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BTT

Between THE I

20
Years

Worthy Speaks On Hazel Park Couple's Behalf

Affirmations' New Safe Space For Learning

Big Freedia Twerks Hard For The Money



FALL HOME GUIDE

THE CARRIAGE COUPLE

Estate Salesmen Continue Indian Village Tradition



CHANTICLEER

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TAKÁCS QUARTET

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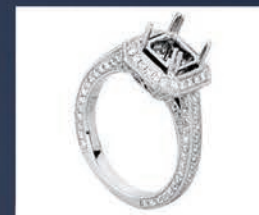
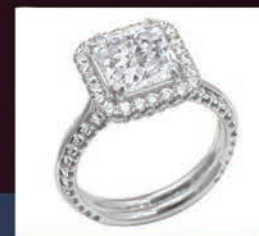
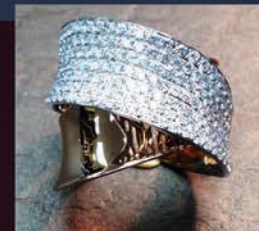


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COVER STORY

16 The carriage couple
BTL photo: Andrew Potter



Everything has its time and season, and right now is the *time and season of the twerking.*

– Big Freedia, pg. 30

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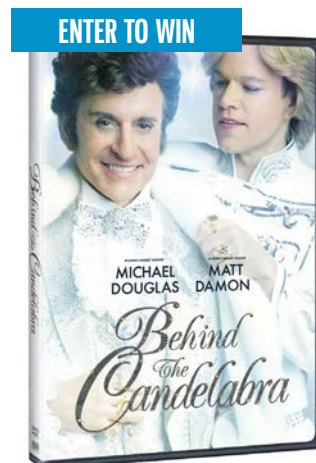
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Join The Conversation @ PrideSource.com



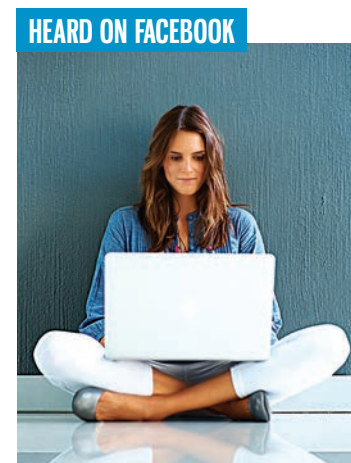
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Wayne County Prosecutor Kim Worthy Steps Up To Support Hazel Park Couple

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

The Hazel Park lesbian couple suing Michigan and Oakland County for the right to jointly adopt their children and to marry each other is getting even more attention and support as over 100 people gathered at Affirmations Community Center in Ferndale for a fundraiser last week. The keynote speaker for the event was Wayne County Prosecutor Kim Worthy.

Worthy is an advocate for adoption, and has three adopted children of her own – a 16 year-old and a set of 4 ½ year old twins. She spoke from experience when she

said that Jayne Rowse and April DeBoer had already been proven to be good parents by the state, explaining that the vetting process for adoptive parents is “rigorous.” The only difference between her adoption and the adoptions by Rowse and DeBoer, is that if Worthy decided to get married her husband could also adopt her children. In the Hazel Park couple’s case, the state forbids it.

“What makes me better than Jayne or April? Why should I have more rights? Why should I have more choices? The only difference is they are a lesbian couple. How is that right?” Worthy asked.

“I don’t think I’m overstating it to say that this case makes a statement about who we are in Michigan, who we are as Americans, who we are as parents, and more importantly how we feel about our children. But the biggest statement for me is why in the world do we have to file a lawsuit like this in the first place?”

Worthy complimented the women, pointing out that one is DeBoer is a neonatal intensive care nurse and Rowse is an emergency room nurse, both working in Detroit. “Two nurses. How much better parents can

you get?” she said. “Their three children have high special needs and suffice to say there’s not a line around the block of parents wanting to adopt these children. That’s why this is all so ludicrous. Now the state would rather let these children linger in foster care rather than let two gay parents adopt them legally.

“Now in my opinion, the State of Michigan should be falling all over themselves and thanking these women for taking these children and caring for them. In my opinion, unions like this should be celebrated. In my opinion, any and all protections and precautions taken so that if God forbid something

does happen to Jayne and April, the other would have requisite parental rights... The state foster care system needs to be opened up to every good set of parents that wants to take children into their houses.”

DeBoer thanked the crowd for coming and the attorneys working hard on their case. “We are just telling you how we feel. We are making people aware of what we’re facing because in the long run if these laws don’t change, there are going to be a lot of families like ours that are leaving Michigan,” she said.

The case moves forward on Oct. 16 when District Court Judge Bernard Friedman is expected to rule on a motion for summary judgment. Last week’s event raised over \$20,000 to help the couple fight their case.



Kim Worthy listens as Jayne Rowse and April DeBoer talk about their case to an audience gathered at Affirmations Community Center Sept. 26. The gathering raised \$20,000 to help the couple fight their case. BTL photos and online video: Crystal Proxmire

Watch the Online Video
www.pridesource.com

ONLINE

Previous Hazel Park Stories

>> www.pridesource.com

Hazel Park moms take adoption restrictions to federal level, 3/29/2012

Adoption Rights Suit Amended to Include Same-Sex Marriage, 9/13/2012

Judge Decides To Wait On Adoption And Gay Marriage Decision, 3/7/2013 Mommy Issues, 5/9/2013

VIDEO: Hazel Park Case Could Pave The Way For Marriage, Adoption In Michigan, 6/27/2013

Hazel Park Lesbian Couple’s Case Moves Forward, 7/01/2013

Clerk Brings In New Lawyers To ‘Defend’ In Hazel Park Couple’s Case, 7/18/2013

State Answer to Hazel Park Couple and Kids: You are not a Family, 7/24/2013

“What makes me better than Jayne or April? Why should I have more rights? Why should I have more choices? The only difference is they are a lesbian couple. How is that right?”

- Kim Worthy

Groups Weigh In On Mich. Gay Marriage Case

BY ED WHITE

DETROIT (AP) – A major legal challenge to Michigan’s ban on gay marriage is attracting interest from conservative Christians, the Roman Catholic Church, law professors and civil libertarians as the state defends a 2004 constitutional amendment that defines marriage only as between a man and a woman.

Arguments originally scheduled for this week have been pushed to Oct. 16 in Detroit federal court. The case hits the docket four months after the U.S. Supreme Court said the federal government can’t deny benefits to legally married same-sex couples.

The challenge to Michigan’s ban was in play before the Supreme Court spoke, but attorneys for a pair of Detroit-area nurses believe the

decision helps their case.

“If marriage is a fundamental right, then logic and emerging Supreme Court precedent dictate that the legitimacy of two adults’ love for one another is the same in the eyes of the law regardless of sexual orientation,” lawyers Carole Stanyar and Dana Nessel said in a recent filing.

They represent April DeBoer and Jayne

Rowse, who live with three adopted children in Hazel Park. They sued in 2012 because Michigan law bars them from jointly adopting each other’s kids. At the suggestion of the judge, the case has become even more significant and includes a challenge to Michigan’s ban on gay marriage.

The state attorney general’s office, defending

See Weigh In, page 14



New Rules Of The Game

Same-Sex Marriage And Taxes Seminar

Come hear Gina Torielli, one of the state's leading tax experts, explain how the new IRS rulings impact LGBT couples.



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What happens if we divorce?

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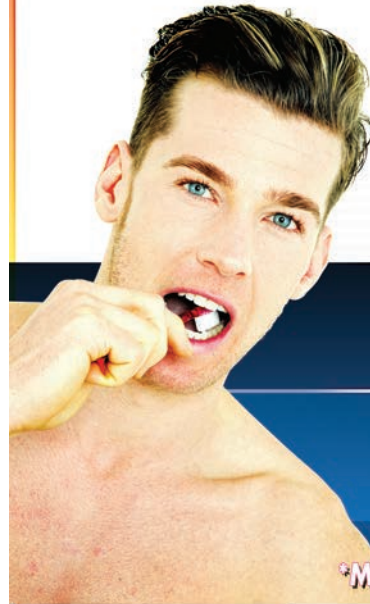
Gina Torielli, J. D., is director of the Graduate Tax Dept at Cooley Law School.



Open for all including accountants, financial planners, lawyers, and other professionals to come learn about the new financial environment for same-sex couples.

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Grant Aims To Build On Strategic Partnership To Meet Needs Of People With HIV

BY BTL STAFF

Thanks to a \$20,000 grant from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, AIDS Partnership Michigan and HIV/AIDS Resource Center will explore a closer strategic partnership to “proactively respond to the many changes occurring in the areas of HIV service delivery, funding and policy,” in a joint press release issued Sept. 23.

Both agencies have a long history of collaboration and have worked together for more than 12 years through the HIV/AIDS Alliance of Michigan, AIDS Walk Michigan, the highly recognized StatusSexy.com community mobilization campaign, and as community partners of the U of M School of Public Health Sexuality + Health Lab (SexLab) research center.

The current National HIV/AIDS Strategy places an important focus on increasing access to HIV/AIDS prevention and care and reducing HIV-related health disparities. Nevertheless, changes in funding allocations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have resulted in a 30 percent reduction of HIV/AIDS prevention funds to the state of Michigan.

The Affordable Care Act is another major change taking place that affects people living with HIV/AIDS. Both APM and HARC look to play a vital role in facilitating navigation and enrollment in the health care reform’s marketplace insurance exchange.

Meeting the needs of people who rely on HIV/AIDS services in this quickly changing health care landscape requires an innovative model for comprehensive HIV/AIDS service delivery in southeast Michigan. The agencies are poised to develop a strategic partnership that will enhance their capacity in key areas, including programming, funding, and research.

Creating A Safe Space For Learning: Affirmations Alternative High School

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

FERNDALE – In the safety of the brightly-painted youth room of Affirmations Community Center, teens and adults have a unique opportunity – to get their high school diploma or GED in an LGBT-inclusive environment.

Affirmations Alternative High School started last week with four students enrolled – one teen and four adults. The goal is to recruit up to 50 participants in the next few weeks.

Coursework is done primarily online, with remote teachers available anytime and drop-in hours on-site with a Dean of Students and office manager there to help.

The Dean of Students Tobey Brock, knows the struggles that some LGBT youth face in a traditional school environment. Brock was raised in a strong Pentecostal home and though he did not come out until his 30s, he experienced their rejection hard. On top of that, he experienced hatred and harassment first-hand as an adult.

After teaching in private Christian schools for several years, Brock went back to Baker College in Flint in 2005 for additional certification. Out of the blue, fliers started appearing on cars in the parking lot of the school.

“It was my face put onto pornographic images, with all kinds of vulgarities,” Brock said. At the same time, people he knew, including his own mother, got letters in the mail condemning him. The last of the fliers showed Brock with a gun to his head.

“The Flint Police got involved and they looked at the postmarks on the letters. They went to the post office and watched the tapes of who was dropping off mail and figured out which car was there both times. The car was registered to a student at Baker. It turned out to be a kid who I had taught back when he was in fifth grade,” he said.

Brock explained that police brought the college freshman in for questioning, and that he broke down, cried and confessed. “He also came out as gay himself,” he said. Brock asked that charges not be pressed as the youth promised to get help. Later Brock learned that the young man, who had a gun, took his own life.

“I haven’t really thought of that in years,” Brock said when asked about his prior experiences with bullying. “I guess if I could wish anything it would be for even one person not to have to feel what that kid felt, or for anyone to face harassment like I did.”

Affirmations Alternative School is intended to give students a break from harassing



Affirmations Alternative High School Dean of Students Tobey Brock at computer with the school's office manager Paul Skelly. The school opened last month and is currently seeking to register 50 more students. BTL photo: Crystal Proxmire

situations and provide them with uniquely tailored mentorship opportunities. While they may not have the benefit of social integration, they do get to be around other LGBT people of all ages and backgrounds, particularly if they come to the center in person.

The school is administered through Michigan Educational Partnership and diplomas are issued through Ithaca Schools. MEP has been providing alternative education opportunities for 35 years, including online learning. Affirmations is believed to be the first school set up specifically tailored to the LGBT community in Michigan.

“Students come in and we do two sets of

Affirmations Alternative School is intended to give students a break from harassing situations and provide them with uniquely tailored mentorship opportunities. While they may not have the benefit of social integration, they do get to be around other LGBT people of all ages and backgrounds, particularly if they come to the center in person.

tests to find out where their skill levels are,” Brock said. “Then they work at their own pace based on where they are at.” Classes are in line with the Michigan Merit curriculum.

Affirmations Board President Mark Blanke supported bringing in the program. “Providing this important program at Affirmations keeps us relevant and on mission in terms of providing a welcoming space for youth and adults to learn and grow,” he said. “In the future, we expect to receive support from the state, private foundations and donors. We plan for this to be a sustainable long-term relationship with our partnership with the Michigan Educational Partnership. We hope it will bring new users to the Center and allow us to access new donors as new relationships are built.

The program brings in full funding from the state for youth who participate. Adults are funded at a lower rate.

“The success of this program will be dependent upon word of mouth, and encouraging at-risk and bullied youth between the ages of 16 and 18 to consider the Affirmations Alternative High School Program as a viable option to continue advancing their education. If adults in need of a GED or adult high school diploma are looking for a safe and non-judgmental environment to continue their education, we will welcome them as well,” said Blanke.

To find out more about the program, visit their website at www.goaffirmations.org/?page=programservices_AAHS.

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Between Ourselves: Candidate For City Commission Tracy Hall Of Kalamazoo

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

Tracy Hall is a candidate for the City Commission in Kalamazoo this November. She is also an instructor at Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo Valley Community College, teaching gender and women's studies, political science and sociology. She has lived in Kalamazoo for over 20 years, and she and her wife Melissa have been together for over seven years. They were married in Connecticut in 2011.

1. What are the most important issues facing Kalamazoo right now?

The most important issues are the budget deficit, lack of revenues, and poverty. Kalamazoo is facing a budget shortfall of over \$2 million. Due to the economic downturn that has hit the state and the country, limitations have been put on our revenue sources. As a community, Kalamazoo must improve the revenue system so that we can continue to provide much needed services. Currently, Kalamazoo's poverty rate is at roughly 40 percent. For a community that is home to three institutions of higher education and some of the best minds in the state, this is unacceptable. We should be doing more to lift up those who are in poverty and help them to succeed. When one section of our community is struggling, our entire community struggles. We need to



Kalamazoo City Commission candidate Tracy Hall

pull together as a community to solve these problems.

2. How long were you with the Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center and what did you do there that will help you on the council?

I was at the KGLRC for two years. I still continue to volunteer on the Pride steering committee. The three most important things I

learned that will be beneficial for me: budget, programming and working with people from all walks of life. Much of my work involved managing budgets for our programs and grants. I had to create them and work within the constraints of those budgets. I pride myself on having the capacity to stay within budget parameters. I was a good steward of the donations and grant funds the Center

received and know that I would be mindful of the City's budget, work to cut waste, and be a great steward of the people's money. I have created, implemented, maintained, and evaluated programs for a multitude of different populations. Because of this, I have learned how to research specific issues and find the best practices for tackling them. Lastly, because of the diversity that is within the LGBT community, I have the unique ability to work with people from across all walks of life. I know how important it is to listen to everyone and I possess the ability to be the voice for those who do not have one, even those voices that are often drowned out within the LGBT community.

3. Do you have any endorsements we should mention?

South Central AFL-CIO

4. Why should people vote for you?

Because I am the new voice this city needs to address our issues. I see the importance of listening to those who feel they have not traditionally been heard, and I work to make sure I am including all voices in everything that I do. Because of my educational and teaching background, I have a strong understanding of the local political process. I have a sound understanding of the issues that are impacting

See Tracy Hall page 14

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New Rules Of The Game: Same Sex Marriage And Taxes

BTL To Host Breakfast Seminar On What New IRS Rules Mean For Michigan Couples

LIVONIA – The federal government now recognizes same-sex couples, regardless of where they may live. In states that do not have marriage equality – like Michigan – it means that the federal government recognizes marriages, but the state of Michigan does not. How will married couples file their taxes? Should they refile for prior years? How far back can they go? How do couples create estate plans that comply with federal and state law? What are the financial implications of getting married now? What happens when couples divorce?

Professor Gina Torielli, Director of the Graduate Tax Department at Cooley Law School, will address some of these questions at *New Rules of the Game: Same Sex Marriage and Taxes*, a seminar presented by *Between The Lines* Nov. 6 at the Detroit Marriott Livonia from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

“Financial professionals need to get up to speed very fast on all the new tax rules for married couples,” said Jan Stevenson, BTL’s co-publisher. “And it is really confusing because of the 2004 anti-gay marriage amendment to Michigan’s constitution. We have one of the state’s leading tax experts who will explain all the intricacies of the new IRS ruling. We hope accountants, financial planners, lawyers – any professional person who will be giving advice – to come learn about the new financial environment for same-sex couples. And of course this is open to anyone interested in the topic.”

Professor Torielli earned her B.S., with high honors from Michigan State University and J.D., cum laude from Harvard Law School. She teaches the Tax Practice and Procedure, Standards and Ethics of Tax Practice, and Tax Exempt Organizations courses in the Graduate Tax Program at Cooley.

She teaches the Taxation and Wills Estates and Trusts courses in the J.D. program. She was the initial supervising professor for Cooley’s Estate Planning Clinic at the Auburn



Hills campus. She is an officer of the State Bar of Michigan’s Taxation Section.

While at law school, Professor Torielli worked with the Harvard Negotiation Project, and as a research assistant to Professor Bernard Wolfman.

She began practice in the largest Michigan law firm, moving after six years to Howard & Howard, a firm of more than 90 attorneys. In 1998, Professor Torielli was elected as President and CEO of that firm, and served a five year term as the first woman managing partner of a major Michigan law firm. In that capacity Professor

Torielli led a large legal team in the development of a distinguished practice. She and her firm members have counseled businesses, banks and public sector clients, including several Fortune 500 firms. Her experience as managing partner gave her real world experience with ethical and practice management issues in a law firm setting.

Torielli’s own practice centered in taxation and public finance, and in that capacity she advised many nonprofit organizations and governmental entities on issues relating to tax exemption, tax-exempt financing and state and federal tax issues. Professor Torielli’s scholarship is an effort to provide guidance to practitioners on the intricacies of federal tax exemption for municipal bonds.

The Detroit chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners named Professor Torielli one of the “top 10 business women of the year” in the spring of 2003. *Corp!* magazine named her one of the “95 most powerful women in Michigan” in March 2002, and *Michigan Lawyers Weekly* called her one of ten Michigan “Lawyers of the Year” in 1998. The Governor appointed Professor Torielli to the board of Michigan Higher Education Assistance Authority in 2004. Professor Torielli also serves on the boards of several charitable organizations.

BTL EVENT

New Rules Of The Game

Same Sex Marriage And Taxes

To register for *New Rules of the Game: Same Sex Marriage and Taxes* go to www.gaybe.com/t or call 734-293-7200 x15. The continental breakfast will start at 8 a.m. and the program will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 10 a.m. Registration is \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. The Detroit Marriott Livonia is on 6 Mile

Rd. just east of I275, attached to the Laurel Park Mall.

>> www.gaybe.com/t

Royal Oak SAFE Addresses Suicide Issues

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

As over 100 people gathered at the Royal Oak Middle School for a discussion on suicide prevention, there were many sad personal stories and tears. There was also the expected cadre of organizations that provide help for those struggling with suicidal thoughts and other mental illness. But what was most surprising to many in the audience were the statistics given out by Royal Oak Police Chief Corrigan O’Donohue.

“Over the last ten years we’ve had seven homicides and 17 fatal car accidents,” O’Donohue said. “And that compares to 119 suicides and 362 reported attempts over that same time period.” In 2012 the Royal Oak Police Department responded to 11 suicides and 28 attempted suicides, compared to one fatal traffic accident and zero homicides. In addition to the suicides and attempts, the department also responded to 194 mental health commitments, placing people in professional care who are at risk of hurting themselves or possibly others.

“On any given day we’re more likely to respond to someone who is having a mental health crisis or is at risk of suicide,” he said. “My point here is that we’re not alone. This is an epidemic and it affects more people than most believe.”

A fifteen-year-old Royal Oak resident, Emily Harris, bravely shared her story of loss. “I’ve lived in Royal Oak all my life. Same house. Same friends. I was a normal teenager, up until 17 months ago. I have a half-brother named Anthony. I never thought of him as a half-brother. He was family. I saw him every day so he was just a part of my everyday life.

On April 10, 2012 my brother came home from seeing a movie. He and my mother had gotten into a little argument earlier, which was nothing new, and they worked it out as usual. They were laughing together upstairs and I was just watching TV. I had stayed up late that night. My mom went to bed and my brother was messing around in the house. At about 11 p.m. that night he came up to me and told me ‘Emily if any of my friends come over, don’t answer the door.’ And I thought ‘that’s strange, but alright’ and before he went to bed he said ‘Emily, I love you, I’m sorry and goodbye.’

That’s the last time I talked to him. I had no idea what he meant by that. At first the guilt was almost overpowering. The next morning I was getting up for school and I heard my mom. She screamed and then she was on the phone talking to 911, saying ‘help, help, my son has hung himself.’ I couldn’t believe it. I thought I was still sleeping... I got up and went into his room and he was hanging there in the closet.”

Harris cried as she talked about the after-effects of Anthony’s death. “It took me a couple months to get help,” she said. “I wasn’t being a teenager. I just kind of stopped living.” She eventually started going to therapy because she knew she wanted to enjoy her teenage years, even though she wasn’t. “The strongest people can admit their weakness,” she said. Through therapy she was able to see meaning in her half-brother’s death. “He taught me how precious of a life I have, and I strive for happiness.”

Other suicide survivors shared their stories too, including Royal Oak City Commissioner Peggy Goodwin who helped to create the Royal Oak SAFE group (Suicide Awareness for Everyone). Goodwin’s father Hector had killed himself when she was just six years old. “As a survivor myself, I really didn’t understand there were this many people until I really started digging,” Goodwin said. “It’s never going to be in an obituary. So you don’t know how common it is.”

Dr. William S. Miles, Director of Psychiatry at Beaumont Hospital shared

See SAFE, page 14

The Affordable Care Act's Transformative Impact On LGBT People

“Like all Americans, LGBT Americans deserve respectful health care providers and the security of accessible, affordable health care that meets their needs.”

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius of the Department of Health and Human Services

“I am now legally married — but only at some times, and in some places.... Why would any rational gay person choose to move to a state that discriminates against them when they could live in states that protect them equally under the law? I would not make that choice.”

Nancy Andrews, Detroit Free Press Managing Editor/Digital Media

“The Affordable Care Act will transform how transgender people get their healthcare needed to live healthy and authentic lives... its nondiscrimination protections apply to health programs and activities receiving federal funds, and to entities and programs established under Title I of the law.”

Center for America Progress, release May 2013

“Research shows that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender adults are less likely to have health insurance than heterosexual adults. Approximately 82 percent of heterosexual adults have health coverage, while 77 percent of lesbian, gay and bisexual adults and only 52 percent of transgender adults have coverage... The Affordable Care Act addresses disparities in insurance coverage by offering more opportunities for LGBT Americans to obtain health insurance.”

National Women's Law Center, release Aug. 6

“It's what we've been waiting for: open enrollment is finally here along with new, affordable health insurance options. Now that October is here, LGBT Americans in every state can begin learning about their coverage options at healthcare.gov.”

Statement from Out2Enroll, a collaborative effort of the Sellers Dorsey Foundation, Center for America Progress and the Federal Agencies Project to educate the LGBT community about the ACA

October, ObamaCare And Me



Viewpoint

OPINION BY MICHELLE E. BROWN

I always look forward to October. I love October. I was born in October and I do a happy birthday dance from the first day to the very last day each year.

When I was a child my cousins teased me saying I was a witch because I was born in October (which was one of their nicer taunts), my Aunt Annette shared a poem with me by Helen Hunt Jackson to make me smile.

As summer's days wind down to fall, I find myself repeating the first stanza of that poem “October's Bright Blue Weather” as I prepare for my birthday fest.

This year I have been counting down to October 1 for another reason. It's the first day I can shop for and sign up for health insurance thanks to the Affordable Healthcare Act (ACA) more commonly known as Obamacare.

More than 45 million Americans, approximately 15 percent of Americans, are un/under-insured and for the past 18 months I have been one of them.

I have been reluctant to talk or tell anyone about it. In fact, I've been embarrassed about the fact that I have had no medical insurance. However, as I listen to all the rancor coming from Washington, DC, I decided to “out” myself because access to affordable healthcare is not some political bargaining chip. It's a basic human right.

I could be the poster child for why we need Obamacare.

I was at one point denied healthcare because of a pre-existing condition I did not have. I had told a doctor that in the presence of cigarette smoke I had problems breathing and coughed. I've never smoked but the insurance company denied me citing a pre-existing condition

The insurance I was able to get did not cover all the costs for my surgery /treatment for breast cancer and emergency room visit following an auto accident leaving me saddled with thousands of dollars of medical expenses.

And that was before the bottom dropped out and the economy tanked.

When you're trying to make ends meet, insurance is the first to go, then you cut back on the medicines. You try to be really, really careful and you pray. You pray that

In our status driven, upwardly mobile society we're supposed to have it all. Not having insurance, not having access to medical care meant I couldn't take care of myself and who wants to lay claim to that? I was angry, saddened, depressed and embarrassed.

you won't get sick; you won't get hurt and that no one will find out.

In our status driven, upwardly mobile society we're supposed to have it all. Not having insurance, not having access to medical care meant I couldn't take care of myself and who wants to lay claim to that? I was angry, saddened, depressed and embarrassed.

It is hard to admit that you need help and even harder to ask/accept it realizing your American dream has turned into a nightmare.

Fortunately I have only myself to take care of. It has been difficult. I am resilient. I am hopeful. But among those 45 million un/under insured Americans are families — spouses, parents, and children.

45 million men, women, young adults and families trying to be really, really careful, praying for good health and when the unthinkable happens turning to the

emergency room for primary care.

These faces/my face are invisible in the vitriolics on Capitol Hill and in a society driven more by political ideology and sound bytes than the facts about the ACA.

Why did we need healthcare reform? It wasn't a new idea. Healthcare reform had been proposed by previous administrations and defeated but it was a problem that just wouldn't go away.

An analysis by the Center for American Progress explained without reform that the broken health care system would cost the nation between \$124 billion and \$248 billion in lost productivity one year alone; that uninsured Americans lived shorter lives and had poorer health.

The Institute of Medicine found that, “the estimated benefits across society in healthy years of life gained by providing health insurance coverage are likely greater than the additional social costs of providing coverage to those who now lack it.”

We will never know the numbers of Americans who died prematurely because they failed to get preventative health care or who suffered disabilities because a wound or disease went untreated.

The law was written. The act passed and in March 2010, President Obama signed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

See October, next page



Protect Our Youth From Dangers of Substance Abuse



Viewpoint

OPINION BY CRAIG COVEY

As voters debate the merits of decriminalizing marijuana for adult private use in three Michigan cities this fall, there is one thing that we can all agree on, and that is the need to prevent its use by teens. No one working to pass these ballot initiatives in Ferndale, Lansing, or Jackson wants this issue to allow more use by youth. On the contrary, we believe that taking marijuana sales away from the underground market, and regulating and taxing the product, will enable better systems to restrict its availability to students.

That marijuana use by those underage is accepted as deleterious is not disputed. We also know that alcohol and tobacco use can be dangerous to young people. That is why we have made progress in limiting sales of tobacco and alcohol to minors. Prohibition of marijuana in society has not worked over the past 50 years, and finally taking it out of the black market economy will allow society to better regulate it, and even tax it for prevention

► October

Continued from p. 10

(ACA), into law. The law makes preventive care - including family planning and related services - more accessible and affordable for many Americans.

In June, 2012 the Supreme Court upheld nearly all of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), in a landmark 5-4 decision.

In August, 2013 the House of Representatives tried to repeal Obamacare for the 40th time since the bill's implementation.

As the clock ticks down on the nation's fiscal year house Republicans again have shutdown the government by insisting on language to defund or weaken the Affordable Care Act.

Let's be clear defunding Obamacare will NOT miraculously balance the budget, get rid of the deficit or solve the country's economic woes. If Congress doesn't fix the way the government spends the taxes it collects this time next year we will again be looking at raising the debt limit and falling over another fiscal cliff.

More importantly, Congress must govern

education programs.

The price of marijuana has gone down over the past decades, while the potency has gone up. It has always been readily available on campuses since the 1960's. The highest use of pot ever measured was in the mid to late 1970's, when half of all graduating high school seniors admitted to trying it. We must continue to strive for prevention of substance abuse among our young, focusing on the most addictive and dangerous ones like heroin, meth, and the pills in the medicine cabinet like Oxycontin, codeine, and Vicodin.

Voters in Ferndale, Lansing, and Jackson will most likely vote to decriminalize marijuana for adult private use in the upcoming November elections. We should use these developments to renew and strengthen efforts to educate and prevent substance abuse by those who are underage.

Prohibition of marijuana in society has not worked over the past 50 years, and finally taking it out of the black market economy will allow society to better regulate it, and even tax it for prevention education programs.

putting the well being of the American public first with a focus on ending poverty, education including early education, affordable housing, addressing economic disparity and, yes, providing affordable/adequate healthcare for everyone. A lot to ask? Well that's my American dream.

Summer has turned to fall and September ended at 11:59 PM on the 30th. October 1 comes despite the political madness in Washington.

This year I will welcome October a different way. Before starting my birthday dance I'll be going on-line and looking at healthcare options so I can give myself the best gift of all - the gift of health.

"O sun and skies and flowers of June,
Count all your boasts together,
Love loveth best of all the year
October's bright blue weather.

From October's Bright Blue Weather by Helen Hunt Jackson

Michelle E. Brown is Public Speaker, Activist and Author. Follow her at www.facebook.com/mychangeiam and www.twitter.com/mychangeiam

DUSTIN LANCE BLACK

DIRECTOR // SCREENWRITER
AUTHOR // OSCAR WINNER
LGBTQ ADVOCATE



WEDNESDAY | OCT 16

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY 7:00PM



THURSDAY | OCT 17

UNIVERSITY of MICHIGAN-DEARBORN 7:00PM



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Wilde Time In Big D



Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

"I have nothing to declare but my genius," Oscar Wilde said to the press when briskly embarking and ever so elegantly clearing customs in New York, January 1882.

Oscar, age 28, came to America to give 70 lectures on aestheticism with a capital A, the house beautiful as lived in by the Victorian English, art, poetry, the muses (with whom he let it be known he was on excellent speaking terms – as an Irishman). His lecture tour fee: \$5000.

Oscar's first lecture – "The English Renaissance" – was given January 9th at New York's Chickering Hall. The audience was startled by his appearance: short breeches, long silk stockings, shoulder-length haircut, a sunflower in hand. Cartoonists had a field day. Following his appearance a vogue for lilies and Japanese parasols was taken up by fashionable ladies (and daring male dandies).

Oscar arrived in Detroit with rather subdued fanfare, February 16th. His lecture was given at the 3000-seat – long demolished – Music Hall, attended by a polite audience of mostly women (and husbands coerced into going along).

"How jolly good of you to find yourselves located so close to one of the crown jewels in our far-flung Empire," quipped Oscar. "It speaks well of your upbringing and neighborly intent." Wilde's schedule of nearby stops included Cleveland (18th) and Columbus OH (19th).

By the time Oscar hopped to San Francisco he had had favorable encounters with cowboys, gold prospectors (a gold mine was named after him), farmers, and Mormon plural-wives. He met Mark Twain, poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and chatted up gay icon Walt Whitman (though Wilde had as yet not come out). In San Francisco the fun – the foppery, the furor – began.

Wilde's train pulled in on March 26th. Fans – male and female – carried sunflowers. His lecture was scheduled for the following day at the Platt Hall. He stayed at the Palace Hotel, then the world's largest hotel. According to the California Historical Society Quarterly, "During the winter months [before Wilde's arrival] there were published in the Wasp and other California publications occasional jingles about Wilde and the Aesthetes.

"A popular song entitled 'Oscar Dear' was received with condescending humor in the city's gay spots; and the slang of the moment included such supposedly Wildean expressions as 'too utterly utter,' 'just too too' and 'do you yearn?'"

Homophobia is nothing new. It came from an expert: Ambrose Bierce, author of the brilliant, anarchistic, Devil's Dictionary. Bierce was rabid about Oscar. In a 1000-word Wasp diatribe, he called him, "sovereign of unsufferables, an ineffable dunce with nothing to say, a hateful impostor, a stupid blockhead, an offensively daft crank, an intellectual jellyfish, a man with no thoughts and no thinker, a gawky gowk, the littlest and looniest of a brotherhood of simpletons, an idiot who would argue with a cast-iron dog, a speaker with the eloquence of a caller on a hog-ranch, a dunghill he-hen who would fly with eagles." My word!

There's no record of what Oscar thought of Ambrose Bierce, if anything. Perhaps, a line from The Picture of Dorian Gray might suffice: "A man cannot be too careful in the choice of his enemies." (Straight -- or too, too utterly gay, for that matter.)

Charles@pridesource.com

NJ Legal Battle Over Gay Marriage Will Continue

BY GEOFF MULVIHILL

(AP) – A judge's ruling Friday that New Jersey must allow gay couples to marry will not be the last word on the issue after Gov. Chris Christie's administration said it would appeal to a higher court.

The judge, Mary Jacobson, sided with gay and lesbian couples and a gay rights group that argued the state government is violating New Jersey's constitution by denying federal benefits to the couples by not letting them marry. She said the state must allow gay couples to wed starting Oct. 21.

The ruling was the first of its kind in any state court relying on a June U.S. Supreme Court ruling that struck down key parts of a law that blocked the federal government from granting benefits to gay couples.

"Every day that the state does not allow same-sex couples to marry, plaintiffs are being harmed," Jacobson wrote, citing specifically same-sex couples who include a federal employee, those who want to use the federal Family Medical Leave Act or those who file joint federal tax returns.

Whatever course Christie chose had the potential of putting the Republican governor in a tough spot politically.

He's seeking re-election in a state where polls show broad support for gay marriage and where the Legislature passed a law last year to allow it. At the same time, he's seen as a possible contender for the Republican nomination for president in 2016 – a position that requires winning over relatively conservative Republican electorates in some states with early primaries.

Still, he has been resolute about his position, favoring civil unions and opposing gay marriage.

On Friday, Christie refused to take questions about the ruling, instead issuing a brief statement through a spokesman.

"Gov. Christie has always maintained that he would abide by the will of the voters on the issue of marriage equality and called for it to be on the ballot this Election Day," said spokesman Michael Drewniak.



He's seeking re-election in a state where polls show broad support for gay marriage and where the Legislature passed a law last year to allow it.

"Since the Legislature refused to allow the people to decide expeditiously, we will let the Supreme Court make this constitutional determination."

Thirteen states now recognize same-sex marriages, including the entire Northeast except for Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Dozens of same-sex marriage supporters cheered, hugged and popped open bottles of Champagne outside a church in Montclair, N.J., just outside New York City, on Friday night to celebrate the ruling.

Gay marriage has been a major political and legal issue in New Jersey for more than a decade. The state Supreme Court ruled unanimously in 2006 that same sex-couples had the

right to the same legal protections as married couples, but a 4-3 majority ruled that the state did not have to go as far as calling those benefits marriage. Lawmakers responded by quickly creating civil unions.

In 2011, six couples and children of several of them asked the courts to find that the civil union law was not fulfilling its intention because it created a separate classification for gay couples. The state Supreme Court sent the issue to a lower court.

But the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in June on the Defense of Marriage Act changed the argument, and the couples

Whatever course Gov. Christie chose had the potential of putting the Republican governor in a tough spot politically.

asked anew for speedy relief.

Federal agencies have rolled out a variety of policies on whether they will recognize marriages of any gay couples or only those in states that recognize their vows.

The Christie administration argued that it's the federal government's patchwork of policies that is keeping lesbian and gay couples in New Jersey from having the same federal benefits as heterosexual couples.

The question of gay marriage also is in the Legislature. Lawmakers last year passed a law to allow gay marriage, but Christie vetoed it, saying it should be up to a popular vote, a position that most prominent gay rights activists reject.

33 Lawsuits Now Active For Marriage Equality

Freedom To Marry will be announcing a marriage litigation resource that rounds up all the cases

and links to further resources in the next week.

Currently there are 33 cases in 18

states including Michigan.

Follow their website to learn more at www.freedomtomarry.org.

www.PrideSource.com

VA Marriage Ban Suit Attracts High Powered Legal Team

Olson and Boies To Case, Brought Down Prop. 8

BY LISA KEEN

The high-powered legal team that brought down California's ban on same-sex marriage announced Sept. 30 it will now seek to strike down a ban enacted in Virginia in 2006.

Ted Olson and David Boies who led the team sponsored by the American Foundation for Equal Rights to win a lawsuit against Proposition 8, will join forces once again to go after Virginia's constitutional amendment banning same-sex couples from marrying. The team is signing onto a lawsuit that was filed without organizational assistance by a gay male couple in Norfolk. The lawsuit, *Bostic v. McDonnell*, has since been joined by a lesbian couple married in California who seek recognition of their marriage in Virginia.

Meanwhile, Lambda Legal and the ACLU, two prominent national legal groups, announced they were filing a motion for summary judgment in a lawsuit they filed in Virginia, also seeking to strike down the ban. A federal judge had already scheduled their case, *Harris v. McDonnell*, for trial next summer. If the summary judgment motion is granted, the judge could make a ruling sooner based on briefs and oral arguments.

In a press conference in Washington, D.C., Olson and Boies both pointed to the historic role Virginia has played in legal matters involving marriage.

"Virginia gave us the first marriage equality case – and the one that most clearly established that the right to marry the person you love is a fundamental right of all Americans," said Boies, referring to the landmark *Loving v. Virginia* case that struck down state bans against interracial marriage in 1967. "It's fitting, then, that Virginia be the battleground for another great test of that principle."

Olson, who has lived in Virginia for more than 30 years, said in a telephone press conference that, "as a Virginian, I feel particularly disappointed" about Virginia's ban on marriage for same-sex couples. He noted it not only denies marriage licenses to same-sex couples, but also denies civil unions, other types of relationship contracts, and recognition of legitimate marriage licenses obtained in other states.

"It does great harm to individual citizens of Virginia and their children," said Olson. He added that the U.S. Supreme Court's rulings last June in the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) case and the case regarding California's Proposition 8 "lead the way for the



Executive Director of American Foundation for Equal Rights Adam Umhoefer addresses the media Sept. 30 in Virginia. Courtesy of www.afer.org website

courts to decide that this kind of discrimination is not consistent" with the constitutional rights to due process and equal protection.

"We feel this is the vehicle that potentially might go to Supreme Court and vindicate rights for all citizens... like *Loving* did."

Second Lawsuit

Olson acknowledged that there is a second lawsuit filed in a federal district court in Virginia, seeking to strike down the ban. He said the *Bostic* case was the first to be filed and that the attorneys who filed that case in July invited Olson and Boies to participate. The *Bostic* team also filed a motion this month seeking to have their clients explicitly excluded from the *Harris* class action lawsuit, a motion that seemed to suggest some tensions between the two cases' legal teams. Such tensions existed when the Olson-Boies team first announced their lawsuit against the Proposition 8 trial.

But Olson said the lawyers on the *Bostic* team "respect" and "get along with the people in the other litigation" and that it is simply "appropriate" for the *Bostic* plaintiffs be excluded from the *Harris* class.

According to the motion seeking to exclude the *Bostic* plaintiffs from the class action in

the *Harris* lawsuit, the *Bostic* attorneys want to "ensure that they can litigate their...action to final judgment on the expedited schedule agreed to by the parties in that action."

The *Harris* case is before Judge Michael Urbanski, an Obama appointee. He has set Oct. 29 to hear motions to certify the class and motions to dismiss the case, and has scheduled a bench trial for June 2-13, 2014.

The *Harris* class action would represent both same-sex couples denied the right to marry in Virginia and couples already married in another state but being denied recognition in Virginia.

"Virginians denied the freedom to marry have no meaningful legislative path to gain the same protections for their families as other loving

and committed couples," said Claire Guthrie Gastanaga, executive director of the ACLU of Virginia, in a press release Monday morning, just prior to the Olson-Boies press conference announcing their news. "That's why we've had to ask the federal court to overturn Virginia's sweeping bans on recognizing same-sex relationships. We shouldn't have to go to federal court to get Virginia to do what's right."

The Lambda-ACLU lawsuit, *Harris v. McDonnell*, was filed Aug. 1 in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia in Harrisonburg. Its named plaintiffs are two lesbian couples, Joanne Harris and Jessica Duff, and Christy Berghoff and Victoria Kidd, as well as "all others similarly situated."

The Olson and Boies' team lawsuit was filed in July by Timothy Bostic and Tony London, who have been together for 24 years. Another couple, Mary Townley and Carol Schall, who were married in California in 2008, was added to the lawsuit early this month in an amended complaint filed in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia before Judge Arenda Wright Allen, also an Obama appointee. No decision has been made on whether the *Bostic* judge will hold a trial or rule based on written briefs and oral argument. The next round of briefs in that case are due Oct. 31.

GEORGIA

Woman Not Allowed To Change Name On License

SANDY SPRINGS, Ga. (AP) - A Georgia woman says state officials won't allow her to change her name on her driver's license to reflect her marriage to her wife.

Danielle McCollum was trying to add the last name of her wife, Shakira Tucker, to her Georgia driver's license this month, *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* reports ([URL http://bit.ly/15BsqaW](http://bit.ly/15BsqaW)).

The couple, both 24, in July got married in Massachusetts, where same-sex marriage is legal. But they live in Georgia, where voters overwhelmingly voted to amend the state constitution to ban gay marriage.

Tucker had no problem last month getting her last name changed on her license to McCollum-Tucker. But when McCollum went to the same Department of Driver Services office in Sandy Springs earlier this month and showed the same marriage certificate, she was denied.

"This could be a real significant moment in the fight for gay rights," McCollum said.

Department of Driver Services spokeswoman Susan Sports said she couldn't comment on the couple's case, but she did say in a statement that "the Georgia Constitution prohibits all state agencies from accepting same-sex marriage documentation for any purpose."

NEW YORK

Exxon To Offer Benefits To Same-Sex Couples In US

NEW YORK (AP) - Exxon Mobil Corp. said Sept. 27 that it will begin offering benefits to legally married same-sex couples in the United States for the first time starting next week.

The company says it will recognize "all legal marriages" when it determines eligibility for health care plans for the company's 77,000 employees and retirees in America.

That means if a gay employee has been married in a state or country where gay marriage is legal, his or her spouse will be eligible for benefits with Exxon in the United States as of Oct. 1.

Exxon, which is facing a same-sex discrimination complaint in Illinois, said it was following the lead of the U.S. government and the Illinois complaint was without merit.

"We haven't changed our eligibility criteria. It has always been to follow the federal definition and it will continue to follow the federal definition," said Exxon spokesman Alan Jeffers in an interview.

Jeffers said the company offers benefits to same-sex couples in 30 countries, consistent with local laws.

Tico Almeida, founder and president of Freedom to Work, a gay-rights group involved in the Illinois case, commended Exxon for changing its benefit policy, but criticized the company for "dragging its feet."

Extended versions of these stories are available online at: >> www.PrideSource.com

Creep of the Week

Linda Harvey

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Hey, did you hear that former Ohio attorney general Jim Petro recently became a grandpa? That's nice for him. The end.



At least that's how the story should go, but it doesn't. Why? Because Petro's daughter is a lesbian. And Linda Harvey of Mission:

America thinks that God wants her to use this otherwise joyous occasion to call Petro's daughter, and all of the other gay or lesbian parents out there, child abusers who don't love their kids.

And how are gay and lesbian parents abusing their children? Simply by being gay or lesbian.

And don't you go trying any of that "all you need is love" bullshit, either.

"Because if same sex relationships are all about love, why are people bringing a third, unknown party into a relationship to be the 'father' or 'mother' behind the curtain? When this kind of love means you can never conceive a new human with the person you love, isn't this a big clue that things were never supposed to be this way?"

Harvey seems to be forgetting that there is more to a relationship than meeting some kind of sexual reproduction quotas.

In a particularly nasty move, Harvey claims that since Petro's daughter is not the birth mother, Petro isn't really a grandfather. And his daughter certainly isn't a mother.

"[T]he Petros now have a grandson, and they are publicly cooing as most new grandparents do. Ecstatic or not, the reality is, this baby is actually the Petros' adopted grandchild – no blood relation -- because their daughter's partner was the birth mother. The father? At the time of this writing, no one has said. Friend? Sperm donor? Who knows?"

I would add "who cares?" to that list of questions. It certainly isn't any of Harvey's business.

But Harvey is determined to make it her business. She is particularly concerned that the Petros' grandchild is a boy being raised by two women.

She bemoans the lack of an "identifiable father in a boy's life,

offering heritage, caretaking, known genetic background, wisdom, financial support, spiritual guidance."

She also claims, "Dadlessness is a significant deficit in a child's life, but to do it deliberately, cavalierly, is close to child abuse. Every child deserves to know mom and dad. Homosexual parenting, deliberately excluding either a mom or dad, does not make sense, child-welfare-wise, and is

"Homosexual parenting, deliberately excluding either a mom or dad, does not make sense, child-welfare-wise, and is frankly, cruel."

- Linda Harvey

frankly, cruel."

Is it close to child abuse or is it actually child abuse? Make up your mind, Harvey!

Never mind that reputable studies have proven that having two parents of the same sex does not endanger child welfare. That kind of information isn't useful to Harvey because she clearly shuns any and all data that disrupts her "gay parents are terrible" narrative.

And why do gays and lesbians want children to begin with? Because kids just love parades! Harvey writes, "The adults are the central figures in a play about 'making me happy according to what I think I want today.' The kids are essentially props to be trotted out, sadly, at events like 'pride' parades. Yet at some point, children are not stupid and will figure this out."

That's right. Gays and lesbians are fickle, especially when it comes to children (I mean, just think of how often gays and lesbians have unintended pregnancies). At some point the kids of gay and lesbian parents are going to wise up to their role as fun props promoting the homosexual lifestyle. And then all of these kids are going to march over to Harvey's house to demand asylum. Hope she has some air mattresses.

► SAFE

Continued from p. 9

the national statistics, stating that in the U.S. each year there are 40,000 suicides. This compares with 16,000 homicides. "Suicide needs to be approached as a public health issue," Miles said.

Royal Oak SAFE is a group of experts, survivors, civic leaders and volunteers who are working to make suicide prevention and awareness a year-round issue. The Sept. 25 discussion panel also featured a resource fair with many mental health and suicide prevention agencies. On Nov. 16 they will host a Safe Talk training which is for laypeople to get educated about how to recognize people in crisis, how to guide them towards help, and how to make others aware that suicide is a common problem in the community.

The keynote speaker for the presentation was Jeff Edwards, president of the American

Foundation for Suicide Prevention Detroit Chapter. Edwards and his wife lobbied for the passage of a law encouraging schools to talk about suicide prevention with parents and students. The law, known as the Chase Edward's Law, is named after Edwards' son who killed himself in 2003. Chase was just 12 years old.

Edwards gives presentations teaching people to look for the warning signs of depression or potential suicide.

Warning signs include:

~Talking about wanting to kill themselves, or saying they wish they were dead

~Looking for a way to kill themselves, such as hoarding medicine or buying a gun

~Talking about a specific suicide plan

~Feeling hopeless or having no reason to live

~Feeling trapped, desperate, or needing to escape from an intolerable situation

~Having the feeling of being a burden to others

~Feeling humiliated

~Having intense anxiety and/or panic attacks

~Losing interest in things, or losing the ability to experience pleasure

~Insomnia

~Becoming socially isolated and withdrawn from friends, family, and others

~Acting irritable or agitated

~Showing rage, or talking about seeking revenge for being victimized or rejected, whether or not the situations the person describes seem real

Individuals who show such behaviors should be evaluated for possible suicide risk by a medical doctor or mental health professional.

See Royal Oak SAFE efforts by liking them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RoyalOakSafe. For more resources visit Common Ground's website at www.suicideprevention.commgroundhelps.org/postvention. Learn more about American Foundation for Suicide Prevention at <http://www.afsp.org>.

► Tracy Hall

Continued from p. 8

our community.

Additionally, I care strongly about poverty and education; both are issues that need to be addressed in the city. I have struggled with both of these issues. Coming from a single-parent family and being in a relationship that is not recognized by state law, I have dealt with the crisis of poverty in my personal life for years. In addition, working as a college professor has given me the ability

to work with students from all walks of life, some of whom are not prepared for college. I am able to see the educational inequities not as words in a report, but as students in my class. Due to my background, I will bring in strong ideas on how we, as a community, can address these issues.

5. Have you gotten any negative response being an LGBT candidate?

No, I haven't. Kalamazoo is an incredibly welcoming city, and much of the political community has accepted me.

6. Do you know if KZOO has

had any out-elected officials before?

Yes, Terry Kuseske was the first elected out official on the Kalamazoo City Commission. If elected, I would be the first out lesbian to serve on the Commission. This would be a personal honor and valued accomplishment.

To learn more about Hall and her campaign, visit her website at <http://hallforkzoo.com> or find her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/tracyhall4kzoo.

► Weigh In

Continued from p. 4

voters' endorsement of the gay-marriage ban, said the Supreme Court has recognized that states have a right to define marriage.

"Their attempt to circumvent the legislative process and disrupt the will of the people of the state of Michigan must be rejected," the state said of DeBoer and Rowse.

U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman has allowed other parties to file arguments in the case. The Michigan Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the Roman Catholic Church, said "every sign of unjust discrimination" must be avoided yet marriage should remain between a man and a woman.

"That the people of the state of Michigan have sought to preserve and protect the relationship most conducive to the preservation and proliferation of the human race through the Marriage Amendment is certainly a legitimate government interest," the Catholic Conference said.

The Lansing-based Michigan Family Forum said same-sex couples can be successful parents but "that is not the question."

"The social science evidence, especially evidence founded on conclusions from population-based samples, suggests that there are unique advantages to a parenting structure consisting of both a mother and a father, political interests to the contrary notwithstanding," the group said.

On the other side, eight professors at Thomas M. Cooley Law School said Michigan's gay marriage ban clearly is unconstitutional. In addition, nearly 20 constitutional law scholars from across the country said the judge should hold Michigan to "heightened scrutiny," meaning the state would need to overcome a high legal threshold to justify a ban on gay marriage.

"Ours is not a constitution of caste or class. It is not a constitution that allows a political majority to subordinate a defenseless minority just because it can," the Cooley professors said. "It is not a constitution that turns its back on any class, much less a class that is morally blameless."

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Photo: Andrew Potter

THE CARRIAGE COUPLE

Estate Salesmen Continue Indian Village Tradition

HOME GUIDE
BY EMELL DERRA ADOLPHUS

The founding pioneers of Detroit's historical Indian Village assembled an architectural community rich in antiquity. Over a century later, not

much has changed about the people who live there.

One of the up-and-coming districts for "power gays," Indian Village Estate Sales, LLC owners Jeffrey Emerson and Joseph Rice live in a quaint 19th-century Carriage House just behind the main residence – a mansion – in this historic neighborhood. Traditionally,

the living space was reserved for the chauffeur and cook at the residence, who were lovers, which is a fitting tradition for the couple and their knack for collecting all things historical – for "antiquing."

"What you see in this room, Jeff had when I met him. And what I have in my two rooms, I had

when I met Jeff," says Rice and Emerson, seated in their constantly ticking living room that houses about \$30,000 worth of antiques.

Gilt clocks ding on the hour. There are heirloom ship models and greenstone statuettes. Portraits of people from past eras hang from the walls.

"I kind of wanted to keep the original style or décor that it may have had during the time," says Emerson. "I had been dealing for 25 years in antiques, so I amassed a collection of some of the best stuff. I've sold a lot over the years; upgraded some things for others. And certain pieces are very special



to me and I don't want to part with them. I've never found anything that has captured me as much as these pieces have."

Rice chimes in, "It's even better when you have someone to share it with."

The living room overlooks a plush garden, separating the two living quarters, which the couple describes as a larger version of their own living space.

"It's an eclectic mix, but it blends well together. I really did not know much about the antique business until I met Jeff," says Rice. "I was trying to impress him with the fact that I watched 'Antiques Roadshow.' I learned a lot from Jeff. He has a dealer's mentality."

The couple, who have been together for five years, lived in the Carriage House before, but left in July 2010 for Indianapolis. This time, they returned to Michigan to start their estate sale business and take advantage of a community that is oddly untouched when it comes to estate sellers – the LGBT community.

"It tends to be a very heterosexually-oriented business," says Emerson. "There are about 30 estate sale companies that cover the southeastern Michigan area, and to the best of my knowledge there is not one company that is catering strictly to the gay community. Which is very odd to me. Everyone knows that gay people have the best furniture and

objects of art."

The kitchen of the Carriage House brings visitors back to the 21st century, featuring modern appliances with a chrome finish. The dining space, though, is a delicate room, with glass trinkets and a cabinet containing an impressive collection of inherited fine china.

Originally, Rice wanted to work with the elderly, as it seemed their collection of items over time would benefit most from estate sales.

"One nice thing about this business really isn't the fact that we are able to buy what we like," Rice says. "It's helping people get rid of stuff when they just don't know how to get rid of it themselves."

Emerson adds: "We go in there and we give an honest assessment of what they have and what we can do."

Beyond the assist of liquidating

property, Rice and Emerson hope to provide a certain level of comfort for LGBT clients, during what can be an intimate process as antiques and personal mementos are appraised.

"Give respect," says Rice, about recognizing a same-sex couple. "We've actually been able to go the extra mile without even realizing. And we have a unique perspective, I suppose, on that end. Should something happen to Jeff – and I am in a position where I have to leave or want to leave, but I don't want to take everything with me – I want to be able to contract with an estate salesman that will respect my relationship and what we have together and treat me accordingly."

Considering their collection, the pair hopes when it comes time to appraise their own assets, buyers are at least left with one impression: "That we are really classy – and had good taste."

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Home ... It's Where The Office Is How To Work Without Leaving The House

HOME GUIDE

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

For almost anyone who doesn't work on a Google campus, office life can cause a host of maladies. Memo-itis, endless meeting disease and cubicle madness all afflict office workers at an alarming rate. For those seeking relief, a world of endless fresh coffee and pants-less conference calls might help. Ask your boss if working from home might be right for you.

"When I started my home-based business, I had three young daughters and I was able to work my schedule around theirs," says Debbi Weinstein, founder of life organization business I've Gotta Get Organized, Inc.

"The biggest benefit of working from home is being able to stay in my pajamas all day," says Aric Knuth, an English professor at the University of Michigan. "To plow through 40 essays is really hard work. To be able to stay home all day – in my pajamas – and just wander around my house making good coffee and pampering myself a little bit

makes that difficult work much better."

Working from home has been shown to decrease instances of reply-all outbreaks and other symptoms associated with generalized office disorder by up to 90 percent. Working from home also has been known to have many side effects, including: napping, snacking, upset

decrease these risks, a dedicated personal workspace is highly suggested.

"I definitely recommend that everybody have their own work space," Weinstein says. "As soon as (people) come into your area, your stuff is in their way. So, they're moving stuff out of the way and making a mess of what you've been working on."

"When my partner is at work, I take over the house," Knuth says. "There are work sites set up in piles or papers here or there. But when he comes home, I stop working. I just can't really do it. The house changes. Everything changes. It becomes a domestic space again."

– Aric Knuth

“The biggest danger of working from home is you get yourself wrapped up in a million different house projects when you should be doing your job.”

stomach, distraction and procrastination.

"The biggest danger of working from home is you get yourself wrapped up in a million different house projects when you should be doing your job," Knuth said.

TV, video games, tumblr, GIFs, house projects and Netflix all increase the risk of distraction dramatically. In order to

For those with a spare room, a full home office is an easy solution. For those in apartments or smaller accommodations, it can take some customization to make this treatment work.

"Set up a chair or a cushion, mood music or whatever it is that gets you in the right mood to do that work," Weinstein says. "Light a candle, get a

See Home Office, page 20

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► Home Office

Continued from p. 18

glass of wine. What is it that helps you work best and gets you from living area to work area?"

For those who experience distraction while working from home, it tends to be a chronic condition. As such, it's important to fill the workspace area with easy access to the things that you need. Preventing unnecessary exertion increases focus and leads to better organizational skills.

"You shouldn't ever have to get up to file or retrieve the things that are most important to you and the things that you touch most often," Weinstein says. "By nature, we're lazy; we're not going to get up to walk across the room to file something."

Make sure to schedule regular times for visiting your workspace to increase productivity.

"It's easy to take more of a laissez-faire attitude and not schedule work time like you would if you were at an office. It's important to schedule your time," Weinstein says.

One of the many reasons people choose working from home as the treatment for their generalized office disorder is its time-saving benefits. With some simple lifestyle adjustments, patients can maximize their free time and keep the focus on work.

"If you do a lot of postage, I think you should have a postage meter," Weinstein says. "I say to my clients who work 24 hours a day, 'Instead of going to do your laundry, have somebody do it and bring it to you.' Any kind of services that makes your life easier, so you're not driving around, are always important for your productivity."

The Perfect Workspace

Lighting: When cooped up in a workspace, you can sometimes feel cramped. Natural light brightens a room, increases focus and helps you feel more comfortable.

Seating: Each person will require different ergonomic options. Picking something customized and comfortable, whether plush chair or floor pad, will help decrease stiffness and discomfort. Equally important is a desk that allows for minimal reaching.

Filing: For maximum productivity, organization is required. However records are kept, they should be organized logically and kept locally.

No-nos: Unless your job requires it, do not bring TVs or video games into the workspace. Distractions like these make working less effective and increase risk of procrastination.

The Financial Aspect

"You're able to write off some of the expenses for your home, such as a portion your utilities, your home internet," says Alan Semonian, CPA and owner of Ameritax Plus in Berkley. "If it's your home base for your business then the mileage away from your home location may be deductible.

"If you do write off a portion of your home, when you sell your house, that's now business property. That could potentially cause a taxable event that would be tax-free otherwise. Always consult a financial professional about what would be better. There's the potential for write-offs in a home office, but they're not necessarily any greater than owning your own business."

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Birmingham Store Opening To Feature 'House Coach'

HOME GUIDE

BY SHELBY CLARK

Urban Danish design company BoConcept hosts its grand opening in Birmingham at 2 p.m. Oct. 5 with special guest "house coach" Kirsten Steno.

With a background in interior design and life coaching, Steno has helped decorate over 1,800 homes in her career. She holds the distinction of being a Martha Beck-trained life coach, a field that trains coaches to help clients with issues ranging from weight loss, relationships, career and more.

House coaching relies on the principle that the design, organization and philosophy of one's home influences a person's overall well-being. Steno has spent the last several months touring other BoConcept stores to discuss this concept of "Empathetic Interior Design," a trend that focuses not on color or material, but on "changing one's home to change one's life."



BoConcept opens Oct. 5 in Birmingham. Photo courtesy of BoConcept

Steno notes, "People often rearrange furniture, plants and paintings when they're restless and feel the need for change. The truth is, they really yearn

to move forward, or grow inwardly. "I know how terrible it is to feel 'homesick at home' and 'alienated from your own soul.' I've been there

myself: divorced, a single mom, poor, and living in an ugly, expensive rented apartment," says Steno.

"Small changes in my personal life

“ People often rearrange furniture, plants and paintings when they're restless and feel the need for change. The truth is, they really yearn to move forward, or grow inwardly. ”

– Kirsten Steno

have immediately and unconsciously been expressed in my home with new decorations, new colors or by

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Continued from p. 22

rearranging the furniture. The more I expressed those changes, the better I felt about my home. And the better I felt about myself.”

Steno, who speaks more than three languages, will discuss her book, “House-Coach.com,” a self-help book with a “home is you!” theme. The book is only available in BoConcept stores.

BoConcept began in Denmark in 1952 to create high-quality, customized furniture. Combining modern design with affordability, the company aims to make homes an oasis for the soul of the resident. BoConcept emphasizes energetic and hip design, as well as focusing on an urban-minded customer base.

“Personally I find it easy to use the furniture and accessories from BoConcept in my work, because you can find something for all tastes at a very good price. The quality of the manufacturing is impeccable – and in my work as an interior designer, I am a perfectionist and hate when things you love break easily,” says Steno.

“I’m also working with BoConcept to implement some of the house-coaching tools from my book, so that in the near future the free service of interior decorating can be even more helpful to customers.”

The innovative and adventurous vision of BoConcept is sure to fit into Birmingham, where the 6,800-square-foot store will house furniture and accessories focusing on comfort and simplicity, a testament to Danish design traditions.



Kirsten Steno

The grand opening celebration for BoConcept Birmingham will be Oct. 5 at 670 S. Old Woodward Ave. in Birmingham. Steno’s discussion will begin at 2 p.m. with limited space available. The event will include book drawings, book signings and refreshments.

For more information, call 248-792-6331 or e-mail events@boconceptbirmingham-mi.com. For additional information on Steno’s house coaching and life counseling, visit www.marthabeck.com or follow her on Facebook.

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Great Wall Grows Beyond

Wallpaper Business Expands, Gains National Attention From 'Project Runway'

HOME GUIDE
BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

It was almost 10 years ago that Josh Young and Andi Kubacki stood at the edge of the proverbial cliff. Kubacki's job at a big printing company was going nowhere and Young was faced with the impending closure of the Internet marketing firm where he worked.

"We had this idea for a while that we wanted to start this business and when it looked like things were going under at our jobs, we jumped off the cliff," says Young, 35. "We gave ourselves six months dedicated just to our business and said that, at the end of six months, if we had to look for other jobs, (we would). But we never had to."

Great Wall is their custom wall-covering company that focuses on giving clients large format art installations. They have since expanded their offering, creating custom on-demand wallpaper and a matching furniture and rug line that complements it.

"Historically, when you planned a room, you would have to pick out the wallpaper first and then find furniture and décor to go along with it. But now you can go to our website and pick out the pattern you like and change the colors to match the features of your room," Young says.

With 60 colors available and



Great Wall is a custom wall-covering company based in Ferndale. Photo courtesy of Great Wall

most patterns having at least two color options, there are nearly 4,000 combinations. Their website, www.detroitwallpaper.com, has a fun, interactive way for testing

the different colors and patterns. Once selected, they can custom print the paper on demand at a cost comparable to wallpaper purchased from a mid-priced catalogue.

The wallpaper is created on ecologically responsible stock with toxin-free printing and is made with 10-percent post-consumer waste and pulp from

environmentally certified forests. Their newly created line of easy-to-assemble/disassemble side tables, called Design Factor Detroit, is made with reclaimed wood from distressed properties in Detroit.

Their original Great Wall venture focused solely on custom printing projects. "Detroit Wallpaper Company gives us a chance to get across our own aesthetic," Young says.

"With the custom work, clients can be so picky. In creating our own designs, we don't have to sacrifice what we like best," says Kubacki, 38. "But we can also be very flexible. We've had clients use our designs with colors that we hadn't even thought of, so it's nice to see what other people come up with."

They've created six lines for their basic wallpaper designs: Botanicals, FABrics, Metrix, Wallgazer, Wanderwalls and Sprout. Designs range from basic patterns like florals and plaids to fun kids prints and even clouds with lightning and rain.

Their work has gotten regional and national attention. Hit TV show "Project Runway" has commissioned them to do their large on-set murals for the past two seasons. Their work was also seen on AMC drama "Low Winter Sun," and is a major part of the ambiance of AIREA, an interior design

See Great Wall, page 28

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Andi Kubacki and Josh Young own Great Wall in Ferndale. Photo: Crystal A. Proxmire

► Great Wall

Continued from p. 26

firm workspace inside the Compuware building in Detroit. Those who have been to Affirmations in Ferndale may recognize their LGBT history mural in the library.

“One story I’ll always remember is that we did all the design and install work for Just Baked, and the client had someone that got on their Facebook page because they’d heard that they had hired a gay-owned company and made a comment saying it was wrong to work with us,” Young recalls. “Without any hesitation Just Baked got on with a really nice response about how they don’t discriminate. It felt good they did that.”

“This is not the type of industry where you have to walk on eggshells for being gay,” he adds. “It’s kind of almost expected.”

Great Wall is based in Ferndale, the

epicenter for the gay community in southeast Michigan and home to many artsy, creative small businesses. Young and Kubacki both came from less progressive communities in the middle of the state, but felt at home near Nine Mile and Woodward. “Ferndale is so friendly and so open for the LGBT community that it made sense to open our business here,” Kubacki says. “There are a lot of independent business owners and it’s very supportive of the entrepreneurial spirit.”

Kubacki and Young started out as partners in multiple senses of the word, but after breaking up a few years back they have remained close friends and even stronger business partners. Their work family has grown to include several employees and a cadre of loyal clients.

To learn more about their work, visit greatwallonline.com.

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Designing Your Dream Home

What An Interior Designer Can Do For You

HOME GUIDE
 BY EMELL DERRA ADOLPHUS

Like every crucial aspect of our material lives, size matters. And fortunately for us, the gay men who dominate the profession of interior design are usually size queens.

“A sense of scale in your space is really what gives it that bit of edge,” explains Arturo Sanchez of Art-Harrison Interiors, located at 4339 Delemere Blvd. in Royal Oak.

In his 100-square-foot Royal Oak ranch-styled home, he displays a 6-foot-by-8-foot painting of two white stallions (horses, not men) in his living room to create balance. “That scale is what gives the room its sense of drama. So sometimes you want a big piece in a small space, sometimes you want a small piece in a big space – it just depends on what really gives it that bit of edge.”

But edge shouldn’t be mistaken for its cheap sister “trendy,” says Sanchez. Trends don’t translate well with the long-term uses of a living space.

“Some decorators fall into that whole HGTV bullshit. And I will say it just like that because they see all that crap that’s being put up there with a glue gun. You can’t do a master bathroom in three days, not if you ever want to use it for more than two days. Our thought is quality.”

And when considering “quality,” sometimes you have to spend money to save money.

“We are doing a house now that a woman started herself, and she has

(furniture) that doesn’t fit. So it would have been cost effective for her to hire us in the beginning,” says Barry Harrison, Sanchez’s business partner of 20 years.

A room polished with an interior designer’s finish can cost \$10,000-\$50,000, or even more depending on budget and desired look. While interior decorators style the items within the space, interior designers style the space.

“One of the things that I think is so important, if you have a good interior designer, is that they should understand spacing – especially now that a lot of homes don’t have a lot of room,” says Richard Ross of Richard Ross Designs, located at 4818 Leafdale Blvd. in Royal Oak.

Deciding on how you will use your space determines how much space you need, explains Ross. “Whenever I work with a client, we take into consideration three things: the structure; the person, their lifestyle, and how they live their lives with kids or animals; and my style. They’ve hired me for a reason – because they like my style – so obviously I’d want to try and incorporate that. So those are the three main things that I look at, because you can’t do one without the other.

“There is always a level of subjectivity,” Sanchez says.

An important thing to remember, Harrison adds, is to not make the interior designer your personal shopper.

“That, to me, is buying into your opinion,” Harrison says. “Not that your opinion is not valid, but you’ve hired a professional to give you a look or a lifestyle

and you have to trust them to do that. That’s where decorators get in trouble – they become a personal shopper for the client, and they just buy objects. Then the client isn’t happy. We look at a whole room. It’s how we put your space together”

Greg Reyner, co-owner of eclectic American style eatery Café Muse in Royal Oak, used a contractor for construction, but stuck to his own vision to update the restaurant’s interior flair. “For us, it was just a matter of (knowing) what we wanted, so why spend the money?” Reyner says. “We wanted to carry the same design elements from the original (Café Muse) location. That’s why we went with what we did.”

Reyner added that interior designers can be great consultants to story board a space’s look to create a cohesive style. “We weren’t tied to modernism,” he says. “We really chose different design elements and put them all together.”

Similar to styling a wardrobe, a home or particular space can be tailored to fit function and the owner’s persona.

“That’s a good interior designer – the house fits you like a glove,” says Sanchez. “You should feel comfortable. (With) some designers, you have to buy their specific look. That’s not the way Barry and I do it. If the client is a heavy socialite, they might want a bigger, grander living room and dining room to entertain. They also may want a large foyer so that they can have a reception area when they entertain. Or there can be clients who just want family spaces – and they just want good family rooms and kitchens, and their bedrooms. It really is an intimate process. “

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She Twerks Hard For The Money

Big Freedia Talks Reality Series, Gender Identity & Bounce Phenomenon

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Big Freedia likes big butts and she cannot lie – but, for the purpose of the dirty dance du jour known as twerking, size ain't no thing.

“You just gotta know how to work it,” says the New Orleans-cultured bounce-music trailblazer, who asserts that even a little pancake fanny can do the job. “They have lots of flat asses in New Orleans, and they definitely know how to work 'em.”

Expect those rumps to work and twerk on Big Freedia's new reality show, “Big Freedia: Queen of Bounce,” airing for an eight-episode run on cable music channel Fuse. To kick off its Oct. 2 premiere, the



Photo: Jeremy Simmons

“We’ve been working hard the last few years making people twerk all around the world, and working to be mainstream. We’re so excited about the whole twerking thing that’s going on right now.”

network recently hosted a throng of ass-shakers in the Big Apple. Drawing 350-plus twerkers, the first event of its kind broke into the Guinness World Records. Why now?

“Everything has its time and season,” says Freedia, who performs Oct. 26 at The Loving Touch in Ferndale, “and right now is the time and season of the twerking.”

And for proof, look no further than this year’s MTV Video Music Awards in September, where Miley Cyrus generated a flurry of bad buzz for twerking up on Robin Thicke. Even Freedia wasn’t impressed.

The “queen” insists, “They gotta get us together so I can give her ass a lesson.”

And no one’s more qualified for teaching twerk; when it comes to hip-wiggle, butt-dropping dance, Freedia’s practically got her Ph.D. Born Freddie Ross, the bounce purveyor has been – and pun intended – behind the movement’s surge ever since the early 1990s, when the genre was just an underground fixture. Singles like 1999’s “An Ha, Oh Yeah” and, more recently, “Peanut Butter” with RuPaul boosted Freedia’s profile, as did an opening slot on a Postal Service tour this year. A singles album, “Big Freedia Hitz Vol. 1,” was released in 2010.

“We’ve been working hard the last few years making people twerk all around the world, and working to be mainstream,” she says. “We’re so excited about the whole twerking thing that’s going on right now.”

Freedia, of course, has something to dance about because, ever since she was a teenager, this has been a dream of hers – to see bounce reach a bigger audience. Then, it was just a high school pastime for her.

Bumping to genre staples like DJ Jubilee, DJ Jimi and “sissy bounce” artist Katey Red, Freedia recalls being “at the school dances, flipping upside down on the wall to bounce music.” It was at 16 that Freedia’s curiosity piqued regarding the opposite gender – and not in the sexy time way. Freedia was born a man, is gay, and has a closet full of women’s clothes.

“I just always had a taste for different things,” she says. “I was growing up in a house full of women, and being around my mom and getting some of my class and style from my mom, it would make me wanna wear different things, especially girly stuff.”

That garb is the reason people often confuse Freedia for transgender. “I’m not a tranny,” she clarifies, adding that she’s not bothered by that – or which gender pronoun people use for her – because

INFO

Big Freedia

9 p.m. Oct. 26
The Loving Touch
22634 Woodward Ave., Ferndale
thelovingtouchferndale.com

“I’m comfortable with who I am and I know who I am and I’m comfortable with my sexuality, but sometimes mistakes do happen and reporters do tend to come up with their own idea of what they think I am or how I classify myself.”

A label Freedia will challenge, a topic of discussion on the premiere episode of “Queen of Bounce,” is one that plagues plenty of queer performers: “gay artist.” It doesn’t bother her – again, she says, “I am what I am” – but if there’s an opportunity for a commercial breakthrough, where she can just be an “artist,” she’s obviously not opposed to it. As long as she doesn’t have to sacrifice who she is.

“To become mainstream is still hard work,” she says, “and I’m not hiding behind no shield trying to say, ‘Oh, I’m straight’ and then I’m gonna bust out gay later on. They gon’ take me gay full force one way or ‘nother, and I’m just gonna keep working and keep on grinding to keep making it mainstream. And I’ll make it mainstream in my own way.”

And now – thanks to Miley, thanks to the Oxford Dictionaries (“twerk” became an entry this year) and especially thanks to Freedia – this is her time. Twerk is a cultural phenomenon. A reality show about it could be just the thing to push Freedia all the way to the top.

“I feel really amazing about all of the work that I’ve been putting in the last 14 years,” she says. “I still have a lot I want to accomplish and a lot of work I want to do, so it’s not over yet. But for now, I’m happy with where I stand and what I’ve done so far, but more to come, baby.”

For now, the focus is “Queen of Bounce,” a show not even its star knows much about. “It’s real and it’s about my life, but there are so many things that were recorded. And I haven’t really been watching the episodes. I wanna be surprised.”

But Freedia makes one promise: “You gon’ see ass everywhere.”



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Fluting Around

Detroit Native Returns For 'Golden' Show

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

Combing through Detroit's musical history will bring sounds of booming Motown vocals, hypnotic electronic flares and earth-shaking hip-hop thumps. With that rich stream of legendary sound pumping from the city, a little boy with the passion for his instrument is hardly marquee grabbing.

Yet, somehow, openly gay, African-American flautist Eric Lamb found a way to impress ears from here to the Czech Republic.

"I remember being in Prague and thinking about how I'm a kid from Detroit and here I am in the middle of Prague," Lamb remembers. "I'm not with my parents and this (instrument) has brought me to this place. The flute has given me a chance to explore the world in a way I don't think I'd be able to (without) that thing in my life."

Lamb's career has taken him far from home, but he stays connected. Each year, he comes back to boost his community with inspiration, education and entertainment. This year, among many other engagements, at 2 p.m. Oct. 6, Lamb will bring Chen Yi's "The Golden Flute" to The Village Theater stage in Canton.

"With a piece like this, it's performed so rarely – there are only two recordings of it – there isn't a real performance practice," Lamb says. "What I'm so excited about is, to be able to bring my own sensibility to this work. It's a very physical, raw, honest expression of emotion."

Being a black, gay flautist born from Detroit's gasoline-fueled streets gives Lamb visibility few musicians ever receive. While many people would use that visibility to progress an agenda, Lamb is fine with letting his success alone show queer teens and kids of color that anything is possible.

"I quantify success as what I've done for other people," Lamb says. "If that means that just by playing well and releasing albums, one day yet another underprivileged person – or someone you might not naturally think would be in this business – decides that, 'Yes, this is what I want to do' ... this is why coming back is so important to me."

For Lamb, returning home is about



Photo: Dune Baydoun

INFO

The Golden Flute

2 p.m. Oct. 6
The Village Theater
50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton
www.canton-mi.org/villagetheater

honoring his unique experience and celebrating his love for his hometown. Many people love their hometown. For Lamb, Detroit's soul and energy fuels every note he plays.

"I have met people who come from humble beginning who sort of forget where they're from," Lamb says. "I think a lot about where I come from and what it means to be a person of Detroit. I love Detroit."

"I'm lucky and fortunate enough that I can organize my professional life in

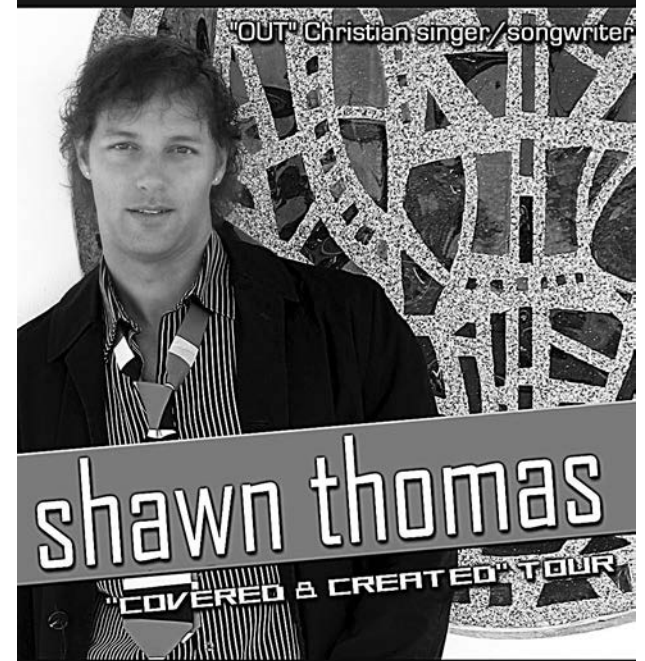
a way in which I can come back and give classes, or even just meet with students, play a concert here or there, just be present in the place I'm from. It's important for me."

Lamb's musical career started as a childhood passion. The flute is an admittedly odd choice for a kid from Detroit but it really was a decision made from an odd set of circumstances. Too small for most instruments, the flute proved to be easy to handle for a kid of Lamb's slight build. But it was his father's musical taste that exposed him to the flute as an option for a young black kid.

"My father was such a fan of this African-American woman, Bobbi Humphrey. She's fierce. Big afro," Lamb recalls. "She had this really famous album called 'Harlem River

See Golden Flute, page 36

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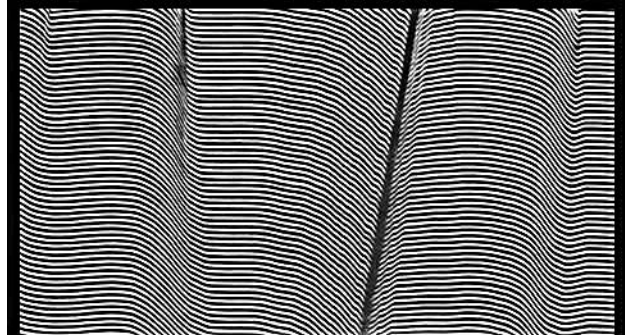
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James Collins, "Untitled" (detail), oil and house paint

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LGBT Professionals Network Mixer 6 p.m. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 402 E. Kalamazoo Ave., **Kalamazoo**. Kglrc.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

Beautiful-Monthly Social 7 p.m. A monthly get-together for people living with HIV and their families and friends. Beautiful, 1415 Glynn Ct., Number 111, **Detroit**. 313-733-8183.

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

Friday, Oct. 4

Veteran's Affairs Support Group 3:30 p.m. A support group for any veteran or Veteran's Affairs (VA) patient. Meets every other Friday; call for dates and room location. Veteran's Affairs, 4646 John R. St., **Detroit**. 313-576-1000, ext. 6.

Riot Youth 4 p.m. A youth-led, safe space for LGBTQ youth and their allies. The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington, **Ann Arbor**. 734-214-9995. neutral-zone.org

Woman 2 Woman 6 p.m. Free. KICK, 41 Burroughs St. 109, **Detroit**. 313-285-9733. e-kick.org

Womyn's Film Night 7 p.m. Film: Margaret Cho: Assassin. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Lavender Ladies Halloween Dance 7:30 p.m. Halloween Dance. DJ Laura, costumes optional, prizes and more. Women Out And About, W. 11 Mile Road and S. Main St., **Royal Oak**. 248-943-2411. Womenoutandabout.com

Bear Trap 9 p.m. All new weekly party for bears, cubs and their admirers. Hayloft Saloon, 8070 Greenfield Road, **Detroit**. 313-581-8913. Hayloftsaloon.com

Pride Friday 9 p.m. The one and only gay night. 18+. Guys with college ID get in free before 11 p.m. Cover: \$5+. Necto, 516 E. Liberty St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-5835. Thenecto.com

Saturday, Oct. 5

Fall LEAD Academy (Saturdays) 10 a.m. Free. KICK, 41 Burroughs St. 109, **Detroit**. 313-285-9733. E-kick.org

Flag Football 10:30 a.m. Open to LGBT players and their allies. Travel team is competitive and competes at the national level. Michigan Panthers, 19550 Sunset St, **Livonia**. info@MDFFL.org MDFFL.org

OutCenter Volunteer Orientation & Training Session 12 p.m. OutCenter, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330. outcenter.org

Crossing Over: The Spirituality of Transformation 2 p.m. Conference open to all. Will explore the spirituality that has enabled people who are transgender to claim the blessing of who they are. TBLG Concerns of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, 900 Oakwood St., **Ypsilanti**. 734-846-3578. Oasisministrymi.org

Men's Discussion Group 6 p.m. Lighthearted or in-depth discussion on a variety of topics. For gay, bi-affectional, and transgender men 18 and up. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Drag Queen Bingo 8 p.m. Reservations required. 18+. Drag Queen Bentley James. Ticket: \$20. Leaf & Berry, 6385 Orchard Lake Road, **West Bloomfield Township**. 248-671-6011. info@leafnberry.com Leafnberry.com

Decades Dance 8:30 p.m. Prizes for best 60s, 70s, and 80s costume. Refreshments, dancing, cards, games and more. Tickets: \$10-20. Doc Sweet's, Thomas Video and more, 23839 John R., **Hazel Park**. 248-515-6989. bonjourvous40@yahoo.com

Open Meditation Saturdays 9 p.m. A communal, non-hierarchical meditation space open to all. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Drag Queen Bingo 10 p.m. A fun alternative to your usual weekend hot spots. Shows get out just early enough for you to hit the local clubs or bars! Refreshments from our full coffee bar (coffees, teas, smoothies), sodas, water, and more. Tickets: \$20. 18+. Club Five15, 515 S. Washington Ave., **Royal Oak**. 248-515-2551. five15.net

Sunday, Oct. 6

Mega March for Animals 9 a.m. At all three walks, registration/check-in begins 9 a.m. and the approximately two-mile walk will kick off at 10 a.m. There is no registration fee or minimum donation to participate. Michigan Humane Society, 13000 Highridge Dr., **Brighton**. 248-283-1000. rmcitgue@michiganhumane.org Michiganhumane.org/mega

Get Out Bike-Cemetery Tour 10 a.m. A ride through Palmer Park and Ferndale. Get Out Bike, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

SpeakOUT! Panelist Training 10 a.m. Allies and all LGBTQ individuals are encouraged to participate. Non-WMU community member are welcome. Lunch will be included. Parking is available. WMU Office of LBGT Student Services, **Kalamazoo**. facebook.com/events/671755582852829/

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.

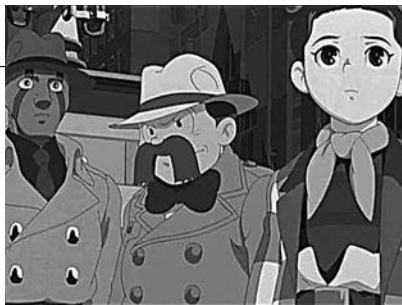
Dykes on Bikes-Chili Cook Off 12 p.m. Annual motorcycle show and the best chili in town. Plymouth. Part of Weekender: Windower. Dykes on Bikes, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

Tashmoo Biergarten 12 p.m. Pop-up European style beer garden with Detroit sensibility. Food, beer, games, and more. Location often varies. Tashmoo Biergarten, 1420 Van Dyke, **Detroit**. guten-tag@tashmoodetroit.com Tashmoodetroit.com

Conversation Station 5 p.m. Conversation Station meets every Sunday at 5pm. A new topic is discussed each week. GOAL, 714 S. Washington, **Royal Oak**. 248-981-4227. MarciLWilliams@yahoo.com GetOutAndLive.me

Fellowship for Today 5:30 p.m. Open and Affirming. Lansing Korean United Methodist Church, 2400 E. Lake Lansing Road, **East Lansing**. 517-337-4070. info@fellowshipfortoday.org

Marriage for All: A Christian Witness to Marriage Equality 5:30 p.m. Welcoming people of all faiths or no faiths. United Church of Christ. Music by Shawn Thomas. The Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence Blvd., **Ann Arbor**. 734-971-6133. Cogsa.org



apparitions, characters, fables, structures, fragments, superhuman and visions. These themes embody the essences of each film. Popular movies like “Dumbo” and “Frankenweenie” can be seen next to foreign films like “Steamboy” or obscure pieces like “Out of the Inkwel, Out of the Vaults.”

The “Watch Me Move: The Animation Show” series begins Oct. 6 and runs through Jan. 5 at the Detroit Film Theatre, a part of the DIA. The theater is located at 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Showtimes vary. Tickets are \$5-20 for lectures and film. For more information, call 313-833-4005 or visit www.dia.org.

Dinosaur Dash 9:30 p.m. 5k. Special runs for kids under 12. MSU Federal Credit Union, 409 W. Circle Dr., **East Lansing**. 517-355-7474. dinodash@museum.msu.edu Museum.msu.edu

Monday, Oct. 7

Community Partner Appreciation Breakfast 8 a.m. University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen Road, **Dearborn**. 313-436-9142. Umd.umich.edu

Higher Ground 6:30 p.m. Weekly support group meetings for people living with HIV/AIDS. Each meeting includes meditation and peer discussions. Self-Run, **Royal Oak**. 586-427-1259. info@hghiv.org

Pride NA 6:30 p.m. Confidential and anonymous. Open to all individuals impacted by addiction. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Meet the Movement: Michigan Equality 7 p.m. EMU LGBTRC, **Ypsilanti**. 734-487-4149. Emich.edu/LGBTRC

Movement with Kristi Faulkner Dance 7 p.m. A different genre of movement each week, including modern dance, ballet, jazz, hip hop/breaking, soft shoe tap dance, and stretch and strengthening. Workshops are designed for beginning/intermediate movers ages 16-55. Tickets: \$5. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Tuesday, Oct. 8

Haunted Houses of Marshall 7:30 a.m. Docent led. Pick up destinations in Madison Heights, Novi and Wixom. Tickets: \$70. Step On Bus Tours, 215 W.

Troy, Suite 2046, **Ferndale**. 248-619-6692. steponbustours@gmail.com Steponbustours.com

People of Victory 12 p.m. A bi-weekly support group for all women living with HIV. People of Victory, 4201 St. Antoine, **Detroit**. 313-805-7061.

Traditional Afternoon Teas 1 p.m. Reservation only. Tickets: \$25. Historic Longacre House, Farmington Road, South of Eleven Mile, **Farmington Hills**. 248-473-1848. Recreg. fhg.gov.com

Trans/Genderqueer Peer Group 4 p.m. EMU LGBTRC, **Ypsilanti**. 734-487-4149. Emich.edu/lgbtrc

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

LGBTQ Celebration Week University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen Road, **Dearborn**. 313-436-9142. Umd.umich.edu

TransCend TransCend provides support and resources to the Southwest Michigan transgender community, their significant others, family, friends, and allies. Meetings occur twice per month on the 2nd Wednesday and 4th Sunday. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Jam Sessions 3 p.m. Bi-weekly support group for youth (13-24) years of age living with HIV. The Horizons Project (WSU School of Medicine/Children's Hospital of Michigan), 3127 E. Canfield, **Detroit**. 313-966-2589.

COBO Support Group 5 p.m. Coming out, being out. EMU LGBTRC, **Ypsilanti**. 734-487-4149. Emich.edu/lgbtrc

G2H2 5:30 p.m. Community social event that provides an LGBT-friendly venue in which all people are welcome. G2H2, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330. outcenter.org

Editor's Pick

An array of different films comes to metro-Detroit this week with the Detroit Institute of Arts' “Watch Me Move: The Animation Show.” Considered the most extensive animation show ever mounted, over 100 different animated films and film segments from various cultures will play through January. Expect to see classic film, anime, oddities, and more.

Seven interrelated chapters divide the festival:

apparitions, characters, fables, structures, fragments, superhuman and visions. These themes embody the essences of each film. Popular movies like “Dumbo” and “Frankenweenie” can be seen next to foreign films like “Steamboy” or obscure pieces like “Out of the Inkwel, Out of the Vaults.”

The “Watch Me Move: The Animation Show” series begins Oct. 6 and runs through Jan. 5 at the Detroit Film Theatre, a part of the DIA. The theater is located at 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Showtimes vary. Tickets are \$5-20 for lectures and film. For more information, call 313-833-4005 or visit www.dia.org.

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

Life's a Stitch 6:30 p.m. Open to those who Crochet, Knit, Quilt, Needlepoint, Macrame and Jewelry. Free. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.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

Coming Out Over Coffee 7 p.m. Casual discussion group about “coming out.” 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, 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, Oct. 9

Fearless Project For the month of October, artist Jeff Sheng's “LGBT Athletes” photo exhibition will be on display. Free. Center for the Study of Equality and Human Rights, RECIM, **Ypsilanti**. 734-487-3032. Emich.edu/equality

LGB-What? Trans Discussion 6 p.m. What does being transgender mean? History, spirituality, law, science and life. Pilgrim Congregational UCC, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., **Lansing**. 517-484-7434. mike@pilgrimucc.com PilgrimUCC.com

Lift Off 2013 AIDS Partnership Michigans 30th Anniversary Celebration 6 p.m. Lift Off 2013 will feature a strolling dinner, musical entertainment by DJ Kiley and Mother Cyborg, a fashion show by Matthew Richmonds Paper Dress Code, a live and silent auction and much more. Tickets: \$100-130. AIDS Partnership Michigan, 2901 Grand River Ave., **Detroit**. 313-446-9808. Aidspartnership.org

Arcus Youth Group 7 p.m. This is for middle and high school age youth who enjoy socializing with people their own age, going through the same issues as them. Some of the topics covered are current events, families, communication, and decision making. No one over the age of 20 please. The Network, 343 Atlas Ave. SE, **Grand Rapids**. 616-458-3511. Grlgbt.org

Newly Single Support Group 7 p.m. Group for all dealing with the end of a relationship and want to talk-or listen-to others who share similar experiences. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

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

Sistrum Weekly Rehearsal 7 p.m. Sistrum, Lansing Women's Chorus, 215 N. Capital Ave., **Lansing**. Sistrum.org

Young@Heart 7 p.m. Socializing and conversation for those 45 and older. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Whiskey Wednesday 8 p.m. Country line dancing. Free juke box. MaleBox Michigan, 23365 Hoover Road, **Warren**. 586-806-2390. Facebook.com/Male

Karaoke Night 9 p.m. Lansing Association for Human Rights, 1250 Turner St., **Lansing**. 517-487-5338. lahronline.org

Thursday, Oct. 10

Detroit Elegance: Mansion Tour 9:30 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

Moms in Motion 11 a.m. Bi-weekly support group for parents living with HIV. DMC/AIDS Partnership Michigan, 471 St. Antoine, **Detroit**. 313-993-3444.

The SAFE Campaign 3:30 p.m. EMU LGBTRC, **Ypsilanti**. 734-487-4149. Emich.edu/LGBTRC

The Family & Friends Support Group 5:30 p.m. Support group for family and friends of people living with HIV. Community Health Awareness Group, 1300 W. Fort St., **Detroit**. 313-963-3434.

Connections 6 p.m. Open to all LGBTQ and Ally youth from 13-18. Join us to meet other LGBTQ and Ally teens and socialize in a safe space. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Marcia “Ma” Purdy 6:30 p.m. University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen Road, **Dearborn**. 313-436-9142. Sao.umd.umich.edu/ma_purdy

Whole Lives, Healthy Lives Adult Support Group 7 p.m. This one-of-a-kind program in Berrien County helps attendees support each other in healthy ways through active listening and caring feedback. OutCenter, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330. Outcenter.org

Wings 7 p.m. A support and social group for people living with HIV. Self-Run, 2411 Pinecrest Dr., **Ferndale**. info@wingsmi.org

MUSIC & MORE

CLASSICAL

Detroit Symphony Orchestra “Opening Weekend: Gil Shaham” RIMSKY-KORSAKOV-Russian Easter Overture. BRIGHT SHENG-Concerto for Violin and Orchestra. RAVEL-Rapsodie espagnole. RAVEL-Pavane pour une infante defunte. RAVEL-Suite No. 2 from Daphnis et Chloe. Tickets: \$13+. Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Oct. 4-Oct. 6. 313-576-5111. dso.org

Kerrytown Concert House “Chamber Music of Schubert & Schumann” Steve Miahky, violin. Christina McGann, violin/viola. Katri Ervamaa, cello. Jingwen Tu, piano. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Oct. 9. 734-763-4186. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com

Lansing Symphony Orchestra “Prokofiev Violin Concertos” RIMSKY-KORSAKOV-Capriccio Espagnol, Op. 34. PROKOFIEV-Violin Concerto No. 1 in D Major. PROKOFIEV-Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Minor. BORODIN-Polovtsian Dances from “Prince Igor. ” Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 8 p.m. Oct. 5. 800-WHARTON. LansingSymphony.org

MSU College of Music “Guest Recital” Capitol Quartet, saxophone ensemble. Free. Cook Recital Hall, East Lansing. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 9. Music.msu.edu/event-listing

See Happenings, page 36

War, What Is It Good For? The Opening Show At UDM Theatre Company

BY JOHN QUINN

Call it serendipity, coincidence or just plain luck, some theater companies choose a production months in advance only to find its theme splashed across the metaphorical front page of the national news media opening week. But perhaps David L. Regal, artistic director of the University of Detroit Mercy Theatre Company, has illustrated Bob Dylan's observation: "You don't need a weather man/To know which way the wind blows." James McLure's 1979 dark comedy, "Pvt. Wars," opens the Theatre Company's 43rd season. Although 34 years have passed, the play's relevance is eerie – and a little disturbing.

Narrative artists have turned to absurdist genres to cope with the senselessness of war, most notably Joseph Heller with "Catch 22" and the film and TV iterations of "M*A*S*H." But "Pvt. Wars" doesn't deal with active combat; its focus is the "spoils" of war – the spoiled bodies and minds of combat veterans.

The place is a VA hospital; the time, 1972. The U.S. involvement in the morass that is Vietnam drags on, but for three enlisted men, combat is over. Their personal battles linger. Gately (first year theater major Greg Ettleman), slow and methodical, is a Georgia farm boy perseverating over a radio repair. Ohioan Silvio (Theatre Company alumnus Patrick O'Connor Cronin) is a hyperactive prankster and self-described psychotic. Their foil is the overly dramatic Natwick (Dax Anderson, also a UDM alum), the scion of Long Island wealth.

McLure's narrative structure parallels the main motif of "Pvt. Wars," and production director Regal misses no opportunity to drive the point home. That theme is "fragmentation." The two acts comprise short vignettes rather than scenes, and while time progresses in good order, the narrative reveals the backstory at unexpected moments.

A sense of disconnection is omnipresent. Variations on the theme begin with Melinda Pacha's set, a common room for hospital patients, which evokes imagery of a building smashed by an artillery barrage. Rudy Schuepbach's rapid fire lighting is completely complementary. But it's in the performances that this production so ably illuminates McLure's vision.



Greg Ettleman, Patrick O'Connor Cronin and Dax Anderson in "Pvt. Wars." Photo: Greg Grobis

PREVIEW

Pvt. Wars

University of Detroit-Mercy Theatre Company at Marygrove College Theatre, 8425 W. McNichols Road, Detroit. Friday-Sunday through Oct. 6. 2 hours. \$5-20. 313-993-3270.

<http://theatre.udmercy.edu>

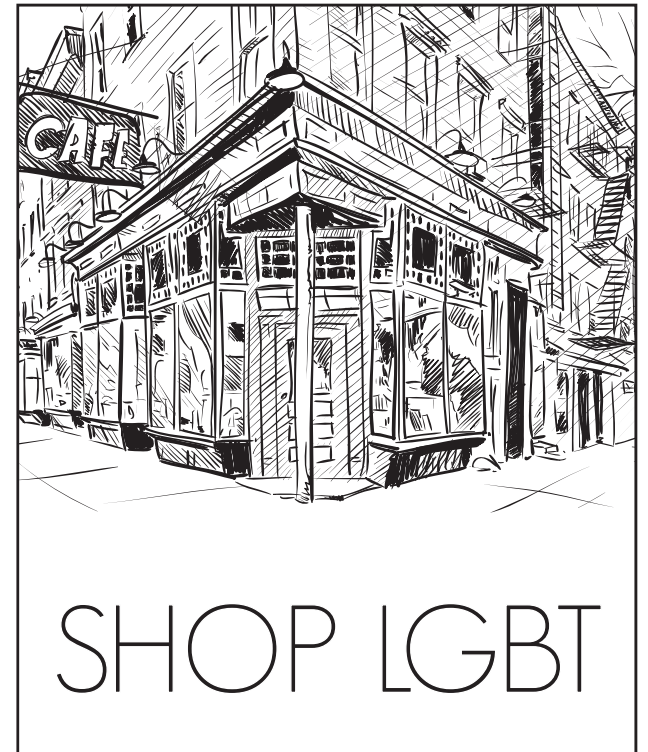
In analyzing a performance, one doesn't know for sure where some character traits originate – whether with the playwright or in the synergy between director and actor. "Pvt. Wars" shows a wealth of originality at the local level. While the script is terribly funny – laugh-through-tears funny – insightful choices have enriched the characters.

I have had the pleasure of seeing Cronin and Anderson in action before; watching them take McLure's characters and craft something thoroughly their own is great fun. Outstanding, though, in an already outstanding production is Regal and Ettleman's joint effort in creating Gately. His slow, deadpan delivery is a counterpoint to the more aggressive line readings of his colleagues; and, in a play where lines recur again and again, the laughs are increasingly hearty. But Gately is not a superficial character. He is the victim

of an unrevealed horror which has torn his mind like shrapnel has torn his companions' bodies. Ettleman's delicate balance demonstrates he's more than capable of playing with the older lads.

If the three damaged privates of "Pvt. Wars" aren't over the coo-coo's nest, they're flying pretty close to it. But on reflection, one wonders if the real crazies are in or out of the asylum. Gately observes, "If everyone just fought their own private wars, then everything would be alright. But no! People have to stick their noses into other people's wars ..."

The United States has been fighting other people's wars since Truman sent troops into Korea against the advice of his military commanders. When will that end? Aaron Alexis was under "the delusional belief that he was being controlled or influenced by extremely low frequency electromagnetic waves" before he embarked on his shooting rampage at the Washington Navy Yard. The Navy and the Veterans' Administration didn't help him; the Rhode Island police were prevented by law from helping him. It would seem in this country there's "no place for wild and wounded animals." When will that end?



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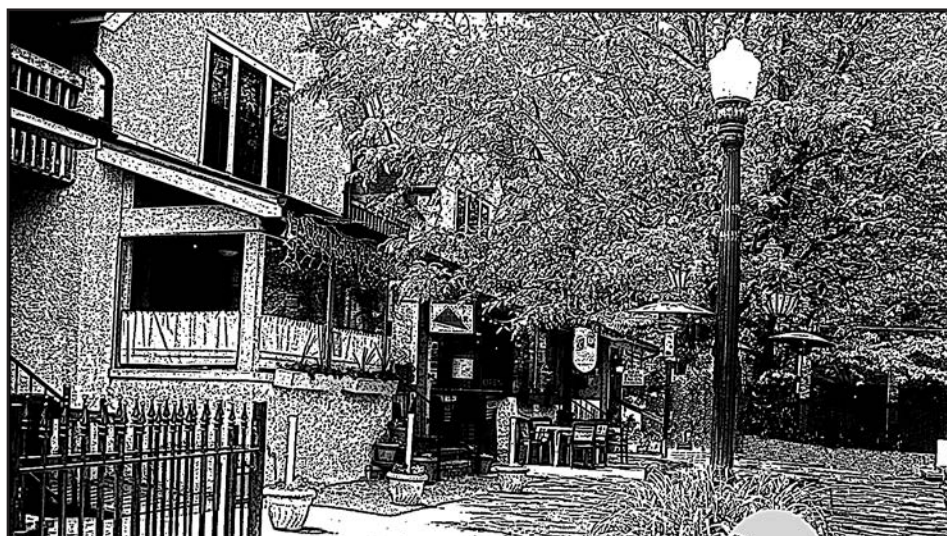
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► Happenings

Continued from p. 34

COMEDY

Royal Oak Music Theatre "Whitney Cummings" 18+. Tickets: \$35. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 8 p.m. Oct. 5. 248-399-2980. royaloakmusictheatre.com

The Ark "The Second City" Tickets: \$25. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. Oct. 4-Oct. 5. 734-761-1800. theark.org

CONCERTS

Berman Center for the Performing Arts "Chanticleer: An Orchestra of Voices" Based in San Francisco, Chanticleer is known for the seamless blend of its 12 male voices, ranging from countertenor to bass, and its original interpretations of vocal literature, from Renaissance to jazz. Tickets: \$62-67. Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 9. 248-661-1900. Theberman.org

Blind Pig "Mike Stud" All ages. Tickets: \$15-40. Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Oct. 3. 734-996-8555. Blindpigmusic.com

Caesars Windsor "Lionel Richie" Tickets: \$55+ (Canadian). Caesars Windsor, 377 E. Riverside Dr., Windsor. 8 p.m. Oct. 3. 800-991-7777. Caesarswindsor.com

Cathedral Music Society "The Michigan Recital Project" A song celebration of Michigan's culture and heritage, with pieces for voice, flute, and piano by Michigan composers, including the area premiere of "Detroit," a song cycle by Scott Ordway. Suggested donation: \$5-10. Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 4. 313-833-7547. Michiganrecitalproject.com

I Love Old Town "Pickin' in the Park" Weekly social affair and jam session for artists, musicians, and residents in the heart of Old Town. Burchard Park in Old Town, Lansing. July 9-Oct. 29. iloveoldtown.org

Kerrytown Concert House "Alberto Nacif and Aguanko" Alberto Nacif, congas/bongos. Jose Espinosa, Timbales/percussion. Wesley Reynoso, piano. Javier Barrios, timbalero. Paul Finkbeiner, trumpet/flugelhorn. Russel Miller, Saxophones/flute. Patrick Prouty, bass. Chris Smith, trombone. Tickets: \$5-30. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Oct. 4. 734-763-4186. kerrytownconcerthouse.com

Michigan Philharmonic "The Golden Flute" Eric Lamb, flute. Chen Yi, composer. Nan Washburn, conductor. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. 2 p.m. Oct. 6. 734-394-5300. Michiganphil.org

MSU College of Music "Musique 21" Kevin Noe, conductor. Residential College in the Arts and Humanities Theatre, lower level of Snyder Hall, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 8. Music.msu.edu/event-listing

Saugatuck Center for the Arts "Tiempo Libre" Tickets: \$30. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. 8 p.m. Oct. 5. 269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

The Ark "Lettuce Turnip the Beet" Benefit for Community Farm of Ann Arbor. Featuring Seth & May and Breathe Owl Breathe. Tickets: \$35-45. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 6. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Magic Bag "Deadstring Brothers" With The Steepwater Band, Shonna Tucker And Eye Candy and The Dock Ellis Band. Tickets: \$10+. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. 7 p.m. Oct. 5. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

The Majestic "Hanni El Khatib" Bass Drum of Death. Hell Shovel. Tickets: \$15. The Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. Oct. 4. 313-833-9700. Majesticdetroit.com

FILM & VIDEO

Detroit Institute of Arts "Watch Me Move: The Animation Show" Visitors will have the rare opportunity to see an incredible array of animation techniques in over 100 animated film segments from across generations and cultures. Ticket exhibition. Tickets: \$10-20. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Oct. 6-Jan. 5. 313-833-7971. Dia.org

Michigan Theater "Monday Funnies Film Series" Classic comedies every Monday evening. Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Sep. 9-Dec. 9. 734-668-8397. Michtheater.org

Royal Oak Music Theatre "Switchfoot + Fading West: Documentary Screening" All ages. Tickets: \$25-35. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 6:30 p.m. Oct. 4. 248-399-2980. Royaloakmusictheatre.com

OTHER

Michigan Philharmonic "Special Pre-Concert Brunch" Includes choice of three entrees, coffee or tea, tax and tip. Celebration mimosa. Tickets: \$20. 502 Grill, Canton. 11:30 a.m. Oct. 6. 734-451-2112. Michiganphil.org

Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design "Mark Dzierzk" Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., Ann Arbor. 5:10 p.m. Oct. 3. 734-764-3464. Umich.edu

Riverside Arts Center "Oktoberfest 2013" Brats, beer and the RFD Boys. Riverside Arts Center, 76 North Huron Street, Ypsilanti. 4 p.m. Oct. 6. 734-483-7345. Riversidearts.org

THEATER

CIVIC/COMMUNITY THEATER

Crazy Little Thing Called Love \$10-33. Starlight Dinner Theatre at Waverly East Intermediate, 3131 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing. Oct. 11 - 19. 517-243-6040. starlightdinnertheatre.com

Dracula \$2-16. Farmington Players, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. Oct. 11 - Nov. 2. 248-553-2955. farmingtonplayers.org

Dracula \$7-15. The Twin City Players, 600 W. Glenford Road, St. Joseph. Oct. 4 - 27. 269-429-0400. twincityplayers.org

Les Miserables \$18-24. The Kalamazoo Civic Theatre at Civic Auditorium, 329 S. Park St., Kalamazoo. Through Oct. 20. 269-343-1313. kazooicivic.com

The Real Thing \$10-12. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., Lansing. Oct. 4 - 13. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY THEATER

Glengarry Glen Ross \$5-20. The University Theatre at York Arena Theatre, Gilmore Theatre Complex, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo. Through Oct. 6. 269-387-6222. wmich.edu/theatre

Our Town \$15-20. Bonstelle Theatre, 3424 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Oct. 11 - 20. 313-577-2960. bonstelle.com

Professional

Adult Education \$10. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. Oct. 11. 269-756-3879. acorntheater.com

An Iliad \$22-41. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through Oct. 27. 734-663-0681. performancenetwork.org

Apocalyptic \$32-42. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Oct. 8. 313-887-8500. musichall.org

Blithe Spirit \$27-\$32. Tipping Point

See Happenings, page 38

► Golden Flute

Continued from p. 33

Drive' and I'll never forget the cover of the album. She's gorgeous, sort of '70s black power - but with a flute. It made sense to me somehow."

Lamb first picked up the flute at age 8. From the beginning, music was a skill that came easily, but in an unusual way.

"Autodidactically, I taught myself how to read music," Lamb says. "I developed this weird system of colors. I took the church hymn books from my grandmother and wrote them all out and figured out how to make music, before I really could play."

When it became apparent that Lamb had a gift, his parents started him in formal

training. He began private lessons with local musician Michelle May, and then began classes at Bates Academy in Detroit. Eventually, he ended up at Cass Tech and received a full ride to DePaul University and Oberlin Conservatory for his undergraduate work.

He then completed his graduate and post-graduate work at Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts in Germany, a long way from his humble beginnings in Detroit.

At age 35, Lamb has accomplished a lot already, and he's conscious of the legacy he wants to leave behind.

"I would like to teach in the future," Lamb says. "I feel like that's the legacy one can leave: having a great career, a very honest career, and being proud of that career and giving back somehow."



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The Golden Flute

Sun., Oct. 6, 2013 • 2:00 pm

Eric Lamb, flute

Pre-Concert Talk at 1:15 pm

at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, Canton

Tickets available at:

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Editor's Pick

For those who crave unique live theater, "The Kitchen Plays" will serve an evening of original entertainment that's made to order. The event, taking place at Royal Oak Kitchen and Bath, offers a menu of six original short plays crafted by established Michigan playwrights and brought to life by a seasoned crew of actors and directors. During the evening's performances, the Woodward Avenue business will transform from an

elegant remodeling showroom by day to a live-performance theater. The action of each play is set within the confines of a kitchen, with the audience moving easily from model kitchen to kitchen as the evening progresses. The event concludes each night with themed hors d'oeuvres and refreshments that relate to each play.

Royal Oak Kitchen and Bath is located at 32790 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Performances are at 8 p.m. Oct. 4, 5, 11, and 12. Advanced ticket purchases are strongly recommended. For tickets (\$10-\$20), call 248-658-8390.

▶ Happenings

Continued from p. 36

Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Through Oct. 13. 248-347-0003. tippingpointtheatre.com

Company \$18-\$32. The Encore Musical Theatre Company, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Through Oct. 20. 734-268-6200. theencoretheatre.org

Evil Dead: The Musical \$29.50. The Ringwald and Olympia Entertainment at City Theatre, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Oct. 2 - 26. 800-745-3000. www.olympiaentertainment.com

Firebird \$5-10. PuppetART at Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. Oct. 5 - 27. 313-961-7777. puppetart.org

Flashdance - The Musical \$25-32. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. Oct. 8 - 13. 800-WHARTON. whartoncenter.com

Improv Mondays \$5 at the door. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. Through Dec. 30. 313-365-4948. planetant.com

Little Women \$5-20. What a Do Theatre, 4701 W. Dickman Road, Springfield. Oct. 11 - 26. 269-282-1953. whatado.org

Macbeth \$12-30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Through Oct. 12. 313-577-2972. hilberry.com

Mark Twain Tonight! \$32.50-52.50. Miller Auditorium, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo. 8 p.m. Oct. 5. 269-387-2300. millerauditorium.com

Miss Saigon \$35-90. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Through Oct. 6. 313-872-1000. broadwayindetroit.com

No Child... \$15-20. Matrix Theatre Company, 2730 Bagley, Detroit. Through Oct. 13. 313-967-0599. Matrixtheatre.org

Nunsensation \$40; \$35 show-only tickets. Cornwell's Dinner Theatre, 18935 15 1/2 Mile Rd., Marshall. Through Oct. 26. 269-781-4315. turkeyville.com

Pvt. Wars \$5-20. University of Detroit-Mercy Theatre Company at Marygrove College Theatre, 8425 W. McNichols Road, Detroit. Through Oct. 6. 313-993-3270. http://theatre.udmercy.edu

reasons to be pretty \$10-20. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Oct. 11 - Nov. 4. 248-545-5545. theeringwald.com

Ring of Fire \$31-33. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Through Oct. 12. 269-343-2727.

Farmersalleytheatre.com

Talley's Folly \$20. Puzzle Piece Theatre at The Box Theater, 90 Macomb Place, Mt. Clemens. Oct. 11 - 27. 313-303-8019. puzzlestage.org

Tashi's Choice \$25. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. Oct. 4. 269-756-3879. acorntheater.com

The Circuit \$15. The Hinterlands at Trinosophes, 1464 Gratiot, Detroit. Oct. 3 - 4. 313-454-1756. Thehinterlandsemble.org

The Complete History of America (abridged) \$16-18. The Box Theater, 90 Macomb Place, Mount Clemens. Through Oct. 5. 586-954-2677. theboxtheater.com

The Dixie Swim Club \$25. Tibbits Opera House, 14 S. Hanchett St., Coldwater. Through Oct. 5. 517-278-6029. tibbits.org

The Game's Afoot \$25-40. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Oct. 2 - 27. 248-377-3300. mbtheatre.com

The Kitchen Plays \$10-20. Royal Oak Kitchen and Bath, 32790 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak. Oct. 4 - 12. 248-658-8390. Thekitchenplays.bpt.me

The Kitchen Witches \$15-18. Broadway Onstage Live Theatre, 21517 Kelly Road, Eastpointe. Through Oct. 12. 586-771-6333. Broadwayonstage.com

The Sisters Rosensweig \$41-\$48. The Jewish Ensemble Theatre Company at DeRoy Theatre on the campus of the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road., West Bloomfield. Through Oct. 20. 248-788-2900. jetttheatre.org

The Vast Difference \$18.50-\$42. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Through Dec. 14. 734-433-7673. purplerosetheatre.org

The Woman in Black \$15-25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. Oct. 3 - Nov. 3. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org

ART'N'AROUND

4731 Gallery "Stretch the Strangle Hold" 4731 Gallery, 4731 Grand River Ave., Detroit. Sep. 21-Oct. 5. 313-355-3273.

Black Arts & Cultural Center "Art Hop Reception" Featuring Alphabet Medley. Gail Sydnor Art Gallery, 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 202, Kalamazoo. 5 p.m. Oct. 4. Blackartskalamazoo.org

Cranbrook Art Museum "Michigan Modern: The National Context" 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. 4 p.m. Oct. 6. 877-462-7262. Cranbrookart.edu

Detroit Artists Market "The Chosen" The

Chosen artists are: Jennifer Belair, James Collins, Jim Hittinger, Rosemarie Hughes, Steven Kuypers, and Jeremy Thacker-Mann. Detroit Artists Market, 4719 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Sep. 13-Oct. 19. 313-832-8540. Detroitartistsmarket.org

Downriver Council for the Arts "Adult Watercolor Class" 81 Chestnut, Wyandotte. July 3-Oct. 30. 734-720-0671. Downriverarts.org

Fandangles! "September 2013 Art Exhibit" Featuring Sue McKee, Nancy Pennell, and Ann Stone. The Marketplace at Flushing, 6429 W. Pierson Road, Flushing. Sep. 1-Oct. 4. 810-659-2700. Fandanglesmi.com

Grand Rapids Art Museum "Saturday All Day with The Arts" 101 Monroe Center, Grand Rapids. July 6-Dec. 28. 616-831-1000. artmuseumgr.org

Kerrytown Concert House "Nancy Wolfe and Michael Nagara." 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. Oct. 1-Oct. 30. 734-763-4186. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com

Krasl Art Center "American Painting Today: Physical & Visceral" Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph. Sep. 1-Oct. 20. 269-983-0271. Krasl.org

Lawrence Street Gallery "Our Mothers' Worlds: The Works of Suzanne Allen and Maureen Cassidy Keast" 22620 Woodward Ave. Suite A, Ferndale. Oct. 2-Oct. 31. 248-544-0394. Lawrencestreetgallery.com

Michigan State University Museum "Evolution in Action" 409 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. July 4-Oct. 31. 517-355-7474. museum.msu.edu

MOCAD "The Past is Present" 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Sep. 6-Jan. 5. 313-832-6622. Mocadetroit.org

MOCAD "Vdrome" 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Sep. 6-Nov. 30. 313-832-6622. Mocadetroit.org

Saugatuck Center for the Arts "Point Counterpoint" 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. Sep. 1-Nov. 9. 269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

The Scarab Club "Night & Day: Images of Detroit" 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. Aug. 28-Oct. 12. 313-831-1250. Scarabclub.org

University of Michigan Museum of Art "Performing Still Images: David Claerbout and Matthew Buckingham" 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Aug. 28-Jan. 5. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts "PLAY during ArtPrize 2013" Two Fulton West, Grand Rapids. Sep. 18-Oct. 6. Uica.org

Yourist Studio Gallery "Thom Bohnert Drawings and Sculpture" 1133 Broadway, Ann Arbor. Aug. 26-Oct. 4. 734-662-4914. Youristpottery.com

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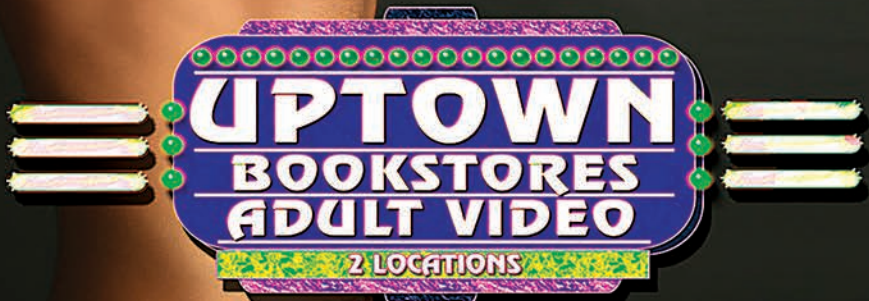
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Classifieds

01-ANNOUNCEMENTS LGBT AA MEETINGS

Ann Arbor-Friday

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

Bloomfield Hills-Sunday / Tuesday / Thursday

8:00 pm, Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, lower level classroom - enter first walkway off Woodward entrance. Big Book/12 & 12 Meeting.

Detroit-Tuesday / Friday

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

Farmington Hills-Monday

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

Ferndale-Monday / Wednesday / Friday

11:30 a.m., Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.

Ferndale-Wednesday

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

Ferndale-Saturday

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

8 p.m. Go After Your Sobriety Gay AA, Drayton Ave Presbyterian Church, 2441 Pinecrest. Closed/Discussion.

Livonia-Friday

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

Warren-Monday

7:30 p.m., Eastside Serenity Gay AA, Odd Fellow's Hall, 830 S Monroe St. Closed/Discussion.

101-ANNOUNCEMENTS LGBT AL ANON

Diversity Wednesday Al-Anon Family Group

Wednesday 8pm
St. Luke's Parrish Hall (in basement)
Lewiston & Livernois, Ferndale MI
Closed Meeting

Go After Your Serenity (G.A.Y.S.) Al-Anon Family Group

Saturday's 8pm
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Pinecrest & Drayton, Ferndale
Closed Meeting

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Solution to puzzle from page 42

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



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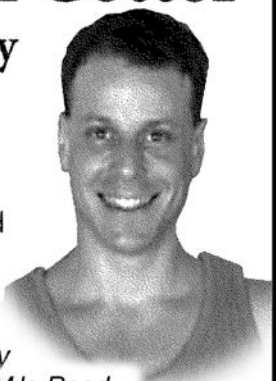
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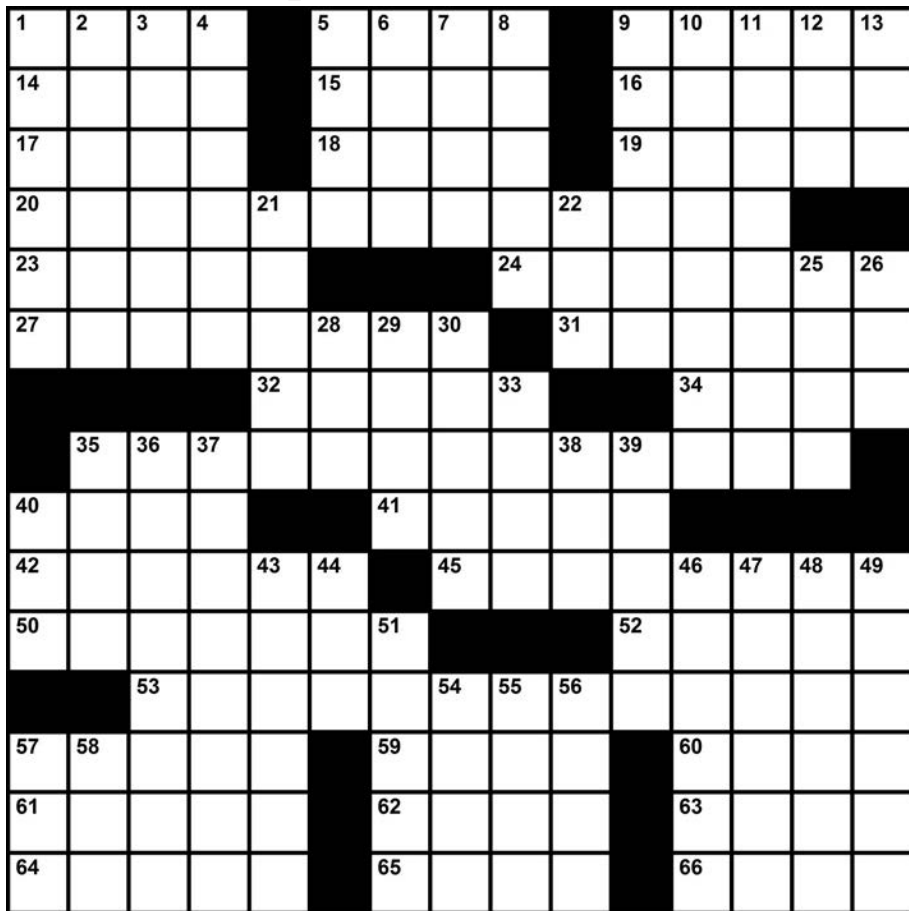
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Choke Up On The Batman



Across

- 1 Smack on the butt, e.g.
- 5 Gay guy, in Brit slang
- 9 Top, in a hierarchy
- 14 It's a curd in the kitchen
- 15 Omar of "ER"
- 16 City of Da Vinci's "Last Supper"
- 17 Lesbos, e.g.
- 18 Moss in Jamie O'Neill's country
- 19 Trump ex
- 20 "Batman & Robin" star
- 23 Sporty Mazda
- 24 Abundant
- 27 Matt Coles, for one
- 31 Fruits that gets stomped
- 32 "Dallas" setting
- 34 Sports figure?
- 35 "Batman Returns" star
- 40 Clergyman Bean
- 41 Moonshine maker
- 42 Test photos
- 45 Many gays, to Madonna
- 50 Lease
- 52 Queer, to straights
- 53 "The Dark Knight" star
- 57 Elizabeth Perkins' role in "Weeds"
- 59 They aren't straight
- 60 One way to buy an item
- 61 Trolley sound in a Garland song

- 62 Castle in a board game
- 63 Big top, e.g.
- 64 Fingerprint part
- 65 Enjoys South Beach
- 66 And so

Down

- 1 Homosexuality, in some cultures
- 2 Go nuts
- 3 On the water
- 4 ___ Rico
- 5 Cartoon skunk Le Pew
- 6 Crude cartel
- 7 Lesbian character in "She's Gotta Have It"
- 8 Size of Mapplethorpe's opening
- 9 Tchaikovsky's "Piano Trio in ___"
- 10 Party day and night
- 11 Try to seduce
- 12 Dynasty long before the Carringtons
- 13 Writer Castillo
- 21 Brooks of country
- 22 URL ending
- 25 Penn of "Milk"
- 26 Mass. setting
- 28 PBS helper
- 29 Former lovers
- 30 Site where Franklin, Winston,

- and Josef came together
- 33 Fail to grip the road
- 35 Horse that isn't hung like a horse
- 36 Like a good alibi
- 37 Edith Head designed it
- 38 It spreads its limbs
- 39 Mork, for one
- 40 Putting your mouth on a stranger, perhaps
- 43 Search for food
- 44 ___ generis
- 46 Sales incentive
- 47 Rubber
- 48 Stirring up
- 49 Is responsible for
- 51 Peter I, and more
- 54 Drop ___ (moon)
- 55 PC picture
- 56 Seeks answers
- 57 "Suzie Q" band
- 58 Cole Porter, for one

Solution on pg. 41

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