

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993

BTL **Between THE Lines**TM

Lawyers Named In
Historic SCOTUS Case

Josh Groban Opens Up
About Gay Fans, Rumors

Indiana's RFRA Receives
'Avalanche' Of Criticisms

A NEW ERA

Affirmations Welcomes Detroit Native Darrious Hilmon
As Executive Director

WWW.PRIDESOURCE.COM

APRIL 2, 2015 | VOL. 2314 | FREE

A TIP FROM A
**FORMER
SMOKER**

**Be prepared.
Your lung cancer can
spread to your brain.**

Rose, age 59, Texas



Smoking caused Rose's lung cancer. She had to move from the small town she loved to get the treatment she needed, including chemo, radiation and having part of her lung removed. Recently, her cancer spread to her brain. You can quit.

CALL 1-800-QUIT-NOW.



**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention
CDC.gov/tips

#CDCTips

COVER

6 Affirmations welcomes new executive director

BTL Photo: Andrew Potter



“ This guy comes up to me and goes, ‘Hey, I just want you to know, the bears love you.’ I’m like, ‘Excuse me? What?’ And I didn’t know what that meant! I’m like, ‘Are you a baseball team?’ ”

– Josh Groban, pg. 20



Join The Conversation @ PrideSource.com

NEWS

- 4 Backlash in Indiana over anti-gay law
- 5 Lawyers named for SCOTUS same-sex marriage case
- 7 Stabenow, Peters comment on ACA anniversary
- 17 First trans population study launched
- 18 AIDS Partnership Michigan and HIV/AIDS Resource Center announce merger

OPINION

- 4 Creep of the Week
- 14 Snyder: the time to talk is over
- 14 Parting Glances

WORSHIP GUIDE

- 10 A different kind of Catholic church
- 12 Beattie takes the helm of Unity Royal Oak

LIFE

- 20 Josh Groban bears all
- 24 Gay-owned Ferndale business wins big
- 26 Happenings
- 30 Puzzle

YELLOW PAGES



Pick Up Your Copy Of The Pride Source Yellow Pages

Pick up the 2014 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.

CALENDAR



Publicize Your Events Online And In Print Today

Head over to Pridesource.com/Calendar.html and tell us about your concerts, social gatherings, rallies and more and we'll promote them online and in print with our calendar!

ENTER TO WIN



Enter To Win Two Tickets To See The Blue Man Group

Enter to win two tickets to see Blue Man Group on April 21 at the Fisher Theatre.

Enter at www.Pridesource.com/tickets_contest.html

VOL. 2314 • APRIL 2, 2015 • ISSUE 909

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

Creep of the Week

Mike Pence

It's a shame about what's been happening to the Christians in Indiana ever since the godless homosexuals took over the state.



Mike Pence

On Oct. 7, 2014 the gays finally realized their dream of destroying marriage in the Hoosier state.

It was only a matter of time before the gays swapped the torch on the official state flag for a giant flaming penis

gripped in a fist.

But before heterosexual couples were forced to divorce and all of the children were sent to gay-education camps, a hero stepped up to save Indiana from the homos.

That hero is Indiana Governor Mike Pence. And with the stroke of a pen, Pence saved Indiana's "Religious Liberty" by signing a bill that many say would legalize discrimination in the state.

And for some reason people are losing their shit.

Thousands of people protested in Indianapolis. Angie's List, the company that tells you whether or not the plumbers coming to your house are going to unclog your toilet or strip the copper pipes from your walls, put a hold on expanding their business in the state. Wilco cancelled an upcoming concert. And #BoycottIndiana is trending on Twitter and Facebook.

Just what is everyone so mad about?

The gays, of course. But they're not mad at the gays this time. They're mad for them.

And it's about damn time.

As many people, including Pence himself, are pointing out, Indiana isn't the only state with a so-called religious freedom law on the books. There's even a federal one! And nobody is threatening to boycott those states. So what's the big deal about Indiana?

There isn't enough room in this column to do a side by side comparison of every religious freedom law in the country, but the language of Indiana's law is clearly intended to allow, say, a florist who doesn't want to do bouquets for a lesbian wedding to claim that Jesus told her she couldn't without fear of reprisal.

The original federal law, which

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

The original federal law, which Pence incorrectly claims Indiana's law "mirrors," was signed by Bill Clinton in 1993 in response to a specific Supreme Court decision that had nothing to do with green-lighting discrimination against LGBT people (that would be the Defense of Marriage Act you're thinking of).

Pence incorrectly claims Indiana's law "mirrors," was signed by Bill Clinton in 1993 in response to a specific Supreme Court decision that had nothing to do with green-lighting discrimination against LGBT people (that would be the Defense of Marriage Act you're thinking of).

So-called religious freedom laws have been popping up in recent years in direct response to LGBT people getting equal rights. So-called Christians think that their disapproval of LGBT people should be given protection under the law so that they don't have to bake cakes for gay weddings.

So in Indiana you've got an interesting situation where two men or two women can get legally married, but they are not protected under the state's anti-discrimination laws. This presents an opportunity for hateful folks. The so-called religious freedom law Gov. Pence signed is a death rattle of a dying anti-gay fringe seeking to harm LGBT people when and where they still can and expecting protection when they do so.

When Gov. Pence claims that, "As governor of Indiana, if I were presented a bill that legalized discrimination against any person or group, I would veto it," he is either a liar or an idiot or both.

A March 30 IndyStar editorial urges Pence and the legislature to clean up their mess by passing LGBT inclusive discrimination laws. They, too, seem to think that Pence is ignorant, willfully or not: "Governor, Indiana is in a state of crisis. It is worse than you seem to understand."

It would be nice to see this giant misstep by Indiana's right-wing actually move in the direction of making the state more LGBT friendly. But I'm not holding my breath.



Thousands of opponents of Indiana Senate Bill 101, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, gathered on the lawn of the Indiana State House to rally against that legislation Saturday, March 28, 2015. Republican Gov. Mike Pence signed a bill Thursday prohibiting state laws that "substantially burden" a person's ability to follow his or her religious beliefs. AP Photo/Doug McSchooler.

Backlash In Indiana Over Anti-Gay Law

RFRA Language Permits Discrimination

BY BTL STAFF

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana Gov. Mike Pence signed SB 101 March 26, which was authored with the intent of ensuring that the government cannot force a citizen to violate their religious beliefs.

In spite of overwhelming opposition from corporations, civil rights advocates and major convention organizers, Pence signed into law a sweeping bill that will allow individuals to use religion as an excuse to discriminate against the LGBT community and minorities.

"The timing of this legislation is important to understanding its intent: The bill was introduced as a backlash reaction to achieving marriage equality for same-sex couples in Indiana," said Jane Henegar, executive director of the ACLU of Indiana. "We are deeply disappointed that the governor and state lawmakers have been tone-deaf to the cries of legions of Hoosiers – including businesses, convention leaders, faith communities and more than 10,000 people who signed petitions against the bill – who say they don't want this harmful legislation to impair the reputation of our state and harm our ability to attract the best and brightest to Indiana."

Supporters of SB101 say that it is modeled after Arizona's SB 1062 that Gov. Jan Brewer vetoed last year following strong opposition from the local and national business communities and claims to also be highly influenced by the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act. However, a closer look into the bill will show that Indiana's

RFRA and the federal RFRA are very different.

The Indiana law explicitly allows any for-profit business to assert a right to the "free exercise of religion." The federal RFRA doesn't include that specific language and only one other state of the 19 with RFRA bills, South Carolina, includes such language. Louisiana and Pennsylvania, for example, explicitly exclude for-profit businesses from the protection of their RFRA's.

The Indiana law states: "A person whose exercise of religion has been substantially burdened, or is likely to be substantially burdened, by a violation of this chapter may assert the violation or impending violation as a claim or defense in a judicial or administrative proceeding, regardless of whether the state or any other governmental entity is a party to the proceeding."

No other state that has passed RFRA's has language to such a degree. Texas, which passed its RFRA in 1999, contains similar but not identical language. The Indiana statute explicitly recognizes that a for-profit corporation has "free exercise" matching those of persons or churches, following the example set by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2014 with *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores*, which determined that corporate employers have a religious veto over their employees' statutory right to contraceptive coverage and under RFRA could be considered persons. Ruth Bader Ginsberg had called the majority ruling "a decision of startling breadth."

See Indiana, page 16

Lawyers Named For SCOTUS Same-Sex Marriage Case

BY AJ TRAGER

WASHINGTON D.C. – Less than a month before the U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments regarding the constitutionality of same-sex marriage, the two lawyers who will present the case have officially been named.

Lawyers from the Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky cases recently issued a brief to SCOTUS requesting that argument time for question one and two be divided between two lawyers, a request that was not favored by the high court.

SCOTUS requested that a single representative per question present before the court and the petitioners have recognized Mary L. Bonauto from the Boston based Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders. She will represent question one discussing if the 14th Amendment requires a state to issue same-sex marriage licenses, and Douglas Hallward-Driemeier, a partner in the Washington office of Ropes & Gray, will represent question two addressing states' recognition of same-sex marriages performed out of state.

"I'm humbled to be standing up for the petitioners from Kentucky and Michigan who seek the freedom to marry, along with the Michigan team of Carole Stanyar, Dana Nessel, Ken Mogill and Robert Sedler and with support from the other legal teams," Bonauto said in a statement March 31. "The road that we've all travelled to get here has been built by so many people who believe that marriage is a fundamental right. Same-sex

day when all LGBT Americans will be able to marry the person they love."

Bonauto joined the team of four lawyers representing April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse in December after SCOTUS agreed to hear the same-sex marriage cases from Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky following a decision from the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in favor of states' bans on same-sex marriage; that created a circuit court split.

The lawyers determined who would present the cases before the high court following a series of intense negotiations. This past weekend they met in Ann Arbor for a mock competition that ran like the legal equivalent of a bake-off. The mock trial was only one determining factor to who would represent the couples seeking marriage equality. The choice of Hallward-Driemeier to represent question two was determined before the weekend, Reuters reported. The team of 37 lawyers from the four states filed their brief with SCOTUS March 31 stating who would present before the Court.

"April and Jayne's family, and tens of thousands of families like theirs in Michigan, will be represented by a dynamic litigator who has a history of fighting and winning LGBT rights cases in states and districts across the country," said Nessel, original co-counsel for the DeBoer family in *DeBoer v. Snyder*. "We are very pleased that an attorney representing the DeBoer-Rowse family will be addressing the issue of marriage equality for what we hope will be the last time in our nation's history."

Bonauto has never presented before SCOTUS but has been an integral force in the path for nationwide marriage equality. She is an architect of national same-sex marriage litigation and led the fight in Massachusetts on behalf of seven gay and lesbian couples seeking the freedom to marry in 2001 which led to the legalization of same-sex marriage in Massachusetts in 2004. Since then, with her dedicated work with GLAD, Bonauto has contributed to the same-sex marriage efforts in Connecticut and Maine along with her work on many other legal cases.

Hallward-Driemeier leads the firm's appellate and SCOTUS practice and has argued 14 cases before SCOTUS.



Plaintiffs Jayne Rowse and April DeBoer in October 2013 outside the Federal Courthouse in Detroit. The Michigan case is one of four before SCOTUS April 28. A decision expected to impact same-sex marriage nationally will be issued before the end of June. BTL File photo

couples should not be excluded from the joy, the security and the full citizenship signified by that institution. I believe the Court will give us a fair hearing, and I look forward to the

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 4/30/15

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.

Care Credit



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

www.rontwilliamsondds.com

Find us on
facebook

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

See SCOTUS Lawyers, page 15

Affirmations Welcomes New Executive Director

Detroit Native Darrious Hilmon Returns Home To Lead Agency

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

FERNDALÉ – Newly appointed Affirmations Executive Director Darrious Hilmon sat down with Between The Lines recently for a little “getting to know you” session and shared a bit about the philosophies he’s gleaned over the past two decades while working in strategy driven fund development, event management and marketing.

Born in Detroit and raised on the city’s east side, Hilmon was one of three children. His mother was a strong woman and determined that her boys should stay out of trouble. To that end, she decided a move was in order and relocated the family to the East Village area of town just before Hillmon started high school. He went to Kettering and graduated – after only three years – in 1985.

From there, Hilmon moved on to the University of Michigan where he majored in communication.

“I was going to be a fantastic news anchor,” Hilmon recalled. “Then I got a job in non-profit, and I fell in love with it. I fell in love with actually feeling like I’d made a difference.”

Over the years, Hilmon has worked for the Mosaic Youth Theatre, the United Negro College Fund, Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana, Youth Guidance and, most recently, as vice president and chief development officer for the Chicago Urban League.

“Non-profit work, working for a mission, is so hard,” Hilmon said. “It really behooves you to take on missions that you believe in and that play a key piece in your inner being, because the work is hard and the money is not always great. So I love every job I’ve ever had, with rare exception.”

Now, Hilmon is eager to bring his experience to Affirmations and is anxious to hit the ground running.

“I have no interest in being a figurehead,” said Hilmon. “I work. I’m here because I believe in this organization. I’m here because I’m proud that this organization said, ‘You know, we can be better. We’re going to be transparent about the things we know we need to work on and improve. We’re going to put our money where our mouth is. We’re going to walk the talk.’ That’s what’s happening, and I think because of that, this is an organization that I want to be a part of. It’s an organization with integrity.”

In his excitement, Hilmon speaks as if he’s already been a part of the Affirmations team for some time.

“What we do here at Affirmations is



“I’m very clear as executive director that this is going to be an inclusive environment, and it’s not going to be because it should be. It’s going to be because it is. From top to bottom, from side to side, it is part of the DNA of this organization.”

– Darrious Hilmon

incredible work,” he said. “What we’re going to be doing is make sure that it’s much less anecdotal and much more measurable, so that when we look you in the eye and go, ‘We’re doing transformational work for an important community and our allies,’ we can mean that. We can say that with pride. Not that we believe it or we feel it intuitively, but that we can look at it and go, ‘This is how we’re impacting lives in all areas.’ We can measure the impact we’re making.”

The Convener

Hilmon’s passion is evident as he speaks about his vision for the center.

“Issues that impact our community: this is the place where I want those conversations happening,” he said. “I want our partners to be able to come here. I want folks to say, ‘This just happened today, so you know there’s going to be a meeting or a conversation or a forum at Affirmations. Let’s be a part of that.’ We don’t have to lead it. Our job, our

place in all of this – as ACLU is doing their important work, as Equality Michigan is doing their important work, AIDS Partnership, Ruth Ellis – our role is to be the convener because we have the house. It’s the community center.

“So that’s where I think ultimately we are. But in addition to that, while those groups are doing the advocacy and public policy and the lobbying – and we’re rallying there, we’re bringing our troops in to support their work because they’re the leaders there – where we’re going to be the leader is creating programs, supports and services. A community that embraces, protects, supports the LGBT community and its allies. I think it’s going to be a hybrid of supports and programs, but then programs that are more formalized based on evidence based models. That’s what we’re going to be.”

Affirmations is also going to be, perhaps more than ever before, absolutely inclusive.

“I’m very clear as executive director that this is going to be an inclusive environment,” said Hilmon. “And it’s not going to be because

it should be. It’s going to be because it is. From top to bottom, from side to side, it is part of the DNA of this organization. This organization is going to continue to meet its promise to the community, and that’s every member of the LGBT community and our allies... That is my commitment to the organization, and I would imagine that for those of us who have been a part of this history for a while, the mere fact that I’m sitting here an African-American gay man leading this incredible organization, well, if that doesn’t tell you about the commitment of this organization to truly be inclusive and serve the needs of this community, I don’t know what will.”

Teamwork, said Hilmon, is key to the center’s success.

“We have an incredible team,” he said. “The passion here... when I walked into this building for my first set of interviews, it’s palpable. And I always believe, if you find a group of people who are passionate, that’s half the battle right there. We can do the structure, we can do the planning, the strategy. But if you find people who are passionate, people who at their core – the very root of their being – believe in what they’re doing and the importance of it, we can get it done. We can get it done together.”

Hilmon promises to do his part.

“My love for this community, my belief that together we are more powerful than we are apart, is real and solid,” he said. “I’m here to stay... and as long as I’m the executive director and this incredible team is here, this is home, and I want people to feel like they’re at home here. And if that’s not something they’re feeling, then we’re going to do something about that to make sure that they’re comfortable.”

SAVE THE DATE

Affirmations 2015 Enchanted Spring Bash

Black tie gala featuring open bar, seated gourmet dinner and premium live and silent auction.

Tickets: \$90-500

7-11 p.m. on Saturday, April 11;
VIP Admission at 6 p.m.

The Filmore

2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit

>> www.goaffirmations.org

Stabenow, Peters Comment On ACA Anniversary

BY BTL STAFF

In recognition of the anniversary of the Affordable Care Act (or “Obamacare”), federal officials announced new localized enrollment data and provided specific results from the first five years of the ACA.

Nationwide, more than 16.4 million people have gained coverage since the ACA passed – the largest reduction in the uninsured in four decades. Since October 2013, over 700,000 Michiganders have received medical health care coverage through the Marketplace, Medicaid and CHIP program. Of the 340,000 Michigan consumers who selected a plan through the Marketplace, 87 percent received financial assistance to help pay for the plan. Two years later there are now 16 different insurance companies that offer individual plans at different levels of coverage.

“Since the Affordable Care Act was signed into law five years ago, over 340,000 people in Michigan have finally been given the peace of mind knowing that they have health insurance,” said U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow. “While we have more work to do to make sure the law works in the most effective way, it is unconscionable that we would turn our backs on families in Michigan by repealing the law or taking away the tax credits that make premiums affordable.”

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released enrollment data for the following Michigan cities: 12,874 consumers in the Ann Arbor area; 12,954 consumers in the Lansing and East Lansing areas; 10,719 consumers in the Kalamazoo-Portage area; 10,949 consumers in the Flint area; 5,747 consumers in the Niles-Benton Harbor area; 5,183 consumers in the Saginaw area; 5,067 consumers in the Muskegon area; 4,199 consumers in the Jackson area; and 3,882 consumers in the Monroe area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan.

“Five years after passage of the Affordable Care Act, access to care has expanded across the country, the number of uninsured continues to drop and the cost of health care is growing at the slowest rate in five decades,” said U.S. Senator Gary Peters. “It’s clear this law is having a tangible, positive impact on Michigan’s families and our state’s economy. While there are common sense fixes that can be made, we cannot afford to roll back this progress and go back to a time when people could get kicked off their insurance plans or denied critical coverage because of a pre-existing condition.”

In a 2014 Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index Poll, LGBT people were anywhere from 8 to 10 percent more likely to be uninsured or lack a personal doctor than their straight counterparts. They also experienced more hurdles accessing health insurance and resources.

“We are aware that the LGBT individuals have long faced barriers for obtaining health

In a 2014 Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index Poll, LGBT people were anywhere from 8 to 10 percent more likely to be uninsured or lack a personal doctor than their straight counterparts. They also experienced more hurdles accessing health insurance and resources.

care. We know that the community faces higher rates of non insurance and discrimination in the healthcare system,” Erin Knott, Michigan state director of Get Covered America, told BTL before the Second Enrollment Period back in October. “I know several lesbian women who have not sought out health screenings because of that stigma or the fear of being discriminated against. I have tried to train staff and volunteers in LGBT history and the experience among the LGBT community by raising awareness when working with folks.”

In Michigan, 341,183 consumers selected plans or were automatically re-enrolled in quality, affordable health insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace as of Feb. 22, according to HHS. Additionally, eight out of 10 Michiganders could select a Marketplace plan for \$100 or less per month, and a vast majority of enrollees received an average tax credit of \$240.

“Nationwide, nearly 11.7 million consumers enrolled or re-enrolled in coverage this year. This historic enrollment number shows that the American people know the ACA is working for them,” said U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Region 5 Director Kathleen Falk. “Thanks to the ACA, people can no longer be denied health insurance because of a pre-existing condition, healthcare spending is increasing at the lowest rate in 50 years and people no longer need to worry about being one illness away from bankruptcy.”

Open enrollment in the Marketplace has ended, but a Special Enrollment Period is now available to consumers who are subject to the fee for not having health care coverage in 2014.

Visit HealthCare.gov to learn more or discuss options with a representative. For 2014 tax penalties, call the federally facilitated Marketplace call center at 1-800-318-2596. For additional information or to schedule an interview with Kathleen Falk, please call 312-226-1788 or e-mail lauren.eiten@hhs.gov.

WHOOPI GOLDBERG

APRIL 17



WENDY WILLIAMS

APRIL 24



WHITNEY CUMMINGS

JUNE 4



LONI LOVE

JUNE 20



SOUND BOARD®

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

SOUNDBOARDDETROIT.COM

MotorCity
CASINO · HOTEL



If you bet more than you can afford to lose, you've got a problem. Call 1-800-270-7117 for free, confidential help.

MotorCity Casino Hotel and MotorCity Casino Hotel design are trademarks of Detroit Entertainment, L.L.C. ©2015 Detroit Entertainment, L.L.C. All rights reserved.

Swift Action From Lansing Public Transit Was Right Thing to Do

BTL STAFF

Last week, BTL and media partner City Pulse reported on the experiences of Lansing resident Diane and the Capital Area Transportation Authority. It was a mess of bathroom indignities loaded over with bureaucratic snafus.

But CATA responded properly, and promptly. Not only did they immediately address Diane's concerns – and apologize to her – they issued a directive to staff at the transportation center in Lansing. Said directive ordered staff to allow people to use the bathroom of their gender identity without discussion of said individual's gender identity.

It seems like a simple thing to do. But for the transgender community and the gender nonconforming community, this was a massive move in the right direction. It acknowledged the fundamental reality that all people deserve to be treated with dignity and respect.

This action did not happen in a vacuum however. Behind the scenes, East Lansing Mayor Nathan Triplett, who has been a tireless ally to the LGBT community and who serves on the Board of Directors for CATA, worked directly with staff at the agency to address the situation as soon as it was brought to his attention. Amy Hunter, who works with both the ACLU of Michigan and Equality Michigan, also worked with staff at CATA to assure the language of the directives was clear and affirmative. Lansing officials have also moved quickly to make sure complaints about potential discrimination and violations of the city's human rights ordinance do not fall through the cracks again.

CATA should be commended for its fast, careful response and its affirmation that everyone matters.

Political Hors D'oeuvres

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Gov. Mike Pence Defends Against 'Avalanche' Of Criticisms

Indiana's Republican Gov. Mike Pence spent Sunday defending attaching his signature to the Indiana Religious Freedom Restoration Act. His appearance on ABC's "This Week" with George Stephanopoulos – a former advisor to President Bill Clinton – was widely panned.

Lurking under the Indiana RFRA PR battle is an insidious shift to theocratic government. Pence was widely mentioned as a likely GOP Presidential candidate – until RFRA exploded. Now many are dismissing his potential as a candidate, claiming the RFRA debate has made him damaged goods.

Don't count on it. For all the bloviating swirling around Indiana's RFRA, the howls of "license to discriminate" from one side and the screeches of delight on the win for "religious freedom" on the other, the reality is fundamentalist Christian theocrats are on the rise in the U.S.

Let's not make any mistake about that.

One need only look to the only declared presidential contender – Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas – to affirm that reality. Cruz chose Liberty University to make his announcement, and that was no mistake for the rise of the American Theocrats.

Peppered throughout his announcement speech, Cruz openly called on evangelicals to take to the voting booths and "vote our values."

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee is expected to throw his hat in the ring again this year for the GOP nomination. So is Pence. Expect a lot of pandering to the American Theocratic establishment by the GOP. Despite the negative press garnered by Indiana's RFRA, Pence has become a darling of the right wing American Theocrats. And he could very well use that darling status to ramp up a presidential bid.



Will Snyder get it right on Michigan's Religious Freedom Restoration Act?

Gov. Rick Snyder Mum On MiRFRA

Despite a national uproar on our southwestern border over Religious Freedom Restoration Acts, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder is staying mum about MiRFRA pending in the state Senate.

"We're waiting to see what comes from the legislature; if anything comes," says Snyder spokesman Dave Murray.

When pushed as to whether or not the governor believed a MiRFRA needed to be paired with amending the state's civil rights act, Elliott-Larsen, Murray deflected.

"The governor has spoken often about the need to discuss amending Elliott-Larsen," Murray says.

And yes, Snyder made it a point in his State of the State speech in January, but Speaker of the House Kevin Cotter rejected that discussion out of hand. He told reporters the legislature has already had that discussion. It's also a discussion that has been going on in the state legislature since 1981.

Schuetz Shifts Legal Arguments In Marriage Case

Michigan's Republican Attorney General Bill Schuetz on Friday joined Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee in filing a new brief in the historic marriage equality cases pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Detroit Free Press reports the new filing argues that the Constitution is silent on marriage, thus the courts have no ability to intervene. The brief argues that ruling on marriage would "indicate a lack of faith in democracy" and would undercut "the very dignity" of gay and lesbian couples seeking to marry.

The brief also settles back on the old chestnut that marriage is about procreation and child rearing – something the Michigan case proved beyond any shadow of a doubt as untrue.

Of course, the 2004 ban was not motivated by animus towards the LGBT community either, the brief argues.

Glenn 'Agenda Alert' Slammed By Mt. Pleasant Newspaper

State Rep. Gary Glenn, who also serves as president of the American Family Association of Michigan, caused a national uproar last week when he issued an "Agenda Alert" over the Midland Daily News' announcement it had appointed an openly gay man to a news editor post.

On Saturday, The Mt. Pleasant Morning Sun used editorial space to slam the lawmaker's alert.

"Ironically, what Glenn has really accomplished with this agenda alert is to alert everyone to his own agenda and to remind all of us why antidiscrimination (sic) laws and ordinances really are needed. In today's more-accepting society, we sometimes think those types of laws aren't necessary, that discrimination is in the past," the editorial team wrote. "Glenn's anti-homosexual views are well known. For years, his critics have accused him of being homophobic and a hate monger."

The editorial went on to quote the Midland Daily News' introduction of the new editor.

"There was a time when straight people didn't state that they were divorced, or living together," the editorial team wrote. "There was a time when gay people didn't admit to their relationships. We live in a new era. We believe Glenn's view that it does not reflect the Midland community is outdated. Gay marriage has growing support nationwide and it's doubtful the 2004 amendment would pass if it were voted on today. We know Gary Glenn isn't going to change his views. But this controversy has brought them to light in a new way. If Glenn truly wants to represent the views of his constituents, he should focus on the issues that matter: Roads, taxes, schools, prisons, the state budget, just to name a few."



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!

CHENE



PARK

AMPHITHEATRE
DETROIT

30th
ANNIVERSARY



The Right Productions, Inc. presents

Jazzy Nights

**EVERY WEDNESDAY
@ 7:30PM**

JUNE 03 BONEY JAMES & DAVE McMURRAY

JUNE 10 NAJEE, MELI'SA MORGAN & ALEX BUGNON

JUNE 17 WILL DOWNING & L'RENEE

JUNE 24 DAVID SANBORN & MILES SMILES

JULY 01 PIECES OF A DREAM & KIM WATERS

JULY 08 BRIAN CULBERTSON & PHIL DENNY

JULY 15 ANGELA WINBUSH & BRANDON WILLIAMS

JULY 22 AVERY SUNSHINE & KINDRED THE FAMILY SOUL

JULY 29 FREDDIE JACKSON & KAREN BRIGGS

AUGUST 05 MAYSA, NICK COLIONNE & GERALD ALBRIGHT

AUGUST 12 THE FAMILY STONE & MACEO PARKER

GRAMMY® AWARD WINNING



THE GIPSY KINGS



**FEATURING
NICOLAS REYES & TONINO BALIARDO**

JUNE 19

**DOORS AT 7PM
SHOW AT 8PM**

GIPSY KINGS USE

Córdoba
cordobaguitars.com

SAVOR FLAMENCO

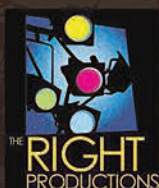


OUT NOW

CHENE PARK AMPHITHEATER

2600 ATWATER DETROIT, MI 48207 // BOX OFFICE 313-393-7128 // CHENEPARKDETROIT.COM

ticketmaster®



All shows are rain or shine. Events subject to change. Prices slightly higher day of show. Lighted and secure parking. Chene Park is a City of Detroit, Recreation Dept. facility, managed and operated by The Right Productions, Inc.

LGBT-Inclusive Spring Worship Events

COMPILED BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit, MCCD

2441 Pinecrest Dr., Ferndale
www.mccdetroit.org
Worship, 11 a.m., April 5

Ferndale First United Methodist Church

22331 Woodward Ave., Ferndale
Good Friday Joint Service with MCCD, 7 p.m., April 3

Timothy Lutheran Church

8820 Wayne Road, Livonia
www.timothylutheranchurch.com
Maundy Thursday, Seder Meal with Sole and Soul, 6 p.m., April 2
Good Friday Services, 12 p.m. and 7 p.m., April 3
Easter Breakfast, 8:30 a.m., April 5
Easter Worship, 10 a.m., April 5

Woodside Church

1509 E. Court St., Flint
www.woodsidechurch.net
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m., April 5

Zion Lutheran Church

143 Albany St., Ferndale
www.facebook.com/zionferndale
Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m., April 2
Good Friday Worship, 12 p.m., April 3
Service of Darkness, 7 p.m., April 3
Breakfast, 9 a.m., April 5
Worship with Holy Communion, 10:30 a.m., April 5

Divine Peace Metropolitan Community Church

1400 Scott Lake Road, Waterford
www.dpmcc.net
Good Friday Worship, 7 p.m., April 3
Easter Breakfast, 8 a.m., April 5
Easter Worship, 10 a.m., April 5

See Worship Events, page 13

A Different Kind Of Catholic Church

Community Of Christ The Good Shepherd Celebrates Second Anniversary

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

FERDALE – The Catholic church is not exactly known for tolerance. But Community of Christ the Good Shepherd is not the typical Catholic church.

“We’re Catholic, but we’re not Roman Catholic,” said Father Kevin Kinsel. “So it’s about educating people that there are other churches that are Catholic that are not Roman Catholic.”

As their second anniversary approaches, informing people that they are an independent Catholic church continues to be a struggle.

“The hardest part is getting the word out that we’re here and we’re welcoming of all people,” said Father Harry Posner. “When a lot of people hear we’re Catholic, they think that we’re closed-minded or we’re not welcoming, or that we’re very black and white in our thinking. But that’s not the case. We’re non-judging. So we’ve shown tremendous growth (over the last two years) but it’s slow and it’s hard because there’s a lot of doubt in the community. People have been so marginalized by religion. So we’re offering another path, and that is that God loves you just as you are and you don’t have to fit into a picture perfect box to be loved.”

It’s true. All are welcome here.

“We felt the need within the Catholic community to have a church that was open to all people,” explained Posner, “so we have an open communion table



The ministerial staff of the Community of Christ the Good Shepherd. Photo by Rafael Pacheco

where we welcome all people to the table regardless of sexual orientation, race, background or marital status. All people are valued and welcome.”

Though Kinsel and Posner, as well as Father Charles Blanchard, are gay, the three are adamant that the church congregation is diverse and they note that their two deacons are women.

“We wanted to establish a church where it was not a gay church per se but a church where everybody is an equal valued member,” Posner said. “We have almost as many straight people as we have LGBT people. It’s a community where everybody is valued.”

And people are responding to the approach.

“I think that the most rewarding aspect is that people come here and they’re satisfied,” said Blanchard. “They leave and they say, ‘Thank you for creating such a great home for me to worship in.’ I’ll give you an example. There’s a couple that were raised Roman Catholic. They were each married before and both of them lost their spouses. They wanted the sacramental blessing of a priest and

yet Rome wouldn’t confer that because of the rules. That’s not the box in which we put people. It’s rewarding to be able to confer the sacraments to who we are as people to each other. That’s fulfilling to me.”

Still skeptical? Does it all sound a little too good to be true?

“I’ve heard some people doubt and say that we’re a ‘made up church,’” Posner said. “We are validly ordained Catholic priests. We are a valid church. Just because we’re outside of Rome does not diminish our validity. We truly are a Catholic church. We truly are a part of the Catholic tradition. We are just a fresh approach to the Catholic faith where we don’t marginalize people, we don’t separate people. We invite everyone to the church; everyone has a home here.”

Community of Christ the Good Shepherd Independent Catholic Church meets in the second floor chapel of the First United Methodist Church in Ferndale, located at 22331 Woodward Ave. Sunday Mass is at 10 a.m. For more information, visit www.ferndalecgs.com.

Join Us!
Community • Spirituality • Social Justice • Learning

Our Judaism brings us together to be comforted and challenged, to share in each other's joys and struggles, and to act together for a just world.

We hope to welcome you soon!

קהילת תחיה CONGREGATION T'CHIYAH
- Rabbi Alana Alpert

Congregation T'chiyah is a Warm, Participatory, and Inclusive Community
www.tchiyah.org • 15000 W. 10 Mile Rd. • Oak Park 48237

Journey of Faith
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

1900 Manchester Rd.
Ann Arbor, 48104
734-971-4245
a2disciples.org

**Maundy Thursday Meal at 6pm, Worship 7pm
Easter Breakfast 9am
Egg Hunt 10am | Worship 10:30am**

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



WHATEVER YOUR STORY,

WOODSIDE

join us sundays 11 am
 1509 East Court Street Flint, MI 48503 (next to Mott College)
www.woodsidechurch.net

ASL interpreted, childcare provided



April 3
 Good Friday Joint Service at 7:00 pm at
 Ferndale First United Methodist Church
 (22331 Woodward Ave)

April 5
 Easter Sunday Service at
 11:00 am at MCC Detroit



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

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!



Join the Holy Week and Easter celebrations at these area Lutheran churches - churches that have made a public affirmation of welcome to YOU - members, families and friends of the GLBTQ community.

There is a place for you here.

- **Ann Arbor**
King of Kings Lutheran Church
 2685 Packard St.
www.kingofkingslutheran.org
- **Lord of Light Lutheran Church**
 801 S. Forest Ave.
www.lordoflight.org
- **Trinity Lutheran Church**
 1400 Stadium Blvd.
www.trinityaa.org
- **Detroit**
Spirit of Hope Church
 1519 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
www.spiritofhopedetroit.org
- **Ferndale**
Zion Lutheran Church
 143 Albany St.
www.fernzion.org
- **Livonia**
Timothy Lutheran Church
 8820 Wayne Rd.
www.timothylutheranchurch.com
- **Port Huron**
St. Martin Lutheran Church
 805 Chestnut St.
 phone: 810.982.9261
- **Saline**
Holy Faith Church
 6299 Saline-Ann Arbor Rd.
www.holy-faith-church.org
- **Trenton**
St. Philip Lutheran Church
 1790 Fort St.
www.stphilipelca.org
- **Toldeo, OH**
St. Lucas Lutheran Church
 745 Walbridge Ave.
www.stlucastoledo.org

FOOD ADDICTED?

Call Now
For Our Free
Confidential
Assessment

▶ 800-929-5904 ◀

Breathe offers
21st Century solutions to treat
Binge Eating Disorder, Compulsive
Overeating + Obesity.

b r e a t h e™
Life Healing Centers

BreatheLifeHealingCenters.com

Insurance Accepted

Beattie Takes The Helm Of Unity Royal Oak

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

ROYAL OAK—Rev. Ric Beattie, who turns 60 this year, grew up in Lake Orion, Michigan at a time when the area was still semi-rural. By the age of 12 or 13, Beattie knew he was different from other boys his age.

“I liked boys a whole lot more than I liked girls,” he recalled. “I struggled to find some role models. Back then one of the few places where I felt safe to go was the library at Oakland University. I would go there and read books. I started to put words to my feelings and learn what homosexuality was.”

What he quickly learned was that homosexuality was bad and against his



Rev. Ric Beattie

church’s teachings.

“I grew up a very devout Roman Catholic kid,” said Beattie. “I spent a couple years praying that God would change me because I wanted very much to be pleasing to God... At the age of 17 or 18, I basically said to hell with (God), because not only was I not changed but I was getting gayer all the time. So, you know, I was frustrated.”

That frustration led to Beattie walking away from his faith.

“For several years I shifted into the mode that most people call agnostic,” he said. “I knew there was something, but I wasn’t sure what and I didn’t really care. I discovered booze, boys and bars and thought to myself that since I was going to hell anyway, I might as well have some fun.”

But the fun all ended when his roommate and longtime friend, Steven Smith, who was also gay, shot and killed himself.

“Steven put a gun to his chest and pulled the trigger, and I happened to be in the room,” said Beattie. “Steven died in my arms.”

In the midst of making funeral preparations, Beattie received a call from Rev. Nancy Wilson, who identified herself as the pastor of something called Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit. Wilson explained that they were planning to memorialize Smith at their Sunday service and invited Beattie to come

BTL Spring Worship Guide

say a few words. Beattie was incredulous. A woman pastor? There was no such thing. Nevertheless, he agreed to attend the service. And as it started, something special began to happen.

“I felt an amazing amount of love there,” remembered Beattie. “I noticed that there were same gender couples holding hands, and they were having church. There was music and a powerful message, and it was a real church. When it got time for me to say something, I couldn’t stop crying. And in that moment,

God reclaimed me – or I reclaimed God – and I had a connection with something bigger. Suddenly, the God of my childhood shattered. The hateful, vengeful God in my mind shattered.”

Thus began Beattie’s journey with MCC. For the next several years, in between a brief move to Los Angeles, Beattie became student clergy and a deacon. Then a friend asked him to visit another church.

“It was called Unity of the Infinite Presence (which later became Church of Today and is now

Renaissance Unity),” Beattie, who recalled being immediately impressed, said. “I thought, ‘Here’s a church that doesn’t ask me to check my mind at the door.’ There were concepts about God that blew my mind. One of the ideas that really stuck with me from the very first Wednesday night was the idea that Jesus could either be the great exception or the great example. Jack (Boland) said something that night that has haunted me forever since. He said there are at least two Christianities at work in our world. One is a system of beliefs and principles that a man named Jesus of Nazareth lived and taught. And the other is a myth and cult about that man. That was like a lightning bolt in my mind.”

For the next few years, Beattie attended MCC on Sunday and Unity on Wednesday night.

“I did that back and forth,” he said. “I found that I was going to MCC for the community, because at the time, although there were certainly a number of gay people at Unity, they weren’t very out about it. But intellectually, and from a teaching standpoint, Unity resonated with me more strongly than MCC.”

Though he had found a spiritual home, there was still turbulence in Beattie’s life. He moved back to Los Angeles for a while for work, developed a cocaine addiction, lost his

See Unity, next page

► Unity

Continued from p. 12

father, moved back to Michigan to take over his father's manufacturing business, ushered it through a growth spurt and then watched helplessly as it failed. But, as he entered recovery, he found he could no longer deny his calling.

"I said, 'OK, God, this thing you've always wanted me to do, I'll do this,'" Beattie said. "So I was ordained. I took a job at Church of Today as its executive administrator working for Marianne Williamson, who was our spiritual leader at the time. Marianne really ignited in me a long held belief that love could change the world. She also allowed the gay community to be very out there and open, which had not been the case with Jack."

Then, in 2004, Beattie had a mild heart attack.

"I began to think seriously, 'If I'm going to make this leap into ministry, I should probably do it,'" he said.

Beattie was invited to speak at Unity Church of Clare, Michigan.

"I went up there to speak a few times and the lady ended up hiring me," said Beattie. "For about 39 weeks it was interesting because I spoke every Sunday. Then I didn't renew my contract because I knew I had to either move to Clare, and it wasn't financially in the cards for me to move there. So I gave up Clare, and about two weeks later, Renaissance Unity called me."

RU asked Beattie if he would take an interim position as director of youth and family ministry. Then, about six weeks later, they asked Beattie to take the position permanently and become a full member of the ministerial team.

"What was intriguing to me was that I'd gotten in touch with the fact that I had a deep yearning to be a dad," Beattie said. "I guess I always had. But for gay men of my generation, that wasn't really an option unless you were hiding out in a marriage. So in response to that deep yearning, I now had 304 young people in our program. So I suddenly had all these kids and it grew me in ways that surprised me, and it was just a wonderful time in my life."

Beattie was eventually moved up to associate minister for the whole church. But still, there was a longing in his heart to do more.

"I've always wanted to be a senior minister," he said. "The difference being that Jim's the principle speaker, and I had some things that I felt called to say. So when the pulpit in Royal Oak became open it shocked me. The board and I had some conversations, but it wasn't coming easy so I kind of let it go."

Then they asked him back to speak again in January and the talks began once more. Now, Beattie will take over as senior minister of the church beginning with this week's Good Friday service.

"One of the things that excites me about coming to Royal Oak is the opportunity to connect deeply to this community," said

► Worship Events

Continued from p. 10

Spirit of Hope Church

1519 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Detroit

www.spiritofhopedetroit.org

First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor

4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Ann Arbor
www.uuaa.org

Plant-Powered Family Potluck for Earth
Day, 12 p.m., April 4

Trinity Lutheran Church

1400 Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor
www.trinityaa.org

Maundy Thursday Worship, 6:30 p.m.,
April 2

Good Friday Worship, 7 p.m., April 3
Easter Vigil Dinner and Workshop, 5
p.m., April 4

Easter Vigil Worship, 6:30 p.m., April 4
Easter Breakfast, 9 a.m., April 5
Celebration Service, 11 a.m., April 5

First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit

4605 Cass Ave., Detroit

www.1stuu.org

Worship Service, 11 a.m., April 5
Introduction to First Church, 12:30
p.m., April 5

King of Kings Lutheran Church

2685 Packard St., Ann Arbor

www.kingofkingslutheran.org

Maundy Thursday Service, 7 p.m.,
April 2
Good Friday Service, 7 p.m., April 3
Easter: First Worship Service, 7:30
a.m., April 5
Easter Breakfast, 8:45 a.m., April 5
Easter: Second Worship Service
(Special Music), 10:45 a.m., April 5

Holy Faith Church

6299 Saline-Ann Arbor Road, Saline
www.holyfaithchurch.org

Holy Thursday Soup & Sandwich
Supper, 5:30 p.m., April 2

Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7 p.m.,
April 2

Good Friday Outdoor Stations of the
Cross, 12 p.m., April 3

Veneration of the Cross, 7 p.m., April 3
Blessing of Food Baskets, 11 a.m.,
April 4

Confessions, 3:30 p.m., April 4

Easter Vigil, 8:15 p.m., April 4

Easter Sunday Services, 7 a.m., 9:30
a.m., 11:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m. (Upper
Hall), April 5

Journey of Faith Christian Church

1900 Manchester Road, Ann Arbor

Last Supper Service, 6:30 p.m., April 2

Good Friday Service at Church of the
Good Shepherd, 7 p.m., April 3

Easter Breakfast, 9 a.m., April 5

Easter Egg Hunt for kids, 10 a.m.,
April 5

Easter Worship, 10:30 a.m., April 5

St. Philip Lutheran Church

1790 Fort St., Trenton

www.stphilipelca.org

Service, 10:30 a.m., April 5

Congregation T'Chiyah

15000 W. 10 Mile Road, Oak Park

www.tchiyah.org

Community Seder, April 4

Lord of Light Lutheran Campus Ministry

801 S. Forest Ave., Ann Arbor

www.michiganlutherans.org

Good Friday Tenebrae Service, 7 p.m.,
April 3

Easter Worship Service followed by
Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt, 11 a.m.,
April 5

Beattie. "One of the challenges for Renaissance Unity, because it's so large and has such a huge footprint, is that it's inherently a commuter church. It's hard to get people to come more than once a week. For some people, it was a big drive. So one of the things I'm hoping to do here is connect deeply in this community."

"At Unity we're about inclusiveness, oneness, that we're all reflections of one light," Beattie continued. "We're really building a community here, a neighborhood where people can come together and support each other regardless of who you are or who you love or who

you call God. Buddhists are just as welcome here as Catholic folks... I preached a message at Renaissance Unity about four years ago where I said that if we're not willing to do some things to make God's love real, then I don't want to hear about any more. For me, God is a verb and Christianity is not a spectator sport. And the folks at Unity Royal Oak are ready. We're creating something brand new from the ground up."

Unity Royal Oak is located at 2500 Crooks Road. For more information, visit unityroyaloak.org.

**Divine Peace
Metropolitan Community Church**

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday 3-29-15 10 a.m.
Maundy Thursday 4-2-15 7 p.m.
Good Friday 4-3-15 7 p.m.
Easter Sunday 4-5-15 10 a.m.

MCC
DIVINE PEACE
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH

1400 Scott Lake Rd. Ste H.
Waterford, MI 48328
Phone: 248.332.1186
www.dpmcc.net

Sunday Worship time is 10:00 A.M.

First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor



a religious home for lesbian, gay,
bisexual, transgender, queer and
questioning and intersex people,
their families and allies

Sunday Services: 9:30 am & 11:30 am
4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Road (at Ellsworth Road), Ann Arbor

Celebrating 150 Years of Reason and Compassion in Action

www.uuaa.org | Call for more information. (734) 665-6158

SHOP LGBT

Well Bless Our Hate!



Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Just in time for Easter 2015, Fools for Christ – an American Bible group headquartered in Lumbago Falls, Texas – held a press conference Palm Sunday to publicize “National Hate Someone Special for Jesus Week.”

Fools for Christ spokesperson Rev. Franklin Falwell Robertson called the press conference, “a clarion trumpet call to all true believers marching as to war with the cross of Jesus going on before.”

The militant media event – covered by a coalition of several tax-free televangelist broadcast stations and nosy shopping market tabloids – followed a stirring sermon by Rev. F. F. Robertson called succinctly: “Hate the sin.” Don’t forget to hate the sinner. (For Jesus).

“As twice-born true believers, we’ve been turning our other cheeks far too long,” said Rev. Robertson. “With fast approaching time of the Left Behind just around the corner, we need to return to militancy values of Christian centuries long, long gone by.

“Say what you will Doubting Thomases, but the Crusades (especially the Children’s Crusade), the Inquisition with its beacon of repentance, the burning stake and an occasional pogrom now and then, had merit in saving souls, no matter how harsh or seemingly bigoted the Christian strategy.

“For a time, slavery seemed a viable option, too. (It does have New Testament blessing, by the way.) But, for whatever reason of Divine Intervention, God permitted the Civil War. Don’t get me wrong – war has its place. (Thank Heaven for Christians Cheney and Bush. And hopefully Jeb.)

“So that there’s no misunderstanding where Fools for Christ is coming from on its Last Day’s strategy of hating sinners for Jesus, let me emphasize: we are not engaging in our own honest hatred because we of late have been the persecuted minority following our policy on shunning gays, speaking out against feminism and telling other religions they are satanic or too financially competitive.

“Oh, no. Our interest is solely making America a Christian Nation. If active hate does the trick, so much the better. If creative Christian hate can change things for national uniformity sake, it’s just steps away from making church attendance mandatory for citizenship; making America’s leaders religiously Republican in their economic outlook. Theocracy with a capital T.

“But in all fairness to sinners in need of a touch or two of blessed hate: there are degrees of sin. It’s easy to hate a murderer or someone who commits adultery, or, someone who masturbates or watches porn. Worse yet, someone who fails to tithe to the church.

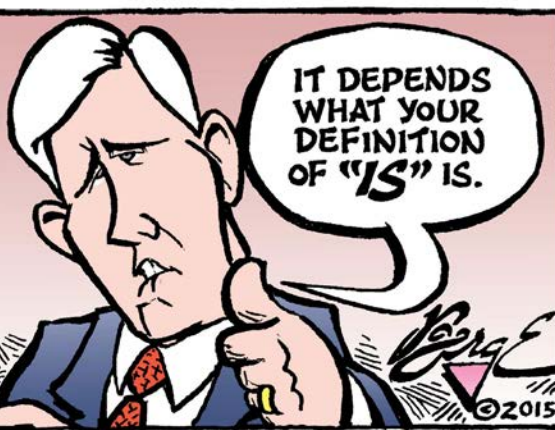
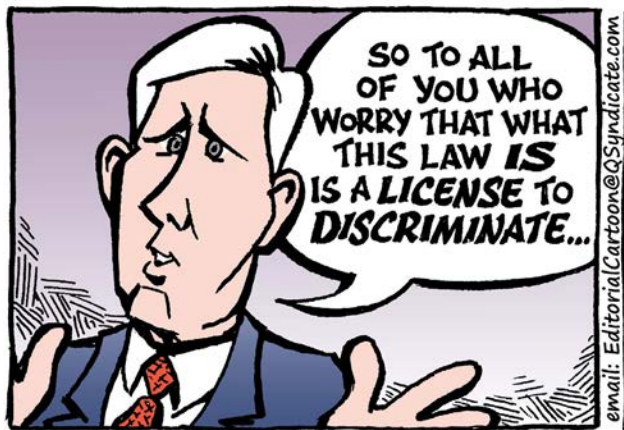
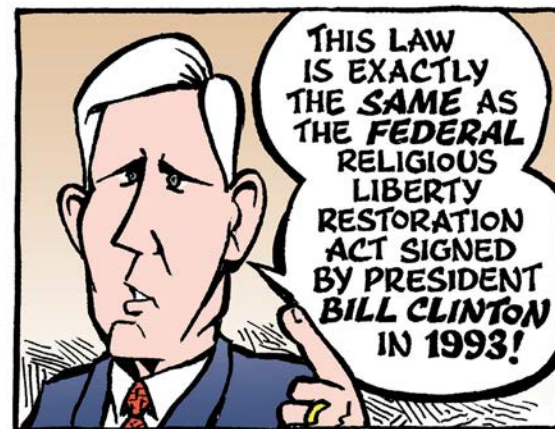
“It’s important to express hatred that gets national soul-saving publicity. The more outrageous. The more nefarious. The better!

“When it comes down to it, in God’s eyes, refusing to serve gays in your place of business because of your Trinitarian beliefs, or to bake a wedding cake for a same-sex couple, or to deny adoption rights to gays and lesbians are all socially redemptive actions.

“Biblically speaking, it’s just the Old Testament ritual of scapegoating. A time-honored tradition, by the way. Stars in your crown.

“I want to thank all of you for being here today. It’s your turn now to go out and be a Fool for Christ. Just for practice sake, turn to the person seated on your left or on you far right and say, ‘You’re going to Hell!’

“Have a joyful Easter! Hate is Risen with the Late J. C. Amen!”



Gov. Snyder: The Time To Talk Is Over

BTL EDITORIAL

Michigan’s Republican Gov. Rick Snyder has made a political career treading carefully on the edges of controversy. Rarely does he tip his hat and tell the electorate – the people who put him in office – where he stands on many legislative issues.

An amendment to the state’s civil rights act to protect the LGBT community, pending religious discrimination in adoption bills and the Michigan Religious Freedom Restoration Act are such scenarios where Snyder is playing coy with the electorate and it is time for that to end.

Snyder will likely only say he thinks the legislature should have more discussions on Elliott-Larsen. But this state has been having such discussions since former Republican lawmaker Jim Dressel, R-Holland, introduced an amendment in 1981. The evidence is clear and convincing – protecting the LGBT community from discrimination is good for business and good for the economy. Dragging out useless conversations about human dignity won’t help, particularly when Speaker of the House Kevin Cotter –

Gov. Snyder has been just as cautious when it comes to the so-called “religious freedom” bills. He wants to wait and approach the legislation and evaluate it after it passes. By then, it will be too late. The governor must do what he was elected to do – he must stand up and lead.

who is beholden to the unholy trinity of Tea Party theocrats Reps. Gary Glenn, R-Midland, Todd Courser, R-Lapeer, and Cindy Gamrat, R-Plainwell – has declared such discussions are over.

The governor has been just as cautious when it comes to the so-called “religious freedom” bills. He wants to wait and approach the legislation and evaluate it after it passes. By then, it will be too late. The governor must do what he was elected to do – he must stand up and lead.

And leadership – bold leadership – requires that Gov. Snyder not dance around the issue. He needs to publicly stand up against the adoption discrimination bills and MiRFRA. If he does support those bills, Michiganders have a right to know that as well. Will Gov. Snyder stand up for all Michiganders and against the rightwing theocrats of his own party; or will he sell

the LGBT community down the proverbial river to accomplish more economic paybacks for his wealthy and connected donors?

Let there be no mistake – the adoption discrimination bills, MiRFRA and even the debate about Elliott-Larsen are intimately tied to the pending Supreme Court hearings on marriage equality. The theocrats who overpopulate the Michigan GOP – as represented by the ongoing support of Dave Agema as a national committeeman – want to retain the ability to discriminate against anyone who does not reflect their narrow religious belief system. The theocrats want nothing more than to legislate their beliefs. It’s un-American. And it’s time for this governor to stand up and do the right thing instead of cowering in the political shadows waiting to see which way the political winds will blow.

Michigan Graduate Named New Head Of LGBT Congressional Staff Association

WASHINGTON D.C. – Mitchell Rivard, a graduate of Michigan State University and communications assistant for former Governor Jennifer Granholm, has been named the new lead of the LGBT Congressional Staff Association.

He was the first in his family to attend college and became heavily involved with the college Democrats when the



Mitchell Rivard

Legislature targeted the merit-based Promise Scholarship in 2009. It was through the “Keep Our Promises” campaign that he befriended Gov. Granholm.

Rivard initially intended to go to law school, but the Hill beckoned and he landed a position as a press intern for House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., in 2011. Working as an intern, Rivard joined the LGBT Staff Association and began developing opportunities while moving up the ranks.

Rivard worked in various communications roles in both Washington, D.C. and Michigan. Most recently, he served as a presidential appointee at the U.S. Department of Justice, where he handled public relations for the department’s Civil Rights Division.

Rivard works as the deputy chief of staff for Democratic U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee of Michigan’s 5th congressional district and assumed his executive position at the association in January. Rivard, along with the board, plans to broaden the organization. Even though many of the members are Democrats, the group holds bipartisan sponsorship between Reps. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla., and Jared Polis, D-Colo. The LGBT Association has expanded efforts, such as developing further relationships with the president of the Log Cabin Republicans, an organization that works within the Republican Party to advocate LGBT rights in the U.S.

“The three pillars we’re working on are more Republicans, more women and more people of color,” Rivard told rollcall.com.

In a statement, Kildee said of Rivard, “I’m proud of his work not only in my office, but also with the LGBT Congressional Staff Association, where he’s working with Republicans and Democrats on efforts on Capitol Hill to fight for fairness and equality for everyone.”

► SCOTUS Lawyers

Continued from p. 5

He was the assistant to the Solicitor General from 2004-2009 where he actively argued before SCOTUS and filed over 150 briefs. Hallward-Driemeier’s most recent case before SCOTUS was Executive Benefits Insurance Agency v. Arkison, a case regarding bankruptcy judges’ jurisdiction.

Arguing for the four states and against same-sex marriage will be John Bursch, a former Michigan solicitor general who has argued eight cases before SCOTUS between 2011 and 2013, and Joseph Whalen, a Tennessee associate solicitor general focused primarily in the areas of employment litigation, labor law and commercial litigation.

Currently, 37 states including the District of Columbia permit same-sex marriage, an effort that was expedited in October when SCOTUS refused to hear the appeals from states that had not yet ruled on same-sex marriage but fell under the decisions made by appellate courts.

Oral arguments are to be heard by SCOTUS on April 28 with an expected decision by the end of June.

ANGELINA

Steeped in Italian tradition with a refreshing modern twist!
Casual-fine dining room

Extensive Wine List
Free WiFi Internet Access

Located across from Comerica Park & Detroit Opera House

1565 Broadway, Detroit, MI 48226
313-962-1355 angelinadetroit.com

ITALIAN BISTRO

GROUP THERAPY FOR GLBTQ CLIENTS

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

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) www.JoeKort.com

BTL

Credibility And Reach That Delivers

Online • In Print

MORGAN BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION, INC.

KITCHEN REMODELING BATHROOMS
BASEMENTS ADA SPECIALISTS
PATIOS BRICK PAVERS
GARAGES 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

AMERITAX

★ ★ ★ PLUS ★ ★ ★

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

**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

Find us on:
facebook.



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.



**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

► Indiana

Continued from p. 4

In response to Gov. Pence's public support of the bill, widespread discontent was voiced by business and faith communities: Indianapolis Colts player Pat McAfee, Salesforce, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Jason Collins, the first openly gay NBA player.

A letter from nine Indiana CEO signatories – which had some of the state's largest employers including Eli Lilly, Anthem and Indiana University Health – arrived on Pence's desk Monday stating “(we are) deeply concerned about the impact it (RFRA) is having on our employees and on the reputation of our state.” Other signees of the letter include: Bill Oesterle, influential Indiana Republican and CEO of Angie's List; Joseph Swedish, CEO of Anthem; Jeff Smulyan, CEO of Emmis Communications; Dan Evans, CEO of Indiana University Health; Jack Phillips, CEO of Roche Diagnostics; Scott McCorkle, CEO of Salesforce Marketing Cloud; John Lechleiter, CEO of Eli Lilly and Co.; and Tim Hassinger, CEO of Dow AgroSciences.

Chairman of Kittle's Furniture and former Chairman of the Indiana Republican Party, Jim Kittle Jr., also came out in opposition to the RFRA bill. Oesterle was so outraged by the legislation that he canceled his

company's proposed plan to use \$18 million in state and city aid to expand its headquarters.

Marc Benioff, CEO of Salesforce, a \$4 billion software giant known for its customer relationship management applications, has already noted that they are now forced to dramatically reduce investment in the state because of

not to discriminate against the LGBT community. In an Op-Ed written for the Wall Street Journal, Pence states the bill “has been grossly misconstrued.”

“I want to make clear to (Indiana residents) and every American that despite what critics and many in the national media have asserted, the law is not a ‘license to discriminate,’ either in Indiana or elsewhere,” Pence wrote.

Indiana Republicans pledged March 30 to clarify the bill. The ACLU of Indiana and an anti-RFRA coalition called for two major changes to the bill: updating the state's civil rights law to prohibit discrimination against gay, bisexual and transgender Indiana residents in employment, housing and public accommodations and clarifying that RFRA can't be used to undermine local or statewide civil rights protections.

Indiana does not currently have statewide protections for sexual orientation and gender identity and Pence has stated on multiple occasions that that is not on his agenda.

Since Jan. 22, different RFRA bills have been introduced into state legislatures. Michigan is one of 13 states with proposed RFRA bills, according to the ACLU. The Michigan Religious Freedom Restoration Act was introduced in the lame duck congressional session last year as an attempt by Republican lawmakers to protect “religious freedom.” However, once the 2015 legislative cycle began, Republican lawmakers began introducing a stream of religious freedom measures. The Michigan bill is currently sitting in a state Senate committee.

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR



Extend protected status to gays, lesbians. RFRA and new protections can co-exist.

Were at a critical moment in Indiana's history. ■ And much is at stake. ■ Our image. Our reputation as a state that embraces people of diverse backgrounds and makes them feel welcome. And our efforts over many years to retool our economy, to attract talented workers and thriving businesses, and to improve the quality of life for millions of Hoosiers. ■ All of this is at risk because of a new law, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, that no matter its original intent already has done enormous harm to our state and potentially our economic future. ■ The consequences will only get worse if our state leaders delay in fixing the deep mess created.

Half steps will not be enough. Half steps will not undo the damage. Only bold action – action that sends an unmistakable message to the world that our state will not tolerate discrimination against any of its citizens – will be enough to reverse the damage.

Gen. Mike Pence and the General has not placed an undue burden on businesses.

Second, there are Hoosiers who support RFRA out of a genuine desire to protect religious freedom. To safeguard their essential freedom. 19 states and the federal government have adopted RFRA laws, largely without controversy. But states like Indiana not only protect religious freedom through RFRA but also provide gay and

The front cover of the Indianapolis Star, March 31, demanding that legislators extended protections to LGBT people in the state and fix the RFRA problem that has brought national outrage from a broad coalition of people.

outrage from employees and customers over the new law; they are canceling all programs that require customers and employees to travel to Indiana.

Over the weekend Pence said that he is open to a clarification of the bill and states that the intention was

Apple's Cook Calls 'Religious Objection' Laws Dangerous

NEW YORK (AP) – Apple CEO Tim Cook said that so-called “religious objection” legislation being introduced in a number of states is dangerous and bad for business.

The bills, like the one enacted last week in Indiana, create a legal framework for individuals, mostly business owners, to claim that a law or regulation mandated by the government infringes on their religious beliefs.

In an op-ed piece for The Washington Post, the leader of the nation's largest corporation said that the bills under consideration “have the potential to undo decades of progress toward greater

equality.”

He cited actions taken by lawmakers in Texas, Indiana and Arkansas, but said that a “wave of legislation” has been introduced in more than two dozen states.

Cook said he was opposing the legislation on behalf of Apple Inc. He came out as gay in October, saying that he wanted to make a difference for others.

In a letter he wrote then, Cook said, “there are laws on the books in a majority of states that allow employers to fire people based solely on their sexual orientation. There are many places where landlords can evict tenants for being gay, or where we can be barred from visiting

sick partners and sharing in their legacies. Countless people, particularly kids, face fear and abuse every day because of their sexual orientation.”

Cook said in his criticism of religious objection laws that he has great respect for religious freedom, but that it can never be “used as an excuse to discriminate.”

The legislation is not a political or religious issue, but rather “about how we treat each other as human beings,” Cook said.

“Opposing discrimination takes courage. With the lives and dignity of so many people at stake, it's time for all of us to be courageous,” Cook said.

First Trans Population Study Launched

BY BTL STAFF

The Williams Institute is set to launch an upcoming study that will be the first-of-its-kind, looking into the needs and disparities of the transgender population. The information that will be collected from a statistically representative sample could be used to help craft better legislative and benefits policies.

Researchers at the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law, Columbia University and The Fenway Institute at Fenway Health are teaming up to study the transgender population in the United States. The study is expected to create a more accurate and detailed picture of the issues faced by transgender individuals.

The study, which is being led by Ilan H. Meyer, Williams Senior Scholar of Public Policy at the Williams Institute, will provide researchers and policymakers with unbiased estimates about the demographics, health outcomes and health care needs of the transgender population by relying on a randomly selected sample of the U.S. population. The study, titled "TransPop: U.S. Transgender Population Health Survey," will also provide insights into the methodology of surveying transgender people.

"With awareness about transgender people growing in the public and among researchers and policymakers, there are new opportunities to establish policies that address the needs of transgender people in the U.S.," said Meyer, the study's principal investigator. "Timely and accurate data about the transgender population is crucial for designing evidence-based public health and policy interventions."

To date, most of what researchers know about the transgender population comes from studies that do not use random selection methods, Meyer said. While those studies have provided valuable information about transgender lives, they may not accurately represent the population.

The goals set by these three research facilities hope to: describe basic demographic parameters of the U.S. transgender population including race/ethnicity, gender identity, age,

place of residence, education, employment and income; describe basic health outcomes and health behaviors, including general health status, mental health, smoking, history of suicide attempts, disability, quality of life and health care access (including insurance coverage); describe experiences of transgender people with interpersonal and institutional discrimination, including experiences in healthcare, employment, housing and law enforcement; and describe transgender identity history and transition-related experiences, including access to gender-affirming mental health services, hormone treatment and surgery, when relevant.

The findings from the study will show how various groups of transgender people differ and to what degree. That level of detail could highlight concerns that were previously underreported and help service providers develop more targeted programs.

The researchers will use a survey of 350,000 U.S. adults, conducted by Gallup, a global survey organization that delivers analytics and advice. Gallup survey participants will be screened during a one-year period and those who identify as transgender will be invited to participate in the TransPop study. The researchers estimate that 300-500 transgender-identified individuals will participate.

In addition to Meyer, TransPop investigators include Jody Herman, scholar of public policy at the Williams Institute; Dr. Walter Bockting, professor of medical psychology and co-director of the LGBT Health Initiative at Columbia University; and Sari Reisner, research fellow, department of epidemiology at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and research scientist at The Fenway Institute at Fenway Health. The study is affiliated with UCLA's California Center for Population Research.

The study is supported by the NIH Office of Social and Behavioral Science and is part of "Generations," a larger five-year study funded by a federal grant from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to the Williams Institute.

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

"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!

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

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.

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

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!



(248) 541-7007

Town & Country Garage Door, LLC

Your satisfaction is our top priority!

Same Day Service 7 Days a Week!

1991 ORCHARD LAKE RD, SYLVAN LAKE, MI 48320
TOWNANDCOUNTRYDOOR.NET • 248-213-7882

AIDS Partnership Michigan And HIV/AIDS Resource Center Announce Merger

BY BTL STAFF

In order to strengthen the response to HIV in Southeast Michigan, AIDS Partnership Michigan and the HIV/AIDS Resource Center have merged their organizations.

Building on a history of collaboration and excellence, the merger of APM and HARC will ensure the sustainability of comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention and care in their now 10-county area.

The organizations have worked together for more than 14 years through the HIV/AIDS Alliance of Michigan, AIDS Walk Michigan, the highly recognized StatusSexy community mobilization campaign and through involvement as community partners of the University of Michigan Center for Sexuality and Health Disparities. Together, they provide HIV prevention and direct care services to almost 7,000 residents of Southeast Michigan.

“We are stronger together. Our Boards have worked for over a year to explore this opportunity and implement the merger. Our services have continued without interruption and are enhanced by the expertise and unique programming of each organization,” said APM CEO William VanHemert who will serve as

“*We are stronger together. Our Boards have worked for over a year to explore this opportunity and implement the merger. Our services have continued without interruption and are enhanced by the expertise and unique programming of each organization.*”

- APM CEO William VanHemert who will serve as President and Chief Executive Officer of the merged organization.

President and Chief Executive Officer of the merged organization.

“Our goal is to enhance our capacity in key areas, including programming, access to funding, community-based research and delivery of HIV-related health care services. The constant is our commitment to compassionate HIV prevention and care services,” said HARC President/CEO Jimena Loveluck.

Loveluck will focus on expanding services and strengthening innovative approaches

to address HIV as the Vice President of Community Research and Innovation.

The planning process and consulting services leading to this merger have been supported through generous grants from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, AIDS United Sector Transformation Fund and the Washtenaw Coordinated Funders. APM and HARC will continue to use their names until a rebranding process is completed in the coming months.

The same services will be delivered through

three offices in Detroit, Ypsilanti and Jackson, and the full staff of both organizations will work together to fulfill our mission.

The new Board of Directors includes 12 board members, six each from APM and HARC.

Meeting the needs of people who rely on HIV services in this quickly changing healthcare landscape requires an innovative model for comprehensive service delivery. The merged organization’s core components – medical case management, HIV testing and education and outreach – will continue. The broader regional model will ensure the efficient use of resources in delivering services and responding to community needs. An expanded geographic and service scope will provide leverage to ensure sustainability of HIV and related health care services, resulting in continued access and improved health outcomes for clients in Southeast Michigan.

The staff, board members and volunteers invite supporters and community members to celebrate the merger of APM and HARC at the 20th Annual Dining for Dollars event on May 13 at Zingerman’s Roadhouse in Ann Arbor.

For tickets and information, please visit <http://hivaidsresource.org/dining-for-dollars/>



HIV Outbreak In Indiana To Be Declared Public Emergency

SCOTTSBURG, Ind. (AP) – Faced with a growing HIV outbreak tied to intravenous drug use, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence said March 25 he’s considering a needle-exchange program as part of a public health emergency he’s preparing to declare in a county that’s at the epicenter of the cases.

Pence, a Republican, said he generally opposes needle exchanges but is listening to health officials to determine the best way to stop the outbreak in Scott County in southern Indiana. Health officials say 72 cases of HIV have been confirmed in southern Indiana and seven other people have preliminary positive HIV infections. All of those infected either live in Scott County or have ties to the county.

Pence, who plans to issue an executive order Thursday morning outlining a range of state actions, noted Scott County typically sees five HIV cases each year.

“What I’m thinking about carefully and thoughtfully is what’s needed in a public health emergency, what’s necessary to really get control of this in the immediate future,” Pence said.

Needle-exchange programs allow people to turn in used hypodermic needles and get clean ones in an effort to keep diseases such as HIV and hepatitis from spreading. Such programs

are illegal in Indiana, but a measure being debated in the Legislature would allow them on a limited basis.

IV drug use has been determined as the mode of infection in nearly all of the cases in the outbreak, said state epidemiologist Pam Pontones said.

The number of cases is expected to rise. Officials are trying to contact as many as 100 people tied to those with confirmed infections.

The state has launched an awareness campaign that includes billboards and social media. State health commissioner Dr. Jerome Adams said a mobile unit will be sent to Scott County with resources to help combat the outbreak.

Pontones said state health officials and staff from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention who arrived in the county about 30 miles north of Louisville, Kentucky agree that the outbreak “is an indicator of a larger problem,” which is rampant IV drug use in the economically depressed region.

“With the amount of drug use that’s happening and the intravenous needle-sharing that’s going on, if someone who’s highly infectious becomes part of that sharing network, that infection can transmit very rapidly,” Pontones said.

Republican Rep. Ed Clere of New Albany, who proposed the needle distribution and collection program at the Statehouse, said a House panel considered similar legislation last year, but it didn’t receive a hearing in the Senate.

“Unfortunately we’re back here, not just with needle exchange as a hypothetical theory, but with a real situation where a needle exchange (program) could make a difference,” he said.

The program would require participating agencies to register with state and local health departments and provide information on treatment for drug addiction.

Dr. Jennifer Walthall, deputy state health commissioner, told lawmakers that despite Pence’s opposition to a needle-exchange program, the department must look at every option.

“We have never encountered this type of situation before and we need to consider it differently,” Walthall said.

Associated Press writer Lauryn Schroeder contributed to this story from Indianapolis.



PRIDE FESTIVAL AND PARADE



HART PLAZA - DETROIT

SATURDAY, JUNE 6: NOON - 8 PM
SUNDAY, JUNE 7: NOON - 7 PM

**\$5
COVER**



For Festival Information Visit:

MOTORCITYPRIDE.ORG



JOSH GROBAN BEARS ALL



Photo: James Dimmock

Troubadour Talks Bear Fans, Drag Queens, Gay Rumors & His Dream Broadway Role

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

It all began with the bears.

"I'm like, 'Are you a baseball team?'" says Josh Groban, recalling an early-career encounter with a man who informed the crooner about his growing number of gay bear fans.

Nearly 15 years later, members of the LGBT community – even the non-hairy ones – are still feeling struck and soothed by Groban's elastic range. "Stages," out April 28, is yet another swoon-worthy set from the singer. His first collection of songs from musicals, Groban takes on some of Broadway's best for the album, which includes "You'll Never Walk Alone" from "Carousel" and "The Phantom of

the Opera" showstopper "All I Ask Of You," a duet with Kelly Clarkson.

While discussing the release during a recent interview, the 34-year-old also highlighted the significance of performing with the Washington, D.C. Gay Men's Chorus during Obama's 2009 presidential inauguration, the validation his younger "awkward" self felt after being named "Sexiest Newcomer" and how Ryan Gosling put the singer's sexuality to the test.

I was fortunate enough to see you during the summer of 2014 in Toronto for Rufus Wainwright's "If I Loved You: Gentlemen Prefer Broadway – An Evening of Love Duets," where you

got your gay on.

(Laughs). I'll always put my gay on for Rufus.

During an interview you did regarding that performance, Rufus referred to you as a "dreamboat." At this point in your career, are you used to that kind of attention from gay men?

Yeah, it's happened from time to time. Look, when Rufus Wainwright is complimenting you, musically or otherwise, it's a great honor. Something that was surprising to me that happened when I first got signed at 19, 20 years old: I was at some kind of shop, and I was walking around with someone – it was probably my girlfriend – and this guy comes

up to me and goes, "Hey, I just want you to know, the bears love you." I'm like, "Excuse me? What?" And I didn't know what that meant! I'm like, "Are you a baseball team?"

How did you figure out what type of bears he was referring to?

I think some Googling had to take place. And it was like, "Oh. Ohhhh!" (Laughs)

And you're like, "Not the bears in the forest."

Yeah, and not the Chicago Bears.

If you could duet on a love song with any man, who would it be and why?

If I could sing with *any* man, it would probably be Brian Stokes Mitchell. I love his

voice, and I grew up listening to his voice. There's such a warm tone to the way he sings, and he's just such a great actor and a really great guy. We would do a killer "Pretty Women" (from "Sweeney Todd"), I think.

You're from L.A., and you went to arts schools, including Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan. I imagine you've been immersed in the gay community for much of your life. Did you find a lot of gay people gravitating to you at a young age?

Like you said, I went to a wonderful arts camp at Interlochen. I went to a great arts high school in Los Angeles – L.A. County High School for the Arts – and grew up in Los Angeles and with a wonderful arts background, and I got to meet all sorts of people. Many of my friends were gay at these places – at camp, at school.

The wonderful thing I found about the arts and the arts connection was, I had come from a situation where I had a hard time making friends at school and I was bullied, and I finally went to school where everybody had the same inspiration for the arts, everybody had the same passion. It was the first situation where I had felt that everybody was friends with everybody, and everybody felt the most comfortable being themselves at these places. And so, for me, the arts were the first scenario where I found a connective tissue between everybody.

When you look back, did that closeness to the queer community ever make you question your own sexuality?

No, not at all. It wasn't in any way, shape or form about my own life or my own sexuality – it was about understanding and accepting everybody, and being friends regardless of that. I think that's also what the straight community needs to understand – that it's about friendship and alliance. It's not about questioning yourself or anything like that – it's about the togetherness of it. I think the wonderful thing about the arts is that I grew up in a community where I felt there was acceptance and friendship regardless of our own personal lives.

And co-starring with Ryan Gosling in "Crazy, Stupid, Love" – that didn't challenge your heterosexuality?

(Laughs) Listen, if I was gonna be gay, that would've been the moment. That was probably my greatest test, and I failed.

You came out as "not gay" on Twitter a couple years ago. How do you feel about people speculating about your sexuality?

Honestly, if I were gay, I would have had no problem saying it from day one. It's such a thing when people speculate. I would have nothing to hide if that were the case. People have speculated, have wanted to speculate – whatever, fine. I'm not gay, but if I were, I don't view it as a bad thing. If I were, I'd say, "OK, fine, speculate all you want and let's

talk about it."

It's not like you're in a community where that wouldn't be accepted.

Exactly. I've grown up with gay friends; my parents have had great gay friends. I come from such an open-minded family background. I am so lucky to have the parents that I have and to have grown up with the environment of "accept and be accepted" and "love and be loved," so when that kind of talk comes up, I think to myself, "All right, I'm happy to say what is and isn't true," but at the same time, I don't see why that's like, "Ohhhh." Like that would be an insult. I don't get that. If that were the case, I would just say it and it would be no big deal. That's the thing that bugs me more than anything, though – that the mention of it would be considered provocative when, really, in this day and age it shouldn't be.

Assuming you selected the songs on "Stages" because they have relevance in your own life, which ones mean the most to you?

There are actually a couple of songs that really have nostalgic memories for me. "All I Ask Of You" from "Phantom" was the first song that I ever sang professionally to get a record deal, so when I found myself at Abbey Road, singing that song and with Kelly (Clarkson), it was just like, "Oh, man!" Very rarely do I ever pat myself on the back or give myself a high five – I'm always kind of self-critical and moving forward – but it was one of those moments where I was listening to that orchestra and having memories of the 17-year-old kid in the ill-fitting tuxedo that first sang that song, and I'm like, "You know what, go you. You did it."

A song like "Bring Him Home" is a song you can't help but hear and think about what's going on now in the world, and how many people are hoping and praying the same things today. The wonderful thing I've found about these songs is there's so much relevance and poignancy to them today, regardless of the show that they're in, and that was a wonderful discovery. One of the things that really dictated what we chose and what we didn't choose was if they could live independently on their own.

You obviously have theater aspirations. What's your dream Broadway role?

I'm a Sondheim nut. I like his stuff because it allows for really operatic singing without dancing. I'm a terrible dancer. So, for me, I would love to do something like "Sweeney Todd" or "Sunday in the Park with George." I was introduced to "Chess" when I was 24 or 25 – I did it for the Actors' Fund on Broadway – and I've always thought that show got a bum rap. Just the music alone can go toe to toe with the great musicals. I think it deserves, at some point, a chance. Maybe a different kind of direction, a different kind of vision, but that would be another dream role.

See Josh Groban, page 23



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

UPCOMING CONCERTS AT ORCHESTRA HALL



TAKE 6
Fri., Apr. 3, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.*
"The baddest vocal cats on the planet!" — Quincy Jones

GOLDEN AGE OF BROADWAY
Fri., Apr. 10 at 10:45 a.m.
Sat., Apr. 11 at 8 p.m.
Sun., Apr. 12 at 3 p.m.

Broadway's "Phantom" Doug LaBrecque returns home to Michigan with co-star Lisa Vroman for a concert of Broadway showstoppers.



Sponsored by




CLASSICAL SERIES
EXOTIC ADVENTURES
Leonard Slatkin, conductor • Isabelle Druet, mezzo soprano
Kimberly Kaloyanides Kennedy, violin • Simon Mulligan, piano
Thu., Apr. 16 at 7:30 p.m.
Fri., Apr. 17 at 10:45 a.m.
Sat., Apr. 18 at 8 p.m.

Ravel Overture de Féerie
from *Shéhérazade*
Ginastera Piano Concerto No. 1
Ravel Two Hebraic Melodies
Ginastera Pampeana No. 1
Ravel *Shéhérazade* Song Cycle
Ginastera Suite from *Estancia*



Sponsored by





CLASSICAL SERIES
BRUCKNER'S FOURTH
Leonard Slatkin, conductor
Jaime Laredo, violin
Sharon Robinson, cello
Fri., Apr. 24 at 8 p.m.
Sat., Apr. 25 at 8 p.m.

Sponsored by



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

THE 39 STEPS

ADAPTED BY **PATRICK BARLOW**
 FROM THE NOVEL BY **JOHN BUCHAN**
 FROM THE MOVIE OF **ALFRED HITCHCOCK**

Hilberry
THEATRE COMPANY

APRIL 10 – 25, 2015

Hilberry.com 313.577.2972

WAYNE STATE
College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts

MONEY LAUGHTER WALTZES

THE MERRY WIDOW

FRANZ LEHÁR

APR 11-19, 2015
Sung in English with English supertitles

MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE Featuring the versatile, dramatic soprano **DEBORAH VOIGT!**
 One of the world's most beloved singers and enduring musical personalities.

Also featuring the Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra conducted by Gerald Steichen

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

FREE OPERA TALK one hour prior to performance

FOUNDATION
General Motors Foundation supports Michigan Opera Theatre

At the Detroit Opera House
 SAT. APR 11, at 7:30 PM
 WED. APR 15, at 7:30 PM
 SAT. APR 18, at 7:30 PM
 SUN. APR 19, at 2:30 PM

JORGENSEN

We Are Metro Detroit's Premium Ford Dealer

Quality Parts & Service

Ask About Our Credit Approval Guaranteed

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

EV CERTIFIED

Wide Selection of Pre-Owned Vehicles

2013 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

We sell electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids

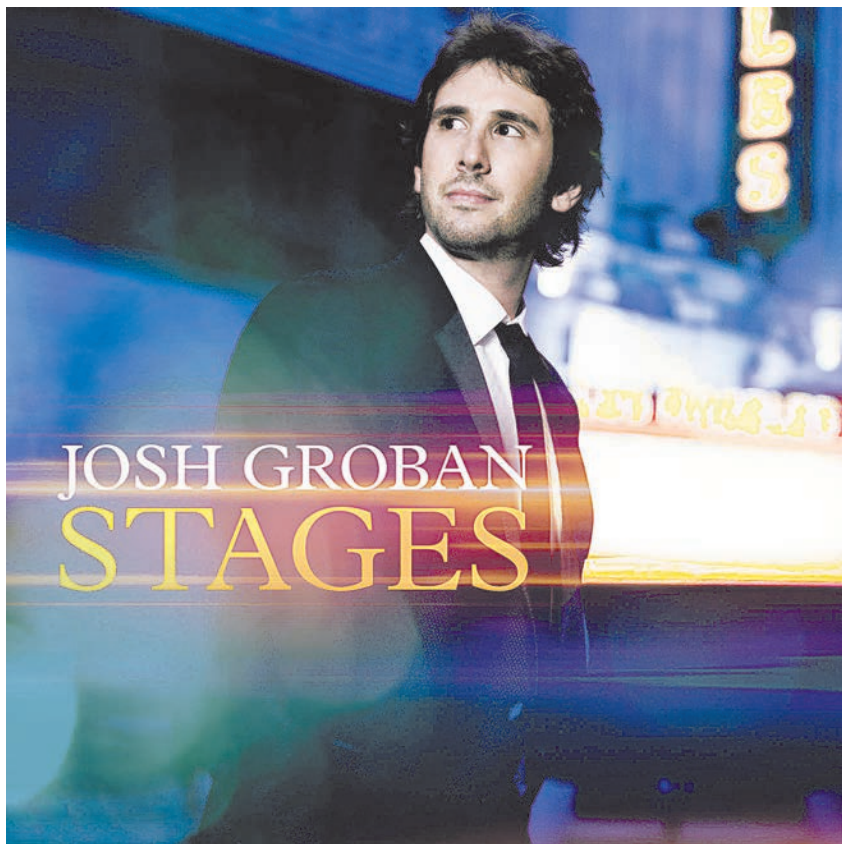
FORD CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

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



► Josh Groban

Continued from p. 21

You'd like to star in it?

Absolutely. I mean, there are a bunch of roles that I think would be fun. It's really been a timing issue. It would be a dream come true to do something on the Broadway stage. With album and touring life, and when you have a record deal, you have to satisfy commitments. It's just a matter of taking the time to do it right.

Your girlfriend, Kat Dennings, recently appeared on "RuPaul's Drag Race."

She crushed it!

When's it your turn to guest judge?

(Laughs) She got me into that show! I mean, RuPaul's incredible. The influence she's had on everybody is just amazing, and then you see the competition. The episode that Kat did – I took Shakespeare class, like I was in very heavy Shakespeare instruction when I was young and in theater school, and so watching them put on Shakespeare was one of the funniest things I've ever seen in my life. It was a wee bit of a train wreck, and I think Ru knew that, but it was really funny to watch.

And yeah, you never know. I would be happy to be a judge on it, but I think I would be so impressed with the fashion that I don't think I would know how to critique it. I'd be like, "Wow! I could not walk in those heels; congratulations

to you! That is amazing! Well done! Ginger Minj – I salute you!"

I like to imagine you doing karaoke. You're out with friends, and you're probably drinking. What's your go-to karaoke number?

I hate to brag, but it's a really unfair advantage. I kind of crush karaoke. The thing about karaoke is it makes everybody a ham. I'll go in there, peruse the little binder, and just hang back with the tambourine for a few songs and then go straight into "We Are the Champions" and "I like big butts and I cannot lie..." It just goes into all out '80s and '90s hip-hop and hair metal, and that's basically a night for me. I remember I was singing "November Rain" and the guy came in to tell us we were out of time, and he heard me singing it. Instead of telling us to leave, he brought us free nachos.

On your list of accomplishments, where does that time in 2002 rank, when People Magazine named you "Sexiest Newcomer"?

Oh, somewhere floating in the middle, I'd say. When you talk about high fives to your younger self, when you read something like that, you think about every girl who rolled their eyes when you'd go up and say hi to them, and then you're all like, "Good job!" If I could go back and tell that young kid, "You're gonna be People Magazine's 'Sexiest,' he would've had a lot easier of a time." Those awkward times give you character, though, I think.

And then you think, "If only I knew then what I know now."

I don't think you ever wanna peak in high school either. I don't think you want to have your most confidence when you're 15 or 16 years old, or you turn into Al Bundy. It's good to go through the 15-, 16-year-old period where you don't have your shit together, where you feel like you do need to figure out what your identity is, where you need to figure out where your walls should be and where your confidence needs to lie. If I didn't have that period where I didn't fit in and I didn't make the team, then, truly, I don't think I would've had as much of a desire to really find my true self in my 20s.

Knowing how far you've come into yourself, it must be really rewarding to see you're a source of inspiration for people now, many of them gay. Is there a story you can recall from someone who's LGBT who was affected by your music?

Oh, it's every concert. I'll meet people backstage and it's always so wonderful for me. When you get to really look somebody in the eye and see that your song has helped somebody through a hard time or kept them from harming themselves or made them not feel so alone, it gives you perspective and it gives you a reason to do what you do. Without fail, during almost every show that I've done, I've met somebody from the LGBT community backstage that has said that my music in their own life has played a huge part in (helping them) feel a part of this universe and be confident in who they are, and also able to express themselves. I always try to find songs and sing songs that try to express those beliefs and those values, so it's always very gratifying when somebody shares those stories with me.

You notably sang with the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C. during President Obama's Inaugural Opening Ceremony in January 2009. What was it like being a part of such a big moment in LGBT history?

Those steps and that environment were about equal rights in the African-American community 50, 60 years ago, and to be able to represent the LGBT community and one of the great equal rights issues of our times – and share that moment proudly on those steps – was a tremendous honor for me. I was so thrilled that this administration had the wherewithal to understand the importance of it, and to do that musically – it's one of my favorite things that I have done of all time.

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

MDSL FERDALE pubcrawl

FRI, MAY 1 2015—7:00 P.M. to 2:00 A.M.

Get your tickets at these Locations!

ONLY \$5!

\$5 tickets may be purchased at participating locations before 5 p.m. on May 1, 2015 ticket price at event is \$8. A convenience fee will be applied to online ticket purchases. Restricted to persons 21 years of age and older. Please celebrate responsibly - designate a driver - don't drink and drive!

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



Gay-Owned Ferndale Business Wins Big At 2015 Great Lakes Floral Expo

BY BTL STAFF

Congratulations are in order for LGBT-owned Blumz, which received several award at this year's Great Lakes Floral Expo in March. The longtime vendor at Between the Lines' Same-Sex Wedding Expo is a full-service florist and a wedding and event planning store with locations in Detroit, Ferndale and Ann Arbor.

Blumz co-owner Jerome Raska attended the 2015 Great Lakes Floral Expo March 6-8 in Grand Rapids alongside Blumz floral designers Paul Sawyers, Shelley Adair and Youngmi Hong, and Blumz team members Tim O'Rear, Sarah Bennett and Pamela Clemo. The team attended a variety of hands-on workshops including lessons on party planning, sympathy trends, improving everyday designs and wedding work. Blumz also competed in some of the contests that took place throughout the weekend and were very happy with the results.

Sawyers took home two awards. First, he won second place in the "Seek, Explore, and Discover" category. He designed a piece that used fresh floral products and dried materials to create something that would be appropriate for the entryway of a manufacturing company. He also won first place in the

"Surprise Surprise" category, where contestants were given the same materials and told to create a unique design using only those materials on the spot.

Adair won the Chuck Bannow Award, a title given to the "Best Overall" design throughout the weekend. She also took home the Past Presidents Award, an award given to one outstanding designer during the annual awards banquet. The award is sponsored by Bloomnet and gives the winner the opportunity to attend a one week class of their choice in Jacksonville, Fla. with all their expenses paid. Adair will be choosing a class and heading to Jacksonville very soon to soak up some sun and some new floral skills.

Blumz announced via email: "We are very proud of all of our staff's accomplishments. We hope to bring our new skills to the table the next time we are designing something for all of you. We are not your ordinary flower, wedding- and event-planning shop – we are so much more. We work hard to stay on top of all the latest floral and wedding trends throughout the year. Our staff attends as many classes and seminars as we can to improve our skills and to keep our team on their stems. We understand the value of continued education."

Blumz by JRDesigns Floral & Event Professionals is an award-winning full-service floral and wedding/event company. With over 60 years of combined experience, the owners of Blumz are dedicated to the fine art of floristry. As internationally respected educators and presenters in the floral industry, the owners of Blumz continue to raise the bar in the floral industry. Their commitment to bringing their customers high-quality floral products, award-winning design and unsurpassed service at competitive prices is their mission.

Blumz is well-respected as a wedding and event florist. Their professional wedding and event staff can assist LGBT and allied clients with everything: floral, specialty linen selection, rentals, invitations, tuxedos and more. Blumz has two retail locations featuring fresh florals, creative gift options and home accents as well as permanent arrangements and plants. Blumz also offers a shopper-friendly internet website and an appointment-only location catering to event and weddings further assists in meeting our clients needs.

Blumz is located at 503 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale and 1260 Library St., Detroit. The third location is by appointment only. For additional information about Blumz, visit their Facebook or www.blumz.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.



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



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

248-542-8022
www.waterworkplumbing.com



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	*Not shown above
	MCC Detroit..... 12	
	Mejishi Martial..... 13	

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



Organic
and
 All-Natural
 Gardening

- ❖ Vegetable Seeds
- ❖ Flower Seeds
- ❖ Potting Soils
- ❖ Plant Nutrients
- ❖ Gardening Tools
- ❖ Rain Barrels
- ❖ Compost Bins
- ❖ Worm Composters
- ❖ Grow Lights
- ❖ Hydroponics
- ❖ Growing Media
- ❖ Aggregates
- ❖ Gift Baskets
- ❖ Gardening Advice and More!



22963 Woodward - Just north of 9 Mile - Downtown Ferndale - (248) 439-1851

YOUR HEALTH CARE TEAM FOR ALL THE RIGHT REASONS!

Specializing in Medicine for Our Lifestyle since 1980



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!

SUBARU **BRZ**



HODGES SUBARU
 Metro Detroit's "Subaru-Only Dealer"

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

Free one-on-one health consultations
 Healthy snacks
 Raffle prizes
 Zumba class
 J-Sette performance
 Educational workshops
 Vendor marketplace
 Dental screenings

Free Event!

More info at www.GoAffirmations.org

LGBTQ+ **Saturday April 18**
1-5pm

HEALTH and Wellness FAIR

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

Ashley's FLOWERS

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. 30

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

Editor's Pick



The Jewish Gay Network will bring and heat up dinner for those staying at the Ruth Ellis Center this Sunday. JGN will enjoy the company of REC residents; there will also be egg decorating, art projects and other activities.

The event, which runs from noon to 4 p.m. on April 5, is part of JGN's "Mitzvah Project." To join this mitzvah experience please RSVP to the jgnmi@jccdet.org or call 248-432-5661.

REC is located at 77 Victor St., Highland Park. JGN is headquartered in two

locations: the D. Dan & Betty Kahn Building Eugene & Marcia Applebaum Jewish Community Campus, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield and the Jimmy Prentiss Morris Building on the A. Alfred Taubman Jewish Community Campus, 15110 W. Ten Mile Road, Oak Park.

Happenings

OUTINGS

Thursday, April 2

Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber Michigan Membership Mixer 5:30 p.m. Meet the board, meet partners, meet new businesses, make deals, find more revenue streams, and explore benefits of joining. Free. Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce, **Detroit**. Eventbrite.com/e/detroit-regional-lgbt-chamber-michigan-membership-mixer-comerica-tickets-15834046058?fb_action_ids=10155224222615234&fb_action_types=og_shares

Comedy Extravaganza 2015 6:30 p.m. Headlining is Lansing Comic Kathie Dunbar with opening act Lila. Tickets: \$10-15. Genesee County PFLAG Chapter, Flint, MI, 2474 S. Ballenger Highway, **Flint**. 810-496-9302. pflagflint@yahoo.com

Red Wings Pride Night 7:30 p.m. The Wings play the Boston Bruins in Second LGBT Pride Night in NHL history. Olympia Entertainment and Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce, 19 Steve Yzerman Dr., **Detroit**. 313-396-7000. Olympiaentertainment.com

World Dance Party 7:30 p.m. Cover: \$15. Jazz Cafe, 350 Madison Ave.,

Detroit. 313-887-8500. Jazzcafedetroit.com

Friday, April 3

Weekend Starts 6:15 p.m. Gay Professionals Social Group, 241 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. meetup.com/Gay-Professionals-Social-Group-MI

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

Saturday, April 4

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

Star Wars Night 7:30 p.m. Michigan Pagans, 5 Championship Dr., **Auburn Hills**. 248-377-0100. Palacenet.com

Sunday, April 5

Mitzvah Project 12 p.m. Will bring and heat up Easter dinner for REC. Jewish Gay Network (JGN), 77 Victor St., **Highland Park**. 248-432-5661. jgnmi@jccdet.org

Transitions 2 p.m. Free transgender support group. Transitions, 1055 E.

South Blvd., **Rochester Hills**. 586-838-0825.

Monday, April 6

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

Tuesday, April 7

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

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

Wednesday, April 8

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

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

Thursday, April 9

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 research.umich.edu/events/exhibitions.html

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**.

Saturday, April 11

Enchanted Spring Bash 2015 Tickets: \$175-500. Affirmations, **Detroit**. Goaffirmations.org

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

Mitten Mavens vs Grand Raggidy Attack 7:30 p.m. The Mitten Mavens will be taking on Grand Rapids B team the Grand Raggidy Attack in April, this is not a bout to miss! This will be the first time the two teams are taking each other on. Tickets: \$10-12. Lansing Capital Roller Derby, 7868 Old M-78, **East Lansing**. Mittenmavens.net

Sunday, April 12

Bookclub in April 2 p.m. Discussing "The Red Tent" by Anita Diamant. Lansing Lesbians - L2L, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., **Lansing Charter Township**. www.Meetup.com/Lansing-Lesbians-L2L

SHOP LGBT

Monday, April 13

Gender Explorers 8 p.m. Spectrum Center, Ann Arbor. 734-763-4186. <http://spectrumcenter.umich.edu>

MUSIC & MORE

Italian Film Festival "Italian Film Festival" All films are free and open to the public. Various, Various. April 2-April 26. italianfilmfest.org

Midtown Detroit Inc. "Art X Detroit" . Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. April 9-April 26. 313-832-6622. artxdetroit.com

Concerts

Blind Pig "44th Annual Ann Arbor Hash Bash Show Featuring: Laith Al-Saadi, The Macpodz & Rootstand" 18+. Tickets: \$10-15. Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. April 4. 734-996-8555. blindpigmusic.com

Blind Pig "Pity Sex wsg Cloakroom" 18+. Tickets: \$12-14. Blind Pig, 208 S.

guest Nikki Lane" . The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. April 2. 734-761-1800. theark.org

The Ark "Seth Walker" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. April 3. 734-761-1800. theark.org

The Majestic "Twin Shadow" . The Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. April 8. 313-833-9700. majesticdetroit.com

University Musical Society (UMS) "Gilberto Gil" . Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. April 4. 734-761-1800. ums.org

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

Other

Trinity Divine Healing "Health &

Dog Loves Books Louise Yates' New York Times Best Seller comes to life in ArtsPower's newest musical about the irresistible Dog who loves book so much that he decides to open up his own bookstore. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$15. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. 1 p.m. April 4. 248-377-3300. mbtheatre.com

Dog Loves Books Tickets: \$15. Meadow Brook Theatre, Oakland University, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. 1 p.m. April 4. 248-377-3300. mbtheatre.com

God of Carnage An exploration of what happens when two couples meet to resolve a playground fight that occurred between their children. An adult comedy with adult language and situations. Tickets: \$8-15. Thunder Bay Theatre, 400 N. Second Ave., Alpena. Through April 4. 989-354-2267. thunderbaytheatre.com

Improv Mondays At 8 p.m. the show kicks off with a guest improv troupe, followed by a performance by Planet

Editor's Pick



Gennese County PFLAG presents its second annual Comedy Extravaganza this week, featuring Kathie Dunbar, back by popular demand. The event will also feature a 50/50 raffle and refreshments.

Founded in 1972 with the simple act of a mother publicly supporting her gay son, PFLAG is the nation's largest family and ally organization. Made up of parents, families, friends, and straight allies united with people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, PFLAG is committed to advancing equality and societal acceptance of LGBT people through its threefold mission of support, education and advocacy.

Doors for the comedy event are 6:30 p.m., show at 7 p.m., on Thursday, April 2. The event will be held in the Unitarian Universalist Church at 2474 S.

Ballenger Highway, Flint. Tickets are \$10-15. For more information, visit www.pflagflint.com.

First St., Ann Arbor. 9:30 p.m. April 2. 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 "Zappa Plays Zappa" "One Size Fits All" 40th Anniversary. Royal Oak Farmers Market, 316 E. 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak. April 3. 248-246-3276. royaloakmusictheatre.com

The Acorn Theater "Brittany Lee Moffitt and Bailey Williams" . The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. April 3. 269-756-3879. acorntheater.com

The Ark "Kacey Musgraves" . Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. April 8. 734-668-8397. theark.org

The Ark "Feufollet" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. April 4. 734-761-1800. theark.org

The Ark "Good Old War" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. April 7. 734-761-1800. theark.org

The Ark "Shakey Graves with special

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

THEATER

Civic/Community Theater

Jesus Christ Superstar . The Michigan Theatre of Jackson, 124 N. Mechanic, Jackson. Through April 5. michigantheatre.org

College/University Theater

Bug . Michigan State University, The Arena Theatre, MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. Through April 4. 1-800-WHARTON. whartoncenter.com

Professional

A Doll's House Tickets: \$10. Slipstream Theatre Initiative, Michigan Actor's Studio, 648 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. Through April 2. slipstreamti.com

And the Winner Is... Tickets: \$20. The Snug Theatre, 160 S. Water St., Marine City. Through April 4. 810-278-1749. thesnugtheatre.com

Ant's resident Home Team. The night closes with The Ant Jam, an opportunity for anyone to improvise on the Planet Ant stage. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$5 at the door. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. Through June 29. 313-365-4948. planetant.com

Julius Caesar Marcus Brutus, a Roman senator, is torn between his friendship with Caesar and his loyalty to Rome. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$7-14. Dog Story Theater, Dog Story Theatre, 7 Jefferson SE, Grand Rapids. April 2-April 12. 616-425-9234. pshakespeare.com

Luce Tickets: \$26-41. Meadow Brook Theatre, Oakland University, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Through April 12. 248-370-2030. ticketmaster.com

Madea on the Run Mabel Simmons, notoriously known as Madea, is in trouble and on the run from the local authorities. With no place to turn, she volunteers to move in with her friend Bam who is recovering from hip replacement surgery. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$38. 50-88. 50. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. April 3-April 5. 313-471-

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****

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

CHENE PARK AMPHITHEATRE DETROIT
30th ANNIVERSARY

Jazzy Nights
EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 7:30PM

JUNE 03 BONEY JAMES & DAVE McMURRAY
JUNE 10 NAJEE, MELI'SA MORGAN & ALEX BUGNON
JUNE 17 WILL DOWNING & L'RENEE
JUNE 24 DAVID SANBORN & MILES SMILES
JULY 01 PIECES OF A DREAM & KIM WATERS
JULY 08 BRIAN CULBERTSON & PHIL DENNY
JULY 15 ANGELA WINBUSH & BRANDON WILLIAMS
JULY 22 AVERY SUNSHINE & KINDRED THE FAMILY SOUL
JULY 29 FREDDIE JACKSON & KAREN BRIGGS
AUGUST 05 MAYSA, NICK COLIONNE & GERALD ALBRIGHT
AUGUST 12 THE FAMILY STONE & MACEO PARKER

GRAMMY® AWARD WINNING

THE GIPSY KINGS

FEATURING NICOLAS REYES & TONINO BALIARDO

JUNE 19
DOORS AT 7PM · SHOW AT 8PM

WWW.GIPSYKINGS.COM

CHENE PARK AMPHITHEATER
2600 ATWATER DETROIT, MI 48207 // BOX OFFICE 313-393-7128
CHENEPARKDETROIT.COM
ticketmaster®

GIPSY KINGS USE Córdoba
cordobaguitars.com

SAVOR FLAMENCO

OUT NOW

All shows are rain or shine. Events subject to change. Prices slightly higher day of show. Lighted and secure parking. Chene Park is a City of Detroit, Recreation Dept. facility, managed and operated by The Right Productions, Inc.



Editor's Pick

Cameron Mackintosh's spectacular new production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "The Phantom of the Opera" will come to Wharton Center as part of a brand new North American Tour. Critics are raving that this breathtaking production is "bigger and better than ever before" and features a brilliant new scenic design by Paul Brown, Tony Award-winning original costume design by Maria Björnson, lighting design by Tony Award-winner Paule Constable, new choreography by Scott Ambler and new staging by director Laurence Connor.

The production, overseen by Matthew Bourne and Cameron Mackintosh, boasts many exciting special effects including the show's legendary chandelier. The beloved story

and thrilling score – with songs like "Music of the Night," "All I Ask Of You" and "Masquerade" – will be performed by a cast and orchestra of 52, making this Phantom one of the largest productions now on tour.

"The Phantom of the Opera" will run from April 1-12. Tickets start at \$44. The production will be in East Lansing's Wharton Center, in Cobb Great Hall. Visit www.wharton.com for more information.

▶ Happenings

Continued from p. 27

6611. olympiaentertainment.com

Sirens Tickets: \$10-35. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. Through April 26. 517-655-SHOW. Williamstontheatre.com

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

Talley's Folly Lanford Wilson's romantic comedy about a pair of mismatched souls longing to find love after nearly giving up on the dream. Tickets: \$12-42. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. April 2-May 23. 734-433-7673. purplerosetheatre.org

The Kiss of the Sun For Pardon Tickets: \$17-20. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Through May 17. 313-868-1347. Detroitreptheatre.com

The Merchant of Venice Shakespeare's classic play tells the story of a wealthy Christian merchant who mistakenly makes a deadly bond with his enemy, a Jewish money lender with nothing and everything to lose. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$10. Slipstream Theatre Initiative, Michigan Actors Studio, 648 E. 9 Mile Rd., Ferndale. April 5-April 30. 2483270575. slipstreamti.com

The Phantom of the Opera A masked figure lurks beneath the catacombs of the Paris Opera House, exercising a reign of terror over all who inhabit it. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: From \$32. Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. April 1-April 12. 800-WHARTON. whartoncenter.com

Violet As a girl, Violet was in an accident, leaving her with a visible scar across her face. With enough money finally saved, she's traveling across the 1964 Deep South towards a miracle—the healing touch of a TV evangelist that will make her beautiful. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$35-41 (includes meal). The Dio-Dining and Entertainment, 135 E. Main St., Pinckney. April 2-May 17. 517-672-6009. diotheatre.com

Yakety Yak -- A Fifties Tale Join us as Robert and Ray, two elderly men in their 80s, decide to buy a diner and use it as a class reunion dance. When the guys turn on the jukebox, they are transported back to the '50s and get a chance to relive the fun again. Remember: "Yakety Yak, don't talk back!" CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$39-43. 50 (includes dinner). Cornwell's Dinner Theatre, 18935 15 1/2 Mile Rd., Marshall. Through May 2. 269-781-4293. turkeyville.com

Theater for Young Audiences

The Crane Maiden . PuppetART Theater, Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. April 4-April 16. 313-961-7777. Puppetart.org

ART 'N' AROUND

Ann Arbor Film Festival "Jane Cassidy: Fits of an Easy Reflexion". Work Gallery, 306 S. State St., Ann Arbor. March 14-April 4. Aaifilmfest.org

Detroit Artists Market (DAM) "2015 DAM Annual Scholarship Awards & Exhibition-College for Creative Studies". Detroit Artists Market, 4719 Woodward Ave., Detroit. March 1-April 11. 313-832-8540. Detroitartistsmarket.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

DIA "Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in Detroit" Tickets: \$24. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. March 15-May 31. 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

Oakland University "The Fortress". Oakland University, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. March 1-April 5. 248-370-2030. Oakland.edu

The Scarab Club "Lowriding: From Crenshaw to Woodward". The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. April 1-May 16. 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-Aug. 9. 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. 15-July 19. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

University of Michigan, Inst. for Research on Women and Gender "Re-imagining 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. Lane Hall, 204 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 15-June 26. 734-764-9537. Irwg_research.umich.edu/events/exhibitions.html

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 4/30/15

Free Appetizer
Under \$5 w/ Lunch

WITH COUPON • CANNOT COMBINE • EXPIRES 4/30/15

20% OFF
Dinner Entree

AFTER 3:30 PM • WITH COUPON • CANNOT COMBINE • EXPIRES 4/30/15

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

EXPERIENCE THE PHENOMENON



**BLUE
MAN
GROUP**

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND • 8 SHOWS ONLY
Fisher Theatre • April 21-26

ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 & Box Office
Info: BroadwayInDetroit.com • 313-872-1000
Groups (12+): Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com
or 313-871-1132

BROADWAY IN DETROIT SPONSORED BY
CHRYSLER
ChryslerDealer.com

THE BERMAN

Center for the Performing Arts

**BERMAN
SIGNATURE SERIES
INTERLOCHEN
ARTS ACADEMY
ORCHESTRA**

Carolyn Watson, conductor
Alexandre Tharaud, piano
Saturday, May 9 • 8 p.m.

TICKETS \$27 - \$32

Alexandre Tharaud has not only distinguished himself as one of France's leading pianists but has made a name for himself on the international stage as an artist of unique vision and originality, heralded for his brilliantly conceived programs and bestselling recordings that range from Bach, Chopin, Rameau and Ravel to music inspired by Paris cabaret of the 1920s.

Performing with the
Interlochen Arts
Academy Orchestra

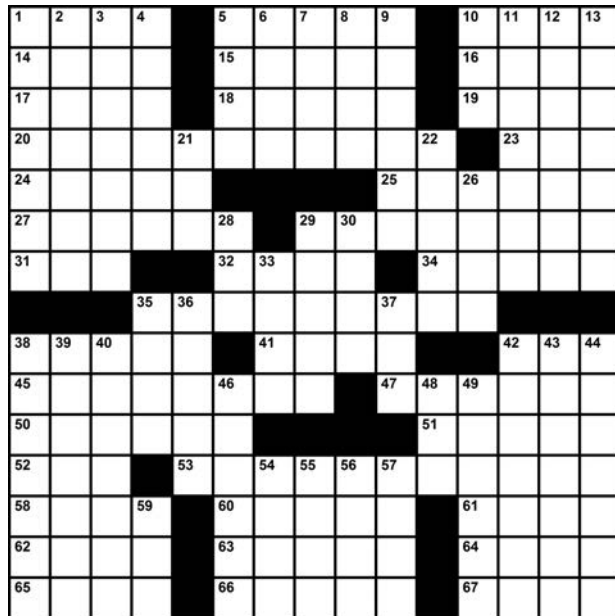


THEBERMAN.ORG | 248.661.1900

THE BERMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit
D. Dan & Betty Kahn Building
Eugene & Marcia Applebaum Jewish Community Campus
6600 W. Maple Road • West Bloomfield, MI 48322

Q Puzzle

The Changing Face Of Athletics



Across

- 1 Delivered a mouthful, perhaps
- 5 Escort from the door
- 10 Straddling
- 14 Meat stabber
- 15 Too-too
- 16 Starch source

- 17 Bear up there
- 18 Emulate a pansy
- 19 "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning" singer
- 20 Athlete currently undergoing gender reassignment
- 23 Small salamander
- 24 Trapp title

- 25 Bitch of the '50s
- 27 Mortgage holder
- 29 20-Across won gold at this 1976 competition
- 31 Albee for short, et al.
- 32 SEC overseer
- 34 Is orally aggressive
- 35 Event for which 20-Across won the gold
- 38 On the ocean
- 41 Emperor played by Charles Laughton
- 42 Where to gaze at a hottie
- 45 Cereal for which 20-Across was a spokesperson
- 47 "___ aux Folles"
- 50 Movie tough guy Chuck
- 51 Reef buildup
- 52 "Meet Me in St. Louis" writer Brecher
- 53 Fear of gender reassigned people
- 58 Diamond of note
- 60 Ease off when you masturbate?
- 61 Blow hard, in and out
- 62 Oz visitor Dorothy
- 63 Wife of Portia
- 64 Irish tongue
- 65 Filed for palimony, e.g.
- 66 Baryshnikov's jetes, e.g.
- 67 Charlie Brown expletive

Down

- 1 Designer ___ (facial hair style)
- 2 Attack by spraying from above
- 3 Provides with coverage
- 4 Official at Metropolitan Community Church

- 5 English Lit., e.g.
- 6 "Vogue" competitor
- 7 Collar kind
- 8 Club for Sheehan
- 9 To wit
- 10 From ___ Z
- 11 Endures the masochist role
- 12 Opening
- 13 Emily Dickinson, in her day
- 21 Carbon compound suffix
- 22 Macho movie guy
- 26 Word with top, for Mauresmo
- 28 SASE, for one
- 29 One of the "Maneater" singers
- 30 Cowardly lion actor
- 33 Sadist's tool
- 35 Letter opener
- 36 Weird Al Yankovic song sucks?
- 37 "Ha ha!" on the Internet
- 38 Storefront shaders
- 39 "Walden" author
- 40 Like a slave to a master
- 42 "Nitrate Kisses" director Hammer
- 43 Hostile to
- 44 Ties in
- 46 Land of the cut
- 48 Essen exclamation
- 49 Chris of "American Beauty"
- 54 Ready and willing partner
- 55 Simba's Broadway love
- 56 Brady Bunch prefix
- 57 Whitman and Dickinson
- 59 Was out in front

Solution on pg. 26



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 209 West Kingsley
Berkley W. 12 Mile Road (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.

Sheets, showers and lotions provided

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

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

Say Hello To Will!

MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY

Meet Will! This silly kitty is a 5-year-old Domestic Short Hair who is sure to keep you laughing with his antics all day. He loves lots of cuddles and curl up on your lap whenever he gets a chance. The adoption fee includes sterilization, vaccinations, the MHS Adoption Guarantee and much more. For more information visit the Detroit Center for Animal Care or call 866-648-6263, and provide pet ID number 797895.

Part of the Will made possible by Patterson Dog & Cat Hospital
3800 Grand River Ave., Detroit
313-832-7282
www.pattersondogandcat.com

BTL

Between THE Lines™

Please patronize our advertisers and let them know you appreciate their support for the LGBT community!

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

**ENTIRE STORE
BUY ONE GET ONE FREE**

ALL OTHERS PRICED AS MARKED SEE STORE FOR DETAILS

DILDOS
PUMPS
PLUGS
VIBRATORS
BULLETS
C/RINGS
STROKERS
LUBES
CLEANING SOLVENTS
& MORE

**BLUE MOON
VIDEO/DVD
SALES & RENTALS**



OPEN EVERYDAY MON - SAT 11AM - MIDNIGHT SUNDAY 11AM - 10PM
7041 W. 8 MILE 1 MILE WEST OF WOODWARD 313-340-1730

BTL
Between THE Lines™

**OVER
7500
LIKES
& COUNTING**
JOIN THE CONVERSATION.

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

EASTER SPECIAL
XXX DVD'S 3/\$9.99
WHILE THEY LAST!
APRIL 1-5, 2015

UPTOWN SPECIAL
20% OFF
ALL DVD'S ALL LOTIONS &
NOVELTIES!
APRIL 6-19, 2015
REGULAR PRICED DVD'S & NOVELTIES ONLY!



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



**UPTOWN
BOOKSTORES
ADULT VIDEO**
2 LOCATIONS

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



WE FOCUS ON HIV
TO HELP YOU FOCUS ON
TODAY

Ask your doctor if a medicine made by Gilead is right for you.

onepillchoices.com