. In a world where beauty counts for a lot, that's not easy. Luckily, the dedication, energy and talent that made her such a great dancer also helped her become a wellrounded queen and entertainer.

Over her career, she's won numerous awards and accolades but, for Sabin, the joy of doing drag really comes from her desire to put on a show. Even though she's now in her 11th year of doing drag, she still gets emotional when thinking about moments like the one she had recently after performing a tap dance number at Michigan State University.

"The entire auditorium had given me a standing ovation. I still get goose bumps when I talk about it," she says. "It wasn't because of who I was, it wasn't because of what I'd accomplished in my career – none of that mattered. All that mattered was that they appreciated what I'd done for them, that I had worked my ass off for them. It made me look at why I perform in a whole new light."

At this point in her career, she feels content with her success, but she's still looking for that next thing. Like most drag queens on the planet, she's hoping to see her face on "RuPaul's Drag Race." For her, being cast would be more about shining a

The other queens (and king) of Pride

There's Sabin, of course, but look for these drag performers at the first Miss Motor City Pride Pageant, too:

Yara Sofia

Even if you couldn't understand whatever was coming out of her mouth on "RuPaul's Drag Race," Yara got her point across with her over-the-top eccentricites: She was in it to win it. She didn't, of course (remember her dramatic elimination?), but she's gone on to make a name for herself – a name that brings the Puerto Rican queen all the way to Motor City Pride at 4 p.m. June 8.

September Murphy

Hailing from Harbor Springs, drag veteran S e p t e m b e r Murphy – who's been performing for a quarter century – serves

up old-school glamour with a side of "did she just say that?" This queen is representing for the big girls and has never heard of Lane Bryant. With 77 titles under her rhinestone belt, Ms. Murphy is the undisputed heavyweight champion of drag.

Izayah Cole

Keyshia might h a v e th e record deal but, in Detroit, it's Izayah Cole that's on everyone's lips. This well-rounded

performer serves up male lead sex appeal at its best. A trained dancer who can also belt out a tune, if the tips are right, Cole is known for filling up the stage with his

spotlight on the Detroit drag community than self-validation.

"I feel it's a really easy way for me to give back to my community," she says. "We have a lot of amazing talent in this city that goes unnoticed. I think Detroit needs some positive light on it and I think we need to prove (it)."

She's also working to make sure Detroit's next generation of queens keep that fire alive with her own drag children and any other girl who needs an experienced helping hand.

"I'm enjoying the success that I have now," she says. "However, I'm also helping to groom the next generation of drag superstars. Why would I not want also got a smile that would warm the coldest Michigan winter.

presence and turning it rubble. He's

Jaqueline Frost

Despite her chilly name, Jacqueline Frost is one warmhearted tramp. Detroit born and raised, she got her start camping it up for charity and has been entertaining

her city ever since. Comedic and fierce, she promises to bring gasps when she takes the stage at Motor City Pride.

Crystal Harding

Known for her bubbly and charming personality, Crystal Harding is the life of any party. Don't mistake her kind heart for

weakness; she's got a little something stashed under her wig for any chick who tries to be cute. A fierce entertainer, she never met a lip-sync she couldn't destroy.

xthe next generation to be just as amazing, if not better? I'm willing to help whoever's starting out, because I know I can't do this forever."

She's not quite sure when the time will come for her to step down as Michigan's reigning queen of queens, but she's ready for it when it happens. And then, she'll only look back fondly on all the sacrifies she made.

"I have lost friendships. I have lost relationships, I have lost money, but, at the end of the day, was it all worth it? It was. Without all of that, I wouldn't have been anywhere near who I am today," Sabin says. "Do I regret it? Not a damn bit."





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► Gay Marvine Continued from p. 36

repetitive – like house – but keep it organic sounding. I use the Ableton Live software to pin the beats to a steady grid to aid in mixing, and voila!"

The premise is similar to that of other internationally known DJ/producers like Dimitri from Paris, Al Kent and Bob Sinclair, but Hampton maintains a more understated, underground profile. Still, his unique approach and renown-for-marathon sets has landed him coveted slots at parties like Macho City in Detroit, Honey Soundsystem in San Francisco and Honcho in Pittsburgh. Additionally, his edits have found their way to release on the Secret Mixes and Bath House Etiquette labels. You can find his work on Spotify and SoundCloud as well.

"The edits are some of my faves from the old days, just reconfigured for my own DJ sets and for any other DJ who might like them. For instance, "No No No Senor" is an edit of "Don Quichotte" by



Chuck Hampton (aka Gay Marvine) performs at 7 p.m. June 8 at Motor City Pride. Photo: Andrew Potter

Magazine 60. That record slayed me every time I heard it, and so I wanted to introduce it to newer generations.

Hampton firmly believes that clubbing retains a certain level of

soul – something he witnesses at the large-scale parties he continues to play – and that there's still quality music being freshly produced for the dance floor. Unsurprisingly, he says the key ingredient is a DJ that knows what they're doing. And another organic substance.

"I feel like what's missing today is some of the dirt. Everything is so clean and neat nowadays, with most producers using canned loops House music changed everything for me. It literally put you in a trance; the next thing you knew, hours had gone by and you were drenched in sweat.

that all have the same sound. That's what drew me back to the old stuff, the grit and the rawness. House music used to sound like it was done in somebody's basement, and that was part of the allure for me.

"If the DJ is feeling what he's playing and the crowd is in the mood to dance, then this magical synergy happens – but you have to mean it," he continues. "People will meet you halfway if you're actually trying to make them dance. It makes all the difference if the crowd can see the DJ. I like to dance when I play, and I think the crowd takes this as a visual cue that it's OK to let loose and feel it."

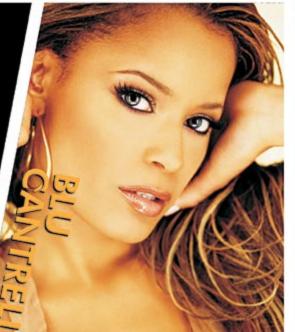


www.PrideSource.com





MOTOR CITY



THE SPIRIT OF PRIDE

For Festival Information Visit: MotorCityPride.org







WE UNITE FOR THE LGBT COMMUNITY





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OBE

Time

2:00pm

3:00pm

4:00pm 5:00pm

6:00pm

7:00pm

8:00pm

9:00pm

10:00pm

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1:00pm

2:00pm

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atan City





Thursday, June 6, 2013 Beyond the Bar 2013: An LGBT Art and Design Showcase 7:00 p.m. Start Gallery 206 East Grand River, Detroit www.detroit.aiga.org

> Friday, June 7, 2013 Pride Night at Necto 516 E Liberty Street, Ann Arbor www.necto.com

Saturday, June 8, 2013 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Festival Hart Plaza 4 Stages of Entertainment www.motorcitypride.com

2:00 p.m. Commitment Ceremony Pride Stage

4:00 p.m. Miss Motor City Pride Contest Featuring Yara Sofia https://five15.net/pride2013/#missmotorcitypride

Pride Stage

Killer Flamingo's

With Yara Sofia

Mz Jonz

Blu Cantrel

Festival Closes

Festival Closes

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Commitment Ceremony

Miss Motor City Pride

Finalist from Ru Paul's Drag Race

Cream Official Motor City Pride 201 the revolutionary cl is proud to be the official a 431 E. Congre www.facebook.co

> After-party 11560 Gris 9:00 pm Food and Drink www.skyb

Sunday, 11:00 a.m. Pride Parad **Griswold Street**

> Noon Inter Prid

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Festival Stage Un Sponsored by Fifth Third Bank Spo DJ DE Duane DE Steffie & the Dirty Virgins Passalacqua Joh Matt Wixson's Flying Circus Cru Gay Marvine Ca Gay Marvine Day

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Pride Stage Sponsored by Motor City Casino	Festival Stage Sponsored by Fifth Third
Interfaith Service	Doggie Drag Show
Equality Rally	Doggie Drag Show
DJ Marquis	The Hype Syndicate
Tunde Olaniran	Mother Cyborg
Jamaican Queens	Mike Medow
Ana Matronic Presented by Five-15	Alexis
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{Pride in our community.}

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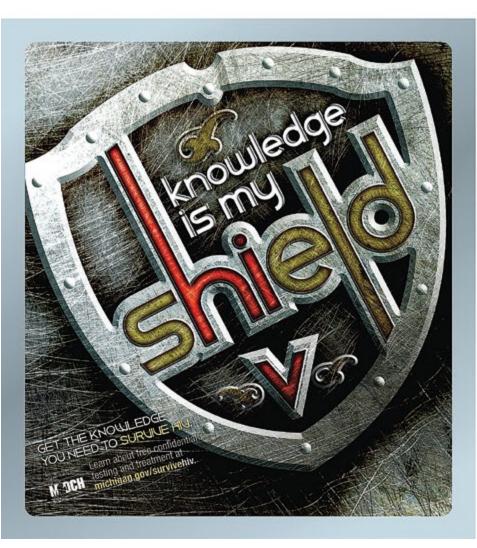




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picnic



Celebrate The Spirit of Pride in the LGBT community as we work to achieve equality for all Michigan citizens.

The parade will step off at

11:00 a.m. Sunday June 9, 2013 at Fort and Griswold.

It will proceed to Hart Plaza where we will spend the day celebrating our community.

Sunday, June 9, 2013

Noon Hart Plaza Detroit, MI

Coordinated by Affirmations Sponsored by Whole Foods

For more info visit

MotorCityPride.org

Food

We are asking families to bring their own sandwiches. Affirmations will provide cotton candy, popcorn, chips, beverages as well as some light tasty snacks.

Games/Activities

- Clown/circus characters
- Gripper parachuting
- Magic station
- Bean bag/ring toss Relay racing
- · Beading · Family photo station

Family Area

Sunday, June 9, 2013 Noon Family Picnic Games and Snacks for kids of all ages Hart Plaza, riverside

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Family Activities Hart Plaza, riverside



what makes

a family

amily

MOTOR CITY

Loveis



InterPride

toronto*

ONTARIO

Straight & Glamorous

Flint Glam-Punk Artist Doesn't Care If You Think He's Gay

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

Tunde Olaniran makes it hard to not like him. Equal parts David Bowie and Aaliyah, with a splash of Lauryn Hill and a sprinkling of Kanye West, he's an intoxicating mixture. Known for his wild shows and even wilder style, this Flintbased newcomer is as electric as a live wire.

He promises that same energy during his performance at 3 p.m. June 9 on the Pride Stage at Motor City Pride.

"We might be scooping people up onstage to show off their skills, too; so if you're ready to break it down, we want you there," he says.

After the release of his sophomore album, "The Second Transgression," to critical success and local acclaim, he's been stretching his legs and touring outside of Michigan, too. Thus far, the response has been exciting.

"I've gotten to play sold-out shows in Detroit, Brooklyn and Chicago with Dale Earnhardt Jr. Jr," Olaniran says. "The response has been phenomenal, which is kind of a relief knowing the success isn't just some anomaly within my home state or with people who know me."

And it gives him even more reason to work on another album.

"I'm working on a project that has more trap influence, more hiphop, harder bass kicks," he says. "I do a lot more rapping, which always makes me nervous because I am friends with so many incredible emcees. I'm always embarrassed to rap in front of them or have them hear me rap on a record."

He's also planning for a few new music videos to go along with this new project and a remix EP for his 2012 alt-hip-hop single "Brown Boy."

Olaniran's look can best be described as urban glam-punk with a slightly androgynous twist. The look began out of his admiration of powerful women.

"It developed over time because all of my artist role models are women," he says. "Even reading comics as a kid, I loved the female characters. I liked Supergirl more than Superman. I think I identify with feminine energy. To be honest, having an androgynous look developed because, as an overweight male, I never could find clothing that I liked and looked interesting. So, I started making my own stuff to wear onstage."

Although admittedly chic and slightly feminine in dress, he blames most of his androgyny on his Aaliyah-meets-early-'90s-

MOTOR CITY PRIDE

Tunde Olaniran 3 p.m. June 9 Hart Plaza, Detroit Pride Stage motorcitypride.org

Snoop Lion coif.

"I think if my head were shaved I wouldn't come across as 'androgynous' as I do," he says.

Regardless, what he's got to offer has been garnering tons of new fans. Among his growing following, he's developed quite a large gay fan base.

"Most people assume I'm gay," he admits. "I feel like even heterosexual folks approach me from that perspective. I like that, because it lets me weed out the bigots. In terms of LGBTQ fans, I think they connect with me for the same reasons everyone else does: It's a fun show with memorable moments and music that sticks."

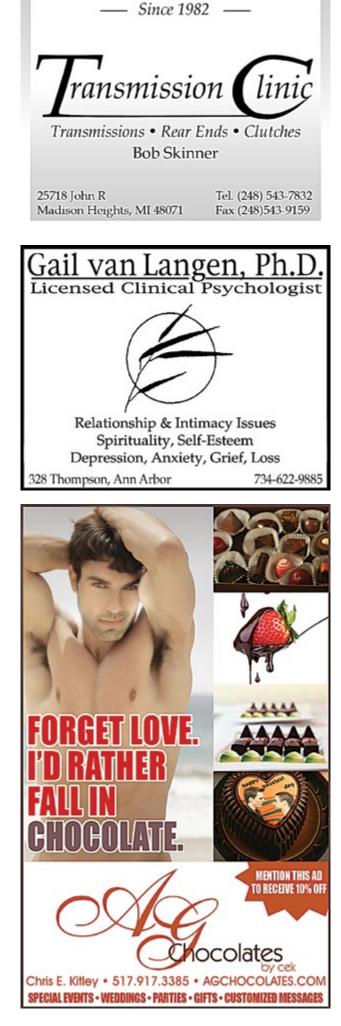
You might not know he's straight based on his self-described "valley girl" voice and his infatuation for a pair of veteran divas ... but he is.

"Oh my god, Charo! I love her so much for really obscure reasons, but I think Madonna is the boss. Even though her music is terrible now, I still love watching her perform. She's just crispy, chaotic and emotional perfectionism. I identify with that."

Moreover, he's all about marriage equality.

"If one adult wants to marry another adult, there's no reason why they shouldn't," Olaniran says. "People very close to me are being denied rights and that's bullshit."

An ally who loves Charo? We're sold.





Ana Matronic Continued from p. 35

Let's talk about "Let's Have a Kiki." Were you surprised by how big this song became? The word "kiki" has become such a part of the gay lexicon because of it.

Yeah, I was surprised. It was a song that was really just designed to play to our friends – a big fat love letter to our friends in New York nightlife. It was never intended to be a single and it never really got a formal release, so the fact that it became this phenomenon - that's about the best thing you can hope for as a creative person, that something takes off on its own and the public tells you what they like. And it was really funny because nobody except the band got the song; the executive producer of the record, the management, the record company – all of them said, "We don't get this song. Are you sure you want this on the album?" And we're all like, "It's going on the album." And that's the one that becomes the popular one and. I believe, our third most popular song on iTunes.

Why were you so confident in that song despite all the resistance to it?

You know you're doing something right when you play a song for your friends, and then when it's finished they say, "Will you play it again?" We just loved the song because it felt so good, it felt so right, and we all really loved the song and we knew our friends really loved the song – and, ultimately, who do you make music for? Do you make music for a record company to be sold or do you make music that represents who you are and what's in your heart? And that's what that song was.

It must've been a huge coup when you heard "Glee" cover it.

It's so crazy. We were really hoping and praying that we would get a song on "Glee" at some point, because we knew Chris Colfer is a big fan of ours and we met him a couple times. That it was that song was hysterical and amazing and really, really funny. What's really funny is that in that episode they were having

an orphans' Thanksgiving in Bushwick (located in Brooklyn, N.Y.) ... and I used to live in Bushwick ... and I had an orphans' Thanksgiving once! It was like, "Oh my god, this is my life!" With Sarah Jessica Parker playing me!

My friend wants to know where he can find a man who smells like cocoa butter and cash.

Probably somewhere in the Mediterranean. I would guess somewhere around Monaco. Monte Carlo seems like a good place to find him.

Sipping on an umbrella drink or something?

Yeah, or stepping onto his yacht somewhere. Mmm hmm.

So, can you clear something up? Because some people still seem to think the Scissor Sisters are breaking up. This is just a hiatus, right?

We're definitely not breaking up. As I like to say to everybody, "It's not goodbye; it's just goodnight." We were just going so hard on the last two records – we did two records back-to-back, two tours backto-back and about three or four years of work just solid, solid, solid – so there is a certain amount of burnout that you can get just from running that hard.

I think we all just wanted to take a little bit of a break, and we've always had other pursuits and things that were interesting to us, so this just gave us a chance to end things for the moment on a high note and work on some other projects and then come back really reinvigorated and excited about the project again. With 10 years of doing anything, there's – I don't want to say boredom, but you can get into a rut or you can wonder where there is to go with it. I think we had a really great run of 10 years and four records, and there will definitely be a fifth.

What's it like stepping out on your own?

It's like doing trapeze without a net. Before I always had a net - I always had Jake (Shears); I always had one of my other bandmates or backing singers to rely on - and this is definitely just me. I've got my two incredible dancers but they don't have mics (laughs), so I have to make sure that I'm in tiptop form all the time, and that is daunting; it's also really exciting and so much fun working on the solo record. My husband and I have been working on the music at home, and my best friend Juan Carlos (Castro) and I have been working on the logo and the artwork and all the branding of my ... (phone starts dialing as Ana's mom picks up the line and says, "Hello?" Ana: "Oh, no, wrong phone, Mom.") So yeah, the promotional pictures: I did the makeup, my friend did my hair, my husband took the photos, so it's really been this familystyle operation thus far and it feels really good. It's really gratifying.

Is it daunting working on a solo album?

A little bit, because there's a certain amount of expectation that I think people have, and being a performer comes out of a need and a desire to please people. Of course I want to make the fans of Scissor Sisters and my fans happy with the new material, but ultimately, if you focus on your own personal fulfillment, people tap into that. People can smell bullshit. If you're making a record for sales, I think people can sense that; when you write from the heart and you're working to fulfill yourself, I think people sense that and feel that and respond in kind.

So this album won't sound too much like Scissor Sisters, I gather?

Well, there will definitely be elements, because it's a dance-floor record and my favorite songs of Scissor Sisters are the darker dance-oriented songs; "Invisible Light" is my favorite song we've ever written. I was a goth kid growing up, so I really like the dark side of dance music, so that's definitely going to be the realm in which I'm coming from – but I don't think it'll be too much of a departure that people will wonder, "What the fuck is this?" (Laughs) No banshee wailing or anything like that.

Wait. You were goth?

Oh, I'm still in my goth phase. I'm always wearing black lipstick ... on the inside.





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Summer Pride Calendar

COMPILED BY SHELBY CLARK

JUNE 6

Beyond the Bar Graphic Artists Reception and Motor City Launch Partv

Presenting Organization: Equality Michigan

7 p.m. Start Gallery, 206 E. Grand River, Detroit. www. motorcitypride.com

Ivy Winters

Presenting Organization: Menjo's

9 p.m. 928 W. McNichols, Detroit. From "RuPaul's Drag Race" Season Five. 18 and over. www.menjosbar. com.

JUNE 7

Michigan Pride White Party

Presenting Organization: Michigan Pride

6 p.m. Marquee Lounge 319 E. Grand River, Spiral Dance Bar 1247 Center St., Esquire 1250 Turner St., Grand Cafe 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. Michigan's biggest white attire party. See DJ Rodney Lamar Page at Marquee Lounge, dancing at Spiral Dance Bar, and more. 18 and over. \$10 (admits into all four venues). www. michiganpride.org

JUNE 8

Motor City Pride

Presenting Organization: Equality Michigan

1 p.m. Hart Plaza, Detroit. Four stages of entertainment, vendor and information booths, food trucks, and more. Miss Motor City Pride Contest with Yara Sofia from "RuPaul's Drag Race." Other entertainment includes Alex Acosta, Killer Flamingos, Tunde Olaniran and more. www. motorcitypride.org

Commitment Ceremony

Presenting Organization: Affirmations and Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo (MCCD)

2 p.m. Hart Plaza, Detroit. This is an opportunity for couples to publicly announce their love and commitment and also apply pressure on legislatures to stand up for equal rights. In addition to the ceremony, Gay and Lesbian Resource Center

1 p.m. 629 Pioneer St., Kalamazoo. Bring your dog for an afternoon of food, prizes and fun. www.kglrc. org/pride

Bears in Speedos Charity Carwash

Alex Acosta, Killer Flamingos, Tunde Olaniran and more.Motor City Pride Parade, 11 a.m.

Dykes on Bikes Pride Rides (continued)

11:45 a.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. Starts at Affirmations and rides to Motor City Pride. 248-398-7105, ronda102003@yahoo.com.

Totally Gay 5K





each couple will receive flowers, light refreshments, photos from the ceremony, wedding cake, two notarized and embossed Domestic Partnership certificates. Registration: \$100. 248-398-7105 ext. 230 or www.motorcitypride.com

Dykes on Bikes Pride Rides (continued)

Presenting Organization: GOAL: Get Out and Live!

11:45 a.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. Starts at Affirmations and rides to Motor City Pride. 248-398-7105, ronda102003@yahoo.com.

Fourth Annual Doggy Day

Presenting Organization: Motor City Bears

1 p.m. Level One Bank, 22635 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. www. motorcitybears.com.

JUNE 9

Motor City Pride (continued)

Presenting Organization: Equality Michigan

1 p.m. Hart Plaza, Detroit. www. motorcitypride.org. Four stages of entertainment, vendor and information booths, food trucks, and more. Headliners: Ana Matronic from Scissor Sisters and Yara Sofia from RuPaul's Drag Race. Other entertainment includes

Presenting Organization: West Michigan Pride

3:30 p.m. Richmond Park, Grand Rapids. Running and walking to celebrate oneness in the gay and straight community while kicking off the week of the 25th Annual West Michigan Pride Festival. www. totallygay5k.blogspot.com

JUNE 13

Manila Luzon

Presenting Organization: Menjo's Bar

9 p.m. 928 W. McNichols, Detroit. From "RuPaul's Drag Race" Season

Three and "All Stars." 18 and over. www.menjosbar.com

JUNE 14

Kalamazoo Pride White Party

Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center

5-11 p.m. Local drag, electronic music, and Manila Luzon of "RuPaul's Drag Race." www.kglrc. org/pride.

PRIDE Pub Crawl

Presenting Organization: West Michigan Pride

6 p.m. The Network (343 Atlas Ave. SE)

7 p.m. Brewery Vivant (925 Cherry St. SE)

8 p.m. HopCat 25 Ionia Ave. SW

9 p.m. The Apartment Lounge (33 Sheldon Ave. NE)

10 p.m. Pub 43 (43 Division Ave S.)

11 p.m. Rumors (69 Division Ave S.)

JUNE 15

Kalamazoo Pride Brunch

Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center

10-12 p.m. Arcadia Creek Festival Site, Kalamazoo. www.kglrc.org/pride

Kalamazoo Pride

Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource CenterTime

2-11 p.m. DJ and performances by Hannaniah & The Boys, Kimi Hayes, Deja Vu, and more.

Bell's Brewery to debut new beer, Sparkleberry.

Admission: \$5 Friday, \$7 Saturday, or \$10 pass for both days. Kids 12 and under free. www.kglrc.org/ pride. Arcadia Creek Festival Site, Kalamazoo.

West Michigan Pride

Presenting Organization: West Michigan Pride

1 p.m. Calder Plaza, Grand Rapids. Vendor and informational booths, food trucks, drag shows and performances by artists including Jane De Young Trio, Potatobabies,



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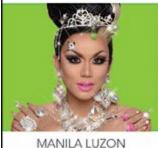


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FEATURING: FROM RUPAUL'S DRAG RACE, THE "ASIAN GLAMASAURUS" MANILA LUZON

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FROM SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE TO KALAMAZOO PRIDE -A HIGH-ENERGY DANCE, SOUL-POP EXPERIENCE WITH

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SATURDAY, JUNE 15TH – 2-11^{PM}

The celebration continues all day with family-friendly activities, food and beverage vendors, artisan and information booths, official pride merchandise, and NON-STOP LIVE ENTERTAINMENT.

IN THE CHILDREN'S TENT: ANTI-BULLYING PRESENTATION BY TRUTHLOCKER

ON THE MAIN STAGE: EMCEE'D BY MILWAUKEE COMEDIAN TANYA ATKINSON

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BRODY RAY

FROM THE HEART OF GRAND RAPIDS HANNANIAH & THE BOYS

AND, BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND - FROM CHICAGO KIMI HAYES & DEJA VU

SUNDAY, JUNE 16TH – 12-4^{PM}

Join us for a "Recovery Brunch" at The Union. There will be bloody marys, delicious food, music and socializing. (125 South Kalamazoo Mall)

FEATURING: KALAMAZOO SINGER-SONGWRITER ELISABETH PIXLEY-FINK

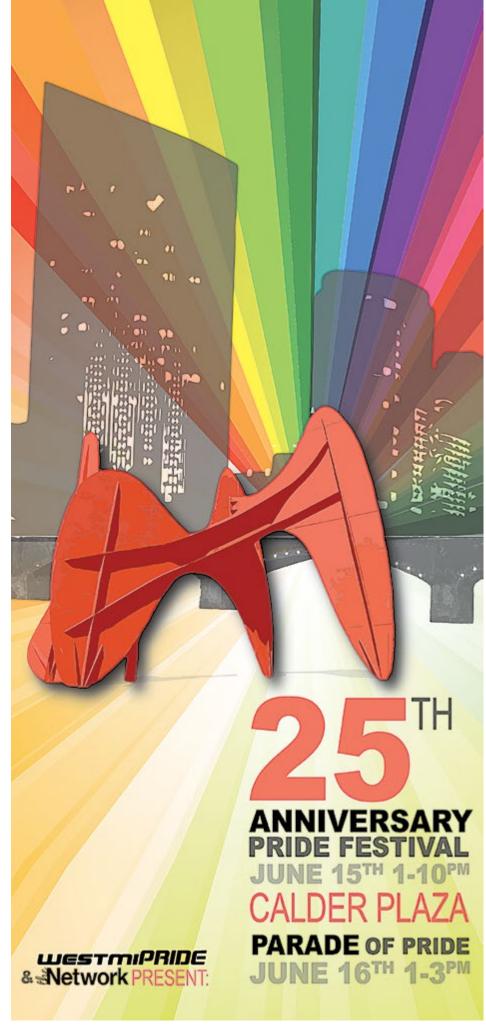
Rooms are available at the Radisson Plaza Hotel & Suites at a reduced rate until May 31, 2013. Visit kglrc.org/pride or check the Kalamazoo Pride facebook page for updates and full details.



HANNANIAH & THE BOYS

KIMI HAYES & DEJA VU

ELISABETH PIXLEY-FINK



BTL | June 6, 2013

55

► Pride Calendar

Continued from p. 52

Bermuads, and more. http://www.grlgbt. org/west-michigan-pride-2013/pridefestival-2013/

Women's Potluck

Presenting Organization: Windsor-Essex Pride Fest

5:30 p.m. Windsor Family Credit Union, 2800 Tecumseh Road E., Windsor, ON, Canada. www.windsorpride.com

Bring a dish to pass. Coffee, tea, pop and water provided. Alcohol- and smoke-free event.

JUNE 16

Grand Rapids Parade of Pride

Presenting Organization: West Michigan Pride

1-3 p.m. Michigan and Ottawa, Grand Rapids. http://www.grlgbt.org/west-michigan-pride-2013/pride-festival-2013/

JUNE 21

Candlelight Vigil

Presenting Organization: Tri-City Pride

8 p.m. Borchard Park, Saginaw. Remembering those lost to suicide. www.tricitylgbtpride. com.

Lavendar Dance Metro-Post Pride Party Presenting Organization: GOAL

7 p.m. Emagine Royal Oak Cinema, 200 N. Main St., Royal Oak. DJ. Cash bar. Drink specials. All funds after coverage of party will go to non-profit. Tickets: \$12-15. www. meetup.com/GOAL-Get

JUNE 22

Tri-City Pride

Presenting Organization: Tri-City Pride

1-8 p.m. Ojibway Island Park, Saginaw. Car show, vendor and information booths, food trucks, and more.Drag queen hostess: Asio Aviance.Performances by Bayside Bombshell's Burlesque Troup, Drag King Rebellion, Abbie Stauffer, Sandy Mulligan and Kris Pride. www. tricitylgbtpride.com

Washtenaw Pride Picnic

Presenting Organization: Jim Toy Community Center

12 p.m. Allmendinger Park, Ann Arbor. www. jimtoycenter.org

T-Party

Presenting Organization: Windsor-Essex Pride Fest.

7 **p.m.**Windsor Pride Community Resource and Education Centre, 422 Pelissier, Windsor, ON, Canada. An opportunity for the transgender

community and their allies to get to know each other. Coffee, tea and soft drinks available. www.windsorpride.com.

JUNE 29

Holland Area Pride

Presenting Organization: Holland Area PRIDE

1-10 p.m. Centennial Park and Park Theatre. Booths, vendors, musical acts at Centennial Park and comedy show, drag performance and dancing at Park Theatre in the evening. www. hollandareapride.com

Flint Gay Pride in the Park

Presenting Organization: Flint Gay Pride Society

1 p.m. Riverbank Park and University of Michigan Pavilion Rink. Features vendors, information booths, food trucks, live entertainment, wrestling show, and children's activities. www.facebook.com/ Flintgaypride

LGBTQ Youth Prom

Presenting Organization: Affirmations

6 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105 or www. goaffirmations.org

Celebrate the music and culture of the 80s, 90s and 00s by wearing your best generation inspired outfit. Dinner, light refreshments and beverages provided. Open to all youth 13-20. Free.

BEYOND JUNE JULY 23

JULI ZS

Candlelight Vigil

Presenting Organization: Hotter Than July

6 p.m. Blue Spruce Memorial Tree, Palmer Park, Detroit. The nation's third oldest celebration of African-American LGBT culture. www.HotterThanJuly.org

JULY 24

Boat Ride

6:10 p.m. Rivard Plaza on Downtown Detroit's Riverwalk. www.HotterThanJuly. org. \$55 per person. Join Hotter Than July for a three-hour cruise on the Detroit River.

JULY 25

Film Festival

Presenting Organization: Hotter Than July

5:30 p.m. Cass City Cinema, 3420 Cass Ave, Detroit. The Hotter Than July Film Festival is a presentation of featured and short films. \$20 per person. www.HotterThanJuly.org.

Youth & Young Adult Summit

Presenting Organization: Hotter Than July

12 p.m. University of Michigan Detroit Center, 3663 Woodward Ave, Detroit. A free event addressing issues and concerns of the LGBT community, from youth and young adult perspective. www.HotterThanJuly.org.

JULY 26

The Annual Gathering on LGBTQ Issues

Presenting Organization: Hotter Than July

8 a.m. University of Michigan Detroit Center, 3663 Woodward Ave, Detroit. Two days of education and advocacy with an array of interactive and informative workshops covering issues of importance to women, men, transgender and youth.www.HotterThanJuly.org.

The Friday Night Party – "One Night Only"

Presenting Organization: Hotter Than July

7 p.m. TBA. A formal event with refreshments, dancing and entertainment. \$35. www.HotterThanJuly.org

JULY 27

The Palmer Park Picnic

Presenting Organization: Hotter Than July

10 a.m. Palmer Park, Detroit. The pinnacle event of Detroit's annual celebration. Over 20,000 guests taking a moment to celebrate culture, self-empowerment and identity. www. HotterThanJuly.org

JULY 28

Worship Service

Presenting Organization: Hotter Than July and Whosoever Ministry

11 a.m. Whosoever Ministry, 2930 Woodward Ave., Detroit. www.HotterThanJuly.org

Sunday Brunch

Presenting Organization: Hotter Than July

2 p.m. Roberts Riverwalk Hotel & Residence, 1000 River Place, Detroit. www.HotterThanJuly.org. \$50 per person/ \$90 per couple.

AUG. 24

March and Rally at the Capitol

Presenting Organization: Michigan Pride

1 p.m. From Adado Riverfront Park to the Capitol steps, Lansing. Celebrating the LGBTQ community's progress in achieving civil rights and uniting against housing, workplace, and marriage discrimination. www.MichiganPride.org

Commitment Ceremony

Presenting Organization: Michigan Pride

2 p.m. Capitol steps, Lansing. www.MichiganPride.org.

Michigan Pride Diversity Festival

Presenting Organization: Michigan Pride

11 a.m. 220 East Maple St., Lansing. Michigan-based musicians, Grand Marshal Ross Mathews, vendors and non-profit booths, children's area and more. www. MichiganPride.org.

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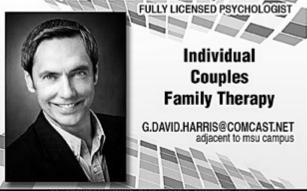
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From Bowties To Briefs Michigan Pride White Party Offers Mix Of Party Options

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

The White Party is a time-honored tradition that celebrates the LGBT community's ability to come together and work for a common goal. And drink, and wear as little clothing as possible.

The fourth annual Michigan Pride White Party on June 7 promises all of that and more. Just like in years past, the upcoming White Party, which takes place in downtown Lansing, will help fund the events of the Michigan Pride Festival and Rally. Normally, the two events are paired but, with Michigan Pride moved to Aug. 24, White Party is now its own event.

"It's a party, no doubt about it. There's not a lot of political action going on," said Michigan Pride Co-Chair Emily Horvath.

White Party kicks off at 6 p.m. and lasts until 2 a.m., when the bars close. Purchase of a \$10 wristband

at any venue will allow participants to floa between participatin bars all night long, eac one within walkin distance. To cater t the diverse crowd, eac of the four venues wi offer something a littl different.

"It's really a nigh where anyone can fin what they're lookin for," Horvath said.

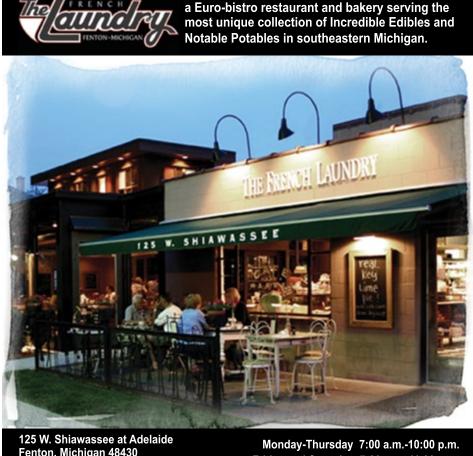
The main base fo White Party will b Marquee Lounge where local favorite D Rodney Lamar Page wi be stepping up to th turntables. He'll also be

picking up his violin to perform his signature live dubstep accompaniment. For a more relaxed, adult vibe, visit

Esquire, which offers pool tables and a



space to converse. Sir Pizza/Grand Café has party-goers covered when it comes time to soak up the alcohol. They'll also



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See White Party, page 58



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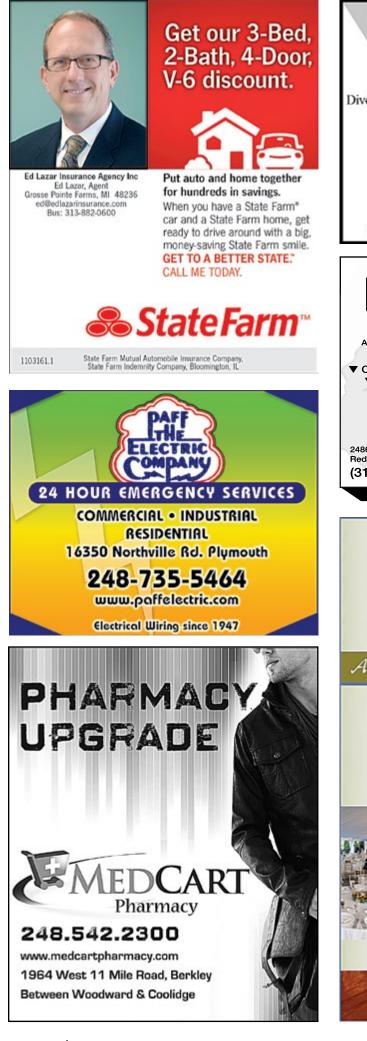
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 White Party Continued from p. 56

have hand-spun tunes from DJ Fudgie.

Spiral Dance Bar will probably be home to the craziest party of the night. The only 18-and-up venue of the bunch is offering up the hottest club beats and cheap drinks for those who want to dance the night away. They're also giving people the opportunity to get wet and wild during their foam party.

Each venue will have their own dress code but, other than white being the color of the night, there's very few other restrictions. Although participants do have to keep their outfits within the boundary of the law.

"People can come to the White Party and wear anything from formal wear to underwear," Horvath said.

Like red during Gay Days at Disney World, white during White party is a show of solidarity and pride. It's a chance to be on the streets and feel like part of a community that is usually invisible.

"It's pretty amazing to see an entire neighborhood and business district filled with people dressed in white," Horvath said. "That show of unity within the LGBT community, as well as the businesses around there – it's pretty stunning."

With a crowd that's expected to swell to over 2,500, White Party is claiming the title of "Michigan's Largest White Attire Event."

"It's one of those things where you really feel like you were part of something, you were there," Horvath said.

Although the party promises to be an exciting time, it all serves a greater purpose.

"This is the one opportunity we have to make a concerted effort and show our community and our voting power at the state capitol," Horvath said. "It is pretty awesome to stand on those steps and look out at a sea of people with the common goal of obtaining equal rights and equal recognition for our families."

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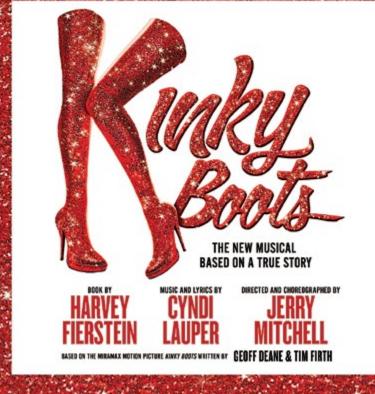
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Hear Me Out

ORIGINAL BROADWAY CAST RECORDING



'Kinky Boots' (Original Broadway Cast Recording)

"The world seemed brighter six inches off the ground." So goes the draginspired fabulousness of the British indie-turned-Broadway hit "Kinky Boots," a love letter to anyone who's ever felt different, rejected and like they'd look hawt in a pair of stilettos; it's self-discovery set to music. Who knows a thing or two about true colors shining through? About following your heart? Cyndi Lauper, of course. The pop icon takes the music-writing reins in this passion project, the culmination of a career that's not only positioned her as a chart-topper but as Mama Bear to her queer cubs. The heartbreaking honesty of "Not My Father's Son," then, is something Lauper can empathize with – and that Billy Porter sings with gut-wrenching pathos and a bravo finish. "Hold Me in Your Heart," the other slow-building centerpiece, is another showstopper; as Lola, Porter shows that song who's boss with a very "And I Am Telling You ... "moment of climatic vocal heat. Other highlights on a recording full of them: "Sex is in the Heel," with its Scissor Sisters likeness; the other lead, Charlie (Stark Sands), on "Take What You Got"; and the finale, "Raise You Up/Just Be," an empowerment pickme-up echoing Rick Astley's "Never

Gonna Give You Up." Even without live drag queens strutting in sequins and glitter, the "Kinky Boots" music alone sparkles. Grade: B+



The National. **'Trouble Will Find** Me'

It's still early in the year, but hold a spot for The National on your

best-of list. "Trouble Will Find Me" is a gloriously rich, life-changing listen that knows how to elicit emotion (see: sadness, more sadness) without overblown superfluity. The Ohio indie-rockers' sixth release knows that subtlety can be just as, if not more, powerful - especially when heard alone in a dark room, these mellow slowburners washing over you in peaceful solitude. With pensiveness that gets you in the gut ("I don't know why we had to lose the ones who took so little space") and the gentle ambiance of glistening guitars, "Hard to Find" is the perfect outro. The same quiet beauty is captured on the wistful standout "I Need My Girl," an utterly gorgeous bass rumble carrying the track into a sublime state of shifting splendor as frontman Matt Berninger laments regret and being "a 45 percenter

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

then"; "Pink Rabbits," too, carries an emotional heaviness despite its featherweight melody. It's the case with a lot of this perfectly rendered work – more delicately produced than the band's esteemed "Boxer," or even 2010's "High Violet" (though Berninger's baritone still packs an aching punch), but no less affecting as it hangs over you long after the coda disappears into the horizon. Grade: A-

Also Out



Daft Punk. 'Random Access Memories'

This probably isn't the Daft Punk disc that anyone was expecting – a sonic

bed of mostly non-dance electro reverie for the mellowing after-party – because it's better than that. France's musicmaking mystery men, as ambitious as ever, dole out a sound-doc on a techno legend ("Giorgio by Moroder"), a galvanizing space odyssey ("Contact") that morphs into a frantic spellbinder and synth-rock stunner "Instant Crush" with The Strokes' Julian Casablancas taking vocal lead. "Doin' It Right" is inspiring robot music (that's a good thing), and the retro-chic shakeout "Get Lucky" should get feet on the floor. "Random Access Memories," though, doesn't dance the night away; it's moving in a way you don't expect.



Charli XCX. 'True Romance'



Who knows when Robyn's gonna let her body talk again, so till then we have British

pop newcomer Charlotte Aitchison (aka Charli XCX) to tide us over. That's not to say Charli's on Robyn's level talent-wise - this chick's only 20, so she has time to get there – but she has some of the Swede's swag. Charli also sounds as deliciously pop as Robyn with "You're the One," and no wonder: The track's producer, Patrik Berger, assisted "Dancing on My Own." "Stay Away," the blog hit that helped launch her into stardom, pulsates with synth fuzz and sass. "Lock You Up" is dreamy greatness. These are hooky, defiant pop tracks with gumption. More, please.



WOMAN SEEKS VAGINA ...

Please Give Me you'r Money So I con Buy o Vogina!

. Finds Comedy Career Instead

BY DAWN WOLFE

Photo: Scott Lipied

hat do an African-American transwoman working as a homeless LGBT youth worker and a 5-yearold "Snotty Boy" who grants wishes for cookies have in common? They're both fictional characters, and both are part of Julia Lynn Marsh's upcoming one-woman show at The Ringwald on June 23.

Marsh's show, "Please Give Me Your Money So I Can Buy a Vagina," will be part of the theater's annual Gay Play Series running from June 7-24.

In a recent interview with BTL, Marsh said that the show started off as a fundraiser for – you guessed it – surgery to give her a vagina.

"I had done standup in the past for queer events," she says, "and I kind of had certain stories that people really liked hearing – ridiculous stories from my life – and one day a woman I knew through community theater came up to me and said, 'Hey, that whole transgender thing – can I ask you a bunch of questions?"

"We talked about surgery and she

asked me if I'd done a fundraiser but I said I wasn't comfortable asking people for money, so she suggested putting the show together as a fundraiser."

After writing and workshopping started in Sepember 2012, Marsh's first inkling that she might have a hit on her hands happened during an Oakland Community College talent show in December. Marsh performed a five-minute monologue "with no intention of winning; I just wanted to see how an audience would react to it."

The audience reacted very well. Marsh won first place in the competition. "I was so shocked!" she says. "I was the only performer who didn't sing or dance. That was kind of the first inclination that I could probably do something with this."

Since that time, Marsh has indeed "done something with this," including attracting the attention of Ringwald Artistic Director – and her show's director – Joe Bailey.

Recalling her first show – "Rugrats Hannuka Special" at age 5 – she remembers when *she* was director.

Marsh laughs. "It wasn't very

successful because my cousin and sister didn't take it as seriously as I did ... and (they) didn't take artistic direction."

She continued putting on shows for her family and did theater in both middle and high school – and even took a stab at writing and reading poetry at the old Xhedos coffeehouse in Ferndale.

These were some of her first times on stage as Julia – a transition that has been more successful, she said, than her poetry. "I'm sure people wanted to scratch their eyeballs out with a fork for those couple of years," she remembers with a smile in her voice.

Not that transitioning as a 15-yearold was an easy time in her life. Like many transgender individuals, Marsh knows what it's like to be homeless, though she said that her falling out with her parents – primarily her father – wasn't caused by her gender identity alone. "Dad couldn't handle my transition, my mother couldn't handle us together, and I just wasn't allowed to come back home," she says.

Now, at 26, Marsh said that her experiences have taught her a lot

about life.

"I started my transition when I was 15 – I was either brave or stupid, but I think the two are pretty similar," she says. "I think bravery in part is being willfully ignorant, or just being ignorant of the trials you're going to face. I was this whiny little goth trans girl who felt like 'Oh, woe is me; the world is against me.'I felt left out from all of those queer activists. Then I found out what the world is really like, knowing what real discrimination is, what real pain is. It's not glorious, and it's not pretty."

Marsh has taken all of those lessons and many of those experiences and put them into a show – and while doing so, learned something very important about herself and what it means to be a woman.

"Ironically, (the show became) about something I had yet to come to terms with because of homelessness and other things that kept me from pursuing the surgery," she says. "I had to become OK with myself as I am. So it became a comedy show about somebody desperately

Please Give Me Your Money ... 7 p.m. June 23 The Ringwald 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale

www.whereismyvagina.blogspot.com www.TheRingwald.com

trying to get a vagina through all of these situations like homelessness and wanting this ultimate sign of femininity – and ultimately realizing you can become your own kind of woman and being OK with that while still wanting to make improvements to yourself. I still want to have that surgery, but it's no longer integral to my happiness, which is what the show is about."

In fact, asked to choose between money for a vagina and money for college, Marsh doesn't hesitate. "Definitely college, for the simple fact that a vagina won't get you a college education, but a college education might get you a vagina!"





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Still Plenty Of Life In The Old Girls

BY MICHAEL H. MARGOLIN

In a career that lasted from 1965 ("Flora, the Red Menace") until 2010 ("The Scottsboro Boys"), John Kander and Fred Ebb made Broadway history with "Cabaret," "Chicago" and "The Kiss of the Spider Woman". Meadow Brook Theatre has chosen for its final production of the season their 1971 show, "70, Girls, 70" (not the amount, but the ages), and while it may not live up to some of its illustrious siblings, it has, among its 16 songs, some six or eight or 10 that would be worth hearing again.

Travis W. Walter, Meadow Brook's artistic director and the adroit director of the show, has done it, and us, a favor, not only by reviving the musical but by casting these absolutely first rate singing/dancing actors from around Southeastern Michigan.

The plot – which is like a plain wire hanger to hang the fine fabric of the score on - involves aged, retired actors who, led on by the intrepid Ida, steal fur coats in order to buy the seedy hotel they live in and turn it into a first class retirement home for indigent actors.

Need to know more? I doubt it; for although it has gone through many versions and revisions, according to Walter, the first act begins slowly and the gimmick is, well, rather lame. Still, when you let loose a batch of talents who sing like stars and move like thoroughbreds, never mind the limp book by Ebb and Norman L. Martin, based on Peter Coke's 1958 play "Breath of Spring."

Ida, played with panache by Mary Robin Roth, is the leader of the pack, convincing her old buddies to join in her harebrained - or furbrained - wheel-andsteal game. When she enters, she exudes energy, and the others come up to her level. And form the gang.

She has the good luck to be handed two of the finer songs, "Old Folks" and the hilarious "The Elephant Song," which barely touches on the plot but was sung with such a sense of the ridiculous and the sublime that an encore would not be amiss. Consider that, Travis.

Everyone else could be considered supporting cast, but each has his or her own great vocal moments: The incredible Paul Hopper, who has played character parts and Shakespearean leads, has a patter song reprised in the second act, and he comes as close as possible to



The cast of "70, Girls, 70" at Meadow Brook Theatre. Photo: Rick Smith

INFO 70, Girls, 70

Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester, Wednesday-Sunday through June 23. 2 hours, 20 minutes. \$31-40. 248-377-3300. www.mbtheatre.com

vaudeville.

The show is rather vaudevillian, and choreographer Tyrick Wiltez Jones has mined the vaudeville/musical hall dance repertoire to come up with some dandy moves for the old timers who dance with grace and aplomb.

I particularly enjoyed the edge that Tamara Anderson brought to Melba, one of the two waitresses in the cafe attached to the hotel. She has a big, gutsy voice and moves like a gazelle. In her wonderful number "Believe," she made me...believe. (Her waitress partner in crime – yes, they join the "gang" – was Fritzi, played by the excellent Judy Dery.)

Ruth Crawford plays several roles (as do the fine Henry Nelson, Tobin Hissong and Hugh Maguire), but taps into the vintage message of the show - love and respect older folks - as Grandma. She steps away from her granny walker to tap and trill "Go Visit Your Grandmother," another high point in the show. (The bright-eyed Eddie, the bellboy, played with juvenile fervor by Joseph Feldmann, joins in the duet with Crawford and displays one of those musical comedy tenor voices with ringing top notes.)

Trudy Mason brings an innocent charm and a helluva hot shimmy to the role of Eunice, and as the tall and dignified Gertrude, Candice Coleman turns dignity into diggety-dog with her rendition of "See the Light." Clair E. Kaiser and James Busam fill out the admirable ensemble.

I have given kudos to the thricemonikered choreographer – consider this a reprise – but others stand high in the pantheon of talent: Costume designer Elizabeth Moore seems to have nailed the colors, combinations and style of the late '80s and found that glorious black boa that Ida carouses with like an erotic partner in the "Elephant" song and the outrageous final costume for Ida as she lofts above the stage as a kind of Goldwyn girl as a glimmering silver pie plate.

Kristen Gribbin's very good set design allows the maximum flow from scene to scene; Reid G. Johnson, usually the most supple of lighting designers, has allowed some dark spots in an otherwise good lighting design - especially the use of spotlights, and flashlights and police lights and on and on. Stacy White's conducting was first-rate, and the excellent band of eight was off-stage but, unlike children, better heard than seen.

Near the end, engraved on a large plaque is the hotel's new name. The Princess Ida, which happens to be an operetta by two other great musical partners: Gilbert and Sullivan. Wink, wink



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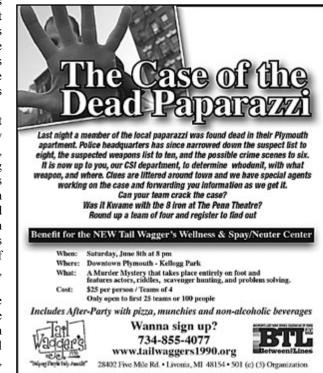


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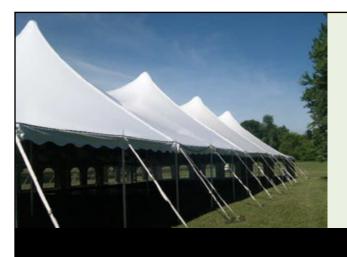
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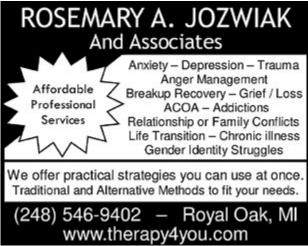
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Detroit Softball League Hits Homerun For Community

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

Although high-profile athletes are making headline news for publicly coming out, like the recent announcement made by NBA basketball player Jason Collins, it's just as important to recognize LGBT participation in sports within smaller hometown communities.

The Metro Detroit LGBT Softball League was established in 1985 and is home to more than 500 seasoned veterans and beginners who show their athletic talents without fear.

"Many of us, including myself, have been a part of some sort of sports team or league since 5 and 6 years old through college and now into the recreational sports scene. It's part of our life. It's what we do. We've been doing it for decades. The sudden realization that there is a gay professional sports athlete out there to many of us is like, '... and so what?' LGBT people have been playing sports for decades. It shouldn't be a surprise that there is a gay athlete anymore," said Bill Peters, MDSL public relations committee chair since 2006.

What it boils down to is awareness. Media outlets bear some of that responsibility. No one ever mentions or writes about the local LGBT sports leagues on a continuous basis. For example, in the Metro Detroit area there are three to four different LGBT bowling leagues, the softball league, a flag football league, a tennis league, a golf league, a curling team, swimming groups and running groups. Media, including the LGBT media, need to cover this on a regular basis as it will help break down more barriers," said Peters. "Getting a consistent message of player X, who hits the winning run in to win the championship should be the news. The fact that they're LGBT should be a non-issue. It won't be tomorrow, may not be next year, but it will happen with the help of leagues like MDSL and media portrayals representing LGBT sports in that perspective."

MDSL has made it their purpose to provide and protect the opportunity for individuals who support the bonds of gay fellowship to play softball in an atmosphere of friendly competition, free of discrimination on the basis of age, race, creed, religion, sex, national origin,





2012 MDSL Teams Fast Enterpises (Above) and New Way Bar / RE-MAX Complete (Below).

sexual orientation and preference, or ability. MDSL aims to foster knowledge and training in the field of softball, aimed at educating the community served about the physical, social, psychological, and intellectual benefits of athletics.

In collaboration with leagues in Detroit, Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, the Midwest Invitational Softball Tournament is held every Labor Day weekend. The greatest thing about MDSL, according to Peters, is how it has grown and changed over the years. In 2005, there were only seven teams. In 2006, MIST in Detroit hosted 24 teams, 32 teams in 2010, and the goal is to reach 44 teams in 2014.

"To get this growth, it took a lot of hard work to get the name and mission of the league out there. The league has set goals to make sure our communication is consistent and reaches as many of the Metro Detroit LGBT population as possible, making it one of the largest in the Midwest," he said.





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► MDSL Continued from p. 68

MIST will celebrate its 29th year in the summer of 2014. Detroit will host the tournament at the Canton Sports Center in Canton. "We will be able to have up to 48 teams. This is the largest group of teams MIST has hosted and will host to date. We are actively seeking volunteers, sponsors, and donations," he said.

In an effort to help cover costs of the fields, umpires, balls, score sheets, advertising, opening and closing parties. and transportation, MDSL hosts a MIST Night fundraiser the first Saturday of every month at MBII in Warren. "The monthly events allow us to keep fundraising efforts going over a four-year period versus cramming it all in during the year prior or the year of the tournament. It also helps us keep MDSL and MIST on the minds of the community," said Peters. "The performers at MBII are longtime members of MDSL. We've been very fortunate to get huge support from Bill B and his team."

The secretary of MDSL, Tommy Ford (aka Iona Trailer), has organized a special event to benefit the Ruth Ellis Center June 14 at MBII. "I feel that that I've been fortunate up to this point in my life so I wanted to do **G** I can't imagine being a kid and being kicked out on to the streets because of being gay. It's very sad to me that there is a need for the Ruth Ellis Center, but it's reality that there is such a need and just wishing it weren't true doesn't help. By organizing this benefit, I can help.

- Tommy Ford

something positive and to give back to my community for my birthday, not just do something that was all about me. I first learned about the Ruth Ellis Center a few years ago when the MDSL accepted donations for it during our season kick off party. I was so impressed with the wonderful work they do for LGBTQ youth in the area. I can't imagine being a kid and being kicked out on to the streets because of being gay. It's very sad to me that there is a need for the Ruth Ellis Center, but it's reality that there is such a need and just wishing it weren't true doesn't help. By organizing this benefit, I can help," said Ford.

For those who are interested in joining the league, Peters said he encourages them to come out to the fields to watch. "We offer play at three different levels;

and recreational. We have a way to help those that don't have the experience get used to the environment and help them learn," he said. "We offer a way for people to congregate, build friendships and, like in any team environment, build that sense of team pride and unity. This is not just a softball league; this is a family. Competition at any level is a great way to build a team and pride. All levels of play in the league have some form of competition. That competition turns into team pride, which turns into having fun, win or lose. It helps build that sense of belonging to those that may not have had the opportunity to do it in high school or college, or it continues for the others that have had it their whole lives through playing sports."

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Integrity, Truth Telling Inspire Priest's Coming Out

BY CHUCK COLBERT

A priest in the St. Louis Archdiocese has come out, grabbing headlines and generating considerable buzz within Catholic circles and beyond. While many LGBT laypersons struggle to reconcile their sexuality with antigay church teaching, the Rev. Gary M. Meier faced another difficulty – remaining invisible, silent and part of an increasingly hostile hierarchy.

"My struggle isn't with being gay," he writes in his book "Hidden Voices: Reflections of a Gay, Catholic Priest." "It's with the Church's teaching on homosexuality and the way in which the hierarchy is interpreting that teaching regarding the homosexual person, the ordination of gay men, gay marriage, gay parenting, and especially the impact that this teaching has on gay youth growing up in the Church. That's what I struggle with."

During a telephone interview,



Another Catholic priest, Rev. Gary M. Meier, steps out of the closet.

Father Meier, who is celebrating his 15th anniversary as a priest, elaborated further on his decision to come out. "There just came a point for me, I think, to be a man of integrity and to move and breathe and be whom God called me to be, that I had to do this," he said. "I feared that at the end of my life, and I stand before God, and God's saying, 'Why haven't you spoken the truth that I have given you? Why have you remained silent all this time?"

In speaking out, moreover, Meier has no quarrel with priestly celibacy. "I am not partnered, not dating and have been faithful to my vows and commitment as a priest," he said. "I make a point of clarifying that because it seems to be such a big thing with some people. I didn't know people would care."

Asked about the timing now to come out publicly, Meier replied, "Why not now!"

Still, his decision to be openly gay comes at the same time as the second-edition release of Meier's book, first published anonymously in 2011 but now with his name as author.

His decision also comes as some LGBT Catholic laypersons – even non-gay people – have been denied communion, fired from teaching positions, and removed from parish and music ministry, primarily for being in same-sex relationships or supporting gay marriage.

Openly gay priests are a rarity in the Catholic Church. In fact, there are only two or three in the U.S. who have said they are gay publicly, according to the Rev. James Martin, a Jesuit priest and editor-at-large for America



magazine.

Nonetheless, he told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, "There are hundreds, if not thousands, of celibate gay priests working in the Catholic Church today who are beloved by their parishioners. And there are a number of reasons why almost all of them feel unable to be honest. They are either uncomfortable themselves, or they're told specifically by their superiors not to talk about it."

Meier did not consult with his superior, Archbishop Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis, before coming out.

For its part, the archdiocese issued a short, measured, statement, noting Fr. Meier's past one-year leave "for reasons of vocational discernment."

The statement continues, "As a man who experiences same-sex attraction, Fr. Meier has before him an opportunity to be an example and mentor to Catholics in the archdiocese who struggle with the same feelings.

"Whether he will seize this opportunity to proclaim the Gospel of Life which offers the truth about the beauty and sanctity of human sexuality, is entirely within his control."

But hierarchical truth is one thing. Meier's truth telling is another.

"I want the truth about homosexuality to be out," he wrote on May 21 for Huffington Post. "Homosexuality is not a cross, it's not a curse, it's not an intrinsic disorder; it is a gift, created by love for love."

Meier's post has gone viral, he said, with an outpouring of support voiced on Huffington's Web site, Facebook and through private e-mails.

"The shame that we've created in our church is deeper and bigger than I thought," he said over the telephone. "There is no other way to explain why this would be viral."

Meier hopes to stay in active ministry. "As a priest, people have given me access to their lives in very profound ways that you can't obtain in any other way," he said. "We are with people in some of the most difficult periods in their lives. It's an incredible privilege to be able to do that."

Meier recalled one letter from a gay youth who told him he had been rejected several times from his church for being gay. "His first correspondence to me said, 'I beg you to pray for me," Meier explained. "How desperate can you be to say that. It just breaks my heart.

"I get choked up because here is a kid who is trying to make peace with himself as a gay man and has these hierarchical voices in his head saying he is flawed."

Whether Maier returns to pastoral ministry remains an open question.

"Whatever I do, it will be advocacy for the LGBT community," he said. "If I can do that as a priest in active ministry, so be it. I can't imagine how that would happen."

Meanwhile, reaction from LGBT Catholics has been positive.

"Father Gary Meier's decision to come out as a gay man is a great gift to the entire church, to LGBT Catholics, and particularly to other gay priests, many of whom struggle in secrecy and shame," Francis DeBernardo, executive director of New Ways Ministry, said in e-mail correspondence.

He added, "The fact that he is a priest, a Catholic authority figure, will help so many Catholics, particularly younger ones, know that they do not have to live lives of desperation.

"I hope that Fr. Gary's decision will inspire other priests to emulate him. So much of the problem with institutional Catholicism's inability to deal with homosexuality comes from the fact that priests are not allowed to lead honest and authentic lives or to discuss their sexuality with others. Fr. Gary's declaration breaks the ice and shatters the myth that open discussion of sexuality will harm the church.

Far from harming it, his decision helps to heal the church.



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The OutField A Tale Of Two Coming-Out Stories

BY DAN WOOG

When Jason Collins came out last month, Helen Carroll was furious.

The longtime sports project director at the National Center for Lesbian Rights had nothing against the 7-foot basketball center, who became the first still-active male athlete in a major American team sport to say "I'm gay."

But Carroll couldn't help thinking about something that happened just a couple of weeks earlier. Brittney Griner - the top women's college basketball player of 2013, number one WNBA draft pick, and quite possibly the best female hoops player of all time - came out as a lesbian.

Collins' announcement was a major media event. He made the cover of Sports Illustrated. He was on the network evening news. President Obama phoned with congratulations.

Griner's coming-out merited far less fanfare. There were few headlines. Talk shows ignored the news. The president never called.

A day later, Carroll had calmed down. She was glad for Collins, but felt badly Griner had not gotten a similar "day in the sun."

Carroll attributes the non-reaction to Griner to "the reality of sexism in this country. Men control everything."

Part of the difference in reactions may also arise from the polar-opposite stereotypes surrounding men and women in sports. For years, it was "assumed" that many female athletes were lesbians. At the same time, most Americans could not believe any male athlete could possibly be gay.

According to Pat Griffin, a former coach and social justice professor at the University of Massachusetts who now directs Changing the Game: The GLSEN Sports Project, those assumptions are not only wrong they're dangerous.

"The implication that it was somehow 'easier' for Brittney to come out, because she's in women's sports, worries me," Griffin says. "Yes, there are more women out as athletes and coaches. But there are still plenty who are not. There's still negative recruiting at the college level. The relative silence around Brittney's coming-out makes some people assume we've won the war. Well, we haven't."

Still, Griffin salutes the way in which Griner came out. "She just subtly said it. That's a great model for future athletes. It took so much courage for her to do this at the beginning of her professional career. I don't want that courage to get lost."

Griffin agrees with Carroll that

The longtime sports project director at the National Center for Lesbian Rights had nothing against the 7-foot basketball center, who became the first still-active male athlete in a major American team sport to say "I'm gay." But Carroll couldn't help thinking about something that happened just a couple of weeks earlier.

criticism. "I've seen panels about gay sports, and it's only gay men talking about gay athletes," she says. "Can the media focus on both gay men and lesbians? Probably not. But LGBT sports people can. We need to keep the spotlight on this issue, from every angle."

In addition, Griffin would like to

see the focus move beyond professional sports. "College and high school is where athletes - male and female – are most vulnerable,' she says. "I would hate to see this conversation driven solely

the disparity in coverage of the two events has roots in male control. "The mainstream media has never really been interested in women's sports," Griffin says. "And when the conversation began about gay athletes, the media was fascinated by the 'gay men in sports' story. The overall coverage of women's sports in general is abysmal. The assumption that there are lots of lesbians in sport is a double whammy."

But it is true that female athletes have been out longer, and in more sports, than males. Mariah Burton Nelson came out in 1976, as a Stanford University basketball player. She played professionally and has written six books about gender and sports.

Nearly four decades later, though, 'being out takes courage," Nelson says. She commends Griner for living courageously and being a role model.

Nelson cites interviews with espnW, Associated Press and USA Today as evidence that the sports world is not ignoring Griner. In fact, Nelson says, "It would seem prurient if the Washington Post, for instance, after routinely ignoring women's college basketball, suddenly shouted Griner's sexual orientation from the front page."

Griffin does not spare the gay media, and gay sports movement, from

by 'the first male pro athlete to come out.""

Nelson would like to see gay college coaches included in the conversation. "When they start being openly 'who they are,' THAT will be newsworthy.'

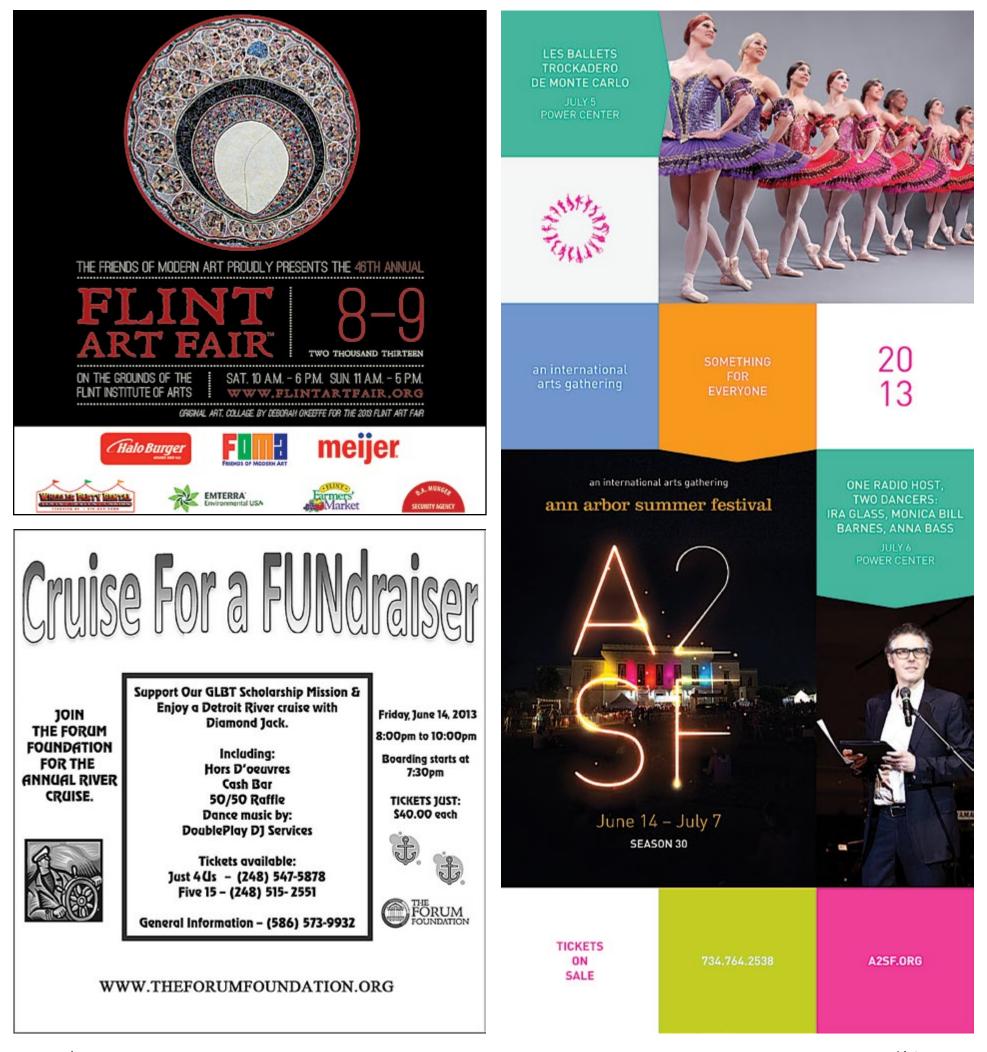
In the future, she adds, "who's gay, who's straight, who's bisexual or even transgendered will not be a big deal. That's my goal, anyway: to create a world where human diversity is appreciated but not surprising."

Which brings us back to Helen Carroll, and her reaction in the hours after Jason Collins came out.

"The fact that the president and Michelle Obama congratulated him well, Brittney has been to the White House. She's met President Obama. But she didn't get a call. That infuriated me."

A day later, she says, "I was feeling, well, every person should be celebrated for coming out. Brittney and Jason should both get their day in the sun."

Dan Woog is a journalist, educator, soccer coach and gay activist. His latest book is "We Kick Balls: True Stories from the Youth Soccer Wars." He can be reached care of this publication or at OutField@ *asyndicate.com*.





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Happenings

<u>OUTINGS</u>

Thursday, June 6

Open Training 11 a.m. Living Out Loud Studio, 207 Fieldcrest St., **Ann Arbor.** 734-660-8056. Livingoutloudllc.com

Free HIV Testing 5 p.m. Free, anonymous HIV testing is available at S3 Safe Sex Store every Thursday until 9 p.m. Testing is performed by HARC staff. Call to schedule an appointment, but walk-ins are more than welcome. S3 Safe Sex Store and HIVAIDS Resource Center, 1209 S. University, Ann Arbor. 734-741-1434. Info@Dak.inc.com S3safesexstore.com

Lansing Community College Gay Straight Alliance 5:30 p.m. Bingo after at Esquire. Lansing Association for Human Rights, Lansing. Spennyj@lcc.edu lahronline.org

Foster Parent Orientation 6 p.m. Please join us in this free event to learn more about how you can help children in need by becoming a licensed foster parent. Judson Center, 12723 Telegraph Road, Suite 200, Redford. 313-255-8258. Foster_Care@judsoncenter.org judsoncenter.org

Transgender Helpline 6:30 p.m. A representative from Transgender Michigan is available to answer questions on helpline. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

20 Somethings 7 p.m. Social group for young adults. Followed by an evening out. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations. org

Community Cinema: Love Free or Die 7 p.m. Documentary about Gene Robinson, the first openly gay person to be elected bishop in the high church traditions of Christendom. Panel discussion with community members and the audience. Dennos Museum Center, 1701 E. Front St., Traverse City. 231-095-1029. dennosmuseum.org

Gender Non-Conformists 7 p.m. A social and discussion group for transgender, genderqueer, gender-neutral and gender-exploring individuals. Space also available to significant others. Meets every Thursday. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. JJenkins@GoAffirmations.org GoAffirmations.org

JGN Family & Friends 7 p.m. Topics vary from month to month. This is a gathering of people who have family or friends who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or who are questioning their sexual orientation or gender identity. Join us as we offer support, share our experiences, and learn about the issues impacting the LGBTQ and allied community. The Jewish Gay Network of Michigan, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. 248-432-5661. jgnmi.org

Speak Out 7 p.m. Offers a welcoming environment for LGBT people to improve their public speaking and leadership skills. Meets the first and fourth Thursday of every month. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Court, Ann Arbor. 734-995-9867. Crystalr@jimtoycenter.org JimTovCenter.org

Weekly Support Group 7 p.m. Weekly support group for members of the HIV/ AIDS community. Wings, 2441 Pinecrest Dr., Ferndale. wingsmi.org

Friday, June 7 Riot Youth 4 p.m. A youth-led, safe space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning youth and their allies. Riot Youth also is a space for youth to talk and find support about their struggles as LGBTQQA youth. They have workshops on various issues such as gender identity/ expression, intersections of LGBTQQA identity with race and other social identities, LGBTQQA history and writing workshops. They also play theater games, host movie nights, and have parties. The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington, **Ann Arbor.** 734-214-9995. neutral-zone.org

Womyn's Film Night 7 p.m. Film: Coming Out Party. Join seven gay and lesbian comedians and storytellers as they recount the ups and downs of coming out to their family, friends and co-workers in this funny and inspirational series of monologues. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Twist and Shout 7:30 p.m. Dancing, entertainment by live bands and DJ and more. Proceeds from the night support Neutral Zone's mission and scholarship program. Adults only. Tickets: \$30-100. The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington, Ann Arbor. 734-214-9995. neutral-zone.org

Saturday, June 8

Next ALIVE Youth Group Meeting 2 p.m. For LGBTQA youth (14-20). OutCenter, 132 Water St., Benton Harbor. 269-925-8330. outcenter.org

50+ Proud 5:30 p.m. A new movie each month. Please bring a dish for six people to share, as well as plates, cutlery and cups. Bottled water and soft drinks will be available at minimal cost. Windsor-Essex Pride Fest, 422 Pelissier St., Windsor. Alanloughlin@live.ca windsorpride.com

Out4Equality - Collage Project 6 p.m. Collaborative art project incorporating community created art. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Crossroads 7 p.m. Dedicated to serving the needs of transgender individuals. Meets the second Saturday of every month. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. GoAffirmations.org

Perceptions Charity Yard Sale 8 p.m. Proceeds are donated to AIDS Walk Bay City/Saginaw/Midland. PFLAG, 1688 Sullivan Dr., Saginaw. pflag-mbs.org

Sunday, June 9

Sunday Brunch Bingo 11 a.m. A fun alternative to your usual weekend hot spots. All-inclusive brunch, dessert, tea and coffee drinks will be served. Tickets: \$30.18+. Club Five15, 515 S. Washington Ave., Royal Oak. 248-515-2551.

Older Lesbians Organizing 1 p.m. Provides older Lesbians with the chance to meet like minded women in their common struggles, to share mutual interests and to play and work together. Meets the 2nd Friday of every month. Older Lesbians Organizing, 319 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. 734-995-9867. Jasmithers@ sbcglobal.net JimToyCenter.org

Volleyball 1 p.m. With warm weather. Located north of the Lansing Mall. Lansing Association for Human Rights, Lansing. beachlerb@sbcglobal.net

Rainbow Book Club 4:30 p.m. Book club dedicated to reading and discussing classic and contemporary lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer literature. Meeting since before 1998, every second Sunday of the month. Rainbow Book Club, 319 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. 734-995-9867. Catherine. herne@amail.com

Monday, June 10

Crossdressers of West Michigan 5:30 p.m. This social and support group will have discussions involving makeup lessons, clothing choices, how to pass, how to help your home life, what your S0 thinks, and even group activities. The Network, 343 Atlas Ave. SE, Grand Rapids. 616-458-3511. grlgbt.org

Hotter than July Planning Meeting 6 p.m. KICK, 41 Burroughs St. 109, Detroit. 313-285-9733. e-kick.org

Social Knit Night 6:30 p.m. Lansing Association for Human Rights, 319 S. Waverly Road, **Lansing.** lahronline.org

Adult Support Group 7 p.m. Our Whole Lives, Healthy Lives support group is free and open to all LGBT adults and their allies. It is professionally facilitated and designed to provide a safe, therapeutic, and LGBT-affirming environment for participants to talk freely and find the support they need. Transportation may be arranged with advance notice and driver availability. OutCenter, 132 Water St., Benton Harbor. 269-925-8330. outcenter.org

One Voice Chorus 7 p.m. LGBT Choral group. Meets every Monday. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale.** 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Sistrum, Lansing Women's Chorus 7 p.m. Lansing Association for Human Rights, 1020 S. Harrison Road, Lansing. Haston@lcc.edu lahronline.org

Tuesday, June 11

Older Adult and Senior Helpline 4 p.m. Provides peer counseling, empathy and community resources for LGBT adults. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 1-800-398-4297. goaffirmations.org

Committee/Boards Meetings for TWC 2013 6 p.m. Together We Can Detroit, 200 W. Big Beaver Road, **Troy.** twcdetroit.com

SWEAT 6 p.m. A weekly support/social group to encourage those of us who need to achieve wellness and or weight loss. The Network, 343 Atlas Ave. SE, Grand Rapids. 616-458-3511. Grlgbt.org

Talk Tuesdays 6 p.m. Free. KICK, 41 Burroughs St. 109, Detroit. 313-285-9733. e-kick.org

Because We Are Worth It (Sex Addicts Anonymous LGBTQ Meeting) 6:30 p.m. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Court, Ann Arbor. 734-995-9867. jimtoycenter.org

Euchre at Esquire Club 6:30 p.m. Lansing Association for Human Rights, 1250 Turner St., **Lansing.** 517-487-5338. lahronline.org

Greater Lansing Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal 6:45 p.m. Lansing Association for Human Rights, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. info@glgmc.org

Out4Equality - Open Mic Performance Series 7 p.m. Monthly open Mic series. Donations: \$0-5. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Women's Social Group 7 p.m. Women's discussion group. Plans a monthly group activity such as dinner, movies, and games. Meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. The Lesbian and Gay Community Network, 343 Atlas Ave. SE, Grand Rapids. 616-458-3511. Grlgbt. org/calendar/

Tea & Talk 8 p.m. Open discussion with free tea and treats. Triple Goddess New Age Bookstore, 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-347-2112. triplegoddessbookstore.net

Wednesday, June 12

Coping with Disabilities Group 1 p.m. An ongoing discussion group for people who have any physical or mental illnesses who struggle with day to day issues such as applying for benefits, relationships, being with people who understand. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Senior Koffee Klatch 1 p.m. A lively, discussion and social group for LGBT adults over 45. Group covers topics pertaining to aging and outside speakers. allies grieving the death of a loved one (including pets). GOAL, 515 S. Washington Ave., **Royal Oak.** 248-515-2551. getoutandlive.me

Significant Other Support 7 p.m. Discussion and support group for friends and loved ones of LGBT. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Thursday, June 13 Manila Luzon Manila of RuPaul's Drag Race performs.18+. Menjo's, 928 W. McNichols, Detroit. 313-863-3934. menjosbar.com

Detroit Elegance: Mansion Tour 9:30

Comedian Daniel Tosh comes to the Fox Theatre with his new "The June Gloom Tour" for two performances. Tickets: \$50-75. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. June 8 - June 8. 313-471-6611. Olympiaentertainment.com

The Magic Bag "Whitest Kids U'Know" Tickets: \$20. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. 8 p.m. June 11. 248-544-3030. themagicbag.com

CONCERTS

Blind Pig "Ypsiarboroo 2013" Featuring: All the Wild Children, Disinformants, Thunder Buck Ram, Hadley Street, B.S.R.B., Supercollider, White Pineapple, Jennae Raynes w/Elrod and Deondre

Editor's Pick

Looking for an open and affirming congregation? First Presbyterian Church in Lansing is a Lansing Association for Human Rights (LAHR) Institutional Member, priding themselves on their inclusive atmosphere, specifically for those in the LGBTQ community.

The place of worship prides itself on its mission of worship, service, growth and fellowship. Activities within the community include forums, mission opportunities, fellowship hours, choir involvement and education. New members are encouraged to visit the church and look for pformational Clace."

announcements of the "New Members Informational Class."

Services are held at 10 a.m. every Sunday at 510 W. Ottawa St. For more information, e-mail tweldon@lansingfirstpres.org or visit www.lansingfirstpres.org.

Potluck dinners at members homes, lunches out and holiday parties. Meets ever Wednesday on the upper level of the Affirmations building. Senior Koffee Klatch, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. GoAffirmations.org

G2H2 5:30 p.m. G2H2 is a community social event that provides an LGBT-friendly venue in which all people are welcome to attend and meet other LGBT and allied community members. G2H2, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330. outcenter.org

KGLRC Walk/Jog/Run Group 6 p.m. The Resource Center's Health and Wellness Committee is proud to offer our very own group devoted to walking, jogging, and/or running. Everyone is welcome, regardless of physical ability and/or sexual orientation. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 4143 N. 10th St., Kalamazoo. KGLRC.org

Beloved Hearts Grief Support Group 6:30 p.m. We cannot change what has happened, but we can support and walk beside you as you grieve. We can give you hugs, help you cry and be the soft place for you to fall when you feel like you cannot take another step. For LGBT and

Lori Edelson, LMSW, LMFT

Birmingham Maple Clinic

a.m. Experience and explore the Charles T. Fisher Mansion, the 234 Winder Street Inn and more. Tickets: \$69-70. Feet on the Street Tours, W. Grand Blvd., **Detroit.** 248-353-TOURS. feetonthestreettours.com

Chica Chat 5 p.m. Free workshop open to girls 10-16.Advance registration is required. Covers topics from cyberbullying and suicide to sexism and stereotypes. Empowered Flower Girl and Detroit Parent Network, 726 Lothrop Road, **Detroit**. empoweredflowergirl.com

MUSIC & MORE

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase

"Comedy Jamm" You will see a variety of comedians from beginners trying their hand at comedy to established comics unveiling new material to the occasional comedian auditioning to perform. Tickets: \$5+. Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, 314 East Liberty, Ann Arbor. May 1 - June 27. 734-996-9080. aacomedy.com

Olympia Entertainment Daniel Tosh,

Individual, couple, family & group therapy with children, adolescents and adults.

Charelle Richmond.18+. Tickets: \$7-10. Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. 9:30 p.m. June 8. 734-996-8555. Blindpig.com

Chelsea Alehouse Brewery "Lac LaBelle" Jennie Knaggs and Nick Schillace form this acoustic group from Detroit. Suggested donation: \$5.All Ages. Chelsea Alehouse Brewery, 420 N. Main, Suite 100, Chelsea. 8 p.m. June 8. chelseaalehouse.com

Detroit Symphony Orchestra "Scheherazade" Tickets: \$10. Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 27375 Bell Road, Southfield. 7:30 p.m. June 6. 248-357-5544. dso.org

DTE Energy Music Theatre The Lumineers with Cold War Kids and J Roddy Walston. Tickets: \$25+. DTE Energy Music Theatre, 7774 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston. 7 p.m. June 6. 248-377-0100. palacenet.com

Elektricity Nightclub Michael Woods. 18+. Free with RSVP. Elektricity Nightclub, 15 S. Saginaw St., Pontiac. June 7. 248-599-2212.

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See Happenings, page 78

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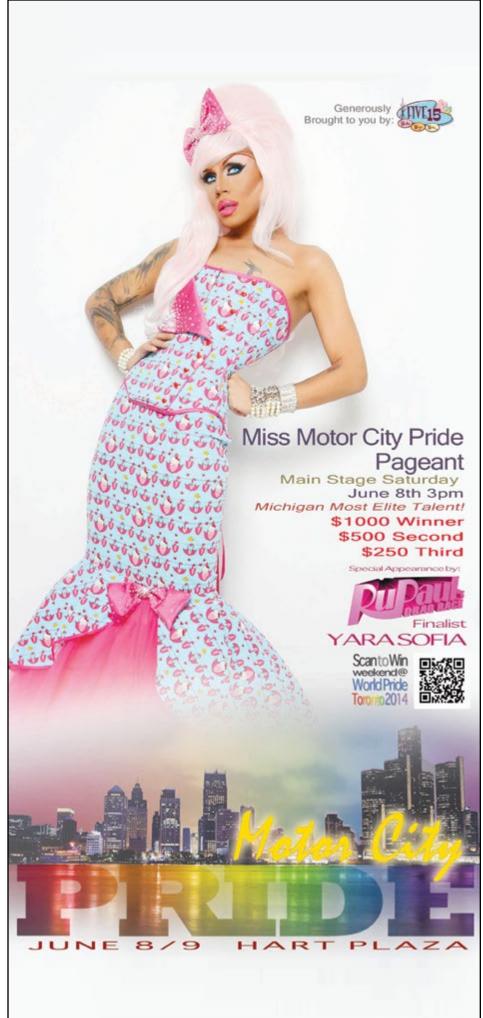
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Michigan at Lonyo



Editor's Pick

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre rounds out its 2012-13 main stage season with the compelling musical drama "Chess" June 6-9 at UM's Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre.

In "Chess," the ancient game becomes a metaphor for romantic rivalries, competitive gamesmanship, superpower politics and international intrigues. Set in the 1980s at the World Chess Championships, the pawns in this drama form a love triangle: the coarse American chess star, the earnest Russian champion and a Hungarian-American female assistant. Featuring the 1980s pop hit

"One Night in Bangkok," "Chess" brings the Cold War era to vibrant life. A2CT's production is the first in the area to present the recently-released London version of the musical.

The theater is located at 911 N. University in Ann Arbor. Performances are Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday. Tickets and information are available through the A2CT office at 734-971-2228 or at the door of the theater before each performance.

Happenings

Continued from p. 77

Fox Theater Gladys Knight with special guest Ledisi.Tickets: \$69+. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. June 7. 313-471-6611. Olympiaentertainment.com

Kerrytown Concert House Aurea Silva Trio: Brandy Hudelson, flute. Gareth Thomas, bassoon. David Gilliland, piano. Tickets: \$5-25. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 12. 734-763-4186. kerrytownconcerthouse.com

Majestic Theater The Mountain Goats & Baptist Generals. All ages. Tickets: \$18. Majestic Theater, 4120-4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. June 12. 313-833-9700. majesticdetroit.com

The Ark Dave Boutette & Billy King. Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 7. 734-761-1800. theark.org

The Majestic Still Corners. 18+. Tickets: Free. Garden Bowl, 4120-4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 10 p.m. June 8. 313-833-9700. majesticdetroit.com

The Palace of Auburn Hills Pitbull and Ke\$ha with Justice Crew and Jump Smokers. Tickets: \$40.15-111.65. The Palace of Auburn Hills, 5 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills, 7:30 p.m. June 7. 248-377-0100. palacenet.com

<u>THEATER</u>

CIVIC/COMMUNITY THEATER Chess \$13-\$25. Ann Arbor Civic Theatre at Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor. June 6 - 9. 734-971-2228. a2ct.org

Dick: The Musical \$10. Fancy Pants Theater at Studio 246, 246 N. Kalamazoo Mall, Kalamazoo. June 7 - 22. 269-599-6437. fancypantstheater.webs.com

Do-Dah Parade Is Dead: The First Ever FLOATing Musical Free. Fancy Pants Theater on the streets of Downtown Kalamazoo, starting at the corner of Jasper and Lovell Streets, Kalamazoo. 11 a.m. June 8. 269-599-6437. fancypantstheater.webs.com

Little Shop of Horrors \$15. The Twin City Players, 600 W. Glenlord Rd., St. Joseph. June 7 - 30. 269-429-0400. twincityplayers.org

My Favorite Year \$18-20. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., Lansing. Through June 9. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com

Spamalot \$20-22. St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild at Cranbrook Greek Theatre,

400 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills. Through June 15. 877-71-TICKETS. stdunstanstheatre.com

The Sound of Music \$18-\$20 in advance. Stagecrafters at Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak. Through June 23. 248-541-6430. stagecrafters.org

The Third Ever Fancy Pants Gay-Ia! \$10. Fancy Pants Theater at Studio 246, 246 N. Kalamazoo Mall, Kalamazoo. June 7 - 15. 269-599-6437. fancypantstheater. webs.com

PROFESSIONAL

10:53 \$20-25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. Through June 16. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org

2013 Gay Play Series \$10 per event, or \$20 Citly Pass or \$30 Threeway Pass. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. June 7 - 24. 248-545-5545. theringwald.com

50 Shades! The Musical \$49. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. June 14 - 16. 313-872-1000. broadwayindetroit.com

70, Girls, 70 \$31-40. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Rd., Rochester. Through June 23. mbtheatre.com

A Divine Evening with Charles Busch \$30. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. June 8. 269-756-3879. acorntheater.com

Adult Education \$10. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. June 14. 269-756-3879. acorntheater.com

Amy and Freddy A bawdy cabaret; 18+. \$25. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. June 15. 269-756-3879. acorntheater.com

Ernie \$20-\$25; \$50 June 19 benefit for the Shawn Burr Foundation. City Theatre, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. June 6 - July 7. 800-745-3000. olympiaentertainment.com

I Hate Hamlet \$27-32. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Through June 30. 248-347-0003. tippingpointtheatre.com

Next to Normal \$27-\$31. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. June 7 - 23. 269-343-2727. farmersalleytheatre.com

Roaming Charges \$17-20. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Through June 23. 313-868-1347. detroitreptheatre.com

Sleeping Beauty \$10 adult, \$5 child. PuppetART at Detroit Puppet Theatre, 25 E. Grand River, Detroit. June 1 - 29. 313-967-0999. puppetart.org

The 39 Steps \$12-21. Hope Summer

Repertory Theatre at Knickbocker Theatre, 86 E. Eighth St., Holland. June 14 - July 6. 616-395-7890. Hope.edu/hsrt

The Addams Family \$30-70. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. June 14 - 15. 313-471-6611. olympiaentertainment.com

The Great Big Bar Show \$20. Barn Theatre, 13351 W. M-96, Augusta. Through June 9. 269-731-4121. barntheatre.com

The Lost and Found Project \$16-\$19. The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple Road., West Bloomfield. June 8 - 9. 248-661-1900. theberman.org

The Sound of THEIR Music: The Music of Rodgers, Hart & Hammerstein \$20. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. June 7. 269-756-3879. acorntheater.com

ART 'N' AROUND

Ann Arbor Art Center "The Print" 117 W. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. May 1 - June 23. 734-994-8004. annarborartcenter.org

Chelsea River Gallery "2D3D" 120 S. Main St., Chelsea. May 25 - June 28. 734-433-0826. chelsearivergallery.com

Cranbrook Academy of Art and Art Museum "Anders Ruhwald at Saarinen House: The Anatomy of a Home" 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. April 28 -Sep. 30. 877-462-7262. cranbrookart.edu

Detroit Institute of Arts "Motor City Muse: Detroit Photographs, Then and Now' 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. March 4 -June 16. 313-833-7900. DIA.org

Flint Institute of Arts "Reflections on Water in American Painting" 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. April 6 - June 16. Flintarts.org

Lawrence Street Gallery "Palette and Brush Club" 22620 Woodward Ave. Suite A, Ferndale. June 5 - June 28. 248-544-0394. lawrenchstreetgallery.com

Michigan State University Museum "Sun-Up to Sundown" 409 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. April 23 - June 16. museum. msu.edu

MOCAD "Mike Kelley's Mobile Homestead" 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. May 11 - July 28. 313-832-6622. mocadetroit.org

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit "(in)Habitation" 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. June 7 - July 28. 313-832-6622. mocadetroit.org

Riverside Arts Center "Mary Bachman: Retrospective Exhibit" 76 North Huron Street, Ypsilanti. May 31 - June 29. 734-483-7345. Riversidearts.org

78







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Cocktail Chatter

Pink Gin

BY ED SIKOV

Straight gin has such a degenerate reputation that to drink it without mixing in some other ingredient is to invite either derision or an intervention. I have no idea why. Straight up, on the rocks, or neat, asking for nothing but gin simply "isn't done" in public, and pouring a glass at home makes many people so self-conscious that they begin to think they can actually feel the cirrhosis nodules beginning to grow in their livers. Drinking straight gin is the kind of thing folks do with the blinds drawn.

This is sad and quite needless. Juniperflavored alcohol has a long, formerly proud history as a tonic. Monks made it, for God's sake – literally. People in the Dark Ages made that drab era a little lighter with it; they drank it as a way of warding off the Plague. Of course it didn't really work to that end, but gin did make one's buboes seem a great deal less repulsive for the brief period between their onset and the drinker's unpleasant and smelly demise. Buboes are best experienced through a gin haze – on that I think we can all agree.

The 17th century, when gin was flavored with turpentine, will not be elaborated upon here except to note that the phase didn't last long.

Juniper berries returned as the primary flavoring soon thereafter, though today's premium brands often feature such an array of secondary essences that the roster resembles the ingredients in high-end organic shampoo. Beefeater gin, for example, features not only juniper but also eight other botanicals: the seeds and root of angelica, licorice, almonds, oranges, lemon peel and everybody's favorite, orris root.

What the hell is orris root? Orris happens to be one of the "notes" in Yves Saint Laurent's perfume Opium. It's flowery, and heavily so when sniffed on its own. And apparently witches use it to pry into other people's subconscious. (Note to readers: If someone you know – say, your mother – wears Opium, be very wary of having even the slightest contact with her, or else your wonderfully filthy fantasy life will be an open book.)

Which brings us to the subject of this column: Pink Gin. Tailor made for lesbian and gay drinkers, Pink Gin is even closer to straight gin than a martini is. Even the driest martinis have something in them besides the main ingredient. Pink Gin, on the other hand, contains nothing but straight gin that is faintly colored by the addition of Angostura bitters. What's in Angostura bitters? According to Rachel Maddow, who knows everything worth knowing, the recipe is such a secret that only five people on the planet know it. All the rest of us know is that it's a tincture of herbs and spices that originated in Venezuela in the 19th century. One of the great Latin American liberator Simon Bolivar's doctors cooked it up; he may have based his highly guarded recipe on the local Amerindians' folk medicine. It does not – repeat, not – contain angostura bark, which is poisonous.

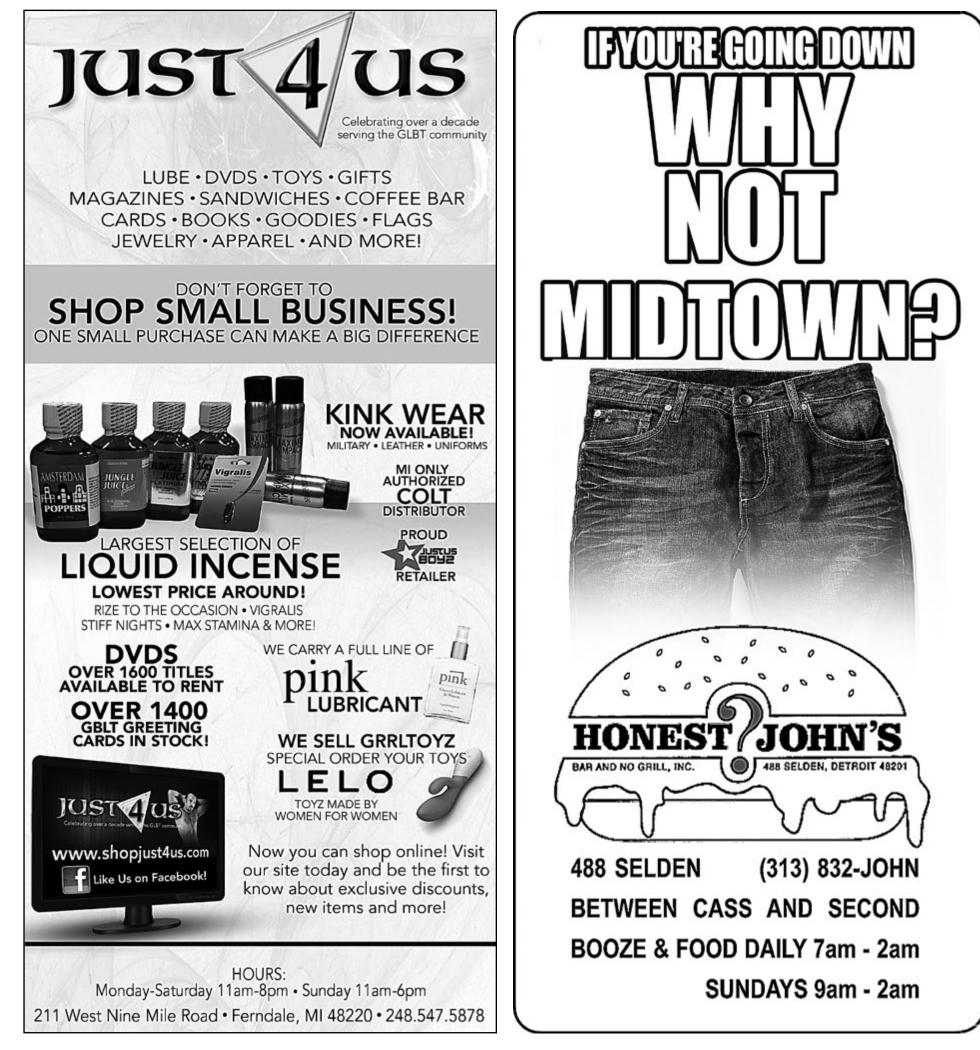
Angostura bitters have a very complex taste, one that's difficult to describe beyond "herbal and spicy." Easier to describe is the feeling one gets while drinking a Pink Gin – delightful! The botanicals of the gin are well complemented by the bitters. But don't overdo it. The following recipe creates exactly the right proportion of gin to bitters. And the color is lovely.

Pink Gin

- 5 dashes Angostura bitters
- 4 Tbsp. Beefeater gin, chilled
- Lemon peel garnish (optional)

Shake 5 dashes of bitters into a chilled cocktail glass. (Bitters bottles have caps similar to Tabasco sauce so you can't overdo it.) Swirl the bitters around until the glass is coated with it, then toss the excess in the sink. Fill the glass with chilled gin and serve.

Ed Sikov is the author of the e-book, "The Boys' and Girls' Little Book of Alcohol," a novel with recipes based on his Cocktail Chatter column.



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Classifieds

101-ANNOUNCEMNTS LGBT AA MEETINGS

Ann Arbor-Friday

7:30 pm, St. Andrews Episcopa Church Gay AA, 306 N. Divisior St. Closed/Discussion.

Bloomfield Hills-Thursdav

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 everv 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 Presbyteriar Church, 2441 Pinecrest. Closed/ Discussion

Livonia-Friday

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

Warren-Mondav

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



112 ANNOUNCEMENTS -VOLUNTEERING

Unity Michigan Coalition Pride Season **Volunteers**

The Unity Michigan Coalition and BTL is seeking volunteers to assist in a community outreach project throughout the June Pride season. Volunteers will work with UMC and BTL to collect contact information from LGBTQ and allied attendess of Pride festivals who are interested in furthering nondiscrimination policies throughout the state and would like to keep informed on how they can become involved. Call at 734-293-7200 ext. 14 or

e-mail Ben@pridesource.com for more information or to sign up.

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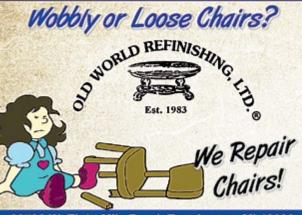
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Chesterfield is a cat person's cat - he likes to sit on your lap when he wants, will occasionally swat at you when he's done, but is completely adorable and handsome all the time. Please come and visit Chestefield - he's ready to meet you!

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South Park Saying

Across

1 "South Park" co-creator Stone 5 Cosby's "I Spy" costar 9 Crack the whip at, e.g. 13 Precollege ed 14 First shepherd 15 Club for Spencer-Devlin 16 Supporter of two plastic brides 17 Mall bag 18 Personality parts, to Frasier 19 With 37-Across, what you can't do with a canine, on "South Park" 22 Routine 23 One having an orgasm? 26 Vital fluid 30 "Cat Hot Tin Roof" 31 Stationery in "Aida"? 36 The Simpsons storekeeper 37 See 19-Across 40 Rock that's easily split 41 Stats on a stallion 42 "Six Under" 43 Marlon Brando's hometown 45 White as a ghost 46 1 of 100 in D.C. 47 Women who date men who date men 52 Quit, with "out"

53 Co-creator of "South Park" with 1-Across 56 You might see a polar bear there 58 Paul of "Little Miss Sunshine" 59 Cruising 62 Actress Skye 63 Caspian Sea land 64 "____ in the Clowns" 65 "Gay Priest" author Malcolm 66 Novel conclusion 67 Poet ____ Wu

Down

1 "Never Picasso" 2 Hit the ground 3 Pronoun for King James 4 Tongue-lashing 5 Neurotic comics woman 6 One that lies on the bottom 7 "Take your mitts off!" 8 Ask from one's knees 9 Colorful T-shirt 10 Movie about a CIA rescue mission 11 Electronic synthesizer 12 Madonna's pair 20 Traditionally limp joints 21 Former PLO leader Arafat

23 The whole shebang 24 How punctual people come 25 Eulogist for Caesar 27 Jockey carriers 28 Maintenance cost 29 " touch!" 32 Earlier 33 Third degree, often 34 From Jan. 1 until now 35 ACLU concerns 38 Postcoital sigh 39 Hypotheticals 44 "Guys and Dolls" co-creator Burrows 45 Part of DADT 48 Partner of Steve, but not Adam 49 Like unhappy lovers, maybe 50 Tried to tackle tight ends 51 One that mates with a gueen bee 54 Robert of "The Brady Bunch" 55 " ____ of Eden" 56 "This is my first time," often 57 Gielgud's john 60 Old Spanish queen 61 Hoopla Solution on pg. 83

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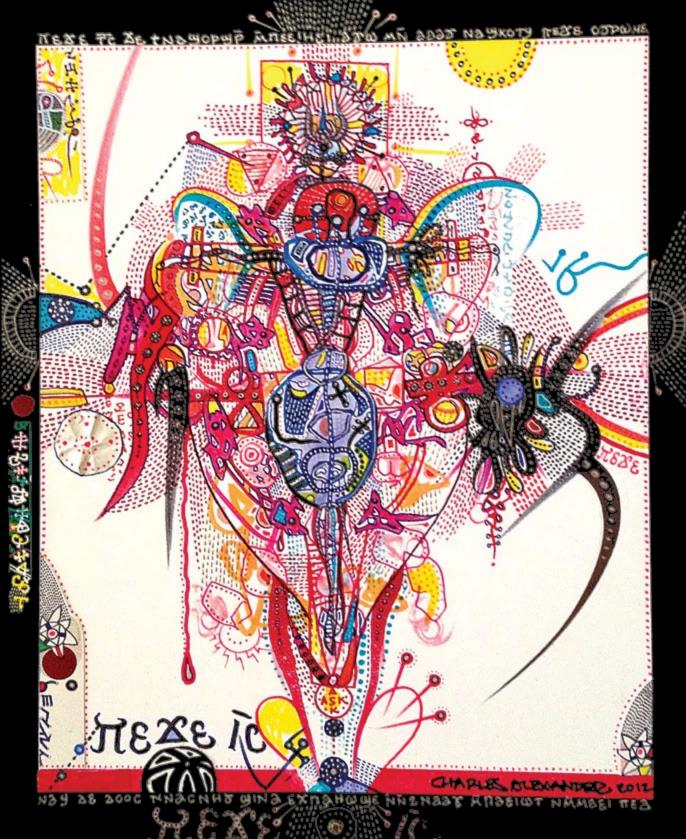
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2013 Voter Education Project Between Flines PRIDESOURCE **Deep Inside Hollywood**

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

'Into The Woods' casting gets ensemble-ier

Stephen Sondheim's "Into The Woods" is a big show with a lot of characters. And the film adaptation of this dark, musical fairy tale (to be directed by "Chicago"s Rob Marshall), a story full of adult themes of loss, loneliness and courage, well, it needs more and more actors to flesh it out. We've already told you about the heavy hitters – Streep and Depp –

taking the first roles as Witch and Wolf, respectively. And now negotiations roll on for Chris Pine ("Star Trek Into Darkness") and Jake Gyllenhaal, soon to be cast as the two princes. Meanwhile, you can add Emily Blunt to those talks, as she looks to be the choice to play the wife of the Baker (Jams Corden, "One Man, Two Guvnors"). At this rate this movie's going to have more people singing at the same time than "Les Miserables", and this is only

the beginning. It could, conceivably, wind up employing every living actor who can carry one of Sondheim's notoriously difficult-to-sing tunes. More details as they unfold...

Scarlett Johansson steps behind the camera

She knows where she's going, that Scarlett Johansson. Knowing that acting career longevity for almost any actress not named Meryl Streep is a finite quantity, the "Avengers" star is diversifying her career opportunities by stepping into the role of feature film director for the very first time. Johansson will helm an adaptation of Truman Capote's first novel, "Summer Crossing," a work that was thought to have been lost for more than 50 years and only recently published for the very first time thanks to Capote's former editor. The story involves a 17 year-old girl who spends the summer alone in New York when her parents leave for Paris; she then falls for a parking attendant (the perfect way to get back at Mom and Dad). And in case you think this is just the whim of a dilettante movie star, you should also know that Johansson's been preparing for this moment alongside the Capote estate for years now, working with screenwriter Tristine Skylar on the adaptation and directing a short film, "These Vagabond Shoes," starring Kevin Bacon, in the interim. Meanwhile, film history is on her side: nothing she does will be as poorly received as comic actress Nancy Walker's first and last film as a director: The Village People's "Can't Stop The Music."

Kevin Kline's downward slide to 'The Last of Robin Hood'

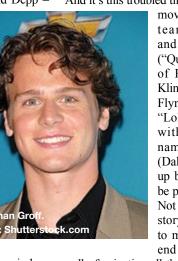
The legacy of Errol Flynn is a mix of glory and shame. Film history is kind to him, remembering the star at his best as one of Hollywood's most famous and handsome leading men of the 1930s and '40s in classics like "The Adventures of Robin Hood." But his later life – he died at 50 of a heart attack – turned dark with career trouble, substance abuse and sexual scandals (one biographer even erroneously reported that he'd been a Nazi). And it's this troubled time that informs the new

movie from gay directing team Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland ("Quinceanera"), "The Last of Robin Hood." Kevin Kline will star as the faded Flvnn as he embarks on a "Lolita"-style relationship with a 15-year-old girl named Beverly Aadland (Dakota Fanning), one set up by the girl's mother (to be played Susan Sarandon). Not the most wholesome of storylines, to be sure, not to mention one that didn't end well for anyone, but

sadly fascinating all the same and in reputable hands thanks to Christine Vachon and Pam Koffler's Killer Films. The project is currently in production and should be ready to cause feelings of despair at this fall's film festivals.

Casting call: the gay and the anti-gay

We reported earlier about the in-development HBO "gay friends" sitcom/dramedy from filmmaker Andrew Haigh (Weekend) and Michael Lannon (assistant director of "Interior. Leather Bar." as well as "I Want Your Love"). Well, now it's got a series order and a cast: Jonathan Groff ("Glee"), Murray Bartlett ("Guiding Light") and Frankie J. Alvarez (a newcomer whose only prior credit is as "Actor # 6" on "Smash") will play a few of the gay San Francisco friends, with more to come as the production gains traction. And in the other corner, Uma Thurman will step into the orange juice-and-religious-intolerance-filled role of Anita Bryant in an upcoming biopic, the one from filmmakers Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman that chronicles the rise and fall of the former beauty queen, recording artist and O.J. pitchwoman as she stormed through the 1970s as an anti-gay activist, making enemies of queer people from coast to coast and destroying her career in the process. It's a film we're fairly certain isn't being created with the still-living anti-gay icon's blessing. But that's history, isn't it? You never know how it's going to judge you when you decide to make it. Go Uma!



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