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Unique Campaign Launches On National HIV Testing Day

“ I’ve known and loved many lesbians in my life. ”

– Kathy Bates, pg. 18



# *Breaking The Aging Taboo*

Director PJ Raval Discusses Senior Documentary Before Detroit Screening

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## COVER

4 Breaking the aging taboo

Photo by Mike Simpson



*"I'm pretty straight. Let me just put it this way: I've never had sex with a woman. I haven't. I've made out with more than one woman, but it just sort of happened."*

—Sarah McLachlan, pg. 18

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By Chris Azzopardi  
Originally printed 6/24/2014 (Issue 2225 - Between The Lines News)

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- Praise For State Dept. Response To Uganda's Enactment Of Anti-Homosexuality Act
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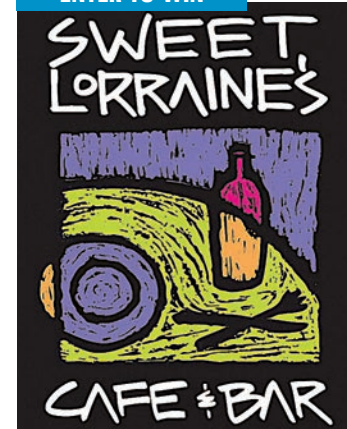
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# Living In The Spirit Of Now

## Focusing On Older LGBT Isolation

BY AJ TRAGER

**DETROIT** – “Living in the spirit of now. What does that mean? Think about it. And I’m gonna just tell you something personal about me. I’m learning to get old, but I refuse to let that get the best of me,” Cornelius Wilson, co-chair of the Older Adult Coalition and chairman for the Older Adult Summit said in a preliminary talk before the keynote speaker got on stage.

It was a compassionate, heart felt and engaging Saturday at the MSU Detroit Campus as older LGBT community members jointed together for the Fourth Annual LGBT Older Adult Summit.

The keynote speaker was Walter Woods, who currently heads AARP’s Impact Program-Isolation effort to develop and implement high impact solutions for keeping struggling Americans, ages 50 and up, engaged as they age. Woods then led the room in dialogue, speaking about his work for the AARP Foundation.

There are two types of isolation that really affect the LGBT community, Woods noted. The first is the emotional component of loneliness that affects the body in chronic ways, and the second is connectedness to people and resources and how that translates to a higher quality of authenticity, also known to Woods as self-love and self-acceptance.

He said there are three major transition points in life: retirement, loss of a spouse and disconnectedness from family, whether that is blood or defined family. Staying connected helps us all live longer and being resilient and strong can only improve our lives as we age.

“He was afraid,” Woods started, dropping his voice down a few notes and shifting his posture to rest a little more confidently, telling the story about his father’s fall into isolation after the loss of Woods’ mother. “He was afraid, because he no longer felt that he belonged to the world. That he had failed in some way because my mom had passed away. And he didn’t really accept the fact that we are going to die. Death is a part of living, it is something that we have to embrace and that’s okay. As long as we continue to live and don’t give up, it’s okay.”

He went on to talk about the importance of accepting ourselves and where people are in life, and to not judge too harshly those who choose to be isolated but instead find ways to help understand their decisions.

“I saw a lot of different solutions to how people live their lives and one solution that I really recognized is that first we really need to recognize each other as people, as humans first,” Woods said. “We divide ourselves and we tend to look at one another in very different ways and that’s fine, as

See Older Adult Coalition, page 12



Older Adult LGBT Coalition members and event volunteers Kat LaTosch, Cornelius Wilson and Judy Lewis. BTL photo: AJ Trager

Cover Story



A scene from “Before You Know It” which captures both sides of the coin as far as painting a picture of gay seniors is concerned. The film will be shown at Cinema Detroit June 27 thru July 3.

# Breaking The Aging Taboo

## Director Discusses Senior Doc Before Detroit Screening

BY CHRISTOPHER J. TREACY

When it comes to the topic of aging among gay men, the word “taboo” doesn’t really do it justice. Gerascophobia is more like it, and seems more appropriate since it rolls off the tongue about as well as the average male homosexual deals with the process itself. True, aging is a difficult subject in many groups, but gay men have really gone off the rails when it comes to the preservation of youth and beauty.

Filmmaker PJ Raval felt a calling to examine this phobic phenomenon, and the result is his latest film, “Before You Know It,” which screens June 27 thru July 3 at Cinema Detroit, 3420 Cass Ave. Though it’s gay themed, it wasn’t conceived that way. Instead, Raval was inspired by his mother.

“She’d started talking about retirement and what that looks like financially and emotionally,” he says over the phone from Portland, Ore., last week. “It was a very real moment when she started talking about that and it got me thinking about what an

interesting conversation it is, what it means when people give voice to becoming seniors.”

“Before You Know It” captures both sides of the coin as far as painting a picture of gay seniors is concerned. There is both triumph and despair, disappointment and satisfaction. If it isn’t always uplifting, it does succeed at being consistently riveting - you won’t be able to turn away. Raval, now 40, shifted his focus specifically onto gay seniors after being introduced to a group of them at a screening for his film “Trinidad” at the Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center. “From there, I began discovering lots of startling statistics about gay seniors,” he says. “They’re more likely to end up alone, more likely to end up on public assistance. These are people born pre-civil rights era, and they’ve seen a lot of change in their lifetimes.

“I also wanted to explore my own feelings about getting older,” he continues, “because what’s happening with it now is going to affect me later. In my opinion, the gay community is ageist in the

extreme. You never see gay seniors in our media. All the marketing for films, events, publications - all of it - uses youth-based images.”

Raval realized his initial concept for the film in 2008 and starting actively working on it in late 2009, shooting in the same sequence as the timeline in the finished piece. And there’s no shortage of deeply personal moments in the film. By working hard to earn the trust of his subjects, he was allowed to capture a trove of insightful vignettes that are packed with emotional power.


“Especially with a film like this, relationships have to develop, just like ordinary friendships do,” he says. “I don’t go in and right away start trying to pull intimate details out of my subjects. Instead, we meet, talk, get to know each other - hopefully we form a bond of trust. I trust them not to perform for the camera, and they trust me not to exploit them or take advantage of their candor. They’re often surprised by how interested we are in their daily lives. Spread the

See Aging Taboo, page 12

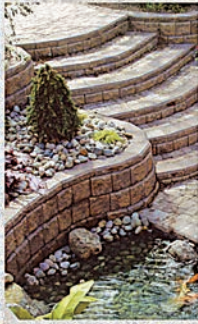
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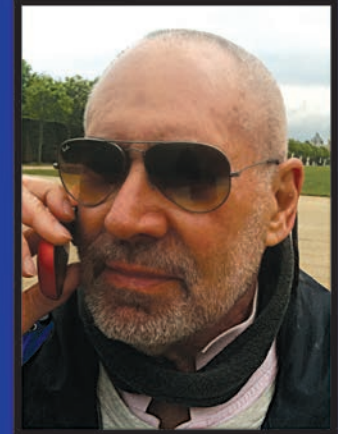
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June 28

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# 'PrEP For It Now': New HIV Messaging Launches For National HIV Testing Day

BY BTL STAFF

LANSING – AIDS Service Organizations including Michigan AIDS Coalition, Wellness and Lansing Area AIDS Network, The Red Project, Between The Lines and community activists launched a new online social media campaign this week to increase testing among gay and bisexual men as well as transgender women across the state.

With the moniker “The rEVOLUTION Has Begun,” the campaign will focus on the revolutionary prevention science as well as the medicine that makes HIV a chronic, manageable disease. Transgender women and gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men account for nearly two-thirds of new HIV infections nationally and statewide.

“If you are negative, there are options to stay negative,” Todd Heywood, a designer of the program who has been living with HIV since 2007, said.

“If you are positive, you have options to live a long, healthy life and prevent transmitting the virus to anyone else. Facing the HIV epidemic requires a completely new vision, voice and strategy.”

In May, the CDC announced new clinical guidance for medical providers to prescribe PrEP. Studies have shown that when PrEP is taken daily, it is 99 percent effective in prevention of HIV transmission for those who are HIV negative. That’s more effective than any other option in the United States.

In the 2012 National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Creating Change Conference in Atlanta, Gregory Millet, an employee of the CDC tasked to the White House Office of National AIDS Police, released HIV prevalence predictions. The numbers showed that the current cohort of 20-year-old men who have sex with men have a 10 percent HIV-positive prevalence already. Black men in the same demographic have 20 percent prevalence.

Once this group reaches 50 years of age, half of all gay and bisexual men will be infected with HIV, while 70 percent of the black community in the same demographic will be infected. Transgender women are 50 percent

more likely to be HIV positive than any other group of women.

## Changing The Game

Innovations in prevention options have the potential to change the game with HIV.

For those that are HIV-positive, treatment of a few combined anti-HIV drugs can reduce the viral load in that person’s blood to less than 28 viral particles per milliliter of blood.

be available from 4 p.m. to midnight at 1310 Turner St. in Lansing. Participants will also have the option of seeing if PrEP may be a prevention option for them.

“Outside of Detroit, Ingham county has been the highest prevalence of HIV cases in the state of Michigan,” Dwayne Riley, prevention manager at the Lansing Area AIDS Network, said. “But with the advent of prevention options like pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), a new understanding of HIV transmission and

## SEXUAL rEVOLUTION 3.0

# PrEP4it

The website has testimony and testing sites around Michigan listed, along with information on the latest science for HIV/AIDS prevention. The project has been created with the help of community activists, BTL and area agencies providing counseling and testing.

This reduces the potential to transmit HIV by 96 percent.

The first step in utilizing this new science is to get tested. With just a pinprick of blood and a wait time of 20 minutes, people can know their HIV status.

“This is essential to the health and well-being of the LGBT community” BTL’s own publisher Susan Horowitz said. “The science is sound and convincing. We can stop those prevalence predictions from becoming our reality. We can stop HIV’s march through this community.”

The new campaign will feature tweets, Facebook memes and videos to drive traffic to PrEP4ITNow.com. The site will host pages to explore why testing is important, what science has taught about HIV transmission and what works to prevent new transmissions.

In honor of National HIV Testing Day on June 27th, the Lansing Area AIDS Network will sponsor a series of fun activities in Old Town including Bingo at the Esquire Club, rEVOLUTION Trivia and performances of Lansing’s own drag stars at Spiral Dance Club. Free HIV testing on a walk-in basis will

The first step in utilizing this new science is to get tested. With just a pinprick of blood and a wait time of 20 minutes, people can know their HIV status.

the science of caring for those already infected, we know that we can slow this virus down.”

Join the rEvolution and get tested. Available testing sites can be found below. To find a location not listed here call the Michigan HIV/STD Hotline at 800-872-2437.

Go to [www.PreP4ITNow.com](http://www.PreP4ITNow.com) to utilize what the site has to offer and get more information on how and where community members can get tested for HIV.

# Benefit Held For Kevin Rogers

## Longtime Community Activist And Just 4 Us Owner Battles Cancer

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

**FERNDALE** – More than 70 people came out Friday for a benefit variety show for Kevin Rogers at Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church. The show, which featured folk tunes, Broadway and even opera, was followed by a raffle. The entire evening brought in nearly \$1,800.



Kevin Rogers

Two days later, Rogers sat down with Between The Lines to talk about his health and his battle with cancer. “The official diagnosis is stage 4 melanoma,” he said. “The reason people shriek when they hear ‘stage 4’ is because it used to be in the old days, stage 4 meant you were curtains.”

It all started with a growth on his arm. “What ‘stage 4’ means is that it’s relocated to other parts of my body,” Rogers explained. “It’s relocated in not so good places in my body. It’s in my lymph nodes, it’s in my brain, it’s on my spine and it’s on my hip.”

Rogers has already undergone brain surgery and may require a second procedure to remove additional lesions. “I’m taking four weeks of this new drug, and if we don’t notice some treatment difference in that time we’re going to go in and zap those four spots,” he said.

Though he initially sought treatment at Beaumont Hospital, Rogers has since switched to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Institute. “I think it’s my only chance of survival,” he said of the Institute. But Rogers has far from given up hope. “It’s kicking me in the ass big time,” he said. “It’s come after me with both barrels,

and hopefully the doctors are ready to fight with both barrels, because I am.”

Rogers has long been fighting for one thing or another, usually justice and equality for gays. He bought Just 4 Us in 2004, which has raised countless dollars for numerous groups through ticket sales and fundraisers throughout the years. Even before the store, Rogers was very active in the community. “It’s been 10 years with the store, eight years with Fans of Ferndale before that and many years of everything else,” he said. “It’s been 25 years of community service that I’ve given.”

Though he still comes into the store as often as he can, he’s turned the day-to-day running of things over to his staff. “I have an awesome team of guys,” said Rogers. “I couldn’t ask for better friends. They’re not just employees; they’re friends. They’re my family.” Indeed, it’s Rogers’ network of friends who have proven to be his biggest ally in the fight for his life. “I always knew that I had great friends; I never questioned my friendships at all,” he said. “I just never realized I had so many. It’s weird, because no matter how hard we try not to judge people and be opened minded about everything, there’s people who come into your life and they’re OK. They’re tolerable. You enjoy them. Do I want to go out to dinner with them? No, not necessarily. But when you’re pushed against the wall, you’d be surprised who are the first ones running to your defense.”

“It’s reinforcing this whole mankind thing. I’m not saying that I’m a saint by any means,” Rogers continued. “But I believe I’ve put enough positive energy out there toward helping people that I just knew, sooner or later, it would come back to me. And it has.”

As Rogers continues to fight cancer, additional benefits are planned for later in the summer. Donations are also still being accepted at Just 4 Us, which is located at 211 W. Nine Mile Road in Ferndale.

# Teen Charged In Motor City Pride Beating

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

**DETROIT** – A 16-year-old boy was charged last week in the June 8 beating of Christin Howard, which took place just outside Motor City Pride on the Detroit Riverwalk. The teenager, who is not being identified because of his age, was brought up on assault charges Saturday. He was also brought up on unrelated carjacking charges for an incident that took place the same day.

In the Howard case, the teen was charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm and aggravated assault. Bond has been set at \$20,000 (ten percent would be required for his release), and the judge ruled the teen would have to wear a tether.

Graphic video posted on YouTube reveals that the teen

was one of five to eight assailants who attacked Howard, beating him and, once he was on the ground, kicking him repeatedly. The assault began after one assailant started harassing Howard and making fun of his long hair while he had stopped to pose for a picture on the Riverwalk.

The teen’s court-appointed attorney said that his client was the youngest of the assailants and just followed the crowd. He “made a bad decision to follow some adults there” attorney Jeffrey Schwartz told the court. The teen is scheduled for a pre-trial hearing July 2. Detroit Police Chief James Craig has called the attack a hate crime and the investigation is ongoing. “I believe we’re going to find them for sure,” Howard said of his attackers for a story that ran in Between The Lines last week.

“Justice will be served.”

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# How American Public Schools Hurt LGBT Students: Documentary Filmmaker Cevin Soling Speaks Out

BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

Cevin Soling, writer and director of the acclaimed documentary on the failures of the public school system in the United States called “The War On Kids,” recently spoke with BTL. He discussed the unsettling truths he found out about LGBT youth in the American public school system, what adults can do about the bullying epidemic and why pulling bullied students out of school might be the best thing for them.

Writer, filmmaker, musician, artist and philosopher, Cevin (pronounced Kevin) Soling, launched into the public consciousness with the award-winning 2009 documentary, “The War on Kids.” Earlier in his career, the New York based Renaissance-man attended University of Michigan and wrote and directed short animated films, like “Boris the Dog,” that made their way onto MTV, BBC and other networks. He also served as executive producer on the 1998 film “Relax, It’s Just Sex” which focused on the lives of a group of gay, lesbian and straight individuals as they dealt with violence, affairs and each other.

Soling transitioned into documentaries with his film “The War on The War on Drugs,” which won best experimental feature film at the 2005 New York Independent Film and Video Festival. Following the documentary, Soling began covering the stories of children and adolescents who dealt with bullying in schools he called “effectively prisons.” Out of this coverage came “The War on Kids,” which won numerous awards and landed Soling in the public eye.

During the filming process, Soling realized that the educational system itself was responsible for much of the physical and emotional harm students of all orientations face. “There were mixed feelings [when working on the film],” Soling said. “It was great being around kids and having them appreciate that someone, for the first time in many of their lives, was there to respectfully listen and accurately report their deeply considered feelings. At the same time, I was helping them articulate and give context to their suffering. After several years of working on the film, I had the epiphany that the problems youth endure in school were directly because of the way schools are designed, and that is something that cannot be reformed.”

In the process of speaking with so many adolescents, Soling encountered many stories of LGBT kids. “Because I went all over the country, the experiences reported varied in response to the communities,” notes Soling. “There was one boy I remember talking to

in Colorado who was extremely artistic and sensitive and he was enduring so much pain. My crew kept turning to me while I was talking to him in ways they never did during any other interview. Finally, the cameraman blurted out, ‘If only you were in Brooklyn, you would not be having these problems!’ I am not saying that everywhere in Brooklyn is supportive, but my crew had positive experiences in that regard. It actually made him [the student] feel much better hearing and knowing that there are places where he would be appreciated for his gifts. That moment really stuck with



me because it seemed like a great burden had been lifted and he would not always have to suppress all facets of his identity.”

When asked if the “It Gets Better” project resonated with that story, or with any changes in bullying with the advent of more LGBT-acceptance in popular culture, Soling responds with mixed feelings, “The positive side that I definitely witnessed is that many in the LGBT community rightly enjoy the attention and support. I appreciate the element of hope and the fact that there is truth behind it – for many, things do get better. What I don’t like is that there is an implicit message that, because things get better and people are being psychologically conditioned to understand that, dealing with misery and the real sources becomes less of a priority.”

Despite the complicated tension LGBT kids find with being victimized by homophobic peers and adults, Soling still found tension and

bullying within the LGBT student community. “There was a recent study – an honest one, which is profoundly rare among people who profess to study bullying in school – that showed that the concept of ‘bully’ and ‘victim’ is actually very gray because many people who bully are also bullied,” said Soling. “People need to understand why children bully in school in the first place, and this is where you will have a very hard time finding any honest answers... When you have a structure where children are deprived of virtually all rights and have no voice and are forced to be there, you have an environment that is a catalyst for

“*Anti-bully laws are horrible. First, they do not work, and that has been shown by numerous studies. Second, they reflect a complete dishonesty about the causes of bullying, and many of them define bullying exclusively as something that exists solely among students.*”

- Cevin Soling

bullying. All people need to feel some sense of power and control over their lives and when they are deprived of that they bully others to feel some sense of power.”

According to the Human Rights Campaign, 51 percent of LGBT youth have been verbally harassed at school, while 48 percent say they feel excluded by their peers and 17 percent have reported being physically attacked at school. There are currently no federal protections for children from bullying or harassment for their sexual orientations or gender identity in American public schools.

Despite these findings, Soling finds legal action a poor solution to the issue of bullying in schools, particularly of LGBT students. “Anti-bully laws are horrible,” the director states. “First, they do not work, and that has been shown by numerous studies. Second, they reflect a complete dishonesty about the causes of bullying, and many of them define bullying exclusively as something that exists solely among students. Anti-bully laws become yet another weapon to be used against students. For example, one child was suspended for

jokingly placing a ‘kick me’ sign on the back of his friend. No bullying was taking place between the students, but here you have faculty adhering to what they perceive is the letter of the law. No thought is involved. That kind of thing just adds more paranoia and neurosis to an already sick environment. In this way, the laws give teachers and administrators even more leeway to bully kids with impunity.

“Naturally, this is not the answer anyone wants to hear. People want a quick fix to the problem, and there are no shortages of entities that have cropped up that are happy to take schools’ money to stage anti-bully intervention programs -- even though studies have shown that they do not work, and that they may even increase incidents of bullying. There is absolutely no political will whatsoever to deal with the problem by addressing the root cause, which would require the abolition of the autocratic model of schooling. Barring that, no should expect to see any meaningful changes.”

Soling still advises adults on how they can help the LGBTQ children in their lives, though it may come in a more revolutionary package. “Parents should know that if their kids are not being bullied for being LGBT, they will be bullied for some other reason if their children are forced to remain in that environment; it will be just as bad. Ending the repugnant marginalization of LGBT students will have absolutely no impact whatsoever on bullying in general,” Soling argues.

“The most important thing is to understand that the autocratic structure of compulsory schools is the greatest catalyst for bullying and that teachers and faculty are the worst bullies by far,” he said. “They have an obscene degree of power over students, which is, by its nature, abusive even if they have the best intentions. The advice for LGBT students who are suffering in school is, if it is at all possible, find educational opportunities other than a compulsory school environment. Problematic home life is a whole other challenge. The best thing is always to work on building communities of support and to try to find ways, where possible, to effectively communicate with people who are cruel and abusive.”

Soling emphatically affirms that, while change in schools may seem distant, he’ll cover bullying further, especially with the LGBT community: “This is an issue that is very important to me, and there are only a handful of other voices who have the will or understanding to speak honestly about this concern.”

For more information on *The War On Kids*, visit [www.thewaronskids.com](http://www.thewaronskids.com).



# Supreme Court Decisions Move LGBT Equality Forward

## Historic Lawrence And Windsor Rulings: June 26, 2003 And June 26, 2013

BY LISA KEEN

June 26 is the most historic date on the LGBT civil rights movement's calendar. It is the day in 2003 when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states could not enforce laws prohibiting same-sex adults from having intimate relations. It is the day in 2013 when a Supreme Court procedural ruling enabled same-sex couples to marry in California. And it is the day in 2013 when the Supreme Court ruled that the federal government could not deny married same-sex couples the same benefits it provides to married male-female couples.

While the decision that allowed couples in California to marry provided important momentum to the marriage equality movement, the decisions in the 2003 Lawrence v. Texas and 2013 U.S. v. Windsor cases are undeniably the most important Supreme Court decisions ever issued on LGBT-related matters. Lawrence brought a crashing end to the longstanding presumption by society and



Plaintiff Edie Windsor with her attorney Roberta Kaplan after learning of the US Supreme Court ruling in her favor June 26, 2013.

the law that gays were "deviate" and should be singled out for disfavor.

"When homosexual conduct is made criminal by the law of the State, that declaration in and of itself is an invitation to subject homosexual persons to discrimination both in the public and in the private spheres," wrote Justice Anthony Kennedy for the 6 to 3 majority in Lawrence.

"...The State cannot demean their existence or control their destiny by making their private sexual conduct a crime. Their right to liberty under the Due Process Clause gives them the full right to engage in their conduct without intervention of the government."

And it was Justice Kennedy who wrote the 5 to 4 majority decision in Windsor last year, striking the key provision of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) that barred every federal entity from treating married same-sex couples the same as married heterosexual couples for the purpose of any federal benefit.

"The Constitution's guarantee of equality


'must at the very least mean that a bare congressional desire to harm a politically unpopular group cannot justify disparate treatment of that group,' wrote Kennedy in Windsor. "...DOMA's unusual deviation from the usual tradition of recognizing and accepting state definitions of marriage here operates to deprive same-sex couples of the benefits and responsibilities that come with the federal recognition of their marriages. This is strong evidence of a law having the purpose and effect of disapproval of that class. The avowed purpose and practical effect of the law here in question are to impose a disadvantage, a separate status, and so a stigma upon all who enter into same-sex marriages made lawful by the unquestioned authority of the States."

"...DOMA undermines both the public and private significance of state-sanctioned same-sex marriages; for it tells those couples, and all the world, that their otherwise valid marriages are unworthy of federal recognition," wrote Kennedy. "This places same-sex couples in

See June 26, page 16

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# SHOWTIME Premiere: Kidnapped For Christ

BY BTL STAFF

LOS ANGELES - SHOWTIME presents a television premiere of "Kidnapped For Christ," the award-winning documentary chronicling the shocking truth behind Escuela Caribe, a "troubled teen" school run in Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic.

"They tied a belt around my waste and dragged me to their car," David, an Escuela Caribe survivor, states in the trailer for the

with a childhood trauma.

Logan, an evangelical Christian film producer, was granted unprecedented access and allowed to live on the campus for a summer. Originally there to capture the positive experience this type of school has for struggling youth, her eyes were opened up to the truth beneath the rural summer camp. During her stay, Logan decided to help a student escape from the so-called "therapeutic boarding school."

Featured in the 2014 Slamdance Film Festival and the 2014 Sundance Festival, "Kidnapped For Christ" is controversial among those that support youth-reform camps, faith based or not. Logan, who went into the filming process with no idea of the harm, said in an interview with filmmakermagazine.com that the abusive and inappropriate practices in these types of unregulated residential treatment programs for youth are widespread and systematic.

"The reality is, these programs aren't accountable to anyone, so they do what they want with the kids in their care and that can often become dangerous," Logan said.

"I thought it would be a heart-warming film about troubled teens learning about another culture at the same time as they dealt with their issues from back home. I had no idea what I had gotten myself

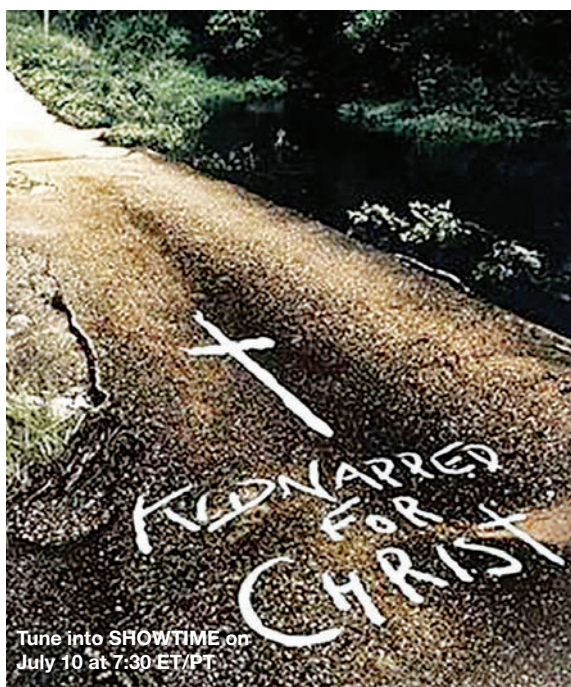
into," Logan told filmmakermagazine.com.

LGBT kids from around the country are sent to these types of camps each year. According to the documentary's kickstarter page, approximately 157 American teens have died from these types of behavioral modification programs over the past 40 years, which exist all around the USA and other countries.

Since many of the teens that are sent to these schools are under the age of 18, there isn't much the teen can do to escape imprisonment. Kidnapping and shipping adolescents off to these types of programs is legal under US law, with parental consent. Forbes magazine estimates that this industry is worth over two billion dollars.

Tune into SHOWTIME on July 10 at 7:30 ET/PT to see David and Logan best the traumatizing school and get him out.

For more information on the story and to see the trailer visit [www.kickstarter.com/projects/kateslogan/kidnapped-for-christ](http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/kateslogan/kidnapped-for-christ)



Tune into SHOWTIME on July 10 at 7:30 ET/PT

film. "They dragged me through the airport like that."

David, who was a straight-A student, was placed in Escuela Caribe in 2006 after coming out to his parents. Once David's community got word of what happened to him (after some time with no communication), they immediately took steps to release him. But getting him out of the school proved much more difficult than they anticipated. How far would Escuela Caribe go?

"Kidnapped For Christ" follows the lives of students who were totally isolated with no contact to the outside world, let alone their families, who were put through shocking and abusive tactics in hopes to "cure" them of their homosexuality and or behavioral problems. The 85-minute documentary shows Director Kate Logan meeting David, Beth, a 15-year-old from Michigan suffering from panic attacks and Tai, a 16-year-old Haitian-American from Boston who was caught experimenting with drugs he used for coping

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## Obama Administration Moves To Extend Federal Protections For Married Gay Couples

BY BTL STAFF

U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez announced a proposed rule to extend the protections of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) to include all eligible employees in legal same-sex marriages regardless of where they live.

The proposal would help ensure all families have the flexibility to handle serious medical and family situations without the threat of job loss. Following the Supreme Court's decisions in *United States v. Windsor*, which struck down the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), the definition of "spouse" is now under consideration.

"The basic promise of the FMLA is that no one should have to choose between succeeding at work and being a loving family caregiver," said Secretary Perez. "Under the proposed revisions, the FMLA will be applied to all families equally, enabling individuals in same-sex marriages to fully exercise their rights and fulfill their responsibilities to their families."

The proposed rule would change the FMLA definition of spouse so that an eligible employee, of a covered employer, in a legal same-sex marriage will be able to take FMLA leave for their spouse or family members regardless of the state in which the employee resides. The Department of Labor is publishing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to revise the definition of spouse. The new definition will include:

"An individual in a same-sex or common law marriage that either (1) was entered into in a State that recognizes such marriages or, (2) if entered into outside of any State, is valid in the place where entered into and could have been entered into in at least one State."

"Today's announcement is another example of the Obama administration's groundbreaking work implementing our victory in the Supreme Court last year on behalf of Edie Windsor," said James Esseks, director of the ACLU Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Project. "However, significant work lies ahead, including the push to provide Social Security benefits to LGBT Americans who have been paying into the system for decades and the passage of the Respect for Marriage Act, which would ensure same-sex marriages are recognized across all federal agencies. We look forward to working with the administration and Congress to fight for full equality and recognition for all couples and turn the final page on DOMA's ugly, discriminatory chapter in our history."

### Gay UP Man Sent To Vestibule During Catholic Mass

MARQUETTE (AP) - A gay Upper Peninsula man says he will worship elsewhere after he was barred from his Catholic church's sanctuary during Mass.

Bobby G. Brown tells WLUC-TV that he was told he could listen to Sunday's service from the vestibule at St. Michael Catholic Church in Marquette.

On Saturday, Brown and partner Don Roberts held a backyard commitment ceremony after 31 years together.

Brown began attending Mass at St. Michael eight years ago, became a member five years later and was baptized in the church. He's served on the pastoral council, as a cantor, lector and choir member.

Marquette Bishop John Doerfler says in a statement that qualifications for public ministry in the Catholic Church include observing church teachings.

The church opposes gay marriage and considers homosexual acts sinful.

Extended briefs are available online at:

>> [www.PrideSource.com](http://www.PrideSource.com)

### ► Older Adult Coalition

Continued from p. 4

long as you recognize that we're people."

The room stayed positive, taking the issue of isolation and conversationally focusing on ways to dismantle its hold on people, getting said people engaged and active again in their communities and in their own lives.

There is a professor down in Australia, Woods said with a more strict tone in his voice, who did a study and found that the effects of being socially isolated are equivalent to smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

The room of 85 attendees gasped.

"Health consequences that we are focusing on include increased cognitive decline, loss of impulse control, increased cardiovascular changes and higher risk of falls and hospitalizations," Wood said.

"But, to the LGBT community, we are talking about people who are twice as likely to live alone if you are in this community that we are all a part of. Who face higher disability rates and struggle with economic security and higher poverty rates."

The audience then took hold of the mic, and the room practically lit up. Community members shared their experiences with doubt and their personal stories of isolation. These personal tales included taking care of a loved one and the drain that can have on one's social life, or how they found a new community to share and experience with, how bringing people together truly helped them.

"The only thing we really have in our lives is today," Woods smiled. "This is a group of seniors that I really want to get to know better because you really serve as what I consider flashlights, they go back into the community and put a light on those people that need a little help at understanding why they are fearful of growing old. It's something that we all do. Aging is a privilege. Not everyone gets to do it."

Following his presentation was a panel of four, two older LGBT and two allies who shared their life stories about coming out, being accepted by their



Keynote speaker Walter Woods of the AARP Foundation center, with the AARP team. The agency was a major sponsor to the Fourth Annual LGBT Older Adult Coalition Summit held at the MSU Detroit Campus on June 21. BTL photo: AJ Trager

family -- or not -- and where they were today. Then came lunch and a variety of workshops with topics such as "I'm Set In My Ways" by Kathryn Bartz and "Great Sex After 50," the male-identified presentation by Joe Kort and the female-identified presentation given by Kelli Weller.

"I can't begin to tell you how excited I was for the day," Judy Lewis, coordinator for the LGBT Older Adult Coalition, said. "And for the feedback. I've had people emailing and calling me, thanking me for insisting that they be there. Got a lot of new people who have never been to a summit before who are asking what they can do next. It's great!"

After speaking with attendees about how the event was going, the message was very clear: they loved it!

Anthony Holliday was sitting with two other volunteers, Eddie Neal and Richard Novak. They were wearing volunteer purple shirts listening to the smooth sound of Don Nadel playing the grand piano.

"The workshops and keynote speaker were both better than last year," Holliday said. "And the last workshop -- we just left [it] -- was very informational. It's

very important for people to hear the stories. Because when I was up and coming we didn't hear them, we didn't have them. And even right now, we still have young people to this day that are still hiding. This summit is very important to this community."

The Summit featured community guest speakers Charles Alexander, Letty Azar, Pat Baldwin, Kathryn Bartz, Paul Bridgewater, Atiba Cohen, Kathy Graham, Jay Kaplan, Joe Kort, Maria Messina, Don Nadel, Tammi Pollum, Kathryn Smolinski, Rev. Roland Stringfellow and Kelli Weller. This was the first year the AARP came on as a sponsor for the event, joining the Gay Elders of Southeast Michigan, the ACLU, The Detroit Area Agency on Aging, KICK, Senior Koffee Klatch, Between The Lines and the LGBT Older Adult Coalition.

*To hear more about what the LGBT Older Adult Coalition is doing, visit their website at [www.lgbtolderadults.com](http://www.lgbtolderadults.com). Get connected with them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/LGBT-Older-Adult-Coalition/338640109489423](http://www.facebook.com/pages/LGBT-Older-Adult-Coalition/338640109489423).*

### ► Aging Taboo

Continued from p. 4

timeline out over a couple years and they let you in more and more."

Raval says that he likes to let his films come together as he's creating them rather than putting undue pressure on his projects to convey a specific message or tell a particular tale. But he says he knew a multi-character format would likely be the best means of storytelling for

this film and he sought to find subjects that weren't located in gay villages but, rather, out of the mainstream. Aging is a worldwide issue, gay or otherwise, and he felt the more powerful narratives would stem from spots off the beaten path.

"I learned a lot from this process," he says. "Community is so important. I think we've gotten very casual about throwing that word around, but we no longer think about what it really means.

For one of the subjects, it's a senior living facility. For another it's about running a successful organization, making changes and having a level of visibility on the street. For someone else, it's in a bar.

"There's so much fear instilled in us about age. The perception is that aging is somehow about being limited. But I think the films shows how that's not necessarily the case - that aging is just about change."

# Presbyterian Assembly: Gay Marriage Is Christian

BY JEFF KAROUB AND RACHEL ZOLL

**DETROIT (AP)** - The top legislative body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) voted by large margins June 19 to recognize same-sex marriage as Christian in the church constitution, adding language that marriage can be the union of "two people," not just "a man and a woman."

The amendment approved by the Presbyterian General Assembly requires approval from a majority of the 172 regional presbyteries, which will vote on the change over the next year. But in a separate policy change that takes effect at the end of this week's meeting, delegates voted to allow ministers to preside at gay weddings in states where the unions are legal and local congregational leaders approve. Nineteen states and the District of Columbia recognize same-sex marriage.

The votes, during a national meeting in Detroit, were a sweeping victory for Presbyterian gay-rights advocates. The denomination in 2011 eliminated barriers to ordaining clergy with same-sex partners, but ministers were still barred from celebrating gay marriages and risked church penalties for doing so. Alex McNeill, executive director of More Light Presbyterians, a gay advocacy group, said the decisions Thursday were "an answer to many prayers."

The Rev. Krystin Granberg of the New York Presbytery, where the state recognizes gay marriage, said she receives requests "all the time" from friends and parishioners to preside at their weddings.

"They want to be married in the church they love and they want me to do it," Granberg said during the debate. "I want pastoral relief."

But Bill Norton, of the Presbytery de Cristo, which covers parts of Arizona and New Mexico, urged the assembly to delay any changes. "We are laying hands on something

that is holy, that God has given us, so we need to be sure any changes we make are in accord with God's will revealed in Scripture," Norton said.

Since the 2011 gay ordination vote, 428 of the denomination's more than 10,000 churches have left for other more conservative denominations or have dissolved, though some theological conservatives have remained within the denomination as they decide how to move forward. The church now has about 1.8 million members.

The conservative Presbyterian Lay Committee decried the votes in Detroit as an "abomination." The assembly voted 371-238 to allow ministers to celebrate same-sex marriages, and 429-175 in favor of amending the definition of marriage in the constitution.

"The General Assembly has committed an express repudiation of the Bible, the mutually agreed upon Confessions of the PCUSA, thousands of years of faithfulness to God's clear commands and the denominational ordination vows of each concurring commissioner," the Presbyterian Lay Committee said in a statement.

Of the mainline Protestant denominations, only the United Church of Christ supports gay marriage outright. The Episcopal Church has approved a prayer service for blessing same-sex unions. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has eliminated barriers for gay clergy but allows regional and local church officials to decide their own policies on ordination and blessings for same-sex couples.

The largest mainline group, the United Methodist Church, with about 7.8 million U.S. members, bars ordaining people in same-sex relationships. However, church members have been debating whether to split over their different views of the Bible and marriage. Gay marriage supporters have been recruiting clergy to openly officiate at same-sex ceremonies in protest of church policy.



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# Blackmail Stonewall Style



## Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Fifty years ago when closets were leased for a lifetime, it was SOP – standard operating procedure – to go by a catchy nickname.

Some gay/lesbian Detroit monikers I recall as friends are Little Bobby, Little Pat, Estralita, Marshmallow, T.D. (Tall Dick), Savoy, B.J. (Butch Jimmy), Miss Bruce and, among Dykes Anonymous: Big Red, Skye, Petey, Speedy, Rusty, Drano, Little Blue Birdy.

Long before the tracheal advent of gay porn stars, I was actually introduced to a guy – of dubious intellectual and moral turpitude, to be sure – who went by the hustler alias of Dallas Copenhagen. ‘Cope’ for short. (I suspect he no longer holds dual citizenship, or turpitude of any kind, in this world.)

My own ID was Angular Al. (Brando Bob when out hitchhiking in my 32-inch waist “White Goddess” Levi’s.) Our nicknames provided a protective distancing ‘til we found out who we could trust as lover, friend, trick or washroom towel attendant.

Nicknames kept nasty people from calling our folks, our employers, our shrink – our parole board – and made blackmail (an ever-present danger back then) less likely.

According to Carter, the blackmail ring operated mostly in New York City and Chicago: “[The operation’s] scope and size were staggering; having operated for almost ten years, the ring victimized close to a thousand men [netting \$2 million] who were highly successful.”

Speaking of which: I was surprised to learn that the famous Stonewall Inn – where the modern Gay Lib movement began in 1969 – was a home base for blackmailers operating on a colossal entrapment scale.

According to historian David Carter’s “Stonewall: The Riots that Sparked the Gay Revolution” (St. Martin’s Griffin Press), the Mafia-owned Stonewall Inn did legit business under a special, loophole, membership license.

Members were allowed to bring their own booze for bartender pouring (with tips). Booze – watered down – was also sold on the premises.

Prospective new Stonewallers filled out index cards: name, address, telephone number. Bartenders – gay-hating thugs, hand-picked for implementing set-ups and stings – sized up new customers.

Anyone who appeared well-dressed (even casually so) – who seemed several cuts above the impoverished street queens and flamers who regularly danced there – was game.

Cute waiters (all gay) were ordered to be friendly with these “scores,” chat them up, gradually – after a few drinks or touchy-feely back room visits – finding out where they worked, what make of car they drove, whether they were married, how many kids they had. All casually fished out by buddy-buddy conversations.

Hustlers were also threatened by the Stonewall Inn mafia guys to come on to these newcomers, trick with them, get them stewed and steal their wallets. ID to be turned over to mafia bosses. Or else!

According to Carter, the blackmail ring operated mostly in New York City and Chicago: “[The operation’s] scope and size were staggering; having operated for almost ten years, the ring victimized close to a thousand men [netting \$2 million] who were highly successful.

See PG: Blackmail, next page



## Creep of the Week National Organization for Marriage

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

My wife’s birthday was June 19, and on that same day a handful of people assembled in front of the Capitol in Washington D.C. to celebrate. Coincidence? Well, yes. But also, no.

Let’s be clear: they weren’t really celebrating anything, especially not my wife’s birthday, though I am sure many of them thought they were “celebrating” traditional marriage in some crazy kind of way. They were, in a way, protesting my wife’s birthday since they would argue that I shouldn’t have a wife to begin with, and she shouldn’t be some kind of sexual deviant. Oh, and we have a son, which undoubtedly would give them conniptions, too.

The event was the National Organization for Marriage’s second annual March for Marriage. This sorry excuse for a march attracted approximately 1,500 to 2,000 people, which is less than last year’s march.

Speakers at the rally included some notable past Creeps like Rick Santorum and Mike Huckabee. In other words, same creeps, same story. No wonder so few people showed up.

It’s pretty clear that the fight for marriage equality is winning, and the folks at NOM are trying to change tactics. A little bit, at least. After years of being rabidly anti-gay, they now claim that they aren’t anti-anybody. They’re just pro-marriage. Traditional, one penis + one vagina marriage, that is.

Which is total bullshit. You can’t

It’s pretty clear that the fight for marriage equality is winning, and the folks at NOM are trying to change tactics. A little bit, at least. After years of being rabidly anti-gay, they now claim that they aren’t anti-anybody. They’re just pro-marriage. Traditional, one penis + one vagina marriage, that is.

be against marriage for gay people without being against gay people because marriage doesn’t exist without people, and the only people they don’t want to marry are gay people. Therefore, anti-gay.

You don’t have to look further than photos of march participants to see that not everybody has gotten the “we’re not anti-gay” message.

The Advocate posted a photo of a old white dude holding a sign that

read: “Gay sex leads to adult diapers! Open door syndrome!” Not sure how that message is “pro-marriage,” but thanks for the disgusting, and totally factually inaccurate, image.

Another protester wore a Barack Obama mask, or at least I think that’s what it was supposed to be, and paraded around with a sign that read, “Gay Marriage is Satanic.”

I’m guessing this marcher probably thinks Obama is the anti-Christ, because only the anti-Christ would allow a couple of dudes to say, “I do.”

There were also plenty of signs about children deserving a mom and a dad, which is a favorite talking point of anti-gay conservatives. Two stable, loving parents are better than

See Creep: NOM, next page

## ► Creep: NOM

Continued from p. 14

one (not to knock single moms and dads, many of whom are doing a great job, but raising a kid is fucking hard and having a good partner to do it with goes a long way). But unless you're stuck in a 1950s strictly delineated gender-role fantasy, it actually doesn't matter if you've got two mommies or two daddies. What matters is that you have parents who aren't assholes. And, let's face it, plenty of parents are assholes. But NOM seems more interested in making sure the chromosomes of the parents line up right rather than making sure kids are loved and provided for.

According to the Huffington Post, a 12-year-old brought to the rally by her grandfather was none too thrilled to be there.

"It's stupid," Jordan told HuffPo. "If two people feel a certain way about each other, then why shouldn't they get married? They shouldn't judge other people because of how they feel."

Amen to that.

I'll be curious to see what next year's March for Marriage looks like. It's supposed to be annual, but the fire behind the anti-gay marriage movement is dwindling. Maybe they won't even bother having it at all. Or it'll just be Mike Huckabee and Rick Santorum huddled under a tarp together, shouting at passersby about the end times and gay sex. And I hope Jordan is there. And that she gives them the finger.

## ► PG: Blackmail

Continued from p. 14

"Among those listed [in an ongoing police investigation] were the head of the AMA, two army generals, Admiral William Church [a suicide], a Republican member of Congress from New Jersey [\$50,000], a Princeton professor, 'a leading motion picture actor,' 'a musician who made numerous appearances on television,' heads of business firms, 'a much admired television personality' and 'a British producer.'"

The shaved-head arachnid behind the blackmail spider web was Francis P. Murphy, known among his cronies as "The Skull." His criminal record began at conception. His den was above the Stonewall Inn bar.

But Murphy proved a canny operator. He managed to sidestep indictment, time after time – for one important reason: a buddy-buddy photo of him with America's Big Untouchable; Federal Bureau of Investigation chief J. Edgar Hoover.

Writes Carter, "...investigation into the nationwide blackmail ring had turned up a photograph of Hoover 'posing amiably' [in drag] with the racket's ringleader, and had uncovered information that Clyde Tolson, Hoover's lover, had himself 'fallen victim to the extortion ring.'" Oh, yes; Hoover's SOP – Dick Tracy. Tolson's: Tess Trueheart.

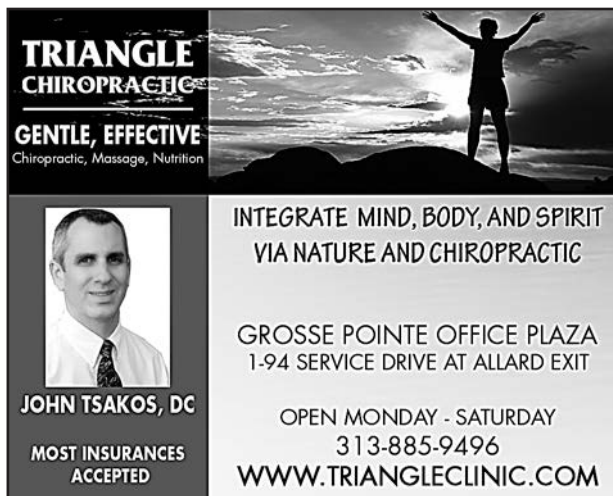
"After federal agents joined the investigation, both the photograph of Hoover and the documents about Tolson disappeared. Poof!" (Actually two 'poofs,' but who's counting?)

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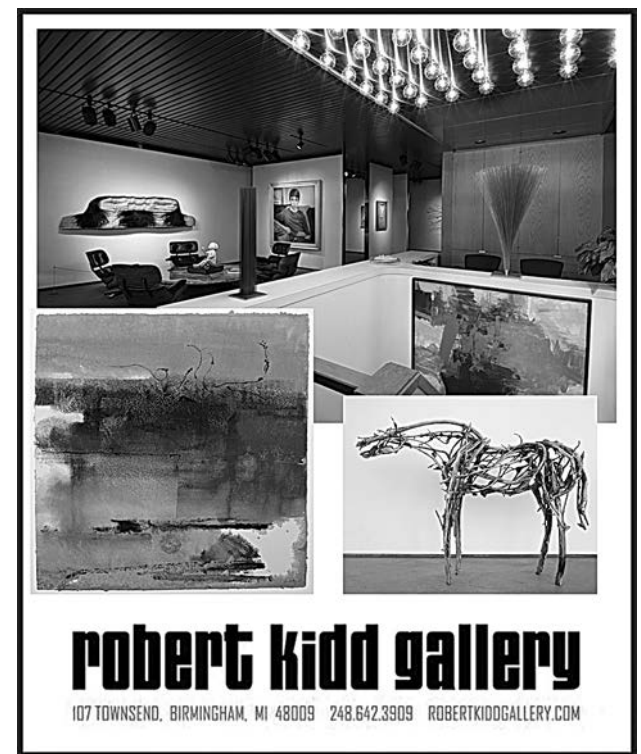
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# MARRIAGE

## 6TH CIRCUIT

### 6th Circuit To Hear Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky And Tennessee Cases Aug. 6

The U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals has set Aug. 6 at 1 p.m. as the single day to hear arguments in the four marriage equality cases pending before the court, setting up a historic day for each of the four states in the circuit which includes Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. A court filing June 16 says that arguments are planned before a three-judge panel at the Cincinnati-based court at 1 p.m. The filing notes, however, that the arguments could be canceled if the judges decide briefs and the court records are enough for a decision.

The court set 30 minutes for each side in the Michigan and Ohio cases, but 15 minutes for each side in the Tennessee and Kentucky cases.

Attorneys representing same-sex couples in the cases say they assume the same three-judge panel will hear arguments for each of the lawsuits for the sake of consistency. The names of the judges on the panel will be announced shortly before arguments.

In Michigan, more than 300 same-sex couples were married in March after a Detroit federal judge said Michigan's 2004 voter-approved ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional. The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals earlier suspended the decision while the appeal is pending.

The only case among the four that is outright seeking the right for same-sex couples to marry is the Michigan case, *DeBoer v. Snyder*. The Tennessee case, *Tanco v. Haslam*, was filed by the National Center for Lesbian Rights and seeks state recognition for same-sex couples married elsewhere. The same is true for the Kentucky case, *Bourke v. Beshear*, but that case was later amended at the district court to seek outright marriage equality.

One Ohio case, *Obergefell v. Himes*, is seeking the same-sex marriage recognition rights for the purposes of death certificates; the other, *Henry v. Himes*, is related to birth certificates, but in that case the district judge ruled against the state's marriage ban for all purposes of recognition.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Judge Rejects Bid To Appeal Gay-Marriage Ruling

A federal judge who overturned Pennsylvania's law barring the recognition of same-sex marriage is rejecting a bid by a county official from eastern Pennsylvania to appeal it.

U.S. District Judge John E. Jones III issued his decision Wednesday on the request by Schuylkill County Orphans Court Clerk Theresa Santai-Gaffney. Her lawyers promptly said they would appeal his decision to the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia.

Gov. Tom Corbett's administration was defending the law, but declined to appeal Jones' May 20 decision to strike down the 1996 law. Santai-Gaffney had also asked Jones to put that ruling on hold until an appeals court could review it.

Pennsylvania was the last northeastern state to bar gay marriage. Same-sex marriage is now legal in the state of nearly 13 million.



On June 26, 2013 hundreds gathered outside the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, DC to hear the verdict. The rulings supporting same-sex marriage would begin a year that saw 19 states and the District of Columbia legalize gay marriage.

## ► June 26

Continued from p. 9

an unstable position of being in a second-tier marriage. The differentiation demeans the couple, whose moral and sexual choices the Constitution protects... And it humiliates tens of thousands of children now being raised by same-sex couples. The law in question makes it even more difficult for the children to understand the integrity and closeness of their own family and its concord with other families in their community and in their daily lives."

Kennedy's words in both *Lawrence* and *Windsor* have been repeated in numerous court decisions since. The powerful influence of words and decisions has almost obscured the fact that they were narrow victories.

In *Lawrence*, Kennedy wrote for just five of the six justices who considered sodomy laws to be unconstitutional; while Justice Sandra Day O'Connor provided a sixth vote in concurrence with the judgment, she did not join Kennedy's opinion to the extent that it overruled the 1986 decision in *Bowers v. Hardwick* (which had upheld state sodomy laws). O'Connor said she would simply strike Texas' law on equal protection grounds. ("Moral disapproval of this group, like a bare desire to harm the group, is an interest that is insufficient to satisfy rational basis review under the Equal Protection Clause.")

In *Windsor*, Kennedy wrote for just five justices. One of those five, Elena Kagan, had been on the bench for only two and a half years and apparently had to recuse herself from a similar DOMA challenge that had reached the high court sooner because she likely discussed it while serving as Solicitor General. If the court had taken that first case, *Gill v. Office of Personnel Management*, the court likely would have rendered a tie vote and DOMA would still

be in effect in most states.

## Presidential Impact

Often forgotten, too, is the enormous influence the sitting president had on the impact of each decision.

The administration of President George W. Bush took no action in 2003 to see that the *Lawrence* decision was quickly and thoroughly respected by various federal programs, such as the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law banning openly gay service members. It continued enforcing the ban that had been approved by a Congress that pointed to sodomy laws to justify its hostile treatment of gays. Bush said nothing about the *Lawrence* decision and the White House press secretary brushed it off as a "state matter." Then, in 2004, Bush spoke in support of a Congressional bill that sought to ban marriage for same-sex couples.

In contrast, President Obama spoke out quickly in support of the Supreme Court's decision in *Windsor* and ordered his administration "to review all relevant federal statutes to ensure this decision, including its implications for Federal benefits and obligations, is implemented swiftly and smoothly."

Legal activists responded differently following both decisions, too. LGBT legal activists were still wary of mounting lawsuits that would wind up in front of the Supreme Court. Even as late as 2009, they thought it was "too early" to put another issue to a vote at the Supreme Court.

But following the *Windsor* decision last year, legal activists filed more than 70 lawsuits in short order, challenging state laws in 30 states that banned marriage for same-sex couples.

Prior to the *Windsor* decision, 12 states and the District of Columbia allowed same-sex couples to marry. One year later, 18 states and D.C. have marriage equality and another 14 states have had courts declare their bans on same-sex couples marrying unconstitutional.

Prior to the *Windsor* ruling, 18 percent of the U.S. population lived in states with marriage equality. Today, not counting Wisconsin or Pennsylvania (whose bans are still subject to appeal), 39 percent of the population lives in marriage equality states.

U.S. Deputy Assistant Attorney General Pam Karlan shared with DOJ Pride attendees earlier this month some of her memories of having clerked for Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun in 1986 when he authored the dissent to the court's *Bowers v. Hardwick* decision, upholding state laws prohibiting private consensual sex between same-sex adults. Karlan said she suggested to Blackmun that the majority opinion was resting on "an unexamined assumption that gay people were different in a way that permitted denying them" the right to intimate relations. When Blackmun wrote his dissent, she said, he made a subtle change to her suggested language, saying the majority opinion was based "on the assumption that homosexuals are so different from other citizens..."

"In making those changes, Justice Blackmun was doing two things," said Karlan. "First, he was emphasizing that gay people are citizens – that is, true members of our national community. But second, and just as importantly, he was rejecting the idea that there is an 'us' for straight people – and that gay people are somehow a 'them.' And he was laying the groundwork for an understanding that the central constitutional claim is not just one about liberty; it is about equality as well."



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## The True Colors Of

# KATHY BATES

## Veteran Actress Talks Partying With Lesbians, Drag Queens & Uma Thurman Fantasy

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Long before dishing lesbian wisdom to Melissa McCarthy's mess of a character in this summer's road-trip comedy "Tammy" (out July 2), Kathy Bates had the gay community in shackles. It didn't take a sledgehammer to maintain our obsession with her, however – it just took the Hollywood icon's every turn on television ("Six Feet Under," "American Horror Story"), Broadway ("night, Mother") and the big screen ("Titanic," "Misery").

First with "Fried Green Tomatoes," her

1991 girl comedy, and then with "Dolores Claiborne" and "Primary Colors," Bates has kept us captivated for over four decades, bound to her boundless greatness. Now, as one half of a lesbian couple in "Tammy" (Sandra Oh of "Grey's Anatomy" plays her partner), she's giving you one more reason to be her biggest fan.

**I've never been to an all-lesbian party, but based on the one your character, Lenore, throws in "Tammy," clearly I've been missing out.**

You have. It was a lot of fun! It really was. And there was a scene that was cut out of

the movie where all the lesbian women on the dock were singing "Fire," the Bruce Springsteen song, which was pretty fun.

**You really can't go wrong with some lesbians and "The Boss."**

No, no, no. It's a sure thing.

**Tell me about the best lesbian party you've ever been to.**

I don't know if I've been to a lesbian party quite like the one we have in "Tammy." (Laughs) I've known and loved many lesbians in my life ... but I don't know if I've ever gotten them all

into the same room at the same time! I always imagined that my and Sandra's characters lived in a very small town, so I think many of these lesbians they've known were shipped in and probably work in Lenore's (pet) shops in other towns, that it's an annual thing and they come in and hang out for the holiday.

**Melissa said your chemistry with Sandra was instantly palpable. Who are some other women you could see yourself going lesbian for onscreen?**

Let me think about that. I do know that I'm just absolutely in love with Sandra, and let me just say that she really brought our

relationship to bloom. She brought a lot of love and warmth, and it was her idea to have wedding rings – because of course! – which I hadn't thought about, and also, really, to think that our relationship is the healthiest relationship in the movie.

You know, we're non-judgmental, and my scene on the dock with Melissa – it was important for me to be able to ad-lib how difficult it is, or was, especially 20, 25 years ago, for lesbian women to come out. I think almost more difficult than for men to come out as gay. She brought just so much love, and she really helped create the little bubble of our relationship, and now I have forgotten your question. Oh, whom else would I like to be with. Ahh, let's see. Who do I love? Oh, I could totally see this: I shared a plane trip with Uma Thurman once and I thought she was pretty cool. I could see doing a movie with her and having a lesbian relationship – although I'm much too old for her! (Laughs)

**These days, Kathy, that doesn't matter.**

Yeah, that would probably be a fantasy movie relationship. Who else? I don't know really. I'm just so in love and married to Sandra that I don't know if I could come up with anybody else. It would feel like cheating! (Laughs)

**Growing up in the South and in the Methodist church, what was your introduction to the gay community?**

I really didn't know what gay was until I got to college, but I was really in love with two of the guys who were in the theater department and then I realized they were in love with each other. It was like, "Oh. Fuck," – excuse my language – "that just cut my opportunities in half here. It's hard enough to find a guy, and now that means there's 50 percent less!"

See, my parents were more of the age of grandparents in the '60s, which certainly made it difficult for both parties. It took a little bit of doing. So, when I brought gay friends home to visit, it was really kind of funny to see them react. But they embraced them. They just thought it was hysterical that one of my friends, Milton, was walking around in a nightshirt that had been pressed beautifully. They got along with them pretty well. I have to say my parents never said anything to me derogatory about them, which was cool.

Unfortunately, one of the guys I was in love

with passed away a few years ago from lung cancer, but I'm still very close to the other love of my life. I just saw him in New York – he actually wrote the "Vanities" play that we did off-Broadway for many, many years; his name is Jack Heifner – and so it's wonderful that that relationship has continued.

**Lenore and her partner are based on Melissa McCarthy's own friends. Did that help inform your character? Did you base her off any lesbians you know?**

I didn't know that. Melissa never told me, but cool! I really didn't. Like I say, I mean, how do you behave lesbian? (Laughs) I really thought about that. Unless you're gonna go to some kind of extreme caricature that's demanded of the script for some reason, these are just regular people and that's their sexual orientation. Why do we have to ask if somebody's gay or straight? I hope we get out of that. I hope I see us get out of that before, you know, I exit this plane.

**It's refreshing to see a gay couple portrayed as the most "together" part of the story. What do you think that says about how far we've come as a society regarding gay issues?**

Going back to the scene on the dock, I wanted to improvise about Sandra and how she stood by me when the times were tough, how big her heart was and how comforting she was.

I remember being at a wedding; it was a male gay couple and they must've been in their 70s. They had been together for 50 years, and for the first time they had been able to go to Massachusetts and get married. It was so moving to me that they were able to have a wedding and celebrate their love in front of their friends and stand up together and say, "We love each other," and be open about it and have the union blessed after all those years.

I remember last summer I was on vacation with my best friend who's gay and we heard about Prop 8 and how people were gonna be allowed to marry, and it's just like, why does it have to be legislated? How can you legislate something like that, really? Why is it up for discussion? That's my feeling about it.

**One of your earliest lesbian roles was in "Primary Colors," which is notable for the big**

**“I've known and loved many lesbians in my life ... but I don't know if I've ever gotten them all into the same room at the same time!”**

See Kathy Bates, page 27

**"ONE OF THE BEST FAMILY MUSICALS EVER PENNED"**

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Photo: Kharen Hill

# Sarah Shines On

## Singer-Songwriter Talks Lesbian Encounters, Equal Rights & Inspiring A Transgender Kid

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

If you're still wondering whether the soundtrack to all your heartache, Sarah McLachlan, swings both ways because she plays the guitar and she's earthy, wonder no more. She's been there, done that ... but not in a long time.

While promoting her first album in four years, "Shine On," the singer herself broke the silence in our recent interview, revealing that though she's "pretty straight," she's loved up on the ladies.

**At what point in your career did you know you had a big gay following?**

Mmm ... probably Boston 1991. (Laughs)

**That's very specific.**

I'm serious. Maybe 1992. It was with my second record ("Solace") and I remember going to do a gig in Boston. I hung out with a lot of women after the show and, uhh, there

### INFO

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was one bartender in particular who was really hot! And I'm not gonna say anything else, but yeah. (Laughs)

**Wait, no, no. You can't just leave me hanging like that.**

(Laughs) She was a good kisser – that's all I'm gonna say! That was my first sort of foray. It didn't go past that, but that was, mmm, yeah.

I just remember there being a lot of women holding hands in the audience – and not only that, but it was a really intelligent audience. I don't even know how I could tell that, but I just remember this feeling of, wow, this is just a great, great audience. I wish I could say why, but anyway, that was sort of the beginning of it and I think it just progressed from there.

**So girls aren't just good kissers but also super attentive?**

(Laughs) I can generalize with my fans in that way, and all my fans – gay, straight – are coming for the music. They're coming for church. I say that because that's how I feel, especially about playing live; for me, that's sort of my church. I get to be a part of something bigger than myself and be really connected to other human beings on a real emotional and visceral level. It's very powerful.

**It's a mutual feeling.**

It's a mutual lovin'!

**You mention your girl-on-girl foray in 1991, and for the longest time people have made assumptions about your sexuality. What do you think of the public's interest in whether you're bisexual?**

People are always interested in how people bend. I've never shied away from it. I mean, I'm pretty straight. Let me just put it this way: I've never had sex with a woman. I haven't. I've made out with more than one woman, but it just sort of happened. And there may have been alcohol involved during one of them. (Laughs)

**But not all of them?**

No, no. But yeah, I'm pretty much straight. But at the same time I am such a strong advocate for gay and lesbian rights because I truly believe that we are all equal. We

should be able to choose whom we love and how we love, and it's not anybody's goddamn business, really.

**Of course. I'm absolutely with you.**

Oh, I know you are! I figured I'm speaking to the converted here. (Laughs) But it's the same for any group that is ostracized or demonized for something that simply shouldn't even be an issue. It's the same with race and racism. It's absolute bullshit.

I got involved with Lifebeat (the leading national nonprofit focused on educating America's youth about HIV/AIDS prevention) really early on in New York. There was all this stigma around AIDS, and it's horrific. People are dying, they're suffering – and it's got nothing to do with anything except we need to help, the world needs to help.

**As the modern face of feminism and someone who made a bold statement with Lilith Fair, what are your observations on the inclusion and representation of women in music today?**

There's a pretty good cross-section going on, but it's very dangerous for young women to become complacent and think that there is no glass ceiling. Feminism has almost become a dirty word in the past 10 years, like, we don't need that anymore; our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers did all that work and it's done. It's like, no, honey, there's still growth in equality in this country, much less the rest of the world, which is even more frightening. At any moment, if we're not on the ball, our sexual freedom can be taken away from us. You know, our freedom to choose. In a lot of states, that's in flux. So you cannot be complacent. We have to have vigilance and keep an eye on things. Equality is still a fight that needs to be fought.

**When you look out at the females making music nowadays, what do you see?**

I see someone like Lorde who shows pictures of herself Photoshopped and un-Photoshopped and says, I have pimples, this is who I am, don't take that away from me; don't try to make me something that I'm not. She's a great example of how a young woman should talk about herself, but you know, she's a Kiwi.

I think Adele is a fantastic representation of beautiful, powerful strong music being made by women.

See Sarah McLachlan, page 23

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► **Sarah McLachlan**

Continued from p. 20

She's not a stick; she doesn't try to be. She is bold and proud and beautiful and has pretty much the best voice out there. I bow down to her.

Then there are a lot of young girls who are being overtly sexual as women have been since the beginning of time, because it is a powerful tool. It's a powerful tool that men pretty much control, though. I don't think much has changed in that department. Women think they have total control, and they're doing it because that's what men have told them for centuries to do. I think it's really naïve to think that it's any different than that.

**How aware are you of the role your 1993 album "Fumbling Towards Ecstasy" has played in the lives of many queer people?**

I've heard that story a lot and it absolutely warms my heart. For me, some of the best validation an artist can have is to have someone you don't know tell you that what you've created has had a profound impact on helping them through something. It's absolutely fantastic. I'm typically and purposefully ambiguous (in my music) because I don't want it to be about a guy falling in love with a girl or vice versa. People fall in love. *People*.

**But furthermore, "Fumbling" was relatable to the gay community in that it was coming of age, and it explored issues of self-actualization, doubts and fears - all things gay people go through.**

Mmhmm, yeah. I mean, "Elsewhere" was on that record. "Good Enough" was on that record. I know with "Good Enough" I strayed away from ambiguity and was very much talking about "she." That was sort of about the importance of women, the sisterhood of having other people. For me, I was talking about a heterosexual relationship gone bad, an abusive male in that particular situation, and women coming to the rescue.

**Have you ever been inspired to write about one of your lesbian flings?**

(Laughs) They were so short-lived. Basically, like, one night ... or two nights.

**A long weekend?**

Yeah, over a long weekend all those years ago. (Laughs)

**You mentioned "Elsewhere," and I know lots of people who connected particularly with this lyric: "Mother can't you see I've got to live my life the way I feel is right for me / Might not be right for you but it's right for me."**

Absolutely. Total rite of passage. And that for me, personally, was directed toward my mother, but I met a transgender kid about a month ago who introduced me to his mom because he was involved in this program that was addressing all the issues that he was facing, which includes coming out to your family. As you know, that

can be incredibly difficult. His mom was just wonderful. She gave me a big hug and said, "Thank you so much. You've done so much for bringing us together because I've connected through your songs. He's reached out to me and explained what's happening and he used your music to help explain it." She just gave me the hugest hug and I'm like, "Oh my god, come here. Come here everyone. Group hug!" And we all started crying. Again, what a beautiful thing. The greatest gift for me is that I get to be a part of something like that, something that is helping other people feel good about themselves, and feel whole.

**Can you ever make an album like "Fumbling" again? I know you probably can't recapture that time, that moment...**

No, no ... you can't. Because I was how many years younger? I'm hoping that "Shine On" is a little more like that in that it's joie de vivre, in that it's really open. It's certainly speaking to a different rite of passage. This, for me, is the arc of the last six years of my life - separating from my husband, losing my father, and separating from my management and record label of 23 years ago. So all these male anchors.

**And loss. Lots of loss.**

A lot of loss. A lot of this is the second half of my life. I'm entering into it and asking, "How do I redefine myself? What choices am I gonna make? Is this as good as it gets?" Hell no. I wanna suck the marrow out of every day, and that's from the title too.

My best friend and I talk so much about all the issues we're going through. She went through a really horrible divorce a couple of years ago too and she's like, "I don't just wanna endure. I don't just wanna survive. I wanna shine." That's where the title came from. And I'm like, "Oh my god." I always struggle greatly over album titles, and it's like, that's what this album signifies to me. I'm not succumbing to "this is as good as it gets." I'm gonna push. I'm gonna keep pushing, keep trying, keep growing and keep discovering.

**How does music help you with that?**

It's huge. It's the single most important message of expression for me. Embarrassingly, I'm not a great communicator. I'm working on that! But I am in my music. I shy away from conflict. I'm terribly conflict averse, and so a lot of things that should be said don't get said in my personal relationships. So, for me, writing them down and processing through songwriting has always been a great way of getting stuff out.

The difference on this latest record is the forthrightness. I'm not trying to hide personalities or ideas in parallel universes or in different people. It's like, "No, this is me, this is where I'm at, this is what I'm talking about," and I think it's a lot closer to the bone. I think "Fumbling" was too. It was raw, simple and direct, and I feel like this record is as well. I'm hoping that. It certainly was for me.

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# The Frivolist Beach Bums

## Sexy Swimsuits Sure To Show Off Your Best Assets

BY MIKEY ROX

Summer is officially here, which means that it's time to slip into something a little lighter. So you can spend more time soakin' up the sun instead of scouring the Internet, I've compiled this list of the latest and greatest swimwear styles from your favorite brands along with a few new ones that are making a splash. Dive in.



### Canggu Swim Pant

You'll have all the boys saluting your shorts when you shimmy into the camouflage Canggu Swim Pant from ES Collection, based in Barcelona. European styling helps these military-grade trunks stand out while blending in, and the quick-drying fabric aims to keep you comfortable as you flit between sand and surf. At ease, soldier. \$130; [escollectionusa.com](http://escollectionusa.com)



### A-Frame Speedster Swim Trunk

Who wears short shorts? If it's you, Timoteo's A-Frame Speedster Swim Trunks will likely pique your interest. More of a cross between briefs and a traditional trunk, this itty-bitty bathing suit covers the pre-requisites but little else. Probably not an ideal choice if you're hung, but some people like to live on the edge. \$48; [timoteo.net](http://timoteo.net)

### Addicted Square Short Swim Trunk

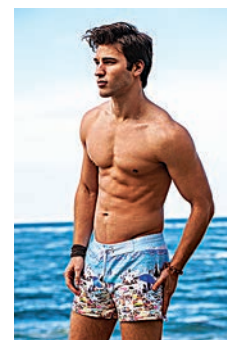
Get into a collegiate state of mind with the square swim trunks from Addicted, available in four color combinations, like juicy orange and



royal blue. The short cut of these trunks will show off all that hard work you've put in at the gym, while the Ivy League-like styling – like a two-color contrasting waistband and the Addicted logo shield – sends a loud-and-clear message that school's out for summer. \$82; [escollectionusa.com](http://escollectionusa.com)

### Key West Retro Lycra Swimmer

Printed swimwear is totally in this season, and nobody's doing it better than Sauvage. Cover up your valuables with graphic prints plucked straight from Key West and South Beach on shorts that pop off



your bod in bright, brilliant color. Made from supersoft European nylon Lycra and outfitted with a white mesh liner and drawstring, you're bound to field compliments from a few sun-kissed admirers. \$72; [sauvagegear.com](http://sauvagegear.com)

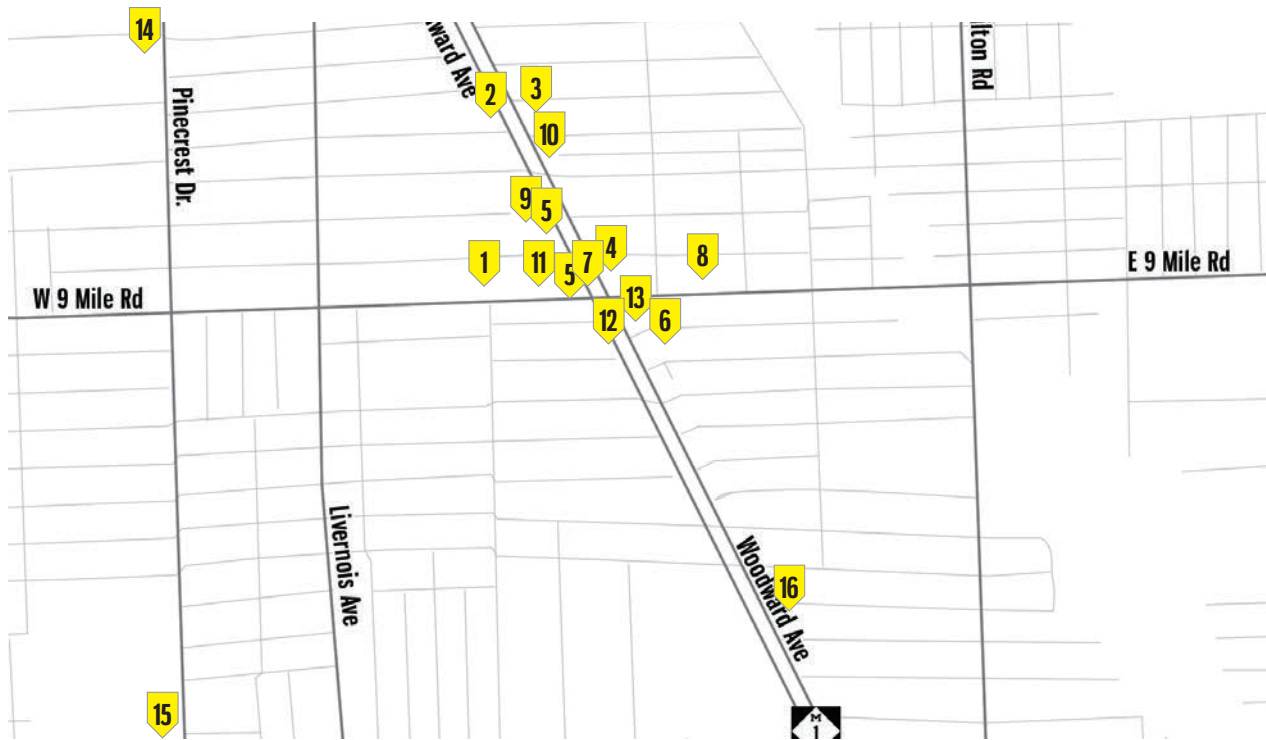


### Awning Stripe Rio Swim Brief

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Get the full list online at [Pridesource.com](http://Pridesource.com). Mikey Rox is an award-winning journalist and blogger whose work has been published in more than 100 outlets across the world. He lives in Manhattan with his husband and their cuddle-buddy furbaby. Connect with Mikey on Twitter @mikeyrox.





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# A Tasty Theatrical Buffet At The Ringwald

BY JOHN QUINN

Make no mistake: Detroit is not the cultural backwater that stereotypes would make it. Five years into its successful, annual Gay Play Series, The Ringwald Theatre found eight one-acts from local playwrights to fill the bill.

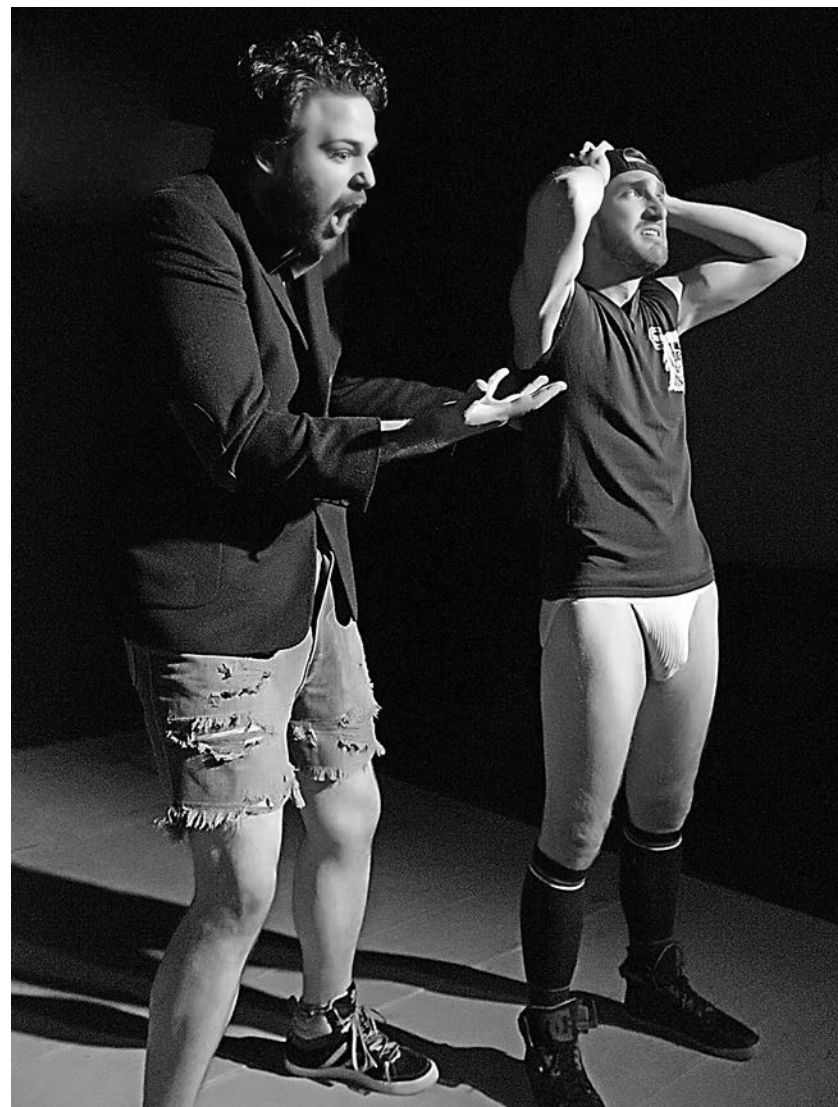
“Vignettes” might be a better description than “one-acts.” The evening consists of four pieces in 40 minutes, a 10-minute intermission and another four in another 40 minutes. It’s remarkable how complete and satisfying the shows are, given an average of 10 minutes running time apiece. There’s no sense that anything’s missing.

“At the Food Court” by Kim Carney is a little tale of gossip gone wrong. Three peons from Old Navy (Bailey Boudreau, Meghan Jolliffe and Sara Kline) are eating lunch in the mall. Each knows a secret that will affect the lives of one of the others. Each is eager to share the dirt with anyone but the unsuspecting “victim.” This is a cynical, catty and funny illustration of “Pride goeth before a fall,” and director Julie Moriarty makes even sitting around a Formica-topped table interesting.

Josh Campos directs his own work, “The Shelter,” a satirical take on social paranoia. The secure suburban lifestyle characteristic of mid-century America is about to fall to an invasion. The twist is that this invasion is not led by a red banner charged with the hammer and sickle, but by a rainbow flag. Robbie (Jeffery Smyk) and Rhonda (Jake Russell) have the only underground shelter in the neighborhood. To what lengths will Brian Munzenburger, Emily Englehart, RJ Cach and Andi Maziarz go to seize their only protection from depravity? “The Shelter” is played for broad comedy, but that can’t hide its caustic core: a bitter condemnation of intolerance.

In “Let Go, Larry” by Jeff Mansk, Lauren Bickers recreates a chance meeting between exes years after Rob (Michael Babbish) left to “find space.” Larry (Michael Hofer), though, is not willing to let go – literally. Mansk’s script is exceptionally witty for such a broad comedy. His characters are locked in a smothering embrace for most of the scene, which Bickers enlivens with a struggle between predator and prey. Her actors bring fine comic timing to this very physical comedy.

“Mom is so GLAAD” is Margaret Edwartowski’s rendering of a mother-daughter relationship. It would appear that Mom (Linda Ramsay) has dragged Marty (Dani Cochrane) to Costco in order to go “shopping” for a new girlfriend for her daughter. Carole is accepting of Marty’s lifestyle, but all she knows about lesbians is what she’s picked up from Wikipedia



Joe Hamid and Robbie Dwight play an updated and dirtier Abbott and Costello in Marty Shea’s one-act play, “Who’s On Dick?” Shea’s play is one of eight Michigan playwrights chosen for this year’s Gay Play Series at The Ringwald Theatre. Photo: Brandy Joe Plambeck

## INFO

### 2014 Gay Play Series

The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Through June 30. 1 hour, 35 minutes. 248-545-5545.

www.theringwald.com

and Playboy. But what Edwartowski sets up as your typical meddling mother versus independent daughter takes a sweet turn as Carole’s motivation is revealed. Dave Davies directs a pair of winning actors who manage to pilot an empty shopping cart to artistic advantage.

“Make Room for Stu” by Bitch and Fag (Tara Rase & Mark Sobolewski) finds flamboyant Marke (Brian Buckner) threatened by the loss of his BFF, Tara (Jen Bloomer), as she plans to marry Stu (Jeff Smyk). The writing is sharp; the cast is quick with the quip, and director Gary Lehman brightens up what is essentially a

couch-bound dialogue.

“The Choice,” by Dave Davies veers into the absurd – or is it the metaphysical? On a typical Sunday morning, Kyle Galston (Jason DeSousa) comes out to his father, Larry (Jeff Mansk). Larry’s not as open as his wife Mary (Nuverre Naami) has been, and berates his son for the “choice” he’s made. Larry’s world is turned upside down by an occurrence that to relate here would be a real spoiler. Larry learns the real meaning of choice. Considering that this whole piece is based on that one word, it’s surprising how much can be learned here. Dyan Bailey has found a fair amount of subtext in the script and deftly displays it in her direction.

Raunchy and weird describe Marty Shea’s “Who’s on Dick?” directed by Joe Plambeck. This is a knock-off of vaudevillians Abbott and Costello comedy skit, “Who’s on First?” – but with a tres gay twist. Costello (Robbie Dwight) is

Continued on next page



(Above) Mark Duplass, Melissa McCarthy, Kathy Bates and Sandra Oh in "Tammy." (Left) Bates as Madame LaLaurie in "American Horror Story: Coven." Photos: Warner Bros. / FX

that: People are on the spectrum sometimes. So, I just wanted to make it look real and tough and sexy.

**Let's talk about your involvement in the upcoming season of "American Horror Story: Freak Show." What can you tell us so far?**

I gotta be honest with you, I don't know yet. I have not read a script. Ryan keeps promising scripts. He says I'm supposed to get some this week, and I'm really hoping I do because I'm leaving town to head to New Orleans. I'm just now beginning to work on the character, so I have no idea.

**Including the fact that almost all of the names of the characters on "American Horror Story: Coven" – Myrtle Snow, Madame LaLaurie, Misty Day, Cordelia Foxx – are ones you'd likely hear in a drag queen contest...**

Myrtle – oh my god!

**Right? "Coven" was widely regarded as being very gay. How aware are you, or have you become, that the show has really resonated with drag queens and the gay community?**

Not at all! This is the first I'm hearing of it. I mean, I don't know if it was a male or female because he was so far away from us, but when we were doing the PaleyFest (in Hollywood) there was a guy – I think it was a guy – in a Myrtle Snow wig, which we were delighting in. She just lends herself to that, I think.

**But so does your character, Madame LaLaurie. And I've seen boys do her in drag. When that happens, can't you retire? Inspiring drag queens – that's really the ultimate life goal, right?**

(Laughs) I hear there's a gay bar here in West Hollywood where they do Dolores Claiborne a lot. Listen, it's great to have your reputation still alive and kickin' at my age, so I appreciate it wherever it comes from.

## ► Kathy Bates

Continued from p. 19

**wet one you exchanged with your co-star, Stacy Edwards.**

She was a doll.

**What do you remember of shooting that kissing scene?**

I was really nervous! (Laughs) I wanted to do it great, you know. I wanted to make it look like we've always done it. At the same time, it had to be a shock for Adrian Lester's character, and Stacy's so adorable. I loved the fact that everybody assumes she's straight, or maybe she swings – who knows! I think there's also

merely trying to learn the identities of the other participants in Abbott's (Joe Hamid) upcoming orgy. Dwight's take on Costello's growing frustration when thrown a series of screen names that mimic the classic baseball skit is priceless. This piece depends on its timing, and its timing is perfect.

"Monster" by Mike McGettigan rounds out the evening. In a satirical turn, much like in "The Shelter," another menace stands in for homosexuality. Nick Bitanti plays a Frankenstein's Monster assembly of random body parts, rescued from a threatening mob by Greg (Pete Prouty).

The Monster has a crush on his hero. Greg gradually learns he can return the affection and that the Monster is no monster after all.

Or is he? The conclusion makes sense only in the context of the darkest of dark comedy. We salute director Clint Lohman for successfully pulling this one off.

And there you have it. Like a buffet, the 2014 Gay Play Series allows Metro Detroit theater patrons to sample choice bits from favorite local artists, playwrights directors and actors alike. For the theater non-patron, it's a chance to see what you've been missing.

*The remaining 2014 Gay Play Series schedule is as follows:*

8 p.m. Monday, June 23: Slipstream Theatre Initiative: Shrew (\$10)

8 p.m. Friday, June 27.: Vince Kelley in Concert: Pop Tart! (\$10)

8 p.m. Saturday, June 28: 2014 Original One Act Plays (\$10)

3 p.m. Sunday, June 29: 2014 Original One Act Plays (\$10)

8 p.m. Monday, June 30: Closing Ceremonies; Lip Sync for Your Life (\$10)

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# Happenings

## OUTINGS

### Thursday, June 26

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

**World Pride** Pride Toronto, **Toronto**. Wp14to.com

**Workshop on Nonprofit Diversity & Inclusion - Success Stories in the Field** 8:30 a.m. 2.0 continuing education credits for social workers. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

**Free HIV Testing** 2 p.m. Free, anonymous HIV testing is available at S3 Safe Sex Store every Thursday until 8 p.m. Testing is performed by HARC staff. Call to schedule an appointment, but walk-ins are more than welcome. S3 Safe Sex Store and HIV/AIDS Resource Center, 1209 S. University, **Ann Arbor**. 734-741-1434. info@bak-inc.com S3safesexstore.com

**Free STD & Rapid HIV Testing** 3 p.m. For National HIV Test Day. Oakland County Michigan, 1 William Carls Dr., **Commerce Township**. 248-858-5416.

**Princess Cruise on the Detroit River** 6:30 p.m. A portion of ticket sales will benefit Freedom House, a safe space for LGBT from around the world who escape persecution to come to the US. Tickets: \$25-50. Freedom House, 2630 W. Lafayette, **Detroit**. 313-964-4320. Freedomhousedetroit.org

**Test: A film by Chris Mason Johnson** 7:30 p.m. Winner Outfest Grand Jury Prize. Cinema Detroit, 3420 Cass Ave., **Detroit**. 313-281-8301. Cinemadetroit.com

### Friday, June 27

**Ann Arbor Restaurant Week** \$15 lunches and \$28 dinners at participating restaurants. Ann Arbor Restaurant Week, **Ann Arbor**. Annarborrestaurantweek.com

**Free HIV Testing** Planned Parenthood, 425 Cherry St. SE, **Grand Rapids**. 616-774-7005. Ppwnm.org

**National HIV Testing Day - Free HIV Testing** 3:30 p.m. In honor of National HIV Testing Day 2014, the HARC mobile testing unit will be stationed outside S3 from 3:30-5:30, offering free HIV testing. All are welcome - stop by to know your status! S3 Safe Sex Store and HARC, 1209 S. University, **Ann Arbor**. 734-741-1434. info@bak-inc.com S3safesexstore.com

**National HIV Testing Day** 4 p.m. Fun filled activities to honor National HIV Testing Day. rEVOLUTION Bingo at Esquire Club, rEVOLUTION Trivia, drag performances at Spiral Dance Club and more. Lansing Area AIDS Network, **Lansing**.

**National HIV Testing Day** 6 p.m. Battle Creek Pride Resource Center (BCPRC), 16 E. Van Buren St., **Battle Creek**. battlecreekpride@yahoo.com

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

**Womyn's Film Night** 7 p.m. Film: It's in the Water - A new AIDS hospice sends a tiny Southern town into a hysterical

homophobic frenzy, and the locals start heading rumors that the facility has tainted the town's water supply with something that "turns" people gay. Caught in the middle is harried wife Alex Stratton (Keri Jo Chapman), whose fling with high school pal Grace sets off more chain reactions in this indie comedy, a winner at the 1997 Philadelphia International Gay and Lesbian Festival. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org/

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

**Holland Area Pride** Headliner: Jennie McNulty. Festivities run until 6 p.m. at Centennial Park before moving to The Armory until 10 p.m. Tickets: \$0-5. Holland Pride, **Holland**. Hollandareapride.com

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

**Monthly Dinner Outing - Cariera's Italian** 7 p.m. Please RSVP. Black and White Men Together-Detroit, 6565 N. Telegraph Road, **Dearborn Heights**. bwmtedetroit@sbcglobal.net



as well as various groups that meet throughout each month.

The 2014 Washtenaw Pride Picnic will take place from 12 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 29. The picnic will be in Allmendinger Park, located at Pauline and Fifth in Ann Arbor. For more information, visit [www.jimtoycenter.org](http://www.jimtoycenter.org).

## Editor's Pick

Join the Jim Toy Community Center (JTCC) for their annual picnic on Sunday in Ann Arbor. The 2014 Washtenaw Pride Picnic will feature family, food, fun and kickball.

JTCC is Washtenaw County's resource center for LGBTQA residents. The inclusive center hosts a variety of events throughout the year, as well as various groups that meet throughout each month.

The 2014 Washtenaw Pride Picnic will take place from 12 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 29. The picnic will be in Allmendinger Park, located at Pauline and Fifth in Ann Arbor. For more information, visit [www.jimtoycenter.org](http://www.jimtoycenter.org).

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

**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 30

**World Pride Toronto Ride** Meet at Affirmations then ride to Toronto. Fees apply. Dykes on Bikes, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Dykesonbikesdetroit.com

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

us and learn to how to get over that fear. Kick - The Agency for LGBT African Americans, 41 Burroughs St. Ste. 109, **Detroit**. 313-285-9733. rma411@gmail.com

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

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

**LGBT Cinema** 7 p.m. GOAL, 200 N. Main St., **Royal Oak**. Meetup.com/GOAL-Get-Out-And-Live-LGBT

### Thursday, July 3

**Calling all Lesbians in Traverse City!** Interested in starting a social group for area lesbians living in or near Traverse City? Group will be geared for gay women, singles or couples, 50 to 70 years of age, but all ages are welcome. If you have an interest, please email. Once we achieve a critical mass, we'll hold our first meet and greet. Traverse Lesbians, **Traverse City**. traverselesbians@gmail.com Website

**\$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

**Raising the Steaks: Dining Out at Logan's Roadhouse** 4 p.m. Support Affirmations by dining out at any of seven locations in metro-Detroit every First Thursday. Affirmations, **Various**. Goaffirmations.org

**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

**Free HIV Testing** 6 p.m. The AIDS Service Organization, **Lansing**.

**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

## MUSIC & MORE

**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 Summer Festival** "Ann Arbor Summer Festival" A variety of entertainment, themes and more throughout the festival. Various, **Ann Arbor**. June 13 - July 6. A2sf.org

**Cranbrook Art Museum** "Modern / Moderna: Amie Siegel and Terence Gower". Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills.

June 21 - Aug. 31. 877-462-7262. Cranbrookart.edu

**Detroit Symphony Orchestra** "22nd Annual Salute to America". Greenfield Village, Dearborn. July 2 - July 5. Dso.org

**The Acorn Theater** "Katie Todd Band". The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. June 28. 269-756-3879. Acorntheater.com

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

**The Ark** "Chatham County Line" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. June 29. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "Delta Rae" Tickets: \$27. 50. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 28. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "Delta Rae" Tickets: \$27. 50. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. June 28. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "Mark Lavengood Bluegrass Bonanza" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 27. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "Fred Eaglesmith" Tickets: \$20. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 26. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Magic Bag** "Lake Street Dive" Tickets: \$22+. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. July 2. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

**The Magic Bag** "Ryan Dillaha & The Miracle Men" Tickets: \$10. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. June 27. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

## THEATER

### Civic/Community Theater

**Rent** Recommended for mature and forward-thinking audiences. \$20. Project DayDream at Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Road, Bloomfield Hills. June 26 - 29. [www.projectdaydream.org](http://www.projectdaydream.org)

**The Complete History of America (abridged)** \$10-12. Emergent Arts at The Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti. July 2 - 20. 734-985-0875. [www.emergentarts.com](http://www.emergentarts.com)

**The King and I** \$7-15. The Twin City Players, 600 W. Glenford Road, St. Joseph. Through June 29. 269-429-0400. [www.twincityplayers.org](http://www.twincityplayers.org)

### College/University Theater

**Fools** Free. Lansing Community College Performing Arts at Outdoor Amphitheatre, Washington Mall between Dart Auditorium & the Gannon Building, Lansing. June 25 - 29. 517-483-1488. [www.lcc.edu/showinfo](http://www.lcc.edu/showinfo)

### Professional

**A Raisin in the Sun** \$15-24. Hope Sumer Repertory Theatre at Knickerbocker Theatre, 86 E. Eighth St., Holland. Through July 1. 616-395-7890. [www.hope.edu/hsrt](http://www.hope.edu/hsrt)

**Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day** \$15. Hope Sumer Repertory Theatre at DeWitt Studio Theatre, 14 E. 12th St., Holland. June 25 - Aug. 8. 616-395-7890. [www.hope.edu/hsrt](http://www.hope.edu/hsrt)

**Beauty and the Beast** \$7. Tibbits Popcorn Theatre, 14 S. Hanchett St., Coldwater. July 5 - 12. 517-278-6029. [www.tibbits.org](http://www.tibbits.org)

**Cabaret** \$33-35. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Through June 29. 269-343-2727. [www.farmersalleytheatre.com](http://www.farmersalleytheatre.com)

farmersalleytheatre.com

**Call Me Cass** Suggested donation of \$10. Y Arts at Marlene Boll Theatre inside the Boll Family YMCA, 1401 Broadway St., Detroit. June 27 - 28. www.ymcadetroit.org/yarts

**Capitol Steps** \$40-43. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. 8 p.m. July 3. 269-857-2399. www.Sc4a.org

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

**Coriolanus** \$7-14. Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Company at Dog Story Theater, 7 Jefferson SE, Grand Rapids. Through June 29. www.dogstorytheater.com

**Crane Maden** \$10 adult, \$5 child. PuppetART at Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. Through June 28. 313-961-7777. www.puppetart.org

**First Thursday Improv Nights** \$10. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. Through Aug. 7. 269-756-3879. www.acorntheater.com

**Gay Play Series (GPS)** \$10-30. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. June 20 - 30. 248-545-5545. www.theringwald.com

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

**Mixed Nuts** Free. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 7 p.m. June 29. 269-756-3879. www.acorntheater.com

**Ruthless** Free. Summer Circle Theatre at Michigan State University Auditorium Building, Lawn by the Red Cedar River, Grand River and Auditorium Road, East



## Editor's Pick

Project DayDream will present Jonathan Larson's "Rent" as the first musical in its "Summer Dream Season." When "Rent" debuted off-Broadway in 1996, it proved to be an instant success with its contemporary feel and thoughtful score. Loosely based on Giacomo Puccini's "La Boheme," "Rent" made itself a cultural phenomenon, covering topics such as HIV/AIDS, paying the rent and reaffirming that there is "no day but today."

Tiffany Victoria Sims, creative director and CEO of Project DayDream, notes: "We chose to produce 'Rent' not only because of its poignant music, but as a chance to explore all aspects of the arts. As a performing arts education program, it's important (to me) that we educate not only our performers, but also our audiences of hot-button issues we face as an artistic and global community."

The musical is presented with a diverse cast of performers ages 16 to 24 from metro Detroit.

"Rent" runs June 26-29 at The Congregational Church of Birmingham (1000 Cranbrook Road, Bloomfield Hills). Advance tickets are \$20, and are available online at [www.projectdaydream.org](http://www.projectdaydream.org).

Lansing. June 25 - 28. 517-355-6690. [www.theatre.msu.edu/index.php/productions/summer-circle-theatre/](http://www.theatre.msu.edu/index.php/productions/summer-circle-theatre/)

**Steam Heat** \$39-42. Mason Street Warehouse at Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. June 27 - July 13. 269-857-2399. www.sc4a.org

**Stone Soup: A Wrap Opera** \$5-8. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Through June 29. 313-577-2972. www.wsushows.com

**The Book of Mormon** \$34-95. Broadway in Detroit at Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. July 1 - 13. 313-237-SING. www.

[broadwayindetroit.com](http://broadwayindetroit.com)

**The Dixie Swim Club** \$35-41. The Dio - Dining and Entertainment, 135 E. Main St., Pinckney. Through July 6. 517-672-6009. www.diotheatre.com

**The Last Romance** \$18.50-42. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Through Aug. 30. 734-433-7673. www.purplerosetheatre.org

**The Look of Love** \$28-32. Tibbits Summer Theatre, 14 S. Hanchett St., Coldwater. June 26 - July 5. 517-278-6029. www.tibbits.org

**The Red King's Dream** \$20-30. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville.

Through June 29. 248-347-0003. www.tippingpointtheatre.com

**The Sound of Music** \$15-30. Hope Summer Repertory Theatre at DeWitt Theatre, 141 E. 12th St., Holland. Through Aug. 7. 616-395-7890. www.hope.edu/hrst

**The Summer Circle** Free. Summer Circle Theatre at Michigan State University Auditorium Building, Lawn by the Red Cedar River, Grand River and Auditorium Road, East Lansing. Through June 28. 517-355-6690. www.theatre.msu.edu/index.php/productions/

See Happenings, page 36

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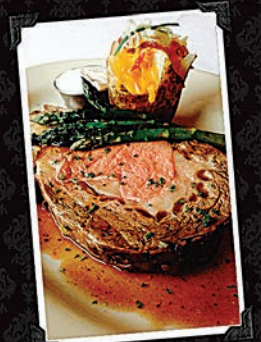
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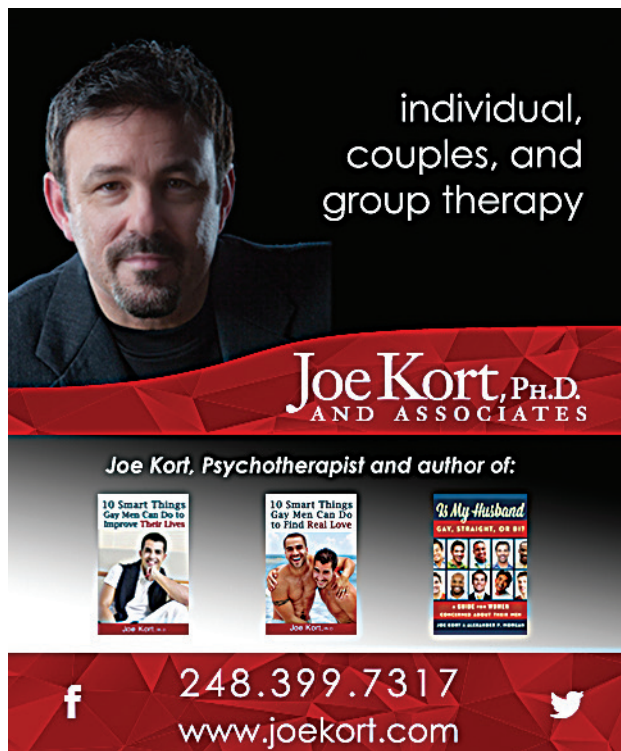


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# Orchard Lake Show Brings The Art To West Bloomfield

BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

The 12th Annual Orchard Lake Fine Art Show, presented by HotWorks, comes to metro Detroit July 26-28. The weekend event has grown into one of the top 100 art shows in the country under the direction of HotWorks' executive director Patty Narozny (HotWorks is a production company that works on other events locally and nationally). The Orchard Lake Fine Art Show has also won six awards from 2012 Michigan Festivals and Events Fun Awards.

The renowned art show is juried by art professionals and features high quality fine art, craft events, local and international artists and more. Said artists sell their paintings, clay, glass, sculpture, wood, fiber, jewelry, photography and other materials. All art is original and handmade by the artists at the show, with artists present to answer questions about his or her work.

The art festival will take place in the heart of West Bloomfield. The city, which has been voted one of Money Magazine's "Best Places to Live," has free parking for patrons of the festival, and many local businesses will be open to attendees.

Aside from art sales and viewing, the show will also showcase live music, fresh flowers on every table and a variety of great food offerings, beverages such as beer and wine, and a comfortable tented seating area. Children's art activities will feature plaster painting, tie-dye T-shirts, candle making and face paintings. Also for children is the Seventh Annual Youth Art Competition, sponsored by the Chadwick



Accounting Group, which offers kids in grades K-8 the chance to enter their artwork in the event, which will be publicly displayed. Winners of the event receive a cash prize. Art demonstrations throughout the event will allow patrons the ability to see creative works in progress.

Orchard Lake Fine Art Show goals include getting artists together with the right audience "so that everyone has a pleasant and educational experience." Another goal is to enhance all festival-goers "aesthetic senses."

The non-profit Institute for the Arts & Education, Inc. (IA&E), part of the show, works for the education and promotion of fine arts and crafts among all groups of people. According to hotworks.org, IA&E also "implements ways to enrich lives and strengthen our community through the Power of Arts via ways in which we

can help teach communities how artwork is made, and to further the involvement of the community with our events. This Association works to encourage creative expression and Artistic excellence, and to expand public awareness, appreciation and acquisition of fine arts and fine crafts."

Located at 6900 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield, the event will run from 5 to 9 p.m. on July 26, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on July 27 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on July 28. Admission is \$5, with free admittance to those 12 and under. Pets are welcome. There is parking behind Barnes & Noble and the Beaumont Medical Center.

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

Check out other summer festivals in BTL's calendar at [www.pridesource.com/calendar.html](http://www.pridesource.com/calendar.html).

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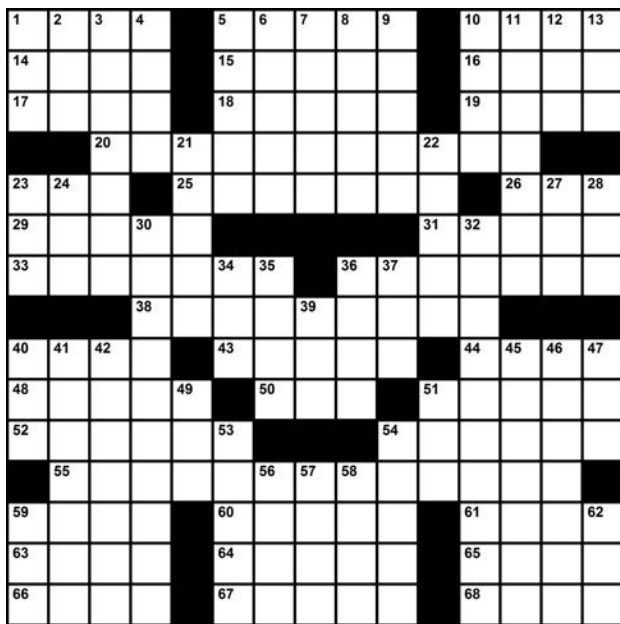
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Across

- 1 Pole of your first mate?
- 5 Flat hat
- 10 Flat-bottomed boat
- 14 "Aida" solo
- 15 Wed in secret
- 16 Stage show with "Sodomy"
- 17 "\_\_\_ Get a Witness" (Marvin Gaye)
- 18 Crossword hints
- 19 Kind of child
- 20 Beloved sitcom housekeeper
- 23 Quit, with "out"
- 25 Cutter with wheels
- 26 Poem of Sappho
- 29 Rosemary and thyme
- 31 Bear
- 33 Type of triangle
- 36 Painter Brooks
- 38 Late actress who played 20-Across
- 40 "The doctor \_\_\_"
- 43 "Care to?"
- 44 Ethnic cuisine type
- 48 Patton's vehicles
- 50 Use your mouth
- 51 Colette's love
- 52 European language family
- 54 Gives a bad name to
- 55 Sitcom of 20-Across
- 59 Fashionable Christian
- 60 Playground retort
- 61 Ejaculation of concern
- 63 Phallic fishes
- 64 George Cukor film, with "The"
- 65 That's bull, to Frida
- 66 Family diagram
- 67 Make noise in bed
- 68 Big name in pumps

Down

- 1 Britten's raincoat
- 2 Constellation over Rio
- 3 Singing Nancy
- 4 Some eagle feathers
- 5 "Life Goes On" daughter
- 6 First name in talk
- 7 Shaped like balls
- 8 They make points by touching the body
- 9 "Bust a Nut" band
- 10 "Beat it!"
- 11 They may shoot cream into your mouth
- 12 Lubricant
- 13 Like a silly grin
- 21 "Hedda Gabler" playwright
- 22 Hindu master
- 23 Cries of surprise
- 24 Chest muscle, for short
- 27 "The Opposite of Sex" director
- 28 Mary's little lamb, perhaps
- 30 Shakespearean play form
- 32 Eleventh hour
- 34 U-turn from SSE
- 35 On-line auction site
- 36 Colonel, to Cammermeyer
- 37 Cells for women only
- 39 Some forensic evidence
- 40 "\_\_\_ De-Lovely"
- 41 More off-color
- 42 Behind, financially
- 45 Top bananas
- 46 Names on tomes
- 47 Taxing org.
- 49 Family member, for short
- 51 Track-and-field org.
- 53 Sticking points
- 54 Butcher's cut
- 56 "Viva, Las Vegas" middle name
- 57 Barney Frank, in brief
- 58 Belgian border river
- 59 NYPD rank
- 62 Boo's partner

Solution on pg. 35

Classifieds

01-ANNOUNCEMENTS  
LGBT AA MEETINGS

**Ann Arbor-Friday**

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

**Bloomfield Hills-Sunday / Tuesday / Thursday**

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

**Detroit-Tuesday / Friday**

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

**Farmington Hills-Monday**

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

**Ferndale-Monday / Wednesday / Friday**

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

**Ferndale-Saturday**

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

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

**Livonia-Friday**

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

**Warren-Monday**

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

101-ANNOUNCEMENTS  
LGBT AL ANON

**Diversity Wednesday Al-Anon Family Group**

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

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

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

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Panel 3: "BUT... BUT... IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME, OMAR."

Panel 4: "HE GETS ON THOSE HOOKUP APPS TO LINE UP A TRICK FOR LATER."

Panel 5: "BUT DON'T WORRY. HE'LL BE BACK SOON."

Panel 6: "HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE?"

Panel 7: "WE CREATED PROFILES AND SENT HIM OUR DRINK ORDERS."

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# Should We Say 'I Do'?

BY MICHAEL EINHEUSER, PH.B. J.D.

Let's face it. When a loved one gets down on one knee, gives you a ring and asks for your hand in marriage, your response isn't likely to be "How will this affect our taxes?"

Or will it?

Same-sex couples in Michigan live in a legal limbo. In its ruling in *United States vs. Windsor*, the Supreme Court struck down Section 3 of the Federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which had defined "marriage" and "spouse" as referring exclusively to husbands and wives of the opposite sex. In declaring this unconstitutional, the Court said defining marriage is the exclusive province of the states. If a state wants to recognize same-sex marriages, that's none of the federal government's business.

But the Court left Section 2 of DOMA intact. Section 2 says no State of the United States shall be required to recognize a relationship between persons of the same-sex that is treated as a marriage under the laws of another state. In other words, states, like Michigan, are free to ignore marriages that states, like California, recognize. And that's the policy of Governor Rick Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette.

Michigan same-sex couples married in "recognition" states have valid marriages for most Federal laws and regulations. The same goes for the 300 or so couples married in Michigan on March 22, 2014 in the hours before the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals ordered a stay on Judge Bernard A. Friedman's ruling in *DeBoer and Rowse vs. Snyder*.

April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse were prohibited from jointly adopting their children because Article 1 Sec 25 of Michigan's Constitution says "the union

“When there's someone whose job it is to take care of someone else, that's good for the two of them, obviously. But it's also good for their neighbors...The things that make them healthier and happier at home also make them more productive members of society. It's a win-win: good for the married couple and good for those around them.”

– John Corvino, Ph.D., "Debating Same-Sex Marriage"

of one man and one woman in marriage shall be the only agreement recognized as marriage or similar union for any purpose." They sued in federal court alleging denial of equal protection of law as prohibited by the United States Constitution. Attorney General Schuette defended this language as "the will of the people" because it originated as the so called "Michigan Marriage Amendment" from an initiative petition approved by the voters in 2004.

Judge Friedman struck down the Michigan Marriage Amendment as unconstitutional. He concluded his very thoughtful 30 page opinion and order with the following observation:

In attempting to define this case as a challenge to "the will of the people,"... state defendants lost sight of what this case is truly about: people. No court record of this proceeding could ever fully convey the personal sacrifice of these two plaintiffs who seek to ensure that the state may no longer impair the rights of their children and the thousands of others now being raised by same-sex couples. It is the Court's fervent hope that these children will grow up "to understand the integrity and closeness of

their own family and its concord with other families in their community and in their daily lives." *Windsor*, 133 S. Ct. at 2694. Today's decision is a step in that direction, and affirms the enduring principle that regardless of whoever finds favor in the eyes of the most recent majority, the guarantee of equal protection must prevail. But these marriages don't exist in the eyes of those in charge of our state. Michigan same-sex couples curious about the legal impact of their marriage are confronted with this disturbing reality.

I will respond to readers' questions on the matter. Please contact me at 248-398-4665 or [www.einheuserlegal.com](http://www.einheuserlegal.com).


*Michael Einheuser is an estate and retirement planning attorney in Bingham Farms who's listed in the Pride Source Yellow Pages. He specializes in helping families preserve their wealth, reduce potential taxes and eliminate the uncertainties of probate. See page 11 for the ad on Einheuser's same-sex legal marriage advice workshop.*

## PRIDE SOURCE YELLOW PAGES

### HOTLINES & SERVICES

ACLU of Michigan	313-578-6800
Affirmations Helpline	248-398-GAYS
Alcoholics Anonymous	248-541-6565
Eastern Michigan University LGBT Resource Center	734-487-4149
Equality Michigan	313-537-7000
Flint Crisis Line	810-257-3740
HIV AIDS/Resource Center Toll-Free	866-HIV-TEST
Jim Toy Community Center	734-995-9867
Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center (KGLRC)	269-349-4234
Karibu House Community Center for LGBT Persons of Color	313-865-2170 ext. 3
Lansing Area AIDS Network	517-394-3719
Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC) Toll-Free	888-A-CONDOM
Oakland County Health Division Toll-Free	888-350-0990 ext. 85416
OutCenter	269-925-8330
PFLAG Ann Arbor	734-741-0659
PFLAG Detroit	248-656-2875
PFLAG Genesee County	810-496-8302
PFLAG Lansing	517-332-4550
PFLAG Tri-Cities Bay City/Saginaw/Midland	989-941-1458
Stonewall Bar Association (LGBT lawyers and allies)	313-578-6812
The LGBT Network of Western Michigan	616-458-3511
Transgender Michigan Help Line	517-420-1544
Unity Michigan	269-290-1427
Wellness AIDS Services	810-232-0888

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[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan\\_mens\\_clothing\\_optional\\_yoga](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan_mens_clothing_optional_yoga)

**Solution to puzzle from page 34**

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

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## Editor's Pick



The Flint Gay Pride Society hosts its annual contribution to Pride Month this Saturday in Downtown Flint. Flint Pride in the Park will be hosted by local drag queen Alicia Boom Boom More. The event will be held, rain or shine.

Also on deck to entertain at Flint Pride is DJ Anonymous on the main stage. Keyon la Don, Jazzy the Diva, Kayla Stratus and Free2B will also perform. Sponsors for the event include

Genesee County Healthy Sexuality Coalition, Wellness Services, Safe Space Ally Center, PFlag of Genesee County, University of Michigan-Flint and ELGA Credit Union.

Flint Pride in the Park will be held from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 28. The festival will be held at both the U of M Rink and Flint Riverbank downtown. A suggested donation to enter the event is \$5. Contact Teresa Springer at 810-232-0888 or [tspringer@wellnessaid.org](mailto:tspringer@wellnessaid.org) for more information.

## Happenings

Continued from p. 29

summer-circle-theatre/

**The Weird** Free. Summer Circle Theatre at Michigan State University Auditorium Building, Lawn by the Red Cedar River, Grand River and Auditorium Road, East Lansing. Through June 28. 517-355-6690. [www.theatre.msu.edu/index.php/productions/summer-circle-theatre/](http://www.theatre.msu.edu/index.php/productions/summer-circle-theatre/)

**The Wizard of Oz** \$24-79. Broadway in Detroit, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. Through June 29. 313-237-SING. [www.broadwayindetroit.com](http://www.broadwayindetroit.com)

**Treasure Island** \$7. Tibbits Popcorn Theatre, 14 S. Hanchett St., Coldwater. Through June 28. 517-278-6029. [www.tibbits.org](http://www.tibbits.org)

**When It Rains, It Pours** \$10. Shawn P Entertainment at Fairhill Missionary Baptist Church, 11715 Livernois, Detroit. 6 p.m. June 28. 1-800-838-3006. [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com)

## ART 'N' AROUND

**Cranbrook Art Museum** "Cranbrook Goes to the Movies: Films and Their Objects, 1925-1975". Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. June 21 - Nov. 30. 877-462-7262. [Cranbrookart.edu](http://Cranbrookart.edu)

**Cranbrook Art Museum** "Ephemera: Fragments from Cranbrook's Social Life" A rich and varied look at the ephemera that illustrates Cranbrook's social life during the 20th century. Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. May 1 - Sep. 28. 877-462-7262. [Cranbrookart.edu](http://Cranbrookart.edu)

**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](http://Cranbrookart.edu)

**Detroit Artists Market (DAM)** "313" Nine preeminent photographers whose striking visuals form a tribute to the city we love. Detroit Artists Market, 4719 Woodward Ave., Detroit. June 6 - July 12. 313-832-8540. [Detroitartistsmarket.org](http://Detroitartistsmarket.org)

**Detroit Institute of Arts** "Detroit -- Bruce Weber" Photographs. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. June 20 - Sep. 7. 313-833-

7900. [Dia.org](http://Dia.org)

**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. [ww.Dia.org](http://ww.Dia.org)

**Downriver Council for the Arts** "Open Studio" DCA members are invited to drop in every Thursday afternoon to paint and socialize with their fellow member artists. Admission: Members - Free. Non-Members - \$10. Downriver Council for the Arts, 81 Chestnut, Wyandotte. Aug. 8 - June 27. 734-720-0671. [Downriverarts.org](http://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](http://Flintarts.org)

**Henry Ford Museum** "Women Who Rock: Vision, Passion, Power" Women Who Rock is an unprecedented chance to revisit the musicians who helped shape the soundtrack of your life - innovators like Madonna and Aretha Franklin, Janis Joplin and Tina Turner and dozens of others. Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. May 27 - Aug. 17. 313-982-6001. [Thehenryford.org/events/womenwhorock.aspx](http://Thehenryford.org/events/womenwhorock.aspx)

**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** "Midwestern Voices and Visions". Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. June 13 - July 27. 313-832-6622. [Mocadetroit.org](http://Mocadetroit.org)

**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. [Mocadetroit.org](http://Mocadetroit.org)

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

July 27. 313-832-6622. [Mocadetroit.org](http://Mocadetroit.org)

**MOCAD** "Dara Friedman: Projecting". Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. May 16 - July 27. 313-832-6622. [Mocadetroit.org](http://Mocadetroit.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. [Mocadetroit.org](http://Mocadetroit.org)

**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](http://Pewabic.org)

**River's Edge Gallery** "Motor City Griot Society: Forty Statements" The work of Steve Glazer. River's Edge Gallery, 3024 Biddle, Wyandotte. June 20 - July 2. 734-246-9880.

**robert kidd gallery** "Stephen Duren" New paintings. robert kidd gallery, 107 Townsend St., Birmingham. June 23 - July 3. 248-642-3909. [Robertkiddgallery.com](http://Robertkiddgallery.com)

**Saugatuck Center for the Arts** "The Lake Effect: Contemporary Art at Ox-Bow". Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. June 12 - Aug. 23. 269-857-2399. [Sc4a.org](http://Sc4a.org)

**Scarab Club** "Bugs Blooms, Beasts exhibition" Featuring artwork "Winged Pharaoh," by Charles Alexander. The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. May 22 - July 27. 313-831-1250. <http://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](http://Umma.umich.edu)

**University Of Michigan Museum Of Art (UMMA)** "Three Michigan Architects: Part 2 - Robert Metcalf" Robert Metcalf's domestic and commercial buildings represent some of the most important and recognizable modern architecture in Michigan. University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. April 1 - July 13. 734-763-4186. [Umma.umich.edu](http://Umma.umich.edu)

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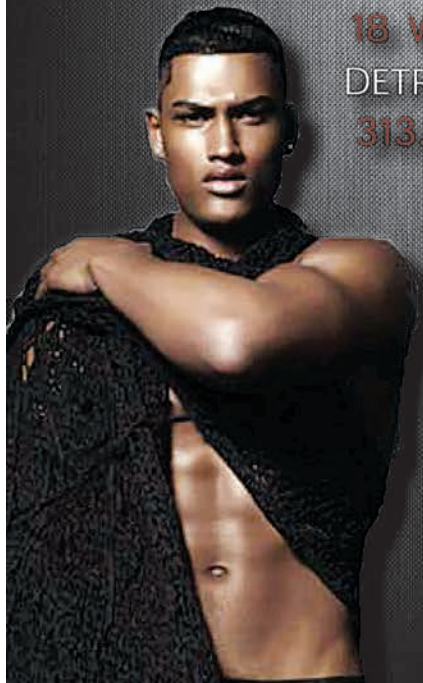
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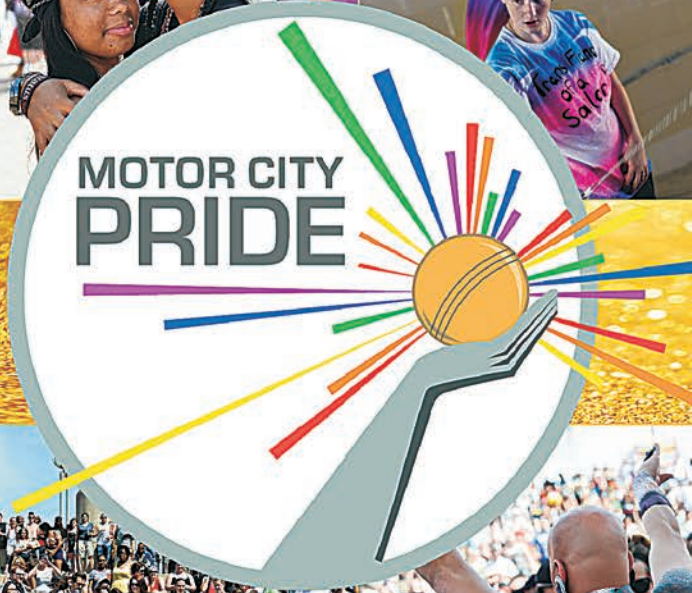
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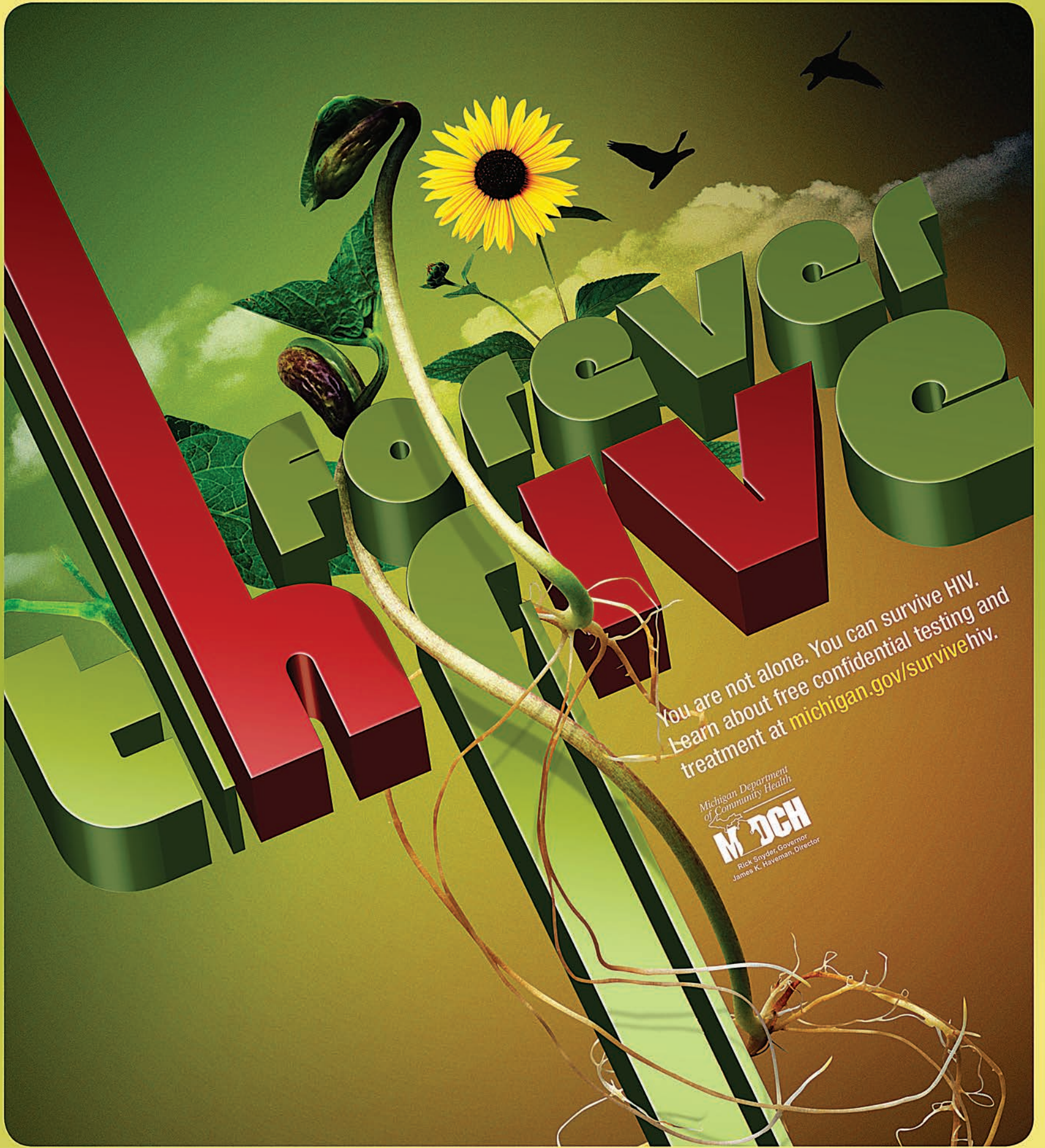


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