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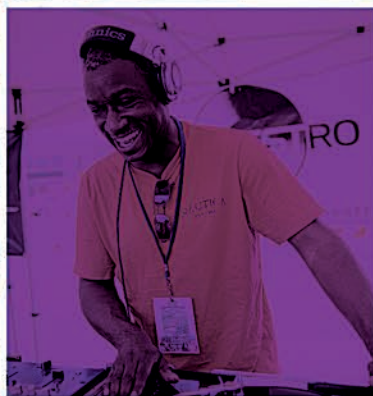
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– Bianca Del Rio, winner of “RuPaul's Drag Race,” pg. 36

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The happily married couple: James Kirwan and Paul Bruce. Photo: James Kirwan

# A Perfectly Normal Guy: Teacher/Theater Impresario Paul Bruce

BY AMY J. PARRENT

If you're going to read Paul Bruce's list of accomplishments out loud, take a big breath first. You'll need it. He's a fantastic teacher who works mostly with students of immigrant families. He's an ex-Up With People member, a theatrical multi-threat and a serious doll collector. And a new husband to Jim Kirwan. Bruce teaches world geography and U.S. history at Salina Intermediate School in Dearborn. After working with first graders for 10 years, he was given the opportunity to teach social studies, his favorite subject.

"Most people think, 'Oh, junior high school monsters.' But they're the sweetest kids," he said.

Back in the late '90s, Bruce took a two-year break from teaching to do theater in New York. His revue "A Perfectly Normal Boy (Every Gay Man's Life in Thirty Musical Numbers or Less)" played off-Broadway at the Sanford Meisner Theater, and his cabaret act "Bachelors and Broads," a celebration of gay men and women of size, played The Duplex.

Within a month of returning to Michigan – "the day after Thanksgiving," he remembers – he met Kirwan.

After 14 years together, they had a practical reason for getting married: Last year they discovered the IRS would allow any two married people to file jointly, no matter where they live. So last fall, when Bruce's school was closed for a three-day Muslim holiday, they traveled to Niagara Falls and were married at

the clerk's office.

"I saw the line of [gay] couples waiting with us and thought, 'My state is losing a fortune,'" he said.

The frustrations of Michigan's laws leave the couple in a limbo in other ways – for instance, Kirwan's healthcare.

"Our governor – that asshole – attempted to keep same-sex couples from getting [a partner's] benefits," said Bruce. "A judge rightly threw that out, saying he couldn't tell private companies what to do. But I'm a teacher, a public employee, so I can't get those benefits for Jim."

But because their marriage is recognized by the Federal government, their combined income, not just Kirwan's, is used to determine an ACA premium, putting it over what they want to pay.

So for now, Kirwan is without health insurance.

Asked whether discrimination had ever been a concern when he went into teaching, Bruce acknowledged, "That was something you didn't talk about. It wasn't until we got married that I learned how loved I am at school.

"When I came back after the wedding, a little girl – and you have to remember she's dressed traditionally, she's covered – came up to me and said, 'Congratulations.' I turned around and I was surrounded by a gaggle of girls. I was thinking, 'You do know I married a man?'" But they had seen the couple's



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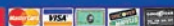
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# Michigan Faith Leaders Forge Coalition To Support Same-Sex Marriage, Educate Public And Media

## Group Calls On Press To Expand Christian Message As One Of Acceptance

BY PAULETTE NIEMIEC

**DETROIT** - Over 40 clergy from several faith traditions gathered on May 22 at Salem Memorial Church in support of same-sex marriage. The press conference was sponsored by the Michigan for Marriage coalition and featured churches, pastors, ministers and people of many faiths who are in support of same-sex marriage.

Those gathered asked the press to address years of the media portraying Christians as a group of people who fight against those who are lesbian, gay and transgender.

"We demand the press stop portraying hateful voices as the mainstream Christian voice," said Rev. Matthew Bode. He summarized the theme of the conference and the reason for having the event. "We call on all members of the media to pause before uplifting those who are hateful church groups. To pause before showing Christians as being those who hate. If you want stories, if you want quotes from the Christian community, we will give them to you," he said.

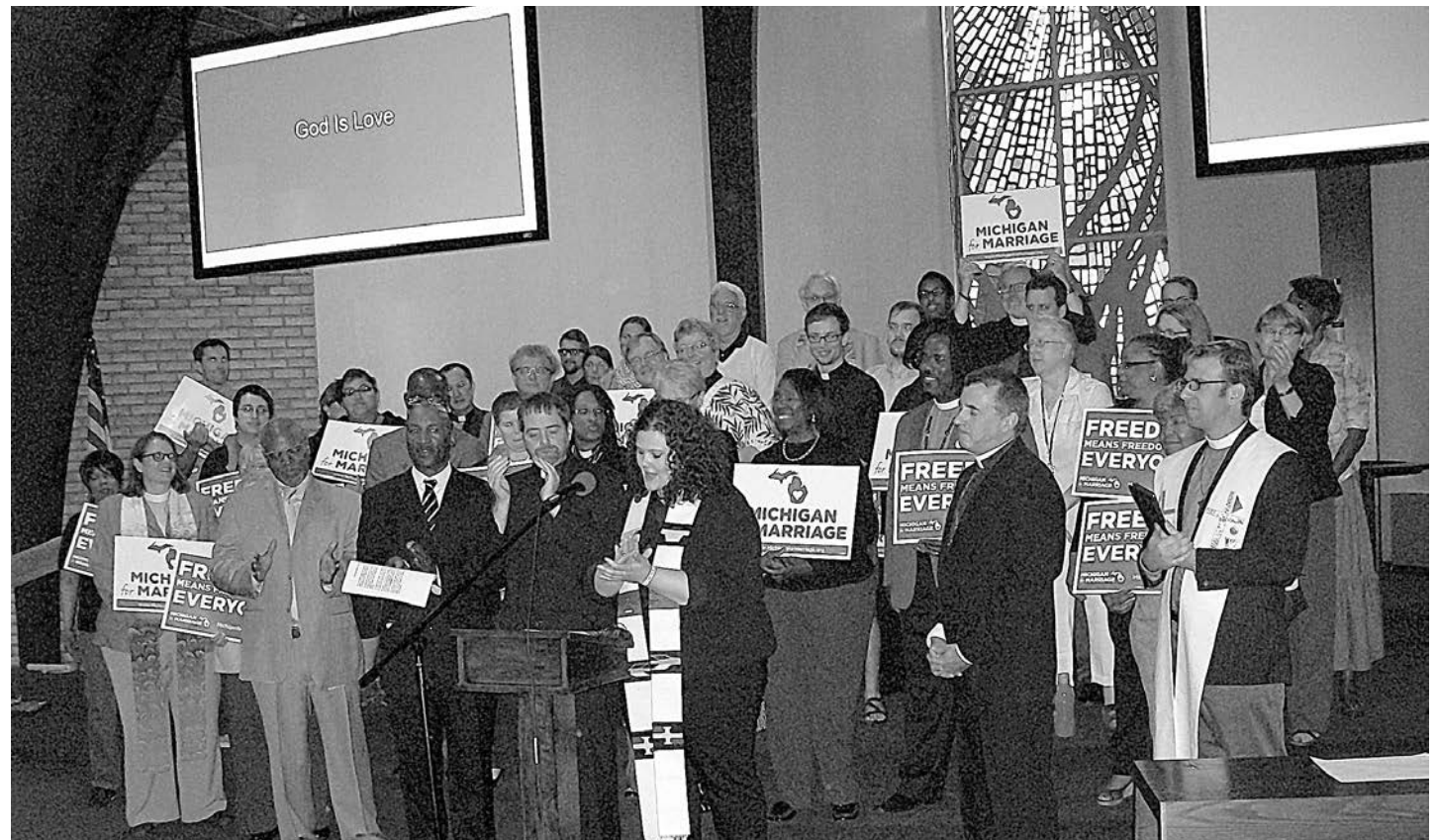
Recently, a group comprised mostly of African-American pastors made remarks against same-sex marriage and homosexuality. Throughout the last three decades, the popular view portrayed in the media has been mostly negative. Christian leaders have often been heard quoting from the Bible and speaking out against homosexuality in general and same-sex marriage in particular.

"We are here as Christian leaders to say, 'This is NOT our voice,'" said the Rev. Lindsey Anderson, who opened the ceremony. The theme of the press conference was, "God is Love," with these words projected on screens on both sides of the assembly.

"We are here to say we are on the side of the God of compassion," Anderson continued. "We believe in a God who is not on the side of division."

As a sign of Christian unity, five other ministers spoke at the conference from a variety of Christian denominations including Lutheran, Episcopal, Baptist, Metropolitan Community Church, United Church of Christ and several others. The most visible of these were two African-American pastors who stated they were opposed to the portrayal in the media of Christians who represent hate and mistrust of the LGBT community.

"I am an African-American Reverend Minister, and I am a leader of a community that



Faith leaders have joined together to support same-sex marriage in Michigan. They gathered at press conference May 22 in Detroit to call on media to include their message of love and acceptance of LGBT people and their right to marry. BTL Photo: Paulette Niemiec

has endured slavery and I stand behind those who are lesbian, gay and transgender," said Pastor Michael Johnson of Salem Lutheran Church. "Our Christian tradition supports love and same-sex marriage is about love."

Anderson made an emotionally charged speech for several minutes describing how Christians have used scripture passages to support acts of discrimination, hate and even violence towards those who are lesbian, gay or transgender. He explained how the Bible has been used to support such acts as slavery, the holocaust, abuse of women and many other forms of hate and acts of violence. "The black community needs to stand up and fight for the rights of all people, because God is a God who is for all," he said.

Another African-American preacher, Michael Nabors, a Baptist pastor from Detroit, echoed his sentiments. "If we don't learn from history we are doomed to repeat it," he explained after the conference. "We don't want people to think the Church is on the wrong side of the issue."

There were some surprises at the conference as well. The Rev. Donald Kreiss, Bishop of the Southeast Michigan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Christian Association, was possibly the biggest of them all. He addressed all in attendance by making several references to how the Christian Church is supposed to be a place where people can go to feel safe. He also made a clear statement of support for same-sex marriage. "When a loving couple comes together to make a commitment as a couple, opposite-sex or same-sex, it strengthens our community and it strengthens our Churches," he exclaimed.

The most impassioned speech came from openly gay Pastor Matthew Bode, an Evangelical Lutheran pastor from Detroit. "We are Christian leaders who support gay, lesbian and transgender people who have been abused and beaten down by Christians for a long time. The LGBT community has been fighting against those who may be here to fight... but we are here to love and embrace."

Michigan for Marriage, the campaign that

sponsored the event, said in a press release, "Our faith traditions and our values have taught us to love God, not to judge and to treat others the way we want to be treated. Our values - love, welcoming, justice, commitment and family, lead us to affirm the freedom to marry for all loving and committed couples. Granting the freedom to marry in Michigan will change nothing. Some faith traditions will choose to marry same-sex couples, while others choose not to. Passing marriage equality in Michigan would not affect religious marriages, religious institutions or clergy in any way... Religious freedom will remain protected."

Anderson summarized the message towards the end: "We Christians believe in a God of love and justice. We stand with all our Christian brothers and sisters who are lesbian, gay or transgender. That's how it should be."

For more information on Michigan for Marriage visit [www.michiganformarriage.org](http://www.michiganformarriage.org).



# Polls Show Growing Public Support For Gay Marriage

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**DRAWING ENDA AS THE LINE IN THE SAND** A group of LGBT leaders in San Diego issued an open letter May 21 supporting a push for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) and a vote for U.S. Rep. Scott Peters, the Democratic incumbent representing San Diego (Congressional District 52). Peters supports ENDA, and his openly gay Republican challenger Carl DeMaio has appeared less passionate about it. In November, according to examiner.com, DeMaio told a San Diego State University audience that he supports ENDA but doesn't think Congress should legislate "social issues." The May 22 letter, signed by California Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins, San Diego City Council President Todd Gloria and others states, "Those seeking to support true equality and represent our community must be leaders, and public support and advocacy for this critical civil rights legislation should be the minimum we expect."

**LOG CABIN ADS ATTACK JARED POLIS** The national gay Republican group Log Cabin Republicans has aired three "attack ads" against openly gay U.S. Rep. Jared Polis. According to a report in the Denver Post, the latest ad mocks Polis' personal wealth to say he's out of touch with the average Coloradoan when he opposes natural gas development in the state, thus denying thousands of jobs and affordable heating. In retort, Polis teased the group about the perception that it has relatively few members to support such attack ads: "Oh, did all three of them chip in?"

**ORDINANCE FOES THREATEN RECALL** Opponents of a proposed non-discrimination ordinance in Houston have threatened to organize a recall election against Mayor Annise Parker and other supporters of the bill. They have also threatened a referendum on the measure should it pass May 28, reports KHOU-TV.

**McCONNELL OPPONENT WALKING A LINE** In last Tuesday's primaries, Democrats in Kentucky chose business attorney Alison Lundergan Grimes to go up against Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell in November. McConnell has a zero rating from the Human Rights Campaign on LGBT issues. When asked point blank by a group of Kentucky farmers whether she supports same-sex marriage, Grimes clearly tried to find position somewhere between being "for" or "against" them. According to the Herald-Leader, Grimes said: "I want to be honest ... my husband and I have been married seven years, and the Supreme Court has already determined in my view and decided this issue, and ... I think that if I've been committed than others should be able to have that same commitment. But the Supreme Court --they've already ruled on this, it's a state sovereign issue, and here in the state of Kentucky we already have a constitutional amendment."

**MICHELLE NUNN WALKING THE SAME LINE** U.S. Democratic Senate candidate Michelle Nunn, daughter of former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn, is walking that same delicate line on same-sex marriage in Georgia. She has said she supports the right of same-sex couples to marry but believes the decision about who can marry should be left to the states.

- From Keen News Service

Over the last decade, public opinion on whether gay couples should be allowed to marry legally has reversed, with more now in favor of legal same-sex marriage than opposed to it. The latest AP-GfK poll shows that the share of Americans who favor legal gay marriage in their state outweighs that opposed – 46 percent to 39 percent. Only one in seven say they're neutral on the question, and strong supporters outnumber strong opponents, 35 percent to 28 percent.

**Other findings of the poll:**

– Republicans are sharply divided by ideology on whether gay marriages ought to be legal, with three-quarters of conservative Republicans opposed to gay marriage in the AP-GfK poll, while those Republicans who identify as moderate or liberal are almost evenly split, 43 percent opposed and 42 percent in support.

– Support for gay marriage by region tends to mirror laws, with those in the Northeast and West where more states

allow legal marriages for gay couples more apt to support it than those in the South or Midwest. Majorities support legal gay marriage in the Northeast and West (56 percent in each region), compared with 44 percent in the Midwest and 36 percent in the South.

– Younger Americans are more supportive than older ones, with about half of those under age 50 in favor of legal gay marriage in their state compared with just 33 percent of seniors. That trend holds across party lines, with Republicans under age 30 nearly three times as likely to support legal gay marriage as Republicans age 65 and older. Among Democrats, 78 percent under age 50 support legal gay marriage compared with 55 percent age 65 or older.

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted May 16-19, 2014 using KnowledgePanel, GfK's probability-based online panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. It involved online interviews with 1,354 adults, and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.0

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percentage points for all respondents. Respondents were first selected randomly using phone or mail survey methods, and were later interviewed online. People selected for KnowledgePanel who didn't otherwise have access to the Internet were provided with the ability to access the Internet at no cost to them.

**► Normal Guy**

Continued from p. 4

Facebook profile.

"Later one student said, 'I saw your husband, he's handsome.' Another student brought wedding gifts to school, saying, 'My father and I went shopping for you.' This spring a girl came up to me all excited, asking if I'd heard 'the news.' I thought maybe the volleyball team had won or something, but she was excited about the same-sex marriage ban being struck down."

He said this points out the misconception people have about the Muslim religion, that it is always ultra-conservative and extreme.

"They detest Islamic extremists the way Christians feel about the Westboro Baptist Church," he said.

**A Collecting Passion**

Bruce has been interested in music since childhood. "I was in Sing Out Dearborn as a kid. I toured for a year in Up With People. But I didn't really learn what theater was until later."

He started teaching and eventually found his way to Northville's Marquis Theatre. Acting there led to directing and designing.

"I made the quantum leap to choreography too," he said. "And then morphed into writing scores."



Teacher/composer/thespian/Barbie collector Paul Bruce. Photo: James Kirwan

He's worked with Dearborn's Players Guild, as has actor/designer Kirwan. That company is considering producing his original musical of "Little Women." Another Bruce show, "Madame X," has been performed at Chicago Center for Performing Arts. Recently, he was contacted about the rights to a South Korean production. "Evidently they're crazy about doing new works there," he said.

On top of all this is his active involvement in collecting and selling fashion dolls, in this case vintage and mod Barbies.

"In 1994, I was in a Borders and saw a big coffee table book, an encyclopedia of Barbie. I read it for a half hour, went home, went back and bought it."

Bruce, who's never seen a garage sale he didn't like, started noticing these dolls at such sales, like a Ken doll worth \$250 going for a pittance.

He began a serious collection, became active in clubs and writes articles for hobby magazines, featuring clothing and a "set" he designs, photographed by Kirwan.

"I taught myself how to sew doing this," he said, showing off an upcoming Halloween-themed collection highlighted by a set of dolls in a candy-corn look.

The collectors benefit more than Bruce and Kirwan; At this year's Great Lakes Fashion Doll Club convention, Bruce helped run an auction that raised \$38,000 with proceeds going to local charities.

Bruce and Kirwan live just blocks from the childhood home where Bruce's parents still reside, in a white two-story renovated farmhouse. They share it with a striking cat and what seem to be some friendly spirits who make their presence known, but are not intimidating.

Recalling tales he's heard of past tragedies there, Bruce said, "This house had a bad history. I think (the ghosts) are glad there's happiness here now."



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Rev. Roland Stringfellow BTL photo: Jason A. Michael

# Stringfellow Installed As New MCC-D Senior Pastor And Teacher

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

**FERNDALÉ** – It's been a few months since he stepped into the position, but Rev. Roland Stringfellow was officially installed as senior pastor and teacher of Metropolitan Community Church - Detroit at a special service Saturday at the Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Just days before the service, Stringfellow spoke with *Between The Lines* about the future of MCC-D.

"It's been really great," Stringfellow said of his time at the church so far. "We have seen an increase in people who are attending the church for the very first time. We're also seeing a lot of people who had been longstanding members return to the congregation."

MCC-D's last senior pastor, Rev. Mark Bidwell, left the church in September 2011. Though he is credited with growing the church greatly during his almost 20 years as pastor, he left embroiled in scandal and tragically died just a few months later. An interim pastor, Jim Lynch, served for most of 2012 and 2013. Now, with the

appointment of a new senior pastor, the church is entering into a new phase and, according to Stringfellow, its resilience is shining through.

"I took the time to interview all the

become a teaching congregation. You, as an LGBT person, can go down the street to a Lutheran church that is welcoming and hold your partner's hand. However, what you're not going

**“ I would like to see us become a teaching congregation. ”**

team leadership of the church to really get to know them," Stringfellow said. "With all that has happened, many, many church people would have fled and left the church. But that's not the case here. We really have this unity and that really inspired me as a leader and let me know that I have come into a very healthy congregation."

Now, Stringfellow looks toward the future with great excitement.

"My plan for the congregation is twofold," he said. "First, to continue to strengthen the core of the congregation, and, second, I would like to see us

to get at that church is how then do you recover from all the violence from Bible bashing that has occurred, where people have not been trained in queer theology? I want us as a congregation to be that teaching church for not only the LGBT community, but to other ally congregations as well."

"I'm being installed as senior pastor and teacher," Stringfellow continued. "If you look at the invitation, that's what it says. Even on my business card I want 'senior pastor and teacher,' which is a little unusual. Education is my passion. I

See Stringfellow, page 10



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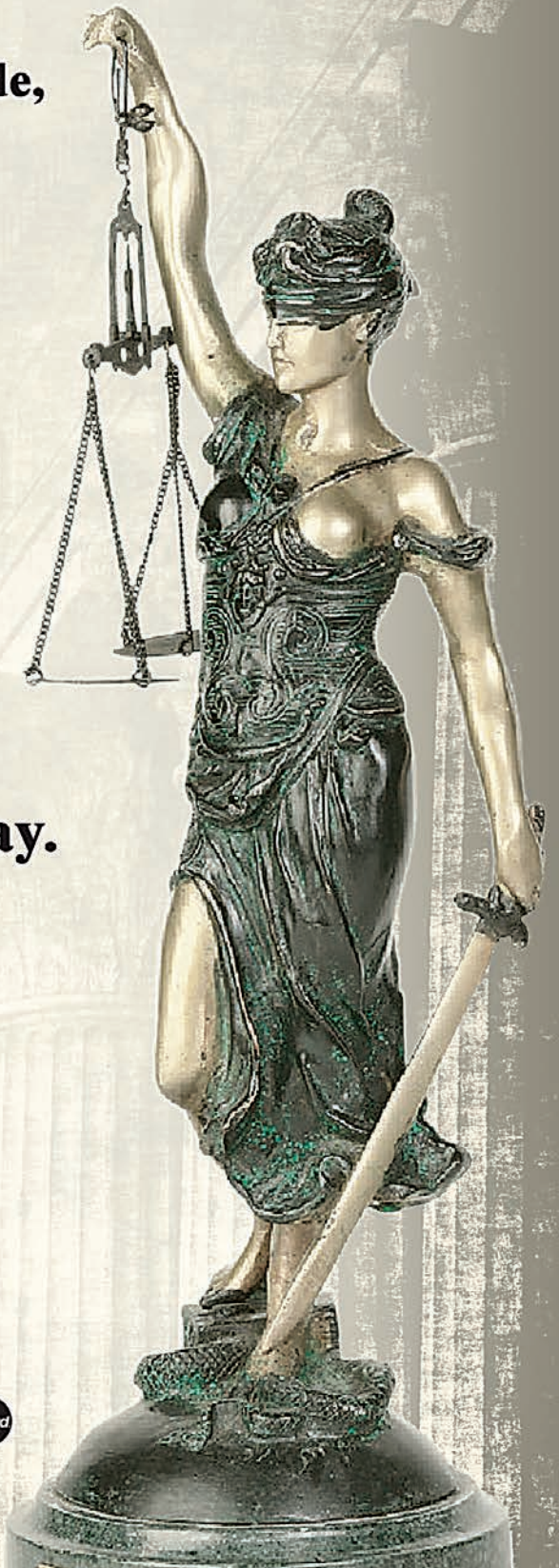
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**► Stringfellow**

Continued from p. 8

feel that when it comes to being LGBT or straight, or if you have a gay child, many, many people really want to understand these Biblical passages that have used to clobber and separate the people. They get so turned off from reading scripture because of how it's mistaught ...

"[The Bible] gives us our identity, our courage and our place. So I want us as an inclusive community to really embrace what's there. And the only way we can do that is if it's not taught so high shelf that everyone can get it and so people can say, 'You know what? I get that and see the application to my daily life.' My goal is to try to attract people through good teaching. When people are inspired to see themselves better than they are now, they can get really electrified and say 'Yes, I want to be in this place because I can see myself growing under this teaching.'"

So far, the church appears to be with Stringfellow in this endeavor.

"It's a new MCC-D," said member Paul Mattson. "MCC is known as the gay church. Last year at MCC's general conference, it was kind of undertaken as a mission to be known as the 'inclusive church' rather than the 'gay church.' That's what the focus is now. I think with us electing Rev. Roland as our new pastor that change is really coming into fruition at the local level. We've got more straight people coming into our congregation, more transgender people and more people of color. And it's really nice to see the face of MCC-D change in that way."

The national leadership of MCC is convinced Stringfellow can make a difference.

"Rev. Roland has that rare combination of being brilliant, well-educated, thoughtful and also kind and compassionate with pastoral skills - as well as a powerful spokesperson and activist - that is perfect for MCC-D," said Rev. Elder Dr. Nancy Wilson, MCC's moderator. "He will bring a new level of excellence and hope to MCC-D."

It was Wilson, in fact, who encouraged Stringfellow to apply for the position of senior pastor after seeing him at last year's convocation. She didn't make the recommendation lightly. MCC-D holds a special place in Wilson's heart, having gotten her ministerial start there many years ago.

"I came to MCC-D as a 25-year-old," she said. "We were less than 30 people, about five years old, and one of the earliest institutions serving the very nascent LGBT community in Detroit. Some of those folks who were there then are still around now. One of those members introduced me to my wife, Paula, now of 36 years. I learned so much from MCC-D."

"I love that the church has been so resilient through ups and downs, HIV/AIDS, tragedies, victories and defeats," Wilson continued. "All along, they have been there for each other and for the community. They are the best of MCC, and they have a great future, especially in attracting the kind of energized and highly qualified leadership they have in Rev. Roland. As the city of Detroit, and the surrounding metropolitan area, moves into a time of recovery and re-invention, I am so hopeful that MCC-D is committed to re-invention as well, in a way that honors their legacy and faces the future with joy."

Make no mistake, Stringfellow said he is committed.

"My challenge is how to inspire our community to see the value of inclusive worship," he said. "How I'm hoping to do this is to really say whoever you are, if you have been excluded from any type of worship, whether you're LGBT, a child out of wedlock, you've been incarcerated, you have a disability, the list goes on and on. We want to be your place. If other churches have turned their backs on you, you have a seat here."

For more information, visit [www.mccdetroit.org](http://www.mccdetroit.org).



# Legal Fight Over Gay Marriage Spreads To 30 States

BY CARSON WALKER AND BRADY MCCOMBS

**SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP)** - Federal lawsuits filed this week in Montana and South Dakota leave just one state - North Dakota - with a gay marriage ban that's not facing some form of legal challenge.

State marriage bans have been falling around the country since the U.S. Supreme Court last year struck down part of the federal Defense of Marriage Act. Now, in 30 states, judges are being asked whether gays should have the right to marry.

"Even though it's happening all around us in other states, this is us, this is real," Nancy Rosenbrahn of Rapid City, South Dakota, told The Associated Press May 22.

She and Jennie Rosenbrahn married in April in Minneapolis and were among the six couples who sued in South Dakota Thursday to overturn that state's gay marriage ban.

In 19 states and the District of Columbia, gay couples can already wed, with Oregon and Pennsylvania becoming the latest to join the list this week when federal judges struck down their bans and officials decided not to appeal.

But opposition in some places remains strong. A spokesman for Montana Attorney General Tim Fox said he will vigorously defend the state's constitutional ban against the lawsuit brought by four gay couples.

In Utah, Gov. Gary Herbert said at a news conference he is also committed to defending his state's ban, and he blasted decisions against doing so by leaders in other states.

"For elected officials, governors or attorney generals to pick and choose what laws (they) will enforce I think is a tragedy and is the next step to anarchy," Herbert said. "We have an obligation as a state to defend those laws."

Here's a look at where things stand with other legal challenges across the country:

## Arkansas

A state judge in Arkansas' largest county earlier this month struck down the state's gay marriage ban, saying the state has "no rational reason" for preventing gay couples from marrying. The state Supreme Court brought the

marriages to a halt and is weighing state officials' appeal.

## Idaho

State officials announced this week they will appeal last week's decision from a federal judge overturning the state's same-sex marriage ban. The appeal goes to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

## Indiana

State attorneys have asked the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago to review a federal judge's recent order requiring Indiana to recognize the out-of-state marriage of a lesbian couple in which one woman is terminally ill. That ruling applies just to one couple - not to others who were legally wed elsewhere and are seeking to have Indiana recognize their marriages.

## Kentucky

After a federal judge ordered Kentucky to recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states, attorney general Jack Conway said he would not defend the state's law. But, the state has hired outside attorneys to handle the case and is appealing to 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati, which has not yet scheduled a hearing.

## Michigan

The 6th Circuit is reviewing Michigan's same-sex marriage ban that was overturned by a federal judge in March following a rare trial that mostly focused on the impact of same-sex parenting on children. Arguments have not been scheduled.

## Nevada

Eight gay couples are challenging Nevada's voter-approved 2002 ban that was upheld by a federal judge in 2012. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco hasn't scheduled arguments yet. Nevada Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto is refusing to defend the ban.

## Ohio

The 6th Circuit appeals court is

reviewing two gay marriage cases from Ohio. The first involves recognizing gay marriages on death certificates, and the second involves an order for Ohio to recognize all out-of-state marriages. Arguments have not been scheduled in either case.

## Tennessee

A federal judge ordered the state to recognize three same-sex couples' marriages while their lawsuit against the state works through the courts. Tennessee officials are appealing the preliminary injunction to the 6th Circuit.

## Texas

A federal judge declared the state's ban unconstitutional, issuing a preliminary injunction. The state is appealing to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court in New Orleans.

## Utah and Oklahoma

The 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver is reviewing same-sex marriage bans that were overturned by federal court judges in these two states. The appeals court heard arguments on both cases in April, and a ruling is expected soon. Utah and Oklahoma voters overwhelmingly passed the bans in 2004.

## Virginia

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond heard arguments this month about Virginia's overturned ban and is expected to rule soon. Virginia's attorney general, Mark Herring, is one of seven in the country who has refused to defend a state gay marriage ban. A county clerk who was sued in Virginia is defending the ban.

## Elsewhere

Other states with court cases demanding recognition of gay marriage are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Most lawsuits challenge same-sex marriage bans or ask states to recognize gay marriages from other states.

## BRIEFS

### Milk Stamp Draws Line At San Francisco Post Office

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** - The post office in San Francisco's Castro District is selling more stamps than usual now that a neighborhood icon is the face of the nation's newest Forever Stamp.



The U.S. Postal Service on Thursday started issuing stamps honoring the late San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk, who was one of the first openly gay men elected to public office and represented the Castro before he was assassinated in 1978.

AIDS Memorial Quilt creator Cleve Jones, who was an aide to Milk, and screenwriter Dustin Lance

Black, who won an Oscar for the 2008 movie "Milk," joined dozens of people who lined up at the Castro post office to buy the new stamp.

Thursday would have been Milk's 84th birthday. He and San Francisco Mayor George Moscone were shot to death at City Hall by Dan White, a former city supervisor.

### New Anti-Gay Remarks By 'Duck Dynasty' Star Emerge

**NEW YORK (AP)** - A&E has declined to comment on new video of "Duck Dynasty" star Phil Robertson reviving past anti-gay remarks.

His comments are included in a sermon delivered at his church in West Monroe, Louisiana on Easter Sunday. Robertson includes homosexuals with other groups such as thieves and adulterers as hell-bound sinners.

Robertson is the bearded patriarch of a clan that manufactures duck calls and became reality-TV stars. In December, he set off a firestorm after GQ magazine quoted him linking homosexual behavior to bestiality. He also made racist statements.

A&E suspended him for nine days. Robertson issued an apology. The video was posted Thursday by RadarOnline. It was posted to YouTube by the Whites Ferry Road Church on April 21.

"Duck Dynasty" is scheduled to begin its sixth season on June 11.

### Small Town Bullies

The Porterville City Council meeting attracted a crowd Monday, as many members of the public showed up to express their anger at Mayor Cam Hamilton's remark last week that child victims of bullying should just "grow a pair" rather than ask for help from the council. The Porterville Recorder said Hamilton walked during the public comment session to do an interview with CNN. In the CNN interview, he said he wished his remarks had been a "little less colorful," but he said a proposal to create "safe zones" in schools doesn't help victims once they leave the safe zones. He said kids need to learn how to "stand up for themselves," but conceded society should also stand up to bullies. "If in fact we see somebody who is being harassed or is being bullied, we as a society - be it out in the city or in the school itself - have the ability to stand up for the person who is being bullied and just tell the bully, 'We're not going to put up with this.'"

- Keen News Service



## My 10 Minutes in Heaven (Pt. 4)



### Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

I'm not quiet sure if it was 12:06 or 12:07 a.m. in my heavenly sojourn. It seems like a century between these 60 seconds.

Believe it or not, two seemingly angelic things are happening to my earthly, cleverly planned obsolescent cellphone.

It chimes in with The Hills Are Alive With The Sound of Music – not my choice for caller ID – apologies to Julie Andrews – and at the same instant my cellphone turns to 14K gold in my hand. (Hope against heavenly hope I've recharged its battery.)

"Hi! It's your old friend Dan Stevens. Remember me? We last chatted in 1981 at Beaumont, almost 35 years ago. I just want you to know I'm fine. Your memory has kept me alive all these years. Remember Larry Gaynier, Jim Hohmann, Jim Proffitt, Tom Bartley, Robert Cunningham? Friends from MCC-D. They're here too. If you like, I'll put them on."

Somehow suspecting that my minutes in Heaven are unfortunately about to run out, I regretfully decline, but

**"What's happening?" I ask a guy wearing a slightly tilted neon-rainbow halo who looks a tad like myself as a teen.**

suggest that leaving brief voicemails in turn for each sadly missed friend, along with a reborn Eternal Selfie of each, would be wonderful.

Concerned that my own gay life to date merits me, at most, a few heavenly minutes – eight have gone by – I briefly reflect that had I quit drinking earlier, attended church more regularly, voted consistently for all inclusive human rights, and against T-Party idiots, my allotted heavenly visit just might be 20 minutes or, dare I hope, a half hour in duration.

My reverie is interrupted by dancing, multi-flashes of silver and golden beams of light illuminating my modest, designer decorated apartment in the Seventh Heaven Condos. Outside, the sun is a gigantic disco ball, red spinning, blue spinning, orange spinning to a medley of ABBA tunes.

Staid, skeptical old timer that I am – my days of Twisting and Huckle Bucking long gone by – I'm moved by the Rainbow Spirit to kick up my spangled red Oz heels and join the rapidly gathering, dancing crowd lining the fabled streets of gold outside.

"What's happening?" I ask a guy wearing a slightly tilted neon-rainbow halo who looks a tad like myself as a teen. He carries a banner that glitters, "Our LGBT Pride March Is Heavenly! For Time and For Eternity!"

He smiles. He hugs me. "Hugging is prayer," he says. My cellphone beeps 12:10. Reluctantly, I leave. My first visit, memorable. However brief. Celebrate Pride 2014!

Charles@pridesource.com

# Report Outlines Discrimination, Abuse Of LGBT People In Judicial System

## BTL STAFF REPORT

A newly released 84 page report, "A Roadmap for Change: Federal Policy Recommendations for Addressing the Criminalization of LGBT People and People with HIV," is one of the first reports of its kind to offer comprehensive federal policy recommendations to address the cycles of criminalization and discriminatory treatment faced by LGBT people and people living with HIV, saying LGBT and PLWH "face sweeping discrimination at all stages of the criminal legal system."

The report, co-authored by the Center for American Progress (CAP), the Center for HIV Law and Policy and Streetwise & Safe, had input from more than 50 organizations working on LGBT and criminal justice policy and "provides an extensive outline of policy measures that federal agencies can adopt to address discriminatory and abusive policing practices, improve conditions for LGBT prisoners and immigrants in detention, decriminalize HIV and prevent LGBT youth and adults from coming in contact with the system in the first place."

"The policing of gender and sexuality pervades law enforcement and the operation of courts and the penal system, often in tandem and in service of racial profiling, targeting of homeless and low-income communities and mass incarceration of people of color," says Andrea Ritchie, coordinator of Streetwise & Safe and co-author of the report. "Addressing discriminatory policing and punishment of LGBT people, and particularly LGBT people of color, should be at the center of the administration's LGBT and criminal justice policy agendas. These are LGBT issues because they affect LGBT lives."

According to the report, 73 percent of all LGBT people and PLWH recently surveyed had face-to-face contact with police during the past five years. For LGBT people of color, more than one-third of these interactions featured some form of harassment or abuse. Five

percent of the respondents also reported spending time in jail or prison, a higher rate than that of the nearly three percent of the total U.S. adult population who are under some form of correctional supervision - jail, prison, probation or

are seen as 'unfit for society,' and are therefore targeted by our justice system."

"Legal equality has not translated into lived equality for LGBT people, especially poor people and people of color," said Dean Spade, co-author and visiting professor at Columbia Law School's Center for Gender & Sexuality Law. "There is still little justice for LGBT people such as CeCe McDonald and countless others who are driven into the criminal legal system by pervasive poverty and systemic discrimination in the distribution of life chances."

"The United States arrests and prosecutes more people on the basis of their HIV status than the rest of the world combined," noted Catherine Hanssens, founder and executive director of The Center for HIV Law and Policy and also a co-author of the report. "The policies that drive these arrests spring from profoundly phobic misconceptions about the actual routes, risks and consequences of HIV transmission and federal health officials' refusal to promote frank, accurate information about sex, sexual orientation and gender identity."

The report, which took 18 months to produce, consists of six main sections - Policing and Law Enforcement, Prisons, Immigration, Criminalization of Youth, Criminalization of HIV and Drivers of Incarceration. The recommendations in each section are very specific, drawing from historical context and providing solid solutions to existing issues like this example from the Drivers of Incarceration section:

(Health and Human Services) should develop anti-LGBT discrimination guidelines for substance use treatment programs and ensure that no one is denied access to treatment because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and that residential substance use programs receiving federal funds are respecting the gender identities of their participants.

For more information, check out the full report online at [www.americanprogress.org/issues/ext/2014/05/07/89117/a-roadmap-for-change-federal-policy-recommendations-for-addressing-the-criminalization-of-lgbt-people-and-people-living-with-hiv](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/ext/2014/05/07/89117/a-roadmap-for-change-federal-policy-recommendations-for-addressing-the-criminalization-of-lgbt-people-and-people-living-with-hiv)

## A ROADMAP FOR CHANGE:

Federal Policy Recommendations for Addressing the Criminalization of LGBT People and People Living with HIV

By  
Catherine Hanssens, Center for HIV Law and Policy  
Asha C. Moudie-Mills, Center for American Progress  
Andrea J. Ritchie, Streetwise and Safe (SAS)  
Dean Spade, Center for Gender and Sexuality Law, Columbia Law School  
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May 2014



**“The United States arrests and prosecutes more people on the basis of their HIV status than the rest of the world combined.”**

— Catherine Hanssens, founder and executive director of The Center for HIV Law and Policy and also a co-author of the report.

parole - at any point in time.

CeCe McDonald – a transgender woman who was released from prison earlier this year after serving 19 months in a men's prison for defending herself against a racist and transphobic attack – contributed the foreword to the report. She wrote, "Police officers use many stereotypes of black trans people to dehumanize me, such as assuming that I am a sex worker." She goes on to say, "People of color and trans people



# Gates: Would Have Allowed Gay Adults In Scouts

BY NOMAAN MERCHANT

**DALLAS (AP)** - Robert Gates, the new president of the Boy Scouts of America, said he would have moved last year to allow openly gay adults in the organization but said he opposes any further attempts to address the policy now.

Gates took over an organization this week that serves about 2.5 million youth but faces continued membership declines and fights over its inclusion of openly gay boys, but not adults. Gates, the former secretary of defense who oversaw the end of the military's ban on openly gay soldiers, addressed those issues Friday, a day after Scouting's national leadership elected him president.

"I was prepared to go further than the decision that was made," Gates told The Associated Press in an interview in advance of a speech before the group's national leaders at its annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee. "I would have supported having gay Scoutmasters, but at the same time, I fully accept the decision that was democratically arrived at by 1,500 volunteers from across the entire country."

The BSA's National Council voted at last year's annual meeting to accept openly gay youth after a months-long process with protests on both sides. Gates planned to

tell Scouting's leaders Friday that a continued fight over the issue threatens BSA's future.

"Given the strong feelings - the passion - involved on both sides of this matter, I believe strongly that to re-open the membership issue or try to take last year's decision to the next step would irreparably fracture and perhaps even provoke a formal, permanent split in this movement - with the high likelihood neither side would subsequently survive on its own," Gates said in prepared remarks.

Gates, 70, who also served as director of the CIA, is a visible advocate for Scouting as it faces a storm of bad publicity.

The Scouts reached out to Gates as he was retiring from the Defense Department and asked him to join their leadership, said Wayne Perry, the departing BSA president. AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson, who was expected to become president this year, agreed to wait another two years to allow Gates to serve now, Perry said.

"We need America to know what the Boy Scouts can do for the youth of America," Perry said, adding that Gates "immediately can reach an audience that we wouldn't otherwise reach."

Gates earned his Eagle Scout award as a 15-year-old growing up in Wichita, Kansas. He has long credited that achievement for giving him the confidence to excel

in nearly five decades of public service, and he stayed involved in Scouting during his career. He has recalled skeet-shooting with young Scouts while he was director of the CIA.

Along the way, Gates became known as someone willing to speak frankly about problems in the institutions he led, often at the risk of offending others. Gates warned BSA's leaders Friday that "maybe it's time for blunt talk."

Over the last decade, the Scouts have faced small, but consistent, declines in membership. Also, high-profile sponsors and corporate donors, including Disney and Lockheed Martin, have cut funding over the exclusion of openly gay adults. Meanwhile, a handful of conservatives who opposed the inclusion of openly gay boys started their own organization, Trail Life USA.

Gates told the AP that he wanted to move the Scouts past that debate and focus on what unites the membership. He said he would push for a heavier focus on local marketing and sharing positive stories about Scouting efforts that are sometimes drowned out by debates over gay rights or child abuse lawsuits filed against the Scouts in several states.

He said he would emphasize to sponsors that "welcoming gay youth is an important step forward."

Gates led the Defense Department when it phased out the ban on openly gay soldiers known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," something gay-rights groups have cited as a hopeful sign for them. But Gates said Friday that the Scouts were different from the CIA or the military, where "I could give an order and people would follow it, at least most of the time." In an organization driven almost entirely by volunteers, officials have to respect differences in opinion, he said.

"The key at this point is to keep focus, again, on the top priority, which is, how do we develop the best possible program for kids, and how do we keep their interests at the forefront?" Gates said.

## Creep of the Week

Dr. Robi Ludwig

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Another day, another terrible thing happening in this world and another person trying to pin it on the gays.



Dr. Robi Ludwig

Piece of shit garbage person Elliot Rodger murdered six people in Isla Vista, California, stabbing three to death in his apartment, and shooting three others. He injured a bunch more. He also killed himself.

Unlike so many mass killings, where we are left wondering why the killer did what he did, Rodger left behind a very detailed explanation via YouTube videos and a written manifesto.

Rodger made clear that he hated women because they would not fuck him even though he, in his own word, was "beautiful." He felt entitled to all the pussy in the world and because women are withholding bitches, he had to kill them. He then methodically planned what he called "The Day of Retribution," which he carried out on May 23.

If you have had the displeasure of reading Rodger's writing or watching his videos, then it is abundantly clear to you why women rejected him. There was clearly something very wrong with him. He was creepy as fuck. Unfortunately, he did not see himself as the problem.

"The Day of Retribution," he wrote in his manifesto, "is mainly my war against women for rejecting me and depriving me of sex and love. If only one girl had given me a chance, tried to get to know me, let me take her out on a date."

Clearly women and girls brought this, like all of the violence they face, on themselves.

Rodger also wrote, "I will destroy all women because I can never have them. I will make them all suffer for rejecting me. I will arm myself with deadly weapons and wage a war against *all women and the men they are attracted to*. And I will slaughter them like the animals they are."

Clearly this guy is fucked up. Any armchair psychotherapist could tell you that. But it takes a special kind of psychotherapist to look at this evidence and declare that Rodger was

probably a repressed homo.

But that's just what Dr. Robi Ludwig did just two days after the murders during her appearance on Fox News.

"When I was first listening to him, I was like, 'Oh, he's angry with women for rejecting him,'" Ludwig said on Fox. "And then I started to have a different idea: Is this somebody who is trying to fight against his homosexual impulses?"

What gave her this idea? She doesn't say.

**"I in NO way meant to indicate being a homosexual or having homosexual impulses is a cause for spree killing."**

Then she asked, "Was he angry with women because they were taking away men from him?"

It's a novel theory. And by novel I mean "out of the fucking blue." There's no evidence that Rodgers was gay. So for Ludwig to suggest such a thing and offer absolutely no support suggests that her primary interest is in throwing red meat to Fox News viewers.

"Was he angry at the men for not choosing him?" she continued. "This is a kid who was just angry in general and probably felt rejected, he couldn't connect, he couldn't feel loved, he couldn't feel successful. Maybe he didn't feel like a real man."

Ah, yes. Maybe he didn't feel like a real man, because he wasn't. He was a terrible human being. Sexist, racist, entitled, narcissistic. But what Ludwig seems to be suggesting here is that real men aren't gay.

On May 26 Ludwig took to Twitter to defend herself, claiming she "was misunderstood."

"I in NO way meant to indicate being a homosexual or having homosexual impulses is a cause for spree killing," she wrote.

And while that might not have been her intention, that's exactly what she did. As if only something truly heinous like homosexuality would drive someone to go on a mass murder spree. As if raging misogyny isn't enough cause.

### Boy Scout Membership Up in Utah Since Gays Allowed

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Membership in the Boy Scouts of America has increased in Utah since its ranks were opened to gay youths a year ago, the state's three Boy Scouts councils said.

The councils all reported membership hikes since the organization's national council approved the new policy.

In the Great Salt Lake Council, Scout numbers grew 1.5 percent in 2013, while membership in the Trapper Trails Council increased by 2.1 percent.

The Utah National Parks Council, which includes small portions of Nevada and Arizona, reported a 4.5 percent increase in membership during that time.

"Every indicator for us has been very positive," said Allen Endicott, a Scout executive with the Trapper Trails Council. "Scouting is something that is loved in our area and really does make a difference."

Dave McCammon of the Great Salt Lake Council told the Deseret News in a story Thursday that the past year has been relatively free of controversy over the new membership policy.

Utah's jump in membership bucks a national trend. The state is home to the Mormon church, which has close ties to the Boy Scouts and is the organization's largest sponsor.



## What is STRIBILD?

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

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

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

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

**STRIBILD can cause serious side effects:**

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

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

### Who should not take STRIBILD?

**Do not take STRIBILD if you:**

- **Take a medicine that contains:** alfuzosin, dihydroergotamine, ergotamine, methylergonovine, cisapride, lovastatin, simvastatin, pimozone, sildenafil when used for lung problems (Revatio®), triazolam, oral midazolam, rifampin or the herb St. John's wort.
- **For a list of brand names for these medicines,** please see the Brief Summary on the following pages.
- **Take any other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection,** or the medicine adefovir (Hepsera®).

### What are the other possible side effects of STRIBILD?

**Serious side effects of STRIBILD may also include:**

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

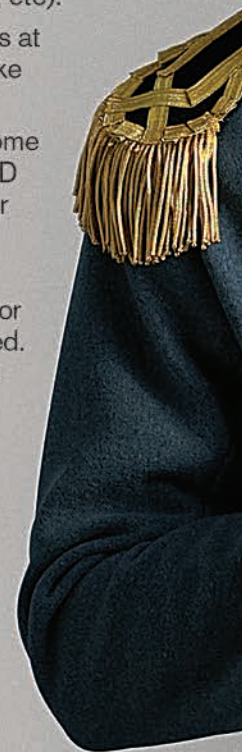
**The most common side effects** of STRIBILD include nausea and diarrhea. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or don't go away.

### What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

- **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis virus infection.
- **All the medicines you take,** including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist. Do not start any new medicines while taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.
- **If you take hormone-based birth control** (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc).
- **If you take antacids.** Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD.
- **If you are pregnant** or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
- **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk. Also, some medicines in STRIBILD can pass into breast milk, and it is not known if this can harm the baby.

**You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch), or call 1-800-FDA-1088.**

Please see Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information with **important warnings** on the following pages.







STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.

## I started my personal revolution

Talk to your healthcare provider about starting treatment.

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

Ask if it's right for you.

**STRIBILD**<sup>®</sup> 

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



## Patient Information

### STRIBILD® (STRY-bild) (elvitegravir 150 mg/cobicistat 150 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/ tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) tablets

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

#### What is STRIBILD?

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

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

##### STRIBILD can cause serious side effects, including:

1. **Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take STRIBILD or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**

- feel very weak or tired
- have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
- have trouble breathing
- have stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
- feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
- feel dizzy or lightheaded
- have a fast or irregular heartbeat

2. **Severe liver problems.** Severe liver problems can happen in people who take STRIBILD. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:**

- your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
- dark “tea-colored” urine
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- loss of appetite for several days or longer
- nausea
- stomach pain

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

3. **Worsening of Hepatitis B infection.** If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take STRIBILD, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking STRIBILD. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.

- Do not run out of STRIBILD. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your STRIBILD is all gone

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

#### Who should not take STRIBILD?

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

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

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

- Other medicines that contain tenofovir (Atripla®, Complera®, Viread®, Truvada®)
- Other medicines that contain emtricitabine, lamivudine, or ritonavir (Atripla®, Combivir®, Complera®, Emtriva®, EpiVir® or EpiVir-HBV®, Epzicom®, Kaletra®, Norvir®, Trizivir®, Truvada®)

##### STRIBILD is not for use in people who are less than 18 years old.

#### What are the possible side effects of STRIBILD?

##### STRIBILD may cause the following serious side effects:

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



### The most common side effects of STRIBILD include:

- Nausea
- Diarrhea

### Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

- These are not all the possible side effects of STRIBILD. For more information, ask your healthcare provider.
- Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

### What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

#### Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including:

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

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

- STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works.
- Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you take any of the following medicines:
  - Hormone-based birth control (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc)
  - Antacid medicines that contain aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD
  - Medicines to treat depression, organ transplant rejection, or high blood pressure
    - amiodarone (Cordarone<sup>®</sup>, Pacerone<sup>®</sup>)
    - atorvastatin (Lipitor<sup>®</sup>, Caduet<sup>®</sup>)
    - bepridil hydrochloride (Vascor<sup>®</sup>, Bepadin<sup>®</sup>)
    - bosentan (Tracleer<sup>®</sup>)
    - buspirone
    - carbamazepine (Carbatrol<sup>®</sup>, Epitol<sup>®</sup>, Equetro<sup>®</sup>, Tegretol<sup>®</sup>)
    - clarithromycin (Biaxin<sup>®</sup>, Prevpac<sup>®</sup>)
    - clonazepam (Klonopin<sup>®</sup>)
    - clorazepate (Gen-xene<sup>®</sup>, Tranxene<sup>®</sup>)
    - colchicine (Colcrys<sup>®</sup>)
    - medicines that contain dexamethasone
    - diazepam (Valium<sup>®</sup>)

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

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

#### Keep STRIBILD and all medicines out of reach of children.

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

Issued: October 2013



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# No Fairy Tale Yet For Connecticut Girl

Some stories just don't have happy endings. A transgender teenager only identified as "Jane Doe," has been in the custody of the Connecticut Department of Children and Families for roughly 11 of her 16 years. Her father was in prison, her mother was heavily involved in drugs and she was physically abused. The state stepped in, taking her into their custody.



BY GWEN SMITH

*“ I find myself baffled by this story. Who is being served by locking her away? Certainly not “Jane Doe” herself. I fail to see how sending her to an adult, all-male prison, without so much as being charged for a crime, will improve her life. If anything, I see this being yet another situation that will lead to yet more abuse. ”*

I like to think that - after being removed from a dangerous, abusive household - she would by now have a “sweet sixteen” party or something with her loving adoptive parents. I want to believe in that Cinderella story of the ill-treated child being rescued by a fairy godmother in the guise of a court-appointed social worker.

It's a good fantasy that is nothing like the truth. Instead of escaping abuse, Jane Doe faced rape, physical assault and other abuse as a ward of the state. She's seemingly faced much worse in custody than in the environment she was pulled from.

She was sent home to her mother at age 15 and ended up in sex work to survive. She again found herself in DCF custody.

Then, at the beginning of 2014, things changed. Jane Doe ended up in a quarrel with a staff member of the DCF. Things got very physical, and the staff member was reported to have suffered a broken jaw and temporary blindness due to the attack.

The story doesn't get better here, however. At this point, the DCF decided to simply throw in the towel. They determined they could not provide care for Jane Doe within their facilities.

She's been held at the York Correctional Institute for Women for evaluation. This has included days of prison lockup and isolation.

In Connecticut, prisoners - including transgender prisoners - are segregated based on their genitals. While Jane Doe has been housed at York currently, it is quite likely she would be transferred to an all-male prison in the near future.

Now there's a couple of things that, if you have been reading closely, I have not mentioned. She has not been convicted of a crime. There are no charges against her, including for the assault of a DCF staffer in January. She should not be facing a prison sentence.

Also, should she be sent to prison - again, without any charges being held against her - this 16-year-old transwoman would be sent to

an adult prison. All because the Department of Children and Families decided they cannot do their job in regards to Jane Doe.

“While in DCF custody, I have suffered immensely,” Jane Doe was quoted in *The Advocate*. “I feel that DCF has failed to protect me from harm, and I am now thrown into prison because they have refused to help me.”

I find myself baffled by this story. Who is being served by locking her away? Certainly not Jane Doe herself. I fail to see how sending her to an adult, all-male prison, without so much as being charged for a crime, will improve her life. If anything, I see this being yet another situation that will lead to yet more abuse.

I cannot help but think of the story of Jewlyes Gutierrez, another 16-year-old transwoman. While at her high school in Hercules, California last November, she was assaulted by a number of other girls at the school. This was part of a pattern of bullying that went back over several years - and one to which school officials seemingly turned a blind eye.

This last time, Gutierrez fought back against her tormentors. As a result, she was charged with battery for defending herself. Her attackers did not face any charges.

I also think of CeCe McDonald, a 25-year-old transwoman of color living in Minnesota. She, and several friends of hers, passed a local tavern where a group of people shouted homophobic, transphobic and racist slurs at McDonald and her friends. A fight ensued, instigated by the individuals in front of the tavern. In the course of the altercation, one of the tavern goers, Dean Schmitz, was fatally stabbed.

In the aftermath, McDonald ended up sentenced to 41 months in a men's prison.

McDonald and Gutierrez - both young transwomen - were defending themselves

from violence. Both ended up charged for their troubles. Their prison stories, however, have happy endings.

Gutierrez has seen the battery charges against her dropped with her completion of a conflict resolution program. This program included her working through some of the issues with one of the girls who bullied her.

McDonald was released in January, just 19 months into her sentence. She is now working with transgender actress and advocate Laverne Cox on a documentary about her experience. She's also been busy advocating on behalf of others in prison - including Jane Doe.

Perhaps with the help of McDonald and so many others, Jane Doe will also get a happy ending. Like I said, I want to believe that some sort of justice will prevail. As of this writing, Connecticut Governor Dan Malloy has issued a statement asking that Jane Doe be moved out of prison “as quickly as possible.”

Yet I also wonder how many John or Jane Does we have never heard of. With the prevalence of social media now, it is harder for such cases as these three to fall through the cracks - yet I cannot help but assume more are out there.

How many other stories have no happy end? We may never know - but I'd like to see a world were more of them do: a world where transpeople don't end up incarcerated simply for defending themselves or - worse yet - because someone decides they just don't care about them.

*Gwen Smith grew up on Disney movies. You'll find her at [www.gwen-smith.com](http://www.gwen-smith.com)*





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# ED SCHMID




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# Allies Must Rise Up As We Welcome All To Ferndale Pride

As I watched my friends rush to the courthouses to marry on March 22nd my heart swelled with joy; when the stay came down just hours after lifting the ban, I felt a sick pit in my stomach. I watched helplessly as friends' Facebook feeds read "rushing to the court house, just found out I can't get married anymore...devastated." As an outspoken ally of the LGBTQ community, it pains me to see LGBTQ people constantly denied the right that I am afforded because I was born straight.



## Viewpoint

BY DAN MARTIN

Here we are in the 21st century, and yet it is still legal to fire someone in Michigan because they are not part of the majority. It's time for the majority to come out in droves to support our LGBTQ friends and family so that they never have to face job, marriage, adoption or any other form of discrimination for simply being LGBTQ.

As an active member of the City of Ferndale and a council member, I am proud that Ferndale has been at the forefront leading the way for equality and recognition of all people. While I am proud of my city for taking a

positive stand, our city remains the exception, not the rule. We can change this, but we can't leave it on the backs of only LGBTQ people.

Simply having LGBTQ friends helps but is not enough. Giving personal support to LGBTQ friends helps but is also not enough. Allies must rise up with a strong and visible voice of support to bring other allies out of the ally closet. We must show up at events, we must show up at rallies and we must show up in the voting booths. We have so much power to change the world for our LGBTQ friends and family simply because there are statistically more of us. We can be a real force for change and we can accomplish this mission

quickly.

This year May 31st will kick off the pride season in Ferndale. Ferndale Pride allows the LGBTQ community to celebrate their identity and essence through this festival, in a supportive family-friendly environment. As thousands take to the streets to celebrate individualism and diversity, do not come to the event in silence. Allies proclaim it if you are there. Come enjoy the festival, but also seek out ways that you can make changes that will last longer than our weekend's festivities.

Ferndale Pride is a free event thanks to many local businesses such as Motor City Casino Hotel and Blue Care Network of Michigan who sponsor the event. These companies, who are on the forefront of providing an equal work environment for their employees, are taking a stand for equality.

Of course, Ferndale Pride is not just about taking a visible stand for equality; it is about joining with family, friends and neighbors to celebrate our mutual community. Real inclusion is not successful if it is not practiced. Ferndale Pride is, at its heart, a celebration of love and of hope for a vision of justice that we as a society keep moving toward. It's also about celebration and having fun. You cannot leave Ferndale Pride without feeling uplifted and more optimistic. You will leave exhausted but energized, powered by the spirit of the wonderful group of people Ferndale Pride draws.

We allies need to be as supportive as we can of this cause during this critical time. These are our brothers and sisters, our mothers and fathers, our children and our friends. While we cannot speak from a position of knowing exactly what they are experiencing in their discrimination, we can act against a wrong when we see and know one. If we do anything else, we are as guilty as those who would continue to perpetrate hateful actions and

*“As an outspoken ally of the LGBTQ community, it pains me to see LGBTQ people constantly denied the right that I am afforded because I was born straight”*

beliefs. Ferndale Pride is important for all of us as a way to engage and carry that advocacy forward in our daily lives. This is probably the greatest reason that Ferndale Pride is so important.

On May 31st, join us for Ferndale Pride and then continue to be a voice for change at Ally Rush Week at Affirmations, which will kick off May 31st as well.

We will also have an incredible amount of fun. Please come out and join us in downtown Ferndale and bring your friends and family. I can't wait to see you there.

*Dan Martin is the Mayor Pro-Tem of the City of Ferndale and Chairperson of the Ferndale Community Foundation*



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**Join The Conversation**



# Ally Rush Week Begins During Ferndale Pride

## Affirmations First Ever Event Series Seeks To Recruit, Raise Awareness



Affirmations Ally Campaign logo

BY AJ TRAGER

**FERNDALE** – Affirmations is recruiting! Starting with Ferndale Pride May 31 and stretching to June 6, Affirmations will be hosting a daily event to celebrate the ally community and their support of the Center and the LGBT community. This is the first time the Center is setting aside an entire week during the Pride season to honor allies working in the LGBT community.

Throughout the coming year, Affirmations will work to develop a larger ally base that is willing to speak up and out for the LGBT community.

Affirmations Director of Development Angela Gabridge is an ally who believes it is the responsibility of the ally community to speak up and support the end of oppression of the LGBT community and their families. She says many allies are unaware of the issues or they feel powerless to affect change, let alone get involved.

Rush Week is a great way to get informed and start to learn how to engage.

“Many haven’t even heard the term ‘ally’ before, or if they have, don’t realize this term applies to them. So much of what we are trying to do with this campaign is to raise awareness - what is an ally, why get involved, what specifically can one person do to create change? Obviously we are looking to generate financial support as well. You can’t run an effective political campaign without a sizable war chest; advocacy, engagement and affecting change are no different,” said Gabridge.

Allies are friends, family members and supporters of the LGBT community who believe in civil rights and equality. Affirmations wants to bring the entire community together and inspire them with stories of triumph, overcoming adversity and life after bullying when the heavy shadow starts to fall off the shoulders of those affected.

There will be something for everyone and, according to Gabridge, it means the world to the LGBT community and the Center when allies show up and help out.

“We encourage EVERYONE to grab a friend or come on your own and check it out,” she said. “We’ll have stations set up where you can make a video or take a selfie to post on social media expressing your support, learn about buddy or date night volunteering, join one of our new cross cultural teams or

### Ally Rush Week Events

May 31 Ally Rush Kick Off event: All Day at Affirmations. Learn more about allies and take photo, sign up for opportunities and pocket give-a-ways.

June 2 Bring an Ally to Affirmations Day: All Day at Affirmations. Get informed and find more about the impact that friends and allies can make and how to make the first step in “coming out.”

June 3 Tying the Knot: Movie screening, 7-9 p.m. at Affirmations. Come watch how the meaning of marriage has evolved in today’s hot political war between the LGBT community and those that want to stop marriage equality.

June 4 New Volunteer Training: 5:30-7 p.m. at Affirmations. Guided tour of the Affirmations facility and hear about ways to use skills and passion to make a difference in the LGBT community.

June 5 Dining out at Logan’s Roadhouse: Support Affirmations by dining at any of the seven locations, 4-10 p.m. Locations include Troy, Roseville, Shelby Twp, Auburn Hills, Southgate, Canton and Livonia. Dine in or carry out.

June 6 Gallery Opening and Reception: Pittmann-Puckett Art Gallery, 7-9 p.m. See the 25 years of Affirmations history in serving the Metro Detroit LGBT community.

## Ally Campaign Fact Sheet

### What’s the point?

It’s not just about marriage equality. In Michigan, you can be fired for being gay. You can be denied housing or kicked out of your home because of your sexual orientation or gender identity. You may not be allowed to visit your significant other if they become sick or incapacitated or you could lose access to your children. Let’s change that. Affirmations wants to create a base of Ally friends and supporters who are willing to speak up and out for the LGBTQ community, and we need LGBTQ supporters that are willing to reach out to our Allies. We believe that in order to affect change and create safe, supportive spaces we need to work together. We need YOU.

### What the heck is an ‘Ally’ anyways?

An Ally is a friend, family member or supporter of the LGBTQ community. You believe in civil rights and equality for all.

LGB..wha???:

LGBTQ. It’s an acronym that stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and/or Queer. Here at Affirmations, we know that none of us exist in a bubble- so we usually add an ‘A’ for Allies. You are a part of our lives and families, too. LGBTQA.

### Here’s the deal

We’re asking our Allies to stand with us and speak up and out on social media, in the press and amongst their own spheres of influence in support of equality.

We need to build a base of friends and supporters invested in creating change and supporting the work of the Center and other LGBT causes.

We need our LGBTQ friends and supporters to join us in engaging our Allies and understanding that affecting social change takes resources.

We want to bring our entire community together and inspire them with stories of triumph, of overcoming adversity, of life after bullying and soaring to new heights. We want you all to believe in the power of what is possible when we all lend a hand and work together.

Wanna change it? Good. Here’s what YOU can do:

- Come to the Ally Campaign Kickoff and/or attend an Ally Rush Week event- we’re recruiting!
- Use your voice- speak up and out on social media and in your own circles in favor of equality.
- Refuse to tolerate homophobia and transphobia and call it out when you see/hear it.
- Become a Center Partner at Affirmations- Just \$10/month does amazing things
- Volunteer at Affirmations on your own, with a friend or with a date then hit the town after in downtown Ferndale
- Bring your friends and family to the Center and help them make that connection as well. Together, anything is possible.

- Courtesy Of Affirmations Community Center

just hear about what a tremendous difference \$10 is making in someone’s life. Just show up, I promise it makes a difference.”

“It’s true, we’re recruiting,” says Jon Fitzgerald, interim executive director of Affirmations. “The simple fact is, without our allies, we’ll never reach full equality in Michigan or anywhere else. We need our allies to get invested in the work that Affirmations and other local groups are doing to bring about positive change and create safe, supportive environments for our youth, seniors and others in the LGBTQ community.”

For more information about Affirmations, or to learn more about the Ally Campaign, contact Angela Gabridge, Director of Development, at 248-677-7211, visit [www.GoAffirmations.org](http://www.GoAffirmations.org) or stop by the Center at 290 W. 9 Mile in Ferndale anytime for a personal tour.





# Singing Out For Gay Rights

## Tony Lucca, Michigan-Born Finalist Of 'The Voice,' On Being An Ally

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

Talking to Tony Lucca, it's clear he has his head on straight. Though the Pontiac-born musician was a finalist during the second season of "The Voice,"

he hasn't been jaded by fame. He's still a family man, and he's still standing up for what he believes in.

So much so that Lucca, who recently moved to Nashville, is returning to Michigan to perform at 7:40 p.m. May 31 during

Ferndale Pride.

Born to a family populated by more instruments than humans, it was almost inevitable that Lucca would find himself rolling out a few melodies. Before he'd even hit his teen years, he was already careening

toward his musical destiny.

"By fourth or fifth grade we were getting up with our guitars and taking a crack at it. We started putting bands together as early as sixth grade, hiring and firing drummers and bass players. You know, taking it seriously,"



“ I support gay rights because I feel like it’s no different than any other chapter in history that we look back at now and shake our heads at how ridiculous life was, like before black and white people could marry or before women could vote. ”

Lucca says, laughing. “Certainly by junior high there was no looking back.”

At 15, he was cast in “The All-New Mickey Mouse Club” alongside Keri Russell, JC Chasez, Christina Aguilera, Ryan Gosling, Justin Timberlake and Britney Spears.

“That was an explosion for me, career-wise,” Lucca recalls. “That took me to a whole other stratosphere of potential. I realized this was something I could really do for a living for the rest of my life.”

After his run on “The All-New Mickey Mouse Club” came to a close in 1995, Lucca did just that. Between 1997 and 2013 he released nine studio albums, one live disc and seven EPs.

In 2012, he was reunited with “MMC” cast member Christina Aguilera when he competed in the second season of NBC’s hit sing-off “The Voice.” While he didn’t win, he ended up coming in second place, getting a record deal, gaining a multitude of new fans and starting a new chapter in his career.

“It really felt like I was made for that opportunity,” he says. “I was familiar with a lot of that terrain going in: the cameras and the press and the interviews and how to really connect to a song, how to give a really compelling performance. That’s what I’ve been doing my whole life.”

Lucca’s next move is to finish his upcoming Kickstarter-funded album, which is tentatively due out in October. Right now he’s in the very early pre-production stages but has a solid idea of where he’s headed.

“It’s coming out extremely eclectic,” he says. “I shied away from that for many years, but I feel like it’s more interesting.”

More immediately, he’s concerned with his performance at Ferndale Pride. While

### INFO

#### Tony Lucca

Ferndale Pride  
7:40 p.m. May 31  
Woodward and Nine Mile, Ferndale  
ferndalepride.com

West Hollywood had the pleasure of popping his Pride cherry, this will be his first time taking the stage.

Like many handsome, sometimes-bearded singers, Lucca has his fair share of gay fans. But his connection to the gay community started with his family members, most notably his mother.

“My mom was really wonderful with my sister and I when we were kids, teaching us how to live and love without prejudice,” he says. “She went out of her way to introduce us to folks from diverse walks of life.”

Those are lessons that he’s carried with him his entire life. As an adult he’s taken part in the NOH8 campaign and speaks proudly about his support for gay rights.

“I support gay rights because I feel like it’s no different than any other chapter in history that we look back at now and shake our heads at how ridiculous life was, like before black and white people could marry or before women could vote.”

With his strong views on equality for all people, he’s making sure that he teaches his children the same values.

“It’s never too early to walk them through those topics and ideas,” Lucca says. “My wife and I have always tried to introduce things in a way that there’s nothing strange about the things we believe in. My kids understand that love is a wonderful thing.”



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# Livin' La Vida Loca

Photo: Illustrious Photography

## World-Renowned DJ Maestro's Music Makes The People Come Together

BY EMELL DERRA ADOLPHUS

Sam "DJ Maestro" Anderson has been busy promoting his latest club hit "Birthday Slide," a dancehall remix featuring Jamaican artist Phillip T2k. And if you haven't heard the song, it's a deliciously simple rhythm with a clubby baseline that gives a zodiac shout out to everyone to get off your ass and dance – even if it's not your birthday.

But somehow in between kicking off parties across the globe and churning out hits, Anderson finds time to return home for the Detroit gays. For four years he has donated a \$1,500 music production setup to the annual Ferndale and Motor City Prides, making him one of our most valuable allies.

For Anderson, it's about returning the favor to a community that made him famous. As he explains, "the LGBT community is what got me back on my feet."

"In 2000, a guy came to me and wanted me to DJ at this club called the Power Plant in Highland Park. I started DJing there and I kind of changed the game up a little bit, because they weren't hearing a lot of hip-hop and R&B," says Anderson, 53. "I am a mixologist, so I put the songs together really crazy. And I just took off. The LGBT community is what got me back on my feet and got my music going again. That's why I am so loyal to them."

Anderson has been a DJ since 1980. Learning the skill while in the Marines, soon he was christened

"Maestro" from a "Spanish guy" he met in 1982.

"He said I was real good at what I did," Anderson says. "He told me I sounded like a maestro. And it just stuck with me."

Speaking like a true maestro, Anderson says with his age he has a wisdom that keeps him one beat ahead of other DJs.

"I have seen the music business change and come back around," says Anderson, who started off working with house music legends like The Electrofyng Mojo. As he explains, the boom of technology still threatens to put him out of work.

"The way that everything with technology is changing – that's the hardest part. Back in the day we just played records. Now, it's just

### INFO

#### DJ Maestro

8 p.m. May 31 (Dance Stage)

Ferndale Pride

5 p.m. June 7

Motor City Pride (Riverfront Patio)

too easy for everybody to become a DJ," says Anderson. "When we first started out, we had to go to the record store and stand in line for two or three hours to get that special record. It's not like that anymore. The DJ doesn't have as much power."

Among the flood of wannabe DJs and producers, Anderson says he stands out because he consults the gay community first.

"The strategy that I had, when I first started to make line dance music, would be to channel it through the gay community first. If they vibe to it, I know I have a hit," he says.

Anderson recently signed with Universal Records in Canada, so he rarely gets back home. But when he is home, he'd rather party with the gays.

"I have a big following in the LGBT community. And I am a straight person, but I'd rather party with them than party with a lot of other people, to tell you the truth. They dance and have fun, and there's not a lot of drama. We just have fun. It's about bringing people together," says Anderson. "It's universal, from eight to 80, blind, cripple, crazy."





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Photo: Robert Guzman

# Here Comes The Bride

## Detroit Band Makes Their Gay Debut At Pride

BY AJ TRAGER

INFO

### Bride Stripped Bare

1:35 p.m. May 31  
Woodward and Nine Mile, Ferndale  
ferndalepride.com

It doesn't take a genius to figure out why Bride Stripped Bare is glamming up the Ferndale Pride stage, but in case you haven't figured it out, Ely3000 explains: "Our show is very fabulous. Pride is very fabulous. It's a good match."

The vocalist, keyboardist and guitarist of the glam band will be joined by fellow bandmates Noel Rivard, percussion, drums and piano; Tamara Marla, drums, bass guitar and vocals; and Twinkle Twinkle, their "Head of Theatre." (Ely3000 and Rivard have been playing together since 2008, after meeting at a mutual friend's funeral.)

For Pride, the Detroit-based band will bring aspects of Theatre Bizarre, The Detroit Fire Guild, Boylesque and Cabaret, incorporating their own signature synth-heavy, glam-rock sounds. Ely3000 describes the band as being high energy, an all-immersive, encompassing experience that brings the audience into the performance. But that's not all, folks: There's spark guns, confetti-shooting cannons, condoms and glitter. The band will also have

three demo tracks from their upcoming August full-length debut, "With Ghosts," available at Pride, along with stickers and T-shirts screen-printed by hand. The Pride gig, according to the band, will include never-before-performed covers and Ely3000 in drag.

"We try to play with stereotypes and make it so it's more fun than political," Rivard says. "Although it is very political, we want people to be entertained by it instead of disgusted by it. Our performance bridges that gap."

Influenced by "Hedwig and The Angry Inch" and "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," Bride Stripped Bare aims for being accessible to audiences that don't watch "RuPaul's Drag Race."

"Everybody has different feelings about it. Hardcore people who are in the drag community may or may not like it.

That's a chance you have to take as an artist," Rivard says.

Ferndale Pride is their gay debut – the band has never performed at a LGBT-specific event – but they're looking forward to seeing how the audience reacts to their incongruous nature.

"The reaction is really important," Rivard laughs, "but that's not the only thing we're working on. We don't want our spectacle to be the only thing that people come for. We want people to hear the message in our songs as well. That facilitates more audience participation."

Rivard describes herself as "really gay" and feels events like Pride are extremely important for not just the LGBT community but society as a whole.

"Each one of us in our own way wants to facilitate development and growth in the community. We break norms in terms of how we dress, what we sing about and how we sound," Rivard says. "And in certain ways we are iconoclastic. I think that Pride is a good place to apply what we've already been doing. It's something that I am very proud of."



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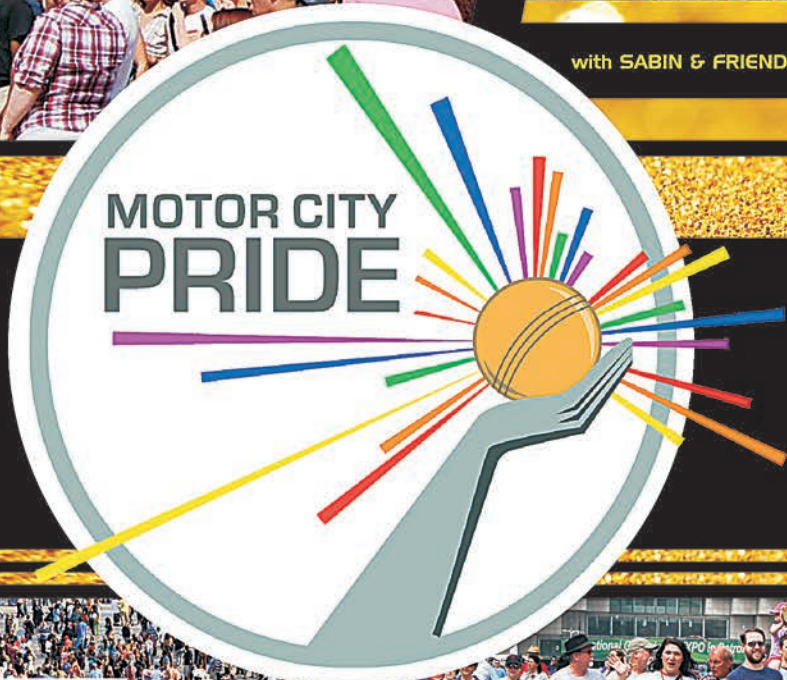


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## Pride Stage

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Saturday, June 7, 2014

1:00 PM	Jason Ricketts
2:00 PM	Wedding Ceremony
2:30 PM	Harvey Milk Stamp Presentation
3:00 PM	Little Animal
3:45 PM	Sabin & Friends
4:15 PM	The Infatuations
5:00 PM	Boylesque
5:30 PM	Mike Munich
6:15 PM	Sabin & Friends
6:45 PM	Tunde Olaniran
7:30 PM	Drag King Rebellion
8:00 PM	Andy Bell

Sunday, June 8, 2014

11:00 AM	House Mix
Noon	Parade Drag Review
1:00 PM	ArtLab J
1:30 PM	Out Loud Chorus
1:45 PM	Outerspaces
3:00 PM	Equality Michigan
3:30 PM	Killer Flamingos
4:45 PM	God Des & She
6:00 PM	Alex Newell

## The Underground

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Saturday, June 7, 2014

3:00 PM	DJ Nikoli
4:15 PM	DJ Chico
5:30 PM	Mike Trombley
6:45 PM	DVJ Mark
8:00 PM	DJ Jace

Sunday, June 8, 2014

Noon	Jason Ricketts
1:30 PM	Sarena Tyler
3:00 PM	Michael Aaron
4:00 PM	John Cruz
5:00 PM	Josh Karmin

## Festival

Saturday, June 7, 2014

2:00 PM	Pastel Arso
2:45 PM	Announcer
3:00 PM	Boylesque
3:15 PM	Keyon La D
4:00 PM	Drag King
4:30 PM	The Gator
5:15 PM	Sabin & Fri
5:45 PM	Matt Wixso
6:30 PM	Boylesque
7:00 PM	Marquis

Sunday, June 8, 2014

12:30 PM	Interfaith S
1:00 PM	Beautiful S
2:00 PM	Mike Medo
3:00 PM	Mother Cyk
4:00 PM	Stacey Hal

## Riverfront Park

Saturday, June 7, 2014

2:00 PM	Kimo Fitness
3:30 PM	Line Dancin
5:00 PM	Maestro

Sunday, June 8, 2014

Noon	Tea Dance <i>Presented by</i>
3:00 PM	Tea Dance <i>Presented by</i>

## Family Activities

Saturday, June 7, 2014, 2:00 PM  
Sunday, June 8, 2014, Noon

Join other families as they participate in activities from face painting, arts & crafts to a parade featuring Dr. Dinosaur and new for 2015, a parade on Sunday will also puppet shows at 2:00 and 3:30 p.m.

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## Il Stage

June 7, 2014

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to 5:00 p.m.

participate in ranging  
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a petting zoo.  
shows  
n.

the schedule can be found at  
[mtypride.org](http://mtypride.org)



## Wedding Ceremony

Saturday  
June 7, 2014  
2:00 p.m.

## Pride Stage

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Interested couples should email [MCCDetroit@gmail.com](mailto:MCCDetroit@gmail.com) to register to participate. There is no charge to participate.

**Note:** *this is not a legal ceremony, it being held so individuals can show their love to each other, until a time that all Michigan residents are able to be legally wed.*



## Pyramid Stage

Saturday, June 7, 2014

2:00 PM Michelle Elizabeth Brown  
Andrea Najarian  
Sandy Mulligan and the Gypsies  
Nikki Holland  
6:30 PM Affirmation's Prevention Ball

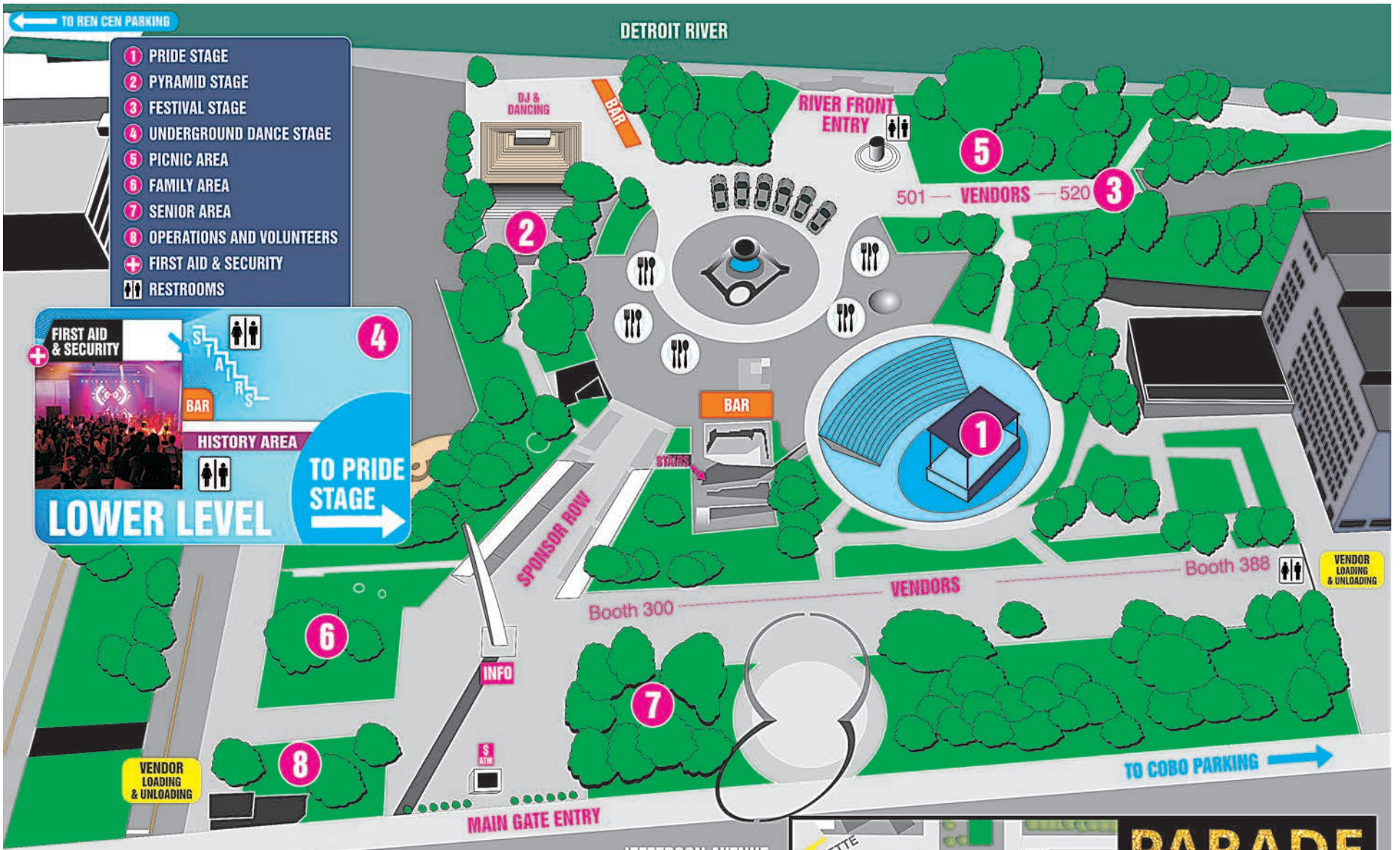
Sunday, June 8, 2014

Noon to 6:00 p.m.

Kody Sky  
Joye  
Juda  
ISIS D'Nile  
Boom  
Mary Jane  
Rock Star  
Veronica Versace  
King Q Sanchez  
Kortlyn  
Memphis Payne  
Gabriella Galore  
Coby Haze  
Diamonique Marcus  
Natalie Cole  
Destiny Deville  
Mae James  
Dominque Polo  
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Eva Angelica  
Bentley James  
Maddox Marx  
Victoria Sanchez  
Mia Cole  
Teddy  
Raven Divine  
Davana Couture  
Sanmna Romero  
Sir Walt  
Christina Von Dion  
Rico DiMaggio



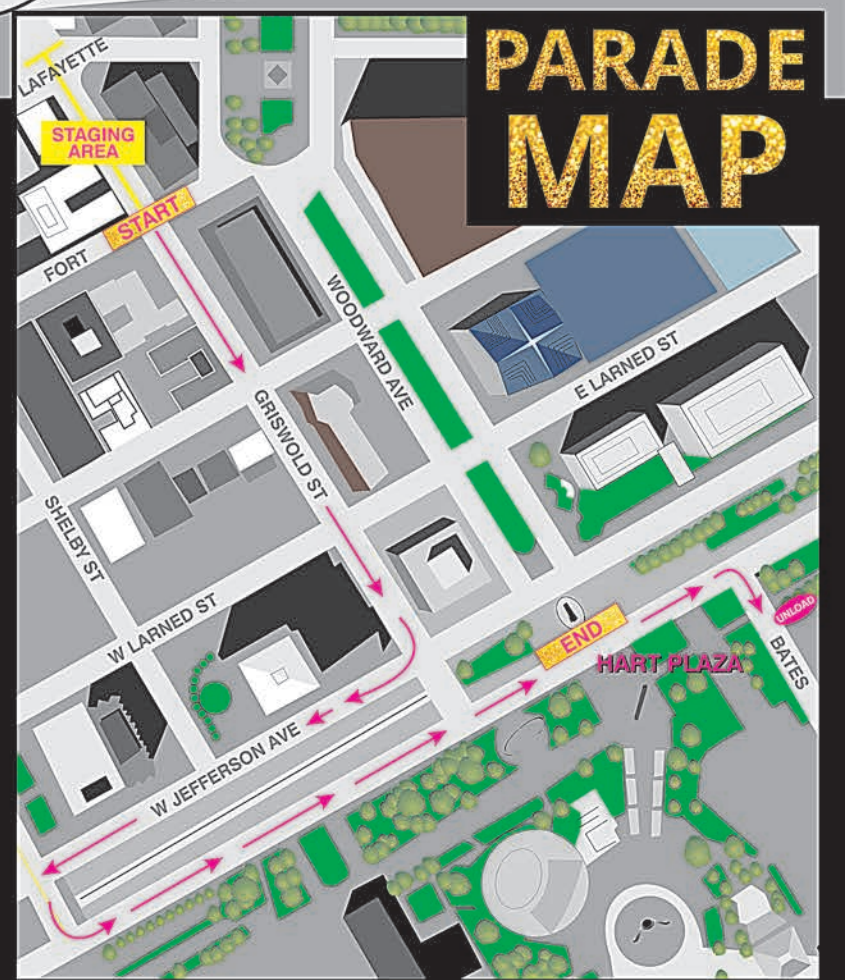




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# Summer Pride Calendar

COMPILED BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

## MAY 28

### Kalamazoo Pride Euchre Tournament

Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center (KGLRC)

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Metro Diner & Nightclub, 411 N. Westnedge Ave., Kalamazoo

Contact: [www.kglrc.org/pride](http://www.kglrc.org/pride)

## MAY 30

### Motor City Bears Charity Dinner and Silent Auction

Presenting Organization: Motor City Bears

Time: 5 p.m.

Location: Zion Lutheran Church, 143 Albany St., Ferndale

Contact: [www.meetup.com/Motor-City-Bears/](http://www.meetup.com/Motor-City-Bears/)

Tickets: \$7.50-15

All you can eat dinner of classic



BTL photos: Andrew Potter

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### Pride Prom

Presenting Organization: The Friends of the Ferndale Library

Time: 8 p.m.

Location: Ferndale Public Library, 222 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale.

Contact: [www.ferndalepride.com](http://www.ferndalepride.com)

Tickets: \$25-30

21 and over. DJ, cash bar, refreshments and more.

### Leather & Lace Charity Ball

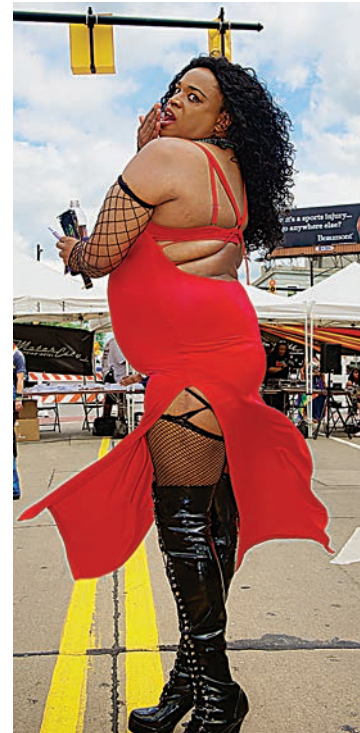
Presenting Organization: R&R Saloon

Time: 10 p.m.

Location: R&R Saloon, 7330 Michigan Ave., Detroit

Contact: [www.mrsaloon.com](http://www.mrsaloon.com)

Specials, 50/50 raffle and more.



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## MAY 31

### Rainbow Run

Presenting Organization: Ferndale Area Chamber of Commerce

Time: 8:45 a.m. registration; 10:30 a.m. races

Location: Downtown Ferndale

Contact: 248-542-2160 or

[www.rainbow-run.com](http://www.rainbow-run.com)

Registration: \$15-35

2K and 5K fun runs and walks featuring multi-color paint. Benefits area non-profits.

### Annual Women's Golf OUTing

Presenting Organization: Equality Michigan

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: St. John's Golf and Conference Center, 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth

Contact: [www.equalitymi.org](http://www.equalitymi.org)

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### Dykes on Bikes - Ferndale Pride

Presenting Organization: Dykes on Bikes

Time: 12 p.m.

Location: Affirmations Parking Lot, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale


Contact: [ronda.wright@yahoo.com](mailto:ronda.wright@yahoo.com)

See Pride Calendar, page 33

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# Resurrecting Jane

## Lesbian Folk-Rock Duo Talks Debut, Ferndale Pride Gig

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

A lot can change in a year. For all-lesbian folk-rock duo Jane of Arc the past year has been one of departure, resurrection and release. Although many bands would falter under all the changes, Chelsea Carter and Elida Quesada are refreshed and ready to storm the world with their brand new debut album and a live performance at 6:25 p.m. May 31 on the Ferndale Pride stage.

A little Tracy Chapman, a pinch of Stevie Nicks and a smidge of Vanessa Carlton, their recently released debut, "Freedom in Falling," represents the culmination of months of hard work. Before they even set foot in the studio they'd worked on the album over several months, finessing each layer until it was just right. Then, they really got to work, recording the album in a proper studio at a breakneck pace.

"Most of the album was recorded live over

INFO
<p><b>Jane of Arc</b>            Ferndale Pride            6:25 p.m. May 31            Woodward and Nine Mile, Ferndale  <a href="http://ferndalepride.com">ferndalepride.com</a></p>

the course of three weekends, and it went really, really well," Quesada says. "For the album, we approached it pretty meticulously. We brought on some other musicians and friends of ours that have played with us previously so we could record our album in a live setting. I think that we ended up with a product that was consistent and cohesive and – in essence – the fullest realization of all the songs."

Carter adds: "The album is a journey. We tried to take people on a journey of love, loss and all the different emotions that come with those

See Jane, page 34



## ► Pride Calendar

Continued from p. 31

or pooh131965@yahoo.com.  
Designed for all riding skill levels.

### Ferndale Pride

Presenting Organization: Ferndale Pride

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Downtown Ferndale

Contact: www.ferndalepride.com

Emceed by Gay Billy, Nina Ross and Natalie Cole. Featuring wedding/commitment ceremony, food trucks, retail and nonprofit booths and more. Multiple after-parties throughout Ferndale.

### JUNE 1

#### Third Annual Bowling Extravaganza

Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center (KGLRC)

Time: 3 p.m.

Location: Eastland Bowl, 5570 Gull Road, Kalamazoo

Contact: www.kglrc.org

Family-friendly event.

### JUNE 6

#### Inaugural Gala

Presenting Organization: HAVEN

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Detroit Troy Marriott, 200 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy

Contact: <http://haven-oakland.maestroweb.com> or [events@haven-oakland.org](mailto:events@haven-oakland.org)

Tickets start at \$150

An event honoring HAVEN's long history of providing hope to survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Cocktail attire.

### JUNE 7

#### Bears in Speedos Carwash

Presenting Organization: Motor City Bears

Time: 12 p.m.

Location: Level One Bank, 22635 Woodward Ave., Ferndale

Contact: [www.meetup.com/Motor-City-Bears](http://www.meetup.com/Motor-City-Bears)

#### Motor City Pride

Presenting Organization: Equality Michigan

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Hart Plaza, Detroit

Contact: [www.motorcitypride.com](http://www.motorcitypride.com)

Tickets: \$5

Featuring Andy Bell of Erasure

### JUNE 8

#### Motor City Pride Parade

Presenting Organization: Equality Michigan

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Fort and Grisworld,

Featuring Alex Newell from "Glee"

### JUNE 11

#### Kalamazoo Pride Euchre Tournament

Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center (KGLRC)

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Metro Diner & Nightclub, 411 N. Westnedge Ave., Kalamazoo

Contact: [www.kglrc.org/pride](http://www.kglrc.org/pride)

### JUNE 14

#### Kalamazoo Pride

Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center (KGLRC)

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Arcadia Creek Festival Place, Kalamazoo

Contact: [www.kglrc.org/pride](http://www.kglrc.org/pride)

Tickets: \$7-10.

Sponsored by Bell's Brewery.

Toronto

Location: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

### JUNE 24

#### Saginaw Valley LGBT Pride Awards Banquet

Presenting Organization: Perceptions and Equality Michigan

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Andersen Enrichment Center & Garden, 120 Ezra Rust Ave., Saginaw

Contact: [www.equalitymi.org](http://www.equalitymi.org)

The evening will include an appetizer reception, dinner and a Pride Program with presentation of Awards.

### JUNE 25

#### Kalamazoo Pride Euchre Tournament

Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center (KGLRC)

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Metro Diner & Nightclub, 411 N. Westnedge Ave., Kalamazoo

Contact: [www.kglrc.org/pride](http://www.kglrc.org/pride)

### JUNE 25-28

#### Shore to Shore Equality Ride

Presenting Organization: Affirmations

Location: Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale to Saugatuck

Contact: [www.goaffirmations.org](http://www.goaffirmations.org)

The Equality Ride is a four-day bicycle adventure that will start in Ferndale and conclude with a closing ceremony in Saugatuck.

### JUNE 27-30

#### World Pride Toronto Ride

Presenting Organization: Dykes on Bikes

Location: Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Contact: [www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com](http://www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com)

### JUNE 28

#### Holland Area Pride

Presenting Organization: Holland Pride

Location: The Grounds of Centennial Park and Park Theater, Holland



BTL photos: Andrew Potter



Photo courtesy of Terry Johnston Photography



Detroit

Contact: [www.motorcitypride.org](http://www.motorcitypride.org)

#### Motor City Pride Ride

Presenting Organization: Dykes on Bikes

Contact: [www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com](http://www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com)

Contact for more information or find them on Facebook

#### Motor City Pride

Presenting Organization: Equality Michigan

Time: 12 p.m.

Location: Hart Plaza, Detroit

Contact: [www.motorcitypride.org](http://www.motorcitypride.org)

Tickets: \$5

### JUNE 13

#### Kalamazoo Pride

Presenting Organization: Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center (KGLRC)

Time: 5 p.m.

Location: Arcadia Creek Festival Place, Kalamazoo

Contact: [www.kglrc.org/pride](http://www.kglrc.org/pride)

Tickets: \$7-10.

Sponsored by Bell's Brewery. Featuring drag queens, Lady Bunny and Manila Luzon, DJ Matt Downey, ABBA Salute and more.

Featuring drag queens, Lady Bunny and Manila Luzon, DJ Matt Downey, ABBA Salute and more.

#### West Michigan Pride Festival

Presenting Organization: The LGBT Network of West Michigan

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Calder Plaza, Grand Rapids

Contact: [www.grlgbt.org](http://www.grlgbt.org)

Pride Parade at 12 p.m. before festival.

### JUNE 20-29

#### World Pride 2014

Presenting Organization: Pride

See Pride Calendar, page 39



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### ► Jane

Continued from p. 32

fundamental things in life."

While the product is a point of pride, it wasn't easy to get there.

"It's been a little bit of a difficult journey," Carter says. "We finished the Indiegogo campaign a little bit shy of our goal but we were able to head into the studio and make a product that we're really proud of and happy with."

They also had to deal with the departure of longtime Jane member Kelly Rons.

"We decided after some conflicting future goals and future plans that it was best to part ways. The split was pretty amicable," Quesada says.

"It all sort of happened at the same time," Carter says. "It was a little bit difficult, but we're doing really good right now."

While their Indiegogo campaign didn't reach its funding goal, they still see it as a great resource for other

queer artists.

"The beauty of doing Indiegogo and Kickstarter is that it allows the artist to keep a level of control that has been missing in the music industry for a long time," Quesada says. "These crowd funding platforms allow us to pool all our resources together and then go into the studio with complete creative control. In our case it was absolutely paramount that we had that."

Now that "Falling" has been released, they're spending their energy on getting the word out. Their 30-minute set at Ferndale Pride will serve as a launching pad. For the performance, they plan to bring almost all musicians they worked with for the album.

A time of celebration for the queer community, Pride season also allows for reflecting on the progress made and to come in the gay community. For Quesada and Carter, the recent marriage rulings in Michigan are at the front of their minds.

"I think both of us are really hopeful that the tides are turning in a permanent

way," Quesada says. "The trial in February was a roller coaster, for sure. It took an unexpected turn; we thought the state would have better evidence, but it just didn't. That was really promising because, from what I've gathered, the trial was a great way to build a foundation for the rest of the process."

Although the legal up and down with gay marriage laws have been tiring, they find hope in the great leaps made regarding queer acceptance.

"People just don't think to care anymore ... it's not really a big deal," Quesada says. "There's obviously a lot of big-picture things going on, but I'm proud of the fact that the people I've met in my life have been really wonderful."

Carter says she's proud of how sexuality isn't as big of a deal these days. "Most people don't give a shit whether we're gay. They wanna hear the music."



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- **Detroit**  
**Spirit of Hope Church**  
1519 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
[www.spiritofhopedetroit.org](http://www.spiritofhopedetroit.org)
- **Ferndale**  
**Zion Lutheran Church**  
143 Albany St.  
[www.fernzion.org](http://www.fernzion.org)
- **Kentwood**  
**Ascension Lutheran Church**  
2627 - 44th St. SE  
[www.alchurch.com](http://www.alchurch.com)
- **Livonia**  
**Timothy Lutheran Church**  
8820 Wayne Rd.  
[www.timothylutheranchurch.com](http://www.timothylutheranchurch.com)
- **Muskegon**  
**Our Savior's Lutheran**  
1132 W. Southern Ave.  
[www.oursaviorslutheran.com](http://www.oursaviorslutheran.com)
- **Port Huron**  
**St. Martin Lutheran Church**  
805 Chestnut St.  
phone: 810.982.9261
- **Saline**  
**Holy Faith Church**  
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[www.holy-faith-church.org](http://www.holy-faith-church.org)
- **Trenton**  
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[www.stphilipelca.org](http://www.stphilipelca.org)
- **Toldeo, OH**  
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745 Walbridge Ave.  
[www.stlucastoledo.org](http://www.stlucastoledo.org)



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# Queen Of The Night

Bianca Del Rio On Life After Winning 'Drag Race'

BY JEROME STUART NICHOLS

The sixth season of “RuPaul’s Drag Race” featured the densest well of talent to ever grace its main stage. While all 14 queens brought something fierce to the runway, those with the biggest voices made the biggest impression this year. Unfortunately, for runners up Courtney Act and Adore Delano, it was the most hateful bitch you know, Bianca Del Rio, who snatched the crown. Over the past five seasons, it’s become tradition for the winning queen – and every other one on the show – to immediately hop in the studio after the finale. Luckily for our already promo-filled Facebook feeds, it seems Del Rio will be staying out of the booth for the foreseeable future.

“Oh, god, never,” Del Rio says, practically gagging. “I’m not going to do that bullshit. I have no desire to do that.

You don’t need another rancid queen singing another horrible song – no.”

Although she has made the decision to deprive the world of yet another throbbing dance mediocrity, she’s

still got a lot to say. Specifically, about you, your weave and every bad decision you’ve ever made. With a one-woman/man show in the works, and her new web series “Bianca Hates You,” she’ll have plenty of opportunities to say what’s on her mind.

Del Rio’s hate has become so popular, she offers personal insult videos as a “thank you” for donating to her crowd-funded film project “Hurricane Bianca.” Of course, if funds are low, catching her in town at 8 p.m. May 29 at the Andiamo Event Center in Novi with fellow contestant Darienne Lake will almost certainly make your shadiest dreams come true.

“All you have to do is show up and breathe,” she says.

On “Drag Race,” Del Rio’s quick wit was the star, but her fierce looks and sickening sewing skills always helped keep her on top. Regardless, she still got a lot of pushback for not being more varied. Like most things, Del Rio laughs off the criticism.

“Everybody has a fucking opinion and thinks they know better than you. You get on the show, you wear what you fucking want and prove me wrong. They can say whatever the fuck they want – the comments, YouTube, critics, blogs. I don’t have to explain myself.”

Her words may be harsh, but Del Rio also managed to be one of the most helpful and caring queens in the competition. Even though she’s been praised for taking Trinity K Bonet and Adore Delano under her wing, she sees it as just a kind gesture.

## INFO

### Bianca Del Rio and Darienne Lake

Doors 8 p.m. May 29  
Andiamo Event Center  
42705 Grand River Ave., Novi  
Tickets: [www.neptix.com](http://www.neptix.com)

Photo courtesy of Logo

See Bianca, page 38



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### ► Bianca

Continued from p. 36

“On the show, it’s not so much taking people under my wing,” she explains. “It was just a moment that they needed help and I thought, ‘Why not?’ I would have done that for anybody. It was just common sense – they needed help. I didn’t change the world; I didn’t cure cancer. Every drag queen is not a douche.”

Throughout the competition, Del Rio’s unique versatility helped her sail through the sea of lesser queens. While she’s not a trained singer or dancer like her fellow finalists, she’d took her limited experience and made it work. Also, unlike many famed queens from “Drag Race” history, she was more than willing to take a critique.

“The show is the show and I think you need to play the game. When people made suggestions, I didn’t take it as something completely insane. I thought, ‘Sure, why not try it?’ You can’t go in there thinking you’ve got all the answers. The majority of the time, all they want to do is see that you’re listening.”

Every season, there’s a queen or two who stun, even when they take their face off. From day one of “Drag Race,” that was Del Rio.

“People are weird,” Del Rio says. “I think it’s interesting, for me, because I’m 38 and all of a sudden you have people interested in what you’re about. I think it’s very sweet and very kind. I’m grateful and appreciative, but you always have to question people who are a little too eager. I haven’t really dissected it but I’m not dating anybody, so...”

With all that’s been happening for Del Rio in the last year, it’s surprising to think that she was close to hanging up her wig. With her 20th drag anniversary and 40th birthday around the corner, the plan was to settle into a calmer, drag-less life. Luckily for fans, it looks like her “Drag Race” win has put retirement on hold.

“I did the show at 37 and I was like, ‘Well, let’s see what happens with this.’ Now that it’s snowballed, 40 is impossible at this point. I have a while to run. This has opened a million doors for me. I’m kind of excited about this next journey.”



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## ► Pride Calendar

Continued from p. 33

Contact: [www.hollandareapride.com](http://www.hollandareapride.com)  
Headlined by comedienne Jennie McNulty

## JUNE 28

### Flint Pride in the Park

Presenting Organization: Flint Gay Pride Society

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Pavilion Rink & Adjacent Riverfront Park, Flint

Contact: [www.facebook.com/flintgaypride](http://www.facebook.com/flintgaypride)

Suggested Donation \$5

## JULY 18-20

### Windover Ride

Presenting Organization: Dykes on Bikes

Location: Windover Camp Ground

Contact: [www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com](http://www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com)  
Women's only camp ground. Fees apply.

## JULY 22-27

### Hotter Than July

## JULY 22

### Candlelight Vigil

Presenting Organization: KICK

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Blue Spruce Memorial Tree, Palmer Park, Detroit

Contact: 313-285-9733 or [hotterthanjuly.org](http://hotterthanjuly.org)

Part of Hotter Than July

## JULY 23

### Boat Ride

Presenting Organization: KICK

Time: 6:10 p.m.

Location: Rivard Plaza, Downtown Detroit Riverwalk, Detroit

Contact: 313-285-9733 or [hotterthanjuly.org](http://hotterthanjuly.org)

Tickets: \$55

Part of Hotter Than July

## JULY 24

### Film Festival

Presenting Organization: KICK

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Cass City Cinema, 3420 Cass Ave., Detroit

Contact: 313-285-9733 or [hotterthanjuly.org](http://hotterthanjuly.org)

Tickets: \$20

Part of Hotter Than July

## JULY 25

### Annual Gathering on LGBTQ Issues

Presenting Organization: KICK

Time: 8 a.m.

Location: Michigan State University, 4707 St. Antoine St., Detroit

Contact: 313-285-9733 or [hotterthanjuly.org](http://hotterthanjuly.org)

Free with Required Registration

Part of Hotter Than July

### Friday Night Event

Presenting Organization: KICK

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: TBD

Contact: 313-285-9733 or [hotterthanjuly.org](http://hotterthanjuly.org)

Part of Hotter Than July

## JULY 26

### Palmer Park Picnic

Presenting Organization: KICK

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Palmer Park, Detroit

Contact: 313-285-9733 or [hotterthanjuly.org](http://hotterthanjuly.org)

Part of Hotter Than July

## JULY 27

### Worship Service

Presenting Organization: KICK

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: WHOSOEVER Ministry, 2930 Woodward Ave., Detroit

Contact: 313-285-9733 or [hotterthanjuly.org](http://hotterthanjuly.org)

Part of Hotter Than July

### Sunday Brunch

Presenting Organization: KICK

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: TBD

Contact: 313-285-9733 or [hotterthanjuly.org](http://hotterthanjuly.org)

Tickets: \$50-90

Part of Hotter Than July

## AUG. 8-10

### Windsor-Essex Pride Fest

Presenting Organization: Windsor Pride

Location: Riverfront Festival Plaza, Downtown Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Contact: [www.wepridefest.com](http://www.wepridefest.com)

## AUG. 9

### Transgender Picnic in the Park

Presenting Organization: Transgender Michigan

Time: 12 p.m.

Location: Donald Red Geary Park, Ferndale

Contact: 855-345-TGMI or [transgendermichigan.org](http://transgendermichigan.org)

Free food, free fun and great friends.

## AUG. 17

### Cement City Ride

Presenting Organization: Dykes on Bikes Detroit

Time: 10:45 a.m.

Location: Meet at Affirmations, Ferndale

Contact: [www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com](http://www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com)

Voted best ride of the season; ride primarily through the beautiful Michigan countryside.

## AUG. 22

### White Party

Presenting Organization: Michigan Pride

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Old Town, Lansing

Contact: [www.michiganpride.org](http://www.michiganpride.org)

Tickets: \$10

White or silver attire

## AUGUST 23

### Michigan Pride Festival in Old Town

Presenting Organization: Michigan Pride

Time: 12 p.m.

Location: Old Town, 206 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing

Contact: [www.michiganpride.org](http://www.michiganpride.org)

Michigan-based musicians, food, games, crafts and more. All ages welcome.

### March to the Capitol

Presenting Organization: Michigan Pride

Time: 12 p.m. Set-Up

Location: 200 N. Grand Ave., Lansing

Contact: [www.michiganpride.org](http://www.michiganpride.org)

The March will be held rain or shine and should last approximately 30 minutes.

### Commitment Ceremony

Presenting Organization: Michigan Pride

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: State Capitol Steps, Lansing

Contact: [www.michiganpride.org](http://www.michiganpride.org)

Rev. Kent Lederer of Unity of Greater Lansing will lead a group-style commitment ceremony in which couples will receive a certificate following the ceremony

### Rally at the Capitol

Presenting Organization: Michigan Pride

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: State Capitol, Lansing

Contact: [www.michiganpride.org](http://www.michiganpride.org)

Michigan Pride's Capitol Rally will celebrate the LGBTQ community's progress in achieving civil rights and uniting against housing, workplace and marriage discrimination.



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# Happenings

## OUTINGS

### Thursday, May 29

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

**Zoo Brew** 6 p.m. 21+. Tickets: \$40+. Detroit Zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile Road, **Royal Oak**. 248-541-5717. Detroitzoo.org

**Bianca Del Rio and Darienne Lake** 8 p.m. Of RuPaul's Drag Race Season 6. Featuring Deangela Shannon, Deja Van Cariet, Bentley James and Crystal Harding. Tickets: \$25. Murray & Peter, 42705 Grand River Ave., **Novi**.

**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

### Friday, May 30

**Motor City Bear Charity Dinner and Silent Auction** 5 p.m. This year's menu will feature a Classic American Homestyle dinner with Roast Pork Loin Chops, Baked Chicken and Roast Beef. The full dinner also comes with potatoes and a vegetable side. Salads, rolls, assorted desserts, ice tea, punch and coffee are also included. All you can eat. Tickets: \$7. 50-15. Motor City Bears, 143 Albany St., **Ferndale**. 313-505-7963. MCBOFFICERS@yahoo.com Motorcitybears.com

**Ferndale Pride BBQ** 6 p.m. Free hot dogs & burgers, music, dancing and friends Connect ME, 963 Allen, **Ferndale**. Facebook.com/events/1431414657117156/

GIFT, 1641 Middlebelt Road, **Inkster**. 248-943-2411. lindacbrin@gmail.com Womenoutandabout.com/calendar/detroit-womens-coffee-house/

**Pride Prom** 8 p.m. 21+. Tickets: \$25-30. The Friends of the Ferndale Library, 222 E. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. Ferndalepride.com

**Leather & Lace Charity Ball** 10 p.m. Proceeds go to Ruth Ellis Center. R&R Saloon, 7330 Michigan Ave., **Detroit**. 313-849-2751. Rnrsaloon.com

### Saturday, May 31

**Chalk of the Town Artists** will show off their "chalky" masterpieces. I Love Old Town, **Lansing**. iloveoldtown.org

**Ferndale Pride** Street fair. Ferndale Pride, **Ferndale**. Ferndalepride.com

**Rainbow Run** 8:45 a.m. 2k or 5k Run or walk. Benefits Affirmations, Upstandar and more. Tickets: \$15-35. Ferndale Area Chamber of Commerce, **Ferndale**. Rainbow-run.com

**2014 Annual Women's Golf OUTING** 10:30 a.m. Join more than one hundred golfers challenge each other for the prizes that are awarded for Longest Drive, Longest Putt and other games of skill and chance. Equality Michigan, 44045 Five Mile Road, **Plymouth**. Equalitymi.org

**Dykes on Bikes - Ferndale Pride** 12:30 p.m. Designed for all riding skill levels. Dykes on Bikes, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. ronda.wright@yahoo.com Meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT/

**X the Line - Peer Educators** 2 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. dsmith@goaffirmations.org Goaffirmations.org

photo and video stations, sign up to participate as a member of one of our new cross-cultural teams that will spread the word about our Ally Campaign, or learn more about volunteering at Affirmations. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

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

**Summer Women's Weekend** 10 p.m. Featuring Comedian Suzanne Westenhofer and Sami Grisafe. Tickets: \$10-20. Dunes Resort, **Saugatuck**. 269-857-1401. Dunesresort.com

### Sunday, June 1

**Show Off Your Butch Side - Campit Weekend** Weekend theme: Trades Demos and Contests, Beer Tasting. GOAL, 6635 118th Ave., **Fennville**. Meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

**Bottomless Bloody Mary and Mimosa Brunch** 8 a.m. Ferndale Pride, 22740 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. 248-591-3466. Ferndalepride.com

**Drag Yourself Out of Bed for Brunch** 11 a.m. Featuring Stephanie Hamood on patio. Rosie O' Grady's, 279 W. Nine Mile, **Ferndale**. 248-591-9163. Ferndalepride.com

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

**Backyard Birthday Bash** 2 p.m. Celebrating 45 years. Free and



evolved from a chorus intent on portraying a positive image of the gay community to a group who focuses on supporting the greater Lansing community.

A Silver Celebration will be held at First Presbyterian Church's Molly Grove Chapel, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. The first show will be at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 31 while the second is held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 1. Tickets will be on a sliding scale of \$12-20. Visit [www.lansingout.org](http://www.lansingout.org) for more information.

Cole. With DJ Eddie. Rosie O' Grady's, 279 W. Nine Mile, **Ferndale**. 248-591-9163. Ferndalepride.com

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

**Euchre Tournament** 7 p.m. Battle Creek Pride Resource Center, 16 E. Van Buren St., **Battle Creek**. Battlecreekpride.org

**DJ DAV** 8 p.m. Rosie O' Grady's, 279 W. Nine Mile, **Ferndale**. 248-591-9163. Ferndalepride.com

**Showbiz Sunday** 10 p.m. 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, June 2

**Womyn's Words** 6:30 p.m. Looking for volunteers to make homemade chili for cook off. BCPRC, 16 E. Van Buren St., **Battle Creek**. Battlecreekpride.org

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

### Tuesday, June 3

**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

**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

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

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

### Wednesday, June 4

**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

## Editor's Pick

LanSINGout Gay Men's Chorus will present their 25th Anniversary Concert, "A Silver Celebration" this weekend. The show will celebrate songs from the group's past 25 years. The ASL interpreted performances will also feature a silent auction on both Saturday and Sunday.

LanSINGout Gay Men's Chorus is a non-profit singing group, formerly called the Greater Lansing Gay Men's Chorus. Over the years, the chorus has

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

**Feral Cat Workshop** 5:30 p.m. A new program designed to reduce the number of homeless cats and provide feral cats with much needed care. Michigan Humane Society, 30300 Telegraph Road, Suite 220, **Bingham Farms**. 248-283-1000. Michiganhumane.org

**BTL's Pride VIP Party** 6 p.m. BTL's chance to entertain you in an elegant setting with drinks and hors d'oeuvres so we can say thank you for your support of BTL and Pride Source Media Group. Between the Lines, **Detroit**. Pridesource.com

**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. www.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, June 5

**\$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

**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

**Biker Bash** 6 p.m. Royal Oak Farmers Market, 316 E. 11 Mile Road, **Royal Oak**. 248-246-3276. Ci.royal-oak.mi.us

**Connections** 6 p.m. Open to all LGBTQ and Ally youth from 13-18. Join us to meet other LGBTQ and Ally

teens and socialize in a safe space. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

**First Thursdays** 6 p.m. Mixer. LGBTQ Networking Group, **Kalamazoo**. Kglrc.org

**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: \$5-35. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

**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. 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

### Friday, June 6

**SCA Farmer's Market** 9 a.m. Those wishing to sell fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, and eggs, including baked goods, cheeses, honey products, flowers, and related food products made regionally or by the vendor



## Editor's Pick

The eighth annual "Motor City Bear Charity Dinner and Silent Auction" will take place on May 30 at Zion Lutheran Church at 143 Albany St. in Ferndale. This year's menu will feature a classic American homestyle dinner with roast pork loin chops, baked chicken and roast beef. The full dinner also comes with potatoes and a vegetable side. Salads, rolls, assorted desserts, ice tea, punch and coffee are also included. The all-you-can-eat dinner is served from 5 to 8 p.m. and is only \$15 (kids 10 and under \$7.50).

A silent auction will include many donated gift cards from area businesses, fine art and member services. Money raised from the dinner and auction will go to the Affirmations Gay and Lesbian Community Center in Ferndale and The Ruth Ellis Center in Highland Park.

For more information, visit [www.motorcitybears.com](http://www.motorcitybears.com).

**Movie Night** 7:30 p.m. Movies of an LGBT nature. Free. Battle Creek Pride Resource Center, 16 E. Van Buren St., **Battle Creek**. Battlecreekpride.org

**Artistic Women's Entertainment** 8 p.m. Tickets: \$12. Como's, 22812 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. Meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT/

**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 activists and artists and our local non-profit organizations in our community.

**Teen Pride Prom 2014** 3 p.m. Free food, free live music and more. OutCenter, 200 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330. Outcenter.org

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

**Ally Rush Week** 6 p.m. Make new friends, participate in some fun activities like our "Ally4Equality"

open to the public. Ozone House, 1705 Washtenaw Ave., **Ann Arbor**. Ozonehouse.org

**A Silver Celebration** 3 p.m. 25th Anniversary Concert. Tickets: \$12-20. LanSINGout Gay Men's Chorus, 510 W. Ottawa St., **Lansing**. Lansingout.org

**Third Annual Bowling Extravaganza** 3 p.m. Family friendly. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 5570 Gull Road, **Kalamazoo Township**. Kglrc.org

**Drag Shows** 5 p.m. Hosted by Natalie





Gary Lehman (right, with Peter Jacokes) performing at the recent Detroit Improv Festival at Go Comedy Improv Theater in Ferndale. Photo: Heather Sejnowa

# Finding Acceptance Through Improv

BY AMY J. PARRENT

Gary Lehman has a theory why so many people, including so many gay people, are attracted to the world of improv comedy.

"I think it's all about acceptance," he says. "No one cares if you're gay, straight or trans, as long as you're not a dick."

In improv, Lehman explained, you have to accept what is given to you or it doesn't work. "The more you study, the more you perform, the more there's that sense of acceptance."

Lehman has been performing at Go Comedy! Improv Theater in Ferndale

since it opened, and also, for the past four years, he's been teaching teaching improv there. "We have a lot of openly gay men and women teachers and performers at Go," he says. "We've had gay weddings at the theater. That's the type of place it is."

Part of learning comedy is what's actually funny and what you think is funny, Lehman said. "People can come off as making inappropriately racist, sexist, homophobic comments, maybe not meaning it in a mean way, but trying it out for a laugh."

Lehman likens the teaching of improv and comedy to teaching the difference between making fun of something and

commenting on it in a satirical way. "It's being sensitive to what the audience is responding to. They don't come and pay \$15-40 to get insulted about their race, sexuality or gender."

"A big thing in improv in North America is the perception that it's only a straight white male genre," he continues. "That's been slowly and quickly changing to more women, more minorities, more gay people. A Second City show that just opened has two openly gay men for the first time, including John Hartman from Detroit."

Lehman has been using humor to deal

See Gary Lehman, page 43

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## ► Gary Lehman

Continued from p. 41

with life since middle and high school. "I went through some bullying," he says. "I was a late bloomer, always smaller than a lot of the guys. I was not much of a fighter. Humor became my only outlet and weapon to deal with it. I remember hearing Bill Cosby and Eddie Murphy talk about getting out of fights. I thought, if I can make them laugh, they're less likely to punch me. But I never 'laughed it (the bullying) off.' I always knew it sucked and hurt."

Lehman grew up in Sault Ste. Marie and attended college in the U.P. at a time when there weren't that many outlets for theater and comedy.

"I remember performing in a school circus in first grade," he says. And I'd invariably get up and perform at church camp talent shows. There's a picture of me dressed up like 'The Church Lady.' I was obsessed with 'SNL' starting in high school, right when it got back into to its prime with people like (Dana) Carvey and (Phil) Hartman."

The young Lehman was always willing to take center stage doing impressions. "I was well known for my Muppet impressions," he deadpans. "I liked Fozzie Bear. He's a comedian, if not a good one."

But then I got out of performing. "My high school did one show a year. A senior who'd graduated the year before came back to direct it. So the same people got cast."

Meaning he didn't? "I made the mistake of learning how to run the light board," he said. "I was the only one who could."

The arts-related dry spell continued at Lake Superior State, where he earned a bachelor's in business administration, with minors in marketing and computer science. Afterward, he received a teaching certificate from Northern Michigan.

"I got my practical degrees. The fun came later," he said. "I got back into performing when I moved to Ann Arbor."



Gary Lehman (center) performing at the recent Detroit Improv Festival at Go Comedy Improv Theater in Ferndale. Photo: Heather Sejnou

He was part of an improv group at Performance Network and also studied in Toronto, then went through the entire program at Second City Detroit.

At Greenhills, an independent school for grades 6-12, he's the technical director and adviser to the student theater, and he also runs the improv club and coaches forensics.

Wait, back up. There's an improv club in his school? Yes, and they love it.

"When I teach improv to middle school, it's their favorite moment when I tell them, 'The less you think, the better you'll be at it.'"

And then there's the teaching at Go Comedy!

"Nyima Funk (now a Los Angeles actress) was my first improv teacher" he says. "Now I'm teaching one of her nieces."

He's also studying for a master's in children's theater. "I began working on an M.F.A. because I got more interested in theater in general. I want to teach theater and direct shows. The M.F.A. would allow me to teach college or work at a theater that has a training program as the educational director.

"I rediscovered theater in my 30s," he said. "Now I want to make that more of my life."

A promotional poster for the musical 'Little Shop of Horrors' at A2ct Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. The title is in large, stylized, blood-splattered letters. Below the title are three characters: a man in a suit with a shocked expression, a man in a cap and glasses holding a large, colorful, fleshy plant, and a woman with blonde hair. A red banner at the bottom right says 'THE CULT CLASSIC MUSICAL JUST AS YOU REMEMBER IT LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE'. At the bottom, it lists the dates 'JUNE 5-8, 2014' and the venue 'LYDIA MENDELSSOHN THEATRE', along with showtimes and ticket information: 'Thurs-Sat 8pm Sat &amp; Sun 2pm tickets &amp; info: www.a2ct.org (734) 971-2228'.

A green and white graphic logo for 'SHOP LGBT'. The top part is a stylized line drawing of a city street scene with buildings and trees. Below the drawing, the words 'SHOP LGBT' are written in a large, white, sans-serif font on a green background.

A poster for 'The Sound of Music' at the Arbor Opera Theater. The background is a stone archway looking out onto a mountain landscape. The title 'the Sound of Music' is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below the title, it says 'Rodgers &amp; Hammerstein's The Sound of Music' and 'June 13-22, 2014'. At the bottom, it says 'Sharing the Joy of Music for 15 Years!'. To the right of the poster is a section titled 'Upcoming Events' with details for a Jazz performance and an Opera Gala.

### Upcoming Events

## Jazz

at the Mendelssohn

June 16, 7:30pm  
The Rick Burgess Trio

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Christine A. Miller  
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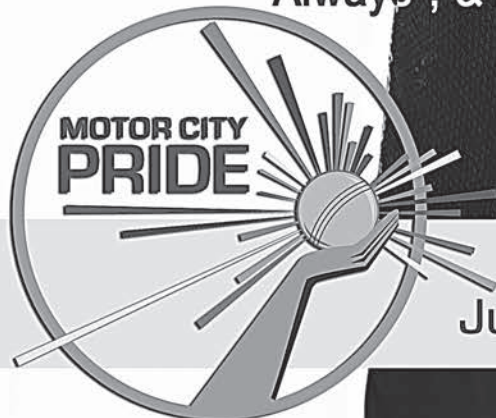




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## ► Happenings

Continued from p. 40

should apply. A limited number of hand-crafted items can be included; goods that relate to the serving or enjoyment of food products will be given priority consideration in this category. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. 269-857-2399. sc4a.org

**Old Town Farmer's Market** 3 p.m. Old Town Farmer's Market, Corner of E. Grand River Ave. and Center St., Lansing. lloveoldtown.org

**HAVEN's Inaugural Gala** 6:30 p.m. This signature event will honor our long history of providing hope to survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and will celebrate our next chapter - the construction of our new facility and our new service model. Cocktail attire. Tickets: \$150+. HAVEN, 200 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy. 248-322-3706. events@haven-oakland.org Haven-oakland.maestroweb.com/

**Baseball, Hot Dogs, Apple Pie and...** **Mark Schauer** 7 p.m. Tickets: \$25-500. Mark Schauer/Lisa Brown for Michigan, 711 S. Laurel St., Royal Oak. 248-224-7372. Markschauer.com/1406RoyalOak

**Friday Night Socials at the AFF** 7 p.m. Join us every Friday 7pm-9pm. Euchre-First & Third Fridays. Open Mic-Second & Fourth Fridays. Hosted by Michelle Brown. Everyone Welcome! Food & Drink available. The AFF Store & More, 290 W Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. richk@bsumi.com GoAffirmations.org

**Womyn's Film Night** 7 p.m. Film: Vicki Shaw: You Can Take the Girl Out of Texas - Gay comedienne Vicki Shaw wears her Texas roots -- and her sexuality -- loud and proud in this sold-out stand-up special filmed live in Long Beach, Calif., at the Vault 360. (The show also includes a special appearance by Vickie's son, Matthew, and her longtime partner, known simply as "Sgt. Patch.") Touching on everything from men to menopause, Vickie tells it like it is with her trademark brass and sass. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. GoAffirmations.org/

**Stop in the Name of Love** 8 p.m. The iconic sounds of Motown features chart-topping hits that will have you dancing in your seat. Get your tickets NOW before all the seats are taken! Sing Out Detroit, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. 248-943-2411. lindacbrin@gmail.com Singoutdetroit.org

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

## MUSIC & MORE

### Benefits/Social Events

**Detroit Opera House** "BravoBravo! 2014" An evening of dining, dancing, and support for the Detroit Opera House. Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. June 6. 313-237-SING. Motopera.org

**Pewabic Pottery** "For The House & Garden: Garden Party" 24th Annual Benefit Show & Sale. Multiple events. Pewabic Pottery, 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. June 5 - June 8. 313-

262-2000. Pewabic.org

### Comedy

**Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase** "Comedy Jamm" It's cut-loose comedy as we present the comedy of 12 of the current rising stars in the Detroit Metro area and beyond. Tickets: \$5. Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Aug. 8 - Sep. 25. 734-996-9080. Aacomedy.com

**Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase** "Ricardo Flanagan" Tickets: \$10-12. Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, 314 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. May 30 - May 31. 734-996-9080. Aacomedy.com

**Detroit Opera House** "Eddie Izzard". Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. June 3. 313-237-SING. Motopera.org

**The Magic Bag** "Steve-O" Tickets: \$22. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. May 30 - May 31. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

### Concerts

**Detroit Children's Choir (DCC)** "Love in Many Languages" The concert will include songs of love and peace from around the world. Featured in the performance is a new work by composer and psychologist Paola M. Marquez titled "I'm Love. I'm Love." Detroit's Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church, 6125 Beechwood St., Detroit. 4 p.m. May 31. 313-833-4432. Detroitchildrenschoir.org

**JCC Stephen Gottlieb Music Series** "Patti LuPone & Seth Rudetsky". Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. 8 p.m. May 31. 248-661-1900. Jccdet.org

**Michigan Theater** "B. B. King" Tickets: \$35-60. Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. June 1. 734-668-8397. Michtheater.org

**Royal Oak Music Theatre** "Eels" With Chelsea Wolfe. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. June 3. 248-399-2980. Royaloakmusictheatre.com

**The Acorn Theater** "Joan Curto Sings Cole Porter". The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. June 1. 269-756-3879. Theacorn.com

**The Acorn Theater** "Acorn's Adult Prom" Free. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 7 p.m. May 31. 269-756-3879. Acorntheater.com

**The Acorn Theater** "James Neary CD Release Concert". The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. May 30. 269-756-3879. Acorntheater.com

**The Ark** "A Benefit Concert For Michigan League Of Conservation Voters featuring Vienna Teng, Annie & Rod Capps, and Laith Al-Saadi" Tickets: \$15-75. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. June 1. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "The Subdudes" Tickets: \$30. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. May 31. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "The Howlin' Brothers" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. May 29. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "The Grand Slambovians" Tickets: \$20. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 5. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellies" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 6. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "William Fitzsimmons" With special guest Leif Vollebakk. Tickets: \$20. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 7. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "Seth Walker" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. May 30. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Magic Bag** "The Smiths United" (Smiths/Morrissey Tribute) with Going Underground (The Jam) and Big Deal (Breeders). Tickets: \$10. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. June 7. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

### Festivals

**Royal Oak Farmers Market** "Bacon Fest" Royal Oak Farmers Market, 316 E. 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak. 6 p.m. June 7. 248-246-3276. Ci.royal-oak.mi.us

### Film & Video

**Cinetopia** "Cinetopia International Film Festival" Tickets: \$75-200. Various, Ann Arbor and Detroit. June 4 - June 8. Cinetopiafestival.org

### Other

**Showroom of Elegance** "Fashion, Women & Jewelry" An interactive fashion and style workshop. Showroom of Elegance, 6018 Canton Center Road, Canton. 6 p.m. May 30. 734-207-1906. Showroomofelegance.com

### Shows

**Gordy's Music** "Michigan Guitar Show" 50 guitar shops under one roof. Taylor Town Trade Center, 22525 Ecorse Road, Taylor. 10 a.m. June 1. 248-546-7447. Gordysmusic.com

## THEATER

### Civic/Community Theater

**Appointment With a Highwire Lady** \$10-12. Emergent Arts at The Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti. Through June 8. 734-985-0875. www.emergentarts.com

**Little Shop of Horrors** \$13-25. Ann Arbor Civic Theatre at Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 N. University, Ann Arbor. June 5 - 8. 734-971-2228. www.a2ct.org

**Murder's in the Heir** \$13-15. The Spotlight Still Got It Players, The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. June 4 - 8. 734-394-5300. www.Canton-mi.org/villageattheater

**The Great God Pan** \$15-25. Redbud Productions at Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. May 29 - 31. 734-763-4186. www.kerrytownconcerthouse.com

**The Improv Mixer** \$5. Emergent Arts at The Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti. 8 p.m. June 3. 734-985-0875. www.emergentarts.com

**The King and I** \$7-15. The Twin City Players, 600 W. Glenlord Road, St. Joseph. June 6 - 29. 269-429-0400. www.twincityplayers.org

**The Wizard of Oz** \$22-30 in advance; \$2 extra at the door (if available). Stagecrafters, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak. June 6 - 22. 248-541-6430. www.stagecrafters.org

### College/University Theater

**Sylvia** Recommended for ages 13+. \$9-15. Eastern Michigan University Theatre at Sponberg Theatre in the Quirk Dramatic Arts Building, Ypsilanti. June

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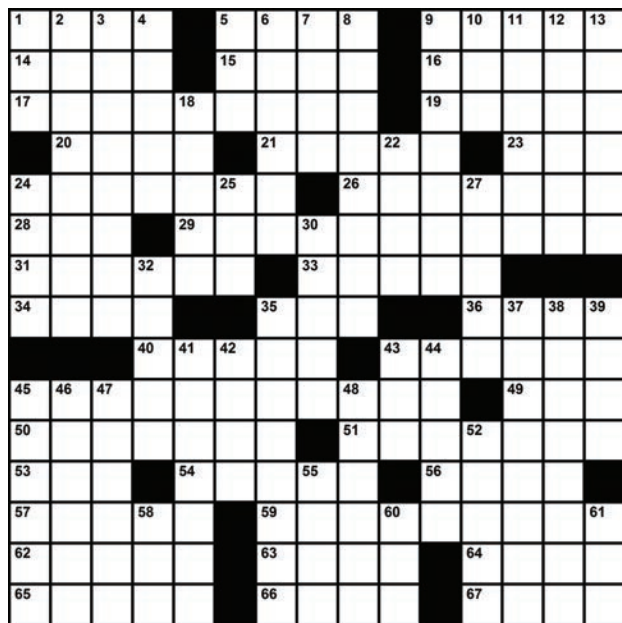
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## QPuzzle Giovanni's Room



### Across

- 1 Peters out
- 5 Word used by grabbers
- 9 Plotting group
- 14 Wife of Buck's Wang
- 15 Carbon compound
- 16 You must remember this
- 17 Start of James Baldwin's definition of home in "Giovanni's Room"
- 19 Card of the future
- 20 Spin like a top
- 21 Hymn to a Greek god
- 23 Island necklace
- 24 Place for a stud
- 26 Sugar pill, at times
- 28 Heather's mommy count
- 29 More of the definition
- 31 Animal bite worry
- 33 Cut out
- 34 Watched intently
- 35 Seaman
- 36 Verne hero Phileas
- 40 Lambda \_\_\_ Defense and Education Fund
- 43 Decide on
- 45 More of the definition
- 49 "Phooey!" to the Bard
- 50 Most intimate
- 51 Renting out
- 53 Four, often, to Sheehan
- 54 German white wine
- 56 "If I Were a \_\_\_ Man"
- 57 One-named pop singer
- 59 End of the definition
- 62 Provide new equipment for
- 63 "Blowjob" filmer Warhol
- 64 Make more potent
- 65 No-tell motel meeting
- 66 Give the slip to
- 67 Sommer of film

### Down

- 1 Awfully long time
- 2 Thrill with oral sex?
- 3 Postcoital garment
- 4 One who comes slowly
- 5 Martin of the Daughters of Bilitis
- 6 All worked up
- 7 Frida's mouth
- 8 More ready for bed
- 9 Breaks for pussies and toms?
- 10 Home of T. Bankhead
- 11 Beermaker's grain
- 12 Microscopic critter
- 13 It's for skin
- 18 Anal insert from a UFO?
- 22 Soprano Gluck
- 24 To be in Rimbaud's arms
- 25 It picks people up who eventually get off
- 27 Chin dimple
- 30 Milano opera house, with "la"
- 32 One who screws around
- 35 Kind of maneuver
- 37 Dave Pallone, to a baseball game
- 38 Become a debtor
- 39 Eldest Brady boy
- 41 Rupert of "Stage Beauty"
- 42 "Hey, I never thought of that!"
- 43 JosÉ's huzzah
- 44 Kind of dish
- 45 To some extent
- 46 Woolf's "The Common Reader"
- 47 Thin out
- 48 Becomes part of the crowd, with "in"
- 52 Owner's document
- 55 Denial for Nanette
- 58 Fleur-de-\_\_\_
- 60 Head job?
- 61 Born, to Bonheur

Solution on pg. 52

# Leather & Lesbians

## Dykes On Bikes Cruises Ferndale And Beyond

BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

With the sun finally making a regular appearance, it's time to get out into the good weather. What's a better way than to hop on a Harley and cruise to Michigan's Pride fests with Dykes on Bikes?

The LGBTQ women's motorcycle club, Dykes on Bikes Detroit, began in 2008 with Heather O'Brian as president, Marianne Waugh as vice president, Tracy Brown as treasurer and Ronda Wright as secretary.

The women worked for a number of years to get the Detroit chapter approved from the "mother club" in San Francisco. As a whole, Dykes on Bikes has a large Facebook following, 17 patch holding members and is steadily rising as a prominent lesbian group both locally, nationally and even internationally with chapters in Australia.

Since then, Wright has become president, with Duffy Williams coming on as secretary and Wendy Berry serving as the group's Sargent of Arms. Former president, O'Brian, was granted lifetime membership after her retirement in 2013. It's considered the highest honor and recognition given to any active member. According to Wright, to even be considered for the achievement, one must be a senior member, having served five or more consecutive years of membership. In addition, Wright says member must "have provided an influence on the club that may not have been otherwise achieved and be approved unanimously by the standing board."

The group's official mission is "to support philanthropic endeavors in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and women's communities and beyond, and reach out to empower a community of diverse women through rides, charity events, Pride events and education."

Dykes on Bikes is open to all age groups,



and all are open to ride motorcycles provided one is endorsed and insured. Though the law in Michigan has changed to allow bikers to ride without helmets, Dykes on Bikes considers it a must when riding with them. An emphasis on no drinking, drugs or "horsing around" is also critical to riding with the women.

Membership requirements include voting for the board and riding in at least one Pride festival with the Dykes on Bikes patch displayed on a black vest.

Over the last six years, the group has grown to help the community, including the Ferndale area, through volunteer work, donations to local charities and other forms of support for charitable organizations.

Much of the group's support is seen with the women's presence at Pride festivals. Dykes on Bikes will be riding in the Motor City Pride parade on Sunday, June 8. The group will have a booth at Ferndale Pride on Saturday, May 31 as well as a stall at Motor City Pride on Saturday, June 7.

All rides begin at Affirmations in Ferndale, including an upcoming ride to World Pride in Toronto from June 27-30. Other upcoming rides include

a Windover ride from July 18-20 and their most popular ride to Cement City at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 17. Fall rides include one in September that will be determined by July and one on Oct. 5 including a chili cook off in Plymouth.

Wright lets prospective members know that the group isn't limited to Michigan's relatively short period of good weather. "We don't let the fun stop when the weather gets cold. We plan various social events for the group, and we have a yearly holiday party. Our vision is that this organization grow long into the future and continue to be a supporting faction for the LGBT community."

Dykes on Bikes meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month in Room 201 at Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. Follow Dykes on Bikes' rides by visiting [www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com](http://www.dykesonbikesdetroit.com) or e-mail [heather@Dykesonbikesdetroit.com](mailto:heather@Dykesonbikesdetroit.com) for more information.

*Many of Dykes on Bikes meetings and rides can also be found in BTL's calendar at [www.pridesource.com/calendar.html](http://www.pridesource.com/calendar.html).*



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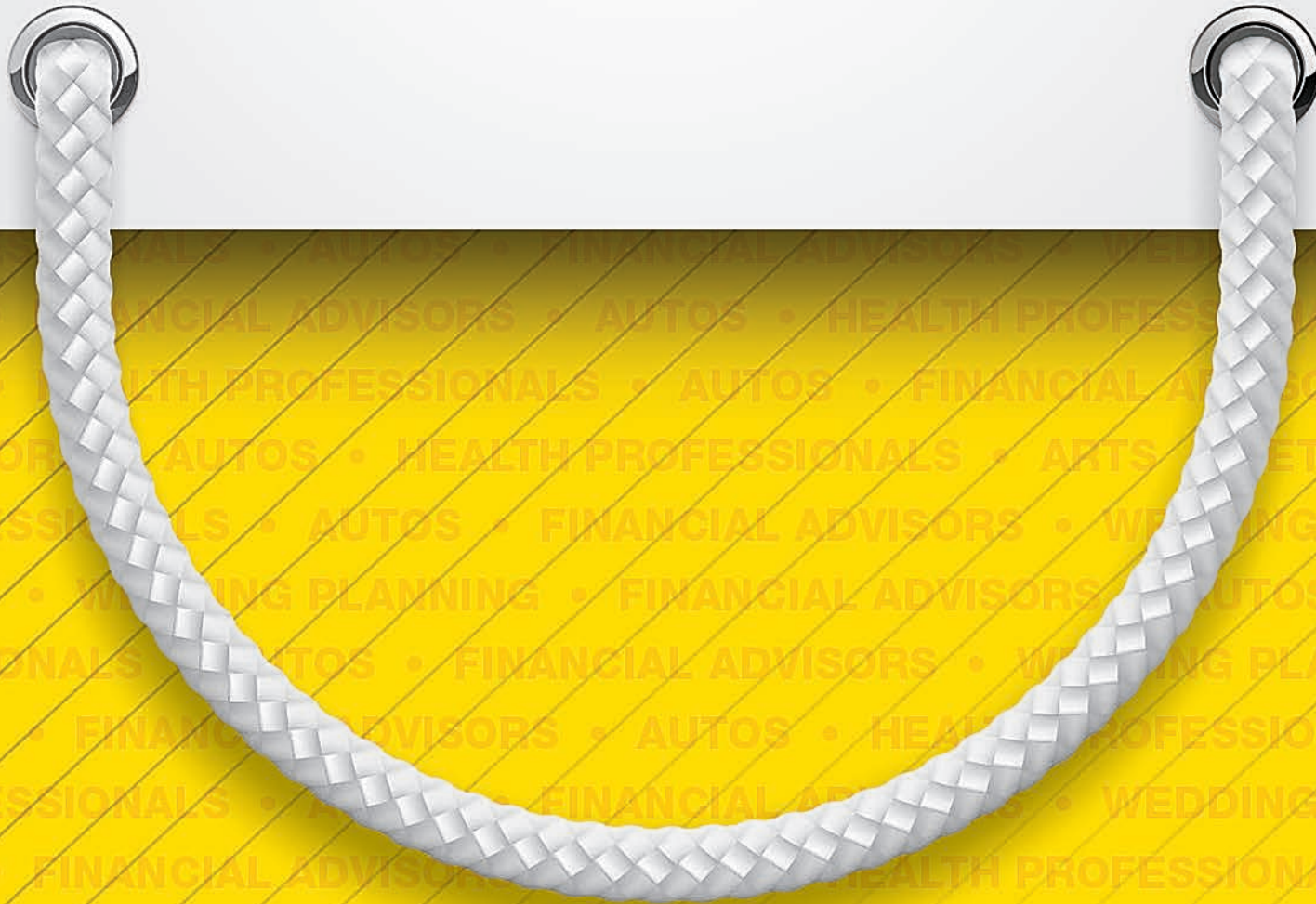
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## Editor's Pick

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre presents the musical comedy "Little Shop of Horrors" June 5-8 at UM's Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre.

In this off-beat musical by the award-winning team Howard Ashman and Alan Menken, a down-and-out skid row floral assistant, Seymour, becomes an overnight sensation when he discovers an exotic plant with a mysterious craving for fresh blood. Named for Seymour's secret crush, Audrey II grows into an ill-tempered, foul-mouthed, R&B-singing carnivore. As this Faustian fable spins out of control, Seymour and the audience are swept up in a comedic maelstrom of campy humor and '60s doo-wop music.

Performances are Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday and Sunday. Friday, Saturday and Sunday tickets are \$25, with tickets at \$22 for seniors and \$13 for students. On Thursday only, all seats are \$19, with \$13 tickets for students. Tickets and information are available A2CT office at 734-971-2228.

Mendelssohn Theatre is located at 911 N. University, Ann Arbor, 48109.

### ▶ Happenings

Continued from p. 45

6 - 15. 734-487-2282. www.emich.edu/emutheatre

### Professional

**A Night of Improv with Donna Blue Lachman** \$10. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 7:30 p.m. June 5. 269-756-3879. www.acorntheater.com

**Boogie Woogie Swingtime** \$42 (includes show and meal). Cornwell's Dinner Theatre, 18935 15 1/2 Mile Rd, Marshall. Through June 14. 269-781-4293. www.turkeyville.com

**Cabaret** \$33-35. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. June 6 - 29. 269-343-2727. www.farmersalleytheatre.com

**Closer Than Ever** \$25-50. The Encore Musical Theatre Company, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. May 29 - 31. 734-268-6200. www.theencoretheatre.org

**Cole Porter's You Never Know** \$25-40. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. May 28 - June 22. 248-377-3300. www.mbtheatre.com

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

**Dirty Rotten Scoundrels** \$12-15. Great Escape Stage Company, 155 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall. May 30 - June 14. 269-781-2700. www.greatescapestagecompany.com

**Endangered Species** \$17-20. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. May 29 - June 22. 313-868-1347. www.detroitreptheatre.com

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

**Into the Woods** \$10-25. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Through June 2. 248-545-5545. www.theringwald.com

**Love, Loss And What I Wore** \$17-20. Two Muses Theatre at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. May 30 - June 15. 248-850-9919. www.twomusestheatre.org

**Mentalist Christopher Carter** \$25. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. June 7. 269-756-3879. www.acorntheater.com

**Old Love** \$20-25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. Through June 15. 517-655-SHOW. www.williamstontheatre.org

**Rhinoceros** By donation. The Abreact, 1301 W. Lafayette #113, Detroit. Through May 31. 313-454-1542. www.theabreact.com

**Richard III** \$27-46. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through June 1. 734-663-0681. www.performancenetwork.org

**The Red King's Dream** \$20-30. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. May 29 - June 29. 248-347-0003. www.tippingpointtheatre.com

### ART 'N' AROUND

**Cranbrook Art Museum** "Saarinen House: A Total Work of Art" Designed in the late 1920s, the house served as the home and studio of Eliel Saarinen and Loja Saarinen from 1930 through 1950. Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. May 1 - Oct. 31. 877-462-7262. Cranbrookart.edu

**Detroit Institute of Arts** "Let Me Show You What I Saw: American Views on City and Country, 1912-1963" Whether they were captivated by quiet fields or looming buildings, artists' visions were becoming increasingly personal and abstract, going beyond the merely visible to suggest a world filled with feeling and meaning. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Dec. 1 - June 29. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

**Downriver Council for the Arts** "Young Artist's Exhibit" . Downriver Council for the Arts, 81 Chestnut, Wyandotte. June 8 - June 13. 734-720-0671. Downriverarts.org

**Downriver Council for the Arts** "Adult Oil & Acrylics Class" Tickets: \$10. Downriver Council for the Arts, 81 Chestnut, Wyandotte. Jan. 7 - June 24. 734-720-0671. Downriverarts.org

**Flint Institute of Arts** "Kathleen Gilje: Portraits of Paintings" Meticulously rendered new incarnations of old masterpieces. Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. May 2 - July 20. 810-234-1695. Flintarts.org

**Level One Bank** "ART Exhibit Featuring Anthony Bacon " Mr. Bacon presents Images depicting Detroit & S. E. Michigan. The artists opening will be on Friday, May 30 from 3 - 6 p.m. The artist works vary in style and range from abstract to realistic. Many music & techno related themes

will be shown. Level One Bank, 22635 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. May 30 - July 28. 248-414-6500.

**MOCAD** "Steve Locke: there is no one left to blame" . Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. May 16 - July 27. 313-832-6622. Mocadoetroit.org

**MOCAD** "Jose Lerma: La Bella Crisis" . Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. May 16 - July 27. 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

**Museum of New Art (MONA)** "Rendering Carbon: The Art of Exploring an Element" A talk with Ian Boyden scheduled for 3 p.m. on May 18. Museum of New Art (MONA), 15655 33 Mile Road, Armada. May 16 - June 20. 248-210-7560. Detroitmona.com

**Pewabic Pottery** "Martha Grover & Kala Stein Exhibition" Executing two different approaches, these artists explore the vessel by creating sculptural forms and installations through their traditionally utilitarian function. Pewabic Pottery, 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. May 16 - June 29. 313-626-2000. Pewabic.org

**Saugatuck Center for the Arts** "Fiber Workshop with Jennifer Gould" 16+. Tickets: \$70. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. 9:30 a.m. May 31. 269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

**South Oakland Art Association (SOAA)** "Monthly Meetings" . Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 N. Campbell Road, Royal Oak. Feb. 3 - June 2. Soaklandart.com

**The Scarab Club** "Pictorialism and the Photograph as Art" Part of Clyde Burroughs Dinner Lecture Series on American Art & Design. Tickets: \$50-65. The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. 6 p.m. May 29. 313-831-1250. Scarabclub.org

**University Of Michigan Museum Of Art (UMMA)** "An Eye on the Empire: Photographs of Colonial India and Egypt" The zenith of the British Empire in the later nineteenth century coincided with a unique convergence of cultural, technological, and economic forces. University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. April 1 - June 29. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

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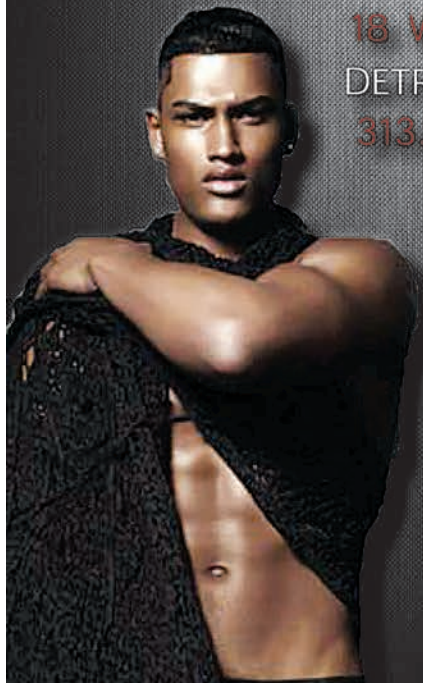
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# Deep Inside Hollywood

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

## Physician, heal thy closeted self

A new doctor show is coming to television. Yes, yes, we know, there's always a new doctor show coming to television. But "The Night Shift," premiering May 27 on NBC, has a new wrinkle in its ongoing story line: a closeted doctor. The series revolves around a San Antonio hospital and its night staff, which includes Brendan Fehr (former '90s teen heartthrob from the show "Roswell," remember?) as a young veteran of the war in Afghanistan, now a doctor with a big gay secret. Meanwhile his character's boyfriend is still on active duty in Afghanistan but coming home to stay, which will put a dent in that closet door. Luke MacFarlane, "Brothers & Sisters" star and openly gay actor, will play that handsome soldier. If this narrative seems a touch dated now that Don't Ask Don't Tell is well over and marriage equality is quickly coming to pretty much every state in the union, so be it. We trust TV to make us care about hot dudes no matter what sort of contrived problems and angst they deal with. We'll be watching.



Luke MacFarlane. Photo: Shutterstock.com

## Tyra Banks presents 'TransAmerica'

We're entering a significant moment in the push forward for awareness and equal rights for the "T" members of the LGBT community. A new wave of transgender awareness, activism and media presence is opening eyes and minds every day. And now Tyra Banks will lend

her name and media clout to a docuseries about trans women. Alongside producing partner Gay Rosenthal, Banks will bring "TransAmerica" (the current working title) to VH1. The eight-part reality series will follow the lives of a group of women in Chicago united by the experience of being transgender. A graduate student, a cosmetics consultant, a medical student, a club kid and a model (look, it's still Tyra's show) will open up their lives to the cameras for a look at the variety of life directions taken the cast as they progress through transitioning and beyond. The show is scheduled to air in late 2014/early 2015. And will the trans man show be far behind?

## Don't rain on Lea Michele's parade

You probably don't watch "Glee" anymore, but if you were you'd know that, according to the show, Lea Michele's character Rachel is burning up Broadway in a revival of "Funny Girl" and making Barbra Streisand weep tears of joy. Here's another thing you might not know: "Glee" creator Ryan Murphy owns the rights to "Funny Girl." And power-players like Murphy don't just snap up rights to stuff like that for kicks. He wants to make that revival happen. He's said as much recently in the press. And he's got his star. Of course, that pesky day job of creating a musical TV show will have to run its course – happening soon enough, thanks to "Glee"'s final season coming round the bend – and there'll need to be suitable arrangements made for director and co-stars. But considering that Michele's non-TV work so far has been a horrible Garry Marshall movie ("New Year's Eve") and a horrible children's cartoon ("Legends of Oz") and the unconfirmed rumor of a starring role in the film version of "Wicked," she should be gunning for this opportunity with everything she's got. Broadway loves you, Lea Michele; come back and grab yourself a Tony.

## 'One Big Happy' (Ending) for Elisha Cuthbert

When the criminally underrated and underwatched "Happy Endings" was cancelled, we wept and we cursed. We hoped we'd see the hilarious cast again soon, somewhere just as good (OK, almost just as good, whatever). Well, co-star Elisha Cuthbert has landed herself a job at Power Lesbian, Inc., starring on the new NBC series "One Big Happy." Ellen DeGeneres executive produces the series, created by "2 Broke Girls" writer Liz Feldman and the premise involves a lesbian (Cuthbert) planning to have a baby with a straight male friend (Nick Zano). Relationship complications ensue, both the hetero and homo varieties. It's the third LGBT-themed sitcom NBC has offered audiences ("Sean Saves The World" and "The New Normal" came first), which means they're committed to making at least one of them stick. Third times a charm and all that – and the second show for Cuthbert with the word "happy" in the title. That has to be a good sign, right? Either way, we're rooting for this one.

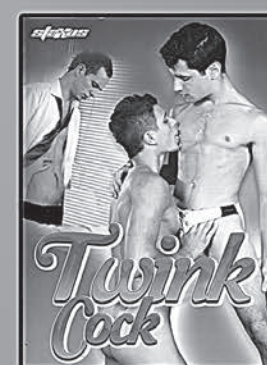
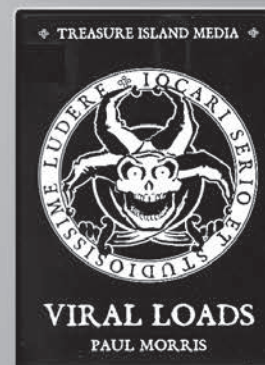
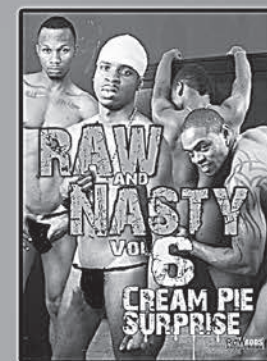
Romeo San Vicente has all the stuff you like. He can be reached care of this publication or at [DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com](mailto:DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com).



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# Classifieds

## 01-ANNOUNCEMENTS LGBT AA MEETINGS

### Ann Arbor-Friday

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

### Bloomfield Hills-Sunday / Tuesday / Thursday

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

### Detroit-Tuesday / Friday

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

### Farmington Hills-Monday

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

### Ferndale-Monday / Wednesday / Friday

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

### Ferndale-Saturday

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

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

### Livonia-Friday

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

### Warren-Monday

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

## 101-ANNOUNCEMENTS LGBT AL ANON

### Diversity Wednesday Al- Anon Family Group

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

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

Saturday's 8pm  
Drayton Ave. Presbyterian Church  
(in basement)  
Pinecrest & Drayton, Ferndale  
Closed Meeting

## 428 PROF. SERVICES - MASSAGE

### GROUP MASSAGE

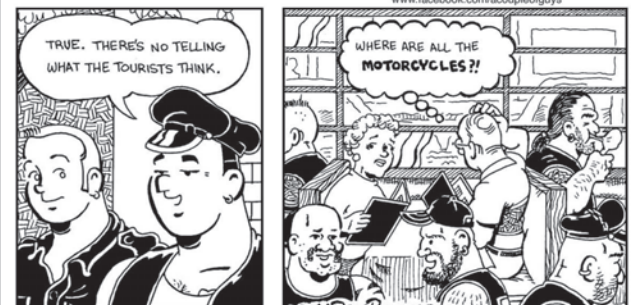
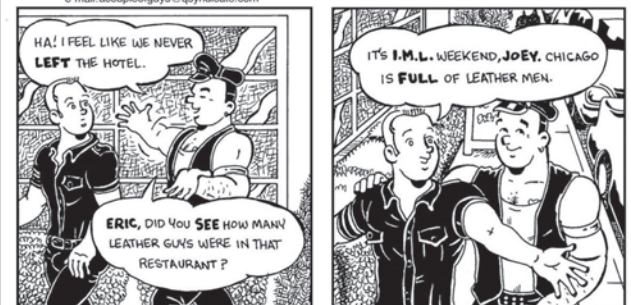
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### Solution to puzzle from page 46

E	B	B	S	D	I	B	S	C	A	B	A	L
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