

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

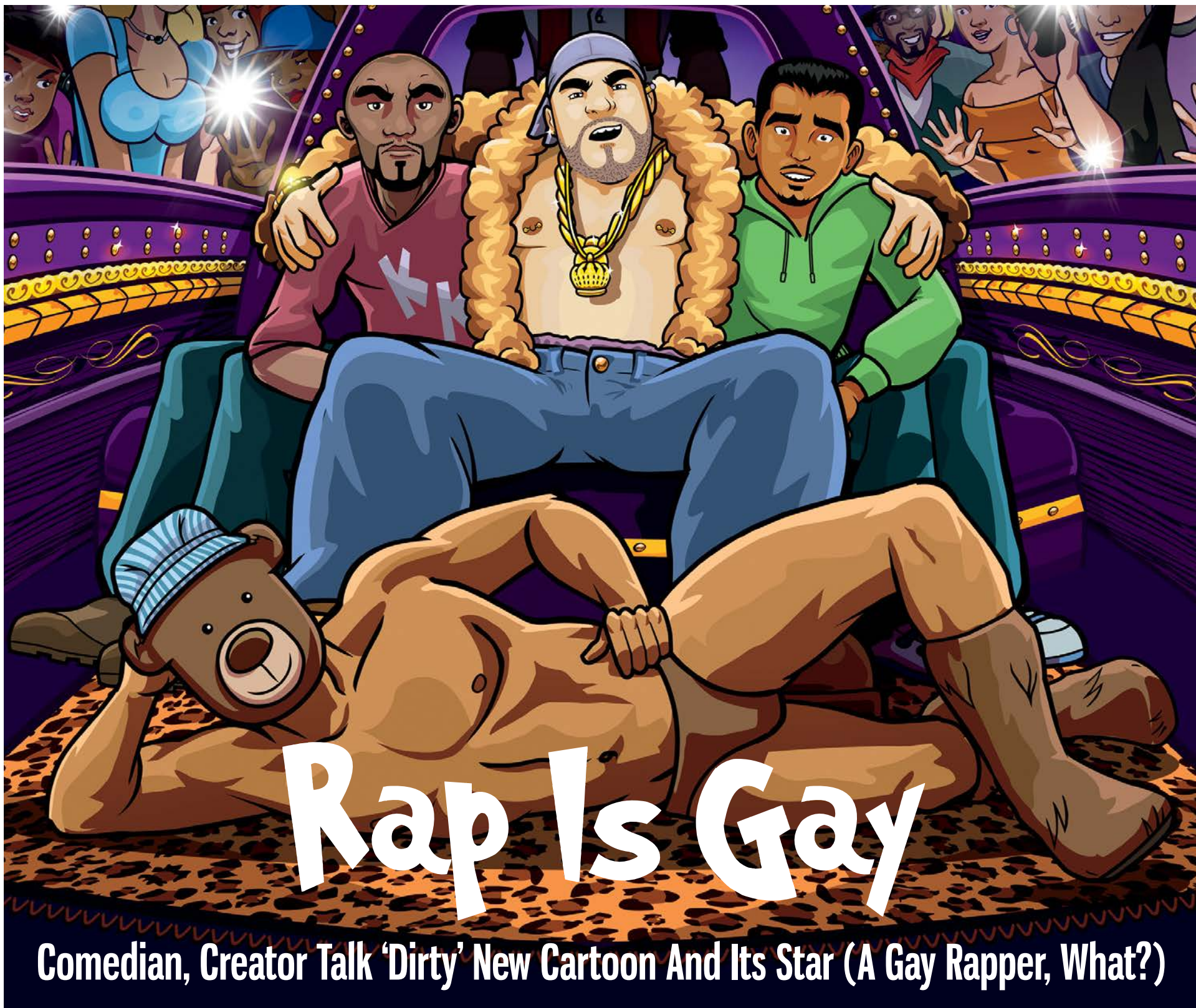


Unity Michigan's
Historic Year

Supreme Court Grants
Utah Marriage Stay

“I really like that (the Creating Change Conference) leans toward the LGBTQ community because I feel like I have to do more for that part of my identity. I plan to be a strong voice for my people.”

-Marcos D. Carrillo, pg. 6



Rap Is Gay

Comedian, Creator Talk 'Dirty' New Cartoon And Its Star (A Gay Rapper, What?)

"FLAT-OUT ELECTRIFYING!"

—Boston Globe

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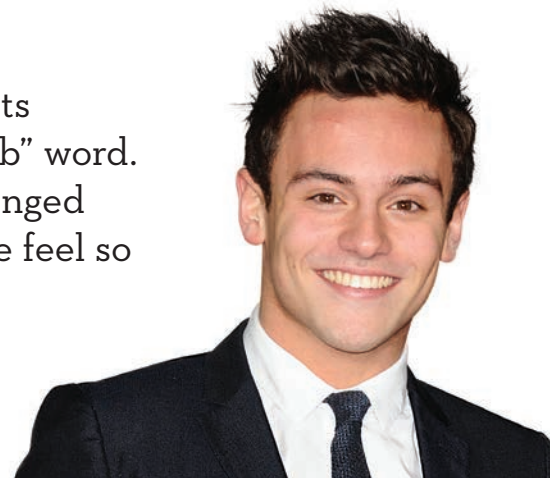
COVER STORY

14 Rap is gay

Photo: FX



Tom Daley's recent video was remarkable for its **unremarkableness**. He never used the "g" or "b" word. He said simply, "In spring this year my life changed massively when I met someone. They make me feel so happy, so safe and everything just feels right. **That someone is a guy.**"



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SAVE THE DATE



Save the Date: the Same-Sex Wedding Expo returns

BTL's annual Same-Sex Wedding Expo will be bigger and better than ever this year with a new location, fantastic food and great vendors. Mark your calendars: April 12 at the Southfield Civic Pavilion!

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UNITY: Claiming Human Rights One City At A Time

Coalition Has Moved Equality Forward, With Eye Toward Statewide Legislation

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

The numbers keep growing as Michiganders step up and claim equal rights – city by city, township by township. In 2013, ten more municipalities passed local human rights ordinances to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

These local ordinances currently provide a patchwork of protection covering 1,901,597 people in 31 municipalities. And while amending the Elliott-Larsen Act at the state level would bring equality to everyone and is the ultimate goal – the work accomplished across the state at the local level in 2013 is historic.

Much of the effort to change the laws locally has been accomplished through the work of Unity Michigan, a coalition of organizations across the state with Jon Hoadley at the helm. Unity Michigan started coming together in 2007 and by 2011 decided to focus on getting the statewide human rights protections passed. This specific focus has helped them stay on task.

“We took on a multi-prong approach to statewide change,” Hoadley said. “We continue to focus on a way for people to get involved wherever they live, and on educating the public on the fact that in Michigan you can still be fired for being gay.”

The more municipalities that institute protections, the better the case can be made that Michigan is ready for the law to change. Unity Michigan’s “Don’t Change

Yourself, Change the Law” initiative has brought thousands of equality supporters together to educate communities about the importance of civil rights legislation, while their “LEAD – Local Electeds Against Discrimination” project demonstrates the support by political leaders throughout the state.

But most impressive is the acceleration of human rights ordinances passed. The ten cities that joined in 2013 are Pleasant Ridge, Kalamazoo Township, Oshtemo Township, Battle Creek, Linden, Delhi Township, Meridian Township, Delta Township, and Trenton had ordinances pass by

“Less than a decade ago, most of the LGBT organizations were operating in silos, not working collaboratively, and there were turf wars. I think today we can see that when we work together for common goals (and each organization has an important, vital role to play), we can progress – like we have seen with the number of local communities passing LGBT-inclusive human rights ordinances, which has helped build momentum for eventual passage of LGBT-inclusive civil rights laws. When we speak in one united voice, we’re viewed by policy makers as stronger and they start to listen.

“When we speak in one united voice, we’re viewed by policy makers as stronger and they start to listen.”

- ACLU Attorney Jay Kaplan

their governing bodies. Royal Oak faced a ballot initiative to protect the ordinance passed by their city commission, and they successfully became number 31 when voters approved it in November.

The fight for equality in Royal Oak was a substantial one, costing over \$100,000 and countless volunteer hours. Multiple organizations stepped in to make the ordinance a reality. There was also a coordinated effort on the west side of the state to make ordinances a reality in Kalamazoo Township and Oshtemo.

The Partners

Attorney Jay Kaplan of the ACLU is particularly proud of how Unity Michigan has kept the LGBT organizations on the same page.

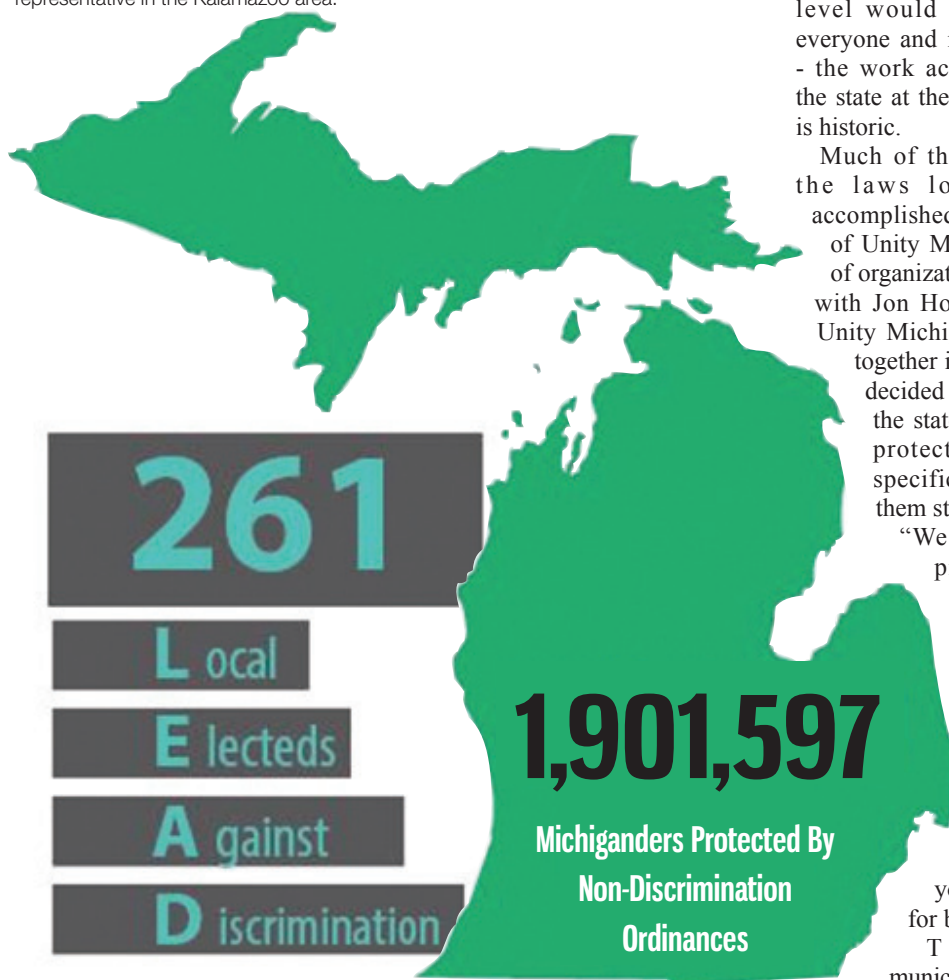
“I believe that Unity Michigan has made a difference in that it has gotten all the LGBT and LGBT-allied organizations to sit down at one table, to identify our common goals and objectives for the LGBT community, and to recognize the importance of collaboration in reaching those goals. There is strength and power in working together and no one organization can do it all.

“The ACLU of Michigan has been involved with Unity Michigan since its inception back in 2007. We have a history of working together with allied organizations and as a non-LGBT specific organization we have connections to those allies that can partner with Unity in the campaign for LGBT equality.”

See next page



Jon Hoadley has been at the helm of Unity Michigan helping work with partner agencies to build momentum and pass 10 ordinances in 2013. A groundswell of local organizing has helped educate communities across the state that gay and transgender Michiganders can be fired without any recourse. The LEAD project has also worked to build alliances with locally elected officials. Hoadley has also thrown his hat in the ring to run for state representative in the Kalamazoo area.



For more information on the statewide campaign visit
» <http://dontchangeyourself.com>

Also visit the Unity Michigan website www.unitymichigan.org

► UNITY

Continued from p. 4

As the state's largest LGBT community center, Affirmations was able to hold two voting seats at the table of Unity Michigan, and able to administer a mini-grant that was used to build communications between all community centers. They were also the host of many Unity Michigan meetings.

"From my experience, Unity Michigan got us all to the table and built relationships among the LGBT organizations that are going to help us in other issues as well," said Affirmations Executive Director Dave Garcia.

“By working together we are seeing true policy change at the local level and growing support to amend Elliott-Larsen.”

- KGLRC Executive Director Zachary Bauer.

Garcia said that the idea of "unity" is crucial in finally getting equal rights in Michigan. "This shows the state that we are working together. Ten years after the loss in 2004 (anti-gay marriage amendment) there is still this aftertaste, this idea that we're at each other's throats or something, but that just is not the case. We are working together. And we are not going to stop."

The Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center is the most recent addition to Unity Michigan, joining this year to help with getting ordinances enacted and connect the work



One Battle Creek volunteer

across the state. "Unity Michigan has been an incredible group of organizations to work and collaborate with over the last year. By working together we are seeing true policy change at the local level and growing support to amend Elliott-Larsen," said KGLRC Executive Director Zachary Bauer. "I am exceptionally proud to work along side such amazing partner organizations and LGBT leaders. It has been amazing to see this group coalesce behind this shared goal."

The KGLRC was able to engage over 7,500 pro-equality voters in southwest Michigan, leading to the two new ordinances in the area. KGLRC also provided support to the ONE Battle Creek campaign and considerable staffing resources to the ONE Royal Oak campaign last November.

KICK - The Agency for LGBT African Americans typically focuses on the Detroit and Hamtramck communities, but continues to grow and connect beyond those borders. Executive Director Curtis Lipscomb explained, "Unity Michigan is the first statewide coalition KICK has joined and remained a member since the winter of 2011. Staff members John A. Trimble, Alvina M.H. Bursey and I have been voting board members and The LEAD Academy graduates Bursey and Oliver Buffington Jr. have participated in the annual organizational retreats to secure Unity Michigan's continued affirming camaraderie and structure."

KICK also helped with the ONE Royal Oak Campaign, sending Project Coordinator Bursey to lead staff and volunteers in door-to-door canvassing and phone bank recruitment. Detroit has had a nondiscrimination ordinance since 1979 protecting gays and lesbians, and that ordinance was updated in 2008 to include gender identity and expression. "The City of Detroit leads within Michigan in legal protections that benefit its residents. As a Detroit LGBT organization, KICK is obligated to assist our neighboring urban areas in achieving protections, therefore a connected and stronger Michigan develops, attracts and retains a welcoming population," Lipscomb said.

The Ruth Ellis Center, whose work focuses on homeless and at risk LGBT youth, has also been involved in fighting for equality across the state. "As a direct service provider for homeless and runaway LGBTQ youth, Ruth Ellis Center is a unique partner in the coalition. We have contributed what we can to the broader advocacy efforts because it will improve the work prospects for the young people who seek supportive services here," said Executive Director Jerry Peterson. "Collaborating strengthens our awareness and understanding of each partner and their vital contribution to creating safety and equality for LGBTQ folks in Michigan."

See UNITY, page 13

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Creep of the Year

Janet Porter

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Duck Dynasty is a gift that keeps on giving for the anti-gay right. In case you're like me and don't care about a "reality" show about a rich duck hunting family, I'll fill you in. Phil Robertson, a.k.a. Daddy Duck, said some hateful things about "homosexuals" and "blacks" in a GQ interview. A&E, which airs Duck Dynasty, suspended Robertson. And the right-wing universe went wild with misinformed arguments about freedom of speech.



Robertson's suspension was short-lived, however, because A&E likes money. So he's back on the show. Which has greatly pleased the anti-gay (and anti-duck, if you think about it) crowd because it's victory or something. But hey, it's not like anyone is claiming that God was speaking

through Robertson. Because that would be a whole new level of insanity.

So a faux-reality personality being fake-suspended from his fake show means Porter's team is winning? Is Porter playing the same game as the rest of the country?

Enter insane person Janet Porter of Faith2Action who claims that the whole Robertson fiasco was a big win for anti-gay Christians.

"This is the turning point, thanks to the courage of Phil Robertson," Porter said according to CNSNews. "The tide has turned against the homosexual agenda, and the message is that the only way to keep our freedom is to use it."

Huh. So a faux-reality personality being fake-suspended from his fake show means Porter's team is winning? Is Porter playing the same game as the rest of the country?

But wait, there's more. Robertson wasn't spewing ignorant garbage. God was working through him.

"God uses the unlikely to confound the wise," Porter told CNSNews, clearly the confounded one here.

"I love how God can use somebody – it doesn't matter what area they are in," she continued. "He used his God-given talent to come up with a duck call that leads to the # 1 cable show and he suddenly has more prominence and influence and a bigger platform than any football star. And all America rises up to stand with him."

First of all, "all America" did not "[rise] up to stand with him." But all the America Porter cares about did, which might be the only America she is aware of if she thinks her side is on the right side of history when it comes to civil rights for LGBT people.

Secondly, maybe God loves the dirty talk, but I am suspicious that God made the following words usher forth from Robertson's lips: "It seems like, to me, a vagina - as a man - would be more desirable than a man's anus. That's just me. I'm just thinking: There's more there! She's got more to offer. I mean, come on, dudes!"

Yeah, dudes! Come on... into a vagina for Jesus? I mean, sure Robertson said being gay was a sin and all of that, but does Porter really think that he's the vessel for a message from the Lord?

Robertson's comments reminded me of Toronto Mayor Rob Ford's recent statement to the press regarding a variety of allegations against him. "Oh and the last thing was [former staffer] Olivia Gondek, it says that I wanted to eat her pussy," he said. "I've never said that in my life to her. I would never do that. I'm happily married. I've got more than enough to eat at home."

I mean, if all one has to do to be a hero of the right is to be a man proclaiming how much you love to sex vaginas, why isn't Ford getting the same hero treatment? After all, as Porter claims, God works in mysterious ways.

U.S. Supreme Court Grants Utah Marriage Stay

Over 900 Couples Married Prior To Stay

BY LISA KEEN

The full U.S. Supreme Court has granted Utah a stay on a district court decision that has allowed same-sex couples to marry there since December 20.

The court issued its stay Monday morning, apparently after Justice Sonia Sotomayor referred the matter to the full court. Sotomayor is the justice designated to administer requests for emergency stays for the Tenth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, but had the option to ask the full court to weigh in on the request.

It takes at least five justices to grant such a stay. The order issued today does not indicate that any justice was in dissent. It states simply that the stay is granted and that the December 20 order by U.S. District Court that prohibited Utah from enforcing its ban is "stayed pending final disposition" of the appeal of that decision to the Tenth Circuit. Given the Tenth Circuit's briefing schedule for the appeal, that means the ban will be in force for at least three months and likely longer, given anticipated appeals of whatever the Tenth Circuit decides.

Tomsic and James Magleby, with the private law firm of Magleby & Greenwood which is representing same-sex couples in the case, issued a statement following the Supreme Court's announcement, noting that it is "not unusual" for the court to stay a decision declaring a state law unconstitutional pending appeal and has "no bearing on who will win on appeal."

LGBT legal activists agreed.

"No one should draw any negative inferences about where the Court is leaning. This is an unprecedented situation," said

Shannon Minter, legal director for the National Center for Lesbian Rights, which has several marriage equality lawsuits pending now, too. "Never before has a federal court struck down a state marriage law and then declined to stay it, and never before has a Court of Appeals also declined to issue a stay. For those reasons, the chances that the Supreme Court would issue a stay

v. Kitchen on an expedited schedule before the Tenth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals. The next briefing date, according to attorney Peggy Tomsic who is part of the team representing same-sex couples, is January 27. The last brief due before oral argument is February 25. The court date has not yet been announced but the next argument session after that deadline is March 17-21.

The Deseret News reports that more than 900 same-sex couples married since December 20, when District Judge Robert Shelby, an Obama appointee, issued a 53-page opinion, striking down Utah's ban because it violates the U.S. Constitutional guarantees of equal protection and due process. Shelby immediately enjoined the state from enforcing its ban, then denied the state's request for a stay of his decision pending appeal. The state took its request for an emergency stay to the Tenth Circuit, where it also filed an appeal of

“The real news here is that so many marriages were able to take place. And it is significant that the Court did not rush to act. There is nothing unusual about the issuance of a stay when a federal court strikes down a state law on federal grounds.”

- Shannon Minter, legal director for the National Center for Lesbian Rights,



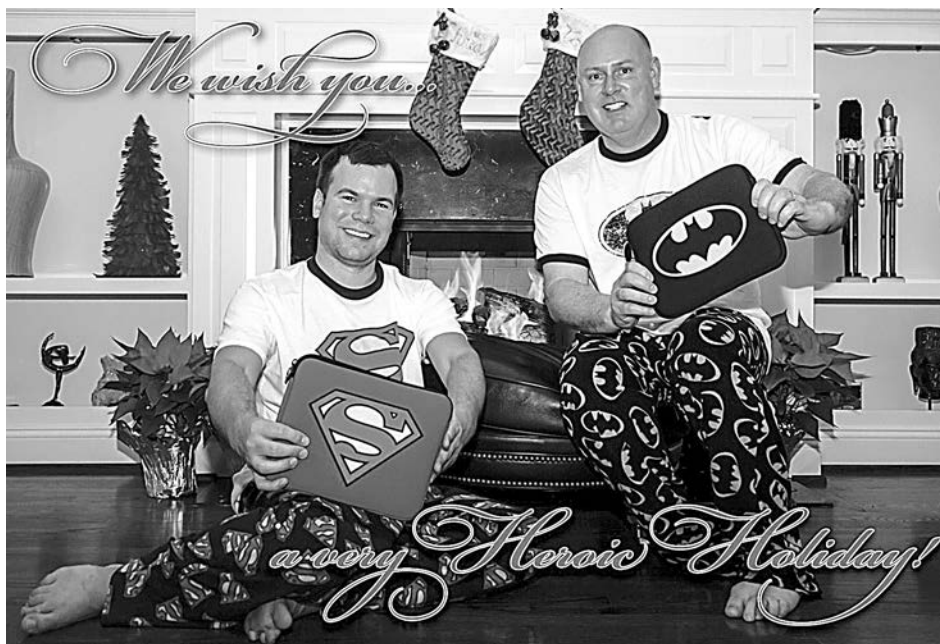
until the appeal is resolved were always quite high, so the real news here is that so many marriages were able to take place. And it is significant that the Court did not rush to act. There is nothing unusual about the issuance of a stay when a federal court strikes down a state law on federal grounds.

"Bottom line," said Minter, "[is] the prospects for this case still look very bright. And there will never be any going back in Utah."

The challenge to Utah's ban (the state constitutional Amendment 3 and related statutes), Kitchen v. Herbert, now proceeds as Herbert

Shelby's decision. Two judges of the Tenth Circuit - one an appointee of President George W. Bush, the other an appointee of President Obama - denied the request for a stay on December 24 but put the appeal on an expedited schedule.

"This stay is obviously disappointing for the families in Utah who need the protection of marriage and now have to wait to get married until the appeal is over," said plaintiffs' attorney Magleby. "Every day that goes by, same-sex couples and their children are being harmed by not being able to marry and be treated equally."



Christopher Neumann and Todd Lloyd .

Birmingham Couple Killed In Plane Crash

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

Todd Lloyd, 51, and his partner, Christopher Neumann, 38, of Birmingham, were killed Monday morning when their single-engine Mooney M20 plane crashed shortly after take-off. The men left from Boyne City Airport headed towards Troy in dismal weather conditions and crashed in the woods about 45 miles northeast of Traverse City.

Charlevoix County Sheriff Don Schneider told WWJ News, "It was snowing and windy and very cold; about eight degrees above zero."

The plane was registered to Chaircovers and Linens, a Madison Heights-based business owned by Lloyd. Lloyd also is the owner of Livonia-based Top That Event.

The National Association for Catering & Events sent out a release to members informing them of the loss. Lloyd was president of NACE for 2009-2010.

"The Greater Detroit Chapter of NACE is forever indebted to Todd. ...Despite his incredible successes, Todd always remained humble: a great friend and leader to all who knew him. He took many NACE members under his wing, molding, guiding and shaping them to become the next leaders of the organization. Education was his passion; Todd strived to involve students in the NACE chapter, firmly believing in the importance of the next generation of NACE in the events industry.

"Todd's infectious laugh, sense of humor,

and charm made him "the life of the party" and the person in the room everyone wanted to know. He never took life too seriously and could always find a reason to laugh, even at his own expense. Whether dressed as "The Mad Hatter" or as "The Linen Hero" (complete with spandex jumpsuit), Todd kept everyone at NACE thoroughly entertained," the release said.

Longtime friend Jim Razor was among dozens who expressed their grief on Facebook, stating "Beyond saddened to hear that my friends Todd Lloyd and Christopher Neumann were lost today in a tragic accident. They were so vibrant and full of life and adventure. Todd and Chris were perfect hosts, great friends, and successful businessmen with a deep commitment to each other, their families, friends and community. My thoughts are with them and their loved ones."

A chilling picture found on Lloyd's Facebook page shows this was not his first plane accident. A photo posted Aug. 25, 2009 shows a small plane with its nose dug into the ground and the caption "My first, and last, Plane Crash! Well, not really a crash but exciting non the less. After landing the nose wheel collapse and the plane nosed over. It happened during the roll out so we weren't going very fast and it was uneventful. One of my passengers didn't even realize anything was wrong. Now we all have an adventurous story to tell. I'm sure Robert is telling everyone we almost died. [sic]"

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Indiana Looks At Marriage Ban

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Increasingly inside the Statehouse, "short session" is no longer a term to be confused with an inconsequential gathering of the state's lawmakers.

When lawmakers return for the start of 2014's "short session" this week, they are set to take up two high-profile measures - one to write the state's gay marriage ban into the constitution and another that would eliminate the personal property tax paid by businesses.

Social and religious conservative groups, are seeking the marriage amendment. While House Speaker Bosma has said he still supports limiting marriage to being between one man and one woman, he does not appear to be actively pushing the issue - at least not in public. The marriage fight has the potential to crowd out other issues depending on how much time lawmakers spend on the fight.

Vikings Retain Counsel To Look Into Kluge Charges

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - The Minnesota Vikings have retained a former chief justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court and a former federal trial attorney to conduct an investigation into Chris Kluge's allegations that he was released from the team due to his support of gay marriage.

The team made the announcement on Friday, one day after Kluge penned a scathing article alleging that special teams coordinator Mike Priefer made anti-gay comments during team meetings. Priefer has denied Kluge's allegations.

Former Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court Eric Magnuson and former Justice Department attorney Chris Madel will lead the investigation.

Vikings President Mark Wilf says "it is extremely important for the Vikings organization to react immediately and comprehensively with an independent review of these allegations."

Romney: Putin's Russia Undercuts Olympic Spirit

WASHINGTON (AP) - Russia's slide from democratic reforms and its relationships with international peers threaten to undercut the spirit of the Olympic Games it hosts next month, failed presidential nominee Mitt Romney said Sunday.

Russia also has faced criticism over its new anti-gay law, mounting costs and environmental concerns about the games.

Asked during a "Fox News Sunday" interview whether Russia's behavior undercut the Olympic games' spirit, Romney answered yes. He invoked the 1936 Berlin games that took place under Adolf Hitler and his fellow Nazis.

"Hitler's presence there, that certainly undercut the Olympic message," Romney said. "And surely that can happen in our time, theoretically or specifically."

Group Wants To Repeal Navajo Same-Sex Marriage Ban

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - An effort to repeal the Navajo Nation's same-sex marriage ban has been energized by decisions in some states to allow such unions.

The Albuquerque Journal reports (<http://bit.ly/JC0181>) that Alray Nelson, organizer of a gay and lesbian rights group advocating a repeal of the tribe's same-sex marriage ban, is looking for new members of the council to introduce a repeal proposal.

Tribal sovereignty lets the Navajo Nation continue enforcement of its own 2005 gay marriage ban.

The nation's ban isn't affected by a New Mexico court decision that legalized marriage for gay and lesbian couples and a subsequent ruling that struck down a ban of same-sex marriage in Utah.

A Year for Resolve Not Resolutions



Viewpoint

BY MICHELLE BROWN

I don't believe in New Years' resolutions. They seem to be empty promises destined to be broken. We break the promises we make to ourselves. Others break promises they make to themselves and others. Then twelve months later we do it all over again, making promises but unfortunately taking little action to deliver on our resolutions.

Now I do believe in resolve (and I'm not talking about the carpet cleaner although I do keep it on hand for cat accidents).

The words - resolve and resolution - come from the same root. The difference is, where the noun resolution is all about the expression of intentions, the verb, resolve, is about getting it done, dogged determination, "doin the damn thing" - action.

I am of the generation that believes in change, that we as a community could be better than the generations before us and evolve to leave a world for our children and generations to come.

We/my generation didn't come up with this notion of "a more perfect union," we just took the words of the "founding fathers," (their resolution) expressed in the Constitution as truth and resolved to speak that truth to power.

We stood on the shoulders of those who had come before us - abolitionists, suffragettes, civil and gay rights leaders all striving for that more perfect union - the dream, the promise, the resolution for full equality not just for every American, but as a shining example for the world.

There have been advances and setbacks over the years but never have we felt closer to attaining this goal than in 2008 with the election of Barack Obama. We were talking about, really talking about hope and change. And it wasn't just American optimism or naivete, the world deemed the election significant.

All that hope, all that promise, but like many resolutions at the beginning of a year (or four years in political life), our resolve sometimes wanes.

By the 2010 midterm elections the resolve of our opponents to regain control and impede the progress of change outweighed ours and we lost critical ground in the states and in the House of Representatives. Republican governors

and legislators stripped workers rights, attacked women's rights for choice and rolled back social safety nets increasing the ranks of the poor putting children and families at risk.

We stumbled, got up, kept moving and in 2012 got another chance to make our bold, progressive resolutions for another political season.

We watched how things shook out in 2013. There was lot's of good news for the LGBT community in the courts and states. More couples have gained the right to marry. Municipalities have affirmed the rights of LGBT residents to equal protections.

It's time to take being out to the next level - when we hold our elected officials accountable not just to our LGBT families but to our neighbors living at or below poverty; when we demand passage of a fully inclusive ENDA and extension of unemployment benefits; when we ask for anti-bullying legislation for LGBT youth and strengthened gun legislation.

The doors to our closet of second class citizenship are falling off. The key is what we have known all along - that when we are out, when people know our lives - the walls of hatred and bigotry come tumbling down. Our resolve, our determination did this!

And now as we prepare for the 2014 midterm elections, politicians are vying for

our votes, talking about marriage equality, ENDA and their support for LGBT issues.

Of course we thank, appreciate and support those that have stood behind us but is that enough? Can we look at the 2014 elections only from a gay perspective?

Unfortunately, but fortunately, we don't live in a gay bubble. We are a part of the greater community - neighbors, coworkers, teachers, students.

Having that greater community acknowledge our rights, comes with the responsibility for members of the LGBT community to raise our voices to, in effect, out ourselves politically as being members of a thinking electorate.

Unemployment - that's our issue! Education - that's our issue! Healthcare, Women's rights, child poverty, housing, income inequality - it doesn't have to be queer to be our issue. We live at the intersection of all these issues and more than anyone, we know that no one is free when others are oppressed.

2014 must be a year for resolve not just resolutions. It's time to take being out to the next level - when we hold our elected officials accountable not just to our LGBT families but to our neighbors living at or below poverty; when we demand passage of a fully inclusive ENDA and extension of unemployment benefits; when we ask for anti-bullying legislation for LGBT youth and strengthened

gun legislation.

So I'll pass on the resolutions to lose ten pounds, exercise regularly, and all those other things that will probably fall by the wayside and instead join with those resolved to be the change we want to see.

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



SPORTS: Adult Hockey Team In Ohio Open To All Players

BY KEVIN JOY

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) - For a moment, the gay slur muttered by a hockey opponent during a game last year stung like an exposed limb against ice.

"It was directed at one of our straight players," recalled Lloyd Newman, president of the Ohio Mayhem and its umbrella organization, Gay Hockey Ohio.

"It was like 'Hello? Obviously, you don't have gaydar.??'"

The epithet, in retrospect, seems more comical than offensive to the Mayhem, a Columbus team whose roster is decidedly mixed: some male, some female; some gay, others straight.

Team members neither make a public issue of their personal lives nor hide them. Once the puck drops, they retain a singular focus.

"It's all about the game," said Doug Massey, a 35-year-old who co-founded Mayhem and plays wing.

"You're out there to play and win."

Just like the 170 other squads in the Chiller Adult Hockey League.

Just like Rick Nash or R.J. Umberger - National Hockey League stars who, among others, have recently spoken out via YouTube as part of a campaign to erase homophobia in sports.

And just like players on the Ohio State men's hockey team, which is to host the Mayhem during a Jan. 11 game at Value City Arena when the Buckeyes face Michigan State.

The event will double as the second annual Pride Night, a collaborative gathering that last year featured taped remarks from athletic director Gene Smith and several OSU players advocating tolerance and respect on and off the ice.

The collective symbolic thaw is encouraging to Mayhem participants and other athletes.

Still, maintained Newman, 41: "We don't wear a rainbow flag on our shoulder.

"We don't have to."

Until two years ago, Newman - a Reynoldsburg resident - hadn't tried an organized sport since childhood.

Early attempts had scarred him.

"There were times, even in playing T-ball, I would actually have direct family members go, 'You run like a sissy; you throw like a wimp,??'" said Newman, who grew up in Jacksonville, Fla.

"Once you're past a certain age, the opportunity to get in on an entry level is gone."

Some of his Mayhem teammates had also avoided sports, fearing that their sexual orientation might carry too much of a stigma.

Would such an admission find them shunned on the field? What about in the locker room?

The prospect of acceptance attracted Ryan Jones to the Mayhem, where he has played wing since the team's 2005 inception.

Never mind that hockey is far more daunting than a pickup game of, say, soccer or basketball.

"It was way outside my comfort zone," said the 41-year-old Jones, a "hockey virgin."

"I love the team atmosphere, the camaraderie."

You Can Play Campaign

Helping to champion the cause more widely in recent months has been You Can Play, an inclusivity campaign introduced last year in part by former Philadelphia Flyers scout Patrick Burke - whose younger brother, Brendan, came out as gay in 2009 while serving as a student manager for the men's hockey team at Miami University.

Brendan died in 2010 in a car crash. The siblings' father - Brian Burke, former general manager of the Toronto Maple Leafs - co-founded You Can Play, which in April partnered with the NHL.

Wade Davis, a former player in the National Football League who became executive director of the effort in the summer, will lead a moderated talk the afternoon of OSU Pride Night.

"I grew up with very few images of gay people on TV - and zero of them playing sports," said the 36-year-old Davis, who remained closeted until last year.

"You have so many players who are allies now."

Which explains why You Can Play efforts aren't limited to hockey: NFL and Major League Soccer initiatives are also in motion.

On-the-ice insults such as the one that Newman recounted are rare.

The most common reaction that Mayhem players field after revealing their team's open-minded affiliation, he said, is that of surprise.

Other efforts help counter obscurity.

The team appears each year in the city's pride parade and has raised money to benefit a community center for gay youths and a summer camp that hosts children affected by HIV/AIDS.

Awareness is likely to spread as more high-profile professional athletes publicly acknowledge their sexual orientation the way former Columbus Crew midfielder Robbie Rogers, pro basketball player Jason Collins and Olympic diver Tom Daley of Britain have in recent months.

A 2011 study by sociologist Eric Anderson - who in 1993 made headlines as the country's first openly gay high-school coach, in southern California - found that young gay athletes confronted far less homophobia compared with their counterparts of a decade earlier.

"Attitudes among this generation are changing," said Anderson, today a professor at the University of Winchester in Britain.

The Mayhem's roster seemingly underscores as much: About half of the team's 22 players are heterosexual.

"I'm happy to support them," said 29-year-old defenseman Clay Irwin, who is straight.

"There's not a reason for anyone to second-guess themselves."

More prohibitive for hockey players of any persuasion, perhaps, are the sport's costs: several hundred dollars for basic skates and gear, plus annual per-player rink fees of \$600.

And even free play requires a commitment, as the Mayhem competes year-round in a non-checking league, with games late each Thursday night.

Renting ice time for practices is too costly.

Although the team permits any adult to partake, its collective skill has improved in recent years; a second Gay Hockey Ohio squad might form to accommodate newcomers.

The Mayhem's latest schedule ended in December, with the team posting a 4-6 record. Its shot at playoff glory fell short through a single-elimination defeat.

Victory, however, isn't measured solely in the number of goals.

"Out there on the ice, that's the equalization point," Newman said. "It doesn't matter how you swing, so long as you can play."

ONLINE

Learn more :

>> <http://youcanplayproject.org>




Fable For A Gay Shoah



Parting Glances

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

That silent night the sound of jackboots grew loud encircling our streets. The hosannas grew bold. Onward like soldiers marching as to war they came, letting no one bar their trampling way.

"We march in the name of all consuming love," they sang. But their hymn was harsh, too militant of brass, too snarling of drum to win our allegiance or gain our heartfelt trust.

For days we heard rumors of casting stones. "A lie," they sneered. We heard chants. "Change! Change!" We noted the marking of souls by chapter and verse: You kneel! You crown! "Our truth is indelible," they three times crowed. "It scorches like fires of hell. It stains like crucifixion blood."

For safety we fled to the woods, worried we might be pursued by their hounds of heaven, unleashed to snap, snarl, tear any and all who could not, would not, dare not, true believe with them.

Step! Step! Step! The jackboots echoed. Heil! Hosanna! Heil! The hour grew late. The indifferent moon shone cold. Few stars dared to shine.

"Are we next?" we wondered, pausing to embrace, to lock wearied arms, to press ahead. "Let our kinship sustain us 'til the dawn," we said.

And so, that once-silent night the snow fell gentle. Soft. Unsullied. It covered all with tiny gems of benediction. Is there anything wiser than the falling snow? we asked. Yet still we heard the warlike din, and moved among the trees where sentinel shadows guarded our late-night watch.

Each brought a candle to light our way. His, red. Hers, blue. A youth's, pale lavender. Fairest green, a transgendered heart. A black youth, richest ebony. Amid that sheltered space our faces glowed. We shared warmth. Reflected light. We garnered hope. Breathed far, far cleaner air.

Hidden in the heart of natural things we affirmed who we are. Who we have always been. Who we must remain, come what may. Whatever the cost. Whatever betide setback, struggle, strategy. Having so pledged among ourselves, it seemed the woods in turn gave us a haloed radiance. And spectral voices, too.

"Remember us," we heard unnamed spirits call out "We paid the price for candor long, long years ago. Our honest courage paved the way for you and yours. Draw now upon our strength. Your struggle once was ours."

"Hear us too," cried others moving near with sadder shape. "Our countless lives give honor. We yielded youth, talent, hope to rampant death, disease, dementia. Our suffering, our terror though painful to recall must not be banished from memory. Our loss, atone."

"And we, too, are here: victims of hate, cunning, murder, foulest play. We were despised, rejected of human kind. They mocked and spat upon our gifts, our joy, our differences, our right to love. Be strong!"

Then whispered a warming, healing wind: "Your time will come. Be resolute." And softly gleamed the ever-gentle snow: "My peace I give. This night I blanket all. Be free. Yield not. Go out. Be whole. Be as one. Speak out."

Charles@pridesource.com

Three Gay Holocaust Survivors Remember

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Between 1933 and 1945 when the Nazis came to power in Germany an estimated 100,000 homosexual men were arrested, of whom 50,000 were sentenced under criminal law Paragraph 175. Most served prison sentences. An estimated 5,000 to 15,000 were sent to concentration camps.

Those homosexuals who survived found liberation by British and American soldiers of short duration. As criminals under Germany's notorious Paragraph 175 penal code they were sent back to prison. Many died there.

The purging of Berlin gay bars began in February 1933. There were 90 such clubs in a city where sex, following World War I, was a commodity to barter. The Nazis prohibited sex publications and manuals, banned

organized homophile groups, and they also outlawed abortions.

In May, the Berlin Nazi Youth made an organized attack of the Magnus Hirschfeld Institute of Sex Research. Its collection of 20,000 books, 5,000 photographs and sex artifacts were burned. Kurt Hiller, director, was sent to a concentration camp. Hirschfeld founder, and an advocate for Paragraph 175 repeal, was out of the country. He died in France.

Treatment of homosexuals in concentration camps was brutal. Gays "ranked" below

political prisoners, criminals, asocials, Roma - gypsies - and Jehovah Witnesses.

Gad Beck, who died last year at age 88, was what the 1935 Nuremberg Jewish Law classified as a "mischling" - half Jew, half gentile. This status allowed him to live openly longer

than most full Jews. He was also a courageous underground resistance fighter, at one point even daring to try to rescue his Jewish lover from certain concentration camp death.

Beck stole a German Youth uniform, entered the Auschwitz camp, and requested the release of his friend for a nonexistent defense project. Beck's pretense worked.

His friend was granted escorted exit; but then told Beck with much sorrow and a strong sense of family loyalty that he could not leave his parents behind. Returning to Auschwitz, he and his family perished.

An account by another Holocaust survivor, Pierre Seel, details life for gay men during Nazi control. He relates participating in his local homophile community in the town of Mulhouse. When the Nazis took control his name was found on a list of local homosexuals. He was ordered to the police station, obeying the directive to protect his family from any retaliation.

Upon arriving at the police station he says that he and other homosexuals were repeatedly beaten. Any who resisted the SS Gestapo brutes had their fingernails torn out. Others had their bowels punctured, causing them to bleed profusely. After his arrest he was sent to the concentration camp at Schirmeck.

See next page

Holocaust Exhibit Opening Postponed

FARMINGTON HILLS - The Jan. 5 opening of the exhibit Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals at the Holocaust Memorial Center was postponed due to an injury to the keynote speaker, retired congressman Barney Frank, and inclement weather. Frank has committed to coming to a rescheduled event, however the date has not been set. All presold tickets will be honored at the rescheduled event.

The exhibit is now open for viewing at the Holocaust Memorial Center Zekelman Family Campus, 281123 Orchard Lake Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334. For information call 248-553-2400 or visit www.holocaustcenter.org.

Crain's Names Equality Michigan's Dievendorf Person To Watch in 2014

DETROIT - Crain's Detroit Business, the prominent weekly business newspaper, named Equality Michigan's Emily Dievendorf to their list of ten people to watch in state politics in 2014.

"I'm very honored to be on this list and in some amazing company!" said Dievendorf. "I am proud of what I am able to bring to the table. But my inclusion is most indicative of the strength and quality of the Equality Michigan team, our ongoing efforts, and the incredible work we are privileged to

do with our impressive partners in the movement here in Michigan and at the national level. Bring on 2014!"

Dievendorf has been the most visible lobbyist for LGBT issues in Lansing since joining Equality Michigan in 2010 as the policy director, and then assuming the role of managing director in early 2013. A graduate of the James Madison College at Michigan State University, she had worked in the Michigan House of Representatives for state legislators Alexander C. Lipsey (D- Kalamazoo)

and Andy Coulouris (D-Saginaw). Dievendorf served as chief of staff to Rep. Coulouris, the chair of the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

Crain's list of ten people to watch in state politics includes six women and four men, and at least three other strong LGBT allies; Sen. Rebecca Warren (D-Ann Arbor), former state lawmaker Barb Byrum and Lon Johnson, chair of the Michigan Democratic Party.

Bay County Prepares To Protects LGBT People

On Jan.7 Bay County's Ways and Means Committee will consider an ordinance recommendation requiring the County government and all contractors not to discriminate against people based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

If approved the ordinance will go to the full County Commission on Jan. 14 for a vote.

Jon Hoadley of Unity Michigan is happy to see Bay County moving forward with the ordinance. "This

shows we have Michigan momentum," Hoadley said.

Those who wish to advance a local nondiscrimination ordinance where they live can get involved by visiting www.DontChangeYourself.com.



► Gay Holocaust

Continued from p. 10

There, Seel shares that during a morning roll-call, the Nazi commander announced a public execution. A man was brought out, and Seel recognized his face. It was that of his eighteen-year-old lover from Mulhouse. The Nazi guards then stripped the clothes off his lover, placed a metal bucket over his head, board banged it repeatedly, then released trained German Shepherd dogs to maul and tear him to death.

Rudolf Brazda, believed to be the last surviving person who was sent to a

Nazi concentration camp because of his homosexuality, died in France in August 2011, aged 98. Brazda was sent to Buchenwald in August 1942 and held there as Pink Triangle # 7952, until its liberation by U.S. forces in 1945.

Brazda, who settled in France after the war, was in 2010 awarded the Legion of Honour, for his varied roles in speaking out about Nazi treatment of homosexuals and France's shameful role in deporting its Jews and homosexuals.

In 1994, 17 years before Brazda's death, Germany rescinded its anti-gay Paragraph 175.

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Solidarity
by Richard Grune, lithograph, 1947
(image: Schwules Museum, Berlin)

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

ON VIEW JANUARY 5 - MAY 4, 2014

Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals

The Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals exhibit details the Nazis' so-called moral crusade against homosexuality in an effort to racially and culturally purify Germany. This persecution ranged from dissolution of homosexual organizations to internment of thousands of individuals in concentration camps. Gay men, in particular, were subject to harassment, arrest, incarceration, and even castration. In Nazi eyes, gay men were weak and unfit to be soldiers, as well as unlikely to contribute to the racial struggle for Aryan dominance.

Artifacts from the exhibit depict the freedom experienced by homosexuals prior to the Nazi rise to power in 1933:

FAR LEFT: A 1907 political cartoon depicting sex researcher Magnus Hirschfeld, "Hero of the Day," drumming up support for the abolition of Paragraph 175 of the German penal code that criminalized homosexuality (image: US Holocaust Memorial Museum Photo Archives)

LEFT: Cover of the September 1931 issue of *The Island*, a magazine for homosexuals (image: US Holocaust Memorial Museum)



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Detroit Teen Hopes To Attend Creating Change Conference

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

The 26th National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change is coming to Houston, Texas this year, and 19-year-old Marcos D. Carrillo is hoping to be among the 3,500 people from all over the county attending.

The New York-based group Fierce identified Carrillo as a youth leader and is helping to send him to Houston. Carrillo is also hoping to raise an additional \$500 in order to attend.

Here in Michigan he is currently active with Michigan United and Represent.Us. Michigan United works on cultivating leadership. Their goal is “fighting for the dignity and potential of every person.” According to the group’s website, “We are committed to a participatory democracy at every level, an economy that works for the many, and a society that dismantles racism while uplifting our common humanity. To ignite the power of our communities and shift the balance of power, we cultivate the leadership of those directly affected by injustice, and build popular institutions for the future.”

They focus on immigration issues, raising the minimum wage, housing discrimination and other issues of inequality.

“As an Estrada Fellow with Michigan United, I helped some of the immigrant community apply for something called Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (which grants an undocumented person immunity from deportations, and they can apply for a worker’s permit and their driver’s license) and naturalization (which is the process a legal permanent resident can go through in order to gain citizenship status in the U.S.), through workshops. I went through several trainings (like leadership, power structure, know your rights). And I worked on getting the voter percentage up for Detroit in 2013. I am currently working on developing the next batch of fellows and helping create a better relationship between Detroit residents and the Detroit Police Department that the police want and the residents need,” Carrillo told BTL.

At Represent.Us Carrillo develops LGBT leadership. In the fall he is expected to lead workshops for others about organizing and leadership. Even before adulthood, Carrillo’s leadership



Raquel Garcia-Anderson and Marcos D. Carrillo. The two work together on Michigan United projects. Carrillo is fundraising in order to attend the 26th Annual Creating Change conference taking place in Houston at the end of the month. Photo courtesy of Marcos Carrillo.

potential was evident.

“I started organizing in my senior year of high school in Cesar Chavez Academy. I volunteered to direct a Gay-Straight Alliance there that was featured in BTL. My main focus for the GSA was to establish identity and to educate my peers about their capabilities. Different organizations heard about our GSA and asked to partner with us and we said yes. We helped out with workshops, raised money for AIDS and cancer awareness, and volunteered at events with other organizations. The Detroit Hispanic Development Corp. actually gave us an award for community recognition,” Carrillo said.

“Through the Cesar Chavez Academy GSA I was able to go to a conference in Maryland called the Student of Color Organizing Summit with GLSEN, which was a breathtaking experience, since it was my first conference. Most importantly, I was able to create a safe and comfortable space for the LGBTQ students back at CCA. We all became amazing friends who empowered each other and to me that’s the real accomplishment.”

In December the teen went to the National People’s Action conference. The focus was to create a 40-year-agenda to make the economy more people-oriented and less corporate-

centered. “It blew my mind,” he said. “We talked about how it’s time to be on the offensive, taking down multiple small policies, power structure and about structural racism. The plan was powerful and I truly believe it can work.”

Going to Creating Change would give Carrillo even more tools to be an activist.

“Just like with every other conference I went to, I plan to take all of the things I’ve learned and incorporate them into my work. I want to get new organizing ideas, learn of effective systems and tools, learn how to make a campaign work and be successful, learn how to take down policies, learn how to take down people who abuse their power, learn how to effectively establish an amazing community that empowers itself. I really like that this conference leans towards the LGBTQ community because I feel like I have to do more for that part of my identity. I plan to be a strong voice for my people. The Creating Change Conference, FIERCE and REPRESENT are all helping me get there.”

Those who are interested in helping Carrillo attend the conference can contact Lance Hicks, who is organizing the fundraising, at lance.hicks@gmail.com. Their goal is to raise \$500 towards the trip.

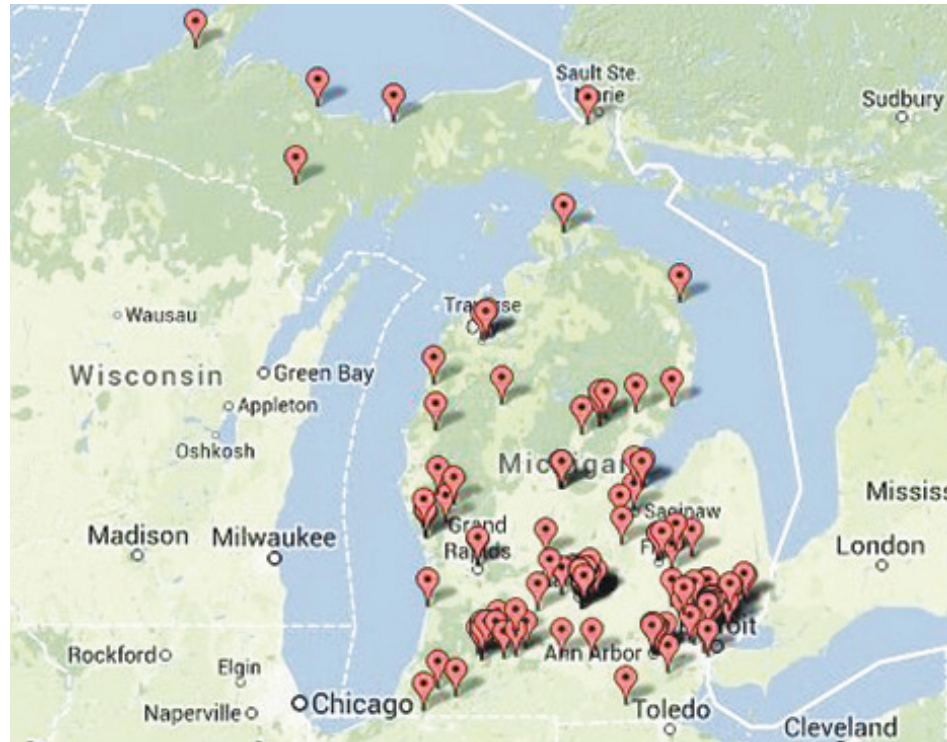
► **UNITY**

Continued from p. 5

Youth at Ruth Ellis Center are provided basic needs like food and shelter, as well as counseling and training and help finding work. The reality that in Michigan they can still be fired and discriminated against for being gay is just one of the many challenges they face as they become adults.

Equality Michigan Communications Director Greg Varnum has seen collaborations come and go over the years, and EM has been part of most of them. By working on a specific issue, Unity Michigan has been able to stay focused. "Prior to Unity Michigan being created, there had been numerous attempts to build a coalition of the organizations engaging on LGBT public policy. While those efforts had varying degrees of success, none of them had much staying power. While the sole focus of the coalition's work is workplace discrimination, through Unity we have built more long-lasting working relationships that benefit our work on every issue," Varnum said.

"While we do not claim credit for cumulative work done by the coalition, Equality Michigan is particularly proud of our work supporting the ONE Royal Oak campaign," said Varnum. "Adding ten local communities to the list of places in Michigan where LGBT people are provided legal protections from harassment and discrimination is a big deal. That



momentum would not be there if it were not for the tremendous work poured into these ten communities, and especially the way the statewide LGBT communities came together to support the ballot initiative in Royal Oak."

The Michigan Roundtable for Diversity & Inclusion is a 72-year-old social justice organization working to build sustainable

inclusive communities and opportunity for all. They participate in Unity Michigan through their Faith & LGBT Equality Project.

"Our organization participates as the lead partner working to recruit allies from the faith community for the purpose of challenging discrimination against LGBT individuals here in Michigan," said Kevin Hogan, manager of

“ Adding ten local communities to the list of places in Michigan where LGBT people are provided legal protections from harassment and discrimination is a big deal. ”

- Greg Varnum, Equality Michigan Communications Director

the Faith and LGBT Equality Project. "I am most proud of the fact that since we began our participation with the Coalition the number of ordinances protecting LGBT citizens here in Michigan has moved from 16 to 31! In many instances the support of the faith community has been an important part of this success."

Hogan also credits Unity Michigan's Jon Hoadley for the group's success.

"I must mention how important the leadership of Jon Hoadley and his team have been to the success of the Coalition. He is a truly effective leader that keeps our organizations and our roles in focus and moving to reach goals," he said.

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Photos: FX

Comedian, Creator Talk 'Dirty' New Cartoon And Its Star (A Gay Rapper, What?)

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

He's here, he's queer ... and he raps? It's almost an oxymoron, or at least it used to be. But then there was Frank Ocean, the hip-hop queer who came out in 2012, and Macklemore, the emcee whose pro-gay "Same Love" made a splash on urban radio.

The next step? Obviously a cartoon all about a gay rapper. "Chozen" (10:30 p.m. Jan. 13), the brainchild of "Eastbound & Down" creator Grant Dekernion, is the first of its kind – an FX original series starring an unapologetically queer ex-con who slays with his wicked rhymes. And you know, he just happens to like the penis. It's pretty gay.

But how gay?

"Oh gosh, I guess I don't know what the parameters are for that," laughs Dekernion. "You know what, I can tell you this: Chozen is a super confident, super open type of guy. He's a pretty sexual guy. I see Chozen as a 15-year-old boy in that he doesn't have a filter and he has some basic needs – money, food, sex – and he's very open about that."

In personifying the character, a creation that just came to Dekernion randomly one day, there was one fundamental goal: Do something that had never been done.

"I chose his sexuality, which is obviously a huge part of him but not all of him," he says, "and I also had the story where he's

been on hard times, he's coming out of jail and he's not necessarily a bad guy. It's this whole idea of a man trying to re-enter society."

Voicing the titular emcee is Bobby Moynihan, the longtime "Saturday Night Live" comic who, as a regular on the show, is familiar with doing gay things – most of it involving drag.

"They love putting me in dresses," Moynihan laughs. "That's their favorite thing to do. I didn't mind it at first. But now – it's just stockings are hard to put on, and I'm lazy."

For his part as Chozen, the comedian jumped at the chance to audition, and not just

because this is probably a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity (there's not exactly a demand for gay rapper roles – or fake cartoon ones, at that). What had Moynihan most pumped was working with Method Man. (The show also features the voices of Michael Peña, Danny McBride and Nick Swardson, the "Reno 911!" actor whose entire career has been one gay thing after another.)

Moynihan compares the show to Dekernion's edgy "Eastbound & Down," also starring McBride, and says, "(Chozen) is gay in the show and he's very aggressive and he does enjoy the company of men, and there are scenes with that, but it's not just the gay, white rapper show."



“(Chozen) is gay in the show and he’s very aggressive and he does enjoy the company of men, and there are scenes with that, but it’s not just the gay, white rapper show.”

– Bobby Moynihan

And GLAAD, don’t worry: Chozen isn’t here to represent all the gays. “Chozen is one character – he’s one person – and he has traits that are unique to him, so I feel like he speaks for himself and the show speaks for him and he doesn’t speak for any community as a whole,” Dekernion says. “He’s an out-there, brash guy and he behaves in that way. What you see is what you get.”

What you get, according to Moynihan, is one heckuva dirty gay time. For instance, Chozen demonstrates how to play a butthole like a saxophone – and that, seen in the trailer, just scratches the surface. “We go as far as we can,” Dekernion affirms. No full cartoon nudity, though. You will, however, “see him (Chozen) in various stages of undress.”

When he’s not making beautiful sounds out of a sphincter, Chozen is bonding with friends and having not-just-sexual relationships with other gay men.

“It’s not political, it’s not about identity politics,” Dekernion says. “It’s, ‘How does this man relate to people? How did he go through his life? How did he experience things?’ These are all common themes that affect everyone, gay or straight.”

Dekernion calls Chozen an “anomaly”; he doesn’t fit into any box, and he wasn’t directly inspired by any real-life rappers (and actually, Dekernion is the one spitting Chozen’s hot fire). But that doesn’t mean some of Dekernion’s own personal musical picks – like queer rapper/metropolitan

virtuoso Mykki Blanco – didn’t rub off on Chozen.

“Mykki Blanco is great visually and he does cool stuff, and his clothes are interesting,” Dekernion says. “I am definitely hip to a lot of different people in rap, both from the straight and gay scenes, and I think there’s some really cool stuff going on.”

Could Chozen and the show inspire more of the same pro-gay progress Macklemore and Frank Ocean have already brought to hip-hop?

“If something good did come out of it, that would be great. I think we’d all love that,” Dekernion says. “But I didn’t create the character or pick hip-hop or anything with the thought that, ‘Hey, this is gonna make a change.’ I think those things happen organically anyway – hopefully. But I work with people in the hip-hop community and they haven’t always been warm and fuzzy, but I’m hoping that will change. There have been some steps made for it, but obviously we still have a long way to go.”

One need only look to Eminem’s latest album to see that homophobia in hip-hop isn’t just a thing of the past. What would Chozen tell Eminem about his gay slurs if he were to confront him? Moynihan isn’t sure he’d be able to face him ... and only because the comedian himself couldn’t when the rapper was right there in front of him on “SNL.”

“I just said ‘hi,’” he recalls, “and then ran away.”

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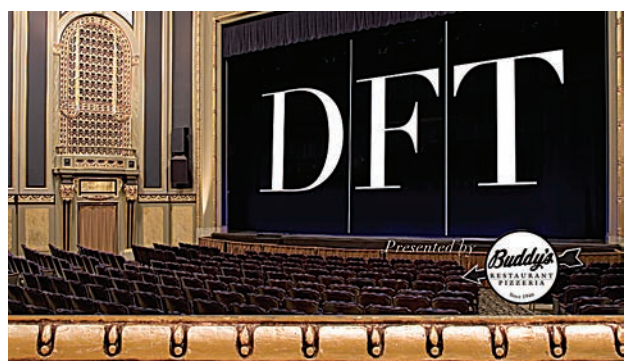
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The OutField

Tom Daley Dives Into The LGBT Twittersphere

BY DAN WOOG

Another day. Another Olympic diver. Another coming-out story.

Tom Daley's recent video was remarkable for its unremarkableness. He never used the "g" or "b" word. He said simply, "In spring this year my life changed massively when I met someone. They make me feel so happy, so safe and everything just feels right. That someone is a guy."

In today's age, that should be that. Speculation about the British medal winner's sexuality has abounded for years, with many men's gaydars going gaga whenever the 19-year-old popped up on the telly. (Women, don't give up yet. Daley said later in the video, "Of course I still fancy girls." Welcome to the 2010s.)

Predictable praise poured in. On Twitter, Facebook and other social media, Daley was lauded for his honesty, cited for his courage. In a non-Summer Olympic year, when news about divers rarely surfaces, Daley's turn in the media spotlight was largely positive.

But — just as predictably — haters gonna hate. It's easy to spew anonymous venom online, and spewers sprang into action. Sitting in their caves, they did their best to one-up each other with what they thought were clever, hilarious or "now-we've-really-got-him!" reactions.

It's as if Greg Louganis, Bruce Hayes and Matthew Mitcham never existed. Earth to homophobes: "Gay diver" is no longer an oxymoron. In fact, it's fast becoming a stereotype.

But on and on they sputtered, cloaked behind the anonymity of social media. "You just lost a fan, go to hell!!! Faggot" was a typical example. The fact that Daley had revealed a bit of information about himself — news about his love life that gets lapped up when a male athlete dates a female — was apparently enough to send some former fans into the deep end.

Like this one, who was so furious he



Tom Daley. Photo: Shutterstock

forgot to use basic punctuation: "I can't believe Tom Daley is gay I'm not a fan of his anymore! he's going to hell it's Adam and Eve not Adam and Steve." I am sure Daley was gobsmacked by that clever witticism, which has only been heard 10 gazillion times, and debunked just as often.

No one has ever accused social

media users of subtlety. (Or logic.) (Or intelligence.) "Tom daley. You're still a fag" was one pithy comment.

Another social media user managed to offend not just gays, but the entire special needs population too: "Anybody who couldn't see Tom Daley was a massive queer is completely and utterly retarded."

Celebrities – the non-Westboro Baptist Church kind – came out in droves to support the newest openly gay Olympic diver. (They used their real names, too.) Boy George wrote, “Good for you TomDaley and let that be the end of it!”

Daley’s video caused at least one Brit to consider renouncing his citizenship: “Tom Daley is gay I am now ashamed of my country ew we can’t have a bloody fag representing us.”

Of course, what’s a coming-out party without the Westboro Baptist Church? A member of the infamous Phelps clan tweeted, “Olympic diver Tom Daley announces he’s a fag (bi-pervert) u all lap it up in wake of #GlasgowHelicopter.” Miraculously, the uber-Christian mini-sect found a way to tie together the crash of a police chopper into a Scottish pub and the coming-out announcement of a diver from England. Well done, lads!

However, celebrities – the non-Westboro Baptist Church kind – came out in droves to support the newest openly gay Olympic diver. (They used their real names, too.) Boy George wrote, “Good for you TomDaley and let that be the end of it!”

Kyle Minogue called Daley “inspiring and brave ... as always!!!”

English musician Lucy Spraggan put into words what many straight women and gay men have been thinking, regarding Daley’s hotness: “Insane amount of love for TomDaley today, the only man I’ve ever googled imaged to admire the beauty of!”

Welsh rugby star Gareth Thomas cited Daley’s youth, and the fact that “he’s fairly near the start of his career. It’s a great positive message to the world. (His announcement) ... is not only testament to him but to society.” Thomas – who came out four years ago, at age 35 – added, “When I was playing it just wouldn’t have been possible to come out at his age in the rugby world. It was a very much different place and I wouldn’t have found the acceptance that I found when I eventually did do it.”

All snarky comments aside, Thomas is right. In the end, we’re talking about real people, real lives, and real role models. One social media user nailed it, insightfully and poignantly: “Is it any wonder some LGBTQ young people would rather take their lives than deal with the kind of vicious attacks that are evident in the disgusting tweets sent to Tom Daley? He is a courageous young man and should be applauded for being brave enough to be who he is in a world that is populated by people who find too many reasons for too many people not to accept themselves.”

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

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Ferndale's Blues & Music Festival Heats Up Winter

BY SHELBY CLARK

Feeling blue from the frigid cold? Ferndale's Blues & Music Festival helps heat up the city Jan. 25-Feb. 2.

The festival will take place in over 20 downtown Ferndale venues, including Como's, the Ferndale Library, Emory, One Eyed Betty's, Dino's, Valentine Distilling Co. and Imperial.

Averaging 60 different concerts in the span of over a week, the event is being primarily sponsored by Bud Light, with additional sponsorship from BTL, Dino's, Garden Fresh Gourmet, One Eyed Betty's and Soho.

Ferndale's "Metro Blues & Music Festival" launched back in January 2002 when a group of volunteers invited Ferndale bars and businesses to help host various live blues shows, all to raise money for charities. Restaurants and clubs all helped by donating cover charges and hosting raffles. Deemed a success, the event had evolved over the years into the nine-day-long Bud Light Ferndale Blues & Music Festival.

Over the last decade, tens of thousands of metro Detroiters have attended the diverse grouping of concerts and food-related events that have come to define the festival. The festival even became a sanctioned event as part of Super Bowl XL in 2006.

The event has now raised over \$20,000 for charities.

This year, one of the main charities the festival is supporting is Michigan AIDS Coalition. Donations to Michigan AIDS Coalition can be made through a PayPal link on the festival's website (www.ferndalebluesfestival.org).

The festival is composed of different events including disco dance parties, karaoke and open mics. A special event to benefit Ferndale Youth Assistance and MAC will take place from 12 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 2 in the Ferndale Library parking lot, behind Dino's. A donation to partake in the event is \$10.

The event, "Dino's BBQ Rib Burn Out,"

will feature over 1,000 pounds of BBQ ribs. Cooked by eight teams, and judged by both festival attendees and celebrity judges, the BBQ contest will also include side dishes and live music by The Sun Messengers. Beer and cocktails will be available for purchase. Those worried about the cold of an outdoor event in February need not worry; Dino's is providing a 4,000-square-foot heated tent.

Local and national talent will also be hitting the stage of Ferndale's many bars, eateries and clubs throughout the entire festival.

The festival starts at 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 25 with a Disco Dance Party at Boogie Fever Cafe, 22901 Woodward Ave.

Some other highlights of the festival include Jennifer Westwood & The Waycross Georgia Farmboys, who will play at 9:30 p.m. on Jan. 25 at One-Eyed Betty's, 175 W. Troy Ave.. Westwood originally got her start in the Detroit gospel scene and has become a master of vocal performance for jazz, blues, Americana and rock.

Delilah DeWyld & The Lost Boys will also play One-Eyed Betty's at 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 2 as part of the festival. The rockabilly, "honky tonk" band hails from Western Michigan and has gained fame across the state for their unique, vintage country sound. Michigan microbrewery, Saugatuck Brewing Company, has even named a craft beer for the act.

Further standouts includes the All Star Blues Jam at 9 p.m. Jan. 30 at New Way Bar (23130 Woodward Ave.), as well as Detroit veteran Chris Brantley, who plays at 10 p.m. Jan. 31 at Local Kitchen (344 W. Nine Mile Road).

The festival will officially end with the Ferndale Middle School and Ferndale High School Jazz Bands performing at 6 p.m. Feb. 6 at the Kulick Community Center, 1201 Livernois St.

For more information on attending or volunteering at the festival, visit www.ferndalebluesfestival.org or call co-chairs Monica Mills at 248-330-2328 and Craig Covey at 248-471-6434.



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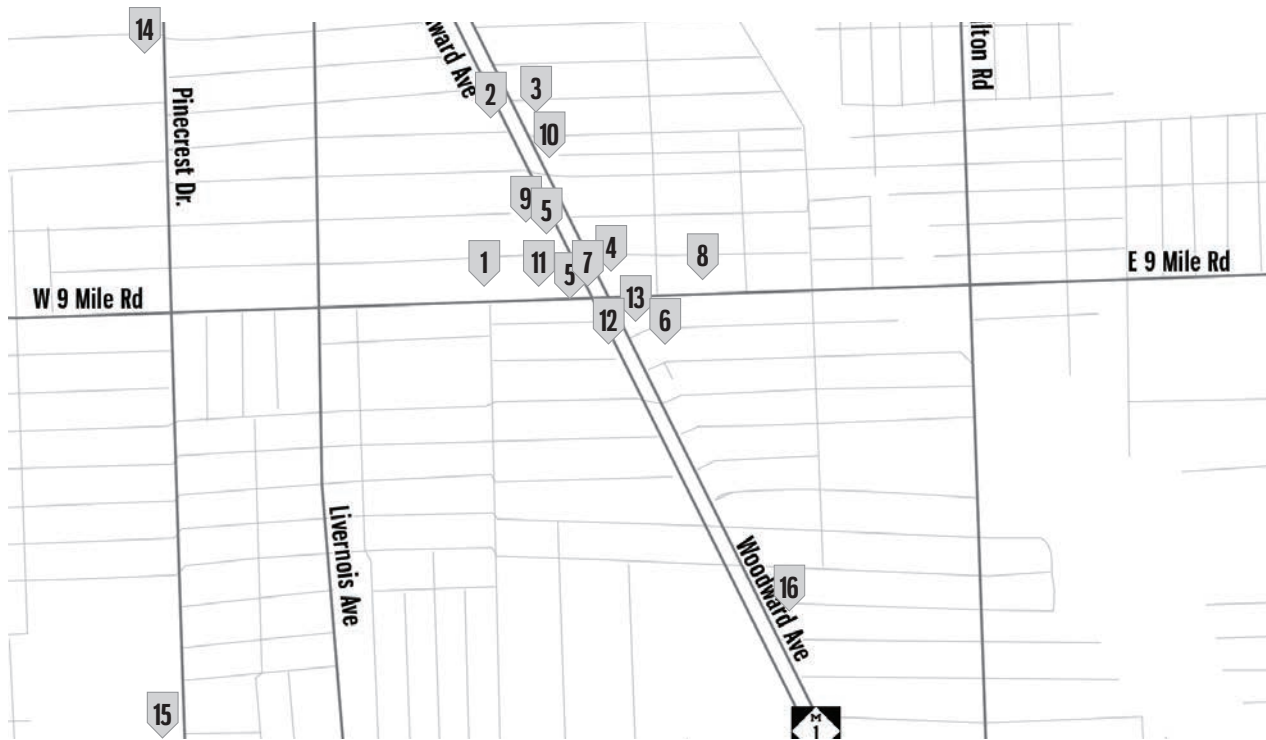


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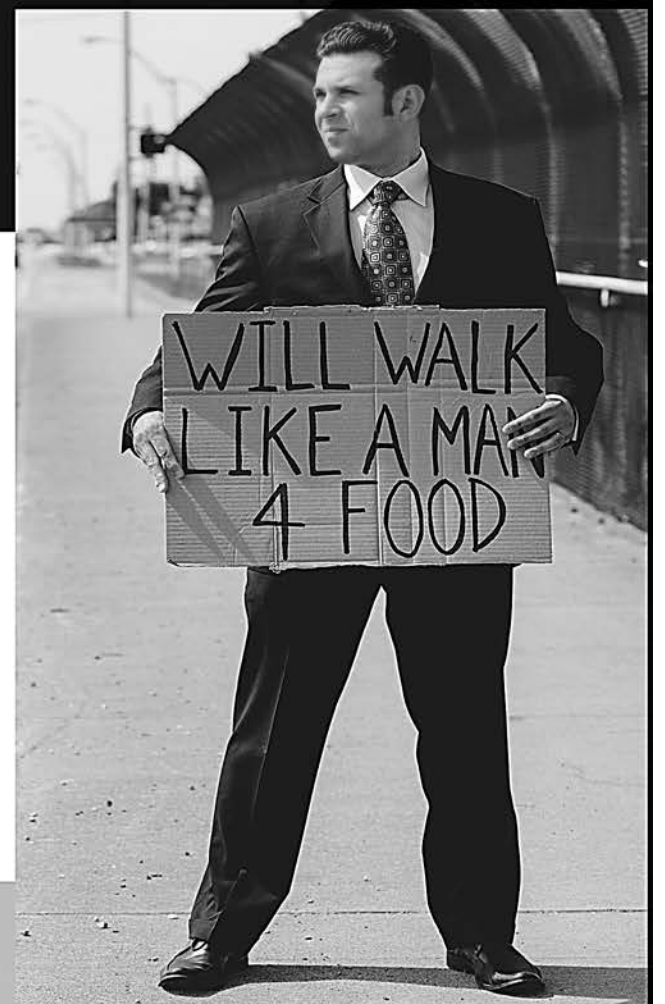
All stage actors dream of appearing in a New York show. For Eric Gutman, the dream became a reality when he was cast in **OFF-BROADWAY** productions of **FORBIDDEN BROADWAY**, **FORBIDDEN HOLLYWOOD** and **FORBIDDEN CHRISTMAS**.

His biggest claim to fame, though, was starring in **JERSEY BOYS** on **BROADWAY**, in Chicago and on the national tour.



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The Importance Of Being Oscar Wilde

BY AMY J. PARRENT

“The truth is rarely pure and never simple.” So said Oscar Wilde in “The Importance of Being Earnest.”

Tophier Alan Payne, who portrays the writer in an upcoming Hilberry Theatre production, echoes this when talking of the circumstances presented in “Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde.”

Moises Kaufman’s documentary-style play is set around the legal proceedings that resulted in Wilde’s imprisonment for homosexual acts in an atmosphere that also was anti-artist and anti-intellectual. “It’s interesting there are so many unknown factors within the story of the three trials,” said Payne. “The playwright does a great job in capturing viewpoints from all the different people involved.”

“It’s not just a representation (of the courtroom events),” Payne said. “It has a lot of artistic spin on it. It hits the audience in an effective and entertaining way, peppering in opinion with dramatic scenes from the trials.”

Director Blair Anderson said, “The style of the play, alternating between narrative address and dramatic characterizations, forces the actors to be more facile in their acting choices.”

“The play asks what the truth is,” said Payne. “Is there one real truth?”

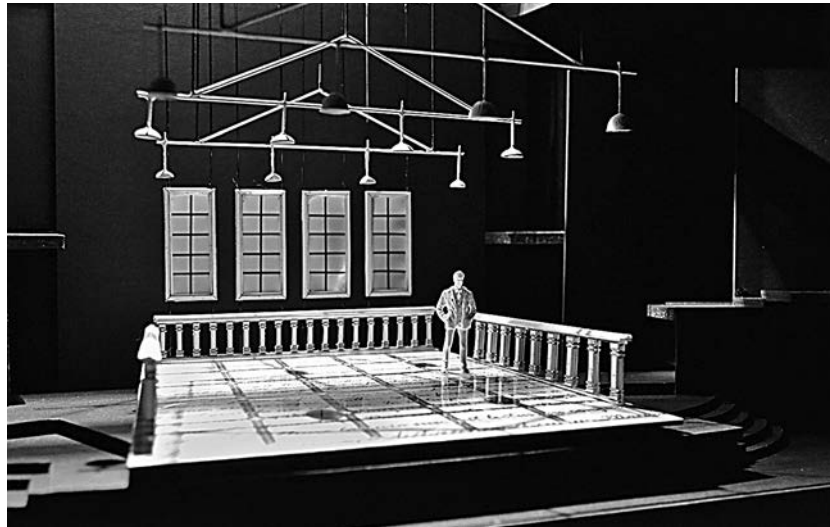
Wilde originally was harassed and hounded by the Marquess of Queensberry, the father of Lord Alfred Douglas, the young man Wilde was close to, Payne explained. “But Queensberry had a history of stalking multiple other figures before Wilde. There’s historical evidence that another son had a relationship with a highly-placed government official. Queensberry couldn’t go after that man and went after Wilde instead.”

Payne said another theory is that Wilde was trying to protect Douglas from other revelations that could’ve been made about him, and that it also was possible some witnesses lied on the stand about Wilde.

Anderson said, “Too often we tend to quickly ‘categorize’ famous people using certain adjectives based on our limited knowledge of them. Oscar Wilde was much more complicated than simply being ‘gay/homosexual’ or a ‘clever playwright’ or ‘aesthete’ or ‘flamboyant queen.’”

“The approach to our production is to see the many facets of this gem, Oscar Wilde, that we think we know. The trials, as depicted by the playwright, provide a remarkable prism for an audience to see brilliant moments of clarity as well as clear moments of anguish.”

“Wilde is the first historical figure I’ve played,” said Payne, who’s in his



Scenic designer Sarah Pearline’s vision of “Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde.” Photo courtesy of WSU

PREVIEW

Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde

Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit.
Wednesday, 2 p.m. Jan. 15; Thursday, 8 p.m. Jan. 16, Jan. 30, March 20; Friday, 8 p.m. Jan. 10, Jan. 17, Jan. 31, March 21; Saturday, 2 p.m. Jan. 11, Feb. 1; Saturday, 8 p.m. Jan. 11, Jan. 18, Feb. 1, March 22. \$12-30. 313-577-2972.

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third year in Wayne State University’s graduate theater program. The actor has been reading everything he can about Wilde to “get into his mindset.”

“It’s mind-blowing and fascinating,” he said. “There are a couple recordings of Wilde’s voice. But without videos, I can be true to nature of character instead of mimicking a persona.”

“Having grown up as a gay man in Texas and Oklahoma, I pull up my own emotions to use to create the character,” Payne said.

That legal battle resonates today, said Payne. “There are still 24 states where gay people aren’t protected in workplaces.”

“There are specific occurrences in my life I can relate to, but it was a different world. This is about a man’s life and going to prison for homosexual acts.”

Payne, who taught high school for three years before pursuing his master’s at Wayne State, recalls anti-arts and humanities attitudes, such as fathers who didn’t want their sons to take a theater class, and divisive fights over whether students could read “Huckleberry Finn” or a particular book about the Vietnam War.

And he finds those themes in this play. “People were calling Wilde names, saying ‘an intellectual’ as if it was a

dirty word,” Payne said. “The arts were on trial. But Wilde said the arts are the only civilizing influence in the world, that without it people are barbarians.”

Anderson said, “Oscar Wilde was extremely interested in advancing theories of Aestheticism’s emphasis on beauty and the appreciation of art rather than finding social, political or religious meanings in artistic works. He said, ‘One should either be a work of art, or wear a work of art.’”

“The irony is that he was forced to make a living as a writer,” said Anderson. “He used his facile wit to create his theatrical works. (But) his plays certainly did not reflect his theoretical beliefs. His comedies of society were a mirror of his social perspective where he both reveled in and despised Victorian society. And he was able to straddle that unique tension.”

Asked what Wilde would be doing if he were alive today, Payne looks at many contemporary artists who have been criticized, even condemned, for who they are or what they say. “I think of Boy George, Roseanne, Lady Gaga,” Payne said. “Wilde would be like a music star – doing something presentational & exciting. He liked to say things to make people think and wonder, to make them stop in their tracks.”

Anderson said, “His lifestyle can be seen as a precursor to the likes of Andy Warhol or David Bowie/Ziggy Stardust. Underlying all of these artists there resides, sometimes, tortured souls or curiosities that are seldom seen by any given public or audience.”

“‘Gross Indecency’ is very much about where art leaves off and life takes over.”

John Corvino, chair of the department of philosophy at Wayne State University who has written and debated on gay rights, will discuss the themes central to the show at 7:15 p.m., before the Jan. 16 performance.

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OUTINGS

Wednesday, Jan. 8

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

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

Mid-Week Meditation 6 p.m. Suggested Donation: \$3. Michigan Pagans, 195 W. Nine Mile Road, Suite 1B, **Ferndale**. Meetup.com/michiganpagans

Orientation and Auditions for New Members 6 p.m. Sistrum, **Lansing**. Sistrum.org

Annual Meeting, Board Elections, and Potluck 7 p.m. Open to all. Sistrum, **Lansing**. Sistrum.org

Open Arms Support Group 7 p.m. Southeast Michigan's lonest running peer-run HIV/AIDS support group for

Memorial Center, 48123 Orchard Lake Road, **Farmington Hills**. 248-553-2400 x24. Holocaustcenter.org

Free HIV Testing 2 p.m. Free, anonymous HIV testing is available at S3 Safe Sex Store every Thursday until 9 p.m. Testing is performed by HARC staff. Call to schedule an appointment, but walk-ins are more than welcome. S3 Safe Sex Store and HIV/AIDS Resource Center, 1209 S. University, **Ann Arbor**. 734-741-1434. info@bak-inc.com S3safesexstore.com

After Hours Mix & Mingle 5:30 p.m. Mix and Mingle with members of the community. If you own a business, bring your cards. If you just want to socialize and meet new people, this is where you want to be. GOAL, 418 S. Washington Ave., **Royal Oak**. Meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

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

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

attendees support each other in healthy ways through active listening and caring feedback. OutCenter, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330. Outcenter.org

Friday, Jan. 10

Gay Business Networking 8 a.m. To help members increase their business through a structured, positive, and professional word of mouth. Every second Friday. GOAL, 100 Phoenix Dr., **Ann Arbor**. Meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

LGBT AA Meeting 6:30 p.m. Lansing Association for Human Rights, 1120 S. Harrison Road, **East Lansing**. lahonline.org

Womyn's Film Night 7 p.m. Film: Last Call at Maud's - A look at the world's longest-running lesbian bar and its colorful and sometimes tragic past, from the the underground days of the 40's to 1989, when it closed its doors for good. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

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



Editor's Pick

If you're still needing to relax and wind down after the stressful holidays, and even more stressful weather, head to Mid-Week Meditation in Ferndale. Hosted by Michigan Pagans, the event occurs every Wednesday from 6 to 6:30 p.m.

A pre-recorded, guided meditation covers various topics and methods. No registration is required for the drop-in event. Michigan Pagans also host other open events throughout the month, including chat nights and dinners out.

The Candle Wick Shoppe is located at 195 W. Nine Mile Road, Suite 1B, Ferndale. The event suggests a donation of \$3. For more information, visit www.meetup.com/michiganpagans.

those infected or affected by HIV or AIDS. Michigan Aids Coalition, 429 Livernois, **Ferndale**. 248-545-1435. openarms@michiganaidcoalition.org Michiganaidcoalition.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

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

Thursday, Jan. 9

Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945 The story of what happened to homosexuals in Nazi Germany is the subject of the exhibition. Holocaust

goaffirmations.org

Author even: Hope into Practice, Jewish Women Choosing Justice Despite Our Fears 7 p.m. Common Language Bookstore welcomes Bay Area author Penny Rosenwasser for a discussion, reading, and signing of her book HOPE INTO PRACTICE, Jewish Women Choosing Justice Despite Our Fears. Penny will share stories of how internalized homophobia and anti-Semitism can get in the way of our having the best lives possible, and of being effective activists for justice. The reception will include wine and light appetizers. Free and open to the public. Common Language Bookstore, 325 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-663-0036. Gltbooks.com

Toastmasters International SpeakOUT! Club 7 p.m. Toastmasters will show you how to listen more effectively, think on your feet and speak confidently. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-995-9867. Jimtoycenter.org

Whole Lives, Healthy Lives Adult Support Group 7 p.m. This one-of-a-kind program in Berrien County helps

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, Jan. 11

Lezhike - Crosswinds Marsh 11 a.m. Lezhike, 27600 Haggerty Road, **New Boston**. Meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

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

GLBT AA 8 p.m. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-995-9867. Jimtoycenter.org

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, Jan. 12

All Saints Episcopal Church 10 a.m. Open and Affirming. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot, **East Lansing**.

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

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

Michigan Theater's 86th Anniversary 3 p.m. Author Dr. Henry Aldridge, EMU film professor emeritus and theater scholar, will discuss his research, answer audience questions about the theater, and sign copies of the book. Michigan Theater, 124 E. Washington St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-585-5567. Michtheater.org

Singles Sunday 4:30 p.m. GOAL, 306 S. Washington, Second Floor, **Royal Oak**. Meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

Conversation Station 5 p.m. A new topic is discussed each week. As always, if anyone has something they want to talk about, feel free to start a discussion. We are not limited to the chosen topic. We are a group of friends who enjoy each others company and support each other in any way we can. GOAL, 714 S. Washington, **Royal Oak**. 248-981-4227. MarciLWilliams@yahoo.com GetOutAndLive.me

The Reel Thing - Lesbian Movies at the Emagine 7 p.m. Every second Sunday, a LGBT-themed movie will be played. Title not to be revealed until night of each showing! GOAL, 200 N. Main St., **Royal Oak**. Meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

Server Sundays 9 p.m. Bring in a paystub or POS card. Discounts for those in hospitality industry. aut Bar, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

Monday, Jan. 13

Fun Run & Walk Program 6:30 p.m. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Nest Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Monthly Bible study focusing on LGBTQ issues. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 508 Denner St., **Kalamazoo**. Kglrc.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

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, Jan. 14

Older Adult and Senior Helpline 4 p.m. Provides peer counseling, empathy and community resources for LGBT



Theater is at 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$7-10. For more information, call 734-668-8397 or visit www.michtheater.org.

adults. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 1-800-398-4297. goaffirmations.org

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

Board of Directors Meeting 6 p.m. Fair Food Matters, 323 North Burdick St., **Kalamazoo**. Fairfoodmatters.org

Sunny Side Up! New Year's Cooking Class with Chef Jim LaPerriere 6 p.m. Tickets: \$40. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., **Saugatuck**. 269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

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

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

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

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." Welcomes anyone at any point in their journey. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) 7 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.org

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

Karaoke 9:30 p.m. Hosted by KJ Les.

aut Bar, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

Wednesday, Jan. 15

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

Science on Screen: Kinsey 7 p.m. Following the film screening, Sandra Cole, Ph. D., sexologist and professor (ret.), University of Michigan Medical School, will give a brief presentation on a wide variety of topics relating to the Kinsey Institute and the ongoing cultural concerns of sexual health. Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-668-8397. Michtheater.org

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

Thursday, Jan. 16

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

The Parent Network 6 p.m. This group aims to assist parents in understanding their child's identity, while also giving parents the opportunity to socialize with other adults who have LGBT children Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Trivia with Terry 7 p.m. Join Terry for Trivia upstairs. No registration required. Aut Bar, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

Pagan Chat Nights 7:30 p.m. Come socialize with FOCAS members and other area pagans! Michigan Pagans, 21700 West Road, **Woodhaven**. Meetup.com/michiganpagans

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

Drag Queen Bingo Un-Leashed 8 p.m. "No Holds Barred" Thursday edition! 18+. Tickets: \$20. Five15, 515 S. Washington Ave., **Royal Oak**. 248-515-2551. Five15.net

MUSIC & MORE

Classical

Lansing Symphony Orchestra "Tchaikovsky & Beyond" TCHAIKOVSKY - Suite from "Sleeping Beauty." SHOSTAKOVICH - Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major. STRAVINSKY - Divertimento, Suite from "The Fairy's Kiss." TCHAIKOVSKY - Suite from

the Max" Tickets: \$15+. Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. Jan. 14. 313-576-5111. Dso.org

Kerrytown Concert House "Glenn Tucker's Determination Sextet" Tickets: \$5-25. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Jan. 14. 734-763-4186. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com

Royal Oak Music Theatre "Jake Bugg" All ages. Tickets: \$25. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 15. 248-399-2980. Royaloakmusictheatre.com

The Ark "Ralph Stanley and The Clinch Mountain Boys" The Farewell tour. Tickets: \$45-70. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 12. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Mountain Heart" Tickets: \$30. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Jan. 10. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Jill Jack Birthday Bash" Tickets: \$20. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Jan. 11. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Brother Sun featuring Joe Jencks, Greg Greenway & Pat Victor" Tickets: \$20. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Jan. 9. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Majestic "Shigeto" With Chrome Sparks (DJ Set). All ages. Tickets: \$15. The Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Jan. 11. 313-833-9700. Majesticdetroit.com

The Majestic "From Hell - Album Release" With RZL DZL, Build & Destroy, True Love & Freedom. All ages. Tickets: \$5. The Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. Jan. 10. 313-833-9700. Majesticdetroit.com

University Musical Society (UMS) "Colin Stetson" With special guest Justin Walter. Tickets: \$30. Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin Ave., Ann Arbor. Jan. 15 - Jan. 16. 734-763-3333. Ums.org

Other

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase "Marc Ryan" Tickets: \$9-14. Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty St.,

beyond. Tickets: \$5. Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Aug. 8 - March 26. 734-996-9080. Aacomedy.com

Detroit Film Theatre "Detroit Film Theatre Anniversary Celebration" Ten classic films shown at 1974 prices: \$2. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Jan. 10 - Jan. 12. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

Friends of the Detroit Film Theatre "The Spanish Dracula" Cocktail reception, strolling dinner, and showing of The Spanish Dracula. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Jan. 11. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

The Ark "The Deadly Gentlemen" Ticket: \$13. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Jan. 15. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Berman Center for the Performing Arts "Singin in the Rain" American musical comedy film directed by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen, starring Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds, and choreographed by Gene Kelly. It offers a lighthearted depiction of Hollywood, with the three stars portraying performers caught up in the transition from silent films to talkies. Tickets: \$12+. The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 13. 248-661-1900. Theberman.org

Ugly Mug Cafe & Roastery "The Cross St. Chronicles Variety Show & Open Mic" Signup for the Open Mic will be limited to no more than six (6) slots of five (5) minutes each and should present the performer's original work. Ugly Mug Cafe & Roastery, 317 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Jan. 14 - May 13. 734-484-4684. Uglymugypsi.com

THEATER

CIVIC/COMMUNITY THEATER

12 Angry Men \$12-14. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., Lansing. Jan. 9 - 19. 517-482-5700. www.riverwalk.com

Ancestral Voices \$10-12. Emergent Arts at Mix Studio Theatre, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Jan. 8 - 12. 734-961-8704. www.emergentarts.com

Editor's Pick

Upbeat music, inventive puppetry and incredible costumes are just a few of the elements to delight audiences as "Shrek The Musical" hits the Baldwin Theatre's stage. With a message of acceptance at its core, the animated movie featuring everyone's favorite green ogre gets the full Broadway treatment in this light-hearted musical packed with sight gags, double-entendre jokes and industry



references sure to delight kids and adults alike.

The ornery ogre Shrek (Matt Scharlau), shunned by the world, is content with a solitary life in his swamp. However, one day he finds his home over-run with a ragtag group of misfit fairy tale characters castoff from the kingdom of Duloc by the land's pint-sized ruler, Lord Farquaad (Christopher Anderson). He offers a challenge for Shrek to regain his home: rescue the miniature monarch's future bride from a lava-surrounded tower.

"Shrek" runs Jan. 10-26 at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, in downtown Royal Oak. Call 248-541-6430 for tickets.

Concerts

Blind Pig "The Whigs" 18+. Tickets: \$10-12. Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. 9 p.m. Jan. 15. 734-996-8555. Blindpigmusic.com

Detroit Symphony Orchestra "Mix at

Ann Arbor. Jan. 9 - Jan. 11. 734-996-9080. Aacomedy.com

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase "Comedy Jamm" Thursdays it's cut-loose comedy as we present the comedy of 12 of the current rising stars in the Detroit Metro area and

Arsenic and Old Lace \$7-24. The Kalamazoo Civic Theatre at Civic Auditorium, 329 S. Park St., Kalamazoo. Jan. 10 - 25. 269-343-1313. www.kazoocivic.com

Shrek The Musical \$20-22. Stagecrafters at Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak. Jan. 10 - 26.

248-541-6430. www.Stagecrafters.org

The UFO Show 7: I'll get in shape next year \$8. Emergent Arts at Mix Studio Theatre, 130 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. 8 p.m. Jan. 16. 734-961-8704. www.emergentarts.com

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY THEATER

Birth and After Birth \$10-12. Studio Theatre, underground at the Hilberry, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Jan. 16 - 25. 313-577-2972. www.wsustudio.com

Exceptions to Gravity \$10-\$20. Oakland University Dept. of Music, Theatre and Dance at Varner Recital Hall, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 16. 248-370-2030. www.oakland.edu/mtd

PROFESSIONAL

4 Plays by Beckett Pay-what-you-can. The Abreact, 1301 W. Lafayette #113, Detroit. Through Jan. 11. 313-454-1542. www.theabreact.com

Aladdin and Other Enchanting Tales \$5-10. Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. Jan. 11. 586-286-2222. www.macombcenter.com

Are You My Mother? \$10. Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St., Flint. 7 p.m. Jan. 17. 810-237-1530. www.flintyouththeatre.org

Bullet Catch University Musical Society at Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin Ave., Ann Arbor. Jan. 7 - 12. 734-763-3333. www.ums.org

County Line \$22-41. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 16 - Feb. 16. 734-663-0681. www.performancecenter.org

Girls Night: The Musical \$38. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Jan. 9 - 19. 313-471-6611. www.olympiaentertainment.com

Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde \$12-30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Jan. 10 - March 22. 313-577-2972. www.hilberry.com

Harris Cashes Out! \$25-40. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Jan. 8 - Feb. 2. 248-377-3300. www.mbtheatre.com

I Hate Hamlet \$16-\$18. The Box Theatre, 90 Macomb Place, Mount Clemens. Jan. 10 - Jan. 25. 586-954-2677. www.theboxtheater.com

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

Jim Belushi and the Chicago Board of Comedy \$45. Miller Auditorium, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo. 8 p.m. Jan. 18. 269-387-2300. www.millerauditorium.com

My Occasion of Sin \$17-20. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Jan. 9 - March 16. 313-868-1347. www.detroitreptheatre.com

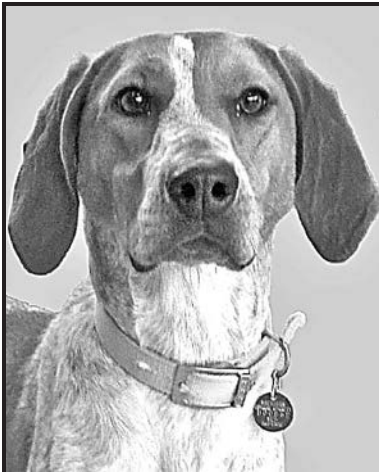
Other Desert Cities \$7. Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St., Flint. 6 p.m. Jan. 12. 810-237-1530. www.flintyouththeatre.org

Redwood Curtain While visiting her aunt in northern California, Geri (a young prodigy searching for her birth father) \$18.50-42. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Jan. 12 - March 15. 734-433-7673. www.purpleosetheatre.org

Tartuffe \$7-14. Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Company, Dog Story Theatre, 7 Jefferson SE, Grand Rapids. Jan. 9 - 19. 616-894-1252. www.dogstorytheater.com

The Boys are Back: Tenors Un Limited

See Happenings, page 25



Meet Peaches!

Meet Peaches! This 1-year-old Red Tick Coon Hound is an active and playful girl. She's as sweet as can be and can't wait to join your active family! The adoption fee includes sterilization, age-appropriate vaccinations, the MHS Adoption Guarantee and much more. For more information, visit or call the MHS Detroit Center for Animal Care at (313) 872-3400 and provide the pet ID number, 764773.



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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, North Woodward Equality, 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-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
 Drayton Ave. Presbyterian Church (in basement)
 Pinecrest & Drayton, Ferndale
 Closed Meeting

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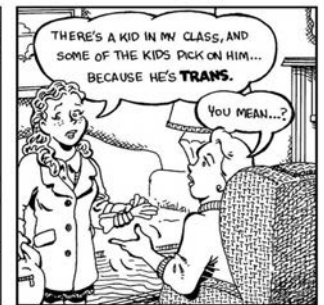
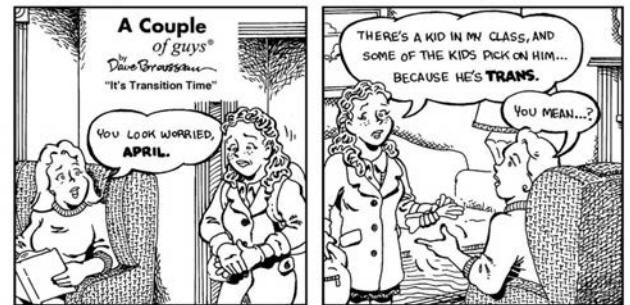
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Solution to puzzle from page 26

N	A	P	S	M	O	O	N	S	B	A	B	E	
U	H	O	H	A	D	O	U	T	E	D	E	N	
T	E	L	A	W	R	E	N	C	E	E	D	T	V
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A	F	T	E	R	A	M	I	I	H	A	D	A	
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R	O	M	P	E	T	E	R	A	V	G			
O	R	A	T	O	R	O	F	A	R	A	B	I	A
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UMS Presents New Play Involving Musician's Mystery Death

BY BRIDGETTE M. REDMAN

How long does it take to get to know someone in an authentic way? How about if it is in front of a room full of strangers and the getting-to-know-you period will end with one person shooting another?

These were some of the ideas that Rob Drummond, a Scottish actor and magician, was playing with when he created his show "Bullet Catch." He also had a story to tell, the story of a magician who performed the trick many times and died on stage during a performance of the trick.

"Bullet Catch" is coming to Ann Arbor's Arthur Miller Theatre, courtesy of the University Musical Society, Jan. 7-12. Opening night will include a post-show question and answer period.

The bullet trick is when someone fires a loaded gun at a magician and he catches the bullet – usually in his teeth. William Henderson died in 1912 while performing the trick. Much mystery surrounded the death, as it may have been intentional – a planned suicide on the part of Henderson, or possibly even a murder on the part of the spectator who was called upon to perform the trick.

"I'd been doing some reading about bullet catchers who did the trick," Drummond said. "There was one case of a magician who had died live on stage in London. Rumor was he had planned an elaborate suicide, and the audience member he chose was an unwitting volunteer in his death. The volunteer thought it was a magic trick and ended up killing him. It's never been proven, and is quite dubious. It is the starting point for the story that I'm telling."

Like all good stories, though, the plot is merely the means to an end: It is the way that Drummond explores his theme.

"Just like any other play, you need to set up the context in the first act," Drummond said. "There is a small section where I do a very brief history of bullet catchers who died. It's not really about the history of the bullet catch. It is more about that one person and examines the human connection and how he could do



Rob Drummond comes to Ann Arbor Jan. 7-12 in his original production *Bullet Catch*. Photo: Courtesy of UMS

that – use someone in the audience in that way. It uses the bullet catch to deliver a story about humanity."

And in so doing, he re-enacts the theme of the story with an assistant he chooses from the audience. That assistant helps him perform magic tricks throughout the show, starting with mind-reading tricks that lets Drummond connect to his assistant and the audience get to know that person.

"The reason the show exists, other than to satisfy my desire to be a magician, is just to test this idea that I had in the beginning about whether or not it is possible to meet a stranger on stage and get to know them in one hour in front of an audience and for it to not be artificial."

To do this, he said he had to get away from some of the styles that other magicians have. He wanted to make sure he was genuinely connecting with his assistant so that they could share a unique experience with the audience.

"(Some other magicians) treat them like a prop, make fun of them and make jokes at their

expense," Drummond said of the volunteers who are pulled up from the audience in other shows. "There is a cheapness in that. I want to genuinely get to know them on stage. The audience feels like they all know each other."

It takes a certain instinct to pick a volunteer from the audience. He starts by filtering out people who have been drinking, are under 18, and who are shy about talking about themselves in front of others. He also tries to avoid those who are too eager to be the volunteer and who might try to steal the show.

The assistant then joins him in several tricks, from simple "mind-reading" ones to those that start to build trust between them and increase the risk of harm to the magician. In the end, the gun comes out and the volunteer must decide whether he or she is willing to pull the trigger.

"The audience member I take up on stage, they kind of have an inkling. I do a lot of other tricks and slowly build up to the finale," Drummond said. "Everyone knows it is going to happen, but no one really believes until it does. It's the

PREVIEW

Bullet Catch

University Musical Society at the Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin Ave., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 7-9, 8 p.m. Jan. 10-11, & 2 p.m. Jan. 11-12. Approximately 1 hour, 15 minutes; no intermission. Tickets begin at \$40. 734-763-3333.

www.ums.org

elephant in the room."

He said the reaction varies. There are those who will point blank refuse to go through it and he will either try to persuade them to do it or substitute someone else to do it. He said there was only one show in which there was not a bullet catch at the end. Audience members have been known to boo the person who refuses to go through with it.

In those instances, Drummond has told the audience, "All they've done is choose not to shoot me. It's kind of a bizarre thing to be booing."

He also said there are those who grab the gun with a twinkle in their eye and have absolutely no difficulty going through with it.

"It makes for a chilling ending when they don't hesitate," Drummond said. "I don't think anyone thinks it is going to end in a death, but they want to flirt with that danger."

Up to that point, he provides the assistant with plenty of moments to reveal personal information.

"I don't push for that, but sometimes they feel comfortable enough to do it," Drummond said. "We've had some quite lovely moments – when they've met their partner – or moments of pure joy. Or they would reveal horrific things. It seems exploitative, and I feel like a bit of a bastard. I guide them and hold them by the hand, and if they want to say it they can."

The result, he said, is that people get up there and relax enough to tell wonderful stories.

"The success, among all the fakery, is we have something real there. We're talking to a person openly and honestly."

► Happenings

Continued from p. 23

\$18-33. The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 18. 248-661-1900. www.theberman.org

The Scullery Maid \$41-48. The Jewish Ensemble Theatre Company at Aaron DeRoy Theatre on the campus of the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. Through Jan. 12. 248-788-2900. www.jettheatre.org

The Submission \$10-20. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Jan. 10 - Feb. 3. 248-545-5545. www.theringwald.com

The Very Hungry Caterpillar & Other Eric Carle Favorites \$10-20. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. 4 p.m. Jan. 12. 313-887-8500. www.musicshall.org

We've Only Just Begun: Carpenters Remembered \$43-58. Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. Jan. 18. 586-286-2222. www.macombcenter.com

You Just Have No Idea \$15-18. Broadway Onstage Live Theatre, 21517 Kelly Road, Eastpointe. Jan. 10 - Feb. 8. 586-771-6333. www.broadwayonstage.com

ART 'N' AROUND

Cranbrook Academy of Art and Art Museum "A Driving Force: Cranbrook and the Car" Exploring the way Cranbrook has

played a role in shaping the landscape of American life through the automobile from the start of the twentieth century. Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Aug. 4 - March 30. 877-462-7262. cranbrookart.edu

Dancing Dog Gallery "Making a Splash - Intense, Gestural Art by Sophie Grillet" Free. United States, 302 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Dec. 6 - Jan. 11. 734-531-6565. Dancingdoggallery.biz/

Detroit Institute of Arts "An Affair to Remember" A strolling dinner in Rivera Court. Tickets: \$150. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 6 p.m. Jan. 11. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

Detroit Institute of Arts "Foto Europa, 1850 to the Present" Europe was the birthplace of photography in 1839 and has remained a center for progressive

ideas about and experimentation with the medium ever since. The more than seventy photographs in this exhibition highlight the contributions of major European artists and photographers from across the continent. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Oct. 25 - April 27. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

Flint Institute of Arts "Free Saturdays" FirstMerit bank has issued a grant that funds free admission to the museum's galleries and exhibitions every Saturday for the next three years. Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Sep. 14 - Feb. 22. 810-234-1695. Flintarts.org

Grand Rapids Art Museum "Friday Night Conversations" Unique collaborations with artists and organizations in the community. Programs have included performances, gallery talks, activities, presentations,

and more. Grand Rapids Art Museum, 101 Monroe Center, Grand Rapids. Aug. 9 - Feb. 28. 616-831-1000. artmuseumgr.org

Krasl Art Center "Sketches to Sculptures, Rendered Reality: Sixty Years With Marshall M. Fredericks" Marshall M. Fredericks (1908-1998) was a pre-eminent figurative sculptor in American art in the 20th century. Krasl Art Center, 707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph. Nov. 8 - Jan. 12. 269-983-0271. Krasl.org

Michigan State University Museum "An Extraordinary Document of Our World and Detroit Resurgent" Michigan State University Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. Sep. 8 - Jan. 12. 517-355-7474. museum.msu.edu

Pewabic Pottery "Made by Hand: Detroit's Ceramic Legacy". Detroit Historical Museum, 5401 Woodward

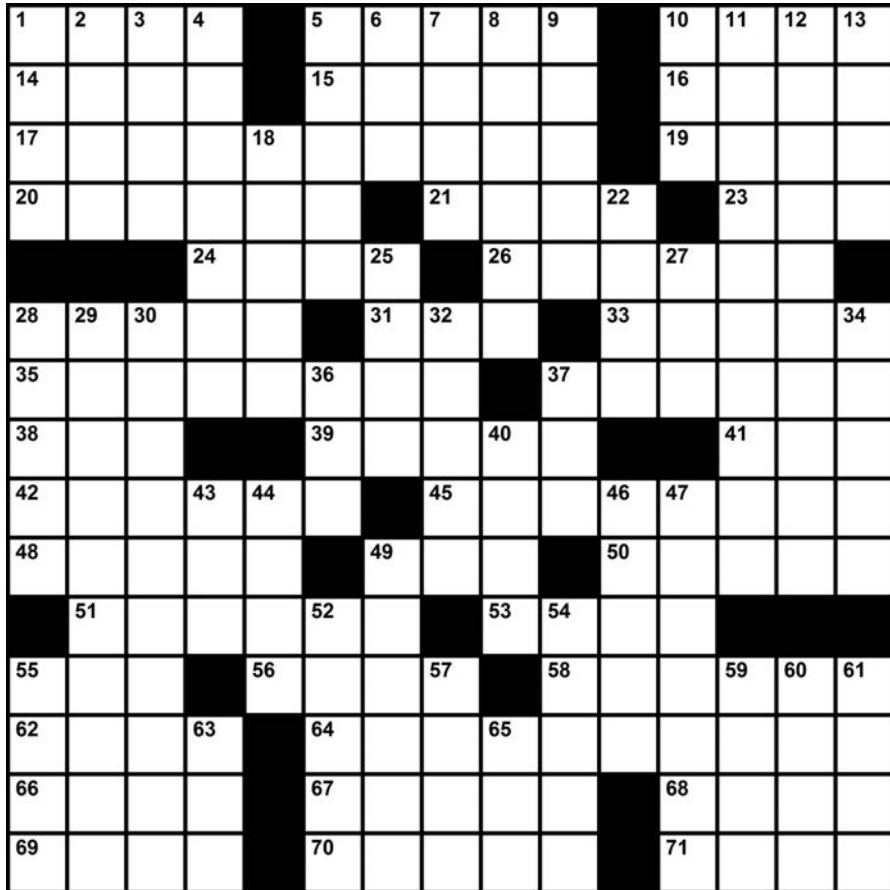
Ave., Detroit. Oct. 19 - Jan. 12. 313-833-1805. Pewabic.org

Saugatuck Center for the Arts "The Uncanny Life and Legacy of Harry Brorby" West Michigan artist. Free. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. Dec. 13 - Jan. 31. 269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

The Scarab Club "Gary Grimshaw: Solo" Grimshaw is a graphic artist of exceptional talent who has an extraordinary history and character. He was born in Detroit. The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. Jan. 1 - Feb. 15. 313-831-1250. Scarabclub.org

UMMA "Fragments from the Past: Islamic Art from the Collection of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology". University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Nov. 30 - April 13. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

Goodbye, Mr. Chips



Across

- 1 Breaks for Heather's mommies
- 5 They circle Uranus
- 10 Slugger Ruth
- 14 "Houston, we have a problem"
- 15 Deuce follower, for Mauresmo
- 16 Traditional apple tree spot
- 17 O'Toole's role in a 1962 movie
- 19 Ron Howard film with Ellen DeGeneres
- 20 Shop with an anvil
- 21 Cumming on the stage
- 23 Sexual ending
- 24 "Chicago" producer Meron
- 26 Come and go
- 28 Last word of a fairy tale
- 31 Comrade, in Quv'abec
- 33 "If ___ nickel for every time ..."
- 35 "If you'd been any prettier, it would have been ...", with 45-Across
- 37 "Survivor" adjective
- 38 Letters after CD
- 39 The late great O'Toole
- 41 The "A" in GPA
- 42 One with a gifted tongue
- 45 See 35-Across
- 48 Indian lute
- 49 "Just kidding!"

50 Remove a slip?

- 51 "The Sound of Music" song
- 53 Satisfy fully
- 55 Sibling, in brief
- 56 "That smarts!"
- 58 Head bones
- 62 Mekong River country
- 64 Source of this puzzle's quote about O'Toole
- 66 Bottoms' description of tops?
- 67 Like crystal
- 68 Slightly
- 69 Where to see sweaty athletes
- 70 Drag queen ___ Lettuce
- 71 Itches

Down

- 1 Testicles
- 2 Clumsy come-on
- 3 Type of sci, in college
- 4 William, who played with George Takei
- 5 Bloody queen
- 6 Dedicated poem
- 7 Chaplin spouse
- 8 Cores, to Atom Egoyan?
- 9 Get to second base, perhaps
- 10 One ruled by a queen
- 11 Ethiopia's capital
- 12 Kim Carnes sang about her eyes
- 13 Word after "penis"
- 18 "I don't see it"
- 22 Neet competitor
- 25 Arsenic's old partner
- 27 Letter on a key
- 28 Kinky coifs
- 29 Pensacola people
- 30 Warhol subject
- 32 "Let's make it a threesome!"
- 34 Hot-tub buildup
- 36 Listener-sponsored org.
- 37 La leader
- 40 Small salamanders
- 43 Road top
- 44 Bite it
- 46 Like bell-bottom jeans
- 47 Sunken passage
- 49 Kidman of "The Hours"
- 52 Chew (on)
- 54 Capital of Ghana
- 55 Fruit flavor for gin
- 57 Pay attention to
- 59 "Six Feet Under" character
- 60 Persian Gulf land
- 61 Computes the bottom line
- 63 IRS info
- 65 Young chap

Solution on pg. 24

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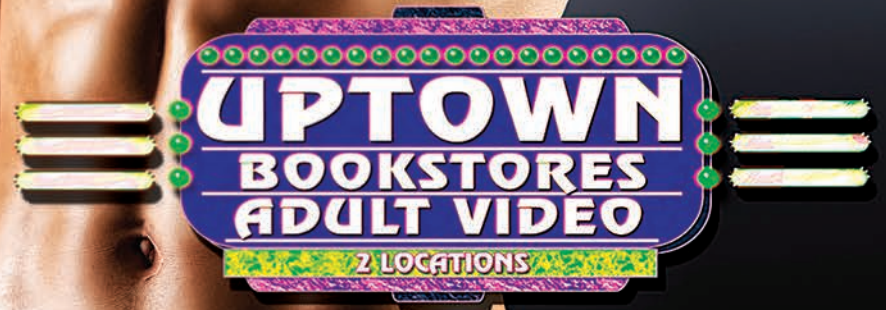
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