

EMU Discusses Needs Of At-Risk LGBT Homeless Youth

Update: Charles Pugh Wants Accuser Named

“When I sent that tweet a few years ago just letting people know that I am gay it was the most amazing day of my life after the birth of my kids.”

- Ricky Martin, pg. 14



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I've always said that Motown was an ambassador for love and for friendship because it brought people together. Music does that anyway, but Motown as a whole was an entity that really brought people together.

— Mary Wilson, pg. 17



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FERNDALE

Affirmations Showcases Religious Art Exhibit

On exhibit for the first half of March, “Shower of Stoles” bears witness to the huge loss of leadership that many religious institutions have brought upon themselves because of unjust policies targeting the LGBT community. The project contains a collection of liturgical stoles and other sacred items representing the lives of LGBT people of faith, covering over 30 denominations and faith traditions from six countries on three continents.

The free exhibit will be open from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. March 1 through March 15 (Monday through Saturday). For more information, visit www.goaffirmations.org.

Affirmations is located at 290 W. Nine Mile Road in Ferndale.

YPSILANTI

Michigan Study Seeks LBT Women For Focus Group

An Eastern Michigan University graduate student has put out the call for LBT women interested in participating in a roundtable study to help complete her graduate thesis on gender roles.

Queer-identified women are being asked to participate in a discussion on identity, experiencing homophobia and the process of coming out.

Nicole Richards, who also works as the event coordinator for the Equality Research Center at EMU, hopes to expand and advance the area of academic research that is currently lacking for queer female identities. Group dialogue will focus on: societal gender roles, internalized homophobia, the messages that society sends about what it means to be a female, how gay women are viewed in society and the varying skills LBT women use to navigate the “coming out” process.

Participants must be 18 years of age or older, out of the closet and have time available in the next few weeks to come together in a group setting. Meetings will be held on EMU’s campus on a date that works best for all those who sign up.

Interested parties can send an email to nrichar8@emich.edu with the participant’s name, age and “LGBT Focus Group” listed in the subject line.

ONLINE

Web Series To Explore Sexuality And Gender Identity

WNET, the flagship PBS station, and PBS Digital Studios have announced the launch of “First Person,” an original digital series exploring sexuality and gender identity.

The story will be told through short, candid personal narratives, examining many issues facing the LGBT community, using interviews and host commentary to illustrate intimate experiences that speak to larger conversations on gender, sexuality, social norms and identity.

“‘First Person’ gives us the exciting opportunity to start a meaningful and respectful dialogue about LGBTQ issues,” Dan Greenberg, WNET’s chief digital officer said.

The web series will be hosted by Kristin Russo, co-founder of LGBT youth organization “Everyone Is Gay,” who will take audiences through topics such as bisexual erasure, transitioning for the trans community, queer fashion and coming out in sports.

In a strategic partnership between WNET’s Interactive Engagement Group and PBS Digital Studios, “First Person” will debut on a new channel within the PBS Digital Studios YouTube network Feb. 26 and will release new episodes every other week.

Check out the trailer for “First Person” at www.FirstPersonPBS.org.

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

A Short List Of Potential Advocates For Marriage Equality At High Court

BY LISA KEEN

Renowned Supreme Court advocate Ted Olson remembers the first time he had a chance to argue a case before the U.S. Supreme Court: He didn’t take it. It was a First Amendment case about billboards in San Diego. Olson had been practicing law for 15 years, he had represented his clients from the start and they wanted him to argue before the highest court in the land.

But Olson and others working on the case agreed their side would benefit by sending up an experienced Supreme Court advocate who was also well known for his expertise in First Amendment issues. He also remembers several times when the decision over who would argue a case before the Supreme Court did not go smoothly – when various attorneys working on one side of a case couldn’t agree who would present the oral argument. In one case, he remembers, the dispute went so late the Supreme Court clerk threatened to take the argument off the calendar.

When the 6th Circuit marriage equality cases were before the federal appeals panel last August, one attorney from each of the four plaintiff groups argued before the court. But the Supreme Court has instructed the attorneys to send only two attorneys total to the lectern in April. That means the 36 attorneys currently working on the four cases in four states must decide which two. And it doesn’t have to be one of them. They could choose to designate an advocate from outside the four legal teams to represent their clients at the nation’s highest court.

A number of studies in recent years have shown a dramatic increase in the percentage of Supreme Court arguments delivered by lawyers specializing in Supreme Court cases. There are many factors the 6th Circuit marriage attorneys must consider, and some they might consider. For instance, they may grapple over whether to choose openly gay attorneys as one or both of their advocates. Ruth Harlow, who was legal director for Lambda Legal when the *Lawrence v Texas* case was up before the U.S. Supreme Court, said it was a consideration for Lambda in 2003, when it chose openly gay attorney Paul Smith to present its oral argument. Smith had “many years as a Supreme Court

“*The lawyers are going to have to exercise some substantial degree of maturity and selflessness. But I think they’re a sophisticated bunch... I hope they’ll be able to put themselves aside and say this could be the final victory for gays and lesbians.*”

- Ted Olson

advocate,” she noted, as well as many years “standing up before the Court as a known gay man in the inner circle of the Supreme Court bar.”

“Today,” she said, “advocacy on behalf of LGBT clients is much more mainstream.” Attorneys all over the country – straight and gay – have filed lawsuits on behalf of same-sex couples, including nationally prominent attorneys such as Ted Olson and David Boies. Harlow says she’s hoping the 6th Circuit marriage attorneys include at least one attorney from the LGBT litigation groups that have been involved in the issue for years.

Of the nine major LGBT-related cases argued at the Supreme Court since 1985, openly gay attorneys have argued five: Mary Dunlap argued for Gay Games organizers in 1987 in *SFAA v U.S. Olympics Committee*; John Ward argued for Boston Irish gays in *Hurley v Irish American GLIB* in 1995; Evan Wolfson argued for Boy Scout leader James Dale in *Boy Scouts v Dale* in 2000; Paul Smith argued against sodomy laws in *Lawrence* in 2003; and Roberta Kaplan argued against the Defense of Marriage Act in *U.S. v Windsor* in 2013. The other four cases were argued by three straight attorneys: Harvard law professor Laurence Tribe argued both *NGTF v Oklahoma* in 1985 and *Bowers v Hardwick* in 1986; Jean Dubofsky argued the Colorado Amendment 2 case, *Romer v Evans*, in 1996; and Ted Olson argued the California Proposition 8 case, *Hollingsworth v Perry*, in 2013.

Possible Contenders

Nobody working on the 6th Circuit cases has offered up a name or names of those many potential options, but here’s a short list of possible contenders (in alphabetical order):

Mary Bonauto: She’s gay, highly respected by attorneys straight and gay and is the best known of the 36 attorneys working on the four marriage cases from the 6th Circuit appeal. For her two decades of litigation to secure marriage equality, she’s been profiled in the *New York Times* magazine, awarded a MacArthur Foundation grant and compared to civil rights giant and former Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. She is also a much-respected leader in the LGBT community nationwide, long-time civil rights director for Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders and has as much or more experience than any other attorney in the country in litigating the marriage equality issue specifically. Bonauto does not have any experience arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court, but it was her leadership in the groundbreaking Massachusetts marriage case that got the ball rolling toward marriage equality nationally. Bonauto is co-counsel on the team of private attorneys in the Michigan case, *DeBoer v Snyder*.

Jeffrey Fisher: Fisher is a Stanford law professor and an attorney that the Reuters report identified as having the third most experience arguing before the Supreme Court among all 17,000 oral advocates and petitioners. He’s argued 21 cases (winning nine) between 2004 and 2012. A clerk for former Justice John Paul Stevens, he’s co-director of Stanford’s Supreme Court Litigation Clinic and teaches a course called the “Law of Democracy and Supreme Court Decision Making” – the very sort of topic relied on by the 6th Circuit to say that state bans on same-sex marriage are permissible. Fisher’s Supreme Court experience has focused primarily on rights of arrested persons facing criminal charges, but he was counsel of record in the successful marriage equality case, *Bishop v Smith*, from Oklahoma. (The Supreme Court last

See Advocates, next page

► Advocates

Continued from p. 4

October denied the appeal of Oklahoma and six other states seeking to defend their bans.) He's now co-counsel on the Kentucky case, *Bourke v Beshear*.

Douglas Hallward-Driemeier: A partner in the prominent conservative-leaning national law firm Ropes & Gray in Washington, D.C., Hallward-Driemeier is working on the Tennessee case, *Tanco v Haslam*. He heads his firm's Supreme Court practice and, prior to joining the firm, handled Supreme Court litigation for the U.S. Department of Justice. He also served as Assistant to Republican Solicitor General Paul Clement during the administration of President George W. Bush. An article in the *Journal of Law for Emory University School of Law* said Hallward-Driemeier ranked 26th among the most frequent Supreme Court advocates between 2000 and 2012, having argued 13 cases. (Clement was No. 1, having argued 62 cases at that point. Clement added to that number in 2013 by arguing for the preservation of the Defense of Marriage Act.) Former Lambda legal director Abby Rubinfeld says he's "a great attorney and very experienced with the Supreme Court, not to mention committed to our issue."

Ted Olson: Olson has credibility with the Supreme Court like very few others. During some Republican administrations, he's reportedly been on short lists as a Supreme Court nominee. As Solicitor General, he's been the so-called "10th Justice." He's argued more than 60 cases before the Supreme Court, representing both conservative and liberal positions, and argued the fifth highest number of cases in the past decade (winning 13 of 19), according to Reuters. Notorious swing vote Justice Anthony Kennedy attended his wedding. Olson led and won federal appeals court cases against state marriage bans in two circuits. He argued the 9th Circuit case regarding Proposition 8 before the Supreme Court in 2013 and won, albeit on a procedural issue. Aside from his credentials at the Supreme Court, he's become a prominent advocate for marriage equality in the media, at some cost to his reputation among conservatives. He's worked closely with LGBT legal groups on the previous marriage cases in California and Virginia.

Paul M. Smith: Openly gay attorney Paul Smith successfully argued the landmark 2003 case, *Lawrence v Texas*, which struck down laws prohibiting sexual activity between

A number of studies in recent years have shown a dramatic increase in the percentage of Supreme Court arguments delivered by lawyers specializing in Supreme Court cases.

same-sex partners. He served as clerk to former Supreme Court Justice Lewis Powell during the 1980-81 session (years prior to the court's *Bowers v Hardwick* decision upholding sodomy laws) and has argued 15 times before the high court. Currently, he is a partner at the Jenner & Block law firm in Washington, D.C., and chief of the firm's Supreme Court Practice. He also serves on Lambda Legal's National Leadership Council and was formerly co-chair of its Board of Directors. Primarily citing his argument in *Lawrence*, the American Bar Association's Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities recognized him with its prestigious "Thurgood Marshall Award" in 2010, the same year the *National Law Journal* named him as one of four of the "Decade's Most Influential Lawyers" in civil rights litigation.

In The Mix

There are plenty more individuals who could fit the bill. There are openly gay Supreme Court "repeat litigators" Pamela Karlan and Kathleen Sullivan, both with enough experience and reputation to have been considered on Supreme Court nominee short lists. According to Reuters, Karlan has won two of her five cases before the Supreme Court; Sullivan has won four of six. Evan Wolfson, who litigated the first gay marriage trial (in Hawaii) and has led a national grassroots effort to establish a political and cultural atmosphere to bolster the legal prospects, is another possibility. He argued in the Supreme Court on behalf of Boy Scout leader James Dale. And Roberta Kaplan, who is also openly gay, successfully argued the *U.S. v Windsor* case that overturned the key provision of the Defense of Marriage Act.

"Ultimately," noted Olson, "the client gets to decide. And if a conflict does develop between what a client wants and what's best for a whole class of people, it will be up to their personal lawyers on the case to help them make the best decision."

"In a situation with disparate clients in disparate states, with clients feeling loyalty to their lawyers, it's not going to be simple," said Olson. "The lawyers are going to have to exercise some substantial degree of maturity and selflessness. But I think they're a sophisticated bunch... I hope they'll be able to put themselves aside and say this could be the final victory for gays and lesbians."

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See Part 1: Looming Dilemma For Upcoming Historic Marriage Case

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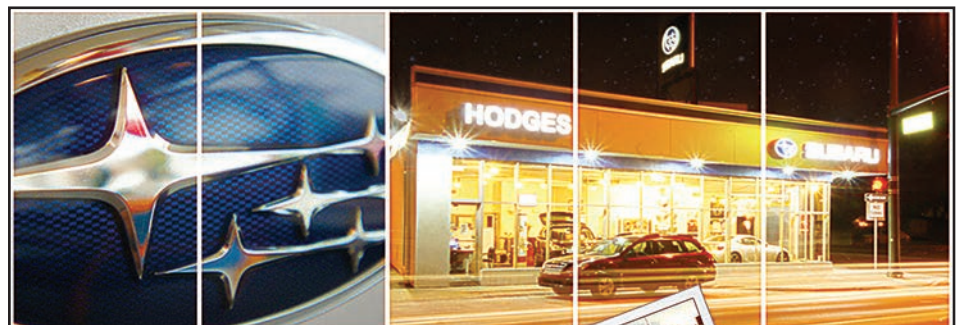
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EMU Discusses Needs Of At-Risk LGBT Homeless Youth

BY AJ TRAGER

YPSILANTI— In the third program put on by Eastern Michigan University's Equality Research Center, the Michigan Department of Human Services and leading LGBT youth coordinators discussed on Feb. 12 how homelessness disproportionately impacts LGBT youth.

The Michigan Department of Education has found that 8.6 percent of youth in Michigan's schools identify as being members of the LGBT community, a growing number from previous statistics. However, 40 percent of homeless youth identify as LGBT.

Ken Marks, youth services contract administrator in housing resources for the Michigan Department of Human Services, was the first to discuss his position working with 24 homeless youth and runaway agencies throughout the state, stretching across 63 counties. He monitors budgets of over \$12 million that are allocated to homeless youth and runaway programs.

"One of the areas that is unique is the LGBT population that is underserved because many of the contractors who do the work are somewhat just learning what the needs are in terms of researching, and a lot of, 'Let's keep this under the table and not talk about it until they surface in our area,'" Marks said. "They are providing services so it shouldn't matter who you are, where you come from, what your gender identity is or anything else; it matters that you are a person who is looking to be served through the state of Michigan's contracted agencies."

Those providers are paid to help end homelessness in Michigan. Marks's job is to ensure that everyone is identified as a person, even though LGBT youth repeatedly report not feeling comfortable with state and municipal assistance.

The other four panelists were Erich Pitcher, teen LGBT coordinator at Michigan State University and co-facilitator of TRUE: Teens Respecting and Understanding Each Other, an LGBT youth group in Lansing; Suzie Staley, director of youth mentorship at the Henry

Ford Museum and Greenfield village who works with at-risk high school students in the Wayne/Westland school district where they are placed with mentors and learn marketable job skills; Stephanie Peck, an intern at Ozone House; and Jonah Thompson, LGBT programs coordinator for the Neutral Zone. All work directly with the LGBT youth who are most impacted by homelessness. Staley reports that up to 90 percent of the kids currently enrolled in her program have experienced homelessness at some point, with 50 percent of

valid (what they are saying),' but to actually step back and be a bridge for them. So that they can get the resources that they need," Thompson said about his experience with Riot Youth, a program that engages LGBT youth through leadership building skills, community organizing, networking and socializing.

It's not uncommon, as advocates and leaders, to have youth express to them that they have nowhere to stay because they are LGBT identified. These scenarios can last for just one day until the youth returns home, but

outcome that could stream from avenues such as rejection, fear or a sense of emergency for LGBT youth.

"The lack of safe and stable housing is not merely fodder for liberals. Even liberals are not where they need to be surrounding the issues such as sexual orientation and gender identity, especially from an intersectional space discussing the racial lives and the class experiences of young people today who may identify along a wide spectrum of gender identity and sexual orientations," Pitcher said.

Housing is a human right. The lack of security and stability can have lasting repercussions for individuals who find themselves without a welcoming roof over their head.

"The safety net that is supposed to be provided is broken, has too many holes and is otherwise inefficient and ineffective," Pitcher said. "It's a problem that is endemic to our society. This is part of a capitalist system. Those who are invariably the most vulnerable are ordered and sorted and allocated fundamental basic human rights according to that ordering and sorting."

Pitcher himself would argue that the number one issue facing the LGBT community is a human rights one, such as the right to live in a space that is both safe and affirming.

"It is important for us to draw our attention to whom we think most often ends up in a place of vulnerability. And those are individuals who are both racially minoritized and have a gender minoritized identity," Pitcher said.

Organizations like Ozone House, the Neutral Zone and Ruth Ellis Center all share resources.

After the panel discussion, the audience broke into roundtable discussions guided by nine questions from personal assumptions on LGBT youth and how they are treated to what, if anything, could better help the youth before and after they fall into homelessness. Localizing and personalizing the dialogue changes hearts and minds on difficult, stigmatized subjects like homelessness.

See www.pridesource.com for links to resources.



Panelists Stephanie Peck, Ken Marks, Jonah Thompson, Erich Pitcher and Suzie Staley give Ypsilanti, Michigan, audience members deeper insight into the disparities impacting LGBT homeless youth on Feb. 12. (BTL Photo: AJ Trager)

“The safety net that is supposed to be provided is broken, has too many holes and is otherwise inefficient and ineffective. It's a problem that is endemic to our society. This is part of a capitalist system. Those who are invariably the most vulnerable are ordered and sorted and allocated fundamental basic human rights according to that ordering and sorting.”

– Erich Pitcher

them currently falling under that demographic.

"My role is to constantly be an advocate for the fact that youth have an ability to state where they are, what it means to them and what they need. It's not my job to say, 'It is or isn't

homelessness can often extend six months to a year.

"If it's just one day, it's one day too many," Thompson said.

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Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

This from Wacoff, Texas. Source: Lone Star Police Gazette & Badge Polisher. Headline: Under Cover Cops Make Sunday Surprise Restroom Arrests! Mark your activist desk calendar...

“While thousands of church members were inside the Hallelujah Handclap of Hope mega church tabernacle singing ‘Love Lifted Me,’ some six weeks of undercover police work came to a head in Wacoff last Sunday.

“Ten gay men were arrested. Each was sitting in the wrong church stall at the wrong time. Arrests were made without drawing undue attention to offenders, each escorted from the church property in either a covering choir robe or baptismal gown.

“Those arrested were fortunately proven to be 21 at the Wacoff Police Headquarters, once their respective collected wallets, IDs, pants, shirts, under garments and appendage prothesis rings were sorted and matched to individual surveillance camera configurations.

“The match-up process took just under three hours, in part due to asking each arrestee an important theocratic question to

“We tried to include gays (balcony last two rows, or parking lot broadcast), but look what happens. Six months ago, it was brought to board attention that these gays were being bold as brass in using restrooms they had no business using. Not one of the ten is saved.”

determine whether or not a violation of the HHH’s posted men’s restroom biblical restriction occurred.

“Those arrested were advised that they had a right to refuse to divulge status vis-a-vis the unequivocal sanctioned use of the restroom facility, which is clearly marked in large English Gothic letters

‘SAVED’ in contradistinction to another similar facility 50 feet away marked plainly ‘UNSAVED.’”

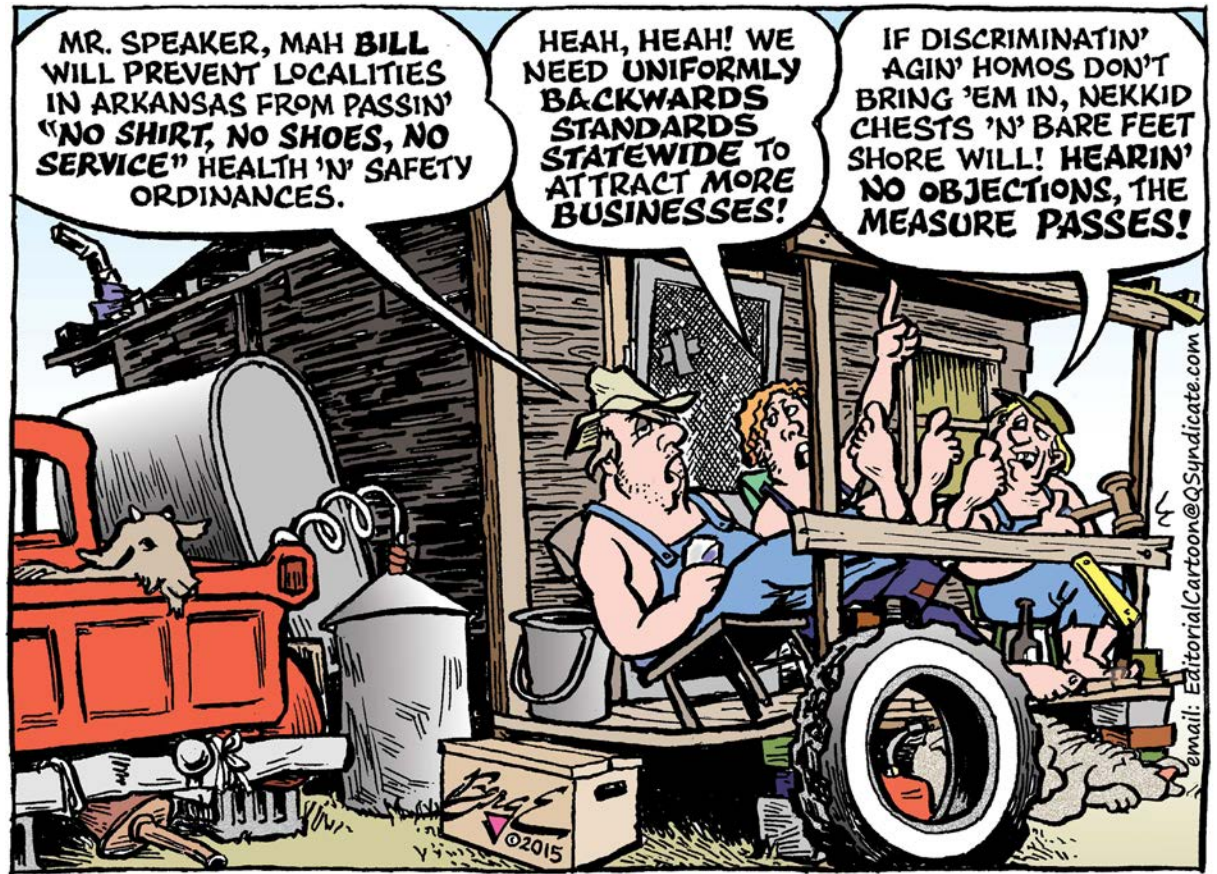
(There are similar restrooms throughout the twenty floors of the mega church itself. Many Wacoff gas station pumps are also Saved/Unsaved equipped. Self-service gasoline units are likewise marked.)

“Rev. Delburt B. Windwiper, HHH pastor, when contacted on the QT by Lone Star reporter Lois Lane-Kent, commented, ‘I don’t see how they have a p-ing leg to stand on. You’re either saved or you’re unsaved.

“This certainly isn’t discrimination in God’s sight. If you’re going to hell, well, you’re going to hell, no matter what restroom you happen to frequent, and for whatever the burning urgency, either number one to pee or two, to poo.

“I want to make it abundantly clear. We – that is, our HHH board of directors, our financial banking investment team, our health store employees, our senior citizens retirement association, our American chain of Bible trinket shops, our Hallelujah Marching Band, our Volunteer Rifle/Hand Gun Guard, all 5,000 HHH members – don’t

See Parting Glances, next page



OPINION BY DANA RUDOLPH

A news story has been circulating about a Michigan pediatrician who, “after much prayer,” refused to care for a newborn because the baby had two moms. It’s a story of personal discrimination and ignorance but also indicates systemic problems.

Jami and Krista Contreras said they’d chosen Dr. Vesna Roi of Eastlake Pediatrics because of her holistic and natural approach, reported the Detroit Free Press. After a prenatal visit, they went to her office last October for the first appointment with their 6-day-old daughter. Dr. Roi was not there, however. Another pediatrician in the practice, Dr. Karam, told them Dr. Roi had decided that because they are lesbians, she couldn’t care for their baby.

On Feb. 9, once the story began to spread, Dr. Roi explained in a letter to the Contreras family that she “never meant to hurt either one of you” and that “after much prayer following your

Equity In The Doctor’s Office

Dr. Roi’s actions, whether from overt bias or mere insecurity, are not just a failure of her personally, but of a system that still has a long way to go in teaching medical professionals about LGBTQ cultural competence.

prenatal, I felt that I would not be able to develop the personal patient doctor relationship that I normally do with my patients... I felt that you deserved that type of relationship and I knew you could get that with Dr. Karam.”

She apologized for not notifying them in advance, saying she had no way of contacting them. She also thought that if she shared her decision during the first appointment with their child, it would “take away much of the excitement.” Ultimately, I think the Contreras family will be better off with a doctor who is more comfortable with their family – and to the extent that Dr. Roi herself realized that, I cannot blame her. Perhaps her refusal to serve them came less from animosity and more from insecurity over how to interact with a type of family she had never encountered before. If that were true, however, she

still could have explained in person that she was questioning whether her lack of experience with same-sex parents would make her the best doctor for them. She could have left it up to them to decide. Simply avoiding them, though, speaks of deeper discomfort and bias. To go about it the way she did is discrimination. Even worse, it’s legal discrimination in Michigan, which has no law banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. There are also no federal regulations prohibiting such discrimination.

That must change. It is unlikely to change soon in Michigan, where a “religious freedom” bill has passed the state House and now sits before the Senate. It would allow a person to claim religious freedom even in the face of any anti-discrimination laws

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► Equity

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that might pass. Nevertheless, the fact that Dr. Roi ultimately felt the need to apologize at all is a sign of progress. She was also not adverse to another doctor at her practice helping the family. That does not excuse her actions but indicates a growing awareness that anti-LGBTQ bias is no longer generally acceptable.

But Dr. Roi's actions, whether from overt bias or mere insecurity, are not just a failure of her personally, but of a system that still has a long way to go in teaching medical professionals about LGBTQ cultural competence. Some organizations have taken initial steps. The American Academy of Pediatrics, of which Dr. Roi is a member (according to the Eastlake Pediatrics website), has a nondiscrimination policy that says, "The AAP is opposed to discrimination in the care of any patient on the basis of ... gender, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression ... of the patient or patient's parent(s) or guardian(s)."

AAP policies don't have the force of law, but should cause pediatricians to hesitate when they flout them. The larger American Medical Association has an even more strongly worded policy, "Physicians cannot refuse to care for patients based on race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other criteria that would constitute invidious discrimination." (Dr. Roi was a member of the AMA only between 1996 and 2001, however.)

I wonder, though, what more could be done to reach out to medical professionals like Dr. Roi. They need to be aware of relevant laws and policies and of recent medical and social science research on LGBTQ people and families, but also of how to make us feel welcome (e.g., with forms that say "Parent" and "Parent" instead of "Mother" and "Father"). They need to hear our stories and learn how we are like – and unlike – other families.

Some organizations have already made inroads here. The National LGBT Cancer Network offers a cultural competency program

The American Academy of Pediatrics, of which Dr. Roi is a member (according to the Eastlake Pediatrics website), has a nondiscrimination policy that says, "The AAP is opposed to discrimination in the care of any patient on the basis of ... gender, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression ... of the patient or patient's parent(s) or guardian(s)."

and a best practices guide for health and social service agencies on delivering such trainings. The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association offers a set of Guidelines for Care of LGBT Patients, a webinar series on LGBT cultural competence and an annual conference for medical practitioners and students. I fear practitioners like Dr. Roi, however, would never attend such a conference. Most of these materials, too, focus on the health needs of LGBT adults – important, certainly, but not complete.

I would love to see more programs incorporate resources from youth and family programs like HRC's Welcoming Schools initiative and the Family Acceptance Project. Simple things, like putting LGBTQ-inclusive children's books in a waiting room, could go a long way towards making all families feel welcome in health care environments. I feel for the Contreras family, and commend them for wanting to make their story known. As a community, we need to make sure that the situation they faced doesn't happen to any more families.

Dana Rudolph is the founder and publisher of Mombian (mombian.com), a GLAAD Media Award-winning blog and resource directory for LGBT parents.

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discriminate.

"Our members include blacks (at last count three), Mexicanos (eight, all with appropriate Green Card), Jewish converts (two), assorted others (probably in the neighborhood – maybe a less affluent one at that – of 12).

"We tried to include gays (balcony last two rows, or parking lot broadcast), but look what happens. Six months ago, it was brought to board attention that these gays were being bold as brass in using restrooms they had no business using. Not one of the ten is saved. If you're not SAVED, it would stand to reason that you'd use the UNSAVED restroom, which

by the way is just as clean, although the Bible-verse paper towels and Ten Commandment toilet rolls therein aren't blessed."

Police charge brought against the bathroom intruders is "disorderly conduct for staging so-called weekly 'nude-in' protests with occasional Gospel Tract toilet clogs to affect status change of perceived discrimination in the use of a necessary adjunct to optimal daily good health and mental well being of unsaved persons."

Note in passing: Restrooms at MCC-Detroit are not similarly marked. Still! To be on the safe side of salvation, check neighborhood Ferndale and Royal Oak gas pumps. (Keep rainbow choir robe handy.)

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Political Hors D'oeuvres

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Fatal Blow to Michigan Religious Freedom Restoration Act?

Since last year, when former Speaker of the House Jase Bolger, R-Marshall, introduced the "Michigan Religious Freedom Restoration Act," opponents have argued that, if the legislation becomes law, it will allow people to discriminate on a host of issues – including race. Republicans in Michigan have vehemently denied that possibility.

Now comes news out of Georgia that a former Republican state attorney general agrees with opponents on RFRA's impacts on discrimination. Michael Bowers, forever in history for the 1986 Supreme Court ruling upholding state sodomy laws in *Bowers v Hardwick*, has now come out and condemned similar legislation pending before the Georgia legislature.

Bowers has been hired by Georgia Equality to analyze two RFRA bills pending in the legislature there. And his analysis is not kind for supporters who say the law would do nothing to promote discrimination.

The Atlanta Journal Constitution reports that Bowers' views will be released in a forthcoming white paper, and quotes extensively from the document.

"It is no exaggeration that the proposed (measures) could be used to justify putting hoods back on the Ku Klux Klan. For decades, Georgia's Anti-Mask Act has prohibited wearing masks in public.

"The law was enacted to prohibit the Ku Klux Klan from wearing hoods in public, and by extension, to discourage participation in its activities. While this statute contains exceptions for holidays, sporting events, theatrical performances and gas masks, it does not contain a religious exercise exception – because many Klansmen used religion to justify participation in the Klan.

"But the proposed (measures) would create a religious exception that was purposefully excluded. Anonymous participation in hate groups would undoubtedly rise..."

One wonders if Bowers – long hailed as an anti-gay icon – will have an impact on Michigan's Republicans and their fixation on the need to protect so-called "religious freedom" and allow discrimination against the LGBT community. Time will tell.

Former Republican House Leader Now Supports Marriage Equality

Former Republican Majority Leader of the Michigan House of Representatives Chris Ward has denounced his former support for a marriage amendment that limits marriage to one man and one woman at a time.



Chris Ward

"In 2004, when I served as the House Majority Leader, I voted in favor of amending our state's constitution to ban marriage for gay and lesbian couples," Ward wrote in an email to supporters of Michigan for Marriage. "Today, I consider this vote to be the biggest mistake of my career."

Ward is discussing a vote – which failed – to add a ballot initiative to the ballot in 2004. Supporters were able to gather enough signatures to put the measure before voters. It was approved.

A federal court in March 2014 ruled the amendment was unconstitutional, but the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals has since overturned that ruling. The case will be heard this spring at the U.S. Supreme Court.

In explaining his change of heart, he noted he was divorced shortly after the vote and was subjected to questions about the disconnect between his support of banning same-sex marriage and the failure of his own marriage.

"It was an inconsistency, an injustice," he told the Lansing State Journal last week. "If you've come to the conclusion that this is something people are born with, and I don't think there's even an argument there, then I don't think you can in the long term be comfortable with this, treating other people this way."

A Felon And Mitt Romney's Niece To Lead MIGOP

Michigan's Grand Old Party elected new leaders last weekend. Ronna Romney McDaniel will lead the party as the new chair, and Darwin Jiles Jr. was

selected as the ethnic vice chair.

McDaniel is the niece of former presidential candidate Mitt Romney and was a committee woman from the state of Michigan to the national GOP. She will resign that post as she takes up the reigns of the Michigan party from developer Bobby Schostak. McDaniel won the position on the first ballot this weekend, after a pitched battle in the party between herself and Norm Hughes. Hughes, a tea party favorite, touted his experience from the Reagan campaign and administration in his bid. For her part, McDaniel appears to have bridged some of the gaps between the tea party and establishment, business-oriented GOP. How long that will last is unclear.

But shortly after her selection, she extended an olive branch to the tea party side of the GOP family. As Political Hors D'oeuvres has been reporting for months, Dave Agema, the erstwhile GOP national committeeman, has been in hot water over anti-gay and racist posts on Facebook. That's led to a host of GOP figures calling for his resignation, including outgoing party boss Schostak and a formal rebuke by the national committee itself. But McDaniel says she'll have no part of that fight.

"Dave and I have had private conversations; I'm going to keep them

Meanwhile, Darwin Jiles Jr., who was elected to the post of ethnic vice chair with the support of Dave Agema, is coming under scrutiny for his felony convictions.

private," McDaniel told the Detroit Free Press. "There is no mechanism for removal. He's not going to step down, so we're going to move forward."

Meanwhile, Jiles, who was elected to the post of ethnic vice chair with the support of Dave Agema, is coming under scrutiny for his felony convictions. Chad Selweski, formerly of the Macomb Daily and now reporting on his own blog Macombpolitics.blogspot.com, reports Jiles has been convicted of two gun related crimes.

In 2001, Jiles pleaded no contest to a lesser charge of assault with intent to do great bodily harm. He was 15 at the time, and it was part of a plea deal

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involving the charges: assault with intent to murder, one count of illegally carrying a concealed weapon and one count of using a gun in the commission of a felony. Those charges were out of Flint.

In February 2014, Jiles was once again in front of a court – charged with another gun related crime. This time, in Oakland County Circuit Court, Jiles faced a count of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder. Jiles shot another person in a trailer park after an argument.

Selweski raises some important questions about the February 2014 situation. Federal law prohibits a person convicted of a felony from owning or purchasing a gun or ammunition. How did Jiles purchase and legally license the gun he used to shoot the person in the trailer park?

Also of note from this weekend's GOP convention:

Tom McMillin, the conservative former state representative and former GOP candidate for the 8th Congressional District, has been selected to replace former state Sen. Norm Shinkle as chair of the GOP's 8th Congressional District.



BY JASON A. MICHAEL

DETROIT – Two separate motions were filed this week in the Charles Pugh text messaging scandal court case. First, Pugh, former Detroit City Council president, wants the young man who is accusing him of misconduct to be named in open court. Between The Lines has previously identified the accuser by his name, Khody Sanford, but in court documents he's known as simply "K.S."

"While plaintiff portrays himself as an unknowing victim, his texts to Mr. Pugh paint a different picture," Pugh attorney Marc Deldin wrote in his motion. "Plaintiff actively solicited money from Mr. Pugh in exchange for making sexual oriented videos."

An attorney for Detroit Public Schools said essentially the same thing and more. The district wants

Update: Pugh Wants Accuser Named Detroit Public Schools Want Lawsuit Tossed

U.S. District Judge David Lawson to toss the lawsuit out, saying Sanford knew exactly what he was doing and that he wanted to do it.

"Plaintiff's own text messages reveal that plaintiff actively invited and encouraged Pugh's text messaging," DPS attorney Theophilus Clemons wrote in his motion.

Sanford was 18 in May 2013 when, following his last day of classes at Frederick Douglass Academy for Young Men, he began exchanging text messages with Pugh on a cell phone Pugh bought him. Sanford, who met Pugh while he was a member of the Charles Pugh Leadership Forum, agreed to videotape himself masturbating in exchange for \$160 he needed to go toward prom expenses.

"I need games and money," Sanford said in a text message to Pugh sent on June 2, 2013.

"I got you," Pugh responded, encouraging him to make the video. "Just quit being so damn scared."

"I'm making the vid when I get home," said Sanford. "I'm serious as f***."

"You guys need to know how to WORK the guys with power and money who have crushes on y'all," Pugh texted back. "You got the HOOKUP, bro. You just don't know how to work it. You could get anything you want from me."

Negotiations continued the following day, with Sanford trying to convince Pugh that the video he made was also worth an Xbox 360 video console.

"My vid was worth the game," he told Pugh.

"LOL, Dude, I spent \$310 on clothes and shoes and belt, plus \$150 for that phone then \$160," Pugh responded. "So, bro, that

video paid for more than \$600 worth of sh**!!!"

Pugh pressed Sanford to allow him to perform oral sex on him in exchange for the Xbox.

"You're gonna enjoy THE F*** out of earning the gaming system and games!!" he said. "You'll see."

But negotiations came to an abrupt halt when Sanford's mother, Tamu Gaines, discovered text messages sent between her son and Pugh. Gaines quickly reached out to members of the media and then an attorney.

"Everything between us has to stop," Sanford said. "My mom knows what is up and is going to report you. Don't text back."

"Tell your mom to call me," Pugh responded. "We can work something out. This is crazy. I just wanted to help you."

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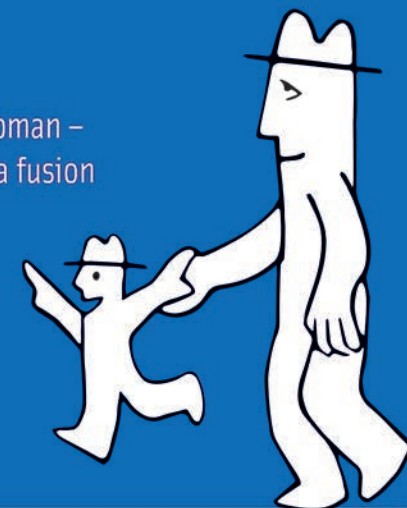
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Creep of the Week

Dr. Vesna Roi

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Having a child is one of the most stressful things you can do. Yeah, it can be one of the most amazing parts of your life, but it also opens your eyes to a whole world of horrors you've never even contemplated before. Sudden infant death syndrome? Check. Spina bifida?



Dr. Vesna Roi

the couple on to another doctor simply because they're lesbians.

Roi eventually sent the couple a handwritten apology letter. "I am writing this letter of apology as I feel that it is important and necessary," she writes. "After much prayer following your prenatal (visit), I felt that I would not be able to develop the personal patient doctor relationship that I normally do with my patients."

The letter sounds very sincere. I believe that Roi genuinely feels bad. However, it's possible to be sincerely wrong.

She also writes, apparently without

Roi should do the important and necessary work of being an adult and confronting her biases and challenging them instead of offering up "prayer" as if it's a cloak of immunity for discrimination.

Check. Tay-Sachs? Check. If you spend enough time on Wed M.D. you can easily convince yourself that your baby doesn't have a chance at survival.

Which is why, of course, you should talk to a real doctor instead of scrolling through nightmare-inducing photos of rare birth defects in your free time. A good pediatrician is essential for both your baby's health and your sanity. And so many parents begin the process of researching and choosing a pediatrician before their babies are even born.

Which is what Krista and Jami Contreras did when they chose Dr. Vesna Roi. They met with her before the birth and everything seemed great. So they scheduled an appointment for after their baby was born.

Imagine their surprise when they show up for their appointment only to find a different doctor greet them and inform them that Dr. Roi "prayed on it" and decided she couldn't be their family's doctor because their baby had two mommies.

"I was completely dumbfounded," Krista told the Detroit Free Press.

"It was embarrassing. It was humiliating," Jami added. "It's just wrong."

Wrong, yes. Illegal? No. Michigan, like many other states, has no law protecting LGBT people from discrimination. So Roi was completely within her rights to pass

irony, "Please know that I believe that God gives us free choice and I would never judge anyone based on what they do with that free choice."

In other words, I would never judge you for choosing to be lesbians. Except for how I'm totally judging you right now.

Roi's online ratings have taken a hit with plenty of pissed off reviews lambasting her prejudice. And some of them are pretty nasty. But she also has plenty of defenders – patients who claim she's being unfairly maligned and sing her praises. And to those patients I say: lucky you. Both for not being gay and for having a good relationship with your doctor. But if Roi's actions don't give you pause, that says a lot about you, too.

Some have applauded Roi's honesty, pointing out that the Contreras family wouldn't want a doctor who didn't want to work with them; this defense is similar to that used for wedding vendors who have refused service to LGBT couples. As if the burden is on the couple to keep hunting for someone who doesn't hate them to bake them a cake rather than on the baker for being a bigot.

Roi is a bigot. Thankfully, this is not a terminal condition. Roi should do the important and necessary work of being an adult and confront her biases and challenge them instead of offering up "prayer" as if it's a cloak of immunity for discrimination.

Family And Medical Leave Act Updates Definition Of Spouse

Federal Job-Protected Family And Medical Leave Rights Extended To Eligible Workers In Same-Sex Marriages

WASHINGTON – Workers in legal, same-sex marriages, regardless of where they live, will now have the same rights as those in opposite-sex marriages to federal job-protected leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act to care for a spouse with a serious health condition. The U.S. Labor Department announced a rule change to the FMLA this week in keeping with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *United States v Windsor*.

"The basic promise of the FMLA is that no one should have to choose between the job and income they need, and caring for a loved one," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez in announcing the rule change. "With our action today, we extend that promise so that no matter who you love, you will receive the same rights and protections as everyone else. All eligible employees in legal same-sex marriages, regardless of where they live, can now deal with a serious medical and family situation like all families – without the threat of job loss."

Enacted in 1993, the FMLA entitles eligible

employees of covered employers to take unpaid, job-protected leave for specified family and medical reasons. Today's rule change updates the FMLA regulatory definition of "spouse" so that an eligible employee in a legal same-sex marriage will be able to take FMLA leave for his or her spouse regardless of the state in which the employee resides.

Previously, the regulatory definition of "spouse" did not include same-sex spouses if an employee resided in a state that did not recognize the employee's same-sex marriage. Under the new rule, eligibility for federal FMLA protections is based on the law of the place where the marriage was entered into. This "place of celebration" provision allows all legally married couples, whether opposite-sex or same-sex, to have consistent federal family leave rights regardless of whether the state in which they currently reside recognizes such marriages.

For additional information on the FMLA, including information and fact sheets on the revisions, visit <http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/spouse/index.htm>.

No Veto From Arkansas Gov. On Bill Banning LGBT Discrimination Laws

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. – Arkansas on Monday banned local governments from expanding anti-discrimination protections to include sexual orientation and gender identity, becoming the second state to adopt a measure opponents call a thinly-veiled move to discriminate against gays and lesbians.

Republican Gov. Asa Hutchinson allowed the legislation barring cities and counties from prohibiting discrimination on a basis not covered by state law to take effect without his signature. Arkansas' anti-discrimination protections don't include sexual orientation or gender identity.

Monday marked the end of the five-day window for Hutchinson to take action on the bill or allow it to become law.

Hutchinson had raised concerns about the bill infringing on local control, but said he wouldn't veto it. His office said his position hadn't changed and he allowed the proposal to become law, despite a last-ditch campaign by advocacy groups urging him to veto the legislation.

The law won't take effect until 90 days after the Legislature formally adjourns, which is currently set for May.

Bentonville-based Walmart, which had been

The conservative Family Research Council called the law a model for other states.

the focus of an intense social media campaign by opponents of the measure, criticized the prohibition late Monday afternoon. The world's largest retailer includes sexual orientation and gender identity in its non-discrimination policy.

"Every day, in our stores, we see firsthand the benefits diversity and inclusion have on our associates, customers and communities we serve. It all starts with the core basic belief of respect for the individual. And that means understanding and respecting differences and being inclusive of all people," Wal-Mart spokesman Lorenzo Lopez said in a statement. "We feel this legislation is counter to this core basic belief and sends the wrong message about Arkansas."

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Opponents of the ban were weighing a lawsuit to challenge the measure's constitutionality.

"It's just another scar on the face of a state that really doesn't need any more signs of an intolerance toward outsiders, toward people that some people disapprove of," said Rita Sklar, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Arkansas, which was exploring a lawsuit challenging the measure's constitutionality. "It's not good for business. It's not good for Arkansas' reputation."

The measure was introduced in reaction to a Fayetteville ordinance that voters repealed in December expanding the city's anti-discrimination protections. Eureka Springs in northwest Arkansas enacted a similar measure earlier this month, and Little Rock elected officials are weighing expanding that city's discrimination protections.

The Republican lawmaker behind the proposal said it was aimed at leveling the playing field so businesses aren't faced with different laws throughout the state.

"To think we could have different civil rights laws in every city is not realistic and not conducive to a good business environment," said Sen. Bart Hester, R-Cave Springs.

But opponents of the measure say it's motivated by animus toward gays and lesbians, calling local government ordinances easy targets for conservatives.

"I think for folks who really want to turn back the tide on LGBT equality, these bills are unfortunately something they're looking into," said Cathryn Oakley, legislative counsel for state and municipal advocacy for the Human Rights Campaign, an LGBT advocacy group.

The conservative Family Research Council called the law a model for other states.

"We would support the passage of similar bills in other states," said Peter Sprigg, a senior fellow for policy studies with the group.

Tennessee, the only other state with such a measure, enacted its restriction in 2011, effectively voiding a Nashville ordinance barring companies that discriminate against gays and lesbians from doing business with the city. A state appeals court dismissed a lawsuit against the restriction last year.

Texas lawmakers are considering several similar proposals after Houston, Fort Worth, Austin and San Antonio passed anti-bias protections for gays and lesbians.

Hutchinson, who was in Washington and unavailable for comment, said earlier this month that he understood the need to prevent "burdensome regulations on businesses across the state" but was worried about the impact on local control. Opponents of the bill had set up a website and waged a social media campaign urging Hutchinson to veto bill.

Hutchinson hasn't said what he'll do about another proposal pending before the Legislature that opponents have derided as another attempt to sanction discrimination. A Senate panel is expected this week to take up the House-backed bill, which bars the state or local governments from placing a "substantial burden" on a person's right to exercise their religion.

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Beyond The Bon-Bon

Ricky Martin Talks Love, Life & Shirtless Selfies

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

A single tweet changed Ricky Martin's life, and then it changed the world. When the internationally famed Puerto Rican heartthrob came out in 2010, declaring himself on Twitter "a fortunate homosexual man" who's "very blessed to be who I am," Martin, 43, stepped out of the closet and into himself. Reflecting the free life he's currently basking in are the raw

sounds and personal soliloquies on the singer's 10th studio album, "A Quien Quiera Escuchar" ("To Whomever Wants to Listen").

In conversation, Martin is notably laid-back, sincere and personal as he opens up about how his six-year-long relationship with Carlos Gonzalez Abella inspired his latest music ("I love being in love"), what he's really trying to convey with all his shirtless selfies and the "powerful" coming out stories the LGBT community shares with him. And whether he's ruminating on his two sons or anticipating shaking his bon-bon with *more* male dancers onstage, his smile radiates even on the phone. This is a new, happier Ricky Martin, and yes, we're listening.

On behalf of the gay community, thank you for all you do. The world is a better place because of your shirtless selfies.

(Laughs) Oh, man – thank you very much. I laugh so much at the reaction of the people; it's so funny. It really is amazing.

I get a kick out of it too. Are you more comfortable without clothes? Or do you feel it's just your responsibility as a celebrated sex symbol?

I just want to let people know how normal my life is, and I try to do it with a simple picture – that's what Instagram is about. So the other day I was laying in the sun and I was like, "Hey everyone, I'm here. I'm in a good place." You know,

I'm a little bit obsessed with social media, to be honest. That's the first thing I do in the morning. I check out my Twitter, my HeyHey account, Facebook and Instagram, and I read what people have to say and what they need from me as an artist. It's fun, man.

You've always been a sex symbol, but how does it feel being a sex symbol for a community of gay men who know you're playing on their team? Is it different when there's that mutual attraction?

Listen, for me, it's about liberty and it's about being you – me, in this case – and living life with transparency and just being. It's so amazing to know that you have nothing to hide, man. What you see is what you get. And this is me. And

I don't wear a mask to go onstage, and the support that I've received from my community since I came out has been amazing. It's one of those things that (makes) you say, "Oh my god, why didn't I do this before?" But then again, Chris, you know how it goes – everybody accepts who they are at their own time. When I sent that tweet a few years ago just letting people know that I am gay it was the most amazing day of my life after the birth of my kids. And it is what it is. Now my life is simple and honest and transparent, and this is me. And that's what my social media's about – being yourself.

The ladies have obviously been infatuated with you since the beginning of your career – since you

were in Menudo. But when did you first realize that LGBT fans enjoyed you as well?

It's always been there. Before I came out the love was there and I was very thankful. Now, when I got to work directly with the community once I came out, it went to another level and it's felt amazing, but once again, just being able to talk to the media about who we are and what we want and what we need, it's just so powerful. The equality slogan translates so easily in any language.

"A Quien Quiera Escuchar" sounds like you at your most authentic. I hear your essence, your spirit, your zest for life. How does it feel to be able to be yourself musically?

When I started recording this album I had no idea what I wanted to talk about, which is completely different to what it was like in the past, when I said, "OK, I think I wanna get into the studio," and I had a blank canvas in front of me and all I did was throw colors and started working with amazing producers, and they helped me. It was the most amazing psychoanalysis, to be honest, to work with other writers and co-producers who helped me to put myself in order.

I started recording this album exactly a year ago in Australia and then we went to Los Angeles and we recorded in Miami. I also recorded in Puerto Rico. What I'm trying to say is that everything about this creative process was so organic and so relaxed, and I didn't have pressure from anybody. I just allowed myself to open my book and I started reminiscing, remembering different experiences that I had in my personal life and being able to point out specific emotions that I've been through – not necessarily this year, but through my life. And then, I think, "A Quien Quiera Escuchar" was born, you know? I listened to it today and I'm like, "Wow – there is poetry and there is honesty in these lyrics." And there are some powerful slogans that people are quoting through social media. People are gravitating to (these lyrics) and using them and turning them into their own slogans. Once again, it's about honesty. It's about vulnerability.

How much of the music on this album was inspired by your own personal love life, particularly your time with ex-partner Carlos Gonzalez Abella?

After six years of being in a very steady relationship with him, yes, we have a lot of stories and we have a lot of moments

of love and lots of light and yes, he is part of this album. It's not about what I've lived (through) this year that we broke up or even the last five years. It's decades of allowing myself to really go back and remember specific relationships that really (affected) me in many ways. And it became music. It's never too late.

You'll be touring all year across the world. I'm addicted!

Live, do you still even perform "She Bangs"?

If people ask for it, I will perform it. I would become the character in the video and I would perform it.

You've always been flanked by female dancers. Now that you're out and proud, does that mean that more male dancers get in on the mix?

Hey, let's be fair: Come on, it's about equality, you know? And when I walk onstage I present different scenarios of life and, yes, I do have more one-on-one dancing with male dancers, but when you're at a party, you just dance. It doesn't matter who's next to you, you grab a guy's or a girl's hand and you just go for it. And that's what my show is about. It's about freedom. And it's about being comfortable in your own skin.

That must be a great feeling for you to be comfortable enough to dance with a guy in front of millions of people.

It's greaaaaat! And the reaction of the audience is even better! (Laughs)

Now that you're back on the market, what is dating like for someone as widely known as Ricky Martin?

(Laughs) Mmmm. To be honest, I love being in a relationship, Chris. I love waking up in the morning and, if you're not with your boyfriend, (sending) that first message or text in the morning: "Hey baby, how ya doing? I hope you're fine. I just woke up. I'm doing this and this and this today." I loooove that. I really do. And I love picking up my phone and waiting for that reply from that text – it's great. But at the same time, right now, I'm enjoying being single. I'm enjoying this process. I'm not saying that I don't want to be in a relationship – I would be lying to you. I love being in love.

You strike me as the hopeless romantic type.

I am, I am, I am! You're damn right about that.

How often have men used a pickup line on you that references your bon-bon?

Ohh, man. If someone goes there I'd be like, "Dude, you gotta start again. I'll give you another chance because of your pretty face." (Laughs)

Considering your own coming out experience, what would you tell your 6-year-old twin sons, Matteo and Valentino, if one or both were to come out to you one day?

You know what, for us, at least in my family, that's not an issue because that is the normal in my house. So if my kids ever tell me that they're gay, I'll be like, "Yeah? OK, cool! Brilliant! Bring it on." But it all starts from the day that we're born, and every time they ask me questions about anything – Who's your boyfriend? How come I had two daddies? – the important thing is to answer with honesty and transparency. And it doesn't matter how old your kids are. If they are capable of formulating a question, it's because they are capable of receiving the answer.

Have you taught them the famous Ricky hip swivel yet?

Oh, it's in their blood, buddy. There's nothing I can do about it. It's there. (Laughs)

As an out gay man with an enormous platform, what do you hope you've contributed to the LGBT community?

I had the opportunity to write a book that is called "Me" and I'm very proud to say that it is a New York Times best-selling book. There have been people who've come to me and said, "Because of you and because of that book I know my father better, I know my grandmother, I know my uncle, my aunt, my sister, my brother." And that's it. I mean, I will *always* keep on talking about the importance of equality and basic human rights that we as members of the LGBT community are longing for, but to this day, and every day – the book was released about four years ago – I get a tweet or a Facebook post from someone saying, "Ricky, thank you so much for that book; it changed my life."

What do those stories mean to you?

It tells me that my fears were just in my head and that I feel nothing but gratitude. And I get goose bumps, man, when I get these stories and these testimonies from people from all walks of life coming to me to say, "Listen, I was homophobic until I read your book." It's very powerful, and I'm very, very pleased.

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The Supremes with Sonny and Cher. Photo: T.J.L Productions

Mo Town

Icons Talk Era's Inclusivity, Gay Followings And A Supremes Reunion (Because Of Course)

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

"I'm wondering, well, why wasn't Martha Reeves mentioned?" says Martha Reeves.

Holding up the marquee from the Motown 25 box set, a baffled Reeves doesn't know the reason she and other Motown greats – Mary Wells and Junior Walker, for instance – got shafted, but she's not letting that get in the way of today's appearance at Detroit Public Television in Wixom, Mich., where she and Mary Wilson of the Supremes are appearing in-studio for the TV special's re-broadcasting at 8 p.m. Feb. 28 on WTVS.

The original Motown 25 special aired on NBC on May 16, 1983 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Motown. It was during this broadcast that Michael Jackson debuted the moonwalk, Smokey Robinson reunited with the Miracles, and the Four Tops duked it out with the Temptations in a fun-spirited battle of the bands contest. Reeves, without her Vandellas, belted out 30 seconds of one of her group's biggest hits, "Heat Wave," while Wells sang "My Guy." Motown 25 became one of the most buzzed-about concerts to ever air on TV.

"I guess we're the 'surprise others,'" Reeves says bitingly, referencing the box set's promised features. "So – surprise!"

Less surprising is Reeves and Wilson's place on the metaphorical marquee of LGBT icons, where their legacies are etched into the rainbow fabric of our lives. From the studio, the two Motown legends talked about Motown's "inclusivity," their respective gay followings and the drag queens who are carrying on their legacies.

30 YEARS LATER

Martha Reeves: Do you know how exciting it is to be talking about something 30 years old?!

Mary Wilson: Even though it's been 30 years, when it's as phenomenal as Motown was, it's one of those things that's with you forever. The time isn't even an element. It's timeless. It's hard to say it was 30 years ago!

GAYS & GLAM

Wilson: I didn't know anything about that. (Being gay) was a new phenomenon that hadn't been exposed. It wasn't something in the mindset that you thought about. In fact, I don't think there was a moment when I realized that because it was just so early and

See Mo Town, page 23

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"Lady in the Lake" (1947)

Grit And Guns In Ann Arbor's Noir Film Series

BY BTL STAFF

The Michigan Theater and State Theatre, in partnership with Nicola's Books, are pleased to present The Noir Film Series, which began Monday, Jan. 12 with a presentation of "The Maltese Falcon" (1941). The series will continue weekly through the end of April. The series is billed as being full of "Guns! Dames! Cigarettes!"

Michigan Theater Senior Programmer Brian Hunter and Nicola's Bookstore Event Manager Lynn Riehl teamed up to curate a thorough mix of noir treasures, all adapted from classic crime novels. The connection of film and book is an essential element of this series, as the term was inspired by a line of paperbacks from hard-boiled American crime authors translated for the French audience. Each screening will start with a brief discussion of the history of the specific film and book. Roger Ebert has said film noir is "the most American film genre, because no society could have created a world so filled with doom, fate, fear and betrayal, unless it were essentially naive and optimistic."

In addition to "The Maltese Falcon," the film festival has also played "Laura" (1944) and "Double Indemnity" (1944) among many other great hits, such as

"Leave Her to Heaven" (1945); "Blade Runner" (1982); "The Postman Always Rings Twice" (1946); "The Big Sleep" (1946); and "The Killers" (1946) most recently on Feb. 23. All films will be shown at 7 p.m. The rest of the series includes the following films:

"Lady in the Lake" (1947) on March 2

"The Lady from Shanghai" (1947) on March 9

"Born to Kill" (1947) on March 16

"They Live by Night" (1948) on March 23

"The Asphalt Jungle" (1950) on March 30

"The Big Heat" (1953) on April 6

"Kiss Me Deadly" (1955) on April 13

"Blood Simple" (1984) on April 20

"Who Framed Roger Rabbit?" (1988) on April 27

"We're excited to offer this series and hope to give viewers the opportunity to step back in time and see these classic films in the setting they were originally shown, a real movie house," said Brian Hunter of the Michigan Theater. "And Nicola's partnership offers a great way for film goers to appreciate the original source

from which the screenplay was adapted." Nicola's Books will be at the theater for each screening, selling copies of the featured title as well as other noir crime novels.

Both the Michigan Theater and State Theatre are considered historic and cultural gems; each have carved their place in Ann Arbor history. The Michigan Theater is in its 87th year as Ann Arbor's award-winning non-profit historic center for fine film and performing arts. The Michigan Theater welcomes more than 250,000 visitors each year to its art house films, concerts, lectures, live theater and special programs such as Sundance Film Festival USA and Cinetopia International Film Festival.

Now owned and operated by the Michigan Theater Foundation, The State Theatre, designed a classic Art Deco style by renowned architect C. Howard Crane, opened in 1942. Since the 1980s, The State Theatre has been known for its campy midnight screenings and first-run independent films, the State has been a favorite of University of Michigan students for decades.

Visit michtheater.org or call 734-761-8667 for schedule and ticket information for both venues.

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Washtenaw LGBT Community Fundraises For SCOTUS Case

BY BTL STAFF

ANN ARBOR – The Jim Toy Community Center (JTCC) will host a fundraiser with out lesbian comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer Feb. 26 in Ann Arbor. Funds will be raised in support of the marriage equality lawsuit that will be heard before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The "Afterglow Benefits for National Marriage Challenge (NMC)" helps the nonprofit NMC pay for the costs of the DeBoer v Snyder lawsuit for marriage equality in Michigan, one of the four cases the Supreme Court will hear. Legal experts anticipate a ruling in late June.

"A favorable ruling in the DeBoer case will mean marriage equality all across the United States," JTCC Board member Sandi Smith said. Smith, who is also one of the members of the NMC fundraising committee and helped organize the "Afterglow" event, added, "It would mean legal rights for me and my wife, and hundreds of thousands of other families across the U.S. This case could be a crucial step towards fulfilling our nation's promise of liberty, justice and equality for all people."

The attorneys for the DeBoer-Rowse family need substantial financial support to successfully argue the case before the Supreme Court. The filing fee alone is \$10,000. Fundraising efforts in other states have raised as much as \$8 million towards the cost of the marriage equality lawsuits. As the Michigan legal team is working with a fraction of that funding, JTCC is one of



many organizations working to make sure Michigan's marriage equality campaign gets the support it needs.

Westenhoefer, famous as the first out lesbian with an HBO special and to appear on "The Late Show with David Letterman," will perform at 8 p.m. on Feb. 26 at The Ark. Tickets also serve as entry

into the "Afterglow" party in The Black Pearl restaurant following the show.

The Ark is located at 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. The Black Pearl is located at 302 S. Main St., Ann Arbor.

For more information about the DeBoer case and the work to pay for it, visit www.NationalMarriageChallenge.com.

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Editor's Pick

Ann Arbor's Orion Auto presents the "Winter Warm Up Music Series" this weekend. As part of the series, Rollie Tussing and the Midwest Territory Band will perform.

The event will feature "jug-band jazz," grilling from The Last Word Kitchen and Wolverine Brewing. All cooking and performing will be held at the site of Orion Auto's new home.

The Rollie Tussing concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28 at 100 Parkland Plaza. For more information, visit www.oriona2.com.

of this conversation is Criminal Justice and the Arab-American Community. Speakers at this event include-Barbara McQuade, U. S. Attorney-Fatima Abdrabbah, Director, Michigan Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee-Hon. David Turfe, Dearborn Heights District Judge-Ronald Haddad, Dearborn Police Chief. Free. UM-Dearborn College of Arts, Science, and Letters College-Wide Programs, 4901 Evergreen Road, **Dearborn**. 313-593-5520. desjd@umich.edu Umdearborn.edu/casl/diversity_justice/

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

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

Wednesday, March 4

Trans & Gender Queer Group 12:30 p.m. Eastern Michigan University, **Ypsilanti**. 734-487-4149. Emich.edu/lgbtrc

Senior Koffee Klatch 1 p.m. A lively, discussion and social group for LGBT adults over 45. Group covers topics pertaining to aging and outside speakers. Potluck dinners at members homes, lunches out and holiday parties. Meets ever Wednesday on the upper level of the Affirmations building. Senior Koffee Klatch, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. GoAffirmations.org

Diversity and Justice Symposium Criminal Justice, Gender and Sexuality 6 p.m. The third of three

Sistrum Weekly Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Sistrum, Lansing Women's Chorus, 215 N. Capital Ave., **Lansing**. Sistrum.org

Thursday, March 5

CardioVista: Detroit Street Photography 1 a.m. Featuring photos on LGBTQ culture in Detroit, the city and more. University of Michigan-Dearborn, **Dearborn**. Umd.umich.edu

Re-imaging Gender 15 promising artists take on one of the thorniest challenges facing contemporary art: how to render the modern spectrum of gender, going beyond the simple male/female binary to include a wide variety of identities and sexualities. University of Michigan, Inst. for Research on Women and Gender, 204 S. State St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-764-9537. schwarde@umich.edu Irwg.research.umich.edu/events/exhibitions.html

Shower of Stoles Exhibit Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

LGBTQ&A Career Fair 1 p.m. Free. BTL and UM-Dearborn, 19000 Hubbard Dr., **Dearborn**. Umdearborn.edu/careerservices_lgbtqa/

Free HIV Testing 2:30 p.m. Free anonymous HIV testing in-store at S3 every Thursday 2-8. Call to make an appointment, or walk-ins welcome. S3 Safe Sex Store and HARC, 1209 S. University, **Ann Arbor**. 734-741-1434. info@bak-inc.com S3safesexstore.com

Ladies Night 10 p.m. Third Thursdays: For women who love women. Pronto

"Dreams". First United Methodist Church, Plymouth. 2 p.m. March 1. Michiganphil.org

Musica Hall for the Performing Arts "Beijing Opera Troupe" Tickets: \$25-50. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. 3 p.m. March 1. 313-887-8500. Musichall.org

Concerts

Blind Pig "Electric Six" 18+. Tickets: \$15. Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. 9 p.m. Feb. 28. 734-996-8555. Blindpigmusic.com

Michigan Theater "Noir Film Series" . Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 12-April 27. 734-668-8397. Michtheater.org

Olympia Entertainment "Garth Brooks with Trisha Yearwood" Tickets: \$66. Joe Louis Arena, 19 Steve Yzerman Dr., Detroit. Feb. 20-Feb. 28. 313-396-7000. Olympiaentertainment.com

Olympia Entertainment "Charlie Wilson" With Kem and Joe. Tickets: \$58-68. Joe Louis Arena, 19 Steve Yzerman Dr., Detroit. 7 p.m. March 1. 313-396-7000. Olympiaentertainment.com

Royal Oak Music Theatre "Steve Aoki" With Head Hunterz, Caked Up. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. March 1. 248-399-2980. Royaloakmusictheatre.com

The Ark "Bela Fleck & Abigail Washburn" Tickets: \$35-75. Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. March 1. 734-764-2538. Theark.org

The Ark "Trina Hamlin & Annie Keating" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. March 2. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Dave Alvin and Phil Alvin with The Guilty Ones" Tickets: \$25. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Feb. 28. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

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

The Ark "Suzanne Westenhoefer" Tickets: \$26. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Feb. 26. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Magic Bag "Midge Ure" Tickets: \$18. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. March 5. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

The Magic Bag "Larry McCray" Tickets: \$12+. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Feb. 28. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

The Majestic "The Floozies with Russ Liquid" . The Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. March 1. 313-833-9700 . Majesticdetroit.com

Unlimited Sky Production "Wednesday Night Jazz & Soul Music Series" Every Wednesday Night Jazz & Soul Music Series featuring some of the best live music in Michigan Cover: \$5. Harbor House, 440 Clinton, Detroit. Jan. 21-June 24. 3139679900. Harborhousemi.com

Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University "Harry Connick, Jr." Tickets: \$40-100. Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 7 p.m. March 1. 800-WHARTON.

See Happenings, page 24

www.PrideSource.com

Happenings

OUTINGS

Thursday, Feb. 26

Author Talk and Booksigning with author Micheala Lynn for her new LGBT Romance Novel 7 p.m. "Jagged Little Scar is" Micheala Lynns first novel. Her second novel will also be published by Bella Books, due out late 2015. Schuler Books & Music, 2660 28th St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI, **Grand Rapids**. 616-942-2561 . Schulerbooks.com/event/debut-michigan-author-micheala-lynn-presents-jagged-little-scar-eastwood

MEET: Comedian Suzanne Westernhoe 8 p.m. Lesbian comedian. Afterglow benefit for the National Marriage Challenge. Jim Toy Community Center, **Ann Arbor**. Jimtoycenter.org

Friday, Feb. 27

Mini Farmers Market 11 a.m. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., **Saugatuck**. 269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

Saturday, Feb. 28

Alcohol Abuse Weekly Therapy Group 2 p.m. The Center for Relationship and Sexual Health, 25600 Woodward Ave., Ste. 215, **Royal Oak**. 248-399-7447. officemgr@crsh.com

LGBTQ-Friendly Yoga Class Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., **Lansing**. Justbyyoga.com

TransCend TransCend provides support and resources to the Southwest Michigan transgender community, their significant others, family, friends, and allies. Meetings occur twice per month on the 2nd Wednesday and 4th Sunday. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Own Your Gender 7 p.m. The Network, 343 Atlas Ave. SE, **Grand Rapids**. 616-458-3511. Grlgbt.org

Shades Of Red Affair 8 p.m. Women only event. 25+. Tickets: \$15. Drink set-ups and food sold. Rock your favorite shade of red! Hustle & Flo Productions, 8599 N. Lilley Road, **Canton**. 734-678-9993. hustleflo4244@gmail.com

Hustlefloproductions.weebly.com

The 28th Erotic Poetry & Music Festival 8 p.m. The infamous Erotic Poetry & Music Festival celebrates its 28th year and is one Detroit's oldest community arts festivals. An eclectic celebration of the erotic arts! It features provocative poetry, dirty spoken word, erotic art, music and dance performances by some of the city's top performers and fun local vendors. It promises to be an evening you won't forget! \$10 cover and Proceeds benefit Paws with a Cause.org. Static Network, 715 E. Milwaukee, **Detroit**. 313-873-2955. info@staticrecords.com Facebook.com/EroticPoetryandMusicFestival

Sunday, March 1

Transitions 2 p.m. Free transgender support group. Transitions, 1055 E. South Blvd., **Rochester Hills**. 586-838-0825.

The Diary of Anne Frank 3 p.m. JET, 6600 W. Maple Road, **West Bloomfield**. 248-788-2900. Jetheatre.org

Monday, March 2

World View Lecture Series: Susan Cain Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, **East Lansing**. 800-WHARTON. Whartoncenter.com

Diversity and Justice Symposium Criminal Justice and Race 6 p.m. The first of three in a series of symposia during Criminal Justice Month sponsored by the UM-Dearborn College of Arts, Science, and Letters College-Wide Programs. The focus of this conversation is Criminal Justice and Race. Speakers at this event include-Kym Worthy, Wayne County Prosecutor-Mark Fancher, Michigan ACLU-Geoffrey Fieger, Civil Rights Attorney-Dr. Alford Young, University of Michigan Professor of Sociology. Free. UM-Dearborn College of Arts, Science, and Letters College-Wide Programs, 4901 Evergreen Road, **Dearborn**. 313-593-5520. desjd@umich.edu Umdearborn.edu/casl/diversity_justice/

Substance Abuse Weekly Therapy Group 6 p.m. The Center for Relationship and Sexual Health, 25600 Woodward Ave., Ste. 215, **Royal Oak**. 248-399-7447. officemgr@crsh.com

TransPeace 7 p.m. Ruth Ellis Center, 77 Victor St., **Highland Park**. 313-867-6932. Ruthelliscenter.org

Whole Lives, Healthy Lives Adult Support Group 7 p.m. This one-of-a-kind program in Berrien County helps attendees support each other in healthy ways through active listening



Motor Company-Ford GLOBE, General Motors Company, Comerica, Plante Moran, Sprint and more. These firms are ensuring that southeast Michigan is a comfortable place to live and work for everyone.

The career fair runs from 1 to 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 5 at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. The event will be held in the school's Fairlane Center North, 19000 Hubbard Road, Dearborn. For more information, visit www.pridesource.com.

and caring feedback. OutCenter, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330. Outcenter.org

Tuesday, March 3

LGBTQ+ Support Group 4 p.m. For teens age 14-18. Call number for location. True Teen Group, **East Lansing**. 725-222-TRUE. truelgbtq@gmail.com

Diversity and Justice Symposium Criminal Justice and the Arab-American Community 6 p.m. The second of three events in a series of symposia during Criminal Justice Month sponsored by the UM-Dearborn College of Arts, Science, and Letters College-Wide Programs. The focus

events in a series of symposia during Criminal Justice Month sponsored by the UM-Dearborn College of Arts, Science, and Letters College-Wide Programs. The focus of this conversation is Criminal Justice, Gender and Sexuality. Speakers at this event include -Hon. Marilyn Kelly, former Michigan Supreme Court Justice-Andrea Ritchie, New York Police Misconduct Attorney -Deborah LaBelle, Attorney for Women and Children in Prison-Yvonne Siferd, Attorney, Equality Michigan. Free. UM-Dearborn College of Arts, Science, and Letters College-Wide Programs, 4901 Evergreen Road, **Dearborn**. 313-593-5520. desjd@umich.edu Umdearborn.edu/casl/diversity_justice/

Video Bar, 608 S. Washington Ave., **Royal Oak**.

MUSIC & MORE

The Magic Bag "Buckwheat Zydeco" Tickets: \$20. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. March 6-March 1. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

The Magic Bag "Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band" Tickets: \$18+. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. March 15-Feb. 27. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

Classical

Michigan Philharmonic "Pipe



Mary Wilson, PBS exec director/
producer TJ Lubinsky and Martha
Reeves. Photo: DPTV

► Mo Town

Continued from p. 17

it was (a) very inclusive (time). (Men) weren't coming out. The gays didn't come and you'd say, "Oh, those are gay people!" We didn't have that. The realization (hit the Supremes) when we started doing TV shows and a lot of the guys who would design gowns for us were gay, and they would bring all those gorgeous design sketches and we looked like little Barbie dolls – three little Barbie dolls – and so that's when we realized there was something about that that was different from the way you were normally perceived, because they saw us as these glamorous, gorgeous Barbie dolls – black Barbie dolls!

THE SUPREMES

Wilson: We came around at the right time in American history. All these other people inspired us, and then, in the '60s during the civil rights movement and women's liberation, we happened to be right there. We were there at the right time. We had a chance to really accomplish more because the world was changing and we were right there.

ARE THE SUPREMES EVER GETTING BACK TOGETHER?

Wilson: I wouldn't say that I'm sick of hearing about it. It's a question that comes up at every interview. I've done interviews thousands and thousands of times, and it always comes up.

Whenever, and if, Diana's ready, then something like that could happen. She

would have to be the one to say she's ready. Right now she's not ready. You should write about this... Diana and I are sisters from the soul, period. You know, you have a lot of things in life that interfere with your feelings, and that has happened with us. It's just life situations. Life's business. Life's all those things that are in the middle of our friendship. Our friendship is still our friendship. It's all this other crap that's in the middle of it. I don't even know how it started or where it came from, but it's all professional.

THE QUEENS

Reeves: They have a revue here (in Detroit) at a club, and I went and saw some guy. And oh god! He kept pulling up his clothes – nothing I'd ever do! He was doing his man thing, honey. I don't have a man thing. Never put on men's clothes to try to be a guy, that's for sure. He was doing his female thing too, but it wasn't necessarily Martha Reeves. It's like seeing Linda Ronstadt sing "Heat Wave," or like seeing Marvin Gaye sing "Dancing in the Street" where he looks over and sees me in the corner admiring him. (Both songs were originally recorded by Martha and the Vandellas.)

Wilson: Oscar Huckabee was one of the biggest drag queens in Detroit at the time. We did a lot of shows in Detroit, and Oscar Huckabee – he wasn't called a drag queen at the time that I know of, but he was at all of the shows and would always do these exotic dances. He was always dressed in exotic kinds of things. He was exquisite. Just wonderful. I guess you would call him a drag queen today. He was a very important figure in those days. He was a dancer – an exotic dancer – and boy was he great. For sure

he was *not* straight! (Laughs)

UPCOMING PROJECTS

Reeves: After Motown, the third company I went to was Arista – Clive Davis. I've been recording all along – I just didn't have distribution or promotion – but they just found a 30-year-old album and released it again and it's online right now entitled "The Rest of My Life."

Wilson: I have new recordings that are coming out, and hopefully soon! Next couple of months. We've been working on it for 12 years. I'm feeling like Stevie Wonder! When is this great project coming out?! So that's how I feel. I have my gown exhibit – the Supremes gowns – which are still touring, and I'm hoping to set up a place in Las Vegas – an exhibit – with all of my Supremes gowns.

THE SOUND OF YOUNG AMERICA

Wilson: The music was inclusive. It didn't matter who you were, the music touched your soul. Music, to me, brought all the souls together. I've always said that Motown was an ambassador for love and for friendship because it brought people together. Music does that anyway, but Motown as a whole was an entity that really brought people together.

Reeves: I think gay people came out of the closet mainly for racial reasons, because if you can accept somebody being gay then you can accept somebody being black. Gay people fit right in with us. It was no big deal. Nobody was special. Nobody was different ... until they became musical or started dancing, and then they wanted to show off their artistry. The flower movement – the flower children – were trying to tell you, "Accept us for who we are. We all love in music, 'Flower Power' and LSD – everything." Everybody got high. Everybody went wild. Everybody came out.

It's a free world now. We're all free. "Dancing in the Street" was to allow people to block the streets off with the police forces and yellow tape, come out of their house and dance without fear of getting hit by a truck, a train, or a car or an airplane. It's about freedom. It's about being who you are, and being free to be who you are ... without anybody beating you up!

There's no difference to me. It's all about being who you are and living the way you want to live. That's America. That's the freedom that we learned as Motown artists. That's the way Motown was – free. The "Sound of Young America." And that's *everybody*.



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Associate Pastor Rev. Deb Dysert

Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Children's Ministry 11 a.m.



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Puzzle solution on pg. 26

F	E	A	R	L	L	A	M	A	S	S	E	A			
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Join us for an informative evening about Transgender, Non-Conforming and Questioning Teens. Temple Israel will host this warm, informal and informational evening in a safe and secure environment. Let us help you and your family navigate your journey and hear from experts in the field.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015 AT 7PM
 TEMPLE ISRAEL - WEST BLOOMFIELD, MICHIGAN

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS:

Antonia Caretto, Ph.D. is a Clinical Psychologist specializing in treating Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders and Gender Variance. She is a member of the American Psychological Association and the World Professional Association for American Psychological Association and the World Professional Association for Transgender Health. She has worked with over 100 adults and 60 children with gender dysphoria and currently hosts a support group for Parents of Transgender Kids.

Dr. Jacalyn Bishop founded Endocrine Kids in Novi, Michigan to treat children with endocrine diseases. She is one of a few private physicians in Michigan board certified in pediatric endocrinology. Her focus on kindness, respect, and communication has served to make Endocrine Kids the premier facility for the treatment of pediatric endocrine diseases.

This special event is free and open to the community. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Laura Koziol at (248) 661-5700 or laura@temple-israel.org. This event is sponsored by The Caring Community.



► Happenings

Continued from p. 22

Whartoncenter.com

Other

Ruhala Performing Arts Center "Reiki for Teens" Fee: \$120. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. Jan. 28-March 25. 517-337-0464. Ruhalacenter.com

Ruhala Performing Arts Center "Reiki for Kids" Ages 6-12. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. Jan. 29-March 26. 517-337-0464. Ruhalacenter.com

Trinity Divine Healing "Health & Wellness Classes" Cost: \$5-10. Grace is Sufficient Ministries Neighborhood Center, 13345 Joy Road, Detroit. Jan. 12-May 30. 313-451-2472.

THEATER

God of Carnage Tickets: \$15. Grosse Pointe Theatre, Edsel & Eleanor Ford House-Activity Center, 1100 Lakeshore Road, Grosse Pointe Shores. Through March 1. 313-881-4004. Gpt.org

Miracle On South Division Street Tickets: \$14-16. Farmington Players, Farmington Players Barn Theatre, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. Through Feb. 28. 248-473-1856. Farmingtonplayers.org

Spring Awakening Tickets: \$18-20. Stagecrafters, Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak. Through March 1. 248-541-6430. Stagecrafters.org

Sweet Pea's Mama Tickets: \$17-20. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Through March 15. 313-868-1347. Detroitreptheatre.com

The Modern Woman Tickets: \$15-20. A Host of People, 256 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Feb. 27-March 8. Ahostofpeople.org

Civic/Community Theater

Independence Tickets: \$15-20. Open Book Theatre Company, Penelope's Venue, 12219 Dix Toledo Road, Southgate. Feb. 27-March 7. 734-288-7753. Openbooktc.com

Steel Magnolias. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Through March 14. 734-433-7673. Purplerosetheatre.org

College/University Theater

Enemy of the People Tickets: \$10-30. Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Through March 28. 313-577-2972. Hilberry.com

Professional

Best of Enemies Tickets: \$15-20. Matrix Theatre Company, 2730 Bagley, Detroit. Through March 15. 313-967-0999. Matrixtheatre.org

Bus Stop In the middle of a howling snowstorm, a bus out of Kansas City pulls up at a cheerful roadside diner, where four or five weary travelers are going to have to hole up until morning. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$35-41. The Dio-Dining and Entertainment, 135 E. Main St., Pinckney. Through March 1. 517-672-6009. Diotheatre.com

Lake Effect Fringe Festival The festival kicks off its third year of bringing new theater to West Michigan,

focusing on local playwrights, improv, West MI premieres and new interpretations of Shakespeare. CLICK HERE for complete show schedule information. Tickets: \$8-14 per event. Dog Story Theater, 7 Jefferson Ave. SE, Grand Rapids. Through March 1. dogstorytheater.com

Leaving Iowa CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$29-32. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Through March 8. 248-347-0003. tippingpointtheatre.com

Oh, Ananse! A story from the West African Ananse myths featuring a hip-hop-influenced libretto. Tickets: \$5-10. PuppetART, Detroit Puppet Theatre, 25 E. Grand River, Detroit. Through Feb. 28. 313-961-7777. puppetart.org

Once On This Island A peasant girl rescues and falls in love with a wealthy boy from the other side of her island in the Caribbean. However, tradition forbids the match. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$26-41. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Through March 8. 248-377-3300. mbtheatre.com

ROBOCOP! The Musical Tickets: \$29. 50. Olympia Entertainment, City Theatre, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Through March 1. 313-471-6611. Olympiaentertainment.com

Sister Act. The Whiting, 1241 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Feb. 28-March 1. 810-237-8689. Thewhiting.com

Sweet Pea's Mama A timely story that puts racial indignity and mental challenge in striking juxtaposition. The effect is both disturbing and enlightening. Tickets: \$17-20. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Through March 15. 313-868-1347. detroitreptheatre.com

The Best Brothers CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$15-27. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. Through March 1. 517-655-SHOW. williamstontheatre.org

The Trip to Bountiful This ordinary journey becomes one filled with inspiration and intrigue. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$10-20. What A Do Theatre, 4071 West Dickman Rd., Springfield. Through Feb. 28. 269-282-1953. whatado.org

Theater for Young Audiences

Bud, Not Buddy. Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Feb. 27-March 15. 810-237-1530. Flityouththeatre.org

Oh, Ananse!. PuppetART Theater, Detroit Puppet Theatre, 25 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. Through Feb. 28. 313-961-7777. Puppetart.org

ART 'N' AROUND

Cranbrook Art Museum "The Cranbrook Hall of Wonders: Artworks, Objects and Natural Curiosities". Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Nov. 23-March 22. 877-462-7262. Cranbrook.edu

Cranbrook Art Museum "Theater of the Mind". Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Nov. 23-March 29. 877-462-7262. Cranbrook.edu

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

Cranbrook Art Museum "Warhol On Vinyl: The Record Covers, 1949-1987+" Drawing from the world's preeminent collection of record covers by Andy Warhol, this exhibition showcases how Warhol used the record cover as a means to popularize his name and directly impact popular culture. Cranbrook Art Museum, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. June 21-Feb. 28. 877-462-7262. Cranbrookart.edu

DIA "Ordinary People by Extraordinary Artists: Works on Paper by Degas, Renoir and Friends". Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Jan. 1-March 29. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

DIA "Photographs from the Detroit Walk-In Portrait Studio by Corne Vermeulen". Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Jan. 1-May 17. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

DIA "Make a Joyful Noise: Renaissance Art and Music at Florence Cathedral" A rare opportunity to see three exquisite marble carvings and other Italian Renaissance masterpieces by sculptor Luca della Robbia. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Feb. 6-May 17. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

Flint Institute of Arts "Common Ground: African American Art Exhibition". Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Feb. 8-April 26. 810-234-1695. Flintarts.org

MOCAD "Radical Scavengers: the MOCAD Quilting Bee Project" This winter the Mobile Homestead space transforms into a contemporary quilt making workshop for the community. Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Jan. 25-May 24. 313-832-6622. Mocadetroit.org

N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art "The Making of the Dauphine". N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, 52 E. Forest, Detroit. Feb. 13-March 14.

N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art "Michael Luchs, Christine Hagedorn and Anita Bates". N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, 52 E. Forest, Detroit. Jan. 16-March 14.

Pewabic Pottery "Ware Wolves in Sheep's Clothing". Pewabic Pottery, 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. Jan. 23-March 29. 313-626-2000. Pewabic.org

The Scarab Club "2015 Silver Medal Exhibition". The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. Feb. 18-March 28. 313-831-1250. Scarabclub.org

UMMA "Hana Hamplova: Meditations on Paper". University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Feb. 21-June 30. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

UMMA "Medicinal Plants and Gardens: The Matthaei Botanical Gardens & Nichols Arboretum". University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 25-May 3. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

UMMA "Flip Your Field: Objects from the Collection" An exhibition from the Museum's collection of three-dimensional objects. University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 24-June 30. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

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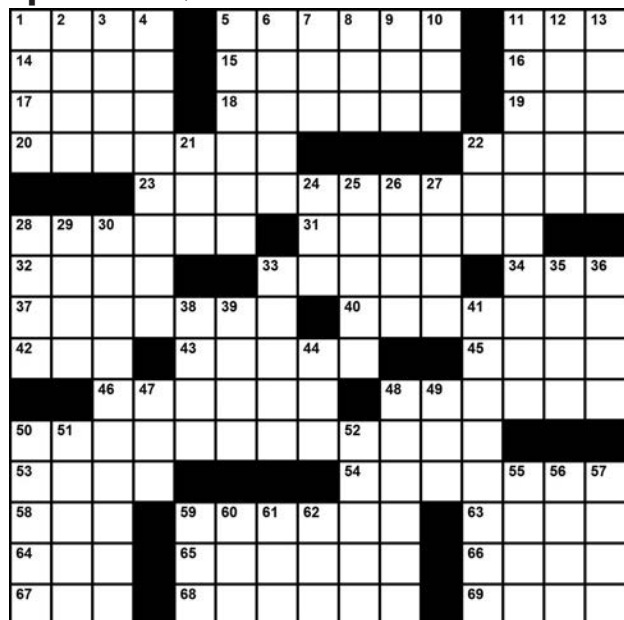
For more information, contact: Mai Qazzaz or Julie Kell at 313-593-5020 or email mqazzaz@umich.edu

It is free to attend the LGBTQ&A Career Fair, but we ask that you pre-register at <http://umdearborn.edu/careerservices>

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QPuzzle

Spare Thee, Rod



Across

- 1 "... is ___ itself" (Eleanor's husband)
- 5 Animals that spit
- 11 Where to take your first mate
- 14 "Spamalot" writer Eric
- 15 First aid antiseptic
- 16 Boater's paddle

- 17 With 18-Across, "The Prime of Miss ___" (movie that Rod wrote a song for)
- 18 See 17-Across
- 19 Road atlas abbr.
- 20 About to happen
- 22 Billy Douglas, in "One Life to Live"
- 23 Singer that Rod wrote the "A Man Alone" album for

Down

- 1 South Seas island group
- 2 Rice's "East of ___"
- 3 "What a shame"
- 4 Without a certain Broadway play?
- 5 Many October babies
- 6 "Two Women" star
- 7 "Much ___ About Nothing"
- 8 STINKBUG Start of a life crisis?
- 9 Feminist folk singer DiFranco
- 10 Get a load of
- 11 Deep penetration symptom?
- 12 Enjoyer of Stephen Pyles
- 13 Gladiator area
- 21 Heavenly body
- 22 Tic ___ (sometimes fruit mint)
- 24 Toto's home st.
- 25 Got to second base, perhaps
- 26 "How can ___?"
- 27 Tammany Tiger creator
- 28 Rupert Everett's "The Next ___ Thing"
- 29 Until all hours
- 30 Where the lemon is the main fruit
- 33 Twill fabric
- 35 S&M response
- 36 Cigar butt
- 38 Dr. on TV
- 39 "My Life in High Heels" autobiographer Anderson
- 41 Reliable supporters
- 44 Young lady coming out
- 47 B&O et al.
- 48 Extended credit
- 49 Former TV host's new channel
- 50 Big beer buys
- 51 Swinger's joint?
- 52 River through K'in
- 55 Bite it
- 56 Salty white stuff from the Greeks
- 57 Comic Wilson, who cross-dressed as Geraldine
- 59 AT&T rival
- 60 End of many a web address
- 61 Keystone lawmaker
- 62 Ho's instrument

Solution on pg. 23



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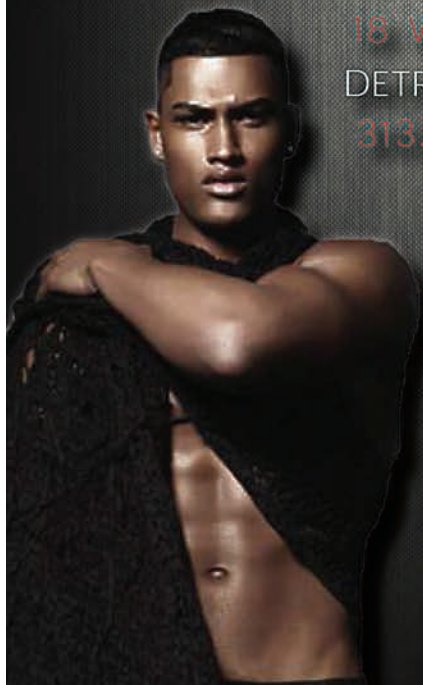


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