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Between

INSIDE: [MIVoterGuide.com](http://MIVoterGuide.com)  
BTL'S 2014  
VOTER GUIDE

# *Pride & Prejudice*

'Sherlock' Star Andrew Scott  
Talks Inspiring New Film

A photograph of two women standing side-by-side and holding hands. The woman on the left is wearing a reddish-brown strapless top and a matching skirt with lace detailing at the hem. The woman on the right is wearing a light green ribbed tank top and blue jeans. The image is semi-transparent, serving as a background for the text.

# Who Will Fight To Legalize Our Marriage?

LGBT

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## COVER

16 Pride & Prejudice  
Photo: CBS Films



“If you talk to a disabled person ... they'll say people pre-judge us. ... I have found that to be the case with nearly everything I have done. And I am willing to bet that (the LGBT community) goes through the same thing.”

– Richard Bernstein, pg. 4



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# ELECTION 2014: Bernstein: The Face Of Blind Justice

BY AJ TRAGER

Candidate for the open seat on the Michigan Supreme Court, Richard Bernstein, recently sat down with BTL. The pro bono lawyer is known for his work with disability cases. He set up the Public Service Division of his family's law firm and handles cases that "no one else will take."

Bernstein runs long marathons and after living in New York for a time, fell in Central Park as a result of a collision involving a cyclist. He has since sued the city of New York, seeking to make Central Park more accessible and safer for the disabled community. Two years later, he is running marathons again, but the effect the hospitalization and trauma has had on his body is still a constant ache.

"It's best to keep pushing the body forward and not to give in to the pain. The body will freeze up and make it difficult to do other things. It's a lot of sheer determination. You just have to want it, and you have to find the strength to just push past it. Because otherwise, what is your choice?" Bernstein asked.

He carries a positive attitude and promotes the philosophy of adapting to one's surroundings.

"I've been blind my whole life, never really had usable vision. And this is how I approach life and work through things. When you are born without useable vision, you have a different framework and a different perspective of the world that comes with it," Bernstein said.



Richard Bernstein on the campaign trail. Photo courtesy of Richard Bernstein

His favorite case involves the University of Michigan, where he represented the Paralyzed Veterans of America in an inclusion case. The fundamentally important part of the case for Bernstein was the isolation of the disabled community in able-bodied spaces.

"Under federal law, if you have any kind of facility that houses dolphins, it is against code

to allow for a dolphin to exist by itself. They are social creatures, like humans, and to leave it by itself is seen as a very cruel thing for the animal. And then you look at what we do to people. And I think the worst thing that you can ever do to anybody is say to them, 'You aren't welcome and you aren't going to be included in any event or any activity, because of who you are.' And candidly, that is what U of M was doing. That is why it was a really hurtful case," Bernstein said. "Anytime that you exclude people for nothing that they did, but on the basis of exclusion, I think that is the most hurtful thing you can do to people."

Bernstein has yet to argue for an LGBT rights case; not because he has no interest, but because he has not been approached. Were an inclusion case for LGBT rights to come his way, Bernstein said he would "definitely take the case."

As an ally, Bernstein sees issues for the blind and LGBT issues as analogous and asks a fundamental question about integrity and acceptance of all walks of life.

"At the end of the day, what is it that people really want? They want independence, they want to be included, they want to live their lives the way they want to live their lives and they don't want to be judged. At a certain point, we all run into the same kinds of things," Bernstein said.

"There are self-appointed experts who tend to think that they know what is best for everybody. We all have our own stories, and we all have our own experiences, and it

really is what makes us who we are. If you talk to a disabled person, or anyone in the circumstances that our communities are in, they'll say people pre-judge us. We have to work harder to basically do basic things. I have found that to be the case with nearly everything I have done. And I am willing to bet that your constituency goes through the same thing."

Blind justice is the process of being blind towards special interests, political ideologies and partisan politics, and Bernstein incorporates that into fighting for issues close to home. Social change does not come easy. Bernstein sees that process as a slow pendulum that eventually starts to swing, and when it gains momentum, remarkable things start to happen.

So why is his position as a candidate for the Michigan Supreme Court so important? Because in a room of only seven people that determine the highest cases in the state, it is critical to have people who do not think the same and have different life experiences.

"In the last 15 years I have seen first hand how the law has tremendous power to enhance and change people's lives for the better," Bernstein said. "There are a lot of folks out there that, when they go into the courts, they feel that their case has been pre-determined. People want to know that the judges they elect are fair and do have life experiences."

Learn more about the campaign at <http://www.bernsteinforjustice.com>.

## Launch Of The 2014 BTL Michigan Voter Guide

[www.MiVoterGuide.com](http://www.MiVoterGuide.com) - Help Us 'Pass It On'

BY AJ TRAGER

Between The Lines has created a Voter Guide available both in print and online (you will find one inserted in this edition of BTL) filled with detailed spreadsheets that will show Michigan voters which major endorsements each candidate has received up and down the ticket.

Voters will get a more complete picture of which candidates stand for fairness and equality as well as be able to follow the Michigan NOW and Planned Parenthood endorsements to see which candidates support a woman's right to choose.

Other endorsement categories include the Michigan Sierra Club and the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, offering a look at candidates' stances on natural resources. The Michigan UAW's endorsements gauge

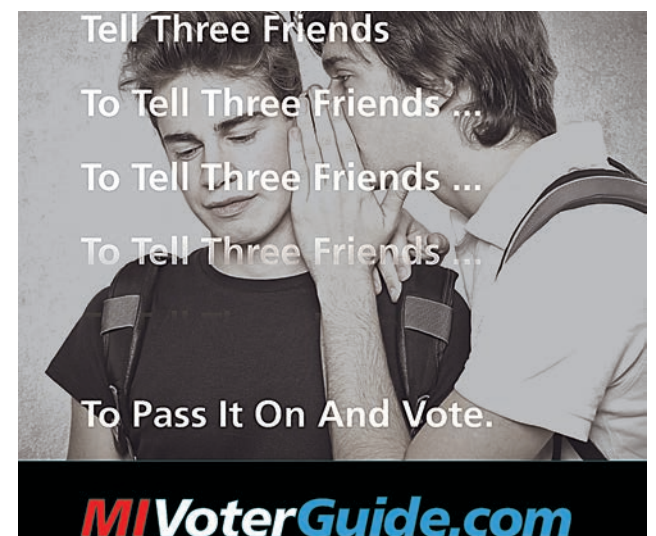
candidates' engagement in supporting the labor movement.

"LGBT voters and their allies need to know which candidates stand for fairness and equality," Jan Stevenson, BTL's co-publisher, said. "We evaluated candidates on the basis of their answers to our questionnaires, their voting records and their public statements regarding the rights of LGBT Michigianians. We then endorsed candidates who are committed to full equal rights for LGBT people, including equality in marriage, employment, housing and public accommodations."

The Voter Guide will include a list of endorsements from two of Michigan's right-wing groups so voters can see which candidates will be active in fighting against equality and fairness, if elected. Those endorsements are listed from the Michigan Right to Life and the Citizens for Traditional Values.

For two weeks prior to the election, the Voter Guide will be inserted into the paper. It is also available online at [www.mivoterguide.com](http://www.mivoterguide.com). By typing in their zip code, voters have access to a digital copy of the guide that they may share with friends to spread the word on which candidates stand for equality.

Around 35 percent of U.S. voters who voted in the 2012 presidential election did not vote in the 2010 off-year election. Michigan is less than two weeks away from deciding who will be the next governor and elected officials for the state. Share the Voter Guide and "Get Out The Vote" to change Michigan history.



Visit BTL's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/BetweenTheLinesNewspaper](http://www.facebook.com/BetweenTheLinesNewspaper) for updates. You can also visit [www.mivoterguide.com](http://www.mivoterguide.com) for additional resources and updates.

TWO

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# ELECTION 2014: Ally vs. Extremist: McKenzie Seeks 11th District Win

BY JAN STEVENSON AND AJ TRAGER

**B**obby McKenzie, 39, a new face on Michigan's political stage, would be the first Democrat in 40 years to represent the 11th Congressional District if he can prevail over Republican David Trott, a conservative attorney best known as the principle in a law firm responsible for the vast majority of home foreclosures in Michigan. Some polls show the two almost tied in the race to replace U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio, the Tea Party reindeer farmer who lost to Trott in the August primary.

McKenzie grew up in Dearborn, graduating from Crestwood High School before earning his bachelor's degree in economics from Michigan State University. He went on to earn a master's degree from Georgetown University and has served as a visiting scholar at the University of Oxford. He worked on African refugee issues and taught courses at Wayne State University as an adjunct professor. Most recently, he worked as a senior advisor to the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Counterterrorism. He is widely regarded as an expert on foreign affairs.

McKenzie sat down with BTL's publisher Jan Stevenson and writer AJ Trager Oct. 3 to discuss his campaign, his views on LGBT rights and why he wants to have a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

**BTL: Both you and your opponent are first-time candidates running in a district that has voted for Republicans in recent elections. How is the campaign going, and what are your strengths?**

McKenzie: There is a real sense of optimism. Our polls show tremendous results and that we're within the margin of error. Things are trending our way this year. We just need to get out the vote. This district may lean Republican, but it is not a socially conservative place.

**BTL: If elected, would you become a member of the Congressional LGBT Caucus?**

McKenzie: Why wouldn't I? The way I see it, the "gay agenda" doesn't seem radical. I mean, people want better roads. They want to make sure that seniors' pensions aren't getting taxed. They want to make sure that there are good jobs here in the district; they want to make sure that they have the same sort of equal rights that I have. I have not met a single person in the district that's not pushing hard on these elements. And we have David Trott, taking away people's homes for the past 25 years, with views so extreme on choice that even folks who are pro-life Republicans do not hold his views. (Trott opposes a woman's right to choose in all circumstances, even with grave immediate danger to the mother's life.) I mean, this is medieval. Department of Education – he wants to shut it down. This is one of his top priorities. Environment –



Michigan's largest oil spill in Kalamazoo was one of his companies, Enbridge. (Trott is a former partner at Enbridge Energy Partners. Enbridge is responsible for the July 2010 tar sands oil spill that dumped a million gallons of oil along 35 miles of the Kalamazoo River and its tributaries, the largest inland oil spill in American history.) So you're talking about every single issue. We deserve better; we have a great opportunity here, but we have to get out the vote with everybody. And I just hope that the wider community recognizes that not only do they have a friend and advocate, but they also have a friend and advocate who can win.

**BTL: You have come out in support of LGBT rights, including marriage equality. What was your personal evolution to become a supporter of LGBT rights?**

McKenzie: I am a big believer in equality, and I have lived in some parts of the world where people don't have equality at all – not just based on sexual orientation, but based on gender and world views and all kinds of things. And one of the things that makes America so great is that we have a place where everybody is supposed to be inclusive of everybody. And this is one of the few places in the world where this is embraced. Not by everyone but I certainly think that it's trending that way. There wasn't a clarion moment or an epiphany, so to speak. Perhaps it's because I've had the great opportunity to travel the world over and live in a lot of different places in a lot of different countries.

**BTL: Were your travels on behalf of the U.S. government or private sector work?**

McKenzie: Both in the government and non-government. I did quite a bit of humanitarian work helping refugees. And having lived and worked in Cairo – where you have refugees living in grinding, physical poverty with no access to food rationing, no access to health care, no access to education, no access to human rights – you think about what we have here. We should be celebrating this.

**BTL: Can you contrast and compare your positions on LGBT issues with your opponent and explain why LGBT people should get excited about your candidacy?**

McKenzie: Sure. I mean, he has been careful not to talk about too much, but I suspect that if you were to ask him, presumably if he were to answer, you would get extreme views. My guess is: if he were to weigh on LGBT issues, I think you're going to get all extreme views. But maybe you should reach out to him.

**BTL: Well, we have. He doesn't answer our calls – can you imagine!**

McKenzie: This is what I'm saying. You know, I want to give everybody the benefit of the doubt, but he is probably not going to answer your calls.

**BTL: What made you want to run for Congress? This is the first public office you've run for, correct?**

McKenzie: That's right. But I've worked on

really complex problems at a very high level. And I also think that if you can, you should. And in my view, I'm trying to fight for everybody's rights here. But on a fundamental level, I want to help people like my younger brother who got his undergraduate degree here, master's degree here and couldn't find work. (For) six to eight months. A kid with a lot of ambition, great work ethic, moves to Chicago and finds work there in a week. He spends a couple years in Chicago and then moves on to New York and then to Washington, D.C.

This is an issue that affects everybody regardless of one's race, religion, sexual orientation, gender. I spoke to nearly 50 people at the Kiwanis Club meeting in Plymouth. I asked people, "With a show of hands, how many self identify as Republicans?" Maybe 47 hands went up. And then I told the story of my brother. And then I asked for a show of hands of people who know of a similar story and can relate to that. Every single hand went up. After my speech, I had two gentlemen come up to me and say, "I'm pro-life, I've always voted Republican, but I may be voting differently this year."

**BTL: We need people who not only support us, but who will also be strong advocates and fight for us. Is that something that you see in your future?**

McKenzie: Without question.

# Political Hors d'oeuvres

BY TODD HEYWOOD

## David Trott Faces Election 'Foreclosure'

One time king of foreclosures in Michigan, David Trott, may be headed to defeat in Michigan's 11th Congressional district. Trott is vying to replace Rep. Kerry Bentivolio against Bentivolio, Democrat Bobby McKenzie and Libertarian John Tatar.

Bentivolio lost the Republican nomination to Trott in August, but has decided to run as a write-in candidate.

Trott has dumped another \$1 million of his own fortune into the campaign, bringing his total self funding to \$3.4 million, our friends at Electablog report. And how did Trott gain all that cash? Well, while the state and the country was being crushed by the 2008 economic crisis, Trott – with his foreclosure empire headed by Trott & Trott – was busy foreclosing on homes all over the state. Not content to make a fortune just booting people out of their homes, Trott bought up businesses that are also necessary for the foreclosure process – from a title agency to a newspaper to advertise foreclosure actions as

required by law. Trott turned his agency into a one stop shop for quick foreclosure.

Ingham County Register of Deeds Curtis Hertel Jr. has a different label for it. He called the Trott empire a machine "meant to feed off of human misery," and Hertel would know. Since taking the reigns in Ingham, he has been a national leader in the fight against foreclosure fraud and foreclosures.

Despite being booted to the curb by Republican voters in August, Bentivolio, the "accidental" congressman from Michigan, has decided to mount a write in campaign against Trott. While that might be a quixotic mission, it certainly fits in Bentivolio's beyond eccentric personality. He is, afterall, a reindeer farmer who once testified in a deposition that he sometimes is unsure if he really is Santa Claus or not.

But that write-in campaign could upset Trott's plans to take what should be a comfortable Republican seat. Fox News is reporting Trott could lose the election to McKenzie.

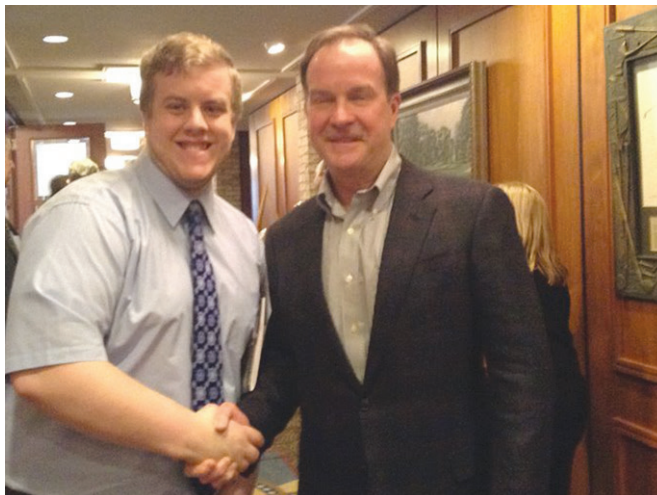
## Republican House Candidate Encourages 'Christians' To Flee Michigan If Gays Get Civil Rights

Jordan Haskins wants to be the Republican house member representing Michigan's 95th House District. And he wants everyone to know he is a staunch, Bible believing Christian who has "fought" the homosexual agenda in Saginaw.

In the event, however, the state legislature votes to approve a measure to amend the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include sexual orientation and gender identity, Haskins has an answer.

"If the state wants to trample religious freedom, we go somewhere else where our values are welcome," the candidate wrote on his Facebook page Oct. 8. "Michigan loses tax money, economic performance, jobs, etc. if they choose to be entrenched with the homosexual agenda, it's time for conservative christians (sic) to vote with their feet and their dollars."

Haskins has his own issues with sexuality. The 24-year-old has served time in the prison



Candidate Jordan Haskins and Bill Schuette uploaded to Haskins campaign page on Facebook on March 31.

system in two states already for trespassing in order to fulfill his sexual fetish, which he calls "cranking." What is cranking, you might ask?

Well here's what MLive had to report about Haskins crimes:

Haskins admitted to police that, on both occasions, he broke into the yard where vehicles were parked, incident reports from the Saginaw

See Political Hors d'oeuvres, page 8

# 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## Tail Waggers's BOWL

"Helping People Help Animals"

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# Creep of the Week

## Gina Loudon

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Have you ever read something so stupid that you could feel your brain cells committing suicide as you read it? That's how I feel



Gina Loudon

after reading Gina Loudon's Oct. 19 World Net Daily piece titled "8 Reasons Why Democrats Hate Traditional Marriage." Loudon, who has a PhD in right-wing

camera to call for more gun control and government surveillance."

Yes, Loudon really is arguing that the Democratic Party's support of marriage equality is all part of a big conspiracy to make people go on shooting sprees so that they can take everybody's guns.

According to Loudon, you've got to have one penis+one vagina marriage because "Men are better at making some decisions than women and vice versa." Women need men to do their retirement planning, she says, and men need women to make them stop eating so many Big Macs. Which is totally not condescending to men or women!

"Democrats flourish when marriage is diminished," she writes. "If Democrats and their allies actively push to destroy marriage, and Republicans can be convinced that they should be neutral on the issue, then Democrats will win this one easily and traditional marriage will be something we will soon read about in history books."

Yes, if there's one thing that's been lacking from Republicans over the years, it's opposition to marriage equality. When will someone stand up to the Homocrats and pry their gay fingers off of marriage's very straight neck?

Support for marriage equality is proof that Democrats hate America, Loudon says.

"There are few things the government can do to make a society safer, healthier and wealthier," she writes. "Promoting traditional marriage is the biggest and easiest one of all."

Anyone who tells you they have an easy solution for this country's safety, health and economic problems probably also wants to show you "one weird trick" that will reduce both your auto insurance rates and your stomach flab.

"Anyone who believes in a stronger America should make it their main issue in upcoming elections to defend and promote traditional marriage," she writes like it's 1999.

Keep in mind, Loudon claims she is not anti-gay. Last year she told The Blaze, "It's really almost laughable, because there are a lot of people in my life who are gay, including my agent, my godmother — several friends," she said.

That's right, "several" gay friends. Laughable, indeed.

Loudon really is arguing that the Democratic Party's support of marriage equality is all part of a big conspiracy to make people go on shooting sprees so that they can take everybody's guns.

idiocy, made an appearance last year on "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart during which correspondent Jason Jones interviewed her about Obamacare, a topic about which she was completely ignorant. "More like Obama Doesn't Care," she said. Interestingly, she lists that appearance in her WND bio, demonstrating an astounding lack of self-awareness.

You also might remember her from a short stint last year on the show "Wife Swap" where she went to live with a polyamorous family. Half way through the taping she declared the situation too weird and quit. That one isn't in her bio.

And according to Loudon, Democrats hate marriage because they want people to be sick poors sucking on the teats of "Big Daddy Government."

Loudon claims that "traditional" marriage is the cure-all for illness in the body and mind, poverty and "bad decision making," things Democrats apparently love. Thus they hate marriage and they express that hatred by wanting to give marriage to homos.

Democrats want people to be ill, you see, because "When people are healthy, they don't need help from the government," she writes in her infinite wisdom.

And Democrats want people to be mentally ill because, "All it takes is one mentally deranged person to act out violently for Democrats to rush to a TV

### ► Political Hors d'oeuvres

Continued from p. 7

County Sheriff's Department show. He said he pulled spark plug wires on sheriff, mosquito control and other vehicles parked there.

"Jordan would remove the spark plug wires and sit in the car and masturbate while the motor was sparking and making noises," the police report

## MSHDA Under Investigation, Snyder Fundraiser Raises Questions

You thought YOU had a bad Monday. Republican Gov. Rick Snyder's day started with revelations that the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) is under federal investigation.

Then the Michigan Democratic Party released documents showing a company that hosted a lavish fundraiser for Snyder received a massive boost in their state contract the next day. Their no-bid state contract, incidentally.

### MSDHA Investigation

Back in early August, MSDHA Executive Director Scott Woolsey abruptly quit his position when it was revealed he had racked up over \$100,000 in questionable travel expenses — like limo rides and first class travel to Beijing and the Middle East.

But what really triggered the investigation by the Housing and Urban Development Department's Office of Inspector General was Woolsey's continued relationship with Troy based Labor-Management Fund Advisors, despite taking home \$135,000 from his state post. While Woolsey denied his firm was involved with state business, The Detroit News reported that it had received \$15,519 for a \$1 million redevelopment project. That award was given five months after Woolsey started at MSDHA.

The governor's office says there was a firewall between Woolsey and the funding decision, and that the governor "welcomes" the review.

## Lavish Fundraiser Leads To Hundreds Of Thousands More In State No-Bid Contract

Before the dust could settle on the news of the federal probe over at MSHDA, Snyder's team was rocked by more allegations from the Michigan Democratic Party. This time, Snyder's under the microscope for granting a no-bid contract to J&B Medical to provide diapers and other incontinence supplies to the Michigan Department of Community Health.

The contract was originally bid out in 2008, under former Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm, and was good for three years, with an option to extend

states.

Haskins was charged with additional misdemeanor offenses related to a third incident at the mosquito control property in October 2010.

Family values, am I right, or am I right? I mean come on, everyone has had that desire to break into a lot, remove the spark plugs from public vehicles and masturbate while attempting to start them. Right?

the contract for two more years. The option was used, but in 2013, that contract expired. Snyder's team gave the company a new contract worth \$390,000 more than the previous contracts. There is no explanation provided as to why the contract amount was increased.

But Democrats say they know why. They point to the governor's fundraising — where J&B Medical Supply owners and employees have donated over \$65,000 to Snyder's candidacy since 2010. Also raising the eyebrows of Democrats is the fact that the day before Snyder and his administration approved the new no-bid contract, J&B Medical Supply owners and employees threw a lavish fundraising party for Snyder.

**Why did the Snyder administration increase the J&B contract by over \$390,000 one day after the company's executives hosted a lavish fundraiser for Snyder's re-election campaign?**

Mark Schauer, Snyder's Democratic opponent in the Nov. election, issued the following statement on the situation:

"These new documents raise very serious questions about who Rick Snyder's administration is really working for. Why has a contract that was competitively bid in 2008 ballooned by more than \$26 million without subsequent competitive bids on Snyder's watch? And more specifically, why did the Snyder administration increase the J&B contract by over \$390,000 one day after the company's executives hosted a lavish fundraiser for Snyder's re-election campaign?"

"Michigan deserves a governor who is committed to providing honest and open government to taxpayers. Instead, Snyder has repeatedly demonstrated that he puts his family and friends first. Whether he was giving 80 and 90 percent raises to his top administration officials, or doubling his cousin's furniture contract to \$41 million, it's clear Rick Snyder's policies work for the wealthy and big corporations, but not the rest of Michigan."

To see the promo video of the fundraising event, visit [www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zjreCT8fZI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4zjreCT8fZI).





Michigan Equality Executive Director Emily Dievendorf, Michigan For Marriage Coalition Manager Regina Caicagno and attorney Jay Kaplan of the ACLU of Michigan LGBT Project discuss the state of marriage equality Oct. 14. BTL photo: Todd Heywood

## Marriage Equality: 'It's Coming' According To Michigan LGBT Advocates

BY TODD HEYWOOD

**EAST LANSING** – As Michigan residents continue to wait for the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals to issue its ruling in the appeal of *DeBoer v Snyder* – Michigan's same-sex marriage case – LGBT advocates had a message: it's coming.

When, however, is unclear. Jay Kaplan, who heads the LGBT Project for ACLU of Michigan, told attendees at an East Lansing forum on Oct. 14 that the decision could be issued any day, but he expects it might not be until November. The reason? A former clerk from the 6th Circuit tells ACLU officials it usually takes the judges three months after hearing a case to issue a formal opinion.

The event took place a week after the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear seven marriage case appeals, bringing marriage equality to ten more states. That decision, Kaplan said, sent a message.

"I think the court is also sending a message to the other federal district courts and the other circuit court of appeals that, 'We feel comfortable,'" Kaplan said. "We feel comfortable with the fact that same-sex couples are getting married, are being allowed to marry, through these lower court decisions. And now is not the time we feel we need to weigh in on the issue."

Kaplan warned that the 6th Circuit could still buck the legal trend of upholding marriage equality. That would likely result in an appeal by the plaintiffs to the U.S. Supreme Court. The court would likely take up that case.

"If they do take it up, it's very unlikely they will say, 'You know what? There's something wrong here,' and rule to eliminate marriage equality," Kaplan said. "That train has left

the station."

If the court upholds the lower court decision, upholding marriage equality in Michigan, Kaplan says he doesn't see the high court agreeing to hear an appeal from the state.

"I think the message is that we are going to have marriage equality," Kaplan said.

Emily Dievendorf, executive director of Equality Michigan, said that despite the ongoing litigation, the state movement is ready to move ahead with a ballot measure to repeal Michigan's marriage ban.

"If the courts take too long, let's take this to the ballot," Dievendorf said. Such a move could place the repeal on the 2015 ballot.

Meanwhile, Michigan for Marriage – a project involving Equality Michigan and the ACLU – is collecting stories of people impacted by the marriage equality debate. She noted that telling "our" stories helps inform the elected leadership about how the marriage ban is hurting Michigan and Michigan families.

Dievendorf reminded the audience that polling is often rocky, and despite a recent "bad" poll, the majority of Michigan voters and Michigan residents support marriage equality. She noted that part of the problem is that Michigan is not voting.

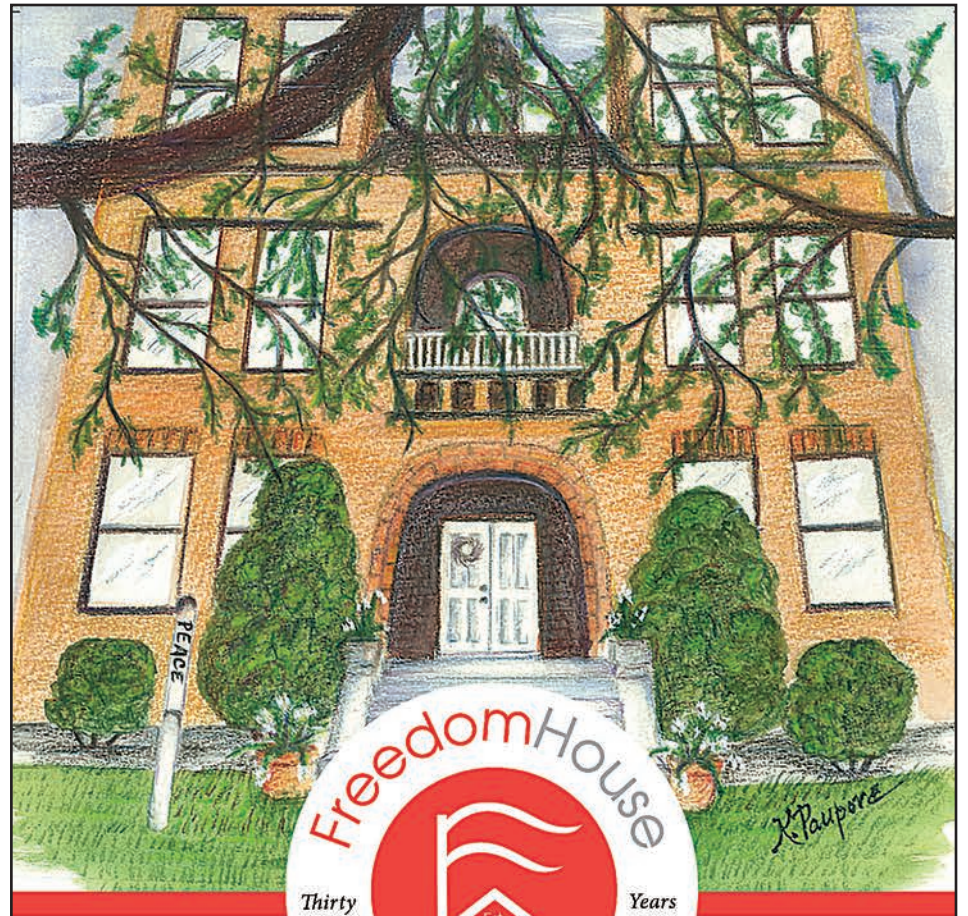
"We have been paying the price," she said. "That is why we are where we are. Why our leaders don't represent us. Don't represent our values. We are all ready to see these changes."

### TAKE ACTION

#### Day of Decision

At 5:30 p.m. on the day the 6th Circuit hands its decision down, find a city near you to celebrate or demonstrate.

>> <http://action.marriagemi.org/page/s/join-us-on-decision-day-in-a-city-near-you>



## 2014 ANNUAL DINNER & AUCTION

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Keynote: Bing Goei,  
Director, Michigan Office for New Americans

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(Includes private reception and reserved seating at the dinner.)  
Advance Dinner Tickets: \$75.00 At the door: \$85.00

If you cannot attend the 2014 Annual Dinner Auction, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to sponsor a resident.

#### About Bing Goei

Bing Goei is a proud Asian-American and Michigander who is living the American dream. Gov. Rick Snyder named Goei to become the first leader of the Michigan Office for New Americans, saying his experiences as an immigrant and as a job creator will benefit the entire state.

Freedom House Detroit To purchase tickets online please go to  
[FreedomHouseDetroit.org](http://FreedomHouseDetroit.org)

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# Life Ended June 1964



## Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

For over 50 years, Life magazine informed Americans about what was happening here and abroad. Photos and content were dramatic. Mostly conservative. Occasionally controversial. Once in awhile downright shocking.

Life folded in 1973; circulation 13 million. Readership, ten times that amount. Its sister publication, Time, continues to this day.

Five years before the Stonewall Riots of 1969, Life tackled a scary taboo: “Homosexualities in America.” An expose focusing on the gay underworld of New York, Chicago and San Francisco. America’s collective Sodom and Gomorrah. Middle Americans woke up to the realization that homosexuals were growing in number. Becoming alarmingly visible. A social threat to be somehow remedied.

In 1964, San Francisco was not the dynamic gay center of Castro/Market Street, clone-look militancy. It hadn’t the high-density population complex of the 1970s and pre-AIDS 1980s; but Life’s wide-audience article – unintentionally, to be sure – served as a catalyst for early gay migration there.

Life opened its expose head on: “Homosexuality shears across the spectrum of American life: the professional, the arts, business and labor. It always has. But today, especially in big cities, homosexuals are discarding their furtive ways and openly admitting, even flaunting, their deviation.

“...But today, especially in big cities, homosexuals are discarding their furtive ways and openly admitting, even flaunting, their deviation.”

“Homosexuals have their own drinking places, their special assignation streets, even their own organizations. And for every obvious homosexual, there are probably nine nearly impossible to detect. This social disorder, which society tries to suppress, has forced itself into the public eye because it does present a problem – and parents especially are concerned.

“The myth and misconception with which homosexuality has so long been clothed must be cleared away, not to condone it but to cope with it.”

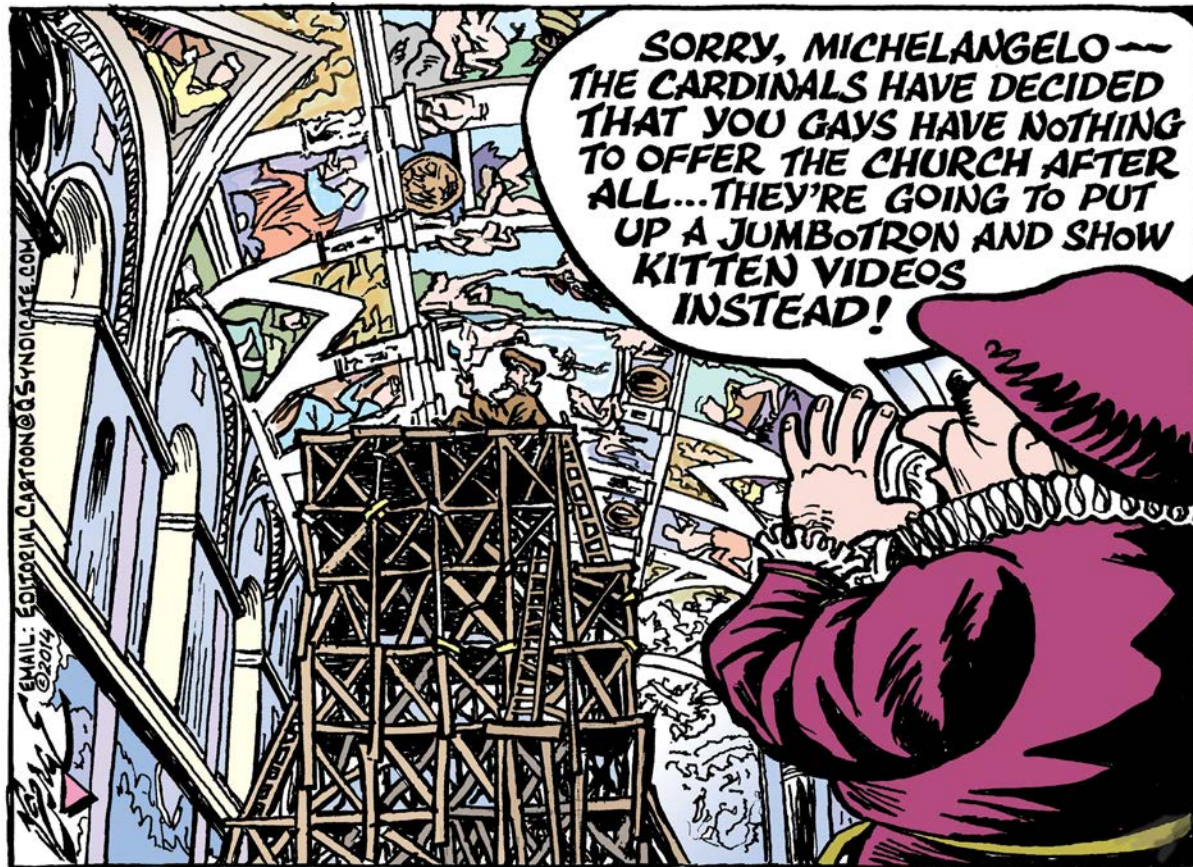
Accompanying the 14-page belly shock are a dozen photos. Nameless gay men clustered in dark bars or milling about on dimly lighted streets. “These brawny young men in their leather caps, shirts, jackets and pants are practicing homosexuals, men who turn to other men for affection and sexual satisfaction.

“They are part of what they call the ‘gay world,’ which is actually a sad and often sordid world.”

Gay bars are exposed: “As each new customer walks into the dimly lit room, he will lock eyes with a half dozen young men before reaching his place at the bar. Throughout the evening there is a constant turnover of customers as contacts are made and two men slip out together, or individuals move on to other bars in search of better luck.

“As closing time – 2 a.m. – approaches, the atmosphere grows perceptibly more tense. It is the ‘frantic hour,’ the now-or-never

See Parting Glances, next page



## Viewpoint



## Don't Forget To Vote The Whole Ballot

OPINION BY JENNIFER LATOSCH

Every doorstep, mailbox and email account across Michigan has undoubtedly been inundated these past few weeks with political fliers and requests for campaign contributions. Hopefully by now everyone acknowledges the importance of exercising their right to vote this upcoming Nov. 4 and will make their way to the ballot boxes. While there, don't forget the names at the bottom of the ballot. While at your local polling location, do vote for the top spots of Governor, Attorney General, U.S. Senate, Michigan Supreme Court... and then vote the ENTIRE ballot, all the way down to your local school board candidates.

Local school board elections are often over-looked by voters – especially voters without school-

aged children; yet they are critically important to creating and maintaining the growing, dynamic communities that we lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people want to live in. No matter how thriving a city, it will never rise to its fullest potential if its local public schools don't likewise thrive.

I live in Ferndale, Michigan. It's arguably one of the most vibrant and “hip” towns in the state. Economically, Ferndale is also on the rise; it was just recognized as having the most real estate growth in all of Oakland County since the recession. Unfortunately, the growth and cultural climate of our schools has not matched our city's vibrancy. There was a time when I did not realize how much impact a local school district could have on the viability of a town, but now I know

differently.

When my (now) wife and I bought our first home in Ferndale in 1995, we wanted to live in a community that was open and diverse. When we started our family, we were also determined to live in a community where our kids would be proud to say, “I have two moms.” Ferndale is all we could ever want on these two fronts. At the same time, it was just as important to us for our kids to have access to the best education. Unfortunately, when our kids were infants, we saw many families either move out of the Ferndale Public School district or send their kids to out-of-district or private schools. They were leaving because they weren't satisfied with the public schools – and neither were we. We

See Whole Ballot, next page

Local school board elections are often over-looked by voters - especially voters without school-aged children; yet they are critically important to creating and maintaining the growing, dynamic communities that we lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people want to live in. No matter how thriving a city, it will never rise to its fullest potential if its local public schools don't likewise thrive.

### ► Whole Ballot

Continued from p. 10

had a decision to make: either we could leave Ferndale, or we could stay and do our part to make the schools better. We decided to stay.

Beginning with the 2012 school board election, other voters like us were energized to make a change in the Ferndale school district, and we made our voices heard at the polls. That year, four new board members were voted into office. With only a total of seven serving at any given time, it was an impactful election. Holding true to their platforms, the new board began to make significant changes and to strategically plan for the future of our schools. Holding true to my own promise of involvement, I made a commitment to our schools and applied for an open appointee position on the board of education. I can honestly say that when I came out in my early 20s, I never in a million years thought I'd one day be appointed to the school board. Yet if there was ever the right school district to have an out school board member, it would be Ferndale.

I am now running to retain my school board seat on a ticket with my fellow incumbents, Nan Kerr-Mueller and Karen Twomey. We, along with the four board members who were elected in 2012, are working hard to make sure our schools are dynamic, vibrant and successful - like our town. We are working on issues like raising student achievement across all lines, ensuring that children with special education needs have the resources they need to be successful and providing students with a safe, supportive and encouraging learning environment where they can thrive.

Further, we know that our diversity and our difference are our strengths. Supporting and strengthening that diversity to ensure all students can be successful is key. I am proud to say that we are already making visible change

### ► Parting Glances

Continued from p. 10

time for making a contact." Sound familiar?

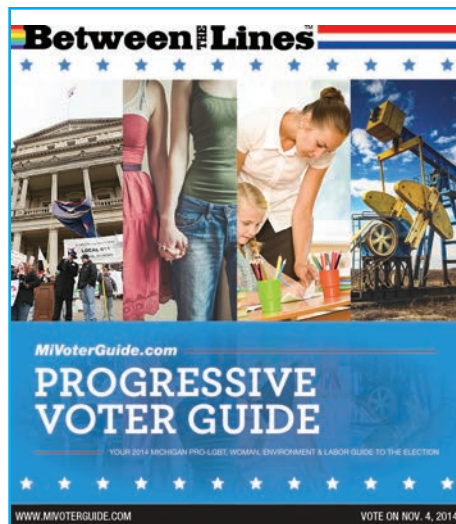
Here's the early version of the gay agenda: "As part of its anti-homosexual drive the Los Angeles police force has compiled an 'educational' pamphlet for law enforcement officers entitled, 'Some Characteristics of the Homosexual.' The strongly opinionated pamphlet includes the warning that what the homosexuals really want is a 'fruit world.'" (Not a cocktail.)

Gays in the military, 1964: "If we

to our schools and our school culture.

There are several wonderful, vibrant towns all across Michigan. Support your local public school system to ensure that your town becomes or maintains its status as a vibrant community. Good schools foster strong communities and develop caring and educated world citizens. If you don't know who to vote for in your community, ask a neighbor, read the flier on your doorstep, talk to those you respect in your community and find out how your vote for the local school board can change your town.

*Jennifer LaTosch serves on the Board of Education for Ferndale Public Schools and is a family law attorney with Miller Canfield. BTL has strongly endorsed Jennifer LaTosch in the upcoming election.*



The BTL 2014 Voter Guide is inserted into this issue. Local endorsements can be found online at [www.mivoterguide.com](http://www.mivoterguide.com). The information is also available on a mobile app, and you can print out a customized voter guide by entering your zip code online. Please consider sharing this guide with everyone you know. And please vote Nov. 4.

didn't throw them out, we'd be condoning homosexuality. The services' position has to be that homosexual practices prejudice morale and discipline."

Life warns, "For the first time the Supreme Court has agreed to hear the homosexual case, but no legal procedures are likely to change society's basic repugnance to homosexuality as an immoral and disruptive force that should somehow be removed." After thoughts, anyone? Please share on Grindr.

*Charles@pridesource.com*

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## Michigan Roundtable To Honor Michigan Social Justice Advocates

**DETROIT** – The Michigan Roundtable, a humanitarian group dedicated to diversity and inclusion, will host its 67th Annual Humanitarian Tribute on Nov. 5 in Detroit. The event celebrates two distinct leaders and one community organization, all known for bringing together others to understand different points of view while taking action to overcome structural impediments to inclusion and equity.

The first individual being honored is Linda D. Forte, the senior vice president of Business Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer for Comerica Incorporated. Forte has driven business strategies that have established Comerica as a leader in diversity and work life practices; she's also achieved national recognition for the bank's diversity efforts. Forte is responsible for the Comerica Charitable Foundation, Corporate Contributions and Civic Affairs, which involves corporate giving.

Terry A. Barclay, president and CEO of Inforum since 2001, will also be honored. She heads the only professional organization in the state that combines strategic connections, original research, professional development programs and a forum for new ideas dedicated to accelerating careers for women.

Also to be awarded at the tribute are ALPACT, the Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust. The twenty-year old volunteer group will be honored with the William H. Beckham Community Service Award. ALPACT, which consists of leaders in law enforcement, community, advocacy and civil rights, is coordinated and facilitated by the Michigan Roundtable. According to the Michigan Roundtable, "The mission of ALPACT is to examine issues affecting police and community relations, and the discriminatory enforcement of laws, such as racial profiling, police discretion and use of force, recruitment and training, citizen complaint processes, community partnering, and police."

Michigan Roundtable states that the tireless efforts of Forte, Barclay and ALPACT "work to address inequity throughout our region, and all three strive to build relationships that create social justice and share in the Michigan Roundtables' mission."

*Event will begin at noon on Nov. 5 at the MGM Grand Detroit Hotel Ballroom, 1777 Third St., Detroit. Tickets begin at \$150, with sponsorship opportunities ranging from \$500-25,000. Contact Lawrence Jones at 313-70-1500, ext. 108, or visit [www.miroundtable.com](http://www.miroundtable.com).*

## Upcoming Mental Health Training To Be Joined By Sex Therapist

**FERNDALE** – Clinical educators will come together to conduct a two-day intensive training on clinical issues related to sexual orientation Nov. 7 and 8.

This year, Natasha Lewis-Grinwis, a certified sex therapist and licensed social worker, will join the team that has been assembled by Affirmations. The training offers twelve continuing education credits and covers topics such as: sexual identity and social development, coming out, legal issues, clinical, professional and ethical considerations.

"Sexual health is an important aspect of mental and physical wellness. People increasingly expect the professionals they consult to be comfortable with this topic," Lewis-Grinwis explained. "Providing education and asking if and how treatment is impacting a person's sexuality improves client care and decreases caseload attrition. When working with LGBT community members, there are additional treatment considerations of which to be mindful."

Educators for the training include ACLU Attorney,

Jay Kaplan; therapist and author Joe Kort, PhD, LMSW; psychologist Judith Kovach, PhD, LP; psychologist Amorie Robinson (Kofi Adoma), PhD, LP; psychiatrist Don Spivak, MD; social worker Maxine Thome, PhD, LMSW, AMSW, MPH; and psychotherapist and sex therapist Natasha Lewis-Grinwis, LMSW, CST.

Local and statewide social workers, licensed counselors, school counselors, physicians and psychologists are encouraged to attend.

The November training marks the organization's third year since embarking on this initiative, which offers the only trainings of this kind in Michigan. In March of 2015, Affirmations is planning its third two-day intensive training on gender identity. That same year Affirmations will also offer trainings to physical health providers, especially nurses and other front-line staff.

*For more information, contact Lydia Ahlum Hanson at [LHanson@GoAffirmations.org](mailto:LHanson@GoAffirmations.org) or call 248-677-7223.*

## LGBT Wedding Jewelry Collection Comes To Tapper's

A new wedding jewelry collection from LGBT designer, Rony Tennenbaum, is being featured by Tapper's Diamonds and Fine Jewelry in honor of its 37th Anniversary.

Tapper's, Michigan's most trusted jeweler since 1977 and a long-standing sponsor of BTL's Wedding Expo (<http://btllweddingexpo.com>), is expanding its demographic reach to the LGBT community by adding a new wedding and engagement jewelry collection created to celebrate marriage and equality. Tapper's has just announced the addition of Rony Tennenbaum's Jewelry collection to its bridal cases in each of its three metro-area locations in Novi, Troy and West Bloomfield.

Founded in 1977 by husband-and-wife team Howard and Susan Tapper, the Tapper family considers the values of community involvement, philanthropy and equality to be integral elements in their company's philosophy and has long expressed support for the LGBT community. This includes awarding \$300,000 to AIDS organizations in the Midwest, such as the Midwest AIDS Prevention Project (MAPP) and YouthAIDS as part of their "Precious Lives, Precious Metals"

campaign.

"We live by the Golden Rule," says Steven Tapper, the firm's vice president. "Treat others the way you want to be treated. It's real family values – caring for other people."

Tennenbaum's ongoing contribution to the LGBT community (of which he is part) and his commitment within the context of a burgeoning same-sex wedding industry has him positioned as a recognized and sought-after authority on LGBT wedding jewelry fashion and protocol. Having worked in the industry for over 25 years, Tennenbaum's unique wedding and engagement ring styling is built with fashionable, timeless features showcasing high end designs.

"It is an honor and privilege for me to be displayed at Tapper's. I am a strong believer in inclusiveness and family values, and I believe Tapper's encompasses the same feelings towards everyone they cater to," Tennenbaum says. "I applaud their show of support to include 'every' family unit and look forward to a fruitful relationship with them and their customers."

*Visit [www.tappers.com](http://www.tappers.com) or [www.ronytennenbaum.com](http://www.ronytennenbaum.com).*

# WMU To Award LGBT Alumna At Homecoming Event

BY AJ TRAGER

**KALAMAZOO** - In an upcoming Homecoming event, Western Michigan University's (WMU) Pride Alumni Association will honor the work and dedication of local LGBT advocates. LGBT and ally alumni of WMU are invited to join together for the Oct. 24 event that will include the presentation of the first ever Community Impact Alumni Award to Kalamazoo resident, River Artz-Iffland.

Artz-Iffland has demonstrated a commitment to LGBT inclusion and advocacy and has created a long-term impact on both the LGBT and Kalamazoo community.

"Her personal information really spoke to being someone who hasn't fought for the spotlight but has done the hard work towards creating safe spaces and building community. It's incredible to see and hear the work that River has done," Jen Hsu, coordinator for the WMU Office of LGBT Student Services, said.

As one of the first coordinators for what is now the WMU Office of LGBT Student Services, Artz-Iffland organized the first Breaking of the Silence event and was integral in fostering a safe space for LGBT students on campus. In addition to her professional contributions, Artz-Iffland has volunteered as an advocate for domestic partnership benefits for city employees and for non-discrimination protections through the One Kalamazoo campaign.

Over the last 30 years, Artz-Iffland has served Kalamazoo in many ways. She was the co-owner of Pandora Books for Women, a woman-centered bookstore, with her partner Diana. She was also an active organizer of Lavender Morning, a lesbian social and support group that started in 1979.

"No single person can change the whole world, but, if we each are brave and take responsibility for what we can do, we'll eventually get where we want to go," Artz-Iffland said upon hearing that she had been selected as the 2014 recipient of the Community Impact Alumni Award.

Hsu and the selection committee received numerous nominations but ultimately decided on Artz-Iffland because of her amazing ability to make an impact in individuals lives as well as the community.

The award is chosen on three criteria, beyond being an LGBT alum of WMU: individual must have made a contribution to the greater community they live and work in as well as WMU, demonstrated commitment to inclusion or



“No single person can change the whole world, but, if we each are brave and take responsibility for what we can do, we'll eventually get where we want to go.”

- River Artz-Iffland.

the LGBT movement and had a far reaching impact on LGBT issues and social justice initiatives.

"We really wanted to distinguish somebody who identified with the idea of having a commitment to WMU as an institution and to see that ripple out in their communities and with LGBT and social justice initiatives," Hsu said. "The Homecoming Planning Committee has been hard at work organizing a fun and welcoming alumni event. We're excited to celebrate our community and acknowledge the tremendous impact River has made on creating an inclusive environment at WMU and in greater Kalamazoo."

The reception will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 24 at the Lee Honors College on WMU campus and will serve specialty crafted drinks and hors d'oeuvres. The event is free and reservations are requested at [mywmu.com/pridealumni](http://mywmu.com/pridealumni). Complimentary parking is available at the Wesley Foundation lot at 2101 Wilbur Ave. A University Pep Rally will be held at 8 p.m. in Sangren Hall directly following the award ceremony for the 2014 WMU Homecoming Event.

To preregister for the Homecoming social, visit [mywmu.com/pridealumni](http://mywmu.com/pridealumni) or call the WMU Office of LGBT Student Affairs at 269-387-2133.

## Ann Arbor Adopts Updated Non-Discrimination Ordinance

BY BTL STAFF

**ANN ARBOR** - The Ann Arbor non-discrimination ordinance was one of the first of its kind in Michigan to add sexual orientation to the list of protections in 1978 and added gender identity a few years later. This week the city adopted a revamped ordinance adding in protections against discrimination for housing, employment and public accommodations for victims of domestic violence and stalking.

The City Council added the updated protections on the basis of gender expression, veteran status, political beliefs, genetic information, arrest record and familial status.

City Council members voted unanimously to pass the

update and were saluted by representatives from the Jim Toy Community Center, ACLU of Michigan, Huron Valley Central Labor Council and other members of the LGBT community.

MLive reports that the revised ordinance aligns more closely with state and federal non-discrimination legislation and guidelines, modifies the requirements placed on public contractors in order to comply with state law and revises the local complaint and enforcement process, according to the city attorney's office. The revision also reflects changes required to affirmative action, city reorganization and changes to the city's Human Rights Commission.

Michigan legislature has yet to add sexual orientation and gender identity to the list of statewide protected classes.

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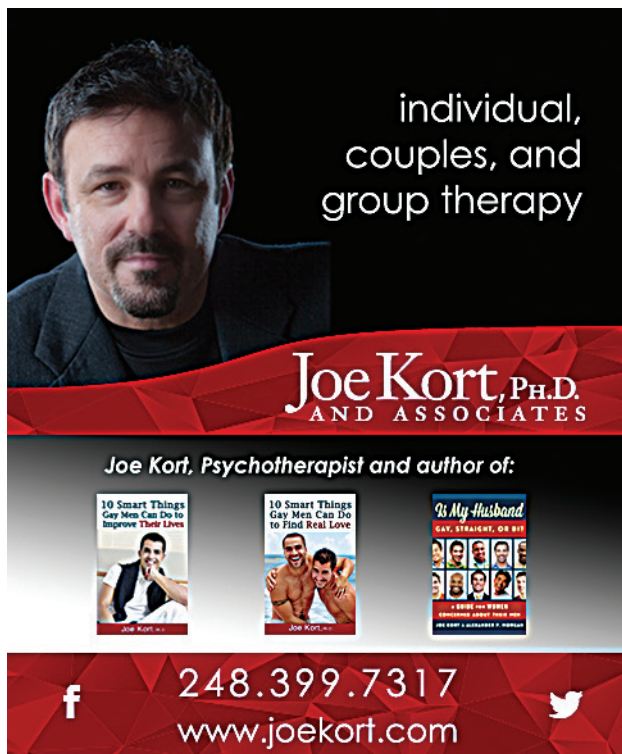
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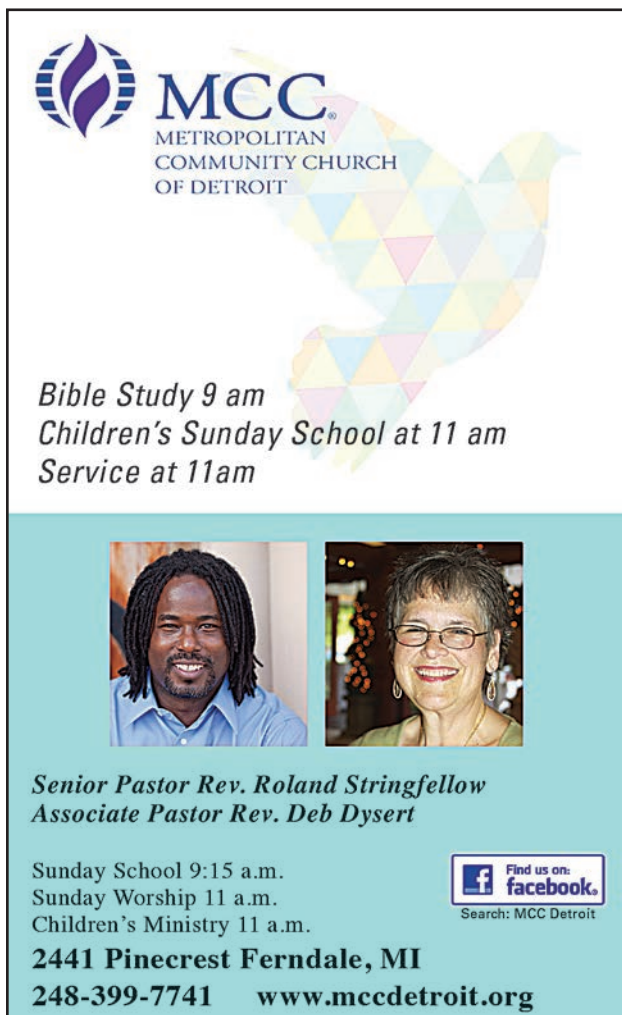
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# Bishops Scrap Welcome To Gays In Sign Of Split

BY NICOLE WINFIELD AND DANIELA PETROFF

VATICAN CITY (AP) – Catholic bishops scrapped their landmark welcome to gays Saturday, showing deep divisions at the end of a two-week meeting sought by Pope Francis to chart a more merciful approach to ministering to Catholic families.

The bishops approved a final report covering a host of issues related to Catholic family life, acknowledging there were “positive elements” in civil heterosexual unions outside the church and even in cases when men and women were living together outside marriage.

They also said the church must respect Catholics in their moral evaluation of “methods used to regulate births,” a seemingly significant deviation from church teaching barring any form of artificial contraception.

But the bishops failed to reach consensus on a watered-down section

on ministering to homosexuals. The new section had stripped away the welcoming tone of acceptance contained in a draft document earlier in the week.

Rather than considering gays as individuals who had gifts to offer the church, the revised paragraph referred to homosexuality as one of the problems Catholic families face. It said “people with homosexual tendencies must be welcomed with respect and sensitivity,” but repeated church teaching that marriage is only between a man and a woman.

The revised paragraph failed to reach the two-thirds majority needed to pass.

Two other paragraphs concerning the other hot-button issue at the synod of bishops – whether divorced and civilly remarried Catholics can receive Communion – also failed to pass.

The Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, said the failure of the paragraphs to pass meant that they

have to be discussed further to arrive at a consensus at a meeting of bishops next October.

Cardinal Wilfrid Fox Napier of South Africa, who helped draft the revised final report, told Vatican Radio the final document showed a “common vision” that was lacking in the draft.

He said the key areas for concern were “presenting homosexual unions as if they were a very positive thing” and the suggestion that divorced and remarried Catholics should be able to receive Communion without an annulment.

He complained that the draft was presented as the opinion of the whole synod, when it was “one or two people.”

“And that made people very angry,” he said.

Extended story on Vatican is online at:  
>> [www.PrideSource.com](http://www.PrideSource.com)

# Federal Judge Strikes Down Arizona Marriage Ban

PHOENIX (AP) – A federal judge has cleared the way for legally recognized gay marriages in Arizona by ruling that the state’s ban on same-sex unions is unconstitutional.

The ruling Friday (Oct. 17) by U.S. District Judge John Sedwick bars state officials from enforcing a 1996 state law and a 2008 voter-approved constitutional amendment that outlawed gay marriage.

Sedwick said in his ruling that because the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals had already ruled against gay marriage bans in Nevada and Idaho, he did not need to give a lengthy reason for his ruling and was bound by the appeals’ court decision.

“A stay of this decision to allow defendants to appeal is not warranted. It is clear that an appeal to the 9th Circuit would not succeed. It is also clear ... that the High Court will turn a deaf ear on any request for relief from the 9th Circuit’s decision,” Sedwick said.

Sedwick, who was nominated to the federal bench in 1992 by President George H.W. Bush, ordered the state to “permanently cease” its ban on gay marriage and declined to stay his order.

Jennifer Pizer, one of the attorneys for the plaintiffs, said she was thrilled with the ruling.

“Some of our couples have been waiting decades. Their happy day has come, and we hope that Arizona embraces this decision and allows same sex couples to enjoy their constitutional

“Some of our couples have been waiting decades. Their happy day has come, and we hope that Arizona embraces this decision and allows same sex couples to enjoy their constitutional rights...”

- Attorney Jennifer Pizer

rights here in Arizona,” said Pizer, an attorney for the Lambda Legal law firm.

Attorney General Tom Horne has scheduled a midmorning news conference to discuss the decision. His office said in a statement that Horne must decide whether to appeal the ruling or advise the state’s clerks of court to issue same-sex marriage licenses.

The county court clerk’s office in metro Phoenix won’t issue license to same-sex couples until the state Attorney General’s Office advises the clerk on the ruling, said Aaron Nash, a spokesman for the clerk.

The Arizona decision came after the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled on Oct. 7 that gay marriage prohibitions in Nevada and Idaho violated the equal-protection rights of same-sex couples.

Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear appeals from several

states seeking to retain their bans on same-sex marriage. The move effectively legalized gay marriage in about 30 states and triggered a flurry of rulings and confusion in lower courts across the nation.

Sedwick’s ruling came in one of two lawsuits that challenged Arizona’s gay marriage ban. In that case, seven couples who live in Arizona challenged the law, including some who married in other states but were unable to have their union legally recognized in Arizona.

Lawyers who pushed both lawsuits argued the state law violated equal-protection and due-process rights and wrongfully denied their clients the benefits of marriage, such as spousal pension benefits, spousal survivorship rights and the ability to make medical decisions for each other.

Attorneys representing the state urged Sedwick to uphold the state’s definition of a marriage as a union between a man and woman. They argued the ban furthers the state’s interest in connecting a child to his or her biological mother and father and that voters and lawmakers enacted the ban to protect their right to define marriage for their community.

Arizona lawmakers approved a state law barring same-sex marriages in 1996. Seven years later, an Arizona appeals court upheld the constitutionality of the law. Voters in 2008 amended the Arizona Constitution to include a ban.

# Co-Founder Bequeaths Substantial Gift To Equality Michigan

BY BTL STAFF

**DETROIT** – Equality Michigan, the only statewide anti-violence and political advocacy organization that serves Michigan’s LGBT and HIV-affected communities, has been named the beneficiary of two gifts from the estate of Dr. Henry Messer.



U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow and President Obama at the White House with Dr. Henry Messer.

A grand total of three million dollars was awarded to Equality Michigan in two parts. The first million is to be added to the gifts of other donors and applied directly and immediately toward LGBT policy and victim services work and will be distributed over the next four years. The remaining two million will be donated to the endowment at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

“Henry was one of the most amazing

people I have ever met, and one of my dearest friends. He dedicated his life to helping those most in need and did not just dream of a future where all LGBT people could live safely and openly, but committed his time, talent and resources to making that dream a reality,” said Joy Geng, vice chair of the Equality Michigan board of trustees. “Out of the tragedy that he did not live to see his dream fulfilled comes a historic opportunity for Equality Michigan to finish the work he started and make that dream come true for future generations. I am confident that our team will not let him down, and that his legacy will live on through the organization he loved so much for decades to come.”

As the cofounder of Triangle Foundation in 1991, Dr. Messer served on the organization’s board of trustees for over a decade and continued to volunteer weekly until his death in February of this year. The Triangle Foundation merged with Michigan Equality to form Equality Michigan in 2010 and has since worked to continue the work of both groups.

Messer was a lifelong LGBT activist who became involved in the movement after being discharged from the military during WWII, where he met his lifelong partner, Carl House. Messer and House then found themselves in the thick of the Stonewall Riots and LGBT history. They continued their activism when they moved to Michigan in the early ‘70s and were involved with organizations like the Michigan Organization for Human Rights which later became Triangle Foundation. It was important for Messer that the organization he helped create not only survive but also thrive in his absence.

“Henry was a visionary, but he was also a mentor and guardian to everyone who has worked for Equality Michigan.

Our work today would not have been possible without Henry’s compassion, generosity and passion for our mission and communities which we serve,” said Emily Dievendorf, executive director of Equality Michigan. She added, “I made a personal commitment to Henry that Equality Michigan would build on his legacy. This gift will enable us to do that. We are tremendously grateful for his trust in our work and love for his community. We miss Henry and he will always be a part of every step forward.”

Learn more about Henry Messer at <http://www.pridesource.com/article.html?article=64693>

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Photo: CBS Films

## 'Sherlock' Actor Andrew Scott Gets Candid About Coming Out, (Almost) Kissing Benedict Cumberbatch

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

It's hard to ignore the fact that Andrew Scott came out publicly just last year while watching him in "Pride." A British dramedy based on the alliance between striking miners and gay activists in the mid-'80s, the inspiring romp finds the 38-year-old Irishman putting those puppy eyes on full display. Playing Gethin, a fella dealing with the aftermath of coming out, the actor's sincerity makes you forget the shade he throws Benedict Cumberbatch as Moriarty on the BBC's "Sherlock."

Scott recently opened up about avoiding questions regarding his sexuality after he's finished promoting "Pride," why he'd want a straight actor to play him in a movie and feeling "uncomfortable" when asked about his almost-kiss with Benedict.

**For you, how does it feel being part of a movie that's moved so many people in the gay community?**

It's extraordinary, really. We're all completely blown over by it. The response we're hearing from cinemas across the country, where people are standing up at the end and they're clapping – it's just very unusual for me. I've certainly never been in a film before where that happens.

People just feel very inspired by it, and they have very passionate feelings toward it. So yeah, I'm thrilled about that – thrilled (it's being embraced) not just by the gay community, but by a lot of different audiences. We kind of really hoped that the gay community would embrace it, but we keep saying that it's not just a gay movie. The message – the idea of solidarity – isn't just for a gay audience. All of us are more similar

to each other than we think we are.

**"Pride" demonstrates strength in numbers, which seems especially relevant now that the gay rights movement is in full swing and more straight allies are standing up with us. As the fight for equality marches on, what do you see as the relevancy of this story right now?**

Being gay isn't something in and of itself that's a virtue any more than being straight is, but the attributes that gay people develop as a result of being gay – mainly empathy toward other people, and compassion and tolerance – those are things to be proud of. It's a real message that I find really heartwarming. To segregate people is very dangerous in the struggle for gay rights for people across the way. Inclusivity rather than exclusivity. We must celebrate our differences, and we must celebrate our humanity as well as our sexuality.

**You recently spoke out against the notion of "playing gay," which is obviously something you feel strongly about.**

You can't. It's absolutely impossible to play that as an actor. If someone were to play me in a film about my life, I would hate for just gay actors to audition for the role, because I think I could potentially have attributes as much in common with a straight actor as I could with a gay actor.

You can really make a general wash of people's sexuality (and say) that people are exactly the same. But the attributes I possess as a human being could be represented by anybody with human sexuality, really, if they have the chief attributes that an actor needs, which are empathy and imagination. So, I do think it's very important that those things are mentioned, that a human being is made up of a whole range of things and sexuality is, of



course, one of them, but it's not the sum total.

**Which straight actor would you want playing you in a film?**

Oh, I have no idea! That thought terrifies me! The fact that I can't even get an audition for that part terrifies me even more. (Laughs)

**You've co-starred with some of the finest-looking men in the show business: Benedict Cumberbatch, Tom Hardy, James McAvoy and Daniel Radcliffe, to name a few. Is it in your contract that you only work with the most attractive men in the industry?**

(Laughs) Absolutely, it is. And I believe it's in all their contracts as well, which is why they get to work with me.

**So, in season three of "Sherlock," you came closer to kissing Benedict than a lot of us ever will. What was that like?**

You know what, Benedict is my friend, and when we shot that scene on "Sherlock" we knew it would be sort of cheeky, but that question always makes me very uncomfortable because he's my pal. I sometimes wonder if people are asking that question hoping for a new response. (Laughs)

**Movies about gay people weren't always as celebratory as "Pride" and others that have been released recently. With that said, do you think "Pride" would get the same reaction it is now if it came out 20 years ago?**

It's difficult for me to answer that. I just know that it feels very timely. I think it's incredibly progressive, and the idea of just different attributes of gay people being explored is extremely important. But the idea of this story 20 years ago, talking about these people as heroes – I'm not sure. It's very hard for me to answer that. I just know the fact that it's been embraced by both gay audiences and straight audiences is very important.

We set out to make a mainstream film, and it *is* a mainstream film – it's finding a mainstream audience – and sometimes the word "mainstream" is a bit reductive. What I mean by that is that in order to understand what it means to be a straight person or a gay person, it doesn't require too much imagination. We all come from a union of a man and a woman, and a gay person can understand heterosexual love. I think straight people actually fundamentally find it easy to understand homosexual love – there's just a stigma attached to it that maybe prevents them from admitting that sometimes. People understand sexuality

at a very basic level, and so I never have thought that people are intrinsically homophobic. I think that's something that's learned.

**Would you say that sexuality is much more fluid than we think?**

I think it is a very fluid thing. I think all sexuality is about communications. (Say) you were to label the kind of conversations you'd like to have at dinner and you said, "I'm a sarcastic person who likes to talk about politics and, you know, juggling." We don't label the way (we) communicate verbally, so why do we need to label the way we communicate sexually? I think it's sometimes questionable. It's a physical thing, so it's very difficult to articulate verbally.

**One year ago this November you came out publicly. So, to mark your one-year anniversary, tell me what changed for you after coming out to the world.**

(Laughs) It's funny, I don't see it at all like that. I can understand why people could perceive it as my "one-year anniversary," but for me it was something that happened a long time ago. You know, I keep myself to myself. I don't do a huge amount of interviews. I am delighted to say, though, that absolutely nothing has changed, really. I've been in the

business coming up on 20 years now. I started very young, and so I've always wanted to play all sorts of different parts.

With something like "Pride," obviously, I have to speak a little more about personal issues – that's something I realize with this project – but, in the future, I feel that in order to be progressive it's not necessary for me to speak about (my sexuality) in every interview I do. If I were to meet my family and friends every day for the past 15 years and say, "I came out," every single time they asked about how it was being gay – what kind of question is that? (Laughs) Let somebody live their life. There are certain times when it's right to talk about it, and there are absolutely times I feel that it's not relevant.

**Do you think society puts too much emphasis on talking about sexuality?**

I don't. Yeah, I think sometimes there can be prurient interest in any type of sexuality and people's sex lives, but I think that's just the way human beings are. I would love it if there were a sense of just letting people be, just letting people be who they are, and not getting too hysterical about these things.

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# The Frivolist

## The Gayest Halloween Costumes of 2014

BY MIKEY ROX

As holidays go, Halloween is undoubtedly the gayest. It's the one time of year where homos can pretend they're hetero, straight boys step out in short skirts, and grown women turn every respectable profession they can think of into slutty versions of their former selves.

Of course you can head to your local costume shop and pick up a played-out, plastic-wrapped outfit, but we know you better than that. That's why we've compiled this comprehensive list of the most topical, haute and hilariously gay-friendly Halloween costumes of 2014. From hairy howlers that roam the night to John Travolta's most memorable characters, this year's hottest TV shows, news stories and pop-culture juggernauts are now the must-wear, one-night disguises of the season.

### 1. Early 20th Century Underbutler

You don't have to blackmail your blue-blooded undercover lover to play the part of Thomas Barrow – the conniving gay underbutler on the sharp and soapy PBS period drama "Downton Abbey" – this Halloween. Dress to impress both nobles and peasants without dropping too much dough by assembling your post-Victorian-era attire from thrift shops and

consignment finds. Pleated black trousers and a crisp band-collar button-down lay the foundation for this outfit that's completed with a white bowtie, U-shaped satin vest and tuxedo tailcoat. Part your full head of hair on the side (or don a bowler hat) and puff on a fag (the British term for cigarette; not whatever you're thinking) to fully embody the baddest bitch in Grantham House.

### 2. "Dancing with the Stars" Contestant

Aaron Samuels (Cady Heron's crush in the insta-gay-classic "Mean Girls") played it straight at North Shore High School, but his real-life alter ego – sometimes actor Jonathan Bennett – has had the Internet abuzz about his sexuality since the film's release in 2004. Now that JB and his twinkle toes are back in the spotlight on the couldn't-be-gayer "Dancing With the Stars," there's no better time to pay homage to the guy who may or may not have (he's not officially

out) already broken a million girls' (or boys') hearts. To pull off this light-on-your-feet look, tango your way into a brightly colored button-down, an equally-loud-but-contrasting satin

skinny tie, black slacks, black

suspenders, and the srazziest tap shoes you can find. Because you never know when the rhythm is gonna get you.

### 3. 'Teen Wolf'

It's hard to put your finger on the queerest thing about MTV's "Teen Wolf" – the quiver-inducing howls, the rampant homoeroticism, Colton Hayne's Instagram profile – but that just makes pulling together pieces for this costume all the easier. You can go as protagonist Scott McCall (played by self-professed Gindr user Tyler Posey), or you might prefer sticking to your own kind as Danny Mahealani (Keahu Kahuanui), Beacon Hills High's out-and-proud lacrosse player/computer whiz. Suit up in authentic lacrosse gear that you can find at a second-hand sports store (or by pilfering through your cousin's super bro-y wardrobe) and work your makeup magic on a canine bite for the ages – which we know you wouldn't mind

getting legit if you lived in their world.

### 4. The Cast of 'Looking'

However you feel about HBO's "Looking" (viewer reviews were staunch and varied when it premiered at the top of this year), showing up at a party as the show's cast is not only tres chic this Halloween, it's also perfect for a coordinated group costume. You'll have to pull up past episodes (which you can watch on demand) to get a better idea of each character's personal style, but you'll likely discover that you can recreate their looks from your own wardrobe. Tack on a commitment issue or two and throw in a penchant for threesomes for posterity's sake, and you've got the looks down pat. Do us all a favor though, won't you? Post photos of your group's Russell Tovey; the world needs more of that going around.

### 5. Dallas Cowboys Fan

Given the staggering amount of negative publicity that the NFL has received this season (thanks to woman beaters, child abusers and drunken drivers), it should consider itself lucky that the gays are finally getting in on the game. And it seems that no team is embracing its friendly neighborhood homosexual makeover more than the Dallas Cowboys. First there's the addition of defensive end Michael Sam to the roster, but there's also a new DirecTV Sunday Football

See Frivolist, page 20



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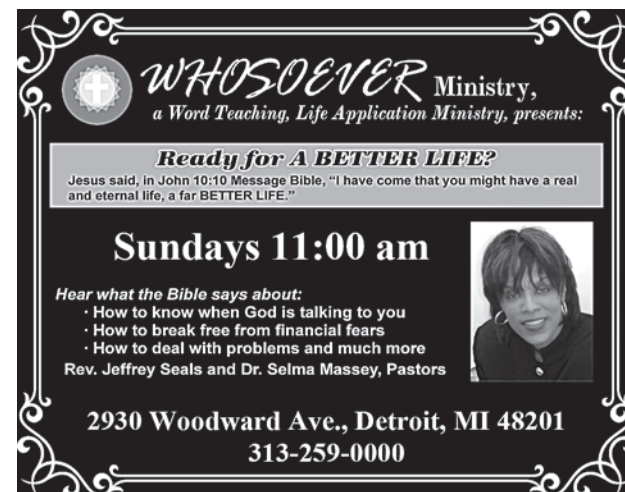
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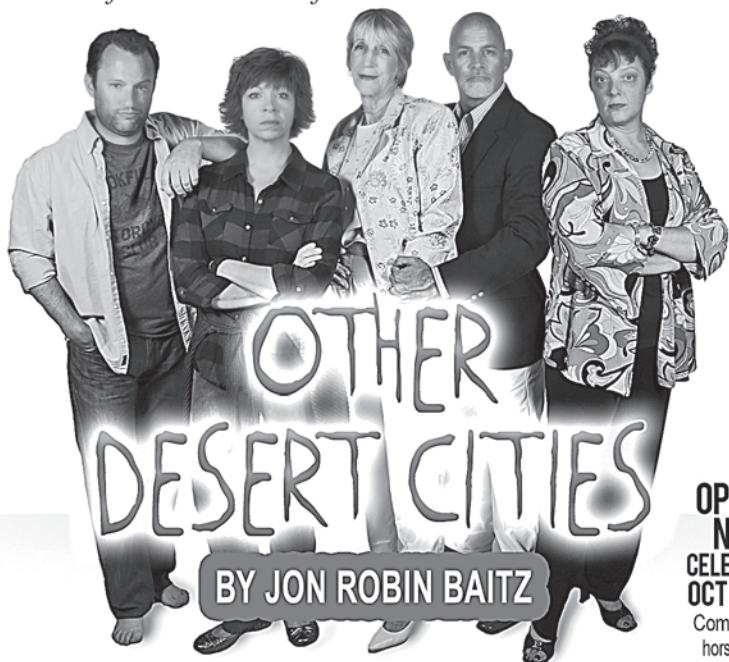
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### ► Frivolist

Continued from p. 18

commercial depicting a gay couple – one of whom is a Cowboys fan – that has largely flown under the radar. Give the latter the relevance it deserves this All Hallow's Eve by pulling together whatever Dallas gear you can find (and convincing your boo to sport a Giants jersey) while trying your best to avoid a brush with the law. A night in the slammer only sounds good in theory.

### 6. Hedwig

The East German transgender singer with an “angry inch” between her legs experienced somewhat of a renaissance this year as actors Neil Patrick Harris, Andrew Rannells, and Michael C. Hall all stepped into the punk-rock role on Broadway. And now you too can milk John Cameron Mitchell's cash cow for your own benefit by raiding your wacky Aunt Barb's closet for late '70s/early '80s-inspired fashion, BeDazzling a pair of cutoff Daisy-Duke-style denim, and rockin' a sick 'Hed'-wig that you can score on Etsy.

### 7. Lovechild of Jared Leto and Justin Theroux

There's been a sizeable amount of buzz about what's beneath Jared Leto and Justin Theroux's respective boxers lately – and nobody's complaining. Justin gave us full-frontal floppage in a few jogging scenes on his very violent and ultra-strange HBO drama “The Leftovers,” while the ghost of Jordan Catalano will not be satisfied until he's officially crowned Biggest Cock in Hollywood. And for this, they both should be celebrated. To imitate these forces of nature yourself, mash-up the pair's signature styles (Justin's into leather; Jared is a little more “la bohème”) and stuff a swingin' Richard down your crotch. Even better if you've got the natural goods so you don't disappoint the evening's potential paramour(s).

### 8. Any John Travolta Character

Oprah's dear John will deny that he's a “Golden Girls”-watching, Folsom Street-walking, magic-hair-growing, happy-ending-loving friend of

Kevin Spacey's until the day he dies, but he has given us nearly 30 years' worth of iconic characters that we can pilfer for Halloween getups – and that's gotta count for something. Which Travolta character will strike your fancy this year? Vinny Barbarino? Tony Manero? Danny Zuko? His cringe-worthy Edna Turnblad? Whatever poison you pick, kindly keep it in your pants. Unless, of course, you've got enough paper to pay that boy off.

### 9. Delusional Reality Star Brother of Mediocre Pop Star

This summer's season of “Big Brother” was a breath of fresh air (thanks to gratuitous displays of rock-hard flesh being flaunted around the house for three glorious months), especially when you consider what a homophobic and racist disaster last season was. And in keeping with traditional reality-show formula, there was one over-the-top gay in the latest cast who just had to go and ruin it for the rest of us on a thrice-weekly basis on the most watched network in America. Frankie Grande, the ironically removed-from-reality “media mogul” (yes, that's actually what he calls himself), spent the entirety of his time on the show prancing around the house, pining for every smidge of bromo affection he could get by forcibly invading their personal space, and generally being an all-around despicable human being who wasn't afraid to take the wheel of the bus that he was about to throw you under before he backed up and finished the job. Oh, and did we mention that he's the half-brother of so-so pop star Ariana Grande? Don't worry, he won't let you forget that part. Immortalize this walking, talking caricature this Halloween by frosting your tips hot pink, slipping into a pair of too-short shorts, layering a sequined faux-fur-collared vest over an American Apparel T-shirt, and flashing double sideways peace signs until you've effectively hypnotized your straight crush into questioning his sexuality. (Uh huh. Some guys have all the luck.)

*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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Jennifer Check (Chrysothemis), Christine Goerke (Elektra) in Michigan Opera Theatre's "Elektra." Photo: John Grigaitis

## All In The Dysfunctional Family

BY JOHN QUINN

'Tis the season for houses of horror to appear all over Metro Detroit, but who would have expected that one of the goriest would be the Detroit Opera House? Given the venue, however, we are once again reminded that horror implied is more visceral than horror depicted.

Michigan Opera Theatre opens its 44th season with Richard Strauss' "Elektra," a little monster of an opera so fearsome that it can eat music directors and sopranos alive. The beast has been gloriously tamed by MOT conductor Steven Mercurio at the podium and an opera superstar, Christine Goerke, in the title role.

It is apparent that the ancient Greeks liked a good horror story as much as we do. Strauss loosely based "Elektra" on 5th century BCE plays, particularly those by Sophocles and Euripides, concerning the Curse of the House of Atreus. The gods had cursed Atreus to teach him that, when you invite your brother to dinner, it's improper to serve nephew as the main course. But that's another story. It does, though, give a backdrop to a clan with real family value issues.

Agamemnon, son of Atreus and king of Mycenae, was prepared to sail off to avenge the abduction of his sister-in-law, Helen. The fleet was becalmed, so the king sacrificed his eldest daughter, Iphigenia, to the goddess Artemis in exchange for fair sailing. That horrifies his wife, Klytemnestra, who turns to Aegisth, the king's cousin, for comfort.

Agamemnon returns from the Trojan Wars and is promptly murdered by the lovers. By all the cultural norms, it is the duty of Orest, Agamemnon's son, to avenge his father's death, but that means violating a fundamental taboo, matricide. Rather than risk retribution, the assassins exile the boy.

## REVIEW

### Elektra

Michigan Opera Theatre  
at Detroit Opera House  
1526 Broadway St., Detroit  
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 22  
7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25  
2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 26  
1 hour, 45 minutes; no intermission  
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[michiganopera.org](http://michiganopera.org)

But again, that's background. "Elektra" is the story of Agamemnon's remaining daughters, Chrysothemis, who has come to terms with the status quo and lives in the palace, and Elektra, who prowls outdoors, living for the vengeance that only the exiled Orest can mete out.

"Elektra" recounts the fateful day of Orest's return – in disguise, lest his mother and uncle murder him as well. His return frees Elektra from committing unspeakable crimes, taking revenge in her brother's place and killing her mother. But only her indomitable drive convinces Orest to undertake the murders.

With "Elektra," Strauss created a densely woven study in contrasts. Written in 1909 and incorporating a libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal, the opera represents the composer's most advanced experimentation with chromaticism, and yet retains the lush, romantic lyricism that mark his "lieder." The orchestral score is considered one of the most challenging in the dramatic repertoire due to its wealth of emotional content. The MOT Orchestra has been beefed up to accommodate the complexities,

See Elektra, page 25

# Hear Me Out BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

## Mary Lambert, You+Me



### Mary Lambert, 'Heart on My Sleeve'

One chorus did wonders for Mary Lambert, the guest vocalist professing romantic interest in a girl on Macklemore's "Same Love." The Seattle slam poet was nominated for two Grammys, a performer at the actual ceremony, and now this: her first full-length on a major label. The album addresses her butt (which she loves), how she has bipolar disorder, and her inability to think straight (because "I'm so gay"), so "Heart on My Sleeve" – how apropos. And that's only the first track. With a pop, Mika-like bounce and an all-around celebratory vibe, "Secrets" rummages through Lambert's closet in the most bold and beautiful of ways – and then to let you know she doesn't take herself too seriously, she giggles. It's a telling gesture, since a lot of Lambert's debut is, much like "Same Love," designed to be lyrically heavy – themes of self-image and personal catharsis abound – but radio-friendly. She's exposed on "Ribcage," a hypnotic electro slow-burner with a rap cameo from K. Flay, and even if it reads like Live Journal poetry, you can't help but be charmed by the openheartedness of "Monochromatic." And then there's

"Jessie's Girl." Lamenting atop piano, the original song is ebbed to a crawl as she turns the buoyant '80s classic into an aching ballad. Throughout the album, Lambert asks for your ears and gives you her heart. As long as she's this sincere, it's a fair trade. *Grade: B*

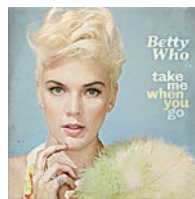


### You+Me, 'rose ave.'

You asked for it, and the lesbian gods listened. Having already created musical magic with the Indigo Girls on their George W. Bush slam, the lo-fi "Dear Mr. President," Pink's first folk release – a joint project with singer-songwriter Dallas Green (collectively known as You+Me) – is the result of the collaborative power of prayer. Not that she's been slacking pop-wise, but Pink's sinewy voice – a trove of raw emotions – was always better served by a less-frilly sound (to remind you: listen to "Family Portrait" and "Dear Diary" off of "Missundaztood"). Now, after two decades of telling guys to suck it and proving herself a

bona fide circus act, we have "rose ave.," a come-down that lands her right in your living room – a long-overdue outing marked with high expectations that meets very few of them. The problem: the songs. With the writing front and center, pretty harmonies and Pink unplugged can only do so much when sentiments about eternal love and hope – and all those things you feel walking through the greeting card aisle – are as broad as these. Even with the lilting beauty "You and Me" and "Open Door," where the lyrics cut deeper, "rose ave." is a personal project that doesn't feel very personal. An album better in theory. *Grade: C+*

### Also Out



### Betty Who, 'Take Me When You Go'

Cue your happy dance. Betty Who is taking you to the floor and giving you all the good feels

with her debut, a disc full of sweet-but-surface pop confections – think aural Cotton Candy – as charming as the same-sex Home Depot flash mob proposal she soundtracked. But "Somebody Loves You" isn't Betty's only infectiously cute moment. The synth-tastic '80s-influenced "Glory Days" sounds like it should accompany the credits of a Molly Ringwald film, and the funky "Just Like Me" is a lotta fun. If only there were more to savor.



### Annie Lennox, 'Nostalgia'

Oh, she'll put a spell on you, all right. Annie Lennox likely already has, but now she's literal about it with "I Put a Spell On You," one of 10 classic recreations off the icon's second covers album (her first, "Medusa," was released in 1995). The other selections from the Great American Songbook thrive because two words: Annie Lennox. Her voice is a godsend, and if you don't get goose bumps hearing her give life to "Georgia on My Mind" and "God Bless the Child," check your pulse.

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### Puzzle solution on pg. 34

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**Exorcise Routine** \$7-10. Crawlspace Eviction at Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Oct. 24 - 25. 269-343-2727. crawlspace-theatre.com

**Firebird** \$5-10. PuppetART at Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. Through Oct. 26. 313-961-7777. puppetart.org

**Fridays and Saturdays at Go Comedy!** Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 248-327-0575. gocomedynet

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

**Motown the Musical** \$39-95. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Through Nov. 16. 313-872-1000. broadwayindetroit.com

**Pinkalicious the Musical** \$25. Miller Auditorium, 2200 Auditorium Dr., Kalamazoo. Oct. 26. 269-387-2300. millerauditorium.com

**Poltergeist: A Musical Parody** \$8-14. Stark Turn Players at Dog Story Theatre, 7 Jefferson SE, Grand Rapids. Oct. 23 - 26. 616-425-9234. dogstorytheater.com

**Post Comedy Theatre** \$12. Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. Oct. 26. 800-WHARTON. whartoncenter.com

**Romeo and Juliet** \$10-31. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Oct. 24 - March 24. 313-577-2972. finearts.wayne.edu

**Six Characters in Search of an Author** \$26. University Musical Society at Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. Oct. 24 - 25. 734-764-2538. ums.org

**Story Time** Free!. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through Oct. 25. 734-663-0681. pntheatre.org

**Superposition** \$22. University Musical Society at Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann

Arbor. Oct. 31 - Nov. 1. 734-764-2538. ums.org

**The 39 Steps** \$20. The Snug Theatre, 160 S. Water St., Marine City. Through Oct. 26. 810-278-1749. thesnugtheatre.com

**The Birth of Chad** \$10. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. Through Oct. 25. planetant.com

**The Crucible** \$12-15. Great Escape Stage Company, 155 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall. Oct. 23 - Nov. 2. 269-781-2700. greatescapetheatre.com

**The Dogman Prophecies** \$10. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. Oct. 31 - Nov. 8. 313-365-4948. Planetant.com

**The Gravedigger, A Frankenstein Story** \$15-35. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. Through Nov. 2. 517-655-SHOW. williamstontheatre.org

**The Tiger Who Came to Tea** \$15. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. Nov. 1 - 9. 269-343-2727. farmersalleytheatre.com

**Thursdays at Go Comedy!** Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. 248-327-0575. gocomedynet

**White People** \$15. Puzzle Piece Theatre at The Abreact Performance Space, 1301 W. Lafayette #113, Detroit. Oct. 24 - Nov. 9. 313-454-1542. puzzlestage.org

## 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 - Feb. 28. 877-462-7262. Cranbrookart.edu

**Detroit Institute of Arts** "Guest of Honor: Monet's Waterlily Pond, Green Harmony". Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Oct. 1 - Jan. 4. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

**Downriver Council for the Arts**

"Adult Oil & Acrylics Class" Tickets: \$10. Downriver Council for the Arts, 81 Chestnut, Wyandotte. Jan. 7 - Nov. 25. 734-720-0671. Downriverarts.org

**Flint Institute of Arts** "The Art of Video Games". Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Oct. 25 - Jan. 18. 810-234-1695. Flintarts.org

**James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History** "Menagerie, or Artwork Not About Love". Elaine L. Jacob Gallery, 480 W. Hancock, Detroit. Oct. 24 - Dec. 12. 313-577-2423. Wayne.edu

**Janice Charach Gallery** "Pictures of Resistance: The Wartime Photographs of Jewish Partisan Faye Schulman" This exhibition presents one partisan's wartime story. Joining the partisans was Faye Schulman's path to survival and her chance to avenge the deaths of her family members. Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield Township. Oct. 19 - Dec. 14. 248-661-1000. Jccdet.org

**Michigan State University Museum** "Michigan and the Civil War" Exhibit highlights Michigan connections in the Civil War. Michigan State University Museum, 409 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing. Aug. 4 - Dec. 31. 517-355-7474. museum.msu.edu

**MOCAD** "DEPE Space Residency" Design Inquiry. Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Oct. 1 - Jan. 4. 313-832-6622. Mocadetroit.org

**Saugatuck Center for the Arts** "Touching Strangers" Richard Renaldi's photography exhibit. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. Aug. 29 - Nov. 1. 269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

**The Scarab Club** "Annual Photography Exhibition". The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. Oct. 16 - Nov. 22. 313-831-1250. Scarabclub.org

## ► Elektra

Continued from p. 22

and Steven Mercurio elicits a textured, layered wall of sound. There is a roiling sea of emotion underlying the melodies, with harmony and dissonance complementing the main themes.

Vocally, "Elektra" is dazzling. Christine Goerke, in what constitutes a breath-taking performance in more ways than one, appears to effortlessly handle the wide range and violent passions of this most difficult of roles. Her Elektra has not been driven mad, but driven wild – and her stage presence has all the menace of a tiger at bay. Contrary to convention, Goerke will sing all performances.

Jennifer Check debuts in the role of Chrysothemis, a study in light compared to Elektra's darkness. She easily takes on the soaring full-voiced leaps to the top of the range, and the duets between the sisters are some of the most beautifully articulated music of an otherwise grim opus.

Mezzo-soprano Jill Grove explores the tortured Klytemnestra, her low, dark tones expressing both the fear of retribution and the terrors in which her guilt binds her.

"Elektra" is generous to its female cast, less so with the men. Tenor Richard Margison makes his MOT debut in the role of Aegisth, but no

sooner does he establish character as a petulant pretender to the throne than he's slaughtered by Orest's companions. Bass-baritone Thomas Gazheli, who sang the title role in last season's "The Flying Dutchman," returns as Orest, a role that demands agonized emotions portrayed in a deep resonant lower register. Gazheli doesn't disappoint.

"Elektra" is directed by Nicholas Muni, based on a production he originally conceived for the Cincinnati Opera. He also designed the lights – which, while wonderfully atmospheric, frequently turns the male cast as pale as the walking dead. To enhance the creepiness of the production, it is very effective, but I'm still working through how it advances the story.

Sets and costumes, designed by Dany Lyne, are suitably somber and reserved, reflecting German, rather than Grecian, inspiration. The fortress-like building that dominates center stage becomes part of the drama, alternately revealing and concealing the horrors inside.

The Greeks knew that a good drama, like good house of horrors, can have a positive psychological effect. Experiencing the emotions evoked by either allows the audience to work through and purge the negative and emerge refreshed. Aristotle called it "catharsis." This close to Halloween, we'd call it "scaring your pants off." "Elektra" lets you have it both ways.

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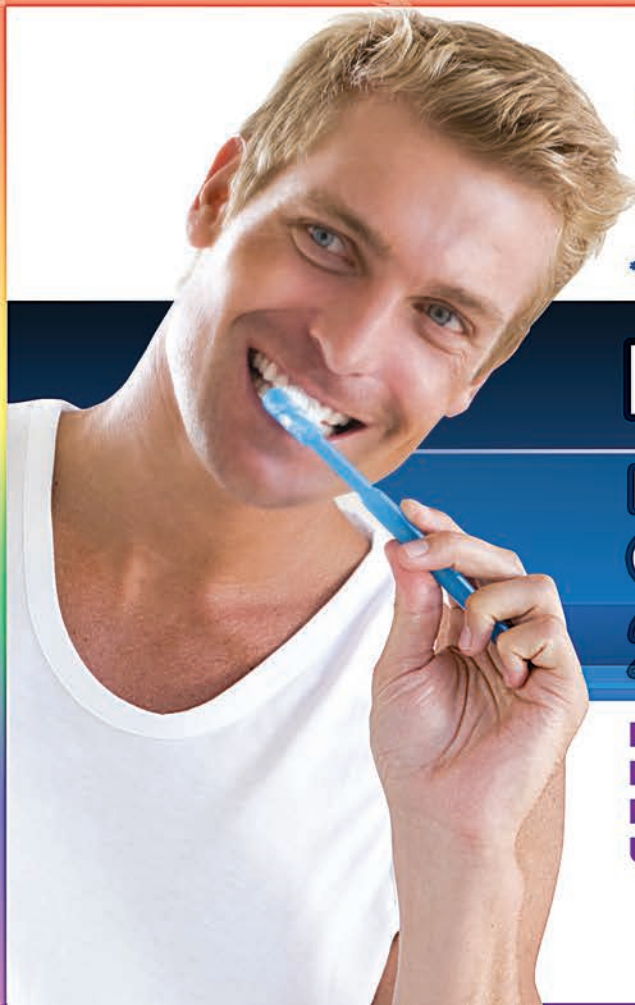



  
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# South Oakland Art Association Hosts Area Artist Valerie Allen

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BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

Royal Oak's South Oakland Art Association will host Valerie Allen of Golden Artist Colors at their Nov. 3 meeting. Allen will demonstrate the various acrylic paints, mediums and techniques possible with Golden Artist Colors' Products.

Valerie Allen is a professional artist residing in Michigan. She and her husband, artist Armin Mersmann, live and work in their studio/home near Midland Center for the Arts and Dow Gardens.

Allen is on the faculty of the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art and has taught art at several Midwest colleges, including Delta College in University Center and Northwood University in Midland.

Golden Artist Colors is a manufacturing company that focuses almost entirely on paints, used in the fine arts, decoration and crafts. Golden also prides itself on its sense of social responsibility, including water conservation. As water is a necessary component in their craft, the business has implemented a Reverse Osmosis filtering system that allows



them to reuse over two-thirds of their cleaning water each day, reducing the need for transporting wastewater and resulting in a minimized carbon footprint. The overall green element of the art supply producer carries over into their "Seconds Program." The program helps support artists by providing materials that typically fall short of Golden's standards to non-profit groups, employees and other creative minds in need of art materials. As a result, items that veer just slightly from being ready for full retail are not

wasted. For more information on the company, visit [www.goldenpaints.com](http://www.goldenpaints.com).

This demo and presentation will begin at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 3 at South Oakland Art Association's November 2014 meeting at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 N. Campbell in Royal Oak. The church is located between 11 and 12 Mile. A short business meeting will precede the main event.

The presentation is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information, visit [www.sooaklandart.com](http://www.sooaklandart.com).

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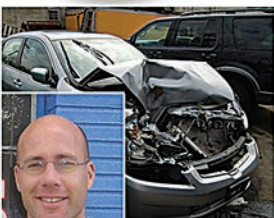
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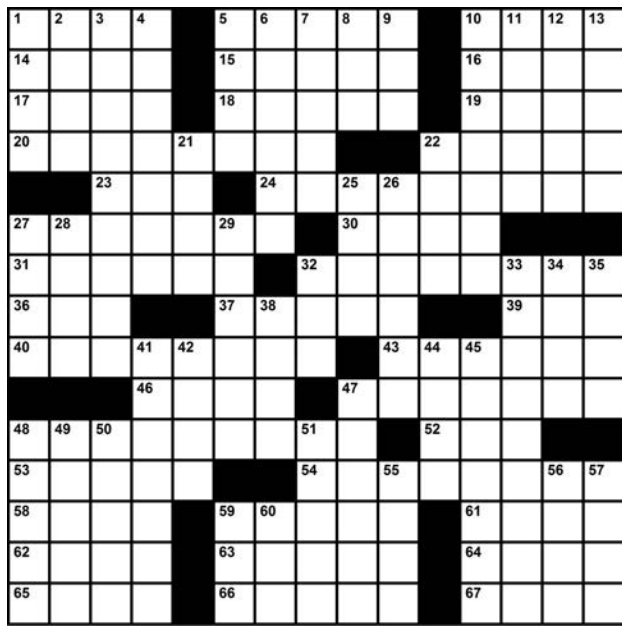
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# Q Puzzle

## Jimmy Kimmel On Gay Sports



### Across

- 1 Scuttlebutt  
5 Dean character without a cause  
10 Midvoyage  
14 "There \_\_\_ there there" (Stein)  
15 St. Teresa's town

- 16 Dancer Shawn and others  
17 Sheltered on the sea  
18 Man with a steel rod  
19 David Hyde Pierce and peers  
20 "\_\_\_ is a sport in which ..."  
22 Creme de la creme  
23 Some escorts want it up front

- 24 "... men in \_\_\_ pants ..."  
27 Peter or Paul, but not Mary  
30 Land of Sinead O'Connor  
31 Sartre novel  
32 Unlike phone sex  
36 Bruin Bobby  
37 "... run around piling \_\_\_ of each other"  
39 Hydrocarbon suffix  
40 Turned tail  
43 Queued up  
46 Sally portrayer of "Cabaret"  
47 Prick stimulators  
48 With 54-Across, what Kimmel says that non-gay athletes should have to do  
52 Hosp. worker  
53 One that lies on the bottom  
54 See 48-Across  
58 Any minute now  
59 Prefix with sexual  
61 Bring up  
62 Chaplain Judge of the NYFD, e.g.  
63 Radiant glows  
64 Katharine's "Butch Cassidy" role  
65 North Sea feeder  
66 Broadway stage pieces  
67 Day, to Caligula

### Down

- 1 Cabaret singer Edith  
2 Capital of Norway  
3 Willa Cather novel  
4 Emily Dickinson, in her day  
5 \_\_\_ avis

- 6 Become men, perhaps  
7 Book full of books  
8 "Xanadu" band, for short  
9 Caesar's lang.  
10 Designer's studio  
11 "Terminal Bar" playwright Paul  
12 Head of costume designing  
13 Nice buns, for example  
21 Belle's companion  
22 French 101 verb  
25 Janet or niece Hunter  
26 '60s radical  
27 Give \_\_\_ to (approve)  
28 Strip a fruit  
29 Chinese philosopher  
32 "\_\_\_ be my pleasure!"  
33 Setting for "The Lion King"  
34 "You want the light \_\_\_ off?"  
35 Randy Shiels' area  
38 Straight, at the bar  
41 She loved Franklin and Lorena  
42 Historic Stonewall event  
44 Simba's love, on Broadway  
45 Aimed for, with "to"  
47 Drag queen's shoe feature  
48 Like a plum job  
49 Blow them in the orchestra pit  
50 Julianne of "Far from Heaven"  
51 Elroy Jetson stroked him  
55 "Lady Sings the Blues" star  
56 Type of crime  
57 Amsterdam transport  
59 AAA handout  
60 Cont. of one of the Disney sites

Solution on pg. 23




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# Naked Men's YOGA

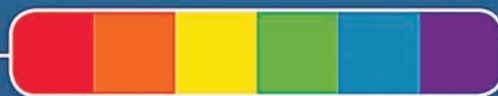
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