

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993



Shower of Stoles Exhibit
Opens At Affirmations

Why Net Neutrality
Is A Queer Issue

KELLY CLARKSON
THE GAY INTERVIEW

Singer Heading To DTE
- PG. 28



Pamper Your Pet Issue

Happy To Be Cage-Free

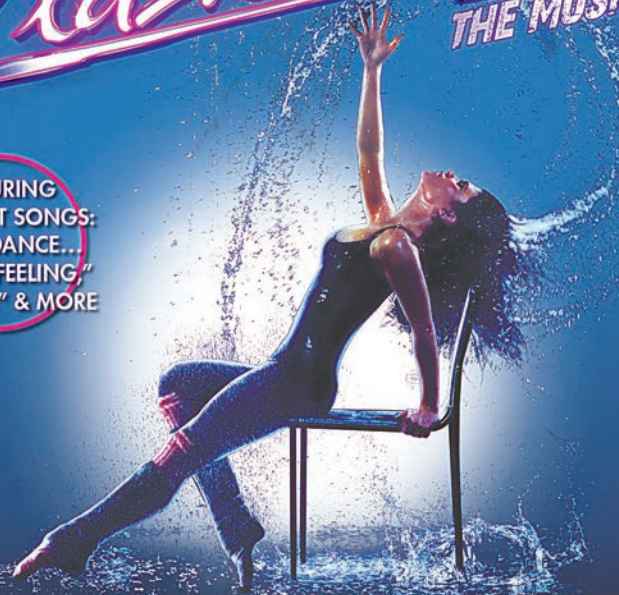
Unique Approach To Day Care Creates Canine Community

FROM THE AWARD-WINNING CHOREOGRAPHER OF MEMPHIS & JERSEY BOYS

Flashdance

THE MUSICAL

FEATURING
THE #1 HIT SONGS:
"FLASHDANCE...
WHAT A FEELING"
"MANIAC" & MORE



BEGINS TUESDAY • Fisher Theatre • March 10-22

BROADWAY IN DETROIT SPONSORED BY
CHRYSLER
ChryslerDealer.com

ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 & Box Office.
Info: BroadwayInDetroit.com, 313-872-1000.
Groups (12+): Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com or 313-871-1132.
Open captioned performance 7:30PM March 15.

GENTLEMEN'S CONSIGNMENT



623 S. WASHINGTON, ROYAL OAK

248-591-4554

GENTLEMENSCONSIGNMENT.COM
GENTLEMENSCONSIGNMENT@YAHOO.COM

ON-SITE
TAILOR



LIKE US ON
FACEBOOK



SAFE, SECURE AND AFFORDABLE TAX SERVICES



HARBOUR TAX AND ACCOUNTING HAS JOINED THE CPA TEAM AT ATS ADVISORS

WE SERVICE EVERYONE

- Small Businesses • Individuals
- Married and Unmarried Partners
- Non-profit Organizations
- Condo Associations • Investors

**Same Great Service
Same Great Location**

1220 E. 11 Mile Road • Royal Oak, MI 48067
Phone: 248.399.7331 • Fax: 248 414-3848
harbourtaxaccounting.com



Diane R. Harbour, EA
President

OR VISIT THESE ATS LOCATIONS FOR ALL YOUR TAX PREPARATION SERVICES

MAIN OFFICE
875 South Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
Phone: 734.454.4100

EAST OFFICE
23000 Greater Mack, Suite 500
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080
Phone: 313.371.6600

DOWN RIVER OFFICE
7311 Park Avenue
Allen Park, MI 48101
Phone: 313.388.7180

NORTH OFFICE
1155 I-75 Business Loop
Grayling, MI 49738
Phone: 989.348.4055

PartridgeCreek

Obstetrics & Gynecology

is pleased to welcome
Hina Javaid, MD



Center: Rhonda L. Kobold, DO, FACOOG

Left:
Tanya M. Vaughn, MS, CNM, FNP-BC
Teresa C. Kuz, MSN, WHNP-BC

Right:
Hina Javaid, MD
Beth K. Mutch, MSN, FNP-BC

We have expanded our practice to provide exceptional care for women of all ages, from care of the adolescent girl, through pregnancy and menopausal women.

We are proud to offer a comprehensive range of obstetric and gynecologic services as well as full scope Midwifery Care.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
58851 Van Dyke, Suite 100,
Washington Twp., MI 48094

MACOMB TOWNSHIP
15959 Hall Road, Suite 301,
Macomb Twp., MI 48044

Contact our main office at
586-247-8609 to make your
appointment today.

For more information visit us at:
partridgecreekobgyn.com

COVER

18 Happy to be cage-free
BTL photo: Andrew Potter



“ It just hurts me that people don't accept other people. It doesn't matter the reason. It does hit home more because of my boy. ”

– State Rep. Christine Greig
on her gay son, pg. 8

NEWS

- 6 Shower of stoles exhibit captures price of closet for LGBT clergy
- 7 Federal government backs trans youth in school lawsuit
- 8 Ally in focus: newly elected state rep. Christine Greig shares experiences with LGBT community
- 10 Help fund Mich. marriage equality right now
- 14 Federal judge blocks Nebraska same-sex marriage ban

OPINION

- 12 Parting Glances
- 12 BTL Editorial
- 14 Creep of the Week

PAMPER YOUR PET

- 20 The moment of awe
- 24 Holistic approaches to pet care improve family lives
- 26 Metro Detroit dog parks offer outdoor fun

LIFE

- 28 Our lives would suck without her
- 33 Women's rights explored in Slipstream Theatre Production
- 34 Happenings
- 36 Deep Inside Hollywood
- 38 Puzzle

Join The Conversation @ PrideSource.com



Save The Date: BTL's LGBT Wedding Expo Returns

BTL's fifth annual Ultimate LGBT Wedding & Anniversary Expo returns March 21, 2015 at the Southfield Civic Pavilion! Find more information on pg. 4.



Like The Wedding Expo For Updates And More

Head over to Facebook and like "The Ultimate LGBT Wedding & Anniversary Expo" for updates on the expo schedule, vendor info and wedding-related content!



Pick Up Your Copy Of The Pride Source Yellow Pages

Pick up the Pride Source Yellow Pages at our drop sites throughout southeast Michigan. Don't forget! You can also access the directory anytime online at Pridesource.com.

VOL. 2310 • MARCH 5, 2015 • ISSUE 905

PRIDE SOURCE MEDIA GROUP

20222 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone 734.293.7200

PUBLISHERS

Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

MEMBER OF

Michigan Press Association
National Gay Media Association
Q Syndicate



Copyright 2015 Pride Source Media Group, LLC

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief

Susan Horowitz, 734.293.7200 x 12
susanhorowitz@pridesource.com

Entertainment Editor

Chris Azzopardi, 734.293.7200 x 24
chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com

Assistant Editor

Shelby Clark Petkus, shelby@pridesource.com

Calendar Editor

Shelby Clark Petkus, shelby@pridesource.com

Staff Writers

AJ Trager, ajtrager@pridesource.com

CREATIVE

Art Director

Benjamin Jenkins, ben@pridesource.com

Webmaster & MIS Director

Kevin Bryant, kevinbryant@pridesource.com

Contributing Writers

Charles Alexander, Michelle E. Brown,
Todd Heywood, Jerome Stuart Nichols,
Eric W. Rader, Gwendolyn Ann Smith,
Christopher J. Treacy

Cartoonists

Paul Berg, Dave Brousseau

Contributing Photographers

Andrew Potter

ADVERTISING & SALES

Director of Sales

Jan Stevenson, 734.293.7200 x 22
jan@pridesource.com

Sales Representatives

Ed Bohach, 734.293.7200 x 15
ed@pridesource.com

Ann Cox, 734.293.7200 x 13
anncox@pridesource.com

National Advertising Representative

Rivendell Media, 212.242.6863

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

ONLINE AT



"Between The Lines Newspaper"



Follow us @YourBTL



Email your op-eds to
editor@pridesource.com



Sign up online to receive our E-Digest

Between THE Lines™

Presents The 5th Annual

THE ULTIMATE LGBT WEDDING EXPO & ANNIVERSARY

Southfield Civic Pavilion • Free Parking

Located on Evergreen just South of I-696



April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse with their family. The *DeBoer v Snyder* case will be heard by the U.S. Supreme Court in late April. A decision that will impact marriage equality for all 50 states is expected by the end of June.

This year BTL's 5th Annual Expo falls on the one year anniversary of the historic decision by Federal Judge Bernard Friedman which struck down the Michigan anti-gay marriage amendment, declaring it unconstitutional.

Admission is free this year with registration (online or at the door.)

In lieu of admission, BTL asks that you consider a donation to the National Marriage Challenge supporting the legal team for the DeBoer-Rowse case now before the U.S. Supreme Court. NMC will be at the Expo.

Saturday, March 21

Join In Celebrating the Historic One Year Anniversary
When Michigan's Anti-Gay Marriage Ban Was Struck Down!

The Marriage Case, Its Impact, The Future 11 a.m. A Pre-Expo Presentation

Three years ago, April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse just wanted to co-adopt their three children. But since it is not legal for unmarried couples to co-adopt in Michigan, they sued the state. That simple case has now evolved into one of the biggest civil rights cases in American history, and certainly the one that is having the greatest impact on LGBT equality. Come learn about the case, the issues impacting marriage equality, what the impending decision from the U.S. Supreme Court really means for same-sex couples and what the future holds for our families, our work lives and our status as LGBT Americans.

Professor Robert Sedler is a leading expert on constitutional law and an engaging speaker. Sedler has litigated a large number of civil rights and civil liberties cases, mostly as a volunteer lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union. A distinguished professor at Wayne State University, Sedler has consulted with the attorneys in the DeBoer case and can explain what it all means when the U.S. Supreme Court decision comes down this June.

Complimentary Champagne Brunch 12:30 - 2 p.m. Bon Appétit! Expo Opens

Expo Gold Sponsor Jeff Zak Catering is generously providing the first 200 people to enter the Expo with a complimentary brunch. Barefoot Wine & Bubbly is providing the champagne for the mimosas. Brunch will be served from 12:30 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. So don't dawdle – get to the Expo!

Jeff Zak Catering has two in house chefs, a floral designer, a fabulous wait staff and bartenders. They are able to do any size and type of event from formal events, such as weddings and rehearsal dinners, to more relaxed events as showers, birthday parties and holiday celebrations, to professional corporate luncheons and parties.

Here's the Champagne Brunch menu from Jeff Zak Catering – yum!

Breakfast Quesadillas
Cherry Chocolate Bread Pudding
Sour Cream Potatoes
Healthful Protein Smoothie Shots
Overnight Refrigerator Oatmeal Cups
Dutch Butter Cake "Bites"

Peanut Butter, Grape Jelly and White Chocolate Panini

Between The Lines Thanks Our Sponsors

GOLD SPONSORS



B. Ella Bridal



SILVER SPONSORS



THE TUX SHOP
on Woodward

SPECIAL THANKS GOES TO

Comerica Bank for sponsoring Brunch
Motor City Casino for sponsoring the Fashion Show
Barefoot Wine & Bubbly for providing champagne
Detroit Derby Girls for Fashion Show
Flagstar Bank for staff support
Cocktails & Dreams for food service

BTLWeddingExpo.com

What's Happening When Pre-Expo Presentation

11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
The Case, Its Impact, The Future

Everything you ever wanted to know about marriage equality, the DeBoer v Snyder lawsuit, what the U.S. Supreme Court is up to now and how their decision will impact LGBT people this year and for decades to come.

Presented by Robert Sedler, Wayne State Distinguished Professor of Law.

EXPO Opens

12:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Over 100 Vendors On Hand!

LBGTA friendly vendors will be available to help you with your event planning.

12:30 – 2 p.m.
Champagne Brunch

Catered by Jeff Zak catering of Plymouth MI, a delicious and complimentary brunch. Served to the first 200 people who arrive at the Expo.

1:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.
My Family, Our Money Presentation

An enlightening workshop to help build and maintain your family's assets.

Presented by Wealth Management Professionals from Comerica Bank.

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
The Fashion Show

Celebrity models strut the runway in beautiful gowns from B. Ella Bridal in Plymouth and exquisite tuxedos from The Tux Shop in Birmingham. The Detroit Derby Girls, on skates, assist as bridesmaids!

3 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
The Anniversary Party

Celebrate the one year anniversary of Judge Bernard Friedman's historic decision that declared Michigan's marriage ban to be unconstitutional. Over 300 same-sex couples were legally married in Michigan on March 22, 2014. Anniversary cake provided by Sweet Dreams Bakery. There will be singing and – of course – dancing!

3 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Salsa Dance Party

The celebration revs up with the vivacious Motif singers and the salsa dancers of Argentine Tango Detroit.



Detroit Derby Girls will return as model escorts this year!

The Fashion Show 2 p.m.

Expo Gold Sponsors B. Ella Bridal & The Tux Shop

in Birmingham are pulling out all the stops to present an edgy, exquisite and unexpected fashion show that is sure to delight and surprise. Skaters from the Detroit Derby Girls will be dressed as bridesmaids assisting the models as they negotiate the stage – on skates!

And as a nod to the challenging legal realities of LGBT life in Michigan, several political celebrities will model the fantastic gowns and tuxes. Modeling gowns will be Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown, who opened her offices on Saturday, March 22, 2014 and married as many same-sex couples as she could before Attorney General Bill Schuette was able to get an emergency stay imposed. As a candidate last year for Lieutenant Governor, Brown was a vocal champion for marriage equality.

Last November we elected two openly gay men to the Michigan House of Representatives. Jon Hoadley and Jeremy Moss will both be modeling (gowns or tuxes??) as will State Rep. Kristy Pagan and Brian Stone, who is running next year for a seat in the House. Community activists Emily Dievendorf, Kevin Heard and Alicia Skillman will also be strutting the runway in formal attire.



One of this year's models will be Oakland County Clerk Lisa Brown who married over 140 couples on March 22, 2014. The first couple to marry was Frank Colasonti, Jr. and Frank Ryder. BTL file photo: Andrew Potter

Motif Singers & Salsa Dancing

3 p.m.

Expo Dance Party 2013



Admission is free this year with registration.
(Register online or at the door)

HIV CONFERENCE

Significant Studies From CROI 2015

BY TODD HEYWOOD

The International Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) wrapped up in Seattle last Friday. The HIV related conference made headlines with results of several studies. Here's a wrap up of the most significant ones:

PROUD (UK) – This British study was conducted on the efficacy of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). This study was going so well that in October, those in the deferred arm were called and offered the drug immediately – effectively ending the comparative study. Why? Because in the PrEP arm of the study, there were zero infections among men who took the drug daily. Three men in that arm did seroconvert, two of them because they had stopped going to the clinic to get their prescriptions filled. A third tested positive one month into the test, and researchers believe he was infected prior to starting the drug. Overall efficacy, which includes the three positive cases, is 86 percent. But again, no one who took the drug daily, as prescribed, seroconverted, placing intent to treat at nearly 100 percent. (AIDSMap)

IPERGAY (France) – This French study explored whether a less than daily pill dosing of PrEP would be effective. They called this model “PrEP on Demand.” Participants were to take two PrEP pills 2-12 hours prior to having sex, then one pill a day for three days after sex. If that person had sex again during that follow-up period, they would add one more day of PrEP. This study also found that PrEP, even in this less than daily dosing schedule, was 86 percent in overall efficacy. However, as the CDC points out, with study participants having an average of eight to 10 sexual partners every two months, it is conceivable the participants were protected by near daily use of PrEP rather than on-demand scheduling. The study had two seroconversions in the PrEP arm of the study. Both participants had stopped taking the drug prior to infection, researchers said. (AIDSMap)

New Treatment Drug Shows Promise – Researchers from Bristol Myers Squibb reported a study of their new drug, 955176, was successful. The drug represents a new class of anti-HIV medications and targets the end stage of viral replication, POZ Magazine reports. In the study, researchers saw that the drug reduced the viral load of participants by 97.7 percent. (POZ Magazine)

OPPOSITES ATTRACT (Australia) – This study – which is ongoing – is reviewing transmissions of HIV in sero-discordant male-male relationships (where one partner is HIV-positive and the other HIV-negative.) The study began enrolling in 2012 and released data through December 2014. It is funded until 2016, but researchers are looking for more funding to extend the study time. In this study, researchers found no HIV transmissions linked to the HIV-positive partner – including in eight couples that reported over 5,000 episodes of condom-less anal sex. There were seroconversions during the study, but researchers verified the new infections were not genetically linked to a partner's HIV. Forty-three percent of the couples reported being in non-exclusive relationships. (AIDSMap)

See HIV Studies, page 17

Shower of Stoles Exhibit Captures Price Of Closet For LGBT Clergy

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

FERNDALE – About 40 people came out Sunday for the opening of the Shower of Stoles exhibit at Affirmations. In its entirety, the Shower of Stoles is a collection of over 1,000 liturgical stoles and other sacred items representing the lives of LGBT people of faith. These religious leaders have served in 32 denominations and faith traditions in six countries on three continents. Each stole contains the story of an LGBT person who is active in the life and leadership of their faith community in some way, such as minister, elder, deacon, teacher, missionary, musician, administrator or active layperson.

The local exhibit, which is sponsored by the Affirmations Faith Alliance, features nearly 100 stoles, including a tallit, or prayer shawl, donated by Rabbi Arnie Sleutelberg of Congregation Shir Tikvah in Troy. At the opening, Sleutelberg told the story of growing up as the only Jewish family in the tiny town of Hudson, Michigan.

“My father and my grandparents settled there because they were escaping Nazi Europe and they didn't know at that time whether or not the Holocaust might make its way to America,” Sleutelberg explained. “God forbid the allies lost and Hitler won. So they chose to settle in this tiny town as the only Jews and chose to keep their identity a secret.”

“I grew up in hiding, so down the line when I had another secret to hide, it was quite easy for me to do,” Sleutelberg continued. “I knew how to do that. I knew how to be in the closet. Looking back, I was way too good at it and it was way too easy for me and it ultimately kept me in the closet way longer than I wish it had.”

For years, Sleutelberg convinced himself that his sexual orientation was irrelevant to his spiritual path. Sleutelberg said he believed “that it neither made me a better rabbi or a worse rabbi and therefore was irrelevant, and why would I announce or make an issue out of irrelevant topics? I have since changed my mind about that. I think it is relevant. I think it does make me a better



Rabbi Arnie Sleutelberg of Congregation Shir Tikvah speaks at the opening of the Shower of Stoles exhibit at Affirmations on Sunday, March 1. BTL photo: Jason A. Michael

“ I think the experience of the closet and the empathy that I had developed because of that pain has given me an extra degree of openness and acceptance of all kinds of differences. ”

– Rabbi Arnie Sleutelberg

rabbi. I think the experience of the closet and the empathy that I had developed because of that pain has given me an extra degree of openness and acceptance of all kinds of differences.”

But while Sleutelberg has been able to serve openly in the Reform Judaism movement, many of the stoles in the exhibit tell the stories of those who cannot do the same. The exhibit seeks to lift up those who have been excluded from service because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. The collection bears witness to the huge loss of leadership that many churches have brought upon themselves because of their own unjust policies.

Some shawls are sent in by clergy

who have lost their position by coming out, while others have been submitted by clergy who remain in the closet. About one-third of all the stoles have been donated anonymously.

“I've taken the opportunity to read a number of these stories on the stoles and many of them just break your heart,” said Sleutelberg. “I mean, these are real live human beings with souls, with spirits, with love in their hearts who desire nothing more than to serve God and to be there for people as inspiration. And way too many are being denied opportunity to be themselves fully and completely and share their love of God with others.”

“The fact that we can have this display in 2015 is testament to how far we've come,” Sleutelberg said in closing. “The fact that we need to have this display in 2015 is evidence of how far we yet need to go.”

EXHIBIT

Shower of Stoles

The exhibit runs through March 14 and is available for viewing 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday at Affirmations Community Center, 290 W. Nine Mile Road in Ferndale. There is no cost for the exhibit, but donations are accepted and appreciated.

>> Learn more at goaffirmations.org

Federal Government Backs Trans Youth In School Lawsuit

BY AJ TRAGER

WYANDOTTE - The Associated Press reports that the federal government is supporting a Detroit-area teenager who has accused several schools of discriminating against him because of his gender identity.

Schools in Wyandotte, Van Buren and Dearborn Heights, as well Summit Academy North, are being accused of taking no action in response to the boy's harassment by staff and other students due to his gender identity. Those being accused deny the allegations and have filed motions to dismiss the case.

In a court filing last week, the U.S. Justice Department urged a judge to deny the schools' requests to dismiss the lawsuit at an early stage. The government says the boy has stated a "plausible claim" under federal law.

"The United States has a significant interest in ensuring that all students, including transgender students, have the opportunity to learn in an environment free of discrimination and that the proper legal standards are applied to claims under Title IX and the Equal Protection Clause," read the brief filed by the Department of Justice before the Feb. 22 conference with the court.

James Rasor, attorney for the youth and former Royal Oak city commissioner, was one of the leading forces to get the LGBT human rights ordinance passed in 2013. He filed the complaint against the districts in Detroit federal court late last year.

"The rights that are being violated are important United States constitutional rights," Rasor said. "I think the United States wrote an excellent brief in support of Title IX applying to the situation, and I think their research was spot on. Obviously I think when the United States intervenes on behalf of a party that that certainly carries weight."

Three school districts and one charter school allegedly contributed to continued harassment and violations of state and federal civil rights against the plaintiff.

Over the course of three years, the transmasculine identified youth suffered repeat accounts of misgendering by teachers and administration staff, even after repeated attempts by the plaintiff's mother to remedy the source of the tension. Additionally, the plaintiff suffered continued harassment and bullying from his peers; segregated bathroom usage; breaches of teacher-parent confidentiality in regards to the plaintiff's medical history; and sex-based discrimination from district officials.

"You couldn't wish for a more strident and forceful parent than the mother in this case. She went to great lengths to educate the schools as to what her son's thoughts were on the matter. The schools, despite that, went in the

“ We are going to be asking the judge to carefully review the policies and procedures of these school districts to make sure other school districts in the future are not subject to this type of bullying from the schools. ”

- Attorney Jim Rasor

opposite direction. She would tell them that the prevailing literature indicates that they need to accept the gender choices of the individual and call them by the name that they prefer," Rasor said. "The school said, 'No,' and his female birth name was regularly used during attendance, yet he is extensively and in every respect a young boy."

School administrators from all schools failed to identify the youth properly, though he had been living as a boy for many years prior to enrolling in the schools. However, on continuous occasions, school staff and administrators outed him to students and other parents.

"All kids have certain confidential information that parents share with school administrators so that their educational experience can be one which is free and designed in a way that is appropriate. Imagine any parents' shock of the nightmare of a school administrator sharing that confidential information with parents of other children. That is an enormous breach of trust and confidentiality that we trust schools to have," Rasor said.

In the complaint, Rasor lists ten counts against the school districts that include: equal protection under the law, sex/gender discrimination under Title IX, sex-based harassment under Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, violation of the Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, violation of the 14th Amendment and First Amendment, equal protection rights under Michigan law, gross negligence, violation pursuant to Monell and violation of civil rights through supervision, customs, policies, acquiescence and training.

"We are going to be asking the judge to carefully review the policies and procedures of these school districts to make sure other school districts in the future are not subject to this type of bullying from the schools."

RON T. WILLIAMSON DDS

Dedicated to make our community brighter
One Smile At A Time
248-399-4455



Zoom Special
\$249
One-hour Teeth Whitening

**Must mention this BTL ad - Expires 3/31/15*

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



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

Find us on
facebook

JORGENSEN



We Are Metro Detroit's Premium Ford Dealer

Quality Parts & Service



Highest Trade-In Value Get Your Best Deal On A Car/Truck/SUV



Wide Selection of Pre-Owned Vehicles



We sell electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids



Ford | FORD CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

Try The Ford Quick Lane: Fast & affordable servicing
We'll match or beat any tire price



Won President's Awards Three Years in a Row.
Won Partners in Quality Six Years in a Row.

313-584-2250

www.JorgensenFord.com

Michigan at Lonyo

ALLY IN FOCUS: Newly Elected State Rep. Christine Greig Shares Experiences With LGBT Community

Renowned Orchard Lake Fine Art Show Seeks Applications

The 13th Annual Orchard Lake Fine Art Show, hosted by HotWorks.org, is looking for work from professional artists to be featured in the show. The deadline to apply for the show (to be held July 25 and 26) is March 15.

The juried fine art and crafts show has been voted "Top 100 Art Fairs Nationwide" by Sunshine Artist Magazine for the last eight years in a row.

The fair is limited to 200 artists (or less), and no artist is accepted purely to fill space. The focus is on original work, as well. Currently all categories are open.

Rates for artist booths range from \$375 to \$725. Notifications of accepted work will be sent by April 15. For more information, call Patty Narozny at 248-684-2613 or email patty@hotworks.org.

Temple Israel Hosts Event For Transgender Youth, Families

Temple Israel will host an informative evening about transgender, non-conforming and questioning teens for transgender youth and families dubbed, "You Are Not Alone."

This warm, informal and informational evening will be in a safe and secure environment. Temple Israel has issued a statement saying, "Let us help you and your family navigate your journey and hear from experts in the field." The two featured speakers specialize in different fields relevant to discussions about transgender issues.

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 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 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.

The event begins at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10. Temple Israel is located at 5726 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

This is a free event. RSVP to Laura Koziol at 248-661-5700 or laura@temple-israel.org.



State Rep. Christine Greig, D-Farmington Hills. BTL photo: AJ Trager

BY AJ TRAGER

FARMINGTON HILLS – State Rep. Christine Greig, D-Farmington Hills, attended the LGBT Caucus at the recent Michigan Democratic Convention to talk about her experiences with the LGBT community and how statewide discrimination directly affects her immediate family.

Greig was born in the homogenous population of rural Indiana. Growing up, the people around her were either white or Mexican. It wasn't until she attended college that the demographics of her peers diversified and included not just black and international identities but Jewish and LGBT as well. She is the middle child of 12 and says that experience helped shape who she is today in a significant way.

"My mother always said I could do anything the boys could do," Greig told BTL. "The stereotype of the middle child is always about balance and fairness and that has shaped how I've looked at things."

Greig's first deep connection with the LGBT community came in college, at Notre Dame, when her childhood best friend came out. To his surprise, Greig's first reaction was, "Yeah, so what?" She speaks of him now as one of the strongest people she's ever met.

"One of my purposes in life is to show people that everyone is the same no matter what their race, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation and that is how we need to live our lives," Greig said.

The Farmington Hills representative had no idea that along with her husband of 24

years, they would become the parents of an LGBT-identified child. She's pleased that Farmington and Farmington Hills are a welcoming population. However, like most diverse communities, prejudices do exist; without legislative lead from Lansing, municipalities like Farmington Hills are finding it difficult to overcome those preconceived ideas.

Farmington Hills has had some discussion on adapting a non-discrimination ordinance for the city that would include sexual orientation and gender identity, but Greig says that there are still misconceptions on gender identity. Many community leaders are in need of LGBT education.

"People are willing to talk about it (LGBT identities). The kids are fine; it's the parents. And they are getting better and better," Greig said.

Before winning the election in November, Greig spent over 20 years working in all fields of commerce while maintaining positions on PTA, community and business boards. When she was president of the Farmington Area PTA Council, from 2007-2011, Greig expanded membership by 40 percent, added eight spots on the council and worked closely with local, county and state officials to address school funding issues and parent engagement initiatives.

At the start of the 2015 cycle, Greig signed up for the Workforce and Talent Committee, a group of 14 representatives (eight Republicans and six Democrats), that holds discussions on inclusion and openness and how those practices are good for business. Greig also joined the

The Farmington Hills representative had no idea that along with her husband of 24 years, they would become the parents of an LGBT-identified child.

Education Committee, the Communications and Technology Committee, the Women's Progressive Caucus, the Talent and Place Caucus, the Asian American Caucus and does plan on joining the LGBT caucus.

"My biggest role in that committee (Workforce and Talent Committee) is to poke around and ask what it is doing for women, for minorities, for the LGBT community and what impact does that have on business," Greig said.

Greig wants to open dialogue with the Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce and discuss how diversity benefits the state as well as find ways to keep graduates in Michigan with other members of the State House.

"The first time I met Jon (Hoadley) and Jeremy (Moss), separately, I had to tell them how proud I am. I told them that what they do means so much to me as a mom," Greig told BTL, tearing up. "It just hurts me that people don't accept other people. It doesn't matter the reason. It does hit home more because of my boy."

She is optimistic about the legislative year. Greig, Hoadley and Moss, along with their peers, are developing personal relationships with members of the House from around the state, such as Todd Courser, R-Lapeer County; Gary Glenn, R-Midland; and Cindy Gamrat, R-Allegan, all legislators known for being openly anti-LGBT.

"All of us are working hard to develop personal relationships with our colleagues," Greig explained. "Because once you do that it's hard for them to look you in the eye and try and explain why they don't believe someone is equal to them. There are some things in the legislature that are concerning me regarding passable legislation that would take us backwards not forwards, for example the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and the adoption bill. In RFRA you are saying freedom is the ability to discriminate, and I just don't get that line of thinking."

"When my son came out," Greig notes, "that was the point where I said, 'I've tried and tried and tried, and now it's right in my face,' and if I cannot accept my child, how can I accept them (ideals taught through her Catholic upbringing)? I struggled with that for a long time. It's scary to think that some people support that kind of discrimination."

SOHO

Korean & Japanese Cuisine

Featuring
Brunch
7-Days!



Sushi Bar
& Full Bar



EGGS FLORENTINE
PORTABELLA BENEDICT
CRAB CAKE BENEDICT
SOFTSHELL CRAB BENEDICT
SALADS • OMELETS • WAFFLES
VEGETARIAN DELIGHTS
MIMOSA'S & BLOODY MARY'S

All Drinks! Be Sure To bring this Coupon!
Ladies Night - Wednesday 50% off after 8pm
Guys night - Thursday 50% off after 8pm

30% OFF
Brunch Menu Entree

WITH COUPON • DINE IN ONLY • CANNOT COMBINE • EXPIRES 3/31/15

Free Appetizer
Under \$5 w/ Lunch

WITH COUPON • CANNOT COMBINE • EXPIRES 3/31/15

20% OFF
Dinner Entree

AFTER 3:30 PM • WITH COUPON • CANNOT COMBINE • EXPIRES 3/31/15

2943 S. Rochester Rd • Rochester Hills • 248.289.1179/248.853.8300
(N. Of Auburn) Brunch Hours: M-F 11 - 2 pm, Sat-Sun 9:30 am - 2 pm WWW.SHOCLUBS.net

"Best Investment we've ever made!"



How? By giving you:

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

The Best for Last

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

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

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

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

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

Can pay for itself, plus more!

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

Hinson
HOME COMFORT SERVICE
(248) 541-7007

Inclusion. Equality. Opportunity.

LGBTQ&A
CAREER FAIR

MARCH 5

1-4 p.m., March 5, 2015

University of Michigan - Dearborn Fairlane Center North
19000 Hubbard Rd., Dearborn MI 48126

Open To Everyone and All Majors
Business, Engineering, Computer
Science, Education, Science &
Liberal Arts

The LGBT Career Fair is
supported by more than a dozen
Michigan colleges & universities!

Opportunities to apply for Co-op/
Internships, Part-time positions and
Full-time Professional Employment

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

Meet recruiters from over 30
companies who want YOU to join
their workforce, including: General
Motors, EY, Blue Cross Blue Shield
of Michigan, Lear Corporation,
Herman Miller and many more!

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

Sponsored by: Affirmations, Detroit LGBT Chamber of Commerce, Out & Equal Detroit
Affiliate, Pride Source Media Group, University of Michigan-Dearborn



It's our differences that make us great.

Joan M Warner Ins Agcy Inc
Joan Warner, Agent
joan@warneragency.com
Toll Free: 888-298-8020
www.warneragency.com

FREE Discount Double Check®.
Like a good neighbor,
State Farm is there.®
CALL ME TODAY.




**DIGNITY
DETROIT**

A Faith Community for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered & Questioning individuals, their families and friends.

Box 558 - Royal Oak, MI 48068 - (313) 278-4786
www.dignitydetroit.org

Tax Time?

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

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



KUDERIK
AND ASSOCIATES

Kuderik and Associates PLLC
Certified Public Accountants

32121 Woodward Ave Suite 202
Royal Oak MI 48073

www.kuderikcpa.com



Help Fund Mich. Marriage Equality Right Now Call To Action With The 'Wedding Registry' Project

BY KEITH ORR

To all the same-sex couples who got married last March 22, and all the same-sex couples who have gotten married out-of-state, and all the same-sex couples who are waiting for Marriage Equality in Michigan: Martin and I got married last year. Even after 28 years together, it was a shotgun wedding. It happened because April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse sued Rick Snyder and the state of Michigan for the right to get married. On March 21, 2014, Federal Judge Bernard Friedman overturned the state's ban on same-sex marriage on constitutional grounds. It was a body-slam to the state ruling. And he didn't issue a stay. That opened a window which allowed 320 couples to get married. That window shut after 24 hours.

So I am grateful that I was privileged to get married. All 320 of us were privileged. What we received, however, was not marriage equality. If it was, then my friends Tom and Tod's out-of-state marriage would be valid. So too with Susan and Jan. And Sandi and Linda. And my friends Kevin and Rusty.

These great people, and thousands of others, either cannot get married or the state of Michigan will not recognize their marriages.

All that could change in June. Here's the timetable.

In April the Supreme Court of the United States will hear arguments in four cases, including DeBoer v Snyder. In June they will (probably) rule.

If you've ever been involved in any litigation, you know that it is expensive. And a U.S. Supreme Court case is VERY expensive. It cost the DeBoer team \$20,000 simply to file the appeal.

This case will have national implications. If we win (and win broadly) then marriage equality will be the law of the land in all 50 states. If we lose, not only do we lose, but every state which has marriage equality by virtue of a court decision will lose that right.

So clearly the big money and the big national donors are lining up to

help, right?

Well... no.

So it is up to us in the state of Michigan to fund this fight. And no group should be working harder than the 320 couples. Here's why:

- We owe April and Jayne. Their case is what made our marriages possible.

- As we are seeing, the legislature is already trying to curtail our rights. A broad ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court would end all those shenanigans.

All those other couples who have

So I am grateful that I was privileged to get married. All 320 of us were privileged. What we received, however, was not marriage equality. If it was, then my friends Tom and Tod's out-of-state marriage would be valid. So too with Susan and Jan. And Sandi and Linda. And my friends Kevin and Rusty.

unrecognized marriages or are waiting for an opportunity to get married have a huge stake, as well.

Martin and I have an idea which lets every one of us help. And if we all do it, we could raise a significant amount of money. And all it takes is a little of your time.

Here's the deal. Because we hadn't had the privilege to get married over our 28 years together, when the day came, we did not start any gift registry. We already had all the place settings and toaster ovens we needed. So even if we had had time to plan this wedding, gifts would not have been a part of the deal. And I bet the same is true for most of you.

We've been working with the National Marriage Challenge (the official fundraising group for the DeBoer v Snyder team). We have created a "Wedding Registry" page. You can go to the site, register, upload a photo and have your own "Wedding Gift Registry." Then you'll be able to send out invitations for people who WOULD have come to your big pre-planned wedding if such a thing had been possible. Invite your guests to

give an appropriate gift in the form of a donation to the National Marriage Challenge.

There are three things I love about this:

- It involves a lot of people giving a little bit of time or a little bit of money, and the results collectively could be staggering.

- It is a fundraiser which is about the very thing it is fundraising *for*; in this case... weddings.

- It is scalable. If you would have had a simple reception, and folks would have just brought a dish to pass or a bottle of wine, they can give the \$10 or \$20 they would have spent to this cause. If you run in the circles where wedding gifts would have been made of precious metals, well, they can give \$500. And most of us will be somewhere in-between.

We have an anniversary coming up. Let's see if we can get a few hundred couples to all join in. If we get 100 couples, and each raises an average of \$100, we've raised a not-too-shabby \$10K.

But let's dream bigger. If we get 500 couples, and each raises \$200, we could raise \$100k. And that should be very possible.

Are you in?

Keith Orr and his husband Martin Contreras are the proprietors of Common Language Bookstore and the \out\ BAR. You can reach them at <http://speakaut.blogspot.com>.

TAKE ACTION

Wedding Registry For Marriage Equality

>> <http://nationalmarriagechallenge.com/WeddingRegistry>

Visit the web page and set up your own registry page to help raise funds for the DeBoer-Rowse trial set for late April at the U.S. Supreme Court.



AFFIRMATIONS PRESENTS

ENCHANTED

S P R I N G B A S H 2 0 1 5

WWW.GOAFFIRMATIONS.ORG/ENCHANTED

SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH • THE FILLMORE DETROIT

All ticket levels include admission, open bar, dinner and curbside valet.

VIP and Premier tickets include VIP Reception.

GENERAL \$175 | **VIP** \$300 | **PREMIER** \$500

Table and sponsorship information at: www.goaffirmations.org/Sponsors

Just as spring forces its way through following the winter, Affirmations and metro Detroit's LGBTQ community prepare for a new beginning. This black tie gala event will continue to offer an **OPEN BAR, SEATED GOURMET DINNER** and premium live and silent auction. **NEW THIS YEAR** are the inclusion of **CURBSIDE VALET** for all ticket holders and an exciting **AFTERGLOW** event following the main event to round out the evening's festivities! **PREPARE TO BE ENCHANTED!**

PROUD SUPPORTERS



Nuthin' Bout Birthin' No Babies



Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

It's been 75 years since Margaret Mitchell's classic novel of the Civil War South, "Gone With The Wind," had its movie premier in Atlanta, Georgia, Dec. 15, 1939. I saw GWTW for my first time during a 50th anniversary showing in Chicago.

How I remained a virgin so long on that score is still something of a mystery to me. (But then again, I've lost my virginity in the aptly named Windy City on many, many occasions.)

I have a friend who's seen GWTW – so he claims at senior citizen decaf coffee clutches – 50 times. He also loves to say, when offered four helpings of anything temptingly caloric, "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn!"

My friend's so-what admonition, when first originally climaxed by GWTW star Clark Gable to actress Vivien Leigh, caused a sensation. The audience shocker: DAMN! (Oh, my.) Leigh's response was more sanguine, "Oh, well. Tomorrow's another day."

It's hard to believe, what with today's "another PG-18 rating day" that GWTW's Rhett Butler's "damn!" shocked audiences in '39. But shock it did, thanks to Hollywood and Catholic Legion of Decency censorship that kept swearing, nudity, sex, perversion, suggestive tap dancing and limp wrists off the screen well into the 1960s. "Pregnant" came as a shocker that decade.

(A scenario from my not-so-innocent, prepubescent childhood: Several of us kids march up and down our neighborhood chanting, "Fuck! Fuck! Fuck!" It was an 8-year-old's clueless taste of forbidden fruit, and thanks to a grandmother with no hearing problems, also of Ivory Soap.)

Thirty years before GWTW, a gay playwright by the name of Clyde Fitch (1865-1909) shocked staid New York theatergoers with a well placed "goddamn" as a curtain closer for his 60th and final play, "The City." It was American theater's first swear in. It G-D'd for 190 performances.

If you've not heard of Fitch, he was this country's first internationally recognized playwright, once having four plays running at the same time on Broadway. (There's a passing reference to him in the Bette Davis movie, "All About Eve.") Fitch also liked to perform in drag.

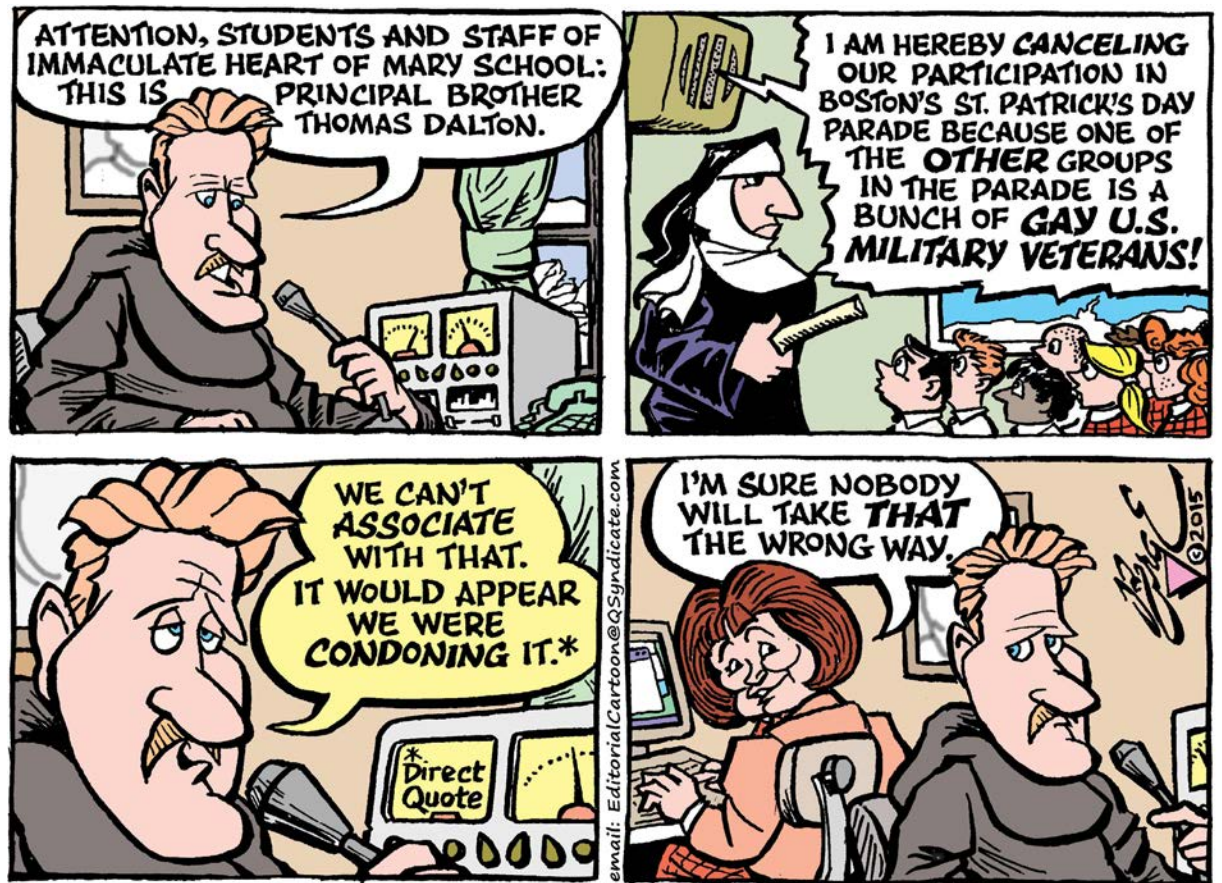
Clyde met Oscar Wilde while visiting London in 1889 and fell for the Irish playwright. He wrote Oscar love letters, one of which began, "You precious maddening man," adding, with an "amazing beautiful brain," and closing with a presumptive, "Nobody loves you as I do."

Alas! Clyde Fitch's hope for a love affair with Oscar never came to – shall we embellish poetically – fruition. A poet by the name of "Bosie," Lord Alfred Douglas, entered stage right. Clyde exited stage left. The rest is history. With an RIP footnote. Both Oscar and Clyde as exiles took their final curtain call nine years apart in France. Merde alors!

Oh, yes! Bout birthin' no babies. It was Butterfly McQueen. If you're under 35, you probably haven't a clue who she was. Or, for that matter, who actors Clark Gable, Vivien Lee and Leslie Howard were.

As for GWTW. It starts to happen along about age 50. Don't hold your breath.

Charles@pridesource.com



BTL Editorial: Net Neutrality Is A Queer Issue

Last week, the FCC voted to approve a new set of rules which would allow the agency to regulate the internet as many other essential utilities are regulated. That's good news for Americans, and particularly LGBT Americans.

Without the ability to regulate the internet, major internet service provider organizations were poised to begin implementing strategies to throttle back speeds for high traffic, high bandwidth websites like Netflix. Under those proposals, unless Netflix – or consumers – paid for more access to the fast lanes of the internet, the service would be shut down for those consumers.

Those proposals carried the terrifying whiff of censorship as well. If an ISP decided it didn't like the content being offered by a high traffic website, the ISP could throttle back or slow down access to the site.

We know that queer content has often been the target of censorship. It is not a stretch of the imagination that an ISP might slow down or even block access to a website because it was gay related. And with the ever growing "religious freedom" legislative movements, those organizations could easily claim a religious right to do so.

We know that queer content has often been the target of censorship. It is not a stretch of the imagination that an ISP might slow down or even block access to a website because it was gay related. And with the ever growing "religious freedom" legislative movements, those organizations could easily claim a religious right to do so.

Net Neutrality will not, as many opponents claim, slow down innovations. In fact, the opposite is true. Net Neutrality will keep the internet flowing, the ideas developing and, yes, the diversity of opinion – from factual to fanciful to downright paranoid – accessible to everyone and anyone with access.

That's a win for everyone. We live in an economy based on information technology. We live in a world where access to information is vital to life. We live at a time where the internet, even when overwhelmed with social posts about the color of ugly dresses or posts of cats, is a vital resource to informing the citizenry of local, state, national and international activities.

We know that the internet has

revolutionized the LGBT equality movement. We know it has revolutionized the way we meet, socialize and connect with each other. It has served as a platform to empower the transgender community, served as a connection to drive HIV testing and information and it has been used as a tool to lobby lawmakers to support LGBT-inclusive legislative actions.

Without the FCC's actions last week, all of that was in jeopardy. All of that was at the point of being controlled by a few major corporations focused on their bottom line, rather than the reality of the importance of the internet. The FCC's actions have protected the internet, free speech and most importantly the ability to innovate.

Disconnecting In Order To Reconnect To What Matters



OPINION BY MICHELLE E. BROWN

We have become so connected by text, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and all the rest, that sometimes we, myself included, forget about personal contacts.

I've followed relationships; seen them begin, flourish, sometimes fall apart, then rekindle – often with accompanying photos – on-line.

It's like we've all become Santa Claus – knowing when our friends are sleeping; when they're awake; when they've been bad or good. Especially hoping they've been good and if not, for goodness sake, not to have taken photos because they'll be all over the web for the world to see.

My data usage exceeds my actual minutes because, like so many of my friends, I just send a text. And when I have something juicy to say, I've figured out how to relay it in under 140 characters, including hash tags for maximum impact, via Twitter.

When asked about the last time I talked or heard from someone, I often find myself citing a tweet, text or post. I feel like I'm in touch but...

In recent months I have heard about engagements, weddings, births, job promotions and other events mostly on Facebook. It has been generally happy news.

Most of the time it hasn't come as a surprise. I've replied, "Congratulations," and then hit send. I've looked at the pictures, hit "like," smiled and shared them with mutual friends. Some of the more outrageous posts even merit a comment – "OMG," "WTF" and/or some personal remarks.

Sometimes the news hasn't been good – illnesses and, unfortunately, deaths. At these moments, "like" just doesn't get it and comments fall short. Thinking about the losses of Charity Hicks, Robert Clark, Tito Gutierrez, Chantay Legacy Leonard and Santiago Lopez, I have to say these have been the hardest.

We make friends; begin and end relationships; make announcements; organize; mobilize and get our local, national and our all-important entertainment news online.

The world not only is now flat but, with a click of a mouse, we can also connect with people and events across the globe. All this connectivity, all this knowledge at our finger tips... one would think all our problems should be over. In some instances, they seem to be exacerbated as we lose our connection with one another.

Are friends whom we only know in the Facebook World – no matter how many likes/shares – dearer or closer than our "ride or die" friends from 'back in the day'?

Are we getting beyond the posts, tweets and photos to get the details, to act and/or react beyond the one-click option? And after the firestorm of likes, posts, tweets and hash tags, how soon do we forget about the people?

Where are those kidnapped Nigerian school girls? How has life changed for the thousands living with ALS after the success of the "Ice Bucket" challenge? If "All Lives Matter," why are members of the black community and transgender community still in peril?

See Reconnection, page 14

TRIANGLE CHIROPRACTIC
GENTLE, EFFECTIVE
Chiropractic, Massage, Nutrition



JOHN TSAKOS, DC
MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED



INTEGRATE MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT
VIA NATURE AND CHIROPRACTIC

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

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



MORGAN BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION, INC.




KITCHEN REMODELING
BASEMENTS
PATIOS
GARAGES

BATHROOMS
ADA SPECIALISTS
BRICK PAVERS
ADDITIONS

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE • RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

8095 PARK PLACE SUITE 100, BRIGHTON, MI 48116
248-446-3320 | 248-446-3370 | MORGANBROTHERSCONST.COM



This year get the best return possible

COMPLETE ACCOUNTING SERVICES
COMPLETE TAX PREPARATION
for individual, partnership, and corporate
FINANCIAL PLANNING




Can't wrap your head around your finances and taxes?
Come in and see Alan for your best possible tax return

Alan T. Semonian, C.P.A.

248.584.1040

3336 West 12 Mile Road • Berkley, MI 48072
Fax 248.399.6902 1-800-TAX-ALAN • TaxAlan@aol.com




BTL
Between THE Lines™

OVER 7500 LIKES & COUNTING

JOIN THE CONVERSATION.

SEXUAL IDENTITY ISSUES ?



A leading expert on sex and relationships

Joekort Ph.D.
AND ASSOCIATES

Expert in:
Out-of-Control Sexual Behaviors
IMAGO Relationship Therapy
Sex Therapy, and
Sexual Identity Concerns

248-399-7317 • ROYAL OAK

www.JoeKort.com

Creep of the Week

Linda Wall

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Don't you hate it when you wake up one day and realize that your entire life has been one long improv sketch masterminded by Satan? You go to sleep totally G-A-Y and wake up the next morning strangling the snake of homosexuality (and that's not a euphemism. Or is it?).



Linda Wall

If you're an LGBT person and you haven't had this experience yet, just wait. On Feb. 28, ex-lesbian Linda Wall posted a handy step-by-step guide to learning that your big gay life is just a big gay lie on BarbWire.

Step one: Pray.

Step two: Get some garbage bags.

Step three: Clean out a scary basement.

Step four: Gay no more.

All for the low, low price of hating yourself.

Wall's column has the very subtle title of "Satan and the GLBT Demons" (which would be a cool name for, like, an avant-garde drag troupe that threw amazing Halloween parties). In it she makes an airtight argument linking homosexuality and Satanism.

"Ask yourself who would take the Creator's 'rainbow in the sky,' a promise to mankind, copy it and make it the logo for sexual perversion?" Wall asks. "Who would counterfeit the holy institution of marriage, one man and one woman, and re-write it to mean men can marry men, and women marry women? Who would dare challenge God's creation of male and female and offer the use of chemicals and sex surgery so some can masquerade opposite of their birth sex?"

I'm sure it was Jesus and not the looming threat of a felony hanging over Wall's head that "scared her straight" and inspired her to dedicate her life to persecuting LGBT people.

I really want to answer these questions with, "The Candy Man can," even though I know that's not the answer Wall is looking for.

"It is none other than Satan himself," Wall writes.

Then she goes into a long story about cleaning vacated rental properties and dreaming of a snake and using 50 gallon trash bags to snuff out her lesbian demons, or something to that effect.

She goes on to claim that her boss, whom she describes as "an owner of an art gallery" and a preacher at a Unitarian church (wink, wink), would invite her to attend séances at his house "where the windows were painted black."

She adds, "It seemed that every time I turned around, my employer was trying to get me to drink something or eat something that was described as 'good for you.'"

Uh, that means what, exactly? Margaritas and marijuana? Or kombucha and kale? Is there even a difference? It's all very mysterious.

"There had also been an ongoing campaign at the gay bar I frequented to convince me to be hypnotized," she writes. "I had a feeling I had truly encountered the occult."

First, I wondered, "What is it with patrons at gay bars always wanting to hypnotize people?" but then I started seeing Wall's article as a cry for help. Very few of the experiences she recounts take place outside of her own head. Wall has quite the vivid imagination and apparently experienced a break from reality that she's blaming on lesbianism rather than what appears to be some kind of psychosis.

She's promised that there will be a part 2 of "Satan and the GLBT Demons" where she'll share how she "escaped" from lesbianism.

Maybe she'll talk about being a 21-year-old junior high gym teacher having a sexual relationship with a minor, which she blamed on being a "heavy pot smoker."

But, hey, I'm sure it was Jesus and not the looming threat of a felony hanging over her head that "scared her straight" and inspired her to dedicate her life to persecuting LGBT people. The gays should have hypnotized her when they had the chance.

Federal Judge Blocks Nebraska Same-Sex Marriage Ban

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

OMAHA, Neb. — A federal judge blocked Nebraska's gay marriage ban March 2, and the attorney general's office immediately appealed the decision to the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Nebraska sued the state in November on behalf of seven same-sex couples challenging the ban, which passed with the approval of 70 percent of voters in 2000. In addition to prohibiting gay marriage, the ban also forbids civil unions and legalized domestic partnerships.

Same-sex couples miss out on medical and financial benefits that are available to heterosexual married couples, U.S. District Judge Joseph Bataillon said in issuing the injunction, which takes effect March 9.

"All of the plaintiffs have further demonstrated psychological harm and stigma, on themselves and on their children, as a result of the non-recognition of their marriages," he said in his 34-page ruling. "The plaintiffs have been denied the dignity and respect that comes with the rights and responsibilities of marriage."

Bataillon rejected the state's argument that the ban reflects the

will of a majority of voters and promotes family stability. He said he believes the U.S. Supreme Court will ultimately endorse same-sex marriage rights, which have been upheld in four appellate districts.

"The notion that some children should receive fewer legal protections than others based on the circumstances of their birth is not only irrational — it is constitutionally repugnant," he said.

Bataillon previously struck down Nebraska's gay marriage ban in 2005, and the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reinstated it in 2006.

The Nebraska attorney general's office filed an appeal right after Bataillon issued the injunction. A spokeswoman for Republican Attorney General Doug Peterson said attorneys in their office were reviewing the ruling and would issue a statement later Monday.

Nebraska's case could be heard along with pending appeals filed by Missouri, Arkansas and South Dakota after judges in each of those states struck down same-sex marriage restrictions. Oral arguments in those cases are scheduled for May.

Gov. Pete Ricketts, a Republican, said the majority of Nebraskans voted for the

constitutional amendment.

"The definition of marriage is an issue for the people of Nebraska, and an activist judge should not substitute his personal political preferences for the will of the people," Ricketts said.

Susan and Sally Waters of Omaha, who have been together for 17 years and were legally married in California in 2008, are among the couples suing to overturn the ban. They returned to their native Nebraska in 2010.

Sally Waters was diagnosed with terminal breast cancer in 2013, and says that without formal recognition of their marriage, her spouse won't receive the same tax and Social Security benefits to take care of the couple's children and will have to pay an 18 percent inheritance tax on half of the property they share, including their family home.

Another plaintiff, Nick Kramer, said he wants the ban to be overturned to give his partner, Jason Cadek, automatic custody rights for his adopted 3-year-old daughter. Kramer and Cadek married in Iowa in 2013.

"We're excited about this ruling and happy that Judge Bataillon decided that our family was worth recognizing."

► Reconnection

Continued from p. 13

Don't get me wrong, I believe in social media — its ability to connect, inform, motivate and even empower us. But I believe in the power of the personal.

I believe in the power of real conversations with actual friends, checking in on one another and giving real hugs. What if we went out of our way to make a new acquaintance in the real world, like getting to know your neighbor, saying hello to a stranger and smiling (I mean actually smiling with your mouth... not an emoji).

As much as I love looking at photos and sharing with my friends, I believe it is just as important — if not more so — to live

our LGBTQ lives out in the world so that everyone can see we — our loves, our families and our lives — are as diverse and unique as any other, and our quest for equality is just and right.

I am no stranger to the selfie, but more important than the likes from friends are the visible changes in attitude from people when my love and I exchange a hug, kiss or hold hands in the real world while at dinner, walking down the street or even traveling.

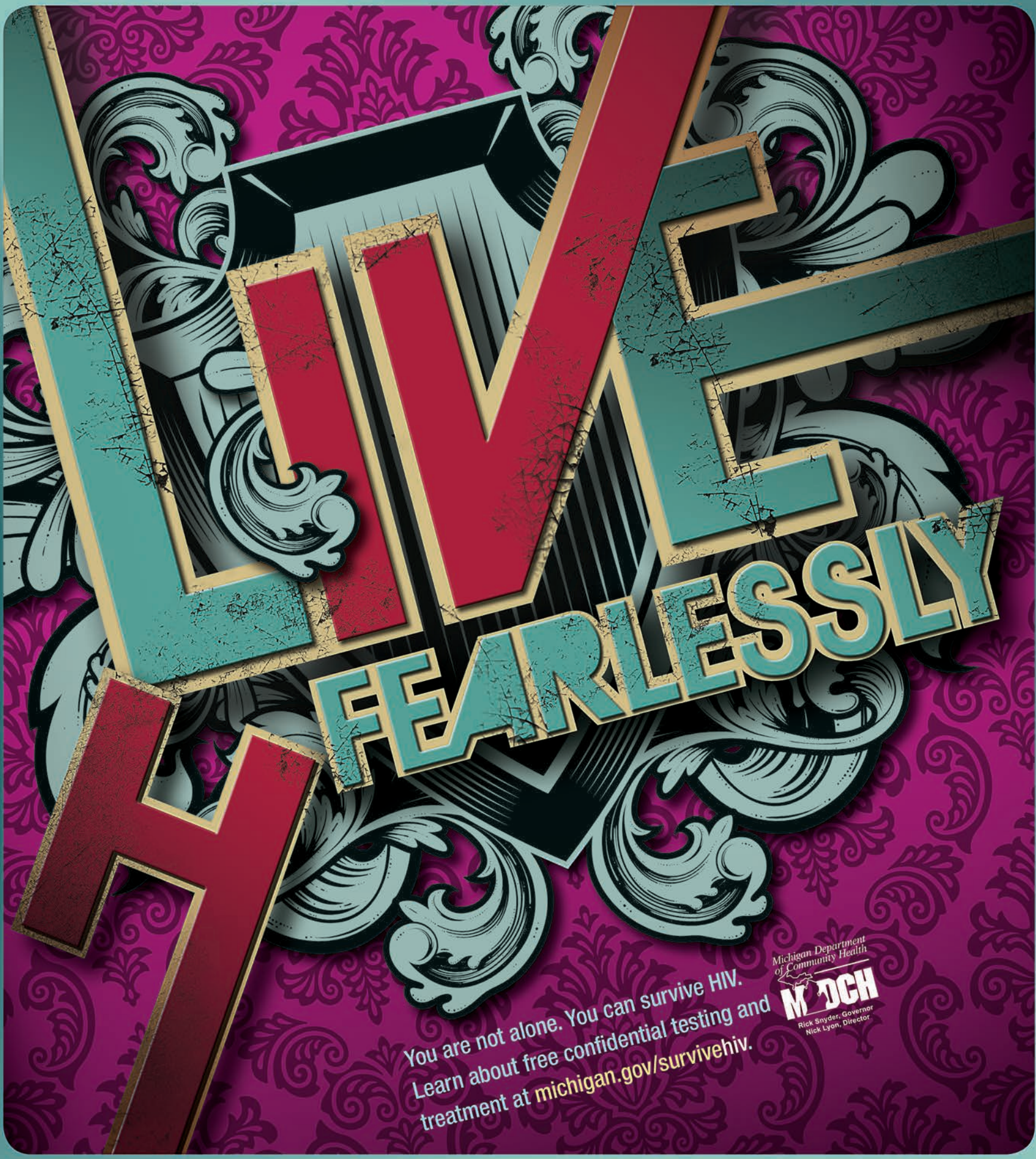
Maybe it's time to come out again — out from behind our computers, tablets and smartphones and be out in our communities.

Let's use social media as a platform to dive back into the lives of our friends, to strengthen the connections within our

community, to share news from near and far that will educate, empower and remind us that oppression is interlinked and cannot be solved alone.

But more importantly, let's use social media to tap into our intersectionality, then move our hearts and minds to get off the couch and get out there to build a better world that, even though it has been flattened by technology, is richer by the diversity found in our online worlds.

Michelle E. Brown is a public speaker, activist and author. Her books are available at bookstore.authorhouse.com or www.mychangeiam.com. You can also follow her at www.twitter.com/mychangeiam.



You are not alone. You can survive HIV.
Learn about free confidential testing and
treatment at michigan.gov/survivehiv.

Michigan Department
of Community Health
M DCH
Rick Snyder, Governor
Nick Lyon, Director

Roads, Transvaginal Ultrasounds, Adoption And Right-to-Work, Oh My...

POLITICAL HORS D'OEUVRES

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Government Small Enough To Insert In Your Vagina

The party of “smaller government” is living up to those promises. That damned government and all its regulations are hurting freedom, you know? So shrinking government and eliminating burdensome regulations like requiring employees working in food service to wash their hands is all about “freedom” and requiring women to have medical devices shoved in their vaginas in order to qualify for an abortion is not a burden on freedom.

Michigan Republican lawmakers on Feb. 25 introduced legislation in the state house to do just that.

Sponsors of the bill include members of the unholy trinity, Reps. Cindy Gamrat, R-Plainwell, and Todd Courser, R-Lapeer, along with the aptly named Rep. Tom Hooker from Wyoming.

The folks over at Democracy Tree point out that the legislation would prohibit a woman from getting an abortion until a medical professional has determined there is a fetal heartbeat. As writer Amy Kerr Hardin points out, most over-the-counter pregnancy tests can accurately detect a pregnancy in the time period (up to six weeks) before a fetus has a beating heart. As a result, the abortions in early pregnancy – before a fetus has a heartbeat – would be illegal.

But wait folks, it gets better and better on this one.

So, you're a woman who is four weeks pregnant. You have the tests to prove it. But your fetus has not yet developed a heartbeat. What's a woman to do, since the GOP doesn't want you to remove that fetus without a heartbeat?

According to the legislation, the physician should “immediately perform an additional diagnostic procedure or procedures that may detect a fetal heartbeat or to delay until a later date performing a diagnostic procedure to determine if the fetus is physically developing.” And how does a physician accomplish this feat? Why, with a transvaginal ultrasound!

Hey, but if Gamrat gets her way – even this pesky ultrasound thing won't be an issue. On Feb. 26, her PR flacks put out a press release announcing introduction of legislation that would declare life begins at conception.

“Rep. Gamrat's House Bill 4279 would extend the full protections and rights enjoyed by Michigan citizens to the unborn,” the release reads. “She estimates the bill, if passed and signed into law, could save the

lives of over 23,000 babies lost to abortion in Michigan annually. The bill has garnered 22 co-sponsors in the Michigan House of Representatives.”

“As medicine and technology have advanced, the scientific consensus is indisputable: life begins at conception. This legislation brings together people of faith and reason to protect the lives and rights of the most vulnerable among us,” said Rep. Gamrat.

The bill is not yet online for review, but the press release claims the bill would have an exception for the life of the mother.

While State GOP Tries To Stop Abortions, They Are Also Trying to Stop Gay Adoptions

While the GOP is busy making it harder – if not impossible – for a woman to get an abortion, they're also in the process of allowing adoption programs to deny adoptions to otherwise qualified parents because of “sincerely held religious beliefs.” No, seriously. This old chestnut is back.

Activists from Adrian have mounted a Facebook campaign to counter the bills and are planning a protest at the Capitol at 12 p.m. on Thursday, March 5.

“Think the Michigan LGBTQ Community should be discriminated against when it comes to foster care placement and adoption?” says activist Nicole Gestwite in an email announcing the protests. “No?! Neither do we. You, yes you are more than welcome and encouraged to join us in raising your voice in opposition!! Children need homes. They need good homes. Why would anyone want to deny a child a good home?”

Road Funding Ballot Language Approved

As the last legislature was putting the dust covers on the furniture and computers at the end of the lame duck session, they attempted to address the state's crumbling roads. A proposal to do that with gasoline taxes – which was supported by former Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville, R-Monroe, and Gov. Rick Snyder – failed to gain approval from the Michigan house. A compromise was struck, shifting the decision to voters for the May 5, 2015 ballot.

Now the language to approve that funding scheme has been approved. Here is the

While the GOP is busy making it harder – if not impossible – for a woman to get an abortion, they're also in the process of allowing adoption programs to deny adoptions to otherwise qualified parents because of “sincerely held religious beliefs.”

approved language (as provided by the Secretary of State):

THE FOLLOWING STATEWIDE BALLOT PROPOSAL WILL APPEAR ON THE MAY 5, 2015 SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT PROPOSAL 15-1

A proposal to amend the State Constitution to increase the sales/use tax from 6 percent to 7 percent to replace and supplement reduced revenue to the School Aid Fund and local units of government caused by the elimination of the sales/use tax on gasoline and diesel fuel for vehicles operating on public roads, and to give effect to laws that provide additional money for roads and other transportation purposes by increasing the gas tax and vehicle registration fees.

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Eliminate sales / use taxes on gasoline / diesel fuel for vehicles on public roads.
- Increase portion of use tax dedicated to School Aid Fund (SAF).
- Expand use of SAF to community colleges and career / technical education, and prohibit use for 4-year colleges / universities.
- Give effect to laws, including those that:
 - Increase sales / use tax to 7 percent, as authorized by constitutional amendment.
 - Increase gasoline / diesel fuel tax and adjust annually for inflation, increase vehicle registration fees, and dedicate revenue for roads and other transportation purposes.
 - Expand competitive bidding and warranties for road projects.
 - Increase earned income tax credit.

Should this proposal be adopted? YES NO

The proposal is expected to raise an additional \$1.3 billion in revenue for the state. But critics have noted that there is nothing in the proposal which would require the state to actually spend the money on local governments and schools (which have both seen declining revenue sharing from the state for over a decade). In fact, they note, this current budget adjustment process - revenue estimates in February showed the state was hundreds of millions of dollars in the red –resulted in a cut of about \$53 million in education funding to balance the books.

The proposal is not popular – with conservatives or progressives – and is struggling for positive approval ratings in polling. Expect this to be an expensive and very messy fight in the coming months. And be

aware, there is no plan to fund fixing the roads if this proposal does fail in May. It's a ‘damned if you do, damned if you don't’ situation.

Glenn Proposes Extending State Right To Work Law To Cops And Firefighters

While Rep. Gary Glenn is not a sponsor of the transvaginal ultrasound bill with his two other unholy trinity members, he is busy. He has introduced legislation to expand the state's right to work law – legislation that allows folks to benefit from union negotiations and

protections without actually being part of and paying dues to the union (most folks call that freeloading) – to cover law enforcement and fire fighters.

Right to Work was rammed through the state legislature in 2012 amid protests. Police and firefighters were exempted from that law, but Glenn tells MLive.com, “There is no justification for denying that same protection from public safety employees.”

Police interviewed by MLive said the proposal was ill-advised, noting police and firefighters are already prohibited by law from striking, which erodes their negotiating powers.

Glenn is currently shopping the proposal to other lawmakers. Stay tuned.



Is well known anti-gay activist and newly elected state house legislator Gary Glenn (Midland) serving the people?

► HIV Studies

Continued from p. 6

Cancer Rates – Cancer rates in HIV-positive Americans are 50 percent higher than HIV-negative Americans, a new study has found.

“In 2010, an estimated 7,760 cancers occurred among the nearly 900,000 HIV-diagnosed Americans,” POZ Magazine reported. “Out of those cancers, 3,920, or 50 percent, exceeded the figure expected of them if they did not have HIV. The most common cancers occurring at disproportionate rates among people with HIV were non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma (with 1,440 more cancers than what is expected in an HIV-negative group, for an excess rate of 88 percent), Kaposi’s sarcoma (910 more cancers, 100 percent excess), anal cancer (740 more cancers, 97 percent excess) and lung cancer (440 more cancers, 52 percent excess).” (POZ Magazine)

AFRICA – Abstinence-only HIV prevention funding in Africa doesn’t work. A second year medical student at Stanford has published a study reviewing data on efficacy of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief’s abstinence and fidelity messaging focuses. Nathan Lo found the policies were failing, reports the New York Times. Lo reviewed state department data looking at age of onset of sexual activity, teen pregnancy rates and number of annual partners in 22 African nations. Fourteen of those nations received PEPFAR funding while eight did not. He reviewed data from 1998 to the present. His results were that PEPFAR had “no detectable effect” in addressing sexual risk behaviors for HIV in the 14 African nations that received the money. (NYTimes.com)



Official: Nebraska Agency Ignoring Ban On Gay Foster Parents

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) – Nebraska welfare officials have been placing foster children in the homes of gay, lesbian and unmarried couples since before Gov. Pete Ricketts took office in January, despite a 1995 policy barring the state from doing so, the governor’s spokesman said Monday.

The state’s Department of Health and Human Services established a policy in 1995 that prohibited the placement of foster children with gay and lesbian couples or unmarried couples unless they are related to the children.

During a review of state agencies, Ricketts’ office learned that the DHHS has been ignoring the policy, his spokesman Taylor Gage said. He said he didn’t know when the state began placing children with such couples or how many children had been placed in such homes.

The American Civil Liberties Union and ACLU of Nebraska filed a lawsuit in 2013 on behalf of three Nebraska couples who say they were denied licenses to be foster parents based on their sexual orientation. Nebraska has continued to defend the policy and the case is pending in Lancaster County District Court.

Gage said the governor’s office is working with DHHS on a new policy that will be “in line with state law and practices that continue to reflect best interest of child and Nebraska family values,” but he didn’t say when the new policy might be in place or whether it would allow gay, lesbian and unmarried couples to continue fostering children.

A state Senate committee is reviewing legislation that would bar discrimination against potential foster parents based on their sexual orientation, gender identity or other factors. The bill’s sponsor, Sen. Jeremy Nordquist, said it’s not enough to simply ignore the 1995 policy.

“If we could get some clarity, there wouldn’t be any need for legislation,” he said.

Only Nebraska and Utah have policies prohibiting gay people from being foster parents. Critics of Nebraska’s policy say the state already lacks safe homes for 3,000 wards of the state, 33 percent of whom have been placed in four or more homes.

High Court Rejects California Dispute Over Disclosing Donors

WASHINGTON (AP) – The Supreme Court has turned away an appeal from same-sex marriage opponents in California who want to keep the identities of their campaign donors secret.

The justices on Monday let stand a lower court ruling against ProtectMarriage.com, the National Organization

for Marriage and other supporters of a 2008 ballot initiative that outlawed same-sex marriages in California until the ban was overturned five years later.

The groups sought to conceal their past and future campaign finance records because they feared harassment of donors. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against them in part because the names have been publicly available for five years.

State law requires political committees to identify those who contribute more than \$100 during or after a campaign, along with the donor’s address, occupation and employer.



Nebraska gay rights activists protesting. AP photo

32 Gay Rights Activists Arrested In Idaho House And Senate

BOISE, Idaho (AP) – More than 30 gay rights activists have been arrested after protesting in the Idaho House and Senate chambers in an attempt to pressure

lawmakers into passing anti-discrimination protections.

Activists taking part in the protest that started Monday morning warned they would not voluntarily leave until legislators consider adding four words – sexual orientation and gender identity – to the Idaho Human Rights Act.

Idaho State Police spokeswoman Teresa Baker says the protesters were charged with misdemeanor trespassing, two of which were juveniles.

Republican lawmakers earlier this year rejected legislation that would have amended the state’s Human Rights Act, which currently bans workplace and housing discrimination based on race, gender or religion.

Monday’s actions follow similar demonstrations conducted during the 2014 legislative session, when more than a 100 protesters were arrested.

NYC Mayor Won’t March In Fifth Avenue St. Patrick’s Day Parade

NEW YORK (AP) – Mayor Bill de Blasio is not planning to march in the nation’s biggest and oldest St. Patrick’s Day parade.

De Blasio skipped the Manhattan parade last year, his first as mayor, because its organizers banned displays of gay pride.

This year, one group is permitted to carry an LGBT-themed banner in the March 17 parade up Fifth Avenue.

But aides to the mayor said Monday that de Blasio would only reconsider if the parade more broadly changed its policy.

De Blasio marched in an inclusive St. Patrick’s parade in Queens on Sunday.

De Blasio, a Democrat, became the first mayor in 20 years to skip the Manhattan march.

GENERAL RV CENTER 25000 Assembly Park Dr. Wixom, MI 48393

Lori J. Macdonald
248-349-0900 x 7079

Mention this ad to Lori for a family discount!

OVER 3,000 RVs TO CHOOSE FROM!



Happy To Be Cage-Free

Boarding and Daycare Services in this issue:

4 Paws Community Center
2244 Franklin Rd.,
Bloomfield Hills
248-230-PAWS

Animal Learning Systems
Birmingham,
Detroit, Grosse
Pointes, Royal Oak,
Rochester
313-882-6180 248-
236-9974

Canine College
23717 Research
Drive, Farmington
Hills
248-427-8245

Club Pet
3181 Walnut Lake
Court, Commerce
Township
248-669-4501
1400 E. Commerce
Road, Milford
248-685-8836

Fernlee Kenels
4507 Fernlee Ave.,
Royal Oak
248-549-5182

Key-Lore
Pet Rest Gardens
7185 Gillette Road,
Flushing
810-659-5951

Wag'n Tails
Pet Resort
2802 Alpha Access,
Lansing
517-482-7799

Unique Approach Creates Canine Community

BY AJ TRAGER

PLYMOUTH - While owners go on vacations or set out on their daily routine, a small facility dedicated to the temporary care of pets offers a safe and fun environment for dogs who are in need of a “home away from home.”

A team of 15 individuals runs a completely cage-free “doggy day care” in Plymouth that is a daytime and overnight home for hundreds of furry friends.

Happy Hounds, established

in 2004, was formed out of love and devotion for dogs of all sizes and breeds, providing dogs with supervised care so their owners don’t have to leave them alone at home. Dogs who spend their days at Happy Hounds will experience an open environment where they can play, mingle, sleep and relax with other dogs while being supervised at all times by day care personnel.

“I really love that there is a story behind every dog,” Christine Perez, manager of Happy Hounds, said during a recent visit by BTL.

Perez got her feet wet at Happy Hounds back when it first started but became a full-time staff member in 2011. Before she spent her days covered in puppy hair and drool, Perez served as a firefighter for Plymouth

Township and was a paramedic for 16 dedicated years before that. All staff at Happy Hounds is trained in pet emergency aid and CPR.

The play areas at the doggy day care are separated by dog size and temperament. Smaller dogs run and play without distraction or intimidation from larger breeds; everyone has the chance to inhabit all indoor and outdoor play areas.

Since all the dogs spend the day commingled, dogs who have not had prior experience with other dogs will be slowly integrated into the larger group at a pace that makes sense to them.

“The younger dogs respect the older dogs, and the older dogs will babysit and call out the younger ones if they are being too rambunctious or are

inappropriately jumping on others in the room,” Perez said. “Dogs are instinctively pack animals; they really enjoy being around other dogs.”

Dogs 4 months and older can come to the day care but must be vaccinated and spayed or neutered by 7 months of age; they must be non-aggressive, not toy or food protective and be a member of the family’s household for a minimum of 30 days. Throughout the day, dogs are offered nap time, snacks, games, access to puppy toys and plenty of attention.

Perez’s favorite part of the job is spending every day with the distinct personalities of the dogs.

“Sometimes the dogs look like the owners, and they take on the

See Happy Hounds, page 22



www.CanineCollegeMi.com

- 🐾 Five Large Play Fields
- 🐾 Yummy School Lunches Available
- 🐾 PCSA Certified Faculty
- 🐾 Hydrosurge Bathing System
- 🐾 Constant Supervision
- 🐾 Tons of Safe, Interactive Toys
- 🐾 Live Web viewing on College Vision
- 🐾 All Day Play

It's Cool to Drool!

CANINE COLLEGE

FREE First Daycare Visit*

*following successful passing of temperament test, must be used on day of temperament test

23717 Research Drive,
Farmington Hills, MI 48335 (248) 427-8245
Located 1/4 mile East of 10 Mile & Haggerty

Award winning dog daycare, boarding, grooming & training



The Chase Coat for Big Dogs, LLC.

Price: \$60-350

We have your special furry family member "covered" throughout the seasons! The Chase Coat Classic features custom, handmade coats of unique neoprene (outer shell) and Polartec (inner lining).

We offer coats for dogs of all sizes. Customized neck-to-tail lengths range from 10" to foal size. We'll even embroider your pet's name and also have the ability to digitize/embroider clip-art on the coat. Ships with a free slouch scarf. Multi-pet discounts are available.



Also available for Spring/Fall weather is The Chase Classic Rain Coat which features our signature lighter Neoprene shell and our lining is a soft 100% cotton Terry Cloth...



(Made for a boxer)



www.ChaseCoat.com

248-957-8573

info@chasecoat.com



Located in Farmington Hills

CLUB PET
www.club-pet.net

your PET'S home away from home

3181 Walnut Lake Court Commerce Township
(one block East of M-5 off Pontiac Trail)
248-669-4501

1400 E. Commerce Road In the village of Milford
(248) 685-8836

Business Hours:

7am-7pm Mon-Sat
7am-11am and
3pm-7pm Sun
(Boarding Only)

Boarding *for dogs & cats*
Day Care
Grooming

- Club Pet has 17 years of experience providing personal and loving care for your pets!
- Generous multi-pet discounts for boarding and day-care! Flexible day care packages to fit any schedule or budget.
- Separate play areas for dogs of all ages and sizes!
- Family owned, owner-operated!
- Straightforward, all-inclusive pricing- no pricey add-ons! Your pets always get our 100%!
- Stop in anytime for a facility tour: Open Monday-Saturday 7AM-7PM, and Sundays from 7-11AM & 3-7PM.
- Come see for yourself why your neighbors and friends only trust CLUB PET!





The Moment Of Awe

Arachnids, Reptiles, Amphibians Key To Helping People

BY TODD A. HEYWOOD

LANSING – A little boy – about 8 years old – stood before him, a mason jar full of coins. The child was over the moon excited as he announced “I get a hamster today!”

That moment, says Michael Borchard, 43, was an “awe moment,” and exemplifies why he loves his work at Preuss Pets. This store is a venerable Lansing institution – beyond anything one might imagine when the words “pet store” are raised. It features 10,000 square feet of retail space, and another 15,000 of stock. The store grows much of the coral it offers for sale right in the facility, and breeds many of the freshwater fish it offers as well. In the reptile and small animal department that Borchard manages, they have 2,500 square feet of retail space. On site, they breed various species of frogs, at least a half dozen species

of small mammals, two species of tarantulas and two species of lizards.

Borchard has been with the family owned store for over half his life. He was hired to work at the store when he was 19 years old. This coming year he will celebrate a quarter of a century. When he was first hired, he was there to do whatever was needed in the company’s Haslett location. The company also had a location on Lansing’s southside.

A terrible fire in 1993 – just days before Christmas – tore through the south Lansing location, killing most of the animals. The store was a total loss. But some animals did manage to survive the inferno. Some frogs, a guinea pig, tarantulas and some fish. The store’s red legged tortoises – Fred and Ginger – also survived the fire, although the two land animals required intensive vet care for smoke inhalation as well as burns received

when the plastic rim on their enclosure melted and dripped onto them. Both are alive and well to this day, living in a converted meat sales case at the Old Town Lansing location. All the surviving animals were transported to Haslett.

The surviving guinea pig – the only mammal to live through the fire – became the stud in a harem of guinea pigs. He had originally been slated to be sold as reptile food.

The Preuss family decided to offer reptiles and small animals at the Haslett location, and Borchard was tapped to manage the operation

“Out of the ashes of that unfortunate situation came the phoenix: Michael,” he says with a smile.

As long as he can remember, Borchard says, he has been fascinated by animals.

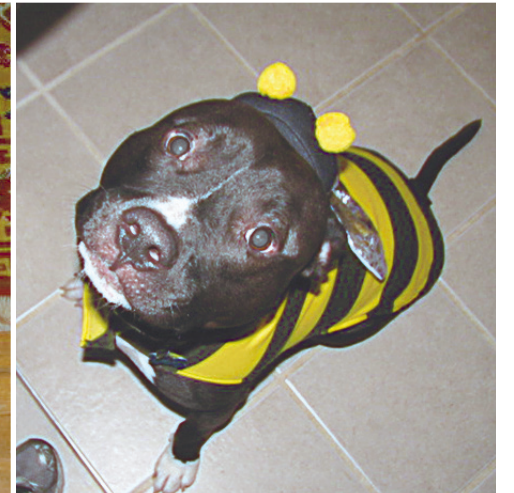
“I see the beauty in every creature.”

See Moment of Awe, page 22

Dogs (And Friends) In Drag

COMPILED BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

Fashion isn't just for humans anymore. BTL readers submitted pictures of their own little models, all decked out in human "drag." Check out these furry friends as they show off the outfits that made it down the runway – or maybe just the sidewalk.



PATTERSON
DOG



CAT
HOSPITAL

Established in 1844

Glynes D. Graham, DVM
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

3800 Grand River, Detroit, MI 48208-2866
tel: 313.832.7282 fax: 313.832.4990

www.pattersondogandcat.com



Wag'n Tails
Pet Resort

2802 Alpha Access
Lansing, MI 48910
Mon-Fri 8 am to 6 pm
Sat 8 am to noon
Sun 11 am to 5 pm

Boarding/ Day Care 🐾 Grooming & Spa



YOUR PET'S HOME AWAY FROM HOME!

Wag'N Tails Pet Resort has been welcoming pets from the Greater Lansing Area for over 20 years!

Our Services

To help our guests enjoy their stay, each will receive all the love and attention they crave and deserve. Our services include: 🐾 Dog & cat boarding 🐾 Dog & cat grooming 🐾 Dog Daycare
🐾 Puppy socialization and obedience reinforcement 🐾 Leashed nature walks in Scott's Woods

517-482-7799



www.wagntailspetresort.net



2150 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
ONE BLOCK EAST OF STADIUM BLVD
(734) 662-4474

Always Here ... Always Ready ... Always Caring!

**Primary Care, Critical Care,
and Emergency Medicine**
Experienced doctor on site
24 hours a day, 365 days a year

- Preventive Health Plans
- Vaccinations
- Neuters / Spays
- Advanced Dentistry
- ICU
- Ultrasound & Digital Radiography
- Advanced Surgery
- Laser Therapy
- Acupuncture Therapy
- Chiropractic Medicine
- Regenerative Medicine
- Drive-thru for Rx pick-up
- Onsite Laboratory



www.AnnArborAnimalHospital.com

Emergency Veterinary Care

renowned expertise

- 🐾 **24 hour** 🐾 Emergency Veterinary Care
- 🐾 Critical care coverage for Oakland County and surrounding communities
- 🐾 Highly qualified emergency vets with over 60 years combined experience
- 🐾 Offering unsurpassed patient care anytime, day or night
- 🐾 Call **248-334-6877** with your pet's emergency

Our Specialties

Behavioral Medicine | Cardiology
Complementary & Alternative Medicine
Dermatology & Allergy | Diagnostic Imaging
Emergency & Critical Care | Internal Medicine
Oncology | Ophthalmology | Surgery



OAKLAND VETERINARY
REFERRAL SERVICES

www.ovrs.com

1400 South Telegraph Road | Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

ANIMAL HAUS, INC.

Professional Pet Stylists

animalhaus8904@mi.rr.com

Monique



248-344-8904

547 W. Seven Mile Rd
Northville, MI 48167

Closed: Sunday & Monday

Tuesday thru Saturday
8:30 am until 5:30 pm



Crown Pharmacy

Specializing in providing world class HIV
pharmaceutical care



866-575-3784 (toll free)
www.crownpharmacy.com

24401 Plymouth Rd., Redford, MI 48239
313-532-DRUG (3784) 313-532-3718 (fax)
crownpharmacy1@aol.com

OWNER: Val Randall

HOURS: M-F 10 am - 6 pm Weds 10am-5pm
Closed Weekends and Holidays



Low Cost Pet Prescriptions

MAKE YOUR DOG FEEL LUCKY
WITH OUR
**BOARD AND TRAIN
PROGRAM**



2 WEEK TRAINING PROGRAM
A FUN BOOTCAMP
FOR YOU AND
YOUR DOG

(810) 659-5951

WWW.PETREST.COM



"For people who pamper their pets"

©2015, Key-Lore

► Moment of Awe

Continued from p. 20

he says. "Even the dung beetle. I think it's adorable the way they pick up the dung and move it around."

His eyes light up and he becomes particularly animated as he discusses his fascination with tarantulas, particularly the three he has at home. He says he is fascinated by the way they molt, the fact that they will regrow a fang or an appendage and that, when creating burrows, they use their fangs to move dirt.

The metamorphosis demonstrated by molting spiders is something that fascinates him in general and feeds his greatest fascination – frogs. He says he loves the transition from an animal which is solely a water dwelling animal to an animal that is land dwelling.

"Maybe I was attracted to that at a young age because it told me that someone could become someone else, something else," he says.

The frog fascination began early. He recalls visiting the local "crick" to collect frogs and crayfish, and bringing them home for a time, then releasing them again. He said that fascination might have been fed by stories from his mother who told him that as a child she had "rescued" frogs from her older brothers, offering them first-aid and helping them mend before releasing them again.

"That really stuck with me," he says of his mother's tales. "It was always instilled in me that we needed to take care of animals."

And his parents were supportive of his endeavors with animals.

"They never discouraged me. They always said, 'As long as you can take care of them,'" he says of his parents and his animals.

This early fascination and story telling from his mother has combined to create a life long passion.

"It's my calling," he says. "Everyday I come across a situation where I think, 'What would happen if I hadn't been here to help?'"

This fits into an overall philosophy that has made the Preuss family store an institution in Michigan – an institution that has reaped numerous local, state and national awards for its unique blend of education, compassion and service.

Jean Preuss, the family matriarch who passed away in the late '90s, once said the

goal of the store was to help people find an animal to connect with. In that connection, she believed, people were able to find love. She discovered this from the connections of her family's foster children and from watching the customers regularly.

It was Jean, working at another local pet store before she had opened her own, who first worked with Borchard. There he was, the 8-year-old, brimming with excitement at the purchase of his first goldfish.

Jean was standing at the counter at that other store which closed decades ago, he says.

"She was just talking to me – to me – instilling this responsibility for caring for this fish," he says of that day and that moment. A moment he sees repeated every day at Preuss.

And the store has become a refuge for people as well, he notes. That too was something Jean had imagined as the core to her philosophy.

"I had a customer who was in the other day – I knew her as a guinea pig customer. I asked her if there was anything I could get for her, and she said no. Her pigs were all set," he says. "But then she said, but I am not OK, and I just needed to be here."

Borchard himself will sometimes come to the store when he is not working and wander through. "It is calming. You lose yourself," he says.

He laughs at the apparent contradiction presented in the stereotype of being gay, and his own reality.

"You know we're not supposed to like the creepy crawlies, yet here I am," he says.

That's an important reality for him too, particularly as he works to share his fascination and admiration for the animals in his care. People have fears of reptiles and spiders, he acknowledges. But they are judging them by their cover, which is never a good idea – whether an animal or a person.

So he revels in the opportunity to help people become a little more interested in, and little less afraid of, the creatures in his care. He says he looks for the "awe" moment in those interactions.

"That's when they walk away with a little less fear, and a little more understanding," he says. "That's the awe moment. That's when it matters."

► Happy Hounds

Continued from p. 18

same personalities. If they are stressed, the dog is going to be stressed," she said.

The cage-free atmosphere isn't extremely common in the state and grants the dogs freedom to move about, decreasing any anxiety and stress that may build up as a result of being separated from their owner. While in the care of Happy Hounds, owners can watch their pet on three different streaming video cameras and take part in

monthly birthday parties and holiday parties hosted for the dogs and their families, too.

Working with so many dogs is a very dirty but rewarding job, according to Perez, who enjoys being able to provide the care and services so that no pet spends the day caged and alone at home.

The leash-free environment isn't for every dog, but those that do make it show improved mood and are as tired at the end of the day as their working family.

Go to www.happyhoundsdaycare.com to see the streaming video or to get more information.

Dog-gone Stains?

Let us tame your tough pet accidents on Carpet, Rugs and Furniture!



HAGOPIAN

Expect the Best... Expect the Purple Truck!

Oak Park • Birmingham • Novi • Utica • Ann Arbor

Serving our customers for over 75 years!

1-800-HAGOPIAN (424-6742) www.originalhagopian.com

We are proud supporters of the Michigan Animal Adoption Network. Please help by donating unopened bags of dog and cat food at any Hagopian location.



RUG CLEANING

2 FOR 1

Bring your rugs to any of our drop-off centers and we'll clean every other one **FREE!**

Ask about our expert rug repair!

CARPET CLEANING

\$79⁹⁹

Any 3 Rooms

7' SOFA OR 2 CHAIRS \$59.⁹⁹

some restrictions apply



Lynne King Owner

31243 Southfield Rd.
Beverly Hills,
Michigan 48025

PET GROOMERS 248-731-7760

www.caninecouture.us

caninecouturellc@yahoo.com

Bring this ad in and receive \$5.00 off a full groom service

Holistic Approaches To Pet Care Improve Family Lives

BY AJ TRAGER

BERKLEY—For many pet owners, taking good care of their pet's health is a top priority. Just like their human counterparts, pets need a healthy diet, exercise and companionship in order to maintain a healthy lifestyle, and many families are choosing a holistic approach to the more conventional way of practicing medicine.

Natural Healing Pet Care in Berkley specializes in holistic medicine for dogs, cats, rabbits and sometimes ferrets and is run by Dr. Nicole LeVeque and Dr. Eva Groesbeck, graduates of the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Together they incorporate acupuncture, veterinary spinal manipulation therapy, nutritional counseling, anesthesia-free teeth cleaning, laser therapy, traditional Chinese herbal therapy, homeopathic remedies and use of essential oils into their health practice. Their techniques may be different than the application



of prescriptive medicine and medical operations that are found in conventional medicine, but for

LeVeque it's not just a way to help the animals, but a way of life.

"I've always wanted to work

on animals, since I was little. I've always been interested in treating the body more naturally. It has

always made more sense to me than the conventional way. So, I've married those two (approaches)," LeVeque said.

She still integrates some conventional medicine, using oral and pulse diagnostics, ultrasounds and blood work and combines those practices with traditional Chinese medicine. Most of the time LeVeque focuses on the use of herbals and nutritional supports to improve strength and overall health of the animal.

LeVeque is well versed in the dangers of using herbals improperly. Through her education at the International Veterinary Acupuncture Society and the Healing Oasis for Veterinary Spinal Manipulation Therapy, LeVeque received intensive instruction on combining herbal remedies for illnesses.

"We are getting at the imbalance and the root of the symptoms, trying to put together why there is a liver problem, ear issue and a bladder problem. And in conventional

\$3 off a purchase of \$30 or more!
\$5 off a purchase of \$50 or more!



»» Voted "Best Pet Supply Store"
in all of Metro Detroit!!

WE PRIDE OURSELVES IN
OFFERING GREAT CUSTOMER
SERVICE YOU'D EXPECT FROM A
FAMILY RUN BUSINESS



Your Pet's Happy Place.

Family Owned For
Over 20 Years

31215 Southfield Rd.

Beverly Hills

(248) 647-4310

Open 7 Days!!

Mon– Sat 8:30-9pm & Sunday 10-6p.m.



www.premierpetsupply.com

medicine, they may be thought of as separate issues. We try to look at the whole and see what the imbalance is that is tying all of this together; that is what we are aiming for,” LeVeque said.

Lifestyle choices are the key to living in good health, LeVeque says, which applies to both the pet and the owner. How the owner tweaks diet to make it healthier is extremely important for the animal, but there isn’t one diet for every patient, LeVeque says, nor is there one for the client. If the owner doesn’t make food for themselves, they are probably not going to make food for their pet on a regular basis. So, a homemade diet won’t work for everyone but is very beneficial for others. Including more recreational activities with the pet will dramatically improve pet behavior, as well.

“There was a dog who had some behavioral issues and the lifestyle was that he was bored. All he needed to do was some extra walking or playtime. It didn’t take a whole lot of extra time, but it made a huge difference to the dog, and the behavioral problems went away,” LeVeque said. “Unlike us, for the dog or the cats, their whole world is much smaller than ours. It is the house and whatever we do with them. So small changes for us are going to be huge changes for them. I try and put that in perspective for people.”

During a recent visit by BTL, LeVeque demonstrated the use of acupuncture. The veterinarian carefully placed needles that stimulated acupuncture points, correcting imbalances in the flow of energy through channels called meridians, which benefit the body and improve the health of the animal almost instantly. During this procedure, the dog – a black barbet – was casually seated on the floor, complete with wagging tail. After the removal of the needles, the pet immediately rose and scampered around the room.

“Energetically, they might not know what’s going on. They may feel something like there is a blockage in a certain meridian, so us putting the needle in releases that tension. I often hear from owners, ‘Wow, I thought my dog was fine, but now he’s playing like a puppy.’ There’s no placebo with a dog and cat, which is nice.”

However, working in animal healthcare comes with hard moments, too. LeVeque says the hardest part of the job is assisting in the care of animals who have cancer or illnesses with no cure.

“Many times people who come here – and I welcome them – but they use this as the last resort. Like everything else has failed. They’ve gone to their regular vet, the specialists – they’ve run the gamut; now we are their last hope. When a disease process has gone that far, it’s hard to bring them back. I’ve seen it. I’ve seen the miracles, but it would be nice if we caught them when they were starting to go, when the first few symptoms started.”

Preemptive holistic care before the existence of clinical signs of deterioration begin is more beneficial to pet health. LeVeque does still see success with her cancer patients and says she experiences excellent results administering vitamin C therapy to them. Some of her other success stories include a dog with anal gland carcinoma who lived a year longer than projected through the clinical methodology at the Natural Healing Center. Another story involves a dog with a spinal tumor who was able to walk again after being treated by LeVeque.

For pet owners who are looking to expand their pet’s medical care, LeVeque does offer phone consultations and works side-by-side with the pet’s existing veterinarians.

Visit the webpage for more information or to set up a pet visit today:
<http://naturalhealingpetcare.com/>



BTL Pets Welcome!

Pets Ahoy Animal Hospital Strives to Provide The Highest Quality of Pet Health Care at your Affordable Prices

Our Friendly Staff Awaits to Meet All Your Furry Friends

FREE EXAM

(\$45 SAVINGS)

Complete Health Exam!!



With Coupon
(Not Valid With Other Promotions)

Hours By Appt

Fri 8:30-5 pm M-Thur 8:30-7 pm
Sat 9-12 noon



21856 23 Mile Road, Macomb, MI 

www.Pet-Ahoy.com 586-598-1900

Otha Williams

(248) 626-6300

5640 West Maple Ste. 202
West Bloomfield

othawilliamsagency@allstate.com



Allstate®

You're in good hands.

© 2011 Allstate Insurance Company.



Pet Resort • Daycare • Training • Grooming

Call For Reservations

248-230-7297

Linda Travis
Community Director

Reservations@4Pawsc.com



2244 Franklin Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

Tel. 248-230-PAWS (7297) • www.4pawsc.com



- Full Service Residential Real Estate
- Nationwide Gay Friendly Agent Referrals
- Foreclosures, Short Sales, First Time Buyers.





Lynn L. Stange

Realtor Associate


“There Really Is A Difference”

2100 West Big Beaver, Ste. 100, Troy MI, 48084

248.561.6967 | LLStange@aol.com

Serving the Real Estate Needs of Michigan's
Gay and Lesbian Community for 30 Years!

SHOP LGBT





"Helping People Help Animals"

Celebrating 25 Years!

State-of-the-Art Spay/Neuter Clinic
Affordable Preventative Pet Care
Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance
Rescue and Adoption Efforts



Tail Waggers' 1990 is a unique animal welfare organization focusing on the needs of animals in the community. "Helping People Help Animals" is what we do best!

Because you do **NOT** need to qualify to use our services, we provide affordable services to **EVERYONE** in **ANY** city so that animals and their owners can stay healthy and together!

28402 Five Mile Rd. • Livonia, MI 48154
tailwaggers.1990@yahoo.com • www.tailwaggers1990.org • 734-855-4077



FERNLEE KENNELS

BOARDING, GROOMING & DAYCARE for dogs, cats, and other small animals.



Fernlee Kennels has offered quality boarding and professional grooming services to the tri-county area for over 45 years. Our goal is to make each dog's stay as enjoyable as possible while maintaining a clean, healthful environment for all.

4507 Fernlee Avenue • Royal Oak, MI 48073
Phone: 248.549.5182 • Fax: 248.549.9443
www.fernleekennels.com

Metro Detroit Dog Parks Offer Outdoor Fun



BY AJ TRAGER

Spring is just around the corner, which means it's time for dog lovers to go outside with their canine companions.

Dogs love to run leash-free, but most cities and towns have strict leash laws. It's also dangerous for a dog to run free in most urban areas and, even with the lowered risk of vehicle traffic, suburban areas as well. Fortunately there are thousands of dog-friendly and off-leash parks, many fenced, where qualified dogs can roam, play and soak up the Great Lakes sunshine.

Leash-Free Parks

Clinton Township Dog Park offers a fenced in park, free for residents and non-residents of the township; it's located at the Clinton Township Civic Center, 40700 Romeo Plank Road.

The Behnke Memorial Dog Park, located at 300 N. Groesbeck Highway in Mount Clemens, offers a fully fenced park equipped with benches, tables and water. It's open between the hours of 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The Red Oaks Dog Park, which can be found at 31353 Dequindre Road in

Madison Heights, is open from 8 a.m. until half an hour after sunset. The park, also open year-round, offers collared dogs 5.2 acres in which to play. Pets and owners have access to drinking water, waste stations, a picnic shelter, benches and portable toilets. All dogs are requested to be current on all vaccinations and under owner's control at all times. The park also has a small dog area.

Mark Twain Park Dog Run is located at 4600 North Campbell in Royal Oak and offers a fenced area in part of Mark Twain park with special areas for dogs to run leash-free.

The city of Canton offers a 6-acre, leash-free park for owners who obtain a membership through the Canton Parks Division. The area offers a section specifically for small dogs less than 20 pounds. All dogs must be healthy, sociable and current on all vaccinations. Attendees enter the park, located at 500 S. Ridge Road, off Denton Road.

Wixom offers a 13-acre fenced enclosure with small dog area, picnic shelter, water fountain and field training area located at 52221 Pontiac Trail. Dogs must be current on all vaccinations, sociable, licensed and under the owner's control at all times.

Located at 1200 Joslyn Road in Lake Orion, the Orion Oaks Dog Park includes 14 fenced recreational areas spread out through 927 acres of land. Dogs can enjoy plenty of open space, two trails, lake access and woods to explore. A daily pass or an annual vehicle permit is required. The area includes benches and table areas as well as picnic tables and portable toilets.

Parks Requiring Leashes

Cummingston Park Dog Run located at Torquay and Leafdale in Royal Oak offers an unfenced area, with special sections for dogs to run leash-free.

At Belle Isle Park, dogs can walk along a mile long bridge or explore the cultural and natural history offered throughout the park. Belle Isle Park is located along E. Grand Boulevard in Detroit.

Many of the Huron-Clinton Metroparks and state parks offer leashed-pet access free of charge. Those parks include:

Lower Huron Metropark located at 17845 Savage Road in Belleville.

River Rouge Park located at 21800 Joy Road in Dearborn.

Lake Erie Metropark located at 32481 W. Jefferson Ave. in Gibraltar.

Bald Mountain Recreation Area located at 1330 E. Greenshield Road in Lake Orion.

Oakwoods Metropark, located at 32911 Willow Road, New Boston.

Willow Metropark, located in New Boston, with entrances on Willow Road and S. Huron Road.

Kensington Metropark, located at 2240 W. Buno Road in Milford.

Maybury State Park, located at 20145 Beck Road in Northville.

For more information, visit www.dogfriendly.com.

Natural Healing Pet Care

1722 W. 11 Mile Road, Berkley, MI 48072

248.797.5139

- Acupuncture
- Spinal Manipulation
- Laser Therapy
- Chinese Herbals
- Homeopathy
- Nutritional Counseling
- Vaccine Titrers
- Wellness Exams



Dr. Nicole LeVeque



Dr. Eva Groesbeck



Personalized Pet Products Unique Designs and Materials

www.colorpet.com

Use Coupon Code: "BTL" for Discount





Preuss Pets

INDOOR PET PARADISE

There's no place like Preuss
There's no place like Preuss
There's no place like Preuss



Find us at PreussPets.com
517-999-PETS
1127 North Cedar
Old Town, Lansing

OUR WELL MANNERED DOGS

OFF-LEASH PROGRAMS ♦ BEHAVIOR THERAPY ♦ PRIVATE BOARDING



Birmingham ♦ Detroit ♦ Grosse Pointes ♦ Royal Oak ♦ Rochester



Animal Learning Systems™

James F. Lessenberry, Behaviorist
28 Years Serving the Great Lakes Region
animallearningsystems.com
313.882.6180
248.236.9974

When it's time to say goodbye...



248.435.7500
4900 Fernlee Avenue, Royal Oak, MI 48073
www.faithfulcompanion.com

Personally returned within 24 hours

**"Dignified, Private
Pet Cremation Services"**



Our Lives Would Suck Without Her

Photo: RCA Records

Kelly Clarkson Talks New Equality-Inspired Anthem, Gay Bars & Her 'Kezbo' Following

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Before catapulting to pop stardom, Kelly Clarkson was one of us. In many ways, she still is.

The original “American Idol,” who

memorably erupted into waterworks when she won the first season of the reality show in 2002, wasn’t always able to muster the willpower she’s instilled in the gay community through her uncompromising persona and liberating pop anthems, including those on her

latest album, “Piece by Piece.”

That’s just the charm of Clarkson, who opens up in our new interview about overcoming teen inferiorities, diehard lesbian fans who call themselves “Kezbos,” driving Bette Midler to “suicide,” and that night she sipped some

wine, felt “sad” for our generation and wrote a powerful song about it.

OK, Kelly, take my hand. I wanna go back with you.

The imagery!

Tell me the moment in your career you first knew gay people worshipped at your altar.

(Laughs) Oh my god – that’s amazing! It was the Breakaway World Tour (in 2005) – the first tour for the “Breakaway” record – and it was so awesome. One girl on tour came up and just introduced herself and was like, “I’m a Kezbo,” and I was like, “What?!” She was like, “A Kezbo – your lesbian fans.” And I was like, “Wait – there’s enough of you to have a group? That’s amazing! Awesome! Go me!” And she was like, “Yeah, we just love you. We’re gonna bring you to the other side.” And I was like, “All right, well, keep trying!”

Then, on the same tour, I had this guy, and he was so funny! Because, you know I’m a huge fan of Bette Midler and have been since I saw “For the Boys” when I was a kid, and he’s like, “You’re our new Bette!” (Laughs) I was like, “You need to aim higher. Bette Midler just shot herself! I’m not that cool, but I will work on gaining the respect of that compliment.”

Is it hard to fathom yourself a gay icon?

I guess it’s hard to fathom you can be an icon in general. I don’t consider myself an icon at all, but no – I have a lot of gay and lesbian friends and they like my stuff, so I guess it’s not so hard for me to think (the gay community) might like my music. But I don’t know ... I’m not an icon. I’ve only been doing this for 13 years. You’ve gotta be doing it for a good 20 to gain that status.

When it comes to your strong bond with the gay community, how do you explain that connection?

I have a connection, but I don’t look at it differently. I don’t ever look at a fan as a gay fan or a lesbian fan or a straight fan – I don’t ever look at that. Fans are fans, and no matter what our lives are like, no matter what path we’re on, music is the one thing that connects us. I mean, I had so much fun at this club recently. It’s called G-A-Y – this club in London – and everybody knew all the words to every song. Even the new one! And they were gay and straight and lesbian – everybody was there. It didn’t matter, and it was just really cool. It was a cool event, and it was fun. And it’s what I love about music – that it doesn’t matter. That’s what connects us.

What was your very first time at a gay bar like?

Oh gosh – that would’ve been in LA, and I was probably 22. I went with some of my friends and a couple of my gay friends, and they were like, “You’re gonna love this! But you’re gonna need to wear a hat.” They played “Since U Been Gone,” and it was so funny because nobody knew I was there. I had a blast!

The awesome thing, for girls especially: Because most gay bars that I’ve been to – and I guess I’ve been to four or five – are all gay men and not lesbians, and being a straight female, you don’t get hit on the whole time, you don’t get people grabbing you or, like,

being gross. There’s no judgment, and it’s just fun. You’re not worried about going, “No, thank you, I can buy my own drinks.” It’s the most fun club and fun time you’ll ever have in your life.

The song “Invincible” alludes to overcoming self-doubts and insecurities. In your own life, when did you most experience those hurdles, and when did you finally accept yourself for who you are?

In high school, and you know, I was having a hard time. I guess all people go through it – it’s just a different time period for all of us. When I was a sophomore in high school, it was the one time (in my life) I felt like I was insecure. It was just an awkward stage for me. Well, as was junior high, but I just wasn’t aware of it yet. (Laughs)

I’ve always been different. I’ve never been the girl that has to feel like she has to get all dolled up every day. I’ve always been kind of a tomboy. I’ve always been very outspoken, and, you know, my mom is too. I don’t know any other way to be. It’s just my personality.

In my sophomore year of high school, I got a little insecure about (my personality), because girls can be mean and I got the lead in this role in choir. No sophomore was ever supposed to get it, so people were just really mean about it. And, like, *mean*. Worse than the movie! (Laughs)

It made me insecure, and not so much (in regard to) my music or as a singer or an artist – just me as a person. I was like, “Is there something wrong (with me)?” I would go, “But I think I’m a good friend.” That was the only time that I was really doubtful of my person. But I got over that real quick!

Growing up in small-town Texas, when did you get your first taste of gay culture? Did you even know gay people then?

Oh yeah. Yeah! Nobody was outspoken like they are now. I think it’s a more comfortable – well, I don’t know. A couple of friends of mine just recently came out to their parents and one was just about the most horrible situation ever. So I think that still happens, unfortunately. But when I was a kid, I had a couple of my friends in choir with me. I think everybody knew (they were gay), but it wasn’t talked about or anything.

Honestly, I grew up in such a creative environment. Even in our choral group – even with my friends – nobody really talked about it, nobody was against or for it. There were no flags of any kind – of race, of who liked who. I feel like I grew up in a really incredibly good bubble. I never experienced people hating – no hate crimes or anything like that – until well into the industry. With “Idol,” people would say hateful things about certain contestants on the show, and I was like, “What in the world?!” I, fortunately, grew up in a world where that wasn’t a huge issue.

See Kelly Clarkson, page 30

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
PRESENTS
William Davidson
NEIGHBORHOOD
CONCERT SERIES
MADE POSSIBLE BY THE WILLIAM DAVIDSON FOUNDATION

**MOZART CLARINET CONCERTO**
Douglas Boyd, conductor
Ralph Skiano, clarinet
Britten Sinfonietta
Mozart Clarinet Concerto
Mozart Symphony No. 39
Thu., Mar. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in West Bloomfield
Fri., Mar. 13 at 8 p.m. in Canton
Sat., Mar. 14 at 8 p.m. in Bloomfield Hills
Sun., Mar. 15 at 3 p.m. in Grrosse Pointe Woods

**SIBELIUS & GRIEG**
John Storgårds, conductor
David Buck, flute
Grieg Lyric Suite
Nielsen Concerto for Flute and Orchestra
Sibelius Symphony No. 5
Thu., Mar. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Southfield
Fri., Mar. 20 at 10:45 a.m. in Dearborn
Sun., Mar 22 at 3 p.m. in Beverly Hills

visit Dso.org/Neighborhood FOR TICKETS AND INFO OR CALL 313.576.5111

TICKETS JUST \$25 (\$10 for students)

UPCOMING CONCERT IN ORCHESTRA HALL

**DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**
LEONARD SLATKIN, Music Director
A COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED ORCHESTRA

CLASSICAL SERIES
GOMYO PLAYS MOZART
Cristian Macelaru, conductor
Karen Gomyo, violin
Fri., Mar. 27 at 10:45 a.m.
Sat., Mar. 28 at 8 p.m.
Sun., Mar. 29 at 3 p.m.
Sponsored by PFS Classical, Inc.

Ligeti Concert Româneasc
Mozart Violin Concerto No. 5, “Turkish”
Webern Passacaglia
Schumann Symphony No. 4

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

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

A2ct Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Presents

LUCKY STIFF

A MADCAP MUSICAL
MURDER MYSTERY FARCE

BOOKS & LYRICS BY LYNN AHRENS
MUSIC BY STEPHEN FLAHERTY
DIRECTED BY ISAAC ELLIS

MARCH 12-15, 2015 AT THE ARTHUR MILLER THEATRE

8:00 PM THURSDAY - SATURDAY, 2:00 PM SUNDAY

TICKETS & INFO: WWW.A2CT.ORG (734) 971-2228



Produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI), New York NY www.mtishows.com

► Kelly Clarkson

Continued from p. 29

But you were raised Southern Baptist, a denomination that condemns homosexuality. What was the journey like to get to where you are now – a staunch supporter of gay marriage?

At my church, whenever I *did* attend Sunday service, that was never talked about. I know that is what the doctrine of Southern Baptist is, but they also said don't drink and dance, but we drank and danced! (Laughs) I don't think I grew up in some hardcore community where people were like that. I grew up in a very accepting household. I was taught to accept everybody how they are, and I admire my mom for that. She's never taught me hate.

I gotta ask about your baby girl, River Rose.

Because she's magical. She's a magical unicorn.

You know, in some circles, the unicorn is a gay symbol.

Oh, I didn't know that! But I love it. That's what I call my baby!

Speaking of which, how might you and your hubby handle it if River turned out to be lesbian?

Oh, I don't care. I mean, here's what I hope for her: I just hope she finds love. It took me a while, man. And there was a lot of heartache throughout those years. You know, as long as she's happy, I don't care either way, and neither does my husband. And we have two other kids as well, and we don't care either way for *all* of them.

If one of them were to come out to you, what would you say?

I'd be like, "Awesome! When do we meet him or her?" Honestly, it's so funny, it doesn't even register in my world as different. I don't know why. But yeah, it doesn't. I'm glad it doesn't!

During the song "I Had a Dream," which you wrote about setting an example for future generations, you say, "Spreading your legs instead of using your words." Older generations often criticize the industry for peddling so much sex. When you look out at pop culture currently, where do you stand concerning its use of sex? And how satisfied are you with the examples these artists are setting for people like your kids and future generations?

There's a reason why women have been revered as long as we have been – even back in the day most statues are of us; most paintings are of us – (and it's because) we're a beautiful form, and I get it. I get that that is sexy and I'm so in support of that. I love a sexy video. I don't even mind raciness. I

don't mind that at all.

I just mind when people use that as the *entire* basis of their career. The only reason that I say that is because I feel those people are short-sighting themselves. I'm like, "You're far more talented than that." Yes, you can be sexy and risqué, but some of these women have these amazing voices and these amazing ideals, and they have more to offer than just that.

The song actually came about because I was sitting around with some friends – we were all drinking some wine – and I was like, "Man, when you were 10 were you not just so excited about our generation and what we were gonna accomplish?" And then you look now and we're still talking about race and we're still talking about equal rights for everyone – didn't you think we'd be past that? Didn't you think we'd be more? I ended up writing a song about that because it's just kind of a sad thing. I just felt like our generation – I think we could've been more. It was just a sad moment for me, reflecting.

Gosh. That's real deep, Kelly.

(Laughs) I can go dark real quick!

Why was it important for you to include a gay couple getting engaged in the "Heartbeat Song" video?

What's funny is, I wasn't even actually the one who picked all the people! Marc (Klasfeld), the director, and his team did. But it was funny, because I was doing an interview here in Nashville at one of the radio stations and one of the DJs there was like, "I'm gonna be in your video tomorrow!" And I was like, "Whaaaat?" And he was like, "Yeah! I asked if I could bring my boyfriend and they said yes."

We had no idea that his boyfriend – I mean, he didn't know either – was gonna propose to him on the set! At first he thought it was part of the video. He didn't get it at first, and that's why he was like, "Are you for real? I don't get it." But it was the coolest thing that ended up happening, but none of that, honestly, was planned. It just kind of happened, and it was a beautiful thing.

And it's sending an important message, don't you think?

I think it's silly that we're still talking about gay rights. I just live in this world where people are accepted, so it's very hard for me to even realize that that still exists. It's hard for me to wrap my brain around it. That (gay couple) was a no-brainer, and I didn't even think, "Oh, I'm making a statement for gay rights." I was making a statement for the loss of love and the hope that you can still find it, regardless of what form that comes in. It wasn't a purposeful thing. Love is love in whatever relationship it may be in.

Kelly Clarkson performs July 26 at DTE. Tickets go on sale 10 a.m. March 14.

MYSTERY + MAYHEM +
MISCOMMUNICATION =
HILARIOUS FUN!

**NEIL SIMON'S
RUMORS
A FARCE**

March 13 - 29, 2015

Tickets \$18 - \$22 | Order by phone or online

Directed by Richard Wilson

Rated PG-13 (strong language)



Group discounts!
RATED PG-13
(strong language)



415 S Lafayette Ave.
Royal Oak, MI 48067
248-541-6430

stagecrafters.org



WELLSPRING
CORI TERRY & DANCERS
PRESENTS

RAD MIDWEST REGIONAL ALTERNATIVE DANCE FEST



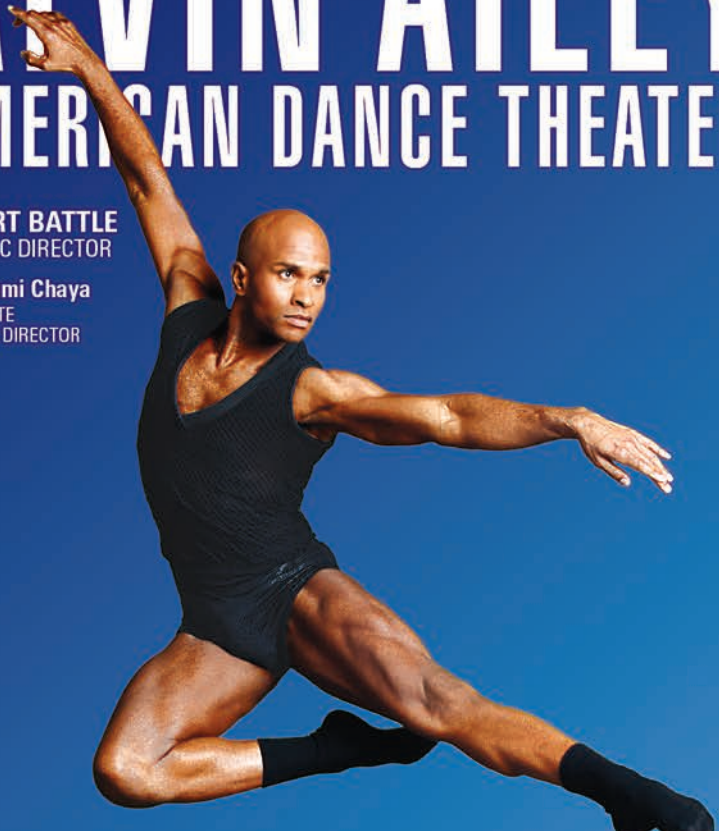
MARCH 19-22, 2015
264 DANCE ARTISTS
5 DIFFERENT CONCERTS
10 DANCE FILMS
MASTER CLASSES
DISCUSSION PANELS
VIP EVENTS

EPIC CENTER | DOWNTOWN KALAMAZOO

ARTIST LINE-UP, TICKETS &
MASTER CLASS INFORMATION
WWW.MIDWESTRADFEST.ORG
269.342.4354

BELL'S
Kalamazoo
arts council
Michigan Council on Arts & Cultural Affairs
Corilla

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER



ROBERT BATTLE
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Masazumi Chaya
ASSOCIATE
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Glenn Allen Sims - Photo by Andrew Eccles

BTL Between THE Lines™

OVER 7500 LIKES & COUNTING

JOIN THE CONVERSATION.

access.dance

Michigan Opera Theatre invites young professionals, ages 18-40, to join us for the company hailed as AMERICA'S CULTURAL AMBASSADOR TO THE WORLD! Bringing Detroit premieres, as well as classic favorites, including *Revelations*.

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE Friday, March 20, 7:30 p.m. at the Detroit Opera House

ACCESS TICKETS START AT JUST \$25 and include:

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

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

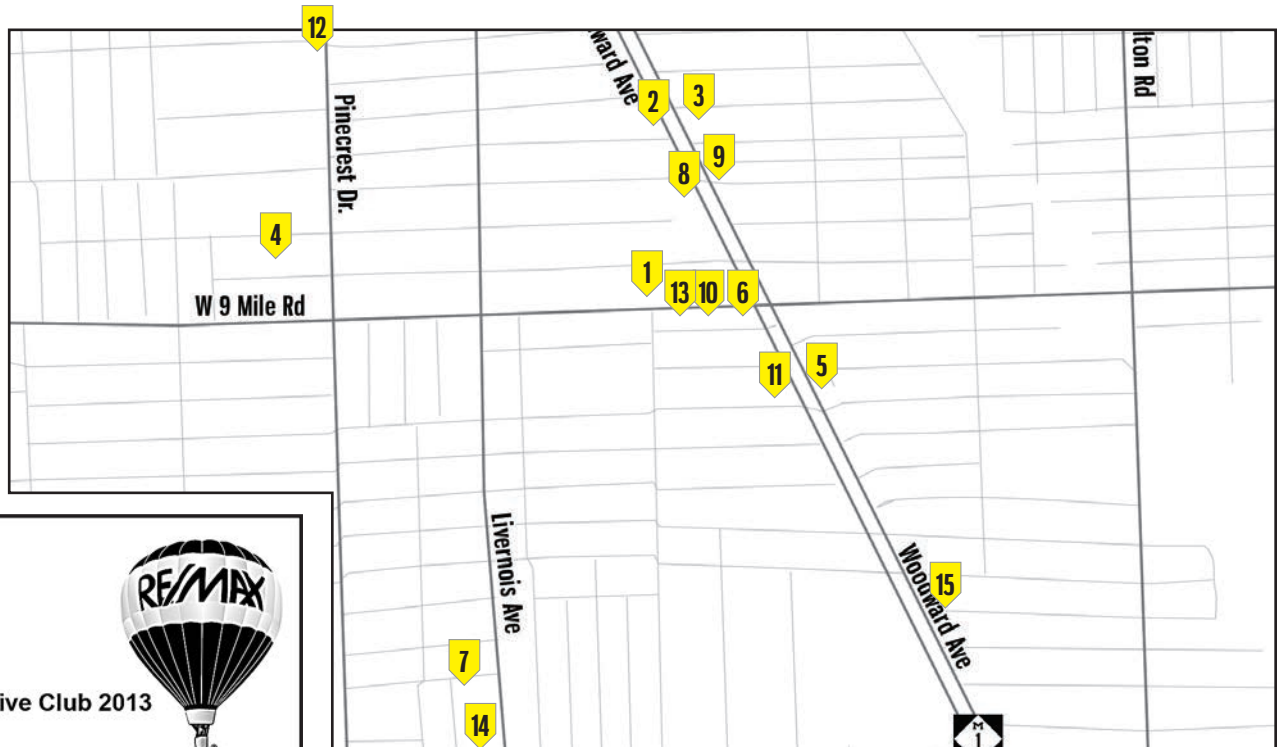
Limit 2 tickets per person, per event; guests must be 18-40. All tickets held at will-call; valid ID required. Offer not valid on previously purchased tickets. No refunds.

BTL Between! Lines
2014-15 Access.Opera / Access Dance Media Sponsor

BTL Cool Cities Ferndale

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ♦ YOUR MARKET

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



RE/MAX[®] Complete

Bryn Kerekes - Re/Max Executive Club 2013



Contact me to view homes for sale in the area
or for a free market analysis of your current home.
**I'm Proud to Serve Our Neighborhood
Let's Get Moving!**

Re/Max Complete 23650 Woodward Pleasant Ridge, MI 48069
Cell 313-510-5784 Office 248-721-9980
bryn.kerekes@remax.net

BTL ADVERTISERS

Affirmations.....	1	Ferndale DDA.....	6	Michigan AIDS Coalition	14
Allstate / Nick Schrock.....	2	Fido	7	Schmidt Law Services	*
American Fireplace	*	Green Thumb Garden Center	8	Premier Care Pharmacy	*
Automatic Collision	3	Hodges	9	S.P.I.C.E.....	1
Chess Roofing.....	4	Just for Us	10	Suburban Buick GMC.....	15
Ferndale Chiropractic.....	5	Level One Bank.....	11		
		MCC Detroit	12		
		Mejishi Martial.....	13		
				*Not shown above	

YOUR HEALTH CARE TEAM FOR ALL THE RIGHT REASONS!

Specializing in Medicine for Our Lifestyle since 1980

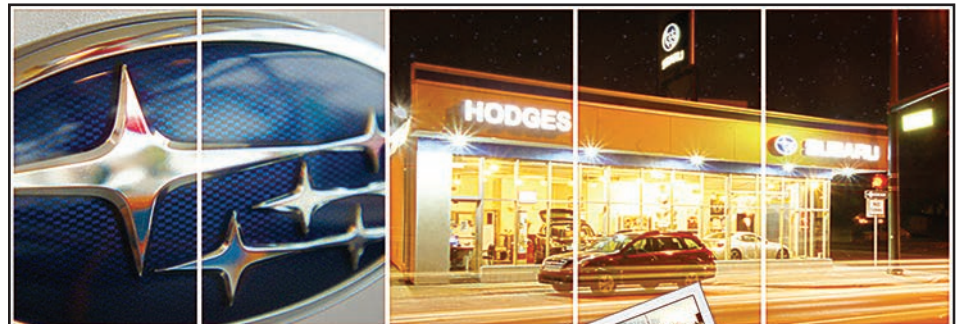


Be Well
Medical Center
Dr. Paul Benson
DoctorBeWell.com

Dr. Paul Benson's Be Well Medical Center
(248) 544-9300 • doctorbewell.com
Everything Has Changed ... We Can End HIV

BEWELL.AWARE.org

CHECK OUT OUR STI & HIV PREVENTION WEBSITE



at Hodges...

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

LEGACY




SUBARU

**HODGES
SUBARU**

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

Women's Rights Explored In Slipstream Theatre Production

Slipstream Theatre Initiative will present their third show, Henrik Ibsen's classic "A Doll's House," March 8 through April 2. Reimagined from the perspective of a young girl held captive for years with only her dolls and a dollhouse to play with, this twist on Ibsen's iconic script is sure to challenge audiences' perception of reality.

Inspired by the recent discovery of three girls locked in their captor's Cleveland, Ohio home, this production brings to light the original intent of the playwright. While Ibsen explored 19th-century women's roles and rights, Slipstream Theatre Initiative goes a step further to apply his story to current societal roles and explore the questions: "How much have things changed? And how much do we know about our own abilities to stay or go – in any situation?" Ultimately, the audience gets to decide where the line of predator versus prey actually exists, and which side of the line most resonates with them.

The production is directed by Bailey Boudreau, with technical direction by Alexander Henderson Trice and costume design by Madeleine Hughes. The ensemble cast consists of Richard Payton, Eglia Kishta, Luna Alexander, Steve Xander Carson, Daniel Miller, Ryan Ernst and Kaitlyn Valor Bourque.



"A Doll's House" opens March 8 at the Michigan Actors Studio in Ferndale.

Each production of the Slipstream season is paired with a different deserving charity. A portion of the proceeds from "A Doll's House" benefit Lighthouse of Oakland County, which offers housing to people fallen on hard times, originally founded as a shelter for abused women and children. The play runs at 7 p.m. March 8 through April 2 on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Performances are held at the Michigan Actors Studio in Ferndale. Tickets are \$10 at the door or pre-ordered at www.SlipstreamTI.com. Slipstream also offers a buy one get one card to every patron.

For more information, contact Slipstream Theatre Initiative at InsideTheSlipstream@gmail.com or visit www.SlipstreamTI.com.

BTL Cool Cities Ferndale

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ♦ YOUR MARKET

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

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

The Print  Inc.
If you can think it, we can ink it

888-345-8010

- ❖ Invitations
- ❖ Newsletters
- ❖ Menus
- ❖ Color Copies
- ❖ Typesetting
- ❖ Letterhead
- ❖ Brochures
- ❖ Business Forms
- ❖ Fax Service
- ❖ Business Cards

3172 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley
Serving the community since 2001



Senior Pastor Rev. Roland Stringfellow
Associate Pastor Rev. Deb Dysert

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

2441 Pinecrest Ferndale, MI
248-399-7741 www.mccdetroit.org




WATERWORK PLUMBING

PLUMBING? SEWER? DRAIN PROBLEMS?
WE CAN HELP! CALL TODAY:

\$20 OFF any service!

MASTER PLUMBER LICENSED & INSURED
AVAILABLE 24/7
EXPERT SEWER & DRAIN CLEANING CERTIFIED BACKFLOW TESTING

248-542-8022
www.waterworkplumbing.com

SCHMIDT

LAW SERVICES

Family - Criminal - Juvenile
Adoption - Sperm Donation Contracts
Domestic Agreements - Post Judgement Custody



Lisa J. Schmidt
www.SchmidtLawServices.com
248-764-8584

Your ally in
the courtroom.



Ken Siver (left) with Mark LaChéy (center) and Jeremy Moss (right).

Editor's Pick

Openly gay Southfield City Council member Ken Siver will host a fundraiser to support his campaign as he runs for mayor of Southfield. The seat has opened following former mayor Brenda Lawrence's election as a U.S. Representative. Siver's opponent is likely to be Sylvia Jordan, who has spoken in support of anti-gay pastors in the past.

Siver is strongly endorsed by his former council colleague State Rep. Jeremy Moss, one of the two openly gay men elected to the state house along with Jon Hoadley from Kalamazoo. Lawrence also supports Siver to replace her as mayor.

The fundraiser will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on March 6. The event will be held at Serra Chevrolet, 28111 Telegraph Road, Southfield. For more information, email ksiver@cityofsouthfield.com.

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. Jewish Gay Network (JGN), 5725 Walnut Lake Road, **West Bloomfield**. Jccdet.org

Wednesday, March 11

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

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

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

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

An Overture to Frida 7 p.m. Michigan Opera Theatre, 525 S. State St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

uncle coming out to his niece. Tickets: \$10-30. Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church (GPUC), 17150 Maumee Ave., **Grosse Pointe**. Gpuc.us

Michigan LGBT ComedyFest 8 p.m. Tickets: \$35+. Equality Michigan, 15801 Michigan Ave., **Dearborn**. 313-537-7000. info@equalitymi.org Comedyfest.org

Fireking Release Party 9 p.m. 21+. Tickets: \$10. Northern Lights Lounge, 660 W. Baltimore St., **Detroit**. 313-873-1739. Northernlightslounge.com

MUSIC & MORE

The Magic Bag "Bruce in the USA (World's Greatest Springsteen Tribute)" Tickets: \$15. Rescheduled to July 10. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. March 6. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

Concerts

Blind Pig "Turquoise Jeep" 18+. Tickets: \$15. Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. 9 p.m. March 10. 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

Royal Oak Music Theatre "The Robert Cray Band". Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. Fourth St., Royal Oak. March 10. 248-399-2980. Royaloakmusictheatre.com

Saugatuck Center for the Arts "Deborah Moriarty" Tickets: \$0-10. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. 2 p.m. March 8.

The Ark "Mipso" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. March 5. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Magic Bag "JD McPherson" Tickets: \$15+. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. March 11. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

The Majestic "J. Roddy Walston & The Business". The Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. March 6. 313-833-9700. Majesticdetroit.com

The Majestic "Milo Greene". The Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 8 p.m. March 7. 313-833-9700. Majesticdetroit.com

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

The Crofoot "Stone Clover Release Party" Tickets: \$10+. The Crofoot, 1 S. Saginaw, Pontiac. 8 p.m. March 7. 248-858-9333. TheCrofoot.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.

Shows

Macomb Center for the Performing Arts "The Fabric of Frida". Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. March 7 - March 8. 586-286-2222. Macombcenter.com

THEATER

Frida Tickets: \$55. Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. March 7 - March 8. 586-286-2222. Macombcenter.com

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

Total Verrueck! Tickets: \$10. The Hinterlands, Play House, 12657 Moran St., **Detroit**. March 7 - March 8. Thehinterlandsemble.org

Professional

A Doll's House Tickets: \$10. Slipstream Theatre Initiative, Michigan Actor's Studio, 648 E. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. March 8 - April 2. Slipstreamti.com

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

Buyer & Cellar (Michigan Premiere) An unemployed actor finds work manning the mall in Barbara Streisand's basement (yes, that really is a thing). Sebastian Gerstner plays an entire cast of characters - including the actor, his boyfriend, and Babs herself - in an outrageous one-man comic tour-de-force. This witty and cutting look at celebrity excess has been a hit on tour from coast to coast, and now Theatre Nova

Happenings

OUTINGS

Thursday, March 5

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

Friday, March 6

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

Fundraiser for Ken Siver, Openly Gay Southfield City Council Member 6:30 p.m. Support Siver as he runs for mayor of Southfield. Ken Siver, 28111 Telegraph Road, **Southfield**.

First Friday Potluck 7 p.m. Lansing Lesbians - L2L, 1710 E. Michigan Ave. #1712, **Lansing**. Meetup.com/Lansing-Lesbians-L2L

Saturday, March 7

Mini Relationship Skills Class - For Men 10 a.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Want Healthy Relationships? Men's Mini Relationship Skills Class 10 a.m. \$20. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

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

Sunday, March 8

Bookclub in March 2 p.m. "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Lansing Lesbians - L2L, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., **Lansing Charter Township**. Meetup.com/Lansing-Lesbians-L2L

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

Monday, March 9

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 lrwg_research.umich.edu/events/exhibitions.html

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

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

Gender Explorers 8 p.m. Spectrum Center, **Ann Arbor**. 734-763-4186. spectrumcenter.umich.edu

BUYER & Cellar

Theatre Nova, a new Ann Arbor company that focuses exclusively on new and recent plays, will launch its first season with Jonathan Tolins' award-winning hit comedy "Buyer & Cellar." Producing director Daniel C. Walker welcomed the challenge of updating the Yellow Barn as an 85-seat theater, noting that the stage will be almost the same size as that of the original Purple Rose.

The show depicts Alex More, an out-of-work actor who finds a job in Barbra Streisand's personal mall and soon learns a great deal about the distance between what idols are and what people want them to be. Dexter native Sebastian Gerstner plays More as well as More's screenwriter boyfriend, his agent and even Streisand herself in a tour-de-force solo performance.

The show will run March 6-29 at the Yellow Barn theater at 416 W. Huron, Ann Arbor. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are "pay what you can," with a suggested donation of \$20.

Tuesday, March 10

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

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

You Are Not Alone: Transgender Youth and Families 7 p.m. Join us for an informative evening about Transgender,

Thursday, March 12

An Overture to Frida 6:30 p.m. Michigan Opera Theatre, 1241 E. Kearsley St., **Flint**. 810-237-8689. Thewhiting.com

Saturday, March 14

Bowling Social 3:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25 (advance purchase required). Michigan Panthers, 600 E. Nine Mile, **Ferndale**. Facebook.com/events/323993021144652

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

Dear Me 7:30 p.m. Play about an

269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

The Ark "Holly Williams" Tickets: \$20. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. March 7. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Tannahill Weavers" Tickets: \$20. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. March 11. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Marshall Crenshaw & The Bottle Rockets" Tickets: \$25. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. March 10. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Nora Jane Struthers" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. March 8. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

is proud to present one of the very first original productions in the country! Theatre Nova, The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron St., Ann Arbor. March 6 - March 29. 734-635-8450. Theatrenova.org/#/c11f

Cabaret 'La Vie De Boheme' Tickets: \$25-40. Arbor Opera Theater, The Earle Restaurant, Ann Arbor. March 8 - March 8. Arboropera.com

Flashdance the Musical. Broadway in Detroit, Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. March 10 - March 22. 313-872-1000. Broadwayindetroit.com

Good Men and True Tickets: \$10-20. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. March 6 - March 28. 313-365-4948. Planetant.com

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

Million Dollar Quartet Tickets: \$35-75. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. March 6 - March 8. 313-872-1000. Broadwayindetroit.com

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

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

Stones in His Pocket Tickets: \$25-41. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. March 7 - April 5. 734-663-0681. Performancenetwork.org

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

Theater for Young Audiences

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

Junie B. Jones The Musical Tickets: \$10. DYPAC, Trenton Village Theater, 2447 W. Jefferson, Trenton. March 6 - March 7. 313-964-5050. Dypac.com

ART 'N' AROUND

Ann Arbor Art Center "Drawing with color" 18+. Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 12 - March 9. 734-994-8004. Annarborartcenter.org

Ann Arbor Art Center "Developing Your Artistic Voice". Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 12 - March 9. 734-994-8004. Annarborartcenter.org

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

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 "HE: The Hergott Shepard Photography Collection". University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Feb. 14 - June 14. 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 "Guido van der Werve: Nummer veertien, home". University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 1 - April 26. 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





Iona Traler, Raven Queen & Summer Clearance pull your balls & entertain!

\$20 for 6 games!
*GREAT PRIZES
*DRINK SPECIALS

**Saturday
March 14th 2015
8:30 pm**







continuing education

**Friday March 20
Saturday March 21
8:30am - 4:30pm**

TOPICS INCLUDE

- Overview of working with transgender people
- Legal considerations & healthcare policy
- Medical transition - hormones, surgeries
- Clinical Issues - long term effects of stigma vs. psychopathology
- Professional, & Ethical Considerations

CLINICAL ISSUES & GENDER IDENTITY

a training for therapists



HOST SPONSORS:
National Association of Social Workers - Michigan Chapter

TO REGISTER: www.GoAffirmations.org/training




Affirmations | 290 W. 9 Mile Rd. | Ferndale | 48220 | (248) 398-7105 | www.GoAffirmations.org

PRESENTERS

Antonia Caretto, PhD, PLLC; psychologist
Rachel Crandall, LMSW; social worker
Jay Kaplan, JD; attorney
Judith Kovach, PhD, LP; psychologist
John Randolph, MD; OB/GYN, endocrinologist
Stephen Rassi, PhD, LMSW; social worker
Amorie Robinson, (AKA "Kofi Adoma") PhD, LP; psychologist
Sandra Samons, PhD, LMSW, LMFT; social worker
Andre Wilson, MS; consultant and trainer

WHO SHOULD ATTEND
Psychologists, school counselors, physicians
Social workers and licensed counselors - 12 CE's will be available for Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors (NBC), and Non-Specific Substance Abuse Counselor (MCSAP) credit.

COST:
\$185 | Professionals
\$95 | Students - bring ID to registration

Prism of Possibilities

Psychotherapy

Christine Cantrell, PhD
Fully Licensed Psychologist

Give yourself an extreme self makeover ...

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

CALL NOW!
248-591-2888

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



BTL




Join The Conversation



GM WORLD HEADQUARTERS at Renaissance Center
MILLENDER CENTER Downtown Detroit

www.AshleysFlowers.com
313-259-5000
We Deliver Around the World.

Puzzle solution on pg. 38

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



Between THE Lines™ PRESENTS
THE ULTIMATE LGBT WEDDING & ANNIVERSARY EXPO

March 21st 12:30-4 pm
Southfield Civic Pavilion

100+ LGBT-Friendly Vendors
 Bridal & Tux Runway Show
 Dance Party & Tango Demo
 Brunch & Sweets Tastings
 Entertainment, Contests & More
Tickets Available Online

B. Ella Bridal

Party RENTALS

Comerica Bank

Jeff Zales Catering

MotiF

WWW.BTLWEDDINGEXPO.COM

Deep Inside Hollywood

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

'Dancing' with the Sam

You have to hand it to Michael Sam – he does not quit. The first openly gay NFL prospect will try, try again on March 22, when he participates in a veteran's combine. This one will include football's between-teams free agents, aka, other players in Sam's boat, guys who will participate in a variety of activities like position-specific drills, all while scouts watch and size them up. And Sam's next non-football job should probably help keep him flexible for that day: He's going to be part of the 20th season of "Dancing with the Stars." Obviously, if the combine goes well and he's got to ditch the world of ballroom dancing for a spot on a team somewhere, he can always forget the choreography on the next week's show. Dancing to "Super Bowl Shuffle" seems really complicated anyway, so it'll be entirely understandable if that's how it goes down.

'O'Lucky Day' for Dinklage

"Game of Thrones" star Peter Dinklage, for years, even in the beginning of his career when he really needed it, has refused to take roles traditionally handed to little people, stuff like Santa's elves and leprechauns. He pushed his way into parts probably written for men double his height, and now he's famous, which is called having the last laugh. Next step, then? Another last laugh, of sorts – a leprechaun comedy called "O'Lucky Day," to be directed by Adam Shankman ("Hairspray"). Before you consider it to be some sort of capitulation, go watch "Bad Santa," because that's what this story line sounds like: a bad-news con man posing as a leprechaun who's out to fleece the gullible. In other words, the perfect sort of snarling, tables-turned comedy brutality you'd expect an independent-minded artist to warm up to. This is how you run your own show. Shooting is scheduled to take place during Dinklage's next break from "Thrones."

Thomas Roberts in the afternoon

Thomas Roberts, the gay anchor of MSNBC's "Way Too Early" (its 5:30 a.m. show), has



Peter Dinklage. Photo: KathClick

a shot at being their afternoon news star. Starting March 2, the network is replacing "Ronan Farrow Daily" and "The Reid Report" with a daily two-hour block of news programming, from 1 to 3 p.m. Eastern, featuring Roberts. The move comes as a response to flagging daytime ratings and a desire for that slot's programming to feature more breaking news. Roberts has already worked as a correspondent for CBS News and contributed to "Entertainment Tonight," before landing at MSNBC in 2010. For

the sake of LGBT TV personalities in need of jobs, we're happy about this and hoping for robust ratings. But really we're just happy that the handsome journalist will be available to be admired at a reasonable hour instead of at the crack of pre-dawn. No amount of coffee was going to help with that.

Update on those movies you were hoping to see

Remember when Tom Ford showed he could direct a movie with "A Single Man"? Sure you do. It was only about five years ago. And then remember when he just didn't follow it up with anything? Well, that might change soon, if the fashion-designer-turned-filmmaker gets his way. He's being quiet about details, but he says it's going to be a two-part thriller based on some popular books. And that he wants to start shooting in the fall of this year. And that, friends, is "all" the information he deems fit to share right now. If it starts to fall together in a more newsworthy way, you'll hear about it... And then there's Pee-Wee Herman and Judd Apatow, who have struggled for years to get that next P-WH film made and distributed. Well, now "Pee-Wee's Big Holiday" has a home, one suitably modern for the ageless, small-suited, man-child: Netflix. His stardom peak was 30 years ago, after all, which means that a theatrical release could be marketed incorrectly and misfire. This way, streaming via Netflix becomes a way to get the movie to the right cool-audience eyes without too much budget spent on promotion and fear of butts in seats on opening weekend. We love this so much we're going to marry it.

Romeo San Vicente knows you are. But what is he? Or something like that. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.

Metro Detroit's LARGEST & First Rate ADULT Shop!!



Open Everyday 11am - Midnight
Sunday 11am - 10pm
7041 W. 8 Mile Rd.
1 Mile West of Woodward
313-340-1730

On 8 Mile directly across the street from Ferndale

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE*
**Specially marked DVD's*

facebook.com/bmvdvd

AIDS PARTNERSHIP MICHIGAN

AIDS Partnership Michigan is looking for individuals who want to be a part of a healthier community to join our community advisory committee (CAC). The CAC will help design messaging around pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP.

We are looking for committee members who are between the ages of 13-39 and represent one or more of the following:

- Men Who Have Sex With Other Men
- Transgender Females
- African American Females



Apply at <http://goo.gl/forms/WKZtd0Ekwo>

Incentives Provided For Participants That Attend Every Meeting

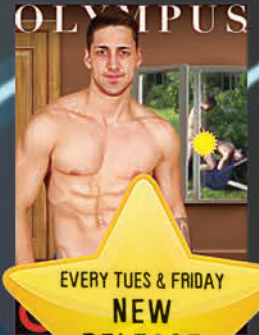
THE FINEST IN ADULT ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BEST PRICES!



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



BUY ADULT DVD'S STARTING AT \$5.95



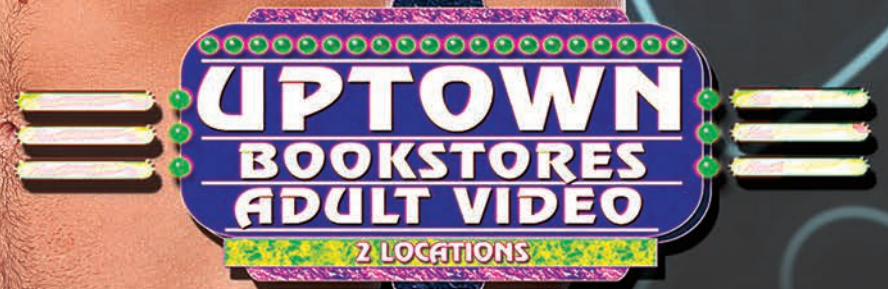
EVERY TUES & FRIDAY NEW RELEASE DAY



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

BO-GO SALE
BUY ONE
 AT REGULAR PRICE. (RED STICKER ONLY!)
GET ONE
 1/2 OFF (OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE)
ALL XXX DVD'S
 MARCH 1-15, 2015

UPTOWN SALE
\$10 OFF
 ANY \$50 PURCHASE
\$20 OFF
 ANY \$100 PURCHASE
 REGULAR PRICED MERCHANDISE ONLY!
 MARCH 16-31, 2015



WWW.UPTOWNADULTVIDEO.COM

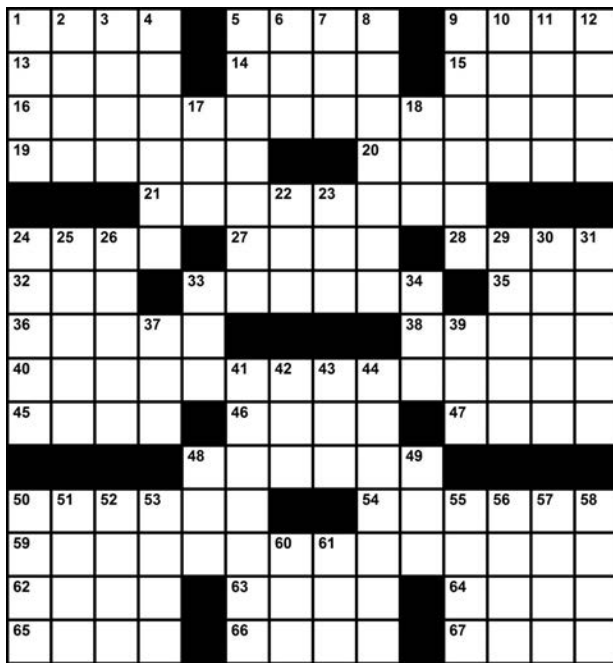
16541 Woodward Ave.
 at McNichols next to "Deja Vu"
 Highland Park
 313.869.9477

16401 W. 8 Mile
 Between Greenfield & Southfield
 Detroit
 313.836.0647

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

QPuzzle

Sam Smith's Secret to Success



Across

- 1 Poses for Mapplethorpe
- 5 "Peter Pan" critter, for short
- 9 Job for Burr's Mason
- 13 Booty

- 14 Locks in a salon
- 15 Chip in a chip
- 16 Start of Sam's secret
- 19 Jane Spahr, for one
- 20 Elevator alternative
- 21 More of the secret
- 24 Greenish-yellow fruit

- 27 Deity identified with Diana
- 28 Nuts and bolts
- 32 A, as in Acapulco
- 33 Parts for Dykes on Bikes
- 35 Constellation over Sydney
- 36 "The Lion King" king
- 38 Spoof
- 40 More of the secret
- 45 Zipper problem
- 46 Caesar's last question
- 47 Film canine
- 48 Coat for Mary's lamb
- 50 Paranormal
- 54 ___ Records (Etheridge label)
- 59 End of the secret
- 62 Baseball diamond cover
- 63 Former netman Nastase
- 64 Wang in fashion
- 65 Withdraws, with "out"
- 66 Songwriter Holly
- 67 Cruising hazard

Down

- 1 You don't want to get a pink one
- 2 Least bit
- 3 Pulls behind
- 4 Back talk, slangily
- 5 Laugh coined by Lewis Carroll
- 6 Hauled ass
- 7 Tin Man's request
- 8 Chappell of soaps
- 9 Where PrideVision originated
- 10 Voting no
- 11 Direction from Rick Rodgers

- 12 Phallic swimmers
- 17 Signal that goes either way
- 18 Shoshonean tongue
- 22 IRS review
- 23 Composition of some chains
- 24 Arrests
- 25 Burger layer
- 26 Rio step
- 29 Sites for three men in a tub
- 30 Balkan native
- 31 He comes once a year
- 33 Homophobe/attorney general Bondi of Florida
- 34 Lotion letters at South Beach
- 37 Ask on one's knees
- 39 Hollywood's Hagen
- 41 He came after Gorbachev
- 42 Sault ___ Marie
- 43 Summer for Rimbaud
- 44 One hell of a guy?
- 48 Sore throat producer
- 49 Night school subj.
- 50 Sgt. Snorkel's pooch
- 51 Split in the skin
- 52 Pre-kiss insert
- 53 Dave Pallone and others
- 55 Billie Jean King's zip
- 56 Blown away
- 57 Uncool sort
- 58 Make-or-break date
- 60 Land in la mer, for Debussy
- 61 Snoop group

Solution on pg. 35



A Tension Getter

Massage Therapy

by David Rosenberg
(734) 662-6282

Therapeutic Massage gets rid of back, neck and shoulder pain

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

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

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

Massage Class for Men

Learn some massage techniques.
Meet others in a safe and caring environment.

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

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

Classifieds

320 EMPLOYMENT - WANTED

CASHIER WANTED
Uptown Adult Superstore (Dvd's, Toys, etc)
Detroit area, must be 18yrs old
Cashier, stock & cleaning
Benefits-Hol/Vac/Health
Call (313)869-9477 to apply

428 PROF. SERVICES - MASSAGE

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

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

24/7 Friendly Customer Care 1(888) 634-2628 18+ ©2013 PC LLC

WHERE DO YOU SHOP?
WWW.PRIDSOURCE.COM/DIRECTORY.HTML
 MICHIGAN PRIDE SOURCE DIRECTORY • 2014 - 2015
 MICHIGAN PRIDE SOURCE DIRECTORY • 2014 - 2015
 MICHIGAN PRIDE SOURCE DIRECTORY • 2014 - 2015
 MICHIGAN PRIDE SOURCE DIRECTORY • 2014 - 2015

Say Hello To Florence!

MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY

Meet Florence! This 5-year-old Domestic Short Hair is ready to jump into your loving arms! She's a low-key kind of gal and will play with you when you please but also understands the importance of a good long nap in the sun. The adoption fee includes sterilization, vaccinations, the MHS Adoption Guarantee and much more. For more information visit the Berman Center for Animal Care or call 866-648-6263, and provide pet ID number 799643.

Part of the Week made possible by Potterson Dog & Cat Hospital
3800 Grand River Ave., Detroit
313-832-7282
www.pottersondogandcat.com

Naked Men's YOGA

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

Contact Dave at massage4@aol.com
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan_mens_clothing_optional_yoga

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

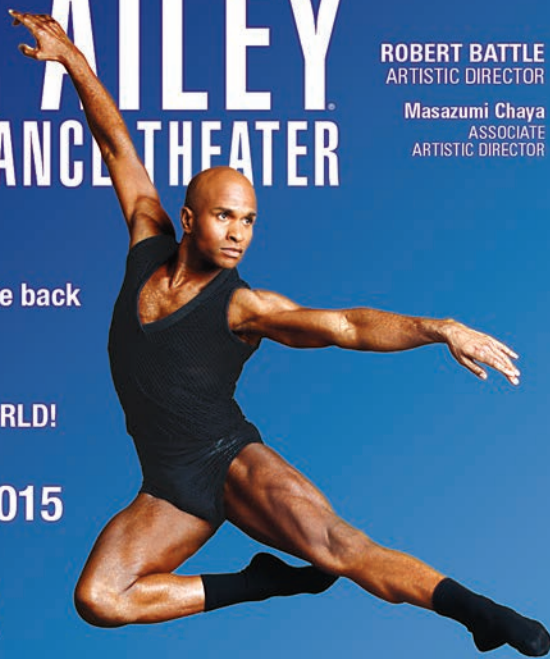
ROBERT BATTLE
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Masazumi Chaya
ASSOCIATE
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

We are thrilled to welcome back
the company hailed as
**AMERICA'S CULTURAL
AMBASSADOR TO THE WORLD!**

MARCH 19-22, 2015

Bringing Detroit premieres,
as well as classic favorites,
including *Revelations*.



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Glenn Allen Sims - Photo by Andrew Eccles

MICHIGAN
OPERA
THEATRE

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

LEAR
CORPORATION

The 2014-2015 Dance Season is made possible by the Lear Corporation

Ford

Alvin Ailey Student Performance Sponsor

MGM GRAND
DETROIT
Ignite Your Senses

Lecture/Demonstration Sponsor

FREE DANCE TALK one hour
prior to performance.

Shirley K. Schlafer Foundation
Dance Residency Sponsor

Westerman Foundation
Matinee Performance Sponsor

Always Something happening at the \aut\ BAR Weekly Events and Specials



Tuesday

Karaoke and 1/2 off wine



Friday

Bistro Fridays
Special menu
a la carte, or prix fixe 4-course
meal for \$20



Wednesday

\$1 off beer and free pool



Saturday

turnIT \aut\
club night at the \aut\ BAR
Progressive Drink specials



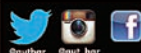
Thursday

Trivia with Terry and
Thirsty Thursday
1/2 off beer and well
drinks with Student ID



Sunday

Salsa Night
\$1 tacos
Salsa lessons.



315 Braun Ct, Ann Arbor
(734) 994-3677 | www.AutBar.com



Like Us On

317 Braun Ct, Ann Arbor
(734) 663-0036 | www.GLBTBooks.com

ADDICTED?

Call Now
For Our Free
Confidential
Assessment

▶ 800-929-5904 ◀

Breathe offers
21st Century solutions to
treat Drug + Alcohol Addiction
+ Co-Occurring issues.

breatheTM
Life Healing Centers

BreatheLifeHealingCenters.com
Insurance Accepted



parade paradedesign

Award-winning HERA Bridal Collection

© 2014 Parade Designs, Inc. All Rights Reserved. paradedesign.com

#LOVEUNFILTERED

Available at:



DIAMOND CASTLE

Jewelers since 1902

39955 GRAND RIVER AVE

NOVI, MI 48375

T 248.442.2440

diamondcastlejewelers.com



parade
Signature retailer