

VICTORY: MICHIGAN MARRIAGE BAN UNCONSTITUTIONAL

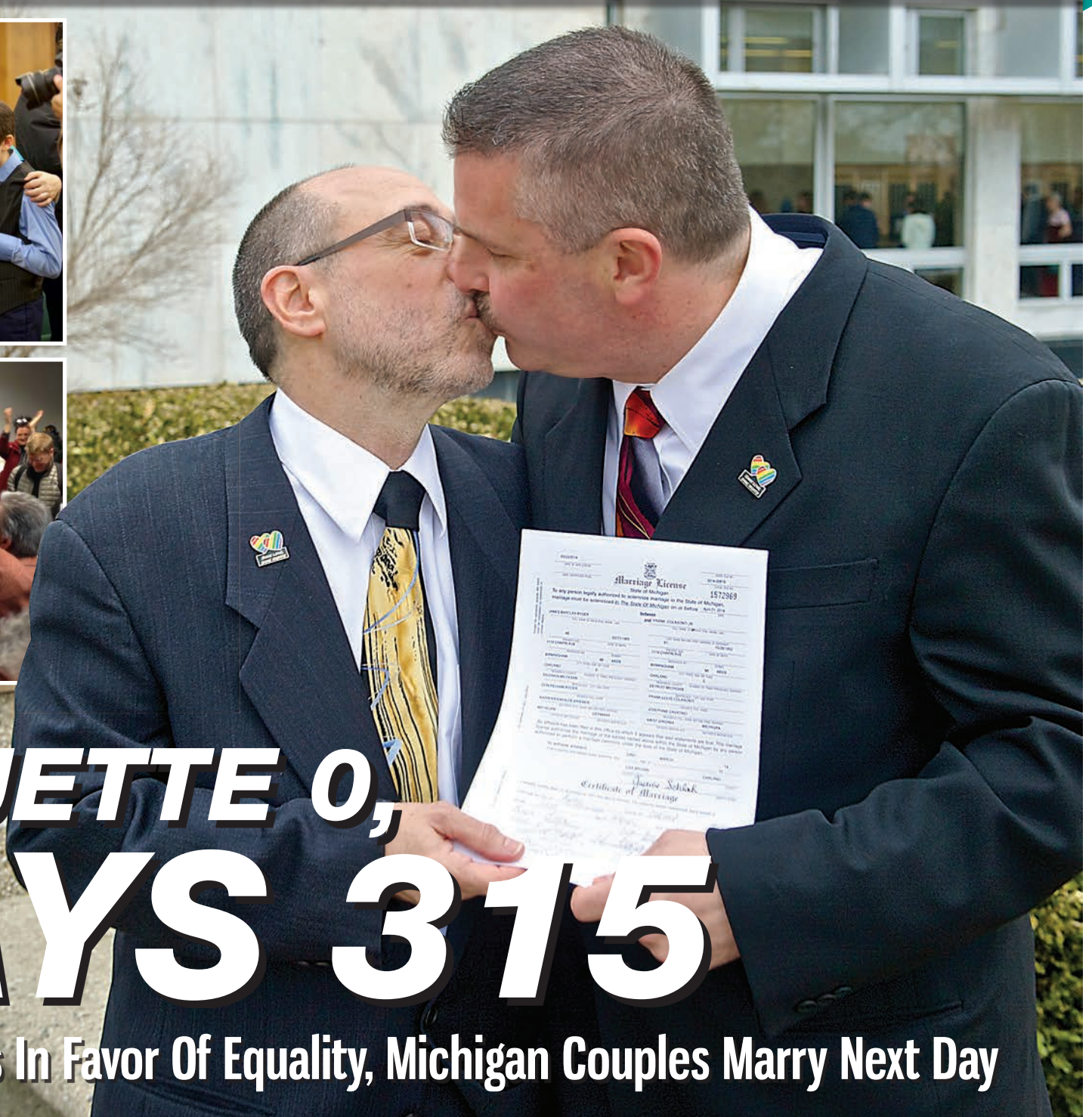
MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE CELEBRATING 20 YEARS



Mark Schauer
*What A Difference
A Ticket Can Make*

**Four County Clerks
Step Up For Equality**

**What The Stay Means
For Michigan Couples**



SCHUETTE 0, GAYS 315

Friedman Rules In Favor Of Equality, Michigan Couples Marry Next Day

THE SUBARU LOVE SPRING EVENT



at Hodges...

We know that moving forward means remembering where you came from. That's why we're proud to say that Hodges is celebrating nearly 90 years in Ferndale, Michigan; and over 40 years as Hodges Subaru. Since we may have had the pleasure of helping your grandparents purchase their first Subaru 360, or helped your parents pick out that blue GL, we would love the opportunity to find the perfect Subaru for you. We'll help you get where you're going, because you've helped us get where we are. Thank You!

2014 SUBARU **OUTBACK** 2.5i PREMIUM



SUBARU.

HODGES SUBARU
Metro Detroit's "Subaru-Only Dealer"

23100 Woodward Ave • Ferndale • MI • 48220
248.547.8800 • www.hodgessubaru.com
HOURS: OPEN SATURDAYS 10-3 AND
EXTENDED HOURS TILL 9PM MONDAYS & THURSDAYS



MICHIGAN
OPERA
THEATRE

Company Premiere!

Featuring Grammy, Pulitzer and Detroit Music Awards winning Michigan composer, WILLIAM BOLCOM

It may sound like tomorrow's headline, but this musical adaptation of Arthur Miller's gritty melodrama tells a timeless story of blood loyalty, transgressive love and inflamed jealousy!

April 5 - April 13, 2014

at the Detroit Opera House

Featuring the Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra

TICKETS & PRE-PAID PARKING
313.237.SING or visit michiganopera.org

Performed in English

FREE Opera Talk
one hour prior to
performance

DRAMA
IN THE
D

GM FOUNDATION
General Motors Foundation supports Michigan Opera Theatre

ART WORKS

This activity is supported by the MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS and the NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS.

This production made possible by the Maxine and Stuart Frankel Foundation



As The Holidays Near - Think Hiller's!

Prices Good March 24 to April 6, 2014

Ten For Ten Sale!

Stock Up On All Your Pantry Favorites

- Fage Yogurt 5.3 to 7-oz Greek Style
- Del Monte Tomatoes 14.5-oz Can
- Del Monte Fruits 8 to 15.25-oz Can
- StarKist Chunk White Tuna 5-oz Can

10/\$10 Mix or Match

\$3.29 Pound

Fresh Bananas
In Our Produce Dept.

39¢ Pound
Excludes Organic

Ground Fresh From Our Own Cattle
Ground Beef From Chuck

U.S. 23 & WASHTENAW - ANN ARBOR,
IN THE ARBORLAND MALL
www.hillers.com for more locations & hours

NO SALES TO DEALERS. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. DOUBLE COUPONS UP TO 50¢
Hiller's Carries A Huge Selection of Kosher For Passover Products

FREE!
5-Lb Osem Israeli Matzah
WHEN YOU PURCHASE \$100
WORTH OF PASSOVER PRODUCTS
In One Shopping Visit at Hiller's



5-LB BOX \$7.99

COVER STORY

4 Michigan makes history with first marriages

Primary: Jim Ryder and Frank Colasanti, Jr. BTL photo: Andrew Potter. Upper Left: Jennifer Brown and Jennifer Carney. BTL photo: Andrew Potter. Middle Left: Washtenaw County courthouse. Photo courtesy of Ann Arbor Mayoral Candidate Christopher Taylor.



NEWS

- 5 Michigan marriage ban struck down
- 6 The stay delayed by judge allows 315 couples to wed in state
- 9 Snyder says Schuette going against trend
- 15 BTL's wedding expo: like Pride in April

OPINION

- 10 On the passing of Fred Phelps
- 11 Parting Glances
- 12 BTL Editorial
- 13 Creep of the Week

LIFE

- 16 Kiss & tell
- 18 Hear Me Out
- 20 Screen Queen
- 22 Cool Cities: Ann Arbor
- 24 Happenings
- 25 Family contends with autism in 'Falling'
- 29 'Torch Song Trilogy' stands test of time
- 32 Classifieds
- 34 Puzzle



“As always, I support gay marriage. I feel like it will happen eventually, but wouldn't it be great if it happened **sooner rather than later?**”

– Kylie Minogue, pg. 16

Join The Conversation @ PrideSource.com

ONLINE XTRA



Get Updates, Photo Galleries And More On Marriages In Michigan Online At Pridesource.com

Get the latest updates on the Sixth Circuit Court's stay, find yourself in the crowd of couples at the courthouse and witness April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse speak at Affirmations after the decision – all online at www.Pridesource.com

ENTER TO WIN



Win A \$50 Gift Certificate To Volare Ristorante

Go online to Pridesource.com and enter to win all kinds of prizes, including a \$50 gift certificate to Volare Ristorante! Enter at www.pridesource.com/tickets-contest.html

SAVE THE DATE



The Ultimate LGBT Wedding & Anniversary Expo Returns

BTL's Ultimate LGBT Wedding & Anniversary 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!

VOL. 2213 • MARCH 27, 2014 • ISSUE 857

PRIDE SOURCE MEDIA GROUP

20222 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone 734.293.7200

PUBLISHERS

Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

MEMBER OF

Michigan Press Association
National Gay Media Association
Q Syndicate



Copyright 2014 Pride Source Media Group, LLC

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief

Susan Horowitz, 734.293.7200 x 12
susanhorowitz@pridesource.com

Entertainment Editor

Chris Azzopardi, 734.293.7200 x 24
chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com

Associate Editor

Benjamin Jenkins, 734.293.7200 x 14
ben@pridesource.com

News Staff Writer

Crystal Proxmire

Arts & Theater Editor

Donald V. Calamia, curtaincalls@pridesource.com

Calendar Editor

Shelby Clark, shelby@pridesource.com

CREATIVE

Art Director

Benjamin Jenkins, ben@pridesource.com

Webmaster & MIS Director

Kevin Bryant, kevinbryant@pridesource.com

Contributing Writers

Charles Alexander, Michelle E. Brown,
Todd Heywood, Jerome Stuart Nichols,
Kate Opalewski, Anthony Paull,
Andrea Poteet, Eric W. Rader,
Gwendolyn Ann Smith, Dawn R. Wolfe

Cartoonists

Paul Berg, Dave Brousseau

Contributing Photographers

Andrew Potter

ADVERTISING & SALES

Director of Sales

Jan Stevenson, 734.293.7200 x 22
jan@pridesource.com

Sales Representatives

Ed Bohach, 734.293.7200 x 15
ed@pridesource.com

Ann Cox, 734.293.7200 x 13
anncox@pridesource.com

National Advertising Representative

Rivendell Media, 212.242.6863

Our rate cards are available online. All material appearing in Between The Lines is protected by federal copyright law and may not be reproduced in whole or part without the permission of the publishers. Between The Lines is supported by many fine advertisers, but we cannot accept responsibility for claims made by our advertisers, nor can we accept responsibility for materials provided by advertisers or their agents.

ONLINE AT



"Between The Lines Newspaper"



Follow us @YourBTL



Email your op-eds to
editor@pridesource.com



Sign up online to receive our E-Digest

Michigan Makes History With First Marriages

State Is Number 18 In March To Equality

BY SUSAN HOROWITZ

As soon as U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman declared the ban on same sex marriage in Michigan unconstitutional at 4:50 p.m. Friday and it was clear no stay was attached to his sweeping decision, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette immediately requested an emergency stay. The stay would come, but not before 4 counties in the state married 315 same sex couples Saturday morning.

The case centered on Hazel Park couple April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse who originally sued to be able to jointly adopt their children. The case was later amended to include the right to marry

and Judge Friedman ruled unconditionally in their favor. Attorney General Bill Schuette is appealing the case, and a stay would have prevented any marriages from taking place until after an appeal.

DeBoer and Rowse were not among the couples to marry Saturday. Instead they are waiting until after the appeals process is complete and their marriage - and adoptions - can go unchallenged. "We will do it when we know it is for real," DeBoer said at a press conference held Friday at Affirmations Community Center in Ferndale.

In Judge Friedman's ruling he wrote of the couple, "No court proceeding could ever fully convey the personal

sacrifice of these two plaintiffs who seek to ensure that the state may no longer impair the rights of their children and the thousands of others now being raised by same-sex couples. It is the Court's fervent hope that these children will grow up to understand the integrity and closeness of their own family and its concord with other families in their community and in their daily lives. Today's decision is a step in that direction."

Knowing that a stay was inevitable, County Clerks in Oakland, Ingham, Washtenaw and Muskegon Counties rushed to give residents the chance to marry. They opened for special hours and waived waiting periods. The honor of being first in the state to wed went to Glenna DeJong and Marsha Caspar of Lansing, who were married by Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum just after 8 a.m.

In Washtenaw County the first couple to marry was Beth Patton and Jonnie Terry. "A big thank you to the two of you, who became our poster children yesterday as the first same-sex couple to be married in Washtenaw. Congratulations! With their high profile wedding, Jonnie fears repercussions at her employment, as it is still legal to fire someone for being gay in Michigan," said Sandi Smith, president of Jim Toy Community Center in a letter to the community Sunday.

In Oakland County 142 couples took their vows. Statewide the total is 315.

Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown, who was a defendant in the case because of her position as county clerk, was on hand to personally officiate



Top: Jennifer Brown, Jennifer Carney and Baby Benjamin Brown. First kiss after marrying. BTL Photo Andrew Potter.

Middle: Rev. Kimi Reigle, left, from Northwestern Unitarian Church in Southfield assisted County Clerk Lisa Brown and Assistant Clerk Lavora Barnes in officiating at the large en masse wedding ceremonies in the courthouse auditorium. Barnes daughter Morgan helped as well. BTL Photo Andrew Potter.

Bottom: Metropolitan Community Church ministers Rev. Deb Dysert and Rev. Roland Stringfellow performed about 30 marriages in the halls of the courthouse. BTL Photo Crystal Proxmire

Above: Paul Mattson and Roland Smith prepare to marry at the Oakland County Courthouse. BTL Photo Andrew Potter



Michigan Marriage Ban Struck Down

Judge Friedman Says State's Witnesses 'Entirely Unbelievable'

“*In attempting to define this case as a challenge to the 'will of the people,' state defendants lost sight of what this case is truly about: people.*”

BY JAN STEVENSON

DETROIT – U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman's ruling was unequivocal. In the strongest possible terms, he struck down Michigan's marriage ban as unconstitutional just before 5 p.m. on March 21, writing that the state's objections to marriage equality did not reach even the bare minimum legal threshold – they weren't even rational. The opinion repudiated each of the state's key witnesses, describing some of them as “entirely unbelievable and not worthy of serious consideration,” and described all the plaintiffs' witnesses as “highly credible.”

At a quickly assembled press conference at Affirmations Community Center Friday evening, over 100 people cheered, wept and screamed upon the arrival of the plaintiffs, Jayne Rowse and April DeBoer, and their attorneys Dana Nessel, Carol Stanyar and Ken Mogill.

“Obviously this is a pretty historic and monumental day in Michigan, and in our lives, and probably in the lives of most of the people gathered here,” said Jayne Rowse. In thanking their attorneys April DeBoer said, “We were the ones who stood up and said we aren't going to take it anymore, but they are the ones that did all the hard work.”

As lawyers and activists pored over the decision there was elation – then an incredulous question. No stay? Is that possible? All the legal experts had assumed a stay would be included in the decision. But Judge Friedman did not include a stay, making marriage equality the law in Michigan effective immediately.

Within a half hour of the decision's release, Michigan's Attorney General Bill Schuette submitted a motion requesting an emergency stay. But until a higher court responded to their motion, marriage was legal.

Journalists, activists and political leaders quickly reached out to county clerks, asking when they would open to begin issuing marriage licenses. For several hours, all clerks asked said it would be Monday morning – usual business hours – because they couldn't



Photo: AP Jayne Rowse, left, speaks as April DeBoer, breaks down with joy, during a news conference in Ferndale, Friday, March 21. A federal judge has struck down Michigan's ban on gay marriage Friday the latest in a series of decisions overturning similar laws across the U.S. The two nurses who've been partners for eight years claimed the ban violated their rights under the U.S. Constitution. Photo: AP

open any earlier.

Then at around 9 p.m. Washtenaw County Clerk Lawrence Kestenbaum announced he would open at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 22 and marry as many couples as he could until 1 p.m. Just before 11 p.m. Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown announced she would open Saturday morning too, as did Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum and Muskegon County Clerk Nancy Waters.

The rush to marry was on.

Despite the short notice, by 7:30 a.m. the next morning dozens of people were already in line at the four county clerks' offices. At the Oakland County courthouse in Pontiac, over 50 people waited for the clerk's office to open. That number grew quickly to over 500 people by mid-morning. Couples came with friends, families and children to marry in the window of opportunity created by Judge Friedman's decision. The mood was gleeful, excited, emotional, loving and appreciative to Brown and her staff who came in on their day off to solemnize 147 couples' legal Michigan

marriages.

Clergy and other officiants rushed to the courthouse to perform marriage ceremonies. Metropolitan Community Church pastors Rev. Deb Dysert and Roland Stringfellow performed about 30 ceremonies in and around the halls of the courthouse. County Clerk Lisa Brown, who not only issues the marriage licenses, but is also empowered to marry couples, finally gave up trying to perform ceremonies one-at-a-time and instead started marrying people in groups of about 25 couples each.

Similar scenes played out at the Washtenaw, Ingham and Muskegon clerks' offices. By the end of the day, those four county clerks had married 315 couples.

Then, late in the day, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati granted Schuette a temporary stay of Judge Friedman's decision until March 26, pending review of Schuette's request for a more permanent stay that would presumably last until the case goes through the full appeals process.

Although it shut the door on marriages for now, the 315 marriages performed March 22 remain legal marriages in the State of Michigan. Gov. Snyder's spokesperson, Sara Wurfel, announced Monday that Snyder and his administration consider everything to be on hold for now, including the marriages performed Saturday. “We are not saying that we aren't or won't recognize the marriages that happened on Saturday, but that we're awaiting further court or legal direction on this complex, unusual situation,” Wurfel said in an email. “Either way, this can't be construed one way or another as not recognizing the validity of the same-sex marriages.”

The Decision

Judge Friedman's 31-page decision goes through all four of the state's objections to marriage equality. Friedman then explains why each objection has no merit.

The state's four reasons for excluding same-sex couples from Michigan's definition of marriage are:

1. Optimal Environment, or providing children with “biologically connected” role models of both genders that are necessary to foster healthy psychological development;
2. Proceeding With Caution, or avoiding the unintended consequences that might result from redefining marriage;
3. Tradition and Morality; and
4. Federalism, or promoting the transition of “naturally procreative relationships into stable unions.”

Optimal Environment

Friedman rejected the optimal environment argument because the evidence presented at trial disproves that theory. Friedman cited testimony from psychologist David Brodzinsky and sociologist Michael Rosenfeld as evidence that children raised by same-sex couples progress at almost the same rate through school as children raised by heterosexual married couples. He described

See **Ban Struck Down**, page 8

Request To Remove Stay Based On Process And Substance

DETROIT - Plaintiffs' Attorneys in *DeBoer v. Snyder* submitted their to the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in response to Attorney General Bill Schuette's request for an emergency stay of Judge Friedman's sweeping decision in favor of marriage equality on Tuesday.

The attorneys object to the stay on two grounds. First, they argue that the state's attorney's skipped a step by not requesting Judge Friedman to stay his own order. "...contrary to the State Defendants-Appellants' claim otherwise, Judge Friedman has not 'effectively denied the stay pending appeal by failing to rule on it.'"

Second, they argue that Judge Friedman's ruling is so strong and based on such compelling evidence that there is no reason for a stay to be issued. "Permitting loving same-sex couples to marry pending the outcome of this appeal will not harm the state in any way; permitting the children of loving same-sex couples to have two legally recognized parents will not harm the state in any way."

The 6th Circuit court of Appeals is scheduled to rule on Wednesday on whether to grant an emergency stay or to let the temporary stay they issued on Saturday to expire.

Oakland County clerk Lisa Brown also submitted a request that the stay be denied. A named defendant in the suit, Brown gave several examples of the harm that would be caused by continuing a stay. For example, she wrote, "If any individual in a same-sex couple wishing to marry passes away during the stay, these marital benefits and their constitutional right to marry and to be afforded equal protection of the law will forever be denied. A stay will cause irreparable harm to Plaintiffs and same-sex couples, not the State Defendants-Appellants."

Find all court documents at our website:
 >> www.PrideSource.com

The Stay, Delayed By Judge, Allows 315 Couples To Wed In State

BY LISA KEEN

The Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals issued a stay at 5 p.m. Saturday of a district court decision Friday that struck down Michigan's ban on same-sex couples marrying, but hundreds of couples had already married by that time.

Michigan's first marriage of a same-sex couple took place just after 8 a.m. Saturday morning in Mason, just south of Lansing. The couple was Marsha Caspar and Glenna DeJong, both in their 50s, who have been together for 27 years.

In all four counties had office hours on Saturday and issued marriage licenses to same-sex couples including Muskegon County, Ingham County, Oakland County and Washtenaw County. In Oakland County a line stretched out the door when the office opened at 9 a.m., and marriages were being performed in auditoriums and hallways. Jim Ryder and Frank Colasanti, Jr. were the first couple married by Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown and BTL publishers Jan Stevenson and Susan Horowitz were witnesses to the wedding. In all Oakland County was able to marry 147 couples. The offices stayed open until past 3:30 p.m. when the last couples were legally married.

At least some of the rush was fueled by the knowledge that Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette filed an emergency order Friday evening seeking a stay of U.S. District Court Judge Bernard Friedman's ruling that the Michigan Marriage Amendment was unconstitutional.

In issuing its stay late Saturday, the {URL Sixth Circuit <http://sblog.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/DeBoer-stay-order.pdf>} said the stay would remain in place until Wednesday, March 26, so there could be "a more reasoned consideration of the motion to stay." Plaintiffs attorney Dana Nessel said attorneys have not been alerted to provide oral argument so she assumes the appeals court will make its decision Wednesday based on briefs due Tuesday at noon.

Nessel said the plaintiff couple, April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse, opted not to seek a marriage license Saturday, noting that to do so at this point in the litigation, they could lose legal standing to pursue an appeal if the Sixth Circuit overturns the district court decision.

"Our clients have decided to get married when they can legally stay married," said Nessel, "and their marriage cannot be deemed illegitimate."

A federal judge in Detroit ruled Friday that Michigan's ban against same-sex couples marrying violates the couples' constitutional rights to equal protection.

The Michigan decision, from U.S. District Court Judge Bernard Friedman (a Reagan appointee) falls squarely in line with rulings

from federal district court judges in eight other states in the past year since the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) with *U.S. v. Windsor*. The other eight are all on appeal to their various courts of appeal. Some suggest the Michigan case, *DeBoer v. Michigan*, may have a better chance at reaching U.S. Supreme Court appeal because, unlike the others, it involved a two-week-long trial.

Friedman issued the *DeBoer* ruling two weeks after hearing closing arguments in the trial that gave the state of Michigan a chance to establish a rationale for banning same-sex couples from marrying.

"Many of the couples that were married on March 22 waited decades for that opportunity," wrote Byrum and Triplett. "Their marriages complied with Judge Friedman's order and all relevant provisions of Michigan law and should be recognized as such by state and federal authorities without delay."

Judge Friedman said he found the testimony from the state's star witness, California sociologist Mark Regnerus, to be "entirely unbelievable and not worth of serious consideration." He said he was unable to accord the testimony of three other state witnesses with "any significant weight," because it was "largely unbelievable" and represents "a fringe viewpoint that is rejected by the vast majority of their colleagues across a variety of social science fields."

Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette filed an emergency request for a stay of Friedman's decision and an appeal of the decision to the Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

Human Rights Campaign President Chad Griffin said the Michigan decision shows that the "momentum for marriage equality is undeniable."

DeBoer v. Snyder started out as a lawsuit to challenge a state law barring unmarried couples from adopting. April DeBoer and longtime partner Jayne Rowse were seeking to adopt three children they had been raising together. But while hearing arguments in that case last year, Judge Friedman suggested the plaintiffs amend their lawsuit to challenge the law barring same-sex couples from marrying.

The Tenth Circuit will hear oral arguments in

Holder Asked To Recognize Michigan Marriages

Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum and East Lansing Mayor Nathan Triplett sent a joint letter today to U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder asking the federal government to recognize all the same-sex marriages performed in Michigan March 22.

"Many of the couples that were married on March 22 waited decades for that opportunity," wrote Byrum and Triplett. "Their marriages complied with Judge Friedman's order and all relevant provisions of Michigan law and should be recognized as such by state and federal authorities without delay."

Holder took similar action in Utah after a federal judge struck down Utah's marriage ban as unconstitutional in late Dec. 2013. In the 17 days it took for the U.S. Supreme Court to issue a stay on that ruling, over 1,300 couples married in Utah. The Utah attorney general announced that none of those marriages would be recognized by the state. But within 45 minutes of that statement, Holder announced that the federal government would recognize all the Utah marriages for all relevant federal benefits.

Byrum and Triplett performed 57 same-sex marriage ceremonies. Three other county clerks opened Saturday to perform marriages - Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown, Washtenaw County Clerk Lawrence Kastenbaum, and Muskegon County Clerk Nancy Waters. In total, 315 same-sex marriages were performed March 22 in Michigan.

a case from Utah - *Utah v. Kitchen* - on April 10. Earlier this month, the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals removed the Nevada and Hawaii consolidated cases from the court's calendar for April 9 in San Francisco. Yesterday, the Fourth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals scheduled oral arguments in two lawsuits challenging Virginia's ban on same-sex couples marrying. The American Foundation for Equal Rights case, *Bostic v. Virginia*, and the ACLU-Lambda case, *Harris v. Virginia*, will be heard May 13.

Like Michigan, the other four cases - from Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas and Oklahoma --are just arriving at their respective circuit courts.

Interesting factoid: From 1996 to 1999, one of Judge Friedman's law clerks was Judith Levy, the lesbian recently confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve on the Detroit federal court. Levy was sworn into office at the Detroit courthouse on the same day Friedman issued his decision in the DeBoer case. On Saturday Levy was officiating weddings in Washtenaw County.

► Couples Marry

Continued from p. 4

weddings. Upon hearing about the decision Friday night she said, "It's a relief that my office is no longer forced to discriminate against same-sex couples. During the course of the trial I've heard from many residents who want to be first in line to get a marriage license. I couldn't be happier to say that their wait is finally over. It's taken too long to get to this point, but we are finally here."

Frank Colasonti Jr. and James Ryder of Birmingham waited in line starting at 6 a.m. to be first in Oakland County. Prior to that moment, they waited 26 years to call themselves "husband and husband." The couple met while attending Metropolitan Community Church then located in Birmingham. They got married Saturday "to ensure our protection for each other as we grow older," Colasonti said. To celebrate they planned on going out to lunch and maybe picking out wedding rings.

Brown performed several ceremonies, but soon realized there were so many couples, they would need to be done en masse. Through the day she led rounds of ceremonies, 25 couples at a time, in the County Commission Auditorium.

"It's just an honor to share in somebody's very special moment like this," Brown said. "It's just a great feeling to see two people who love each other so much be able to have a right that other people have enjoyed for years."

Kat and Jennifer LaTosch met in college. Kat recalled always wanting to meet Jennifer because "she was the cool girl who walked across campus like she knew what she was doing." Over 20 years later they are raising two kids.

Being able to declare their love is not the only reason that Jim Schaffer and Jason McIntosh of Pleasant Ridge came out to exchange vows. "We're in the process of adopting Norah," Schaffer said, "This will make it easier."

Ferndale Mayor Dave Coulter officiated at two weddings at Affirmations Community Center. People had to secure a license at the Oakland County courthouse in Pontiac and then do the roundtrip to Ferndale and back to ensure their marriages were recorded with the office of Vital Records.

"Even though I thought the court testimony was obvious and the decision would be favorable, hearing the verdict was still shocking to me. I have

wondered if I would ever see this day, and when it finally happened there was a powerful sense of relief and excitement. I was in the car, and I wanted to start blowing my horn like we had just won the World Series or something," said Coulter.

The moment Coulter heard about the ruling he went into "work mode."

"I stayed up late contacting our city clerk and the staff at Affirmations and we all began to make plans. I knew I had just lost my day off, and I couldn't have been happier."

"During the first ceremony with Ken (Siever) and Zaid (Ismail), I had to stop a couple times and compose myself. It was such a touching and emotional moment to be a part of and I wanted it to be special for them," said Coulter.

In Washtenaw County longtime community leaders Keith Orr and Martin Contreras were number five in line to marry.

"Shortly after our wedding on Saturday, Martin and I had to run back to the \aut\ BAR to make and serve brunch. At one of my first tables I mentioned that the chef was my husband of one hour and ten minutes. First, what a feeling to call Martin 'my husband!' Second, everyone in that part of the dining room cheered," said Orr. "It's great to be married (even if Snyder and Schuette have not yet figured out that we are legally married). I am so appreciative of all of the people that made this happen...April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse and their legal team, my county clerk and all the court employees who made our wedding possible, Gail Geisenhainer for being an amazing minister. These people made our happiness possible. They also opened a door which will make it possible for others to share in marriage equality in the very near future."

A temporary stay ordered by the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals was issued late Saturday afternoon and will remain in effect until Wednesday, the earliest possible time for same sex couples to resume getting married depending on the court's findings.

Coulter reacted to the stay, "Honestly, I'm not as upset about that as I thought I would be because the joy I felt is so much more powerful an emotion for me than that, and also because I know this is nothing more than a delay tactic that cannot ultimately change the destiny of equality. Give Schuette his temporary stay, but history is now being written and it won't reflect kindly on the actions of our attorney general."

Crystal A. Proxmire editor of Oakland115.com contributed to this story.



Top left: Frank Colasonti, Jr. and Jim Ryder were the first couples to marry in Oakland County. BTL Photo Andrew Potter

Top right: Keith Orr and Martin Contreras were married at the Washtenaw clerk's office, then had to rush over to / aut/Bar to serve brunch a large celebratory crowd. Photo courtesy of Daniel Freidus

Middle right: Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum performed 57 marriages at the historic courthouse in Mason.

Bottom right: The Washtenaw clerk's office was filled to capacity with couples hoping to marry. Photo courtesy of Daniel Freidus.

Above: Southfield City Councilman Ken Siever and Zaid Ismail were married by Ferndale Mayor Dave Coulter at Affirmations. Photo courtesy of Michael Lary.

SPEAK OUT

Why Are Gov. Snyder and Attorney General Schuette Wasting Michigan Taxpayer Dollars On A Costly Appeal?

Contact Gov. Rick Snyder

Web site: www.michigan.gov/snyder
E-mail Governor Rick Snyder: <https://sombgovweb.state.mi.us/GovRelations/ShareOpinion.aspx>
Phone Gov. Snyder
phone: 517-373-3400
fax: 517-335-6863
Write Governor Rick Snyder
Governor Rick Snyder
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Contact AG Bill Schuette

E-mail: miag@michigan.gov
Michigan Department of Attorney General
Lansing Office
G. Mennen Williams Building, 7th Floor
525 W. Ottawa St.
P.O. Box 30212
Lansing, MI 48909
Main Number 517-373-1110
Fax 517-373-3042

Detroit Office
Cadillac Place, 10th Floor
3030 W. Grand Blvd., Suite 10-200
Detroit, MI 48202
313-456-0240
Fax 313-456-0241

Grand Rapids Office
State Office Building, Suite 4C
350 Ottawa NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616-356-0400

Sign Up At Equality Michigan

Equality Michigan is calling on Snyder and Schuette to drop their appeal of the ruling. As of Monday afternoon, the petition had more than 10,000 signatures. "We must end the second-class treatment of LGBT families in Michigan," the petition states. "Rather than siding with the people of Michigan, Schuette and Snyder are wasting taxpayer dollars defending a ban on marriage equality that harms Michigan families — and that the people of Michigan no longer even want."

Visit www.equalitymi.org to sign the petition.

► Ban Struck Down

Continued from p. 5

the state's response as unconvincing and not believable, citing a "small number of outlier studies in support of the optional child-rearing rationale." He also wrote that the "state's justification for the Michigan Marriage Amendment is belied by the state's own marriage requirements" which do not include a couple's ability to have children, or to raise them in any particular family structure, or to achieve certain outcomes for children.

Friedman threw the state's arguments back, writing the MMA actually fosters the potential for childhood destabilization in same-sex families, because if the legal parent dies, the surviving non-legal parent has no rights or responsibilities on behalf of the surviving children "without resorting to a prolonged and complicated guardianship proceeding."

Also, Friedman wrote, "the state's defendants' position suffers from a glaring inconsistency. Even assuming that children raised by same-sex couples fare worse than children raised by heterosexual married couples, the state fails to explain why Michigan law does not similarly exclude certain classes of heterosexual couples from marrying whose children persistently have had sub-optimal developmental outcomes." He cited Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown, who'd testified that, for example, she cannot deny a marriage license to a person with a felony record, a convicted pedophile, someone who has children already that have progressed poorly, or to a couple who cannot or have no intention of having children.

Finally, Friedman wrote that prohibiting gays and lesbians from marrying does not stop them from forming families and raising children. "There is, in short, no logical connection between banning same-sex marriage and providing children with an 'optimal environment' or achieving 'optimal outcomes,'" he wrote.

Proceeding With Caution

Friedman wrote that the wait-and-see justification for MMA is not persuasive, finding that any deprivation of constitutional rights calls for prompt rectification. "The state may not shield itself with the 'wait-and-see' approach and sit idly while social science research takes its plodding and deliberative course," he wrote. "The state must have some rationale beyond merely asserting there is not conclusive evidence to decide an issue one way or the other. the 'wait-and-see' approach fails to meet this most basic threshold."

Tradition and Morality

Friedman saved one of his most eloquent remarks for his decision to reject the Tradition and Morality argument:

"Many Michigan residents have religious convictions whose principles govern the conduct of their daily lives and inform their



SUPPORT NEEDED

The attorneys for April DeBoers and Jayne Rowse have done an incredible job. Please consider a donation to help with legal expenses as the case continues
>> michiganmarriagechallenge.com

One of the plaintiffs' attorneys, Dana Nessel, arrives at Oakland County Courthouse to watch the first same-sex couples in Michigan marry. BTL photo: Crystal Proxmire

own viewpoints about marriage. Nonetheless, these views cannot strip other citizens of the guarantees of equal protection under the law. The same Constitution that protects the free exercise of one's faith in deciding whether to solemnize certain marriages rather than others, is the same Constitution that prevents the state from either mandating adherence to an established religion, or enforcing private moral or religious beliefs without an accompanying secular purpose."

Federalism

The state tried to argue that the authority to define marriage falls within the exclusive powers of the individual states. But Friedman wrote that the state's domestic relations authority can not trump federal constitutional limitations. Friedman cited the 1967 *Loving v. Virginia* federal case that overturned that state's ban on interracial marriages as precedent.

The state also tried unsuccessfully to argue that if the court overturned the marriage ban it would be going against the will of the people, 2.7 million of which voted for the constitutional amendment to ban marriage equality in 2004. Friedman dismissed that argument and wrote that the popular origin of the MMA does not insulate it from constitutional scrutiny. Friedman wrote, "In attempting to define this case as a challenge to the 'will of the people,' state defendants lost sight of what this case is truly about: people."

Discredited Witness Part Of Right-Wing Cabal

DETROIT - U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman found the testimony of the state's key witness sociologist Mark Regnerus "entirely unbelievable and not worthy of serious consideration," and that it was contrived by a cabal of right-wing ideologues who created the "research" to shore up their objections to marriage equality.

On cross examination at trial, Regnerus admitted that the Witherspoon Institute, a conservative religious organization, had funded his study. Witherspoon and other right-wing groups including the Heritage Foundation, donated roughly \$700,000 to Regnerus' research team.

Friedman addressed the conflict of interest and bias implied by the funding sources. "The evidence adduced at trial demonstrated that his 2012 'study' was hastily concocted at the behest of a third-party funder," wrote Friedman. "While Regnerus maintained that the funding source did not affect his impartiality as a researcher, the Court finds his testimony unbelievable. The funder clearly wanted a certain result, and Regnerus obliged."

Schauer Celebrates Overturn Of Michigan Marriage Ban



BY TODD HEYWOOD

LANSING - Democratic candidate for governor Mark Schauer was excited Friday evening. In a phone call conversation with BTL minutes after the ruling was issued, he hailed U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman's ruling that strikes down Michigan's marriage amendment.

"I think this is a major victory," Schauer said. "Loving, committed couples across the state can now be married. They can finally be a family like any other Michigan family."

Schauer said he has been an advocate for LGBT equality for many years.

"I have been such a profound supporter of marriage equality and equality in general because this ban hurts our economy," he said. "It prevents us from attracting the businesses and workers who value diversity."

On Saturday, four county clerk offices opened their offices and performed 315 same-sex marriages. Late that day the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a temporary stay, thereby stopping any more marriages in Michigan until the court can consider the state's request for

a more permanent stay.

"I am incredibly proud of the clerks who stood up for equality and performed marriages across the state last weekend," said Schauer. "It is simply shameful that Governor Snyder is continuing to waste taxpayer dollars to defend this discriminatory law, which is hurting families and hurting children. By refusing to recognize these legally-performed marriages, it's clear this governor is out of touch, and on the wrong side of history."

Attorney General Bill Schuette said that Judge Friedman's ruling goes against Michigan's constitution and "the will of the voters."

"It's time for Schuette and Snyder to end these ridiculous, costly appeals," Schauer said. "When I am governor, discrimination will have no place in our state. I will wake up every day committed to making sure everyone is treated fairly."

SCHAUER FOR GOV.

Learn More About Mark Schauer For Governor Campaign at:

>> <http://markschauer.com>

Gay Marriage Defines Schuette's Reelection Campaign

Bill Schuette launched his campaign for another four-year term as Michigan's Attorney General March 22 at press conferences in several locations across the state. Although he gamely tried to stay focused on his campaign, reporters questions were almost exclusively about gay marriage and Schuette's opposition to it.

"The constitution is not like a buffet line at some restaurant where you can pick and choose which item you might wish," Schuette told reporters. "It doesn't work that way. I took an oath to defend the constitution, and I'm consistent."

His presumed opponent this November is Michigan State University law professor and Democrat Mark Totten who strongly supports same-sex marriage in Michigan.

"I think Bill Schuette has waged a crusade against some of Michigan's most vulnerable children," Totten told BTL. "He's argued from the beginning of this case that the kids at the center of this trial would be better off as orphans than with two gay parents. That's wrong, and it violates the U.S. Constitution and its commitment to equal protection under the law."

Totten began his legal career in Washington, D.C., where he served in the U.S. Department of Justice. He later clerked for a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, where he advised on critical national security cases winding through the courts in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. He lives in Kalamazoo and teaches criminal law and ethics at MSU.

For more information about Mark Totten and his campaign to unseat Bill Schuette go to www.marktotten.com.



Democrat Mark Totten is the presumed opponent running against Schuette

Snyder Says Schuette Going Against Trend

NEW YORK - Politico reported Monday that Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder said he will follow however a federal judge rules on the legality of same-sex marriages in his state. Snyder made the comments at a Bloomberg View forum with reporters in Manhattan, as same-sex couples who married March 22 await clarity after a federal judge put a temporary hold on a ruling overturning Michigan's ban on gay marriage.

"If a federal judge changes the law... then I'm going to follow what's been redefined as the law," Snyder said. "So I am not spending time [on] the issue itself... hopefully the Court of Appeals and their stay or something can clarify the status [of weddings that took place in the interim. Those couples are in] a tough spot. So I want to get some clarity," Snyder told Politico.



AP Photo: AG Bill Schuette and Gov. Rick Snyder

Snyder also told the reporter that he generally doesn't take positions on social issues. However, while campaigning for governor in 2000 Snyder said he supported Michigan's marriage ban. Last month Snyder told a Republican

gathering in Oakland County that he strongly supports the ban and the Michigan Supreme Court's decision to expand its definition to not allow public employers to extend healthcare benefits to the same-sex partners of LGBT public employees.

Within minutes of Snyder's remarks being tweeted, the Democratic Governors Association posted video from a gubernatorial debate in 2010 in which Snyder said he considered marriage to be "between a man and a woman."

When a Politico reporter pressed Snyder at the Bloomberg View event about whether Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, who had been defending the state's ban on gay marriage, was swimming against a changing social tide, Snyder replied, "If you look at it you could say, again, the trend is generally toward changing those rules....[the AG is] going contrary to that."

Rick Snyder On Gay Marriage

As a political candidate, Rick Snyder has repeatedly said he opposes marriage equality:

"On gay marriage, marriage is between a man and a woman." [WXYZ, 10/7/10, VIDEO <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1MP78ViQJw&feature=youtu.be&t=50m30s>]

"I believe that marriage is a sacred bond between a man and a woman and thus oppose gay marriage." [Right Michigan, 3/21/09]

Michigan Governor Denies That Same-Sex Families Are Deprived Of Any Rights at <http://thinkprogress.org> (July, 2013)

Gov. Snyder recently defended the law he signed banning domestic partner benefits for same-sex couples in court, arguing the discriminatory policy is "financially sound." [MLive, 2/17/14 http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/02/gov_rick_snyder_asks_federal_j.html]



ANCHOR FENCE

26345 Plymouth Road 313-937-0101
Redford, MI 48239 AnchorFenceOnline.com

Get Your Free No-Hassle Estimate Today!



Michigan's #1 Fence and Railing Company Since 1892!

Offering top quality fence installation and supplies for all vinyl, wood, chain link, steel and aluminum fencing.



Insurance Exchange

A Division of ACRISSURE

Insurance Services:

- Home
- Auto
- Renters
- Business
- Life
- Health
- Disability
- Financial Services

We tailor insurance solutions to fit your lifestyle and budget. Contact Insurance Exchange today!

670 Griswold Rd, Northville, MI 48167
800-448-1529 • ieagency.com

Prism of Possibilities Psychotherapy

Christine Cantrell, PhD
Fully Licensed Psychologist

Give yourself an extreme self makeover ...

- ▼ Speak Your Truth
- ▼ Discover What You Want
- ▼ Create Your True Self
- ▼ Heal Old Hurts, Find Wholeness

CALL NOW!
248-591-2888

Located in Royal Oak
www.christinecantrell.com
christinecantrellphd@gmail.com



On the Passing of Fred Phelps

OPINION BY KEITH ORR

Well, my old nemesis is dead. I outlived Fred Phelps.

It is a delightful coincidence to Michiganders that Fred Phelps' death comes the same week as the first victory in our fight for Marriage Equality.

Fred and I have a history. He and his Westboro Baptist Church (WBC) came to picket the \aut\ BAR in 2001. Martin and I decided to turn his appearance into a fundraiser for the Jim Toy Community Center. We pledged one dollar to the Center for every minute he picketed. Hundreds of people joined in, and by the time of his picket we had pledged of two dollars for every second he was there. He helped me raise \$7500 for our local LGBT Center, and in a series of fundraisers modeled on ours, we raised over \$100,000 for LGBT Centers, suicide hotlines, service members support, and more.

Also, thanks to Fred Phelps, I got to know Howard Dean. Howard had been picketed by Phelps on several occasions, because he had famously signed into law the first Civil Union bill. That act was the first victory in the long march to Marriage Equality. Howard Dean heard of our fundraiser and contacted me to ask me to join his campaign. Over the course of the campaign we became friends as well as political allies.

So I really owe a bit to Phelps. By this point, Phelps' death, or journey to hell, or whatever, is really a non-story. He has been exposed for what he was, a disbarred attorney looking for attention and money. In an interesting side note, it is reported that Fred was recently excommunicated from his own church. He had advocated a kinder approach between church members after his daughter lost a power struggle. Note that this is not some late life conversion. He did not

suggest a kinder approach to fags. He was upset that his heir-apparent, his daughter Shirley Phelps-Roper, lost a power struggle.

I have said for a long time that the WBC would die with him. Cults rarely survive their founder. The only real hope for the church to survive in any meaningful way (I use that phrase ironically) would be if Shirley would become the new charismatic leader.

For those of us of a certain age his story is interwoven with ours...and our relationship to society. In the late 80's he started picketing funerals of gay men who had died of AIDS. Only a few people considered it in poor taste. Most people clearly thought his protests reflected their feelings about the death of a diseased fag. There were no calls for laws which would keep him a certain distance from funerals. He had been protesting unchecked for about a dozen years when Matthew Sheperd was brutally murdered. Matthew's story captivated the nation. The image of the angels of mercy protecting a fragile family from a hateful lunatic was a profound moment in our movement. It was one of the first collective moments to humanize us.

They are now left without that leader, and have pretty much guaranteed their demise. I anticipated a power struggle after his death. However, I thought they'd wait until he died, and that the power struggle would be among his children. The church is hurtling towards oblivion.

For those of us of a certain age his story is interwoven with ours...and our relationship to society. In the late 80's he started picketing funerals of gay men who had died of AIDS. Only a few people considered it in poor taste. Most people clearly thought his protests reflected their feelings about the death of a diseased fag. There were no calls for laws which would keep him a certain distance from funerals.

He had been protesting unchecked for about a dozen years when Matthew Sheperd was brutally murdered.

Matthew's story captivated the nation. The image of the angels of mercy protecting a fragile family from a hateful lunatic was a profound moment in our movement. It was one of the first collective moments to humanize us.

And so we learned to mock him, and raise money off of him, and use his hate to promote our cause. In that vein it is easy to say, "you mean nothing, and ultimately your death means nothing"...perhaps the cruelest response to someone who, more than anything, craved attention.

But for me, it is hard to forget his early pickets. We lost young men to a disease which was new, frightening, and almost always deadly. Our government did not care. Families would often sweep dying men from hospitals to die at a home which had turned them out, instead of allowing those young men the solace of dying in the arms of those they loved.

Fred represented society at that time. And it wasn't pretty.

I am grateful that we are at the point where Fred's antics are considered sick. I am grateful that there are laws which can both respect freedom of speech, but also the dignity of a funeral. But there is still some bitterness that those

laws came about after Fred started picketing funerals of soldiers who died in the Gulf War. Where was the angst over the funerals of our soldiers who died is an un-winnable war against a disease?

So I say to you, Fred, "You lost the war. You don't even get to die the dignity of a Good Soldier. You die alone and pathetic, reviled by most of the world. I shall not 'dance on your grave'. You have done enough to despoil it without my help."

There...that's my eulogy to Fred Phelps.

Keith Orr is a longtime activist, co-owner of aut Bar and Common Language in Ann Arbor with partner his Martin Contreras. The two legally married Saturday in Washtenaw County and are officially husband and husband.

Remembering 'Honey Combs'



Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Mort Crowley's "Boys In the Band" opened Off-Broadway some 46 years ago. I bought a copy of the play in Chicago in 1968, and read dialog aloud while driving back to Detroit with my then partner Larry Smithson.

We saw a local production a few years later at the now long-vanished Rivera Theater, movie house turned legit stage, starring Wayne State University theater major Paul Pentecost.

Seeing gay life as we sometimes found ourselves living it proved fascinating: a big city birthday party turned truth game, much drinking, high camp dialog, line dancing to the sweet turn-on sounds of Burt Bacharach's "The Look of Love." A play about us.

"Boys" opened timely one year before New York City's liberating Stonewall Riots. (The same year Rev. Troy Perry started the first gay-lib Metropolitan Community Church in Los Angeles.) Change was in the air.

"Boys" was exciting on two counts. It was gay from start to finish, with camp humor putdown. And - score one up for me - I had spent a romantic summer week with one of its Off-Broadway production actors: Frederick Combs.

I met "Honey Combs" at Detroit's Woodward bar in 1966. He was appearing in 18-year-old British playwright Shelagh Delaney's international hit, later movie, "A Taste of Honey" at the Fisher Theater.

Freddy Combs played Geoffrey, a gay artist. It was his big break. The cast included legendary Uta Hagan.

Freddy was staying at the Wardell Sheraton hotel, later Park Shelton Apartments. (I later lived there for 24 years. The property was once owned by comic Gilda Radner, of Saturday Night Live fame.)

Freddy said his two high school drama teachers believed he had talent and much promise and paid for his ticket to New York to study acting. He also said he had been brought out by an Army sergeant when he was 16.

I followed him to Chicago New Year's weekend, but was gently told our final curtain had rung down in Detroit. I never saw him again in person, but in 1970 had the pleasure of seeing him playing Donald when "Boys In the Band" was made into a movie.

Looking back at Crowley's pre-Stonewall play, given all that's happened - Gay Liberation, the AIDS crisis, Clinton's don't-ask-don't-tell policy, Ellen Degeneres, "Brokeback Mountain", "Angels in America," Michigan same-sex marriage - "Boys" remains entertaining, well-crafted, compelling, if gay self-loathing.

Its characters are guys of another time and place who have yet to shake off the constricting onus placed upon them by religion, psychiatry, police, politics, and even the Mafia. You name it. Just about everyone and everything straightjacketing.

Given as much, today we either like the play for its moments of history replayed or loath it for its internalized homophobia; nonetheless, it's courageous, especially compared to cautious, earlier 50s and 60s plays dealing with homosexuality preceding it, like "The Children's Hour" and "Tea and Sympathy."

The boys in "Boys" are who they are in spite of a culture that demonizes them.

Frederick Combs' later career included writing, producing, and directing an Off-Broadway mystery play that got soundly panned, prompting him to leave New York for LA. He then appeared in TV soaps and miniseries, and for a time ran his own drama school. He died from AIDS-related causes on September 19, 1992.

He was 57. His acting talent, face - and rather memorable backside anatomy - are available for repeated DVD viewing or downloading. I watched the movie this week and remembered where and when. It seems so long ago.

As one of the old boys in an old band I'm still grateful to be tooting' my horn. On or off-key.

The boys in "Boys" are who they are in spite of a culture that demonizes them ... As one of the old boys in an old band I'm still grateful to be tooting' my horn. On or off-key.

Partridge Creek

Obstetrics & Gynecology

Beth Mutch, FNP,
Tanya Vaughn, CNM

Rhonda Kobold, D.O.
Teresa Kuz, WHNP

www.partridgecreekobgyn.com
 15959 Hall Road, Suite 301 • Macomb Twp. • 48044
586.247.8609
 Comprehensive Women's Health Services • 3D & 4D Ultrasound Imaging
 On Staff at William Beaumont-Troy

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER ZEKELMAN FAMILY CAMPUS

February 20 • 7:00 PM

ALLY TRAINING PROGRAM

**Out as an Ally:
A Step Forward in Understanding**

Examine the concepts of gender, sexual orientation, and human rights while learning how Allies, some of the most effective and powerful voices of the LGBT movement, help convey the importance of equality, fairness, acceptance, and mutual respect.

- ADMISSION: Free
- REFRESHMENTS: Pizza dinner
- RSVP to Lawrence Willim at 248.553.2400, ext. 24 or lawrence.willim@holocaustcenter.org

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)

SPONSORS

Questions on events? Call Lawrence Willim at 248.553.2400, ext. 24

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER ZEKELMAN FAMILY CAMPUS
 28123 Orchard Lake Road • Farmington Hills, MI 48334-3738
 For questions, please call 248.553.2400, ext. 24 www.holocaustcenter.org

Together We Will Preserve Memories and Build a Better World.

Marriage Equality Isn't The End

BY ATTORNEY RUDY SERRA

The fight for LGBT equality in Michigan is significantly advanced by Judge Friedman's decision in *DeBoer v Snyder*. The judge made detailed findings of fact about the studies used by both sides regarding children raised by same sex couples. He concluded that the best interest of children is served by allowing same sex couples to marry.

Michigan is the 18th state to overturn anti-gay marriage laws. Court after court has recognized and honored the same constitutional values. In case after case, conservative state officials have been unable to identify or prove even one rational basis for these anti-gay laws.

The court's decision to enjoin the state from enforcing the same sex marriage ban and not to delay implementation of the order while it is appealed is important. It shows that Judge Friedman has high confidence that his decision will stand on appeal. Since he followed clear precedent and gave both sides ample opportunity to prove facts, marriage equality in Michigan is probably here to stay.

This tremendous victory does not mean that the struggle has ended. Michigan still has obsolete anti-gay laws like the "abominable and detestable crime against nature" and "gross indecency" laws that must be repealed. The latter provides for a prison sentence to punish oral sex in private. Every married couple in Michigan should be outraged at the implications, yet courts still enforce these forensic fossils. Jury instructions still exist for each, and people have been sent to prison under these draconian enactments even after *Lawrence v Texas* found similar laws in other states to be unconstitutional.

Michigan law will now have to adapt to new realities in custody and support guidelines and new challenges in schools, businesses and other groups. Evidentiary doctrines such as the "spousal privilege" and property laws that control the disposition of estates are all affected. The most important law, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, still requires the additional language of "sexual orientation and gender identity."

All of these changes will take time. Experienced leadership will be needed to make sure that the time is as short as possible. Justice cannot be kept waiting by tantrums or by apathy.

Gov. Snyder should disavow Attorney General Bill Schuette's attempt to delay enforcement of the decision and should direct the Attorney General to drop any appeal. If the Attorney General refuses, the Governor can and should retain independent outside counsel to represent his office on behalf of the 2,650 same sex couples in Michigan already raising 5,300 children. As a long-time LGBT rights and family law attorney, I would volunteer to provide legal services to fight in favor of marriage equality at no cost to the tax payers. If I were in the legislature, I would lead the fight to amend Elliott-Larsen, protect marriage equality and assure that archaic anti-gay criminal laws are changed.

Rudy Serra is an attorney and former Judge and co-author of "Non-Marriage and Non-Traditional Relationships" in Michigan Family Law.

BTL Editorial Schuette Lies To Satisfy Political Base

He can at least be honest as he throws more precious taxpayer dollars at this ridiculous appeal and admit he is pursuing it because it is his own personal faith perspective.

Michigan Republican Attorney General Bill Schuette is lying to the residents of Michigan. His blind pursuit to continue to enshrine discrimination in our state Constitution is not about the will of the voters, the integrity of families in Michigan or any of the other ridiculous arguments his team pushed in federal court. Schuette's push to continue to spend Michigan taxpayers' dollars is about one thing: scoring political points with an increasingly out of touch, and ever shrinking right wing base.

If the will and integrity of the vote was truly on his agenda, then we would see Michigan's medical marijuana law being enforced as written, rather than being chewed into increasingly smaller pieces. Schuette not only opposed the ballot measure that approved this law, he ran the campaign against it in 2008. And he has continued to undermine the law since being elected in 2010.

That law was approved by 63 percent of the voters, four percent more than the marriage initiative.

The rights of the voters didn't matter when just weeks after voters rejected the Emergency Manager law, 53 percent to 47 percent, the Republican controlled legislature rammed through the exact same law, and Republican Governor Rick Snyder signed the bill into law. Schuette was silent on that voters' integrity issue. He was silent when the same Republican legislature rammed through a new bill approving a wolf hunt, after opponents collected enough signatures to put the law on the ballot, and effectively stopped the law in its tracks. And he sat

silent when the Republican legislature rammed through a "Right to Work" law, inside a locked building which prohibited the public from watching the legislative debate or interacting with their elected officials.

Mr. Schuette's own actions put his own words to the lie. He can at least be honest as he throws more precious taxpayer dollars at this ridiculous appeal and admit he is pursuing it because it is his own personal faith perspective. The voters tend to actually appreciate honest politicians, even when they disagree with them. But Mr. Schuette would rather lie than defend his own religious values and beliefs, leaving the impression that he is interested in forcing a theocracy based on his narrow definition of religious values on the rest of the state.

So, let us say it again. Bill Schuette, the Attorney General of the State of



Michigan, is a liar.

We do note, however, that despite its dishonesty to the voters and taxpayers, Schuette is doing one thing that fits into the silver lining category. Schuette's ill-advised, costly appeal will send a case, with an outstanding judicial record of a trial, to the U.S. Supreme Court. In his dissent to the majority opinion in *U.S. v Windsor*, Justice Antonin Scalia wrote that the majority opinion of the court, "arms well every challenger to a state law restricting marriage to its traditional definition." Schuette's appeal will result in the Court being able to take the step it was on the verge of taking in June 2013. It will approve marriage equality as a protection under the equal protection clause – and marriage will be won in all 50 states.



Creep of the Week

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Bill Schuette

In 2004 when voters passed the so-called Michigan Marriage Amendment I had been “married” for a little over a year. My wife and I had a wedding on the eve of our 6 year anniversary. We both wore white dresses. Each of our six bridesmaids wore a dress corresponding to the colors of the rainbow. Because, you know, gay.

Some people close to us urged us not to call it a “wedding.” They were more comfortable with “commitment ceremony.” Because, after all, it wasn’t like we were really getting married.

Except we were. Granted we knew full well that our marriage wouldn’t be legally recognized in Michigan or, for that matter, in the entire United States. But when I slipped that ring on my wife’s finger and promised in front of my friends and family that I would love her forever, I meant it. I meant it so much that I cried really hard and embarrassed myself. Still, I wasn’t “pretending” to get married. As far as my wife and I were concerned, this was it.

So it was especially shitty when nearly 60% of folks going to the polls voted against my right to be legally married. Not to mention the fact that George W. Bush got elected again.

Michigan’s Democratic leaders were largely silent on the amendment. Gov. Jennifer Granholm tepidly rejected it late in the game. Most said nothing. They were too chicken shit.

But a lot has changed in 10 years. The Democratic Party is a vocal supporter of equal rights. Anti-gay marriage amendments have been falling like dominoes to legal challenges. More states have legalized marriage equality. And when my wife and I went to California last summer we made our “marriage” into a marriage at the San Diego courthouse. Attending that wedding was our 4-year-old son.

Our son is a really lucky kid. He’s got two parents who love him and each other. But because Michigan doesn’t recognize our marriage, he only has one legal parent. Which also feels pretty shitty.

So far Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette has spent tens of thousands of tax payer dollars to defend the law that kept my son from having two legal parents and he based that defense on the very premise that gays and lesbians were bad moms and dads.

And he lost. Badly. U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman didn’t just strike the law down, he smacked it down saying it “impermissibly discriminates against same-sex couples in violation of the Equal Protection Clause because the provision does not advance any conceivable legitimate state interest.”

But that doesn’t mean anything to Schuette who is hot to appeal the ruling; to keep fighting against Michigan families like mine.

He’s also running for reelection in Nov. Running against him is Democrat Mark Totten who said of the ruling, “There was never a doubt that Schuette’s crusade to deny a loving home to some of Michigan’s most vulnerable children was morally repugnant. Today, the courts confirmed it was also unconstitutional. Children should never be sacrificed to score political points.”

My son, my wife, and I deserve to have someone like Totten defending us. Not someone like Schuette trying to hurt us.

Schuette claims that he is a defender of the Constitution. But really he’s an ideological hack, whether it’s fighting against marriage equality, contraceptive access for women, or Obamacare. If you’re a rich conservative, Schuette is your man. Because he doesn’t give a shit about anyone else.

Learn more about Totten at www.marktotten.com. Let’s fire Schuette in November.

ANGELINA

Steeped in Italian tradition
with a refreshing modern twist!
Casual-fine dining room



Extensive Wine List
Free WiFi Internet Access

Located across from Comerica Park
& Detroit Opera House

1565 Broadway, Detroit, MI 48226
313.962.1355 angelinadetroit.com



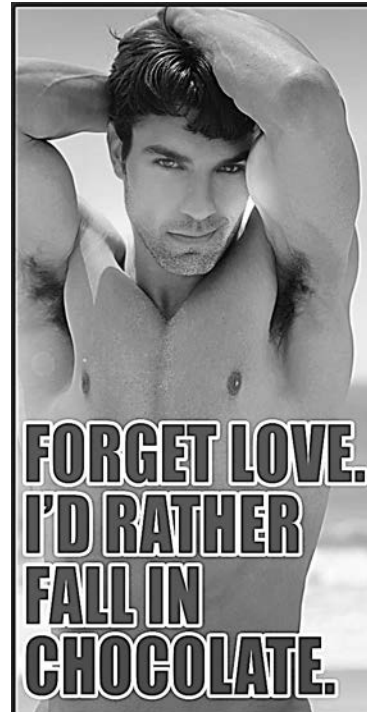
PHARMACY UPGRADE

 **MEDCART**
Pharmacy

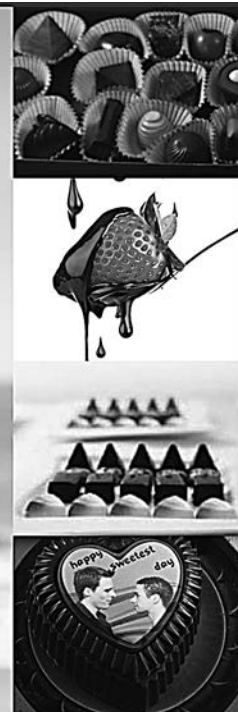
248.542.2300

www.medcartpharmacy.com

1964 West 11 Mile Road, Berkley
Between Woodward & Coolidge



**FORGET LOVE.
I'D RATHER
FALL IN
CHOCOLATE.**



MENTION THIS AD
TO RECEIVE 10% OFF

AG
Chocolates
by cek

Chris E. Kitley • 517.917.3385 • AGCHOCOLATES.COM
SPECIAL EVENTS • WEDDINGS • PARTIES • GIFTS • CUSTOMIZED MESSAGES

**TRIANGLE
CHIROPRACTIC**

GENTLE, EFFECTIVE
Chiropractic, Massage, Nutrition



JOHN TSAKOS, DC

MOST INSURANCES
ACCEPTED



INTEGRATE MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT
VIA NATURE AND CHIROPRACTIC

GROSSE POINTE OFFICE PLAZA
1-94 SERVICE DRIVE AT ALLARD EXIT

OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY
313-885-9496
WWW.TRIANGLECLINIC.COM

Many Happy Returns!

**COMPLETE ACCOUNTING SERVICES
COMPLETE TAX PREPARATION**
Individual, Partnership, and Corporate
FINANCIAL PLANNING

Alan T. Semonian, C.P.A.
(248) 584-1040



3336 West 12 Mile Road • Berkley, MI 48072
Fax (248) 399-6902 • 1-800-TAX-ALAN • TaxAlan@aol.com

WESTBORO, KANSAS

Phelps Dead At 84: Godhatesfags.com Creator Will Not Be Missed

BY LISA KEEN

The leader of a small Baptist church in Westboro, Kansas, who made a name for himself by traveling the country to hoist up “God Hates Fags” placards, is dead.

A spokesman for Westboro Baptist Church, whose website address is godhatesfags.com, told CNN that Phelps, 84, died of natural causes.

Although certainly appalled by Phelps’ tactics and tenacity, the LGBT community came to ignore the man and his family that referred to themselves as a church. But Phelps did manage to secure some historic notoriety for himself in 2011, when the church escaped millions of dollars in liability for picketing outside the funeral of a straight soldier killed in Afghanistan. The high court ruled, in *Snyder v. Phelps*, that the free speech clause of the First Amendment protects public speech, which includes speech related to “any matter of political, social, or other concern to the community.”

Phelps’ targeting of LGBT people sprung into visibility in 1987 at the March on Washington for LGBT Rights in Washington, D.C. Phelps and a few followers stood on the curb along Pennsylvania Avenue waving giant colorful placards with their bluntly hateful messages.

“Fred Phelps will not be missed by the LGBT community, people with HIV/AIDS and the millions of decent people across the world who found what he and his followers do deeply hurtful and offensive,” said the Rev. Darlene Nipper, deputy executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. “Through his actions, he brought needless pain and suffering to thousands of families, including to military families, at their time of greatest pain and grieving. While it is hard to find anything good to say about his views or actions, we do give our condolences to his family members at what must be a painful time for them.”

In an interview with CBC Television March 18, Phelps’ son Nathan, who was estranged from his father, said he learned from a nephew who recently left the church that Fred Phelps was in hospice care and nearing death. His son left home at age 18, saying there had been considerable violence and dogma in the family.

Nathan Phelps, now 55, said he learned from other family members that Phelps was kicked out of the Westboro church recently when a Board of Elders took control.

Biden Sets The Bar

As the 2016 presidential primaries begin to creep into view on the political horizon, Vice President Joe Biden sounded well prepared to take on all comers for the LGBT vote Saturday night. Speaking to an audience of one thousand people at a Human Rights Campaign fundraiser in Los Angeles, Biden reminded the crowd of his remarks on Meet the Press in 2012 which many believe led President Obama to announce his support for same-sex couples marrying much sooner than he had planned. He also prodded Congress to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and denounced draconian laws and practices in Russia and African countries. And he praised the LGBT community for its efforts in standing up for and demanding equal rights. “Many of you paid a personal and professional price for stepping up and speaking out,” said Biden, but the effort has “bent the moral arc of this nation.”

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

Panel Urges End To U.S. Ban On Transgender Troops

BY LISA LEFF

The United States should join the dozen other nations that allow transgender people to serve in the armed forces, a commission led by a former U.S. surgeon general said in a report released March 10 that concludes there is no medical reason for the decades-old ban and calls on President Barack Obama to lift it.

The five-member panel, convened by a think tank at San Francisco State University, said Department of Defense regulations designed to keep transgender people out of the military are based on outdated beliefs that require thousands of current service members either to leave the service or to forego the medical procedures and other changes that could align their bodies and gender identities.

“We determined not only that there is no compelling medical reason for the ban, but also that the ban itself is an expensive, damaging and unfair barrier to health care access for the approximately 15,450 transgender personnel who serve currently in the active, Guard and reserve components,” said the commission led by Dr. Joycelyn Elders, who served as surgeon general during Bill Clinton’s first term as president, and Rear Adm. Alan Steinman, a former chief health and safety director for the Coast Guard.

The White House referred questions to the Department of Defense.

“At this time there are no plans to change the department’s policy and regulations which do not allow transgender individuals to serve in the U.S. military,” said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Nate Christensen, a defense department spokesman.

The report says that while scholars have yet to find government documents explaining the basis for the ban, which has existed in medical fitness standards and conduct codes since the 1960s, it appears rooted in part in the psychiatric establishment’s long-held consensus, since revised, that people who identify with a gender different from the one assigned at birth suffer from a mental disorder.

The ban also was apparently based on the assumption that providing hormone treatment and sex reassignment

surgeries would be too difficult, disruptive and expensive. But the commission rejected those notions as inconsistent with modern medical practice and the scope of health care services routinely provided to non-transgender military personnel.

“I hope their takeaway will be we should evaluate every one of our people on the basis of their ability and what they can do, and if they have a condition we can treat we would treat it like we would treat anyone else,” Elders said in an interview with The Associated Press.

The panel’s work was commissioned by the Palm Center, a think tank based at San Francisco State that is funded in part by a \$1.3 million grant from Jennifer Pritzker, a Chicago billionaire and former Army lieutenant colonel who came out as transgender last year.

At least a dozen nations, including Australia, Canada, England and Israel, allow transgender military personnel. Transgender rights advocates have been lobbying the Pentagon to revisit the blanket ban in the U.S. since Congress in 2010 repealed “don’t ask, don’t tell,” the law that barred gay, lesbian and bisexual individuals from openly serving in the military.

The commission argued that facilitating gender transitions “would place almost no burden on the military,” adding that a relatively small number of active and reserve service members would elect to undergo transition-related surgeries and that only a fraction might suffer complications that would prevent them from serving. It estimated that 230 transgender people a year would seek such surgery at an average cost of about \$30,000.

Retired Brigadier General Thomas Kolditz, a former Army commander and West Point professor on the commission, said he thinks allowing transgender people to serve openly would reduce assaults and suicides while enhancing national security. Lawyers for Chelsea Manning, the Army private convicted of giving classified documents to WikiLeaks when she was known as Bradley Manning, presented evidence that stress over having to keep her gender identity secret contributed to an irrational belief that she could end

the war in Iraq and by leaking the information.

“When you closet someone, you create a security risk, and we don’t need another Chelsea Manning,” Kolditz said. “If I were a commander, I certainly wouldn’t want people in my unit in a position to be blackmailed.”

But Center for Military Readiness President Elaine Donnelly, whose group opposed the repeal of the ban on openly gay troops, predicted that putting transgender people in barracks, showers and other sex-segregated could cause sexual assaults to increase and infringe on the privacy of non-transgender personnel.

“This is putting an extra burden on men and women in the military that they certainly don’t need and they don’t deserve,” Donnelly said.

The commission recommends the president issue an executive order instructing the Department of Defense to amend its regulations so transgender people are no longer automatically barred. The Pentagon then would need to develop rules for assigning service members who are transitioning, said Palm Center Executive Director Aaron Belkin.

The Williams Institute, a think-tank based at the University of California, Los Angeles, estimates that the U.S. currently has about 15,500 transgender military personnel, nearly all serving under their birth genders and not transitioning in an appearance-altering way.

Army Reserve Capt. Sage Fox, 41, was one until recently. Following a deployment to Kuwait, Fox started taking female hormones. In November, with her hair getting long and her voice higher thanks to regular sessions with a speech therapist, she notified her battalion commander, whom she says expressed support. At drill time, an announcement was made to 400 colleagues at the B.T. Collins Reserve Center in Sacramento.

For a few days, Fox thought she might escape the ban. But then she was informed she had been placed on inactive status.

“When I transitioned, I wasn’t just a good officer, I became a better officer because I didn’t have to deal with that conflict anymore,” she said.



BTL's Wedding Expo: Like Pride in April

BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

SOUTHFIELD - BTL's Wedding Expo is fast approaching!

"But what if I'm not getting married? What if I'm single?"

No need to worry. Despite its large focus on LGBT wedding related vendors, the expo functions as a great, inclusive space for all LGBT and allies.

Expo vendors offer a variety of services regardless of wedding plans. Beauty services, restaurants, bakeries and dessert shops, security services, inclusive churches, supportive banks and more are a variety of local and state businesses that will be on site. Networking among LGBT and LGBT-friendly businesses is another great reason to attend the expo, regardless of relationship status.

As for the event's "Pride in Spring" atmosphere, dancing, games, drag queens, good food and other activities make the wedding expo a nonstop party from start to finish.

StarTrax will be providing fantastic entertainment, including an emcee and great DJs, to keep the party going; expect the last hour of the expo to be a dance party. Even if you're not getting married, a fashion show with both unique and traditional wedding gowns by B. Ella Bridal and suits by President Tuxedo will be an exciting presentation, particularly with the celebrity models that will be revealed.

Bill Hamilton Designs is creating a unique food court, described as looking like a "streetscape." Great food options will be available to try in addition to the multiple samples offered by the catering, baking and chocolatier vendor tables.

If romance bores you, find excitement with the expo "games." An inflatable gaming area, "Twisted Love," will feature three-legged races,

interactive "Twister" games, and more... all for great prizes. If that's a bit too taxing, a "Prize Cube" game will allow you to try and grab coupons whirling around in a cube for services from expo vendors.

After working off your samples at these games, relax at a "Sanctuary Space," a luxe area within the expo to relax on white couches. Vendors offering massages, hair treatments, makeup application and more are nearby to help you unwind.

Looking to unwind further at the expo? Barefoot Wine is providing complimentary wine at the expo's wine bar, in addition to a cash bar.

Over 100 different prizes can be won just by attending the expo, as well. Multiple tickets to ABBA, West Side Story and other plays, concerts and musicals are on hand, in addition to trips, gift certificates and even jewelry.

Even if you don't win a prize, every expo attendee gets a "swag bag" full of goodies, discounts and more.

On the more serious side of things, support your fellow LGBTQ by looking into the LGBT Caucus Booth on site. Supporters of LGBT rights and LGBT non-profit organizations such as Affirmations and Equality Michigan will be offering support, information and more to all attendees.

Still sound like the expo is only for couples? We think not!

The Ultimate LGBT Wedding & Anniversary Expo runs from 12 to 6 p.m. April 12 at the Southfield Civic Pavilion, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Registering online for the expo takes \$5 off the ticket price.

Stay tuned to BTL's Facebook for chances to win passes to the expo! For more information, visit www.btlweddingexpo.com.

RON T. WILLIAMSON DDS

Dedicated to make our
community brighter
One Smile At A Time

248-399-4455



Zoom Special

\$149

One-hour Teeth Whitening

*Must mention this-BTL-ad - Expires 4/30/14

Nitrous Oxide (relaxing air)
Proud participants in the Ryan White Program
No charges for emergency examinations and consultations.
Uninsured? No problem. Significant savings with our in-office club.

Care Credit



1964 W. 11 Mile Road, Suite 4,
Berkley, MI 48072

www.rontwilliamsondds.com

Find us on
 facebook





"When I sat in the Fusion for the first time, it was like, wow!"
- Brandon switched from Honda Accord to Ford Fusion.

"With the great EcoBoost® engine, I get the power to haul my gear and I get great mileage!"
- Kevin switched from a Chevy truck to a Ford F-150.

"Compared to the Honda CR-V, we really like the Escape better."
- Olivia & David switched from Honda CR-V to Ford Escape.

THE SWITCH

Find out for yourself why so many people have switched from the imports to Ford. See what Ford has to offer at your local Ford Dealer. And make the switch to Ford.

FAIRLANE



Randy Woods

New & Used Car Sales
855-301-3673
rwoods@fairlaneFord.com



14585 Michigan Avenue • Dearborn

www.FairlaneFord.com

1 MILE EAST OF THE SOUTHFIELD FWY ON MICHIGAN AVE.

Toll Free: 1-855-301-FORD

Kiss & Tell

Kylie Minogue On Starting Over, Sia's Sex Songs And Australia's 'Backwards' Gay Marriage Ban

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Kylie Minogue knows the power of fate, determination and survival. That along with her many celestial-pop confections (and, let's face it, lots of gays) have propelled the Aussie showgirl further than a lot of doubters predicated when she was classified as a mere one-hit wonder back in the '80s.

She sure showed them. Not even cancer could get in her way, because 26 years after her self-titled debut, "Kylie," Minogue releases her 12th – and quite possibly best – studio album, "Kiss Me Once."

"Into the Blue," the disc's liberating lead single, is a mantra of perseverance and self-reliance that only someone like Minogue could profess: "I'm still here, holding on so tight." How did she keep her grip? In a recent chat, Minogue, 45, talked about the essentials to maintaining pop-icon longevity, Australia's "backwards" gay marriage ban and how "Kiss Me Once" ended up reflecting her own life.

You've truly outdone yourself on this album, Kylie.

Oh, wow, I don't even know what to say to that. That's amazing. Thank you.

When we chatted at the end of 2012, around the time you celebrated 25 years in the business with "The Abbey Road Sessions," you said you wanted your next studio album to be more personal. At this point in your career, would you say you're making more deliberate choices song-wise to reflect your life? And what was the turning point – when did you decide that it was important to choose songs that meant something to you?

I don't know how to answer that. That's a hard question. At the end of 2012 I had a realization: I needed to change in order to move forward, and essentially I'm doing the same thing. I'm recording, I'm touring, I'm doing, at the core, the same stuff. But I needed some new energy. I needed new life to reenergize. I was celebrating 25 years in the business, and yeah, I just had a very powerful realization and I felt very calm that this is actually the right thing to do. So this is why

Photo: William Baker

I changed management. I changed something that had been a constant for 25 years and I threw myself into a new environment.

And did you want this album to mirror your own experiences?

It actually didn't transpire that way. I co-wrote one song on the album ("Fine"), and I felt going into this album, which is the case with every album, that I don't mind if I write the song or if someone else writes the song – it's really about the song. But I do feel like my frame of mind was open and I did a lot of songs that really – well, they're not personal, but they're more like "Sexercise." They just felt right for where I am in my life at the moment.

Ironically, something like "Into the Blue," that made sense for me when I recorded it, though I was still in a relationship and now I'm no longer in that relationship. So it's odd that the lyrics and the sentiment of "Into the Blue" resonate even deeper now. I kind of feel like some of these personal songs – songs that might seem personal – I just gravitated toward those. "Kiss Me Once" – I feel that. "Fine" – I feel. So I don't have a tidy answer for that, but I just feel like it's the headspace I was in. The songs just made sense to me.

With regard to all the sex songs on the album, the media's been saying you "blamed" Sia for them.

Oh, I didn't blame her at all – someone put "blame" into my sentence! I didn't blame her for anything. I thank her for them, actually.

I was gonna say, why would you blame her? Sex has been a constant in your music for nearly your entire career!

(Laughs) Well, maybe not on my first album, or even on my second album, but yeah, it's nothing new. Let's face it, most songs are about love, being out of love, sex, tears, breakup, makeup. It just so happens I have three with "sex" in the title on this album. It's just how it transpired. You might as well do it in threes, right?

Has one of your steamier songs ever come on in the middle of some sexy time?

(Laughs) Ah, no! I think I can honestly say no. That could really – oh my, I don't even wanna think about that. Not for me anyway. I don't mind for other people!

What line on "Kiss Me Once" makes you blush most?

Lemme think. Probably something from "Sexercise." Mmm ... oh gosh! "I'll make you wait for more / Make you ache to the core / Tomorrow you'll be sore. ... Lemme see you bounce, bounce, bounce."

Sia wrote that song, and she obviously possesses something special; everyone's been tapping into her lately. And she executive

produces your album. What did you find so special about working with Sia?

Well, first, I went to write with her to record some of her songs, and we got on so well that after a couple of our sessions I asked if she'd write more of the album and if she'd come onboard with me as executive producer. She said "yes" right away. I really wasn't sure if that would interest her, but long story short, she was on board right away. I gave her everything that I'd recorded, which at that point was already quite a lot of songs. And she wrote the title track, "Kiss Me Once," which I just adore. But I had a bunch of songs already. Definitely not all of them, but I had quite a lot – at least, god, 40 or 50 songs – and she said that "Into the Blue" was the first single. Sure enough, that was the first single.

She's written for some of the biggest artists today, and she's dialed in and knows what's happening at the moment – I think she also knows what's about to happen – so she's really just perfect. And she's an Aussie, and she's a girl, and I'm a great admirer of her writing, and of how she breaks some of the rules and how she does things the way she wants to do them. I have so much respect for that. So I'm a bit of an uber fan, and now I can say that I'm a friend as well. It's really just a great, great result.

I can see this album being the one that finally helps our straight American friends understand how amazing you are.

(Laughs) That would be lovely!

Was collaborating with Enrique Iglesias, Pharrell and Sia an intentional move to help build a more mainstream audience in North America?

Not really, but it might have been the intention of my new management! (Laughs) You know, Roc Nation has a lot of connections, and they're able to call someone like Pharrell and say, "Hey, have you got any time? We have Kylie and we want to get her with you."

I think we did what I normally do, which is work with some of the best and most dependable pop writers and producers. And I work with some new and upcoming people on this album – someone like MNEK, and someone left field like Ariel (Rechtshaid) – so it's got all the same elements that I would have on a good album of mine. But I don't know – I just think that everything feels a little more ... I don't know the word for it. It just feels right.

Will you finally do a full-fledged tour of the States? I'm not talking just a dozen dates – a full tour.

You know, I would love to. The last couple of times that I have toured I have done shows in the States, but the first time (in 2009) was because I really ran out of excuses. I mean, I just kept saying "I can't because my show is huge," and logistically and financially

See Kylie Minogue, page 19

D&O
DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
LEONARD SLATKIN Music Director
A COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED ORCHESTRA

UPCOMING CONCERTS AT ORCHESTRA HALL



CLASSICAL SERIES
LEON FLEISHER
Leonard Slatkin, *conductor*
Leon Fleisher, *piano*
Fri., Apr. 4 at 10:45 a.m.
Sun., Apr. 6 at 3 p.m.
Bright Sheng *Zodiac Tales*
Ravel *Piano Concerto for the Left Hand*
Shostakovich *Symphony No. 10*

Sponsored by  PVS Chemicals, Inc.

CLASSICAL SERIES
BEETHOVEN VIOLIN CONCERTO
Andrew Litton, *conductor*
Augustin Hadelich, *violin*
Fri., Apr 25 at 10:45 a.m. & 8 p.m.
Sun., Apr. 27 at 3 p.m.



Beethoven *Violin Concerto*
Prokofiev *Symphony No. 6*

Sponsored by  PVS Chemicals, Inc.

PARADISE LOUNGE

NOW OPEN FOR DINNER.
Ask about reservations when ordering your tickets.

TICKETS START AT JUST **\$15***

ORDER YOUR TICKETS NOW
ONLINE dso.org
313.576.5111
GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE CALL 313.576.5130

*CLASSICAL CONCERTS

Tax Time?



When it's tax time, it's time to call Kuderik at 248 835 7755.

- Specialist in Individual Returns
- Over 20 years Small Business experience
- Maximize your deductions and returns
- Electronic filing for fast refund
- Call today to begin tax planning now



KUDERIK

AND ASSOCIATES

Kuderik and Associates PLLC
Certified Public Accountants

32121 Woodward Ave Suite 202
Royal Oak MI 48073

www.kuderikcpa.com



Hear Me Out

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

George Michael, Nickel Creek



George Michael, 'Symphonica'

Those personal woes, the drugs, the health problems – the toll all that's taken on George Michael's voice must be immense, right? Wrong. Though "Symphonica" is the pop star's first release since 2004's "Patience," Michael sounds just about as pristinely crisp as he did during his '80s heyday. And it's surprising – something this live disc, a culmination from a series of recent orchestral performances, is not. Given that his talent hasn't waned, that his voice still expresses passion, soul and beguiling tenderness, it's a frustrating outing. Why this, and why now? And why so snoozy? For the most part, "Symphonica" is the middle-aged covers-album revival you predict from a bygone fixture – it reminds you Michael's still kicking around, but with lesser-versions of classics like "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face" and "Feeling Good" on the bill, it's got the edginess of a spoon. It drags and drags – it needs a jolt, some drama – and then you get to "One More Try," Michael's hit ballad, and while it's true he hasn't lost his touch, it still begs that same question: Why? The original is still superior. For a "comeback" album,

"Symphonica" doesn't give you much to come back to. *Grade: C*



Nickel Creek, 'A Dotted Line'

Bluegrass-benders Nickel Creek pick up where they left off a whole nine years ago with "A Dotted Line," their first release since "Why Should the Fire Die?" and the indefinite hiatus they went on thereafter. With the countrified rollick of "21st of May," and the beautiful ballad-building of the harmonious "Love of Mine," the three-piece folkies ease back into it almost as safely as possible with the same contemporary fiddlin', mandolin-pickin' sound they distinctively made their own – and who's gonna blame them for that? It ain't broke; don't fix it. "Hayloft," a hardcore folk-out cover of the Mother Mother song that's gotta be the most wildly amusing moment of their oeuvre, is a barn burner that's rowdy enough to actually burn down a barn. It's on fire. And if that doesn't make you glad to have them back,

Bluegrass-benders Nickel Creek pick up where they left off a whole nine years ago with

hear Chris Thile inspire your rebirth with "Rest of My Life" – that chord progression is really something, isn't it? – and the rocking Fleetwood Mac-ish "Destination," a plucky kiss-off to the past fiercely sung by the trio's sole female, Sara Watkins. "A Dotted Line" doesn't necessarily take Nickel Creek to new heights; instead, it's exactly what its title suggests: a line of dots taking you back to their brilliant beginnings. *Grade: B+*

Also Out



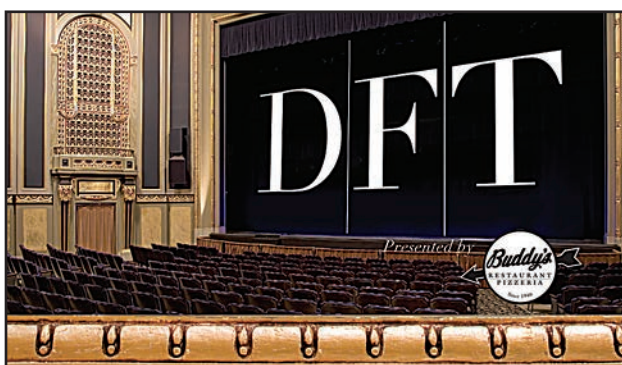
Christina Perri, 'head or heart'

Christina Perri's poor heart – it's a wonder it's still beating. That thing has been through the wringer. First some guy takes it and puts it in a jar, and now this: "head or heart," the stinging, burning result of more brokenheartedness. So we have "I Don't Wanna Break," a doomed love song, and "Human," a declaration of her ... humanness. They're both emo-pop perfection, rendered with memorable melodies and lyrical sophistication; after her disappointing debut, "lovestrong," this is major progress. If you can just overlook the cha-cha-chas on "Lonely Child," you'll have a hard time disagreeing.



Karmin, 'Pulses'

So in-your-face with its hip-hop infused dance-pop that it's as nauseating as it is ear-rapery, there are few good things to be said about Amy Heidemann and Nick Noonan's first full-length. But here goes: a ballad (a ballad?!), "Neon Love," portrays a new maturity lacking from their EP debut. "Drifter," catchy if trite, and "Tidal," a sleek, not-obnoxious Nelly Furtado-like anthem, avoid being as disposable as the rest of "Pulses." And even if their sound reminds you of Black Eyed Peas, it's not Black Eyed Peas, so, you know, that's good.



EVERY WEEKEND, the Detroit Film Theatre at the Detroit Institute of Arts brings Midtown the best in new documentaries, contemporary art films, foreign films and classic movies.

Enjoy a pre-show snack and glass of wine at the Crystal Gallery Café on the balcony level.

Full schedule at dia.org/dft



DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

5200 Woodward Ave. | Detroit, MI 48202 | 313.833.3237



Photo: William Baker

► Kylie Minogue

Continued from p. 17

we couldn't make it happen. Then I finally stomped my stiletto and said, "I have to go; I have to connect to the people who have supported me thus far." So I would, of course, love to travel to more cities, see more of the U.S. – and yeah, bringing my A-show to the States would be fantastic.

Make it happen, Kylie.

I'll stomp the other stiletto!

Scissor Sisters' Jake Shears, who worked with you on your last studio album, 2010's "Aphrodite," told Attitude magazine that you recorded enough songs with him over the years for an entire album.

Jake's always getting me in trouble!

He said he's gonna leak that album.

(Laughs) Yeah, well, if it ever happens I know whose door I'll be knocking on. You know, I love him so much I probably couldn't even be mad at him.

What are the odds these tracks could surface?

It'd be really good to do as a mixtape or something. If they were pressed and finished, then yeah. It's different when things are leaked that are not where you want to get

them, but I love the idea that these little morsels are around.

You have always been a proponent for equal marriage, but Australia, your home soil, still doesn't legally recognize marriage for gay couples. In December 2013, the court ruled against same-sex marriages. What are your thoughts on the ban preventing gay people from getting married in Australia?

As always, I support gay marriage. I feel like it will happen eventually, but wouldn't it be great if it happened sooner rather than later? I just came from Australia where they had Mardi Gras and it actually struck me when I was there, because I did Mardi Gras a couple of years ago – and I also did it in the mid-'90s too – and I thought, "Wow, it's so fortunate that people can express themselves that way." It seems ironic and a bit backwards that marriage isn't fully embraced with that.

For over 25 years, you've successfully navigated the pop music scene and influenced a legion of stars. From your own experience, what does it take to be a pop icon and maintain not just your longevity but your sanity?

Hmm, sanity? Oh god. Keep your feet on the ground. Keep dreaming. Try and take care of yourself. Yeah, it's somewhere in between being realistic and being a dreamer.

A JOURNEY TO OZ LIKE NO OTHER

THE WIZARD OF OZ

FEATURING ALL THE CLASSICS PLUS NEW SONGS BY TIM RICE & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

TICKETS AS LOW AS \$24

Detroit Opera House • June 17-29

BROADWAY IN DETROIT SPONSORED BY IMPORTED FROM DETROIT™ ChryslerCurrentOffers.com

ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787, Fisher Theatre & Detroit Opera House box offices. Open Caption performance Sun., June 22, 6:30PM. Info: BroadwayInDetroit.com & 313-872-1000. Groups (12+): Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com or call 313-871-1132.

BONSTELLE THEATRE
WHERE WAYNE PLAYS.

Guys & Dolls

A Musical Fable of Broadway
Based on a Story and Characters of Damon Runyon

Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser
Book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows

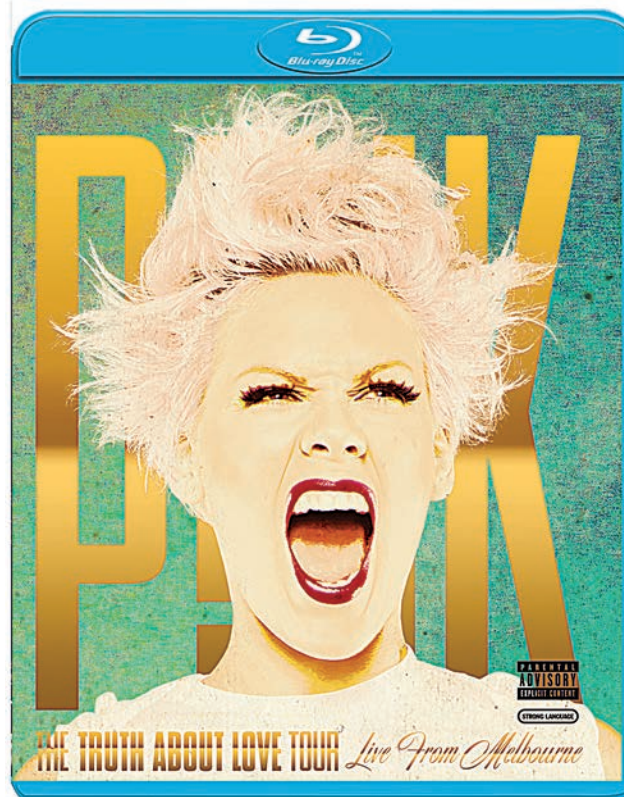
April 11 - April 19, 2014

Bonstelle.com
313-577-2960

Wayne State
THEATRE & DANCE AT WAYNE

Screen Queen

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI



Pink: The Truth About Love Tour: Live from Melbourne

There she goes, that Pink, raising the bar all the way up to the ceiling of a sports arena. “The Truth About Love Tour,” named after her sixth studio album, doesn’t just impress with exhilarating ingenuity – it makes her competition look darn right lazy. With a Cirque du Soleil level of grandeur, it’s clear no one currently performing in her circle works that stage harder than Pink, and the home release of this heralded spectacle – shot in Australia last year – demonstrates a pop veteran at the top of her game. Literally, too, as she shoots out of the stage for “Raise Your Glass,” spins unharnessed on a whirling dome during “Sober” and then encores a masterful, career-spanning set – sung live, so take that – by blasting across the stadium. And for this cutting-edge concert film, the camera’s along for the ride. When Pink’s swooping through the air, you’re right there with her. The bonus behind-the-scenes feature is a fun peek into her life on the road, but what’s really special is seeing Pink do a rare performance of “Time After Time.”



Never Sleep Again: The Elm Street Legacy

One, two, Freddy’s coming for you – gay or not. The second installment of the dream killer’s mayhem wasn’t without plenty

of queer subtext, and when the 1985 sequel to Wes Craven’s “Nightmare on Elm Street” was released, that wasn’t lost on its filmmakers. In fact, it was intentional. Over 100 “Elm Street” collaborators – including Craven, Robert Englund and Heather Langenkamp, along with peripheral victims who likely had nothing better to do – dig deep into the mythology and homoeroticism of a horror icon. Discussed during the extensive four-hour Blu-ray doc is a Divine cameo that never happened, Kelly Rowland’s tasteless “faggot” ad-lib during a confrontation with the villain and all the queer camp of “Freddy’s Revenge,” including its gay lead Jesse Walsh (out actor Mark Patton and screenwriter David Chaskin reflect on what’s

referred to as the “Top Gun” of the series). With surprising frankness, the insightful brilliance of “Never Sleep Again” opens that boiler room door and lets you in on the evolution, drama, secrets and just plain horror of your worst nightmare.



Blue Is the Warmest Color

Thanks to seven minutes of news-making lesbian sex, the wonderful and wistful coming-of-age indie from French filmmaker Abdellatif Kechiche,

“Blue Is the Warmest Color,” got mad buzz after its Cannes Film Festival premiere. And sure, there’s absolutely nothing subtle about how Kechiche portrays his two young ladies in bed, and perhaps, like many have debated, it’s superfluous, but this is about self-discovery – sex is a rite of passage. Based on a graphic novel, Kechiche’s arty and deeply resonate work about the onset of adolescent desire, and the confusion and fragility of the human heart, begins with Adèle (the tremendously affecting Adèle Exarchopoulos) succumbing to bullying woes and being distinctly unsure of herself – especially around men. Then she meets Emma (Léa Seydoux), a sexually secure

See Screen Queen, page 26

"BOLD, FRESH AND TRANSCENDENT."
— THE NEW YORKER

WEST SIDE STORY

Fisher Theatre • May 13–18

TICKETS AS LOW AS \$30

BROADWAY IN DETROIT SPONSORED BY IMPORTED FROM DETROIT ChryslerCurrentOffers.com

ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 & Box Office
Info: BroadwayInDetroit.com • 313-872-1000
Groups (12+): Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com or 313-871-1132
WESTSIDESTORYONTOUR.COM

ASO Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra
Arie Lipsky, Conductor

Co-sponsored by Rebecca Horvath

Season Finale: Brahms Festival

Saturday, April 12
8:00 p.m.
Michigan Theater



special guest violinist
Itamar Zorman



special guest cellist
David Requiro

(734) 994-4801 // a2so.com

photo by Erica Gannett



- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Abacadabra Jewelry & Gem Gallery.....1 | Esquire Interiors.....* | Necto.....11 | Tios Mexican Cafe.....17 |
| Ann Arbor Queer Aquatics.....* | Gail van Langen Ph.d.....7 | Orion Automotive Services Inc.....* | Top of the Lamp.....* |
| Ann Arbor Saline Family Chiro.....* | Groom N Go.....* | People's Food Coop.....12 | Trillium Birth Services.....18 |
| Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra.....2 | Hillers.....* | Performance Network.....13 | Trillium Real Estate.....4 |
| Arbor West Dental.....* | HIV/AIDS Resource Center (Harc).....* | Peterson, PLLC, Lisa J.....14 | Two Men And A Truck.....* |
| The Ark.....3 | Humane Society of Huron Valley.....* | PFLAG Ann Arbor.....* | UMHS Comprehensive Gender Services Program.....* |
| /aut/ Bar.....4 | Jim Toy Resource Center.....4 | Rock Shoppe.....9 | University Musical Society.....19 |
| Common Language.....4 | Lewis Jewelers.....8 | Rosenberg, David.....9 | Washtenong Memorial Park.....* |
| Dependable Collision Center.....* | Men's Yoga.....9 | Sh\aut\ Cabaret and Gallery.....4 | |
| D'orio, Jd, Plc, Lynn B.....5 | Mitchell Gold & Bob Williams.....10 | Spectrum Center.....15 | |
| Downtown Home & Garden.....6 | Natures Garden Center.....* | Three Chairs Co.....16 | |
- * Not shown on map

BTL Cool Cities Ann Arbor

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ♦ YOUR MARKET

Pinpoint your ad dollars where they will do the most good . . .
Advertise in the next Cool Cities
TO PLACE AN AD CALL 734.293.7200



IGLESIA MARTELL

Law Firm, PLLC

Practicing From The Heart.
Angie Martell, Partner

Experienced attorney and mediator
with over 23 years of legal experience.



Specializes in:

Divorce & Family Law • Criminal Defense
Estate Planning & Elder Law • LGBT Issues
Mediation • Civil Litigation • Civil Rights
Workers' Compensation • Business Law
Litigation • Employee Rights

117 N. First St., Suite 111, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
www.iglesiamartell.com | (734) 369-2331

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

5K LIKES ON FACEBOOK

Thank you!

Between the Lines

Please patronize our advertisers and let them know you appreciate their support for the LGBT community!

WWW.ABRAGEM.COM 734.994.4848

ABRACADABRA Jewelry/Gem Gallery

10% OFF CUSTOM DESIGN WITH AD

custom designed ring with conflict free blue diamond

celebrating 40 years

f t p

THREE CHAIRS CO

featuring:
Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams

208 S. Ashley Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-665-2314 / www.threechairs.com

BTL Cool Cities Ann Arbor

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ♦ YOUR MARKET

Pinpoint your ad dollars where they will do the most good . . .
Advertise in the next Cool Cities
TO PLACE AN AD CALL 734.293.7200

Got Married? Now What?

Bassett & Associates, PLLC

Elder Law, LGBT Law, Probate,
Estate Planning, Adoptions

Jane A. Bassett, Attorney

2045 Hogback Road, Ann Arbor 734-930-9200
www.bassettlaw.com

YIPPEE! IT'S SPRING



AND OUR NEW FACILITY
IS IN FULL BLOOM!



Orion Automotive Services 734-995-3188
101 Parkland Plaza
Ann Arbor, MI 48103 www.oriona2.com

LOVIN' ANN ARBOR CARS SINCE '94



Photo: Myra Klarman

Fooling Around In Ann Arbor

BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

Make a “fool” of yourself this April in Ann Arbor when WonderFool Productions hosts two events in Ann Arbor: Festifools and FoolMoon.

Foolmoon is a unique, moonlight event on Friday, April 4. Starting at dusk and running until midnight, the free event will feature a procession of the community, with handmade illuminated sculptures and dancing “merrymakers.” The parade will end at Washington and Ashley in downtown Ann Arbor; the Farmer’s Market at Kerrytown, UMMA and Slauson Middle School will all serve as the starting places beginning at around 8 p.m. In addition to the art on display throughout the procession, candlelit treats and craft-brewed spirits will also be on hand. Other unique twists of the event include shadow puppet performances, experimental films and more.

Grizzly Peak will have a “FoolBrew” tent preceding the event at 5:30 p.m. Live music, a specialty brewed beer (called

FoolBrew) and more will be featured. Grizzly Peak Brewing Company is at 120 W. Washington St., Ann Arbor.

Not sure how to join in, or what “luminaries” are? A luminary is a “glowy” sculpture. Festifools.org offers a variety of tutorials on how to make these special masks, sculptures and more. WonderFools is also sponsoring Sunday workshops at 10 a.m. at Workantile, 118 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. The workshops are free, with a suggested donation of \$10.

Following FoolMoon, WonderFools will host Festifools. The festival, considered a “gigantic public art spectacular,” kicks off Ann Arbor’s outdoor festival season. Created by community members and University of Michigan students, the event is unique in its duration: one hour. Working with the same mentality of Foolmoon, thousands of human-powered paper-mache puppets, masks and other works of art will fill the streets of downtown Ann Arbor. Look for “magnificent, huge, bizarre and politically incorrect” works. A secret panel of judges will observed all performances

and art, granting the “most fun, foolish and impressive creation” with a Grand Fool trophy.

Festifools 2014 begins at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 6 in downtown Ann Arbor. Festivities will begin on Main Street, between Washington and William. The event is free and open to all.

WonderFool Productions is dedicated to raising public art awareness and engaging communities with collaborative, educational and dynamic art experiences. The “fool” events are inspired by the floats and paper-mache works used in Italy, as well as Superior Concept Monsters, a professional arts workshop. Since April 1, 2007, FestiFools has been flooding Ann Arbor with music, art and fun. The event’s been praised by the Ann Arbor News and Mayor John Hieftje and is now supported by U-M.

For further details on WonderFool and their “foolish” events, call 734-763-7550 or check out www.festifools.org.

For more Ann Arbor events, check out BTL’s calendar at www.pridesource.com



TACORI

bridal & fashion event

FRIDAY
APRIL
11TH
10AM-5PM

SATURDAY
APRIL
12TH
10AM-5PM

RECEIVE YOUR SALES TAX
BACK IN A GIFT CARD
WITH ANY TACORI
PURCHASE THIS WEEKEND.

RSVP &
Enter to Win
a Piece of
Tacori Jewelry
734-994-5111



LEWIS JEWELERS
SINCE 1924 "YOUR DIAMOND STORE"

2000 W Stadium Blvd. • Ann Arbor, MI 48103
734.994.5111 • lewisjewelers.com

WASHTENONG MEMORIAL PARK



IS THIS THE ROAD TO PEACE OF MIND, KNOWING ALL OF YOUR FINAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE COMPLETE?

3771 Whitmore Lake Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
(734) 665-6187

www.washtenongmemorialpark.com

RESPECT AND SERVICE FOR ALL



Linda Lombardini

Helping people make good decisions.

trusted dedicated consummate pro

You're home.

www.LindaLom.com • 734-216-6415
323 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor, MI 48104



Woodchase

APARTMENT HOMES

**1, 2 and 3 Bedroom Homes available
in Ann Arbor's Westside**
Pet friendly – No Breed Restrictions!

734.998.1000
MyWoodchase.com

BUTZEL LONG

Immigration expertise
for **our** families

Providing a full range of
legal services to individuals,
families, and businesses.

www.butzel.com

Francyne Stacey

Tel: 734.213.3251

Email: stacey@butzel.com



BTL Cool Cities Ann Arbor

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ♦ YOUR MARKET

Pinpoint your ad dollars where
they will do the most good . . .

Advertise in the next Cool Cities
TO PLACE AN AD CALL 734.293.7200

LISA J. PETERSON, P.L.L.C.

Attorney and Mediator



- family law
- estate planning
- business & tax planning
- criminal matters
- mediation services

Tel: (734) 474-2334

lpeterson.law@gmail.com

117 N. First Street, Ste. 104, Ann Arbor
www.lisajpeterson.com

Top of the Lamp would like to thank all our
BTL readers for their support the last 8 years!

 **top**
of the **lamp**
pure lighting passion



**Mention this ad for
30% Discount***

Off any In Stock, Regular Priced Item.
*Manufacturer's Minimum Price on
Hubbardton Forge and Company C.

415 south maple road
ann arbor 734.769.7019 www.topofthelamp.com

BTL

Ann Arbor
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD • YOUR MARKET

Be included in our
Ann Arbor Cool
Cities Pages

Call us today:
734-293-7200 x22



TIOS TEQUILA BAR!

**THURSDAY
LATE NIGHT SPECIAL**
1/2 OFF
ALL TEQUILAS - 10PM-2AM

OVER
100
DIFFERENT
TEQUILAS!
Taste our
special
Herradura
Private Reserve!

**OUR BEERS,
LIKE OUR
FOOD, ARE
THE BEST OF
MICHIGAN
& MEXICO**

**HAND-CRAFTED
MEXICAN
FOOD & DRINKS
IN ANN ARBOR**

You can now enjoy one
of our Classic Margaritas or
Sangria Especial along with
your scrumptious Mexican
meal. Taste the difference!

**HOME OF ADAM RICHMAN'S
MT. NACHEESMO CHALLENGE!**

open 7 days
11 am - 2 am

401 E. LIBERTY
ANN ARBOR MI
(734) 761-6650



Lynn B. D'Orio

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Family Law

Divorce: Pre & Post Judgment
Powers of Attorney
Child Welfare Law
Abuse & Neglect
Wills

Criminal Defense

Felonies & Misdemeanors:
Larceny / Burglary
Homicide / Murder
Assault Offenses
Drug Offenses

lynnorio@comcast.net

330 E. Liberty, Ste. 3D, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
phone: 1-734-913-5660 - fax: 1-734-913-5643

Dependable Collision Center



(subject to terms and conditions)



**FREE
loaners on
any job**

We are committed to providing
the highest quality precision service.



5133 Carpenter Road, Suite A
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Phone (734) 528-9581
Fax (734) 528-9593
www.dependablecc.com

We work with all insurance companies!



Service at 11am
Children's Sunday School at 11 am



Rev. Roland Stringfellow
has joined MCCD as
Senior Pastor!



2441 Pinecrest Ferndale, MI
248-399-7741 | www.mccdetroit.org
Senior Pastor Rev. Roland Stringfellow
Associate Pastor Rev. Deb Dysert
**Detroit's Oldest and
Largest Predominantly LGBTQ Church**

MICHIGAN'S LGBT YELLOW PAGES

PRIDESOURCE



Available In Print & Online
@ www.Pridesource.com

Over 1000 LGBT-Friendly
Businesses and Organizations

Happenings

OUTINGS

Thursday, March 27

Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945 The story of what happened to homosexuals in Nazi Germany is the subject of the exhibition. Holocaust 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 8 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

Gender Hormone Counseling Sessions 6 p.m. Darnell Jones, RPH and GNA, will conduct one on one counseling sessions for the transgender community. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Relationship Skills Class 6 p.m. A series for LGBTQ people and their friends and loved ones. Topics include: exploring personal and cultural relationships, values, arguments and making agreements, accountability and building community connections. Tickets: \$35 per person. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Bizarre/Bazaar 6:30 p.m. Eclectic silent auction, food samples from local vendors, cash bar, and more. Tickets: \$10. Michigan AIDS Coalition, 141 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-545-1435. Michiganaidcoalition.org

Nerd Nite Ann Arbor 6:30 p.m. Monthly event including discussions and more. Tickets: \$5. Nerd Nite Ann Arbor, 102 S. First St., **Ann Arbor**. annarbor.nerdnite.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

Friday, March 28

Opening Up the Dialogue: A Glimpse of Detroit's African American History Earn 5.0 CEUs. Feet on The Street Tours, **Multiple**. EnjoytheD.com

Open Mic Night with Michelle Brown 6 p.m. Whether it's poetry, singing or anything in between, this is your opportunity to express yourself on stage. All ages welcome. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Womyn's Film Night 7 p.m. Film: Julie Johnson-Dissatisfied New Jersey housewife Julie Johnson (Lili Taylor) wrangles free from her controlling husband and begins a brand-new life in this tale of self-discovery. Along with friend Claire (Courtney Love), Julie enrolls in a computer class and discovers she's a math whiz. Newly empowered, Julie leaves her husband and moves in with Claire...and the two realize their feelings for each other go beyond friendship. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Artistic Women's Entertainment 7:30 p.m. Stiletto's, 1641 Middlebelt Road, **Inkster**. Stilettonightclub.com

Detroit Women's Coffee House Revival 8 p.m. A chance for us to celebrate the talent in our community and raise funds for Women musicians and artists and

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**.



Crime and Spit is a Dangerous Weapon."

The forum will begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 29 at Affirmations. Affirmations is located at 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. Light refreshments will be served. Call 248-398-7105 or visit www.goaffirmations.org.

Editor's Pick

Is HIV really a crime? That's the question posed at "HIV Criminalization in Michigan: A Community Forum." All are invited to come join the discussion and learn how HIV specific laws hurt public health, and what people can do about it.

Multiple advocacy groups in the area, including BTL, Equality Michigan, MAC and the ALCU, are hosting the discussion, titled "When Sex is a

our local non-profit organizations in our community. GIFT, 1641 Middlebelt Road, **Inkster**. 248-943-2411. lindacbrin@gmail.com Womenoutandabout.com/calendar/detroit-womens-coffee-house/

Saturday, March 29

Ann Arbor Film Festival Includes many LGBT works. Tickets: \$7-9. Ann Arbor Film Festival, 603 E. Liberty St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-668-8397. Mocadetroit.org

HIV Criminalization in Michigan: A Community Forum 2 p.m. Is HIV really a crime? Come join the discussion and learn how HIV specific laws hurt public health and what you can do about it. Light refreshments. Equality Michigan, BTL, ACLU, MAC, and more, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Chili Cook-Off and Bake Sale Fundraiser 3 p.m. Donations: \$3-5+. Battle Creek Pride Resource Center, **Battle Creek**. 269-419-3540. Battlecreekpride.org

LezRead 4 p.m. Ann Arbers book group for Lesbians.meets the last Saturday of every month. LezReads, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-995-9867. Lezread@yahoo.com

Sunday, March 30

Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church 10 a.m. We are a welcoming congregation. Please join us for services every Sunday at 10am. Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Hwy, **Southfield**. 248-354-4488. office@northwestuu.org northwestuu.org

Outpouring 12:30 p.m. LGBT-affirming service. Non-denominational Christian. Affirming Love Ministries, 9550 Oakland Ave., **Detroit**. Affirmingloveministries.webs.com

An Afternoon with Carolee Schneemann 4 p.m. Feminist icon. Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., **Bloomfield Hills**. 877-462-7262. Cranbrookart.edu

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

248-981-4227. MarciWilliams@yahoo.com GetOutAndLive.me

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

Showbiz Sunday 10 p.m. Ace Deville, Delicious, Maria Mirelez, DJ Lipgloss, and more. Additional showtimes at 11 p.m. and 12 a.m. Spiral Dance Bar, 1247 Center St., **Lansing**. 517-894-1315. Spiraldancebar.com

Monday, March 31

Restorative Yin Yoga with Meditation 6:45 p.m. Get pampered. GOAL, 1945 Pauline Blvd., **Ann Arbor**. meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

Tuesday, April 1

Aff Action Night 6 p.m. Educating others about how to make Michigan an equality state. Pizza provided for volunteers. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. goaffirmations.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

Circle of Life: Pet Ownership Discussion and Support Group 6:30 p.m. Led by a licensed counselor. Share stories, frustrations, grief and successes. Tail Waggers 1990, 28402 Five Mile Road, **Livonia**. 734-855-4077. Tailwaggers1990.org

Transgender Life Support 7 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Karaoke 9:30 p.m. Hosted by KJ Les. aut Bar, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

Wednesday, April 2

Senior Koffee Klatch 1 p.m. A lively, discussion and social group for LGBT adults over 45. Group covers topics pertaining to aging and outside speakers. Pottuck dinners at members homes, lunches out and holiday parties. meets ever Wednesday on the upper

level of the Affirmations building. Senior Koffee Klatch, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. GoAffirmations.org

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

Toastmasters Meeting 6 p.m. Do you have fear of public speaking? Well never fear Toastmasters is here! Come join us and learn to how to get over that fear. Kick-The Agency for LGBT African Americans, 41 Burroughs St. Ste. 109, **Detroit**. 313-285-9733. rma411@gmail.com

Dykes on Bikes-Monthly Planning Meeting 6:30 p.m. Monthly meeting to plan rides and socialize. A great group of women who welcome new members with all levels of experience. Get Out And Live!, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

Como's Patio 7 p.m. GOAL, 22812 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

Thursday, April 3

Twisted Games Party games and fully nude strippers. Hosted by Ace Deville. 18+. Spiral Dance Bar, 1247 Center St., **Lansing**. 517-894-1315. Spiraldancebar.com

\$6 at 6 a.m. 6 a.m. Cash only or class passes. Tickets: \$6. Namaste Yoga, 399 S. Troy St., **Royal Oak**. 248-339-9642. Namaste-yoga.net

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

Red Robot 7 p.m. Ageplay group. Every first Thursday. 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 attendees support each other in healthy ways through active listening and caring feedback. OutCenter, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330.

See Happenings, page 28

www.Pridesource.com



Lizzie Rainville, Carolyn Gillespie, Chris Hietikko, Daniel Everidge, and Sarab Kamoo in "Falling" at Meadow Brook Theatre. Photo: Rick Smith

Family Contends With Autism In 'Falling'

BY JENN MCKEE

Just hours before going to see Deanna Jent's "Falling" at Meadow Brook Theatre, I stood in a deserted sector of a fancy restaurant with my restless, not-remotely-hungry daughters, ages 2 and 5, while my husband took his turn eating lunch and talking with the couple at our table. (We were at a post-bar mitzvah reception.) At one point, I comforted myself by thinking, "This, too, shall pass." For as our girls grow older, my husband and I will eventually reclaim our place among couples that get to eat a meal together, in a leisurely way, and chat up friendly strangers.

But as "Falling" makes clear, if you're a parent of a child with severe autism, hoping for a more independent, carefree day-to-day future may feel more like a wistful wish than a built-in expectation.

The play focuses on the Martin family. Parents Tami (Sarab Kamoo) and Bill (Chris Hietikko) work through various daily rituals and tricks to keep autistic, sometimes aggressive, 18-year-old Josh (Daniel Everidge) on an even keel, while Josh's teenage sister Lisa (Lizzie Rainville) vies for attention.

Bill and Tami, despite being perpetually breathless from the effort of keeping everything together, manage to retain a sense of humor and camaraderie, but when Bill's mother, Grammy Sue (Carolyn Gillespie), comes to visit, the family's delicate balance is thwarted.

Everidge earned a nomination for a Drama Desk Award and a Lucille Lortel Award in the New York production

REVIEW

Falling

Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Wednesday-Sunday through April 13. \$25-40. 248-377-3300. www.mbtheatre.com

of "Falling," so it's no surprise that his performance is one of the primary draws of Meadow Brook's (70-minute) production, directed by Travis Walter. Yes, Everidge looks older than 18 – the age Josh is supposed to be – but this visual disconnect is quickly forgiven in the larger scope of Everidge's embodiment of Josh.

For within moments of Everidge's entrance, we see Josh's immense capacity for joy in simple things – like a box jerry-rigged to rain down white feathers on his head – and, based on Tami's emphatic guidance, his potential to detonate if not warned about things like a blender being turned on to make a smoothie. Everidge's performance is a stunner in part because you key into Josh's physical lexicon within moments, recognizing the ticks that indicate a looming storm; plus, while a pitfall of such a role involves an actor overdoing it, Everidge seems to establish a restrained tone that's exactly right.

Kamoo and Hietikko also do great work as loving parents who, in turn, feel happy, terrified, hopeful, angry, hopeless, frustrated, relieved and spent. Hietikko conveys a likable decency as Bill, so that when he and Tami get into an argument, we sympathize with his perspective as much as with hers. Kamoo, meanwhile,

takes your breath away as a mother who deeply, deeply loves the child that now, assuming the body of a man, threatens her with violence on a semi-regular basis.

Jen Price Fick's scenic design brings the Martin family home to vivid life, while Liz Goodall designed the characters' costumes. Mike Duncan designed the show's crucial sound elements – Josh watching videos at a loud volume, a barking dog, music, etc. – and Reid G. Johnson's lighting design set each scene's tone and underscored the atmosphere.

Yet the play has its flaws. Josh's aggression likely didn't bloom overnight, so Grammy Sue's obliviousness to his behaviors rings a bit of a false note. Kamoo's rock-out fantasy dance to Heart's "Barracuda" while cleaning up felt way too long and self-conscious; and an extended dream sequence, while offering some moments and ideas otherwise hard to express (not to mention an impressive acting feat by Everidge), ultimately feels like a manipulative cop out on the part of the playwright.

What Jent gets absolutely right, though, is the feel of a real family in the throes of an ongoing struggle. So while the play's end isn't neatly tied up, thus leaving some things ambiguous, the choice only makes sense. For no matter what choices this family makes about Josh's long-term care – and there's significant disagreement on this point – the decisions will haunt each family member and, in some ways, shape them, forging not only the sense of who they are, and who they will become. And stakes don't get much higher than that.

CO-OP TAX & ACCOUNTING

Chris Perry
Owner/Tax Professional

Cherie Mascarello
Tax Professional

8252 E. Twelve Mile Rd.
Warren, MI 48093

Chris@coop-tax.com
P: (586) 573-7250
F: (586) 573-9901

Over 20 Years Of Experience

WHOSOEVER Ministry,
a Word Teaching, Life Application Ministry, presents:

Ready for A BETTER LIFE?
Jesus said, in John 10:10 Message Bible, "I have come that you might have a real and eternal life, a far BETTER LIFE."

Sundays 11:00 am

Hear what the Bible says about:

- How to know when God is talking to you
- How to break free from financial fears
- How to deal with problems and much more

Rev. Jeffrey Seals and Dr. Selma Massey, Pastors

2930 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48201
313-259-0000

SHOP LGBT

► Screen Queen

Continued from p. 20

artist who turns her world upside down. Over three hours, and many, many movie years, “Blue Is the Warmest Color” exposes all the complexities of their relationship as they discover and rediscover themselves. Even if it’s stingy on special features, the film itself – released via Criterion – is a thing of staggering beauty.



The Hunger Games: Catching Fire

As Katniss Everdeen, Jennifer Lawrence’s love-torn, anxiety-fueled emotions in “Catching Fire” are served with such realness she’ll make a mess out of you. And who can blame her? The rare better-than-the-first second entry in the “Hunger Games” saga goes deeper and darker than its predecessor, rendering an almost-hopeless dystopia where champs Katniss and Peeta (Josh Hutcherson) unwillingly fake their way through some PR and then compete once more, to their surprise, during this survival of the fittest. Fear, war and drag-queeny wigs – they’re facing it all over again. But “Catching Fire”

bites down harder on the very media hysteria it vilifies. Its teeth are bigger, sharper and scarier. And with palpable ambivalence, alternating heroic fierceness and total despair with nothing but ease, Lawrence is more than just Katniss – she’s all of us. Extras include deleted scenes, a filmmaker commentary and a thorough nine-part doc that’s as long as the film.

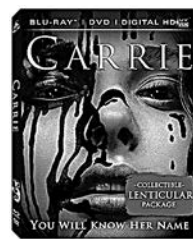
Also Out



About Time

Nobody’s perfect, but what if they could be? Tim (Domhnall Gleeson) gives it a shot when he inherits his father’s ability to time travel and change his past. Now, suddenly, he’s a Casanova – no screw-ups, no awkwardness. He turns the charm on when he meets Mary (Rachel McAdams), and they both expect to see each other again. But the consequence to changing the past is that it also changes the future. Enriching and thought-provoking, the wonderfully sincere “About Time” is mushy and sweet and life-affirming – and duh: Rachel McAdams stars and “Love, Actually” filmmaker Richard Curtis directs. Bonus features include a cast/crew

commentary, bloopers and a music video for Ellie Goulding’s featured song.



Carrie

Can you imagine if this new “Carrie,” from “Boys Don’t Cry” director Kimberly Peirce, was a vehicle addressing this sickening trend in queer-targeted bullying? I mean, can you? No?

OK, good. Because you wouldn’t wanna have your hopes dashed by this unnecessary repeat of the 38-year-old Sissy Spacek classic in which a young girl, ostracized by her peers and condemned to hell by her god-crazy mother, is so soul-depleted she unleashes the monster inside her. As Carrie, Chloe Moretz gets it right, relishing every messy moment of the prom massacre, but Julianne Moore’s exaggerated religious lunacy verges on parody. “Carrie,” the comedy? Anything but this. A Peirce commentary and an alternate ending are among the extras.



Fantastic Mr. Fox

Of course Wes Anderson would make a film about foxes. Because, uh, why wouldn’t he? Adapted in 2009 from a children’s

novel about a fox family on the run after a chicken heist, the fable’s right out of left field. And it’s marvelous. It’s got the fantastically weird familial charm of every Anderson picture, the voices of Meryl Streep and George Clooney, and indelible characters (teenage outcast Ash is a huggable hoot), but it’s also easy on the eyes. There’s some seriously impressive animation going on here. Just look at that hair. And now look at it in glorious hi-def, a detailed Criterion Collection transfer that’s aesthetically foxy but also remarkably thorough in contextual supplements.



The Spectacular Now

Aimee Finicky is the virtuous virgin you bring home to mom. But Sutter Keely? Not so much. Still, the two high schoolers, despite differences and the opposite roads they’re on, meet at a crossroad.

They dote, they have sex. It’s clear something is brewing between them, but there are walls and there are exes and there is alcoholism. What they experience is the kind of moment you remember more fondly with age, when you realize what it meant then and what it means now. And this drama, from the writers of “500 Days of Summer,” epitomizes that – spectacularly. A director commentary and a short making-of round out the set.



Newmyer

Distinctive Remodeling

Dedicated to
Quality, Design & Workmanship

248-669-3500

www.newmyer.com



Premier Remodeling Specialists

BATHS | KITCHENS | ADDITIONS | WINDOWS | DOORS | WINE CELLARS

Stop by to See Our New Displays
3081 Haggerty Road | Walled Lake, MI 48390

MARCH 27, 2014

BIZARRE BAZAAR

BTL
Between Lines
ONLINE AT PRIDESOURCE.COM

MAC MICHIGAN
AIDS COALITION

AN UNUSUAL SILENT AUCTION BENEFITTING MICHIGAN AIDS COALITION

LOCATION: ORCHID
ADDRESS: 141 WEST 9 MILE RD.
FERNDALE, MI 48220

TIME: 6:30PM - 9:30PM

FOR MORE INFO:

VISIT: WWW.MICHIGANAIDSCOALITION.ORG

CALL: 248-545-1435

EMAIL: [SSIVANANDHAM@MICHIGANAIDSCOALITION.ORG](mailto:ssivanandham@michiganaidscalition.org)

TICKETS
\$10

CASH BAR &
APPETIZERS

Royal Oak's long running interactive comedy experience!



Drag Queen BINGO

This Ain't your Grandmas Bingo!

Thursday,
Friday,
Saturday Nights
& Sunday Brunch



Reservations at:
Five15.net or call **248-515-2551**

Milestone Birthdays ★ Private Event Hosting
Office Parties ★ Date Night ★ Block Parties
Bachelorette Parties ★ Girls Night Out

Editor's Pick



Theatre and Dance at Wayne revives Eric Bogosian's 1994 classic, "SubUrbia," March 27 through April 5 at The Studio Theatre. Last produced by Wayne State Theatres in 1995-1996, "SubUrbia" depicts the anxiety and aimlessness of 20-somethings drifting through their unremarkable existence in suburban New Jersey.

"SubUrbia" centers on a group of aimless 20 year olds who hang out by a convenience store. Tragedies and comedies have bound together these nine young lives and changed them forever. Based on the author's own experience, Bogosian sketches a generation of dazed and confused middle-class young people who find themselves unable to cope anywhere outside their own town, and do little more than live at home and hang out at the mall.

Tickets are \$10-\$12 and are available by calling the theatre box office at 313-577-2972 or by visiting the box office in the Hilberry Theatre located at 4743 Cass Avenue on the corner of Hancock in Midtown Detroit.

▶ Happenings

Continued from p. 24

Outcenter.org

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

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

Concerts

Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase "Joe DeVito" Tickets: \$10-15. Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. March 27-March 29. 734-996-9080. Aacomedy.com

Blind Pig "RAC" With Panama Wedding and Ghost Beach. 18+. Tickets: \$15-17. Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. 9 p.m. March 29. 734-996-8555. Blindpigmusic.com

Cathedral Music Society "Bach Marathon" Musicians from the Detroit Metro area will join for a five-hour musical celebration of the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. A recital every twenty minutes. Dinner with slideshow on Bach at 5:00 p.m. Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 12 p.m. March 29. 313-833-7547. Facebook.com/detroitcathedralmusic

Royal Oak Music Theatre "Asking Alexandria" With August Burns Red, Crown the Empire, Born of Osiris. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. March 29. 248-399-2980. Royaloakmusictheatre.com

The Ark "Carmen Souza" Tickets: \$0-20. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. April 1. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Noah Gundersen" With special guest Doug Paisley. Tickets: \$12. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. March 30. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Brian Vander Ark" With special guest Jen Chapin. Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. March 29. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Stolen Silver" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. March 27. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Willie Nile" Tickets: \$15. The

Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. March 28. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Richard Shindell" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. April 2. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Magic Bag "Gangstagrass" With AudioLogical. Tickets: \$10. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. March 30. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

The Majestic "Kaleido-Unbreakable Album Release" All ages. Tickets: \$12-15. Majestic Theater, 4120-4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. March 29. 313-833-9700. Majesticdetroit.com

The Majestic "Stick To Your Guns" With Terror, Hundredth, Counterparts, & Expire. All ages. Tickets: \$15-17. The Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 6 p.m. March 28. 313-833-9700. Majesticdetroit.com

University Musical Society (UMS) "Wynton Marsalis and Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra" Tickets: \$10-56. Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor. 4 p.m. March 30. 734-761-1800. Ums.org

Dance

Flawless and Fabulous Productions "Ball Room Dancing Classes" This is a six weeks series ballroom class. 25916 Five Mile Road, 25916 Five Mile Road, Redford. March 2-March 30. 313-212-9219.

MoreDances Contemporary Dance Company "Spring Dances: A Celebration of Dance & Music" Tickets: \$16. Southfield Parks & Recreation Auditorium, 26000 Evergreen, Southfield. 7:30 p.m. March 29.

Film & Video

Ann Arbor Film Festival "Ann Arbor Film Festival" Includes many LGBT works. Tickets: \$7-9. Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. March 26-March 29. 734-668-8397. Mocadetroit.org

Arts Alliance Media "The Royal Opera House Cinema Series Presents Don Giovanni" Mozart's sublime tragic comedy offers boundless scope for directors, and Kasper Holten has chosen it to follow his directorial debut of Eugene O'Neill. Main Art Theatre-Landmark, 118 N. Main St., Royal Oak. 7 p.m. March 27. Screenvision.com/cinema-events/don-giovanni-2/

Detroit Film Theatre "Cinetopia" International film festival. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 10 a.m. April 2. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

Italian Film Festival "Italian Film Festival" All films are free and open to the public. Various. Various. April 2-April 30. Italianfilmfests.org

THEATER

Civic/Community Theater

A Streetcar Named Desire \$7-15. The Twin City Players, 600 W. Glenford Road, St. Joseph. April 4 - 27. 269-429-0400. www.twincityplayers.org

Boeing Boeing \$13-24. Kalamazoo Civic Theatre at Civic Auditorium, 329 S. Park St., Kalamazoo. April 4 - 19. 269-343-1313. www.kazoocivic.com

Confessions of the Easter Bunny \$10-12. Emergent Arts at The Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti. March 26 - April 6. 734-985-0875. www.emergentarts.com

The Hobbit \$5-7. All-of-us Express Children's Theatre at Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., Lansing. April 4 - 6. 517-482-5700. www.riverwalktheatre.com

Torch Song Trilogy \$18-20. Stagecrafters at Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak. March 28 - April 13. 248-541-6430. www.Stagecrafters.org

Tribes \$10-15. Peppermint Creek Theatre at Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, South Lansing. March 27 - April 5. 517-927-3016. www.peppermintcreek.org

College/University Theater

King Stag \$5-10. The University Theatre at Williams Theatre inside The Gilmore Theatre Complex, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo. April 3 - 13. 269-387-7222. www.wmutheatre.com

SubUrbia \$10-12. Theatre and Dance at Wayne, Studio Theatre, 4743 Cass Avenue, Detroit. March 27 - April 5. 313-577-2972. www.finearts.wayne.edu

Professional

A View from the Bridge \$25-125. Michigan Opera Theatre at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. April 5 - 13. 313-237-SING. www.michiganopera.org

Bring It On: The Musical \$30-70. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. April 5 - 6. 313-471-6611. www.olympiaentertainment.com

Brother of All \$17-20. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. March 27 - May 18. 313-868-1347. www.detroitreptheatre.com

See Happenings, page 30



Arnold Beckoff (Jamie Richards) and his mother (Rae McIntosh) in the poignant and sharply funny dramedy "Torch Song Trilogy," running March 28-April 13 at the Baldwin Theatre in downtown Royal Oak. Photo: Lance Luce.

'Torch Song Trilogy' Stands Test Of Time

Stagecrafters Launches Fierstein Play March 28

BY DANA CASADEI

It's the first scene for John Nowaczyk during a recent rehearsal of "Torch Song Trilogy." Nowaczyk's character, Ed, is trying to get the attention of Jamie Richards' Arnold.

"Did you feel seduced Jamie?" Nowaczyk jokes.

After a brief pause Richards says "yes" before sending an email from his phone. Then the two men get on stage for their first scene together.

Three weeks from opening night and both are still on-book for Act I. That doesn't seem to bother director Jerry Haines, who willingly gives lines if either asks.

"It's a great environment to work in," Richards says. "He (Haines) knows I have a hard time, not once the show opens, but learning my lines as I get older. He gives me a lot of leeway on that, which is very nice, because I'm scared shitless."

PREVIEW

Torch Song Trilogy

\$18-20. Stagecrafters, Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak. 8 p.m. March 28-29, April 3-5 & 10-12; and 2 p.m. March 30, April 6 & 13. 248-541-6430.

www.Stagecrafters.org

It doesn't help that this is a dream role Richards thought he would never get a chance to play. Or that Broadway great Harvey Fierstein originated the role. Or that Fierstein won a Tony Award for it. Or that ... well, there's plenty of reasons for Richards to be scared shitless. But Haines knew quickly that Richards would be perfect for Arnold.

"Jamie came prepared; you don't always get that," Haines says. "He (Jamie) read with Rae

See *Torch Song*, page 33

THE MUSIC OF QUEEN
THE SOUL OF A GENERATION

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY SOMEBODY
ANOTHER ONE DOING THE DUST
CRAZY IN THE HEAVEN
WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS
I WANT TO BREAK YOUR HEART
WE'RE HERE TO ROCK YOU
LOVE OF MY LIFE
CRAZY NIGHTS
WE WILL ROCK YOU

THE MUSICAL BY QUEEN AND Ben Elton

BEGINS TUESDAY • Fisher Theatre • April 1-13

TICKETS AS LOW AS \$35

BROADWAY IN DETROIT SPONSORED BY IMPORTED FROM DETROIT™ ChryslerCurrentOffers.com

Tickets: ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 & box office.
Shows: Tues.-Fri. 8PM; Sat. 2PM & 8PM; Sun. 2PM & 7:30PM.
Open Caption performance April 6.
Info: BroadwayInDetroit.com & 313-872-1000.

The Theatre Company
at University of Detroit Mercy presents EST. 1970

March 28 - April 6

Memory House
by Kathleen Tolan

A heart-warming drama!

For tickets call 313-993-3270
theatre.udmercy.edu

UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY

March 28, 29*, 30, April 4**, 5, 6
at the Grounds Coffeehaus - 4001 W McNichols Rd *Afterglow **Talkback
Adults \$20, \$17
Students \$10, \$5

► Happenings

Continued from p. 28

ComedySportz Michigan Actors Studio, 648 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 877-636-3320. www.comedysportzdetroit.com

Disney's Beauty and the Beast \$29-89. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. March 25 - 30. 313-872-1000. www.broadwayindetroit.com

Dreamtigers \$5-10. PuppetART at Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. Through March 30. 313-961-7777. www.puppetart.org

Falling \$25-40. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Through April 13. 248-377-3300. www.mbtheatre.com

Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune \$15-25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. Through April 19. 517-655-SHOW. www.williamstontheatre.org

Hell Hath No Fury Like a Woman Scorned \$44.50-52.50. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. March 29 - 30. 313-471-6611. www.olympiaentertainment.com

Her Highness, The Prince \$17-20. Comic Opera Guild, Towsley Auditorium, Morris Lawrence Building, WCC, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor. April 5 - 6. 734-973-3264. www.comicoperaguild.org

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

Jackie & Me \$12-18. Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Through April 6. 810-237-1530. www.flintyouththeatre.org

Love is Strange \$15-18. Magenta Giraffe Theatre Company at The Abreact Performance Space, 1301 W. Lafayette #113, Detroit. April 4 - April 26. 313-454-1542. www.magentagiraffe.org

Memory House \$10-20. UDM Theatre Company at Grounds Coffeehaus, 4001 W. McNichols Road, Detroit. March 28 - April 6. 313-993-3270. <http://theatre.udmercy.edu>

Memphis \$25-65. Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. March 28 - 29. 586-286-2222. www.macombcenter.com

Men Are From Mars - Women Are From Venus Live! \$54. City Theatre, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. March 28 - 30. 313-471-6611. www.olympiaentertainment.com

Menopause, The Musical \$30-45. GFour Productions, McMorrin Place, 701 McMorrin Blvd., Port Huron. 3 p.m. April 5. 800-745-3000. www.ticketmaster.com

Moon Over Buffalo \$12-30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Through April 5. 313-577-2972. www.hilberry.com

Old Love \$27-32. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. April 3 - May 4. 248-347-0003. www.tippingpointtheatre.com

Once Upon a Time \$3-12. Wild Swan Theatre at Towsley Auditorium in the Morris Lawrence Building on the campus of Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor. March 27 - 29. 734-995-0530. www.wildswantheater.org

Playing by Air: A Symphony of Action & Comedy \$15-25. Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. 3

p.m. March 30. 586-286-2222. www.macombcenter.com

Small Hours Serenade . \$20. Puzzle Piece Theatre at The Box Theater, 90 Macomb Place, Mt. Clemens. March 27 - April 13. 586-954-2677. www.puzzlestage.org

Stuart Little \$10-20. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. 2 p.m. April 5. 313-887-8500. www.musichall.org

Sundays at Go Comedy! Pay-what-you-can at the door. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 248-327-0575. www.gocomedy.net

The American Museum of Magic - On Stage 15-17. The Franke Center for the Arts, 214 E. Mansion St., Marshall. 8 p.m. March 29. 269-781-0001. www.frankecenterforthearts.org

The Current \$15-18. Two Muses Theatre, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. March 21 - April 13. 248-850-9919. www.twomusestheatre.org

The Foreigner \$20. The Snug Theatre, 160 S. Water St., Marine City. Through April 5. 810-278-1749. www.thesnugtheatre.com

The Frog Bride \$9. Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. March 30. 517-432-2000. www.whartoncenter.com

The Miracle Worker \$15-25. Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. 7 p.m. March 27. 586-286-2222. www.macombcenter.com

The Motherfucker with the Hat \$15-20. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. March 28 - April 14. 248-545-5545. www.theringwald.com

Editor's Pick



Feminist icon Carolee Schneemann will visit Cranbrook Art Museum for an afternoon of discussion and more. The multidisciplinary artist is known for her artistic work on the body, sexuality and gender. Cranbrook is currently exhibiting Schneemann's early sketches.

The artist has worked in painting, photography performance art and installation works. Schneeman's art has been shown in Los Angeles, Paris, New York City and more.

"An Afternoon with Carolee Schneemann" begins at 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 30 at Cranbrook Art Museum.

The museum is located at 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. For more information, call 877-462-7262 or visit www.cranbrookart.edu.

The PRTC Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars & Lunatics \$18.50-42. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. April 3 - May 24. 734-433-7673. www.purplerosetheatre.org

Varekai \$35+. Breslin Center, 1 Birch Road, East Lansing. April 2 - 6. 517-432-2000. www.breslincenter.com/events/press/cirque_du_soleil.html

Venus in Fur \$22-41. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through April 6. 734-663-0681. www.performancenetwork.org

We Will Rock You \$35+. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. April 1 - 13. 313-872-1000. www.broadwayindetroit.com

Yes Weed Can \$10-20. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. Through March 29. 313-365-4948.

www.planetant.com

ART 'N' AROUND

Cranbrook Academy of Art and Art Museum "The Islands of Benoit Mandelbrot: Fractals, Chaos, and the Materiality of Thinking" One of the most notable mathematicians of the twentieth century, this exhibition explores the role of images in scientific thinking. Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Nov. 16-March 30. 877-462-7262. Cranbrookart.edu

Cranbrook Academy of Art and Art Museum "My Brain Is in My Inkstand: Drawing as Thinking and Process" An original exhibition that brings together 22 artists from around the world to redefine the notion of drawing as a thinking process in the arts and

sciences alike. Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Nov. 16-March 30. 877-462-7262. Cranbrookart.edu

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

Detroit Artists Market (DAM) "Annual Scholarship Awards & Exhibition". Cranbrook Academy of Art, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Feb. 28-April 5. 877-462-7262. Detroitartistsmarket.org

See Happenings, page 33

Buy Local - Buy Gay

Braun Court

ann arbor, mi

out \aut\ adv: into the open

\aut\ BAR
Where LGBT Ann Arbor meets, eats, drinks, and plays!

315 Braun Court
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734.994.3677
www.autbar.com

SH \aut
Cabaret and Gallery

325 Braun Court
Ann Arbor, MI

Common Language Bookstore

317 Braun Court
Ann Arbor, MI
734.663.0036
www.glbttbooks.com

Detroit Repertory Theatre Presents

Directed by Lynch Travis

World Premiere

BROTHER OF ALL

BY JIM HENRY
DIRECTED BY LYNCH TRAVIS

MAR. 27 TO MAY 18, 2014

A mysterious puzzle about three men driven by Cherokee legend and loyalty.

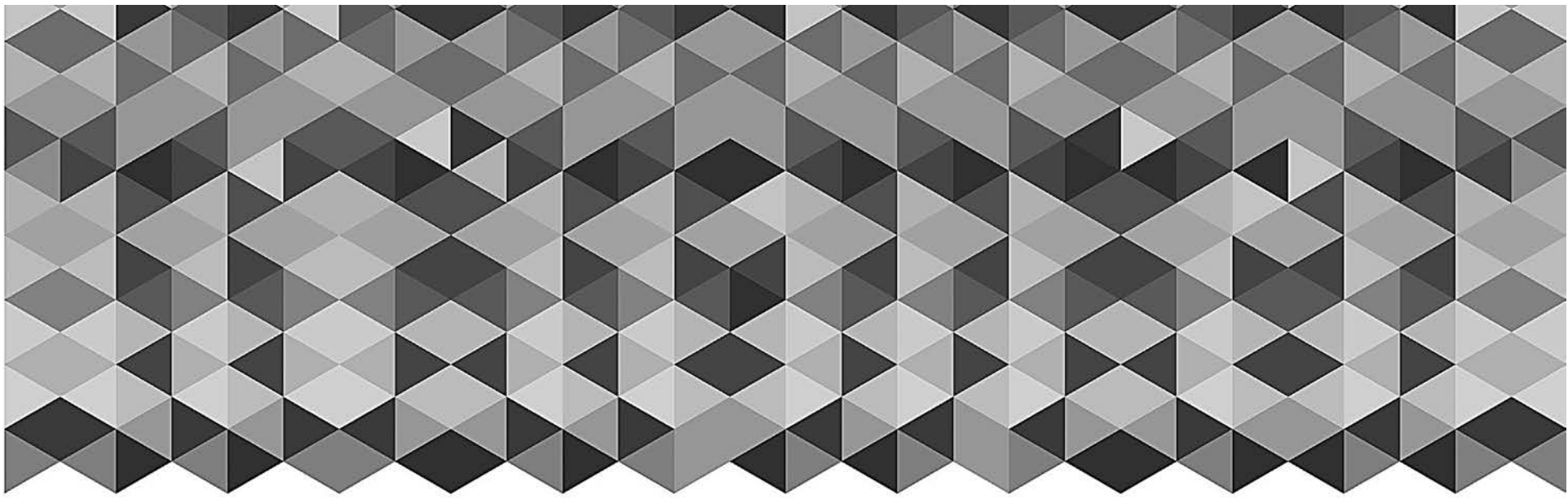
GEN'L ADM. \$20

Free Attended Parking

ADV. ADM. \$17

Free Attended Parking

Box office & Information 313-868-1347



AFFIRMATIONS CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

SILVER JUBILEE

25

APRIL 5, 2014

COBO HALL, DETROIT

TICKETS: GENERAL/**\$150** (\$175 AFTER MARCH 1), VIP/**\$300**, SPONSOR/**\$500**

All ticket levels open bar and dinner.

Tickets at www.GoAffirmations.org





Say Hi To
Clover!

Say hello to Clover! This 7-month-old Border Collie/Pit Bull mix is a sweet as they come! She is easy-going but has the energy to stay active with you and your family! The adoption fee includes sterilization, age-appropriate vaccinations, the MHS Adoption Guarantee and much more. For more information, visit or call the MHS Rochester Hills Center for Animal Care at (248) 852-7420 and provide the pet ID number, 770719.



Pet of the Week made possible by
Patterson Dog & Cat Hospital
3800 Grand River Ave., Detroit

313-832-7282

www.pattersondogandcat.com

A Tension Getter Massage Therapy

by David Rosenberg
(734) 662-6282

Therapeutic Massage
gets rid of back, neck and
shoulder pain



2 Downtown Locations

Ann Arbor **Berkley**
209 West W. 12 Mile Road
Kingsley (just west of Greenfield)

(Couple blocks
west of
main, between
Ashley & 1st.)

*"I can bring my
massage table to your
home, too!"*

Massage Class for Men

Sheets, showers and
lotions provided

Learn some
massage techniques.

Meet others in a
safe and caring environment.

Thursday at 2 pm.
Tuesdays & Saturdays at 8pm
\$10 per session
209 W. Kingsley St.
Ann Arbor, MI
(734) 662-6282

Find me on the Internet at
<http://www.trymassage.com>

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

112 ANNOUNCEMENTS - VOLUNTEERING

Participate in the Ulti- mate LGBT Wedding & Anniversary Expo

Looking for individuals to help
out and have fun at the Ultimate
LGBT Wedding & Anniversary
Expo April 12 at the Soufield
Civic Pavilion. Please contact
Bill at 248-809-9644 or bill@
thequintessentialevent.com

320 EMPLOYMENT - WANTED

CASHIER WANTED

Uptown Adult Superstore (Dvd's,
Toys, etc)
Detroit area, must be 18yrs old
Cashier, stock & cleaning
Benefits-Hol/Vac/Health
16541 Woodward Ave. or
call (313)869-9477 to apply

428 PROF. SERVICES - MASSAGE

GROUP MASSAGE

- For Gay and Bisexual Men.
Learn some massage techniques
and meet others in a safe and
caring environment. Tuesdays and
Saturdays at 8 p.m. Thursdays at
2 p.m. \$10 per session. 209
West Kingsley in downtown Ann
Arbor. (734) 662-6282 or email
Massage4@aol.com. [http://
www.trymassage.com](http://www.trymassage.com)

704 HEALTH & FITNESS - GENERAL

NEED DENTAL SERVICE

See the nations first \$4 Dental Plan
No Waiting Period
Health Alliance 877-212-8100
www.AffordableHealthCareDental.com

**WARNING
HOT GUYS!**
313.962.5000
FREE to listen
& reply to ads!
FREE CODE: 2532
For other local numbers call
1-888-MegaMates™

To place a classified ad with us, visit
pridesource.com/classifieds
or call us at 734-293-7200 x15

Naked Men's YOGA

Meets in Ann Arbor
TUESDAYS AND SATURDAYS 6:30-7:30 PM

Contact Dave at massage4@aol.com
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/
michigan_mens_clothing_optional_yoga](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan_mens_clothing_optional_yoga)



Solution to puzzle from page 34

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

► Torch Song

Continued from p. 29

(McIntosh), who is playing the mother, and I knew instantly that he was right.”

“Aw thanks,” Richards replies.

Richards jokes that his role is very small, that he’s just the annoying neighbor who talks a lot. Half of that is true; his character does talk a lot, but the role isn’t small.

During the three-hour-plus play, Richards portrays Arnold Beckhoff. Each act will see Arnold, a gay drag queen living in New York, at a different stage in his life. The show was written in the early ’80s, which Haines says gives it some character. But that doesn’t mean it isn’t relevant today.

“When Harvey Fierstein wrote this, I don’t know that he had any idea that it would stand the test of time, but it has,” Haines says. “The themes in it ring true today.”

While the play focuses largely on gay men, on them getting married and starting a family, Richards says that the situations could be applied to anyone, gay or straight, single or in a relationship; Fierstein’s text is that good. Richards says that all you would have to do is change a couple pronouns and the play could easily be about a heterosexual couple. Fights, loves and losses – it’s all about the human experience.

“Those struggles are always going to be there,” Richards says. “Until we’re all robots.”

In all seriousness, though, both men are glad that Stagecrafters is taking a risk on a show

like this – especially on its main stage. More conservative shows tend to be done there.

When Haines found out that the selection committee was considering this show, he was “all about it,” even though he only knew the 1988 film.

“That was enough for me,” Haines laughs. “When I finally read the play, I was like, ‘Whoa.’ Then when I got the show I was like, ‘This is huge.’”

But neither Richards or Haines wanted to merely repeat what was done on Broadway. Richards is quick to say that he is no Fierstein. Plus, he didn’t want to just do a gravelly voiced impression. He also said the show was intimidating because of how close he’s always felt to it. It’s been a big part of his life as a gay man.

Haines wanted to take the show on its merit and make sure audiences see Arnold as Jamie, not Fierstein. It was also important to keep the show fresh, new and real.

“For me that’s what will make this work,” Haines says. “And then there’s the drag queen.”

The show was originally written for a torch singer, who shows up in Act I and in between some scenes at a piano. Since Stagecrafters is doing four musicals this year, “Torch Song Trilogy” didn’t get a budget to cover musicians. Enter Marcuz Weatherspoon as Lady Blue, the aforementioned drag queen. Haines said Lady Blue will open each act.

“I’m really looking forward to how it all comes together at this point,” Haines says.

And don’t you worry about Richards. “I will have my lines,” he says. “I promise.”

► Happenings

Continued from p. 30

Detroit Institute of Arts “Samurai: Beyond the Sword” The exhibition looks at how Japan’s legendary warrior class sought balance between military and cultural pursuits. Tickets: \$8-16. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. March 9-June 1. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

Downriver Council for the Arts “Global Project for Peace” International Art Exchange for Peace. Downriver Council for the Arts, 81 Chestnut, Wyandotte. April 1-April 21. 734-720-0671. Downriverarts.org

Flint Institute of Arts “Point of View: Contemporary African American Art from the Elliot & Kimberly Perry Collection” Art from former NBA player and his wife. Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Jan. 26-April 13. 810-234-1695. Flintarts.org

Janice Charach Gallery “Breaking the Mold Glass and Clay Exhibit Sale Janice Charach Gallery” Opening Reception on Sunday, March 16th from 1-4 p.m. Refreshments will be served. This exhibit celebrates 25 cutting edge local artists. Janice Charach Gallery, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. March 16-April 17. 248-432-5579. Charachgallery.org

Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum “The President’s Photographer: Fifty Years Inside the Oval Office” The exhibition features 50 framed images and a text panel with brief biographical information on each photographer. Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, 7400 Bay Road, University Center. Feb. 3-May 24.

989-964-7125. Marshallfredericks.org/presidents

MOCAD “James Lee Byars: I Cancel All My Works at Death”. Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Feb. 7-May 4. 313-832-6622. Mocadoetroit.org

MOCAD “Tabernacle: A Metamorphic Healing Module” New York-based artist Sameer Reddy’s practice aims to catalyze spiritual catharsis through aesthetic encounter, drawing on his parallel professional practice as a healer. Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Feb. 7-May 4. 313-832-6622. Mocadoetroit.org

MOCAD “Mobile Homestead” A permanent art work by the late Mike Kelley. Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Jan. 1-June 30. 313-832-6622. Mocadoetroit.org

Pewabic Pottery “Dominance Lost”. Pewabic Pottery, 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. March 21-May 11. 313-626-2000.

Riverside Arts Center “10th Annual Docent Exhibit”. Riverside Arts Center, 76 North Huron Street, Ypsilanti. April 3-April 27. 734-483-7345. Riversidearts.org

Riverside Arts Center “Mosaic Evolution” Both 2D and 3D creations. Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron St., Ypsilanti. March 6-March 29. 734-483-7345. Riversidearts.org

robert kidd gallery “Deep Thaw” An emergence of new and recent acquisitions. robert kidd gallery, 107 Townsend St., Birmingham.

March 22-April 26. 248-642-3909. Robertkiddgallery.com

Saugatuck Center for the Arts “Balancing Point” This unique collaborative exhibition showcases a bold transdisciplinary display of work from some of the Kendall College of Art + Design’s finest student and alumni artists. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. Feb. 7-April 6. 269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

The Scarab Club “Bill Rauhauser: The Three Iron Rules of Street Photography”. The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. Feb. 19-March 29. 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

UMMA “Three Michigan Architects: Part 1-David Osler”. University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Dec. 7-March 31. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

WonderFool Productions “Luminary Workshops” Make your own luminary and join a processional into downtown Ann Arbor. Don’t know how? Come to one our popular drop-in Make your Own Luminary Workshops and get hands on help from several of the region’s most talented public art artists. Beverages provided by Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea. Suggested donation: \$10. Workatle, 118 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. March 2-March 30. 734-763-7550. Wonderfoolproductions.org

THE FINEST IN ADULT ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BEST PRICES!



ALL XXX
DVD RENTALS
AS LOW AS 99c
EVERY DAY!



BUY
ADULT DVD'S
STARTING AT
\$5.95



EVERY TUES & FRIDAY
NEW
RELEASE
DAY

**UPTOWN
BOOKSTORES
ADULT VIDEO**

2 LOCATIONS

WWW.UPTOWNADULTVIDEO.COM

UPTOWN SALE
\$10 OFF ANY \$50 PURCHASE
\$20 OFF ANY \$100 PURCHASE
REGULAR MERCHANDISE ONLY!
MARCH 17-31, 2014

APRIL SPECIAL
20% OFF
ALL DVD'S
ALL LOTIONS & NOVELTIES
APRIL 1-17, 2014
REGULAR PRICED DVD'S & NOVELTIES ONLY!

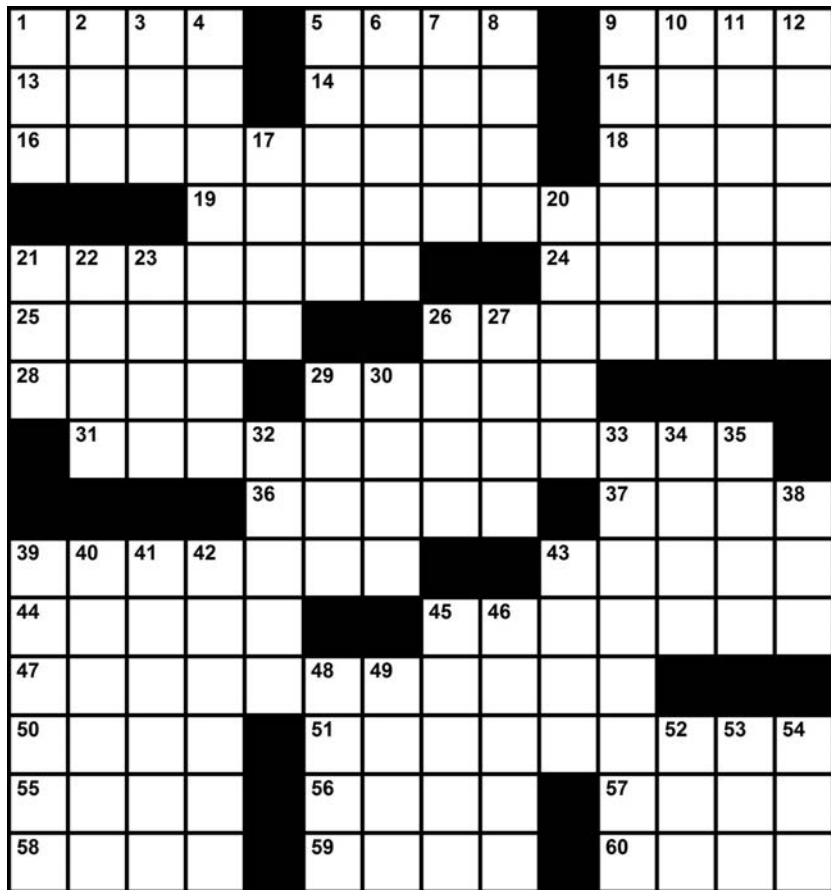
Rush - Jungle Juice Platinum - Maximum Impact - Swiss Navy Lube Silicone - Uninhibited 2-Ring Harness - Wii Vibe - Lucid Dreams #14 - Dual Bunny Teaser - Butterfly Kiss Pink - Titan Enlargement System - The Exotic Water Garden Massager

16541 Woodward Ave.
at McNichols next to "Deja Vu"
Highland Park
313.869.9477

16401 W. 8 Mile
Between Greenfield & Southfield
Detroit
313.836.0647

Hours:
Mon-Sat 9am - 10pm
Sun Noon - 8pm

Dallas Buyers Club Med



Across

- 1 Where boxers are visible
 5 Prick
 9 Regarding
 13 Chocolate sandwich
 14 Part used in forking around
 15 Direction from Stephen Pyles
 16 Last name in out talk-show hosts
 18 Emulate Clay Aiken
 19 Start of a "Dallas Buyers Club" med comment
 21 Wilde country
 24 "The Wizard of Oz" scorer Harold
 25 Balls in battle
 26 Whitman and Proust
 28 Wolfson of Freedom to Marry
 29 Bethlehem product
 31 End of a "Dallas Buyers Club" med comment
 36 Sentence subjects, often
 37 Like Palm Springs' climate
 39 No one can collect it
 43 One ruled by a dictator?
 44 Freudian slip follower
 45 Lickety-split
 47 Character who made the comment
 50 Disney sci-fi flick
 51 Rita Mae Brown novel

55 Type of crime

- 56 A girl named Frank
 57 Singer Anita
 58 You might ride one in Aspen
 59 Monster's loch
 60 Fairy godmother's stick

Down

- 1 Poet McKuen
 2 It makes one hot
 3 Master of photog.
 4 Tries for a Hail Mary
 5 Howard, who went drag for "Miss America"
 6 Fagged out
 7 From the top
 8 Rupert Everett's "The Next ____ Thing"
 9 State with conviction
 10 Sit on, in a way
 11 Fire starter
 12 Keyboardists finger them
 17 Home st. of Maupin
 20 Ethiopia's Selassie
 21 "____ Got You Under You Under My Skin"
 22 Sitarist Shankar
 23 Cowboy actor Jack
 26 Get off the breast

- 27 Stonewall Jackson and others
 29 Like an A-List gay
 30 Oddly shaped testicle?
 32 Bridge bid, briefly
 33 Transfer of computer info
 34 Unrefined metals
 35 "Is so!" rebuttal
 38 Initial sound, in "The Sound of Music"
 39 Results of nongay sex
 40 Lacking family values
 41 Indicate
 42 Occurred to (with "on")
 43 Where a cobbler puts the tongue
 45 Jeremy of "Brideshead Revisited"
 46 Schnozzolas
 48 "The Good Earth" heroine
 49 Ready to come out of the oven
 52 Lupino of "Women's Prison"
 53 Boy played by Martin and Duncan
 54 Rock guitarist Barrett

Solution on pg. 32

We speak LGBTQIA

8 0 0 8 7 2 2 4 3 7

The Michigan HIV/STD Hotline.
 Live weekdays, 10 am - 6 pm.

All calls with our live expert are free and anonymous.

A program of
AIDS PARTNERSHIP MICHIGAN
 Funded by MDCH

HARD CORE GAY PORN CLEARANCE SALE!!!

SAVE 50% OFF 100's OF XXX DVD'S!
100'S MORE MARKED DOWN TO JUST \$10.00

**LUBES
 CLEANING SOLVENTS
 DILDOS
 FLESHJACKS
 BUTT PLUGS
 PUMPS
 C/RINGS
 & MORE!**

BLUE MOON VIDEO/DVD SALES & RENTALS

JOIN OUR DVD RENTAL CLUB! FREE DAILY RENTALS!* (see store or facebook for details)

facebook/bmvdvd

DISCOVER NETWORK MasterCard VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS

OPEN EVERYDAY MON-SAT 11AM-MIDNIGHT SUNDAY 11AM-10PM
7041 W. 8 MILE 1 MILE WEST OF WOODWARD 313-340-1730

"Best Investment we've ever made!"



How? By giving you:

- **Guaranteed Energy Savings**
- **Up to 10 Year Parts & Labor Warranty**
- **Whisper Quiet and reliable**
- **Greater Comfort**
- **Increased Property value**

The Best for Last

We hear that a lot. Many customer's wish they'd replace their old heating and cooling systems sooner!

You may think a new system is "too much" until you realize your old system's real cost.

Just like an old car may be cheap, but after adding repairs, unreliability, and poor mileage, is it worth it? The same is true for a heating and cooling system's real cost.

Can pay for itself, plus more!

A new system from Hinson Home Comfort can save you money, time, and trouble.

With one of our great finance plans, you may save more than you're spending?

Now you see how this can be your best investment too! Invest a moment now and call **248-541-7007** for your **FREE ENERGY ANALYSIS**. The call and survey are free, but your returns may be great!

Hinson
HOME COMFORT SERVICE
(248) 541-7007

Do More. Feel Better. Live Longer.



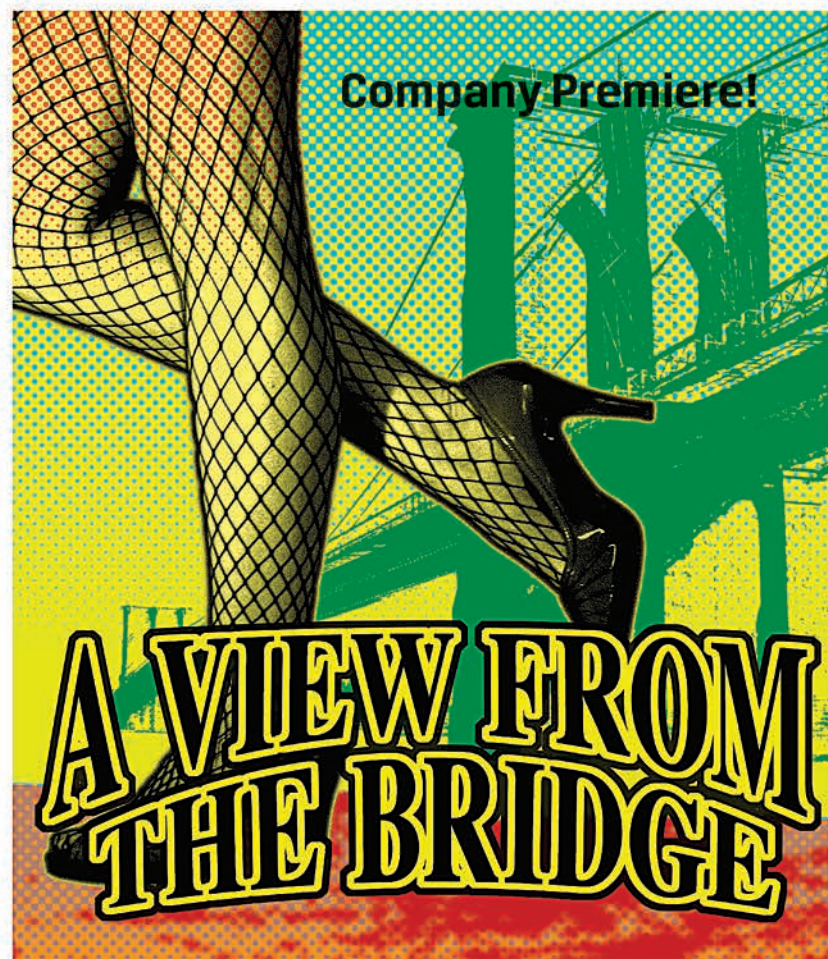
Be Well
Medical Center

- ◆ Board Certified in Family Medicine
- ◆ Credentialed as a HIV Specialist by the American Academy of HIV Medicine
- ◆ Preventative Health Services ◆ Most Insurances Accepted
- ◆ Experienced in Your Lifestyle
 - HPV & Hepatitis Vaccinations
 - Rapid HIV & STD Testing
 - Anal PAP Smears
 - Treatment of HIV Facial Lipotrophy



A Healthcare Team
Dedicated to Your Lifestyle
Led by Dr. Paul Benson,
Supporting Our Community Since 1980

Dr. Paul Benson • 1964 W. 11 Mile Rd. • Berkley, MI
(248) 544-9300 • www.DoctorBeWell.com



access.opera

The Detroit Opera House invites young professionals, ages 18-40, to join us for this timeless story of blood loyalty, transgressive love and inflamed jealousy!
Featuring Grammy, Pulitzer and Detroit Music Awards winning Michigan composer, WILLIAM BOLCOM

DRAMA IN THE D Wednesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.
at the Detroit Opera House

ACCESS TICKETS START AT JUST \$25 and include:

- Main-floor seats for over 50% off
- A complimentary drink at an exclusive, post-performance reception
- A chance to meet the cast!

To Purchase Access Tickets or Subscriptions
Call the Detroit Opera House ticket office at **313.237.SING**
Visit www.MichiganOpera.org/access for more information

Limit 2 tickets per person, per event; guests must be 18-40. All tickets held at will-call; valid ID required. Offer not valid on previously purchased tickets. No refunds.



2013-14 Access.Opera / Access Dance Media Sponsor

MASCO CORPORATION
Access.Opera / Access. Dance is supported by the Masco Corporation Foundation

GOLD SPONSORS

C&N PARTY RENTALS

STAR TRAX
EVENT PRODUCTIONS

SILVER SPONSORS



B. Ella Bridal



Comerica Bank



BRONZE SPONSORS



BILL HAMILTON DESIGNS

Marriott
DETROIT LIVONIA

Miner's Den
JEWELERS

The Village Chapel, LLC

Between^{THE}Lines PRESENTS

THE ULTIMATE **LGBT** WEDDING EXPO & ANNIVERSARY

APRIL 12, 2014 | 12 P.M. 26000 Evergreen Rd., Southfield, MI 48076
SOUTHFIELD CIVIC PAVILION Tickets: \$10 Advance, \$15 Door

*Fabulous Food Court
Daring Fashion Show
Free Wine Samples & Cash Bar
Vacation Giveaways
Dance Party Finale
Valuable Prizes, Coupons & Discounts
Over 25,000 Square Feet of Fun with Over 70 Vendors*

COME CELEBRATE MARRIAGE EQUALITY IN MICHIGAN!



MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE CELEBRATING 20 YEARS
BTL
Between^{THE}Lines

WWW.BTLWEDDINGEXPO.COM | 734-293-7200 x15