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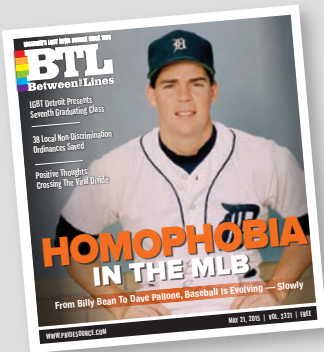
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COVER

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Pictured: Billy Bean, 1989
Photo by Associated Press



“Today in many gay communities, on TV or otherwise, we’re increasingly hearing one thing about PrEP: **It’s changing everything.**”

— Diane Anderson-Minshall, pg. 16



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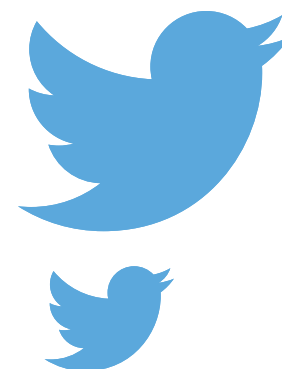
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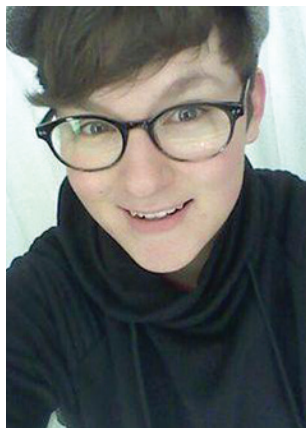


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Transgender Student Wins Right To Walk With Chosen Name

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

BELLEVILLE—A transgender teenager recently won the right to be presented with his diploma in his chosen name rather than his birth name. Sebastian Newell, who attends Belleville High School, was initially told that while he could walk with the male students — Belleville High School separates male students and female students at its graduation ceremony — his diploma would have to be presented to him in the female name he had long left behind.



Sebastian Newell's Twitter photo. He attends Belleville High School.

Newell was crestfallen. "I didn't want to walk," Newell told CBS Detroit. "I didn't want to participate in commencement. Just walking with that kind of name that is associated with the opposite gender was terrifying. I don't even feel comfortable when a substitute teacher says it out loud, so I can't even imagine someone whispering it into a microphone in front of

thousands of people."

Michael Van Tassel, the Van Buren Schools superintendent, said that his decision was not a commentary on gender identity issues, but simply a matter of district policy, which states that a student must use their legal name.

"We have 400 students... and there is just no way that we can just read names off because somebody, for instance, has decided that they want to be called something different," Van Tassel said in the CBS report.

Amid pressure and with permission from Newell's parents, however, Van Tassel reversed his initial decision and agreed to let Newell graduate using his chosen name. Rachel Crandall, executive director of Transgender Michigan, said the superintendent made the right decision.

"His gender was never actually female," Crandall explained. "His gender was always male. Forcing him to graduate as a woman would be forcing him to be something he really is not." Crandall said that "respecting a person's chosen name is really respecting them as a human being."

Another trans activist, Transgender Detroit Executive Director Michelle Fox-Phillips, said the whole matter is really a non-issue. "He identifies as being male, so why should he not march with the boys," Fox-Phillips said. "That's what he is, plain and simple."

For his part, Van Tassel told CBS that maybe the policy of separating boys and girls at the ceremony is a little antiquated.

"The times, they are a changing," said Van Tassel. "And there's nothing wrong with that." Fox, meanwhile, was very pleased with the resolution and happy that the school district was taking such a progressive stance.

"Good for Belleville," she said. "Good for them."

Extended briefs are available online at:

>> www.PrideSource.com

The MLB Is Evolving — Slowly From Glenn Burke To Billy Bean To Dave Pallone

BY NORM KENT, PUBLISHER SFGN

On July 17, 2013, Major League Baseball held its 84th annual All Star Game at Citi Field in Queens, New York, the home park of the New York Mets. It was a day that would become special for the LGBT community.

On that afternoon, Bud Selig, then commissioner of MLB, challenged once and for all homophobia in the clubhouse. The commissioner held a press conference announcing that from that date forward it would be the policy of every major league club "to welcome all individuals regardless of sexual orientation into our ballparks."

"Both on the field and away from it Major League Baseball has a zero-tolerance policy for harassment and discrimination based on sexual orientation," Selig said.

It was nearly two years ago, and Selig declared that a workplace code of conduct "would be created and given to every player from the minor leagues on up. Training sessions and a centralized complaint system will also be instituted."

The commissioner kept his word.

A year later, Selig would appoint a retired gay baseball player, Billy Bean, as a spokesperson for inclusion. Baseball's non-discrimination policies are now posted in every locker room in all their leagues. The Park Avenue home of major league baseball has a fully staffed 'Office for Diversity.'

John Rucker

We have come a long way from the afternoon in July of 1999 when John Rucker, the Atlanta Braves reliever, remarked to Sports Illustrated that he hated playing in New York at a Mets game.

"Imagine having to take the train to the ballpark, looking like you're riding through Beirut next to some kid with purple hair next to some queer with AIDS right next to some dude who just got out of jail for the fourth time right next to some 20 year old mom with four kids," he said.

He was excoriated for it even then. The remarks exemplified the homophobia that permeated the game.

Fifteen years later, John Rucker was a surprising representative for a new dawn. Last year, signing autographs in Cooperstown, New York, during Hall



This year, Terry Collins' Mets were amongst a host of major and minor league teams that held clubhouse and locker room presentations highlighting diversity and LGBT inclusion in the sport. They were moderated by Billy Bean, a one time Los Angeles Dodger himself and former Detroit Tiger.

of Fame week, Rucker was a different person. He had just finished participating as a contestant in the popular TV show, "Survivor."

"My ally and closest friend was a gay man and his partner," he told SFGN.

Asked how he would feel today about gay athletes coming out in the clubhouse, Rucker remarked, "If a guy can hit my fastball, he should have a right to play. No one has a right to discriminate."

Still, a lot of old timers have not jumped on the diversity bandwagon. When Hall of Famer Frank Robinson, 79 years old, and baseball's first black manager, was questioned about Commissioner Selig's initiative, he refused to comment on it.

In Cooperstown for the Hall of Fame ceremonies, he brusquely stated, "I am here just to sign autographs," and ended the interview.

Glenn Burke

Glenn Burke played for the Los Angeles Dodgers and Oakland A's in the late 70s and early 80s and was openly gay to his teammates, coaches and team owners. It did not go well with his old school manager, Tommy Lasorda. The tension became worse when Burke befriended Lasorda's own gay son, who lived in West Hollywood. Sadly, both would eventually die of complications from AIDS.

Even today, Lasorda cannot talk easily about Tommy, Jr. But it did not stop him from setting up a memorial cancer foundation in his lad's name.

He has evolved, too.

Lasorda, a fierce competitor and Hall of Famer, told SFGN, "I would start anyone in my lineup who could take two, single to right field and help me win a game." In fact, sports announcer Joe Garagiola once joked Lasorda "would throw at his mother if it helped his team."

Many other retired players echo that thought. Tommy Davis, who in the 1960s played on over 10 teams in his career all over the country said, "First of all, you play to win. You form a brotherhood based on the talents teammates bring to the field, not to the bedroom."

But sexuality was not an open issue, "back in the day."

Terry Collins today is the manager of the New York Mets. He is a personal friend who coached me when I played for 20 years as a member of the Los Angeles Dodgers senior baseball fantasy camps in Vero Beach, Florida.

Collins was also Glenn Burke's roommate in 1976 and 1977 when they both played for the Dodgers.

"Glenn was troubled even then, but the organization did not have any reach out programs in that era," Collins recalled.

See MLB: Billy Bean, next page

“ We know there are players who are gay. Of course we do. Everybody is everywhere. You are fooling yourself if you don't think so. Our obligation to the fans is to create an environment where people are comfortable being who they are. ”

– Wendy Lewis, Major League Baseball's senior vice president of Diversity and Strategic Alliances

In fact, at the time, the Dodgers, the very same team that had broken the color barrier in baseball 30 years earlier, were so homophobic they offered Glenn Burke \$75,000 to get married to a woman to cover up his homosexuality.

He declined.

Billy Bean

This year, Terry Collins' Mets were amongst a host of major and minor league teams that held clubhouse and locker room presentations highlighting diversity and LGBT inclusion in the sport. They were moderated by Billy Bean, a one time Los Angeles Dodger himself and former Detroit Tiger.

“I have to look forward to a new generation of athletes who are much more receptive to inclusion than we experienced years ago,” said Bean, who came out in 1999 after he retired. “I can't focus on past mistakes. I have to create new opportunities for today's players, create a new vision we can aspire to.”

Bean used to live in South Beach and play softball in local gay leagues. He relocated to Southern California to continue his real estate career, after a short run with a Miami Beach restaurant. Today, though, Bean is busier touring minor and major league clubhouses and administrative offices, championing the former commissioner's vision of inclusion.

Bean has been given a new life and new career, one not measured by balls and strikes, but by spirit and energy. He has brought that passion across the country, from the Rookie Career Development Program to diversity symposiums nationally.

“My goal is to create a conversation that is inclusive and accepting, and focus on that,” he recently told SFGN. He added, “Hate is not a virtue.”

It still isn't easy.

Bean's appearance at the Mets spring training facility in Port St. Lucie still raised eyebrows.

“It's not a lifestyle I agree with,” said Mets second baseman, Daniel Murphy, who identified himself as a devout Christian. Nevertheless, Murphy added it was nice to meet with Billy Bean. “You get to meet the man, not the stereotype.”

It was exactly what the general manager of the New York Mets wanted to hear. Sandy Alderson had been the general manager of the Oakland Athletics when Glenn Burke was an

excommunicated “outcast,” living homeless on the streets of San Francisco.

“It's something that was wrong then, and never should have happened,” Alderson told the Wall Street Journal in March. “And it can't ever happen again.”

Billy Bean added, “I know I won't get everyone to be on the same page. Many of the older coaches come from a different generation set in their ways. And I know my work is not going to be a walk in the park, but it's my responsibility to rise to the challenge and make it better for the next generation of major leaguers.”

Bean's own personal journey was made into a video last month, and released on the baseball channel.

“I was humbled,” he said. “It brought back tough moments and rough reminders of the way things once were for me. But this new task gives me a chance to promote self-acceptance and change things. My heart and soul are in it.”

MLB Office Of Diversity

In the meantime, Wendy Lewis, Major League Baseball's senior vice president of Diversity and Strategic Alliances, has her work cut out for her as well.

“We know we are only taking the beginning steps. This is not an office that is going to come and go, but one that will grow and grow,” she told SFGN last summer.

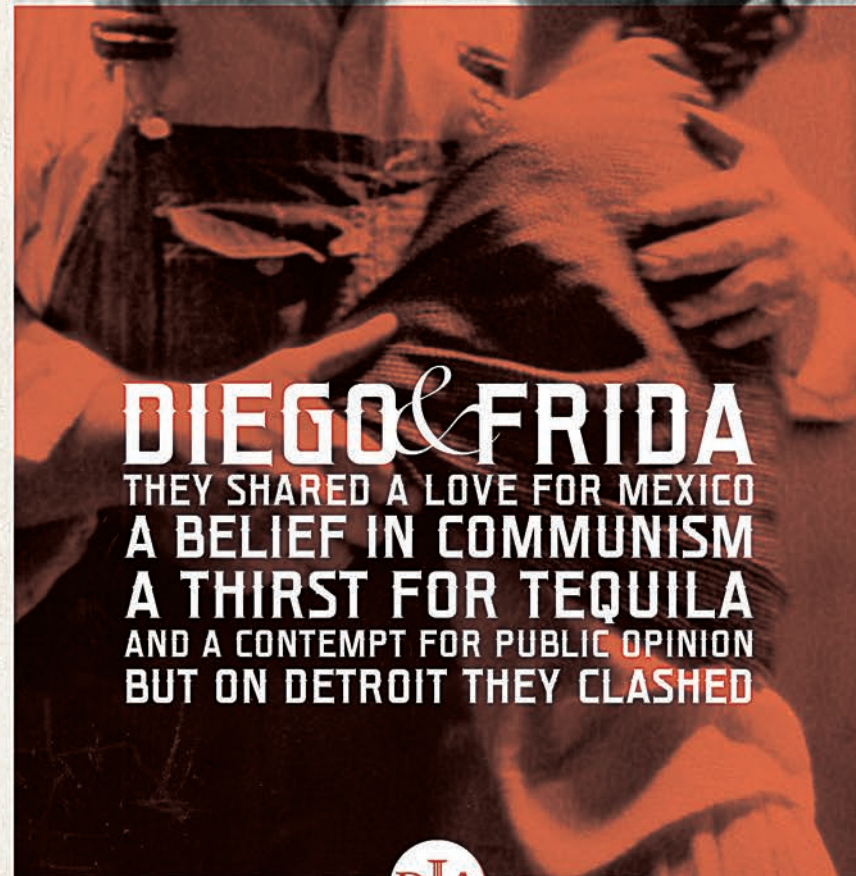
Lewis was right on target. She is developing methodologies to enhance diversity efforts, prudently pointing out the potential rewarding economic impact outreach will engage.

“We know there are players who are gay. Of course we do. Everybody is everywhere,” Lewis said. “You are fooling yourself if you don't think so. Our obligation to the fans is to create an environment where people are comfortable being who they are. It's our legacy to Commissioner Selig. That was his goal. He did not create this office in response to a crisis, but he did it from the spirit of embracing a community we knew needed support.”

'Out' Executives

There was good reason for Selig to act. In September of 2012, Kevin McClatchy, the owner and CEO of the Pittsburgh Pirates from 1996 to 2007, came out of the closet to The New York Times, saying frequent homophobic

See MLB: Billy Bean, page 6

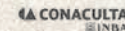


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► MLB: Billy Bean

Continued from p. 5

slurs he heard in baseball circles had convinced him to keep his sexual orientation a secret

McClatchy, an heir to a newspaper chain, followed in the steps of Ric Welts, the president and chief executive officer of the Phoenix Suns, who came out to the media in 2011.

Neither story is isolated.

Veteran Major League Baseball umpire Dale Scott revealed in an interview last December that he is gay and married to his partner of 28 years.

"I am extremely grateful that Major League Baseball has always judged me on my work and nothing else," Scott told Outsports.com, "And that's the way it should be."

Dave Pallone, a former major league umpire in the National League from 1979 to 1988, was not so lucky. Now a diversity trainer and motivational speaker, Pallone spelled out his secret double life in his autobiographical book, "Behind the Mask." His tenure ended in disgrace. Major League Baseball paid him off to leave the sport, after he was falsely accused of being involved in a prostitution ring with younger men.

Openly gay NBA star John Amaechi said once that "homophobia in sport is death by 1,000 cuts." From Glenn Burke to Billy Bean

to Dave Pallone, Major League Baseball has had its own share of victims.

Outreach Outside of Baseball

Today, Major League Baseball is not the first sport to become inclusive and reach out to the LGBT community. The National Hockey League and its players' association have initiated the "You Can Play" Project, to promote LGBT outreach and bring an end to bullying.

Its founder, Philadelphia Flyers scout, Patrick Burke, claims the NHL has set the standard for professional sports. His own son, a young gay college student, was killed in an automobile accident in 2010.

NHL commissioner, Gary Bettman, wholeheartedly supported Burke's initiative.

"Hockey is for everyone," he said. "The official policy of the NHL is one of inclusion on the ice, in our locker room and in the stands."

Representatives of all the major league sports were present in Palm Beach Gardens last October for the PGA's third annual "Sports Diversity and Inclusion Symposium."

The PGA of America is the host of a group whose partners include the U.S Olympic Committee, NBA, NFL, NCAA, NASCAR and MLB. The event was designed to recognize, celebrate and encourage diversification in the

world of sport.

Cyd Zeigler, the founder and operator of OutSports.com, was one of the presenters. "LGBT organizational policies and practices" was one of the panel discussions. As baseball's Lewis has stated, the era of inclusiveness in professional sports has not only begun, it is here to stay.

Whatever may have been in the past, Major League Baseball is finally at bat and in the game, from sending representatives to the LGBT Sports Coalition last year in Portland, Oregon, to Brian Cashman, the General Manager of the New York Yankees, reaching out this past summer to LGBT at-risk youth in a New York City social services agency.

LGBT Nights At MLB Stadiums

Baseball may have been late to the game, but more than a dozen teams also now have LGBT nights, none more popular than in Wrigley Field where a lesbian, Donna Ricketts, is one of the owners. Even before her family bought the Cubs team, Ricketts was a fund raising executive who led a Super PAC that has a mission to end discrimination against LGBT people.

In conjunction with SFGN's predecessor, the Express Gay News, the Miami Marlins held an "out" night at the ballpark over 10 years ago. The Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida sung the national anthem.

It was the sixth inning and the Marlins loaded the bases with none out. Mike Morse, who helped the Giants win a world series last year, came to the plate.

A loud and plastered Braves fan stood up and yelled, "This isn't San Francisco; you fag. We got babes here on South Beach."

If he only knew.

Sean Flynn, the Senior Vice President for Marketing for the Miami Marlins, is the individual who as far back as a decade ago promoted media partnerships with the Express Gay News.

In the inaugural issue of SFGN in 2010, the Marlins also took out the entire back page.

"We have always recognized that South Florida is a diverse and accepting community, and we have tried to reach out to everyone. It's the way it should be."

Flynn had an inclusive marketing plan, but he was not helped when the Marlins brought Ozzie Guillen in as their field manager. He immediately created a stir for saying to the South Florida Cuban community which is the Marlins fan base that Fidel Castro was a nice guy he admired, and would not mind having a beer with.

Known for his off the charts comments previously, Guillen, while the White Sox manager, had once told the Chicago press, "You can't make homophobic slurs and do gay bashing in the mass media... you have to leave it in-house."

Guillen epitomized the homophobia permeating baseball's soul. He reasoned that

Tigers Pride Night Sells Over 1,000 Tickets

BY AJ TRAGER

DETROIT – Just in time for Pride, the Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce will host a Pride Night June 3 when the Tigers play the Oakland Athletics.

Nearly 400 tickets were sold the first week after the event was announced. At press time, the chamber confirms that nearly 1,000 tickets have been sold for Pride seating. Tickets are \$40.

Help the LGBT Chamber support LGBT non-profit organizations in Metro Detroit by purchasing a \$15 tagless Tigers Pride T-shirt. Shirts can be purchased at www.booster.com/lgbtchamber. As of May 19, 109 shirts have been sold and \$850 raised to support local non-profit organizations.

LGBT and Ally Employee Resource Groups are encouraged to purchase group tickets; so far, the Metro Detroit Gay and Lesbian Softball League, Ford, Ally Financial, Comerica Bank and the Sheraton Novi Hotel have all purchased group tickets.

"It's about the game. Just like having a Hispanic night, I go to support that community. We are part of the community too, and we'd like to support," said Philip Silvio, a software technician who works at Ally Financial downtown and has purchased a total of 22 tickets. "I'm glad they're doing it (the pride night). Hopefully there will be more of them in the future."

The chamber hopes to establish stronger LGBT inclusions in the Detroit regional workplace, and the collaborations with the major Detroit sports teams helps that initiative.

In the past few months, other sports teams in the Detroit area have hosted similar evenings; a Pride Night with the Pistons was in December and a Pride Night with the Red Wings was this spring. The Tigers event is sponsored by the DRLGBTCC.

To purchase tickets, visit http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/MLBEventInfo?agency=TGEV_B2B42&pid=7930295.

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if you leave it in the locker room, "no one will say anything about it publicly because then everyone will know they're a fag."

Now retired, it is unlikely that the immediate past commissioner of baseball, Bud Selig, would agree. In fact, remarks as ignorant as Guillen's may have inspired Selig's vision for a newer tomorrow.

"Baseball is a social institution with an important social responsibility to be open minded," he said. "It has to be part of our DNA. We have to be on the right side of history."

In their offices, baseball is doing its part.

When a baseball player finally comes out of the closet while still in uniform, the sport will have a chance to test out how their game plan is working. In the meantime, Major League Baseball is making a pitch to allow that athlete to step up to the plate without fear of retribution.

Like Tommy Lasorda said, if he can take two inside and then line a base hit to right field, that will be all that matters.

LGBT Detroit Leadership Academy Presents Seventh Graduating Class

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

DETROIT – It's the place where young leaders are born and bred. The LGBT Detroit Leadership Academy presented its seventh class of graduates at a ceremony Saturday that took place in the LGBT Detroit offices in Midtown. To date, the Academy has produced 47 young activists who are already making their mark on the movement. In order to graduate, students must attend six Saturday morning sessions led by leaders in Detroit's LGBT community.

"The purpose of LGBT Detroit's Leadership Academy is to prepare the next generation of leaders in Michigan's LGBT movement," explained LaKeisha Burchett, secretary of LGBT Detroit's board of directors, who presented the graduates with their diplomas along with LGBT Detroit Executive Director Curtis Lipscomb.

"These students have learned the basics of public speaking, LGBT mobilization, inclusion and diversity, group processes and black LGBT history and herstory," Lipscomb said.

Four students comprised the graduating class of Spring 2015. They are Stoyan Francis, Anthony Hibbler, Ahya Taylor and DeVon Weatherspoon.

LGBT Detroit Program Director Rhiannon Chester, a previous graduate of the Leadership Academy, spoke to the class via a prerecorded video message. She told the crowd of about 20 how impressed she was with the current graduating class.

"Today we welcome these young leaders into the fold," Chester said. "Their efforts and talents were and are far reaching. They all have made a mark on this world in unique ways and we are grateful to be a part of nurturing their individual and collective genius."

Chester cautioned the graduating class that the life of a community leader is not an easy one.

"A leader is a special type of person that is courageous and brave, even when quiet," she said. "Leaders do the work. The work is not always between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The work is not sexy. And the work does not always mean being in the front. We need leaders on all levels and in all places. There is so much work to do."

Nathan Strickland, another former



LGBT Detroit Leadership Academy's Spring 2015 graduating class consists of DeVon Weatherspoon, Stoyan Francis, Ahya Taylor and Anthony Hibbler (not pictured). BTL photo: Jason A. Michael

graduate of the Leadership Academy and current LGBT Detroit health and wellness coordinator, warned the graduates about the risk of burnout.

"There are a lot of actions, movements and initiatives that you can take part in," Strickland said. "But it can be very time consuming and exhaustive to take part in everything that happens in Detroit. So it's important that you exercise self-care. You all have your own personal and social concerns that you are willing to fight for and those will be (the fuel) that will keep you motivated to do this work."

Speaking after the class, the graduates talked about how much the program meant to them.

"I learned how to be more sympathetic, how to be more open," said Taylor, a 22-year-old who just graduated from Wayne State University with a bachelor's degree in music. "I've learned that there's more than one way to contribute to a movement and that's probably the biggest thing that I've taken away from this class."

As for being voted class valedictorian, Taylor said she was honored.

"It was very inspiring and very humbling to know that people are paying attention to me and my voice and want to know what I think," she said.

Taylor is an advocate for trans issues and she is "looking to create programs for trans women of color in order to foster healing and solidarity, and

just growth of a largely marginalized community."

Francis, 26, recently earned a master's degree in social justice from Marygrove College. Her cause is sexual assault awareness.

"I learned the importance of telling and sharing our stories," Francis said of her time in the Leadership Academy. "We need to write our own stories. Being out and LGBT and black, we are easily lost in the fold."

Weatherspoon, 23, studied at Morehouse College in Atlanta before returning to Detroit, where he focuses on promoting financial literacy.


"I learned how to turn the ideas and thoughts that I already had into action," Weatherspoon said. "And I saw how much hurt and how much of a need there is for healing in our community."

Of the Leadership Academy's current graduates, Lipscomb said he couldn't be more proud.

"The Spring 2015 class is brilliant, intelligent and beautiful," he said. "They've already shown leadership, philosophy and thought, education and expression. This enthusiasm that I witnessed in orientation at our first class was thrilling and insightful. I can imagine the contributions manifesting from this day forward and I'm eager to see it."

Learn more at LGBTDetroit.org

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SHOP LGBT

Indiana To Spend \$750K In Developing Ad Campaign To Undo Harm

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) – Indiana is going to pay a New York public relations firm up to \$750,000 to come up with a plan to try to rebuild the state's damaged image after widespread criticism over a religious objections law.

A contract posted Thursday to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation shows the quasi-governmental agency, which is exempt from some oversight faced by other state agencies, will pay that much to Porter Novelli for the first phase of the "reputation enhancement initiative." The contract states the cost of the second phase of the public relations campaign will be determined after the scope of the work and other terms are decided.

The state has previously said it would spend \$2 million on a public relations strategy to try to overcome the damage done after the General Assembly passed a religious objections law that critics contended was anti-gay. The public backlash, including many companies canceling travel to Indiana, led lawmakers to revise the law's language to address the discrimination concerns.

The contract states the IEDC is collaborating with the Indiana Office of Tourism Development to strengthen Indiana's "global brand reputation as a welcoming place to live, visit and do business." The ad agency is expected to look at the ad slogan "Honest to Goodness Indiana" that was panned as too folksy when it was unveiled last year. The state tourism office designed the campaign with Indianapolis marketing company Williams-Randall.

The first phase of the contract with Porter Novelli runs from April 1 to Sept. 30 and calls for the ad firm to assess the perceptions and expectations of the state and to develop a campaign and strategic approach, including the development and design of a marketing campaign.

An email from the tourism office's communications director, Jake Oakman, to local tourism officials last month made clear the reason for the need for the ad campaign.

"The Indiana Office of Tourism Development is partnering with the IEDC on this initiative to restore Indiana's image after the recent political controversy surrounding RFRA," Oakman wrote.

38 Local Non Discrimination Ordinances Saved GOP Bill Would Have Negated All Local LGBT Protections

BY AJ TRAGER AND JAN STEVENSON

LANSING — LGBT activists breathed a sigh of relief when a provision that could have invalidated all 38 LGBT inclusive anti-discrimination ordinances in Michigan was removed from the final version of a bill passed 11-7 by the House Commerce and Trade Committee May 19. The Republican sponsors of the original version of the "Local Government Employer Mandate Prohibition Act" claimed they were simply trying to unify employment practices across the state.

In the final version passed out of committee, communities will not be allowed to pass ordinances regarding wages, benefits or working conditions in their towns. The bill was introduced last year in the Legislature but stalled when local officials objected because it also prohibits communities from negotiating community benefits packages with businesses that are getting tax credits from towns. Such agreements dictate some of the terms of what developers do in communities, like hiring local residents for example.

"This bill is an unprecedented intrusion into the local control of Michigan cities," East Lansing Mayor Nathan Triplett wrote on his Facebook, announcing the bill passed out of committee. "It flies in the face of both our State Constitution and a long history of home rule. Communities must be allowed to enact ordinances that reflect the values of their citizens. The one bright spot is that the bill was amended in committee to clarify that it does not prohibit a local government from adopting an ordinance prohibiting employment discrimination. That means that, for the moment, Michigan's 38 local



Rep. Jeremy Moss, D-Southfield. BTL photo: Rita Deibler

nondiscrimination ordinances are safe from preemption."

East Lansing was the first city to enact a municipal ordinance adding sexual orientation and gender identity to the list of protected classes under the city's civil rights ordinance. Grand Rapids is the latest municipality added to the list of now 38 cities across the state to have LGBT protections added to city civil rights ordinances.

Rep. Jeremy Moss, D-Southfield, is one of seven Democrats on the 19 member committee and also sits on the Local Government Committee. He called out Rep. Earl Poleski, R-Jackson, the sponsor of the bill, at the committee meeting May 12, bringing to light the hypocrisy of the recently proposed GOP legislation.

"How come when it comes to the Supreme Court, we have to hold onto our local

customs and values but we totally disregard local customs and values of our local municipalities?" Moss said, referring to right-wing objections to so-called judicial interference in local jurisdiction in the marriage equality case now before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Michigan has two other anti-LGBT bills currently pending a vote. The Michigan Religious Freedom Restoration Act (HB 5958), which is similar to the RFRA bill passed in Indiana, and a three-bill package that passed out of the Senate Families Seniors and Human Services Committee that would allow for faith-based adoption agencies to refuse to serve prospective parents based on their religious beliefs.

Read the bill here: www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2015-2016/billintroduced/House/pdf/2015-HIB-4052.pdf

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Jewish Gay Network Hosts Talk On Transgender Issues In Michigan

A special session of the Jewish Gay Network's Annual Meeting will be held at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills on Wednesday, June 3. Zooney Sophia Pook will speak about "Transgender Issues in Michigan." Pook holds master's degrees in philosophy and communication and is currently working on a doctorate in rhetoric and professional communication. Her research is focusing on the ways that language and culture shape identity. She currently works as the coordinator of the "Sexual and Gender Diversity Resource Center" at New Mexico State University.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m., June 3, at the Holocaust Memorial Center at 28123 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. A dessert reception will follow.

For more information, visit www.jccdet.org.

New Study Calls For LGBT Adults Looking For Love, Sex

Angie Martell, J.D., M.S.W. and doctoral student in social work and sociology at the University of Michigan, is conducting a research project examining love, sex and intimacy among LGBT adults. The little researched area will be investigated in the study, titled "The Modern Love Research Project: A Study about Love, Sex and Intimacy among Adults."

The study calls for LGBT U.S. residents between the ages of 35-55. Participants may be married, partnered or single. Participants will earn a \$25 Visa gift card.

The informal interview process will last 1-2 hours and involve questions about life, experiences and the search for love, sex and intimacy.

If interested, please contact modernlovestudy@umich.edu.

Understanding The 'Invisible' Aging LGBT Community

ANN ARBOR – The Older Adult Services Program of the Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County will hold a conversation June 17 on social, political, legal and medical issues that affect the LGBT older adult community.

Shari Robinson-Lynk, LMSW, ACSW, will give LGBT community members ways in which older adults can recognize ageism and heterosexism within their communities while discussing the various ways changes in everyday issues impact LGBT older adults.

Robinson-Lynk has nearly 20 years of experience as a social worker working solely with older adults. She has knowledge and experience in international aging, feminist gerontology, feminist anthropology and issues of diversity and cultural competence, especially LGBT studies.

The educational presentation is offered free of charge beginning at 7 p.m. at the Ann Arbor Jewish Community Center, located at 2935 Birch Hollow Drive in Ann Arbor. Registration is required. Contact Leah Zaas at 734-769-0209 or email her at leahz@jfsannarbor.org for more information.

Extended briefs are available online at:

>> www.PrideSource.com

Gay Man Begins Campaign For State Representative

BY AJ TRAGER

DEARBORN – In anticipation of the 2016 presidential election, the pressure is on for all elected officials to start gathering support for their campaigns, especially prospective candidates for state office.

State House Rep. George Darany is serving his third and final term as a State House Representative, and Brian Stone wants to take his place as the next Democrat to serve the people of Dearborn.

Stone has lived in Dearborn for the majority of his life, aside from serving in the Navy from 2008-2012. During his many assignments, Stone was able to see many cultures of the world and experience countries that provide different structures of support for their people; structures that Stone believes could benefit Michigan's infrastructure.

The prospective candidate has strict concerns on roads, education, public transportation and how the state will position itself in future years to expand opportunities for state residents and provide the jobs and opportunities necessary that will not only keep college graduates in the state, but also bring more talent to the mitten.

Stone's first kick off fundraiser will be held at 6 p.m. on May 22 at Habib's Cuisine, 14316 Michigan Ave. in Dearborn.

During the event, attendees will have the opportunity to meet Stone, who will discuss his background and the upcoming campaign, followed by dinner. Tickets are \$50 and offered at a reduced price for students at \$35. Group tickets are also available. Email the campaign team at brian@votestone.com to purchase tickets and RSVP for the event.

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Looking Bassakwards (Pt. 2 of 4)



Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

“Let’s go to the Hub Grill for a bowl of chili and a trick,” was our weekend rallying cry as gay teenagers. A dollar or two – and our youthful, reasonably innocent good looks – could get us through a promising Saturday night.

Two sisters, Fran and Flo, and a scruffy cook, Uncle Jimmy, held bicarbonate-of-soda court. Fran rarely smiled and smoked nonstop. Flo, her hair worn in Rosie the Riveter upsweep, was all winks and confidential tease.

“Miss Thing, don’t you look all Hollywood. You gonna snag husband number five tonight, or is it six?”

I hadn’t sat down more than five minutes, far from outside viewing by straight tourists, when a talkative number at my elbow nicknamed Marshmallow – decades later transitioning into Interchange Leather Club butch – asked, “Are you a Browning King or Queen?”

Not knowing what Marshmallow meant – top or bottom – and wanting to be newcomer polite, I asked cautiously, “Is there such a thing as a Browning Prince?” “How about Princess?” ‘she’ clucked.

A jukebox played six hits for a quarter. My favorite:

“Secret Love,” sung by Doris Day. Each time I heard it, I felt myself go romantic: soft in head and heart for a yet-shining knight in tight-fitting armor, codpiece optional.

A jukebox played six hits for a quarter. My favorite: “Secret Love,” sung by Doris Day. Each time I heard it, I felt myself go romantic: soft in head and heart for a yet-shining knight in tight-fitting armor, codpiece optional.

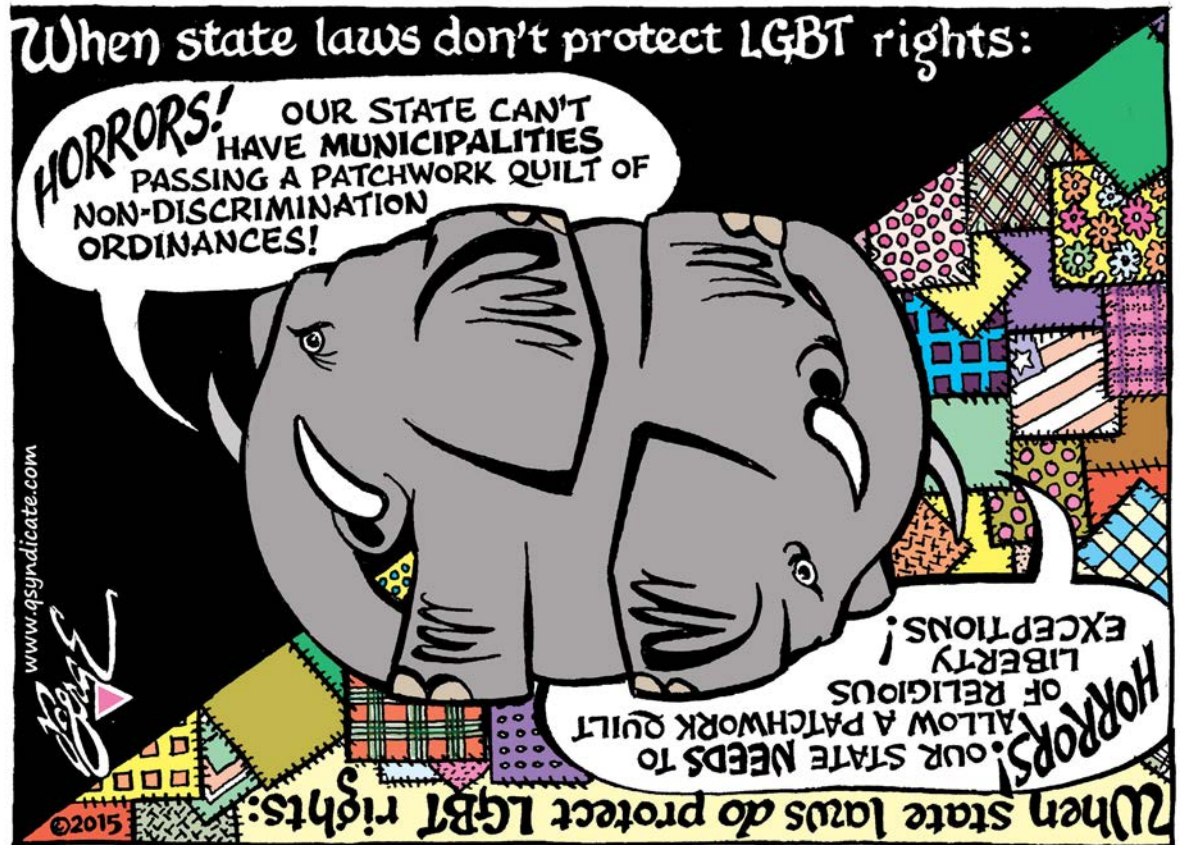
I soon got to know regulars by face and nickname. There was a spate of Miss this, Miss that. Little Bobby, Estralita, Taboo, Lady Chrysler, The Empress. I made friends and, importantly, I realized as a gay teenager I was not alone. My world was much bigger than I had ever hoped.

It was custom summer nights to stroll onto the streets to see who paraded in and out of the bars: The 1011, Silver Dollar, Barrel Bar, LaRosa’s, The Palais, a dyke hangout. (I had heard about LaRosa’s when I was 15. “It’s a queer bar. Fairies go there,” snickered a buddy one Halloween night when we spotted some guys in drag getting into a Checker Cab. If there was one thing I hated as a kid, it was being called a fairy.)

I weighed 175 lbs, buff in my penny loafers. Was 6’2”, and had a 30-inch Levi’s tempered waist. (I was told I looked like actor Carleton Carpenter – later gay mystery writer – who starred opposite Debbie Reynolds in a no-brainer B-movie, singing “Abba Dabba Honeymoon.” Circa 1950.)

Standing on the corner of Farmer & Bates Streets during those adventuresome nights, we underage teenagers flirted, flaunted, schemed to meet someone special – preferably older, reasonably butch – when the bars closed. Unfortunately, most nights I had to be home by 11 sharp.

See Parting Glances, next page



BY JAN STEVENSON

BTL Editorial

Legislature’s Agenda Full Of Potholes

As a Michigan citizen, I am outraged that precious time and tax dollars are being squandered by a legislature that appears more interested in making life miserable for LGBT people than making life better for all Michiganians.

children.

The most recent effort in the state House would have stripped away all the protections currently extended to LGBT people via local civil rights ordinances. There are now 38 local cities, towns and municipalities that extend protections to their LGBT citizens, but House Bill 4052 introduced earlier this month by state Rep. Earl Poleski, R-Jackson, sought to limit all local ordinances to the protections currently under Michigan’s Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, and no more. In other words – no LGBT protections. After strenuous protests, the bill was amended to allow the local civil rights ordinances to stand – for now.

The Republican controlled state legislature is so upset at the prospect of marriage equality that they have abandoned their legislative responsibilities and instead have focused on attacking LGBT people and their rights – again!

State legislators failed miserably to pass a road bill last year, and voters spanked them in the May 5 special election for not doing their job. We had hoped the Republican controlled legislature would have received the message that the people of Michigan want them to get to work on important things like fixing the roads, ensuring quality education for all children and addressing issues of mass transit.

But no. Our hope is dashed. They just don’t get it.

Instead, Republicans are going after LGBT people – our civil rights, our families and our ability to adopt

The Michigan Religious Freedom Restoration Act (HB 5958) recently passed by the House is identical to the discriminatory RFRA bill passed in Indiana that sparked a maelstrom of protests from businesses, governmental agencies and mainstream media across the nation. Thankfully, Gov. Snyder announced he would not sign it unless it included protections for LGBT people, and since that was apparently the whole point of the bill, its sponsors have lost their enthusiasm for its passage.

A three-bill package that passed out of the Senate Families Seniors and Human Services Committee

See BTL Editorial, next page

Detroit Ranked Fourth Most Generous City For Gay Men

As the LGBT community continues to make strides toward marriage recognition across the United States, many homosexual men are taking alternative approaches to finding “the one.”

Date-auction site WhatsYourPrice.com collected member data to discover the most generous gay cities in America, ranking the nation’s cities based on the generosity of single gay men offering dates in the area.

WhatsYourPrice.com, which boasts more than 87,000 gay members, calculated generosity according to the average first-date offer made through the site.

According to the study, the most generous city for gay men is Minneapolis. Whether it’s because Minnesota recently legalized marriage for the LGBT community, or simple Midwest chivalry, gay men in Minneapolis are the most generous in America.

Top 10 Most Generous Gay Cities in America:

1. Minneapolis - \$446
2. Orlando - \$395
3. Indianapolis - \$391
4. Detroit - \$300
5. Pittsburgh - \$271
6. Memphis - \$250
7. Atlanta - \$249
8. Chicago - \$241
9. Phoenix - \$213
10. San Francisco - \$202

“The LGBT community has always been recognized as generous, so it’s really no surprise to see gay men investing in a first date,” said Brandon Wade, founder and CEO of WhatsYourPrice.com.

► BTL Editorial: Jan Stevenson

Continued from p. 10

would let faith-based adoption agencies refuse to allow LGBT prospective parents to adopt. It is now moving to the Senate for a full vote.

As a Michigan citizen, I am outraged that precious time and tax dollars are being squandered by a legislature that appears more interested in making life miserable for LGBT people than making life better for all

Michiganians. As an LGBT person, it saddens me deeply that elected officials see me and my community as some sort of scary threat that must be controlled.

The possibility of full marriage equality may anger legislators who “hold deep religious objections,” but that does not give them permission to abdicate their primary responsibility to govern the state. We call on the state legislature to get back to the people’s business and stop attacking LGBT people.

► Parting Glances

Continued from p. 10

Occasionally I would hop into a car cruising the area. Nearsighted as I was, if the driver proved not my type, I’d say I’d left my wallet behind, please take me back and vanish.

One hot July evening I saw a tall, elegant guy stroll by, wearing requisite tight Levi’s and white T-shirt in imitation of actors James Dean and Marlon Brando. “Who’s that?” I

asked proud, black-and-bold Miss Bruce – actually a well-built factor worker – who knew everybody who took to the streets, like circling hawks of prey.

“That’s T.D., ‘Tall Dick,’” he winked. “He’s your kinda man, honey,” he elbowed, leaving me, new kid on the same-sex block, to make time and small talk. T.D. listened, smiled a lot, captivated me with his lanky presence. “Got time for coffee?” “Sure thing! Do you like Doris Day?” I asked.

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BTL




Join The Conversation

Creep of the Week

Jeb Bush

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Newsflash: Jeb Bush has finally weighed in on the plight of anti-gay Christian wedding vendors.

In an interview with David Brody for “The Brody File,” a Christian Broadcasting Network program, Brody asked Bush about so-called religious freedom laws. Specifically, he asked if Bush was O.K. with vendors like florists and bakers refusing to serve a same-sex couple if serving said couple violated their religious beliefs.



Jeb Bush

“This shouldn’t be this complicated, but gosh it is right now,” Bush responded.

Well, Amen to that! I totally agree. Well, almost. I mean, I agree that it shouldn’t be so complicated. The question, “Can I tell homos to get lost because I don’t like homos?” has a simple answer: “Nope.”

Of course, that’s not Bush’s answer.

His answer was, “Yeah, absolutely, if it’s based on a religious belief.”

In other words, it’s okay to tell same-sex couples, “Sorry, hets only,” so long as you blame it on Jesus (or some other non-Christian religion, but let’s be serious here about whom Republicans are interested in

protecting).

“A big country — a tolerant country — ought to be able to figure out the difference between discriminating against someone because of their sexual orientation and forcing someone to participate in a wedding that they find goes against their moral beliefs. We should be able to figure this out. This shouldn’t be this complicated, but gosh it is right now.”

It should be noted that “big” and “tolerant” are not the same thing. I think he’s trying to apply the GOP’s “Big Tent” idea to the entire country. And we’ve seen how well that “Big Tent” strategy has worked for them. Everybody’s supposedly welcome inside, but only the straight, white, male and Christian folks get the real power.

Also, Bush is setting up a false comparison here which makes same-sex couples the “bad guys.” If the idea of making a cake or putting together some bouquets that will be used when two people of the same sex pledge their love for each other in front of their friends and family makes you so sick and/or is so offensive to whatever Sky God you worship that you can’t even, then you are the one with the problem.

So go ahead and tell the couple, “Nope. Can’t. Gross.” But then don’t act surprised when you end up having to pack up shop because you’ve either violated the law (and, lucky you, it’s not illegal everywhere!) or because your business suffers once the word gets out that you’re a hateful human being. Because you’re clearly in the wrong business if the idea of bringing any joy to a same-sex couple’s life is too much for you.

Oh, and no surprise, Bush doesn’t think same-sex couples should even be allowed to get married in the first place.

This is the same guy who told Fox News that he would totally invade Iraq all over again if given the chance, so he is full of great ideas!

Sadly, he didn’t weigh in on the morality of invading another country based on complete bullshit. My guess is that his feelings on that issue are, um, complicated.

Jeb Bush has finally weighed in on the plight of anti-gay Christian wedding vendors.

Gillibrand Bill Would Prevent Anti-LGBT Adoption Bias

U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand is announcing legislation to remove legal barriers to adoption by lesbian, gay and transgender parents.

Gillibrand, a New York Democrat, said Sunday she will introduce legislation this week that would prohibit discrimination against LGBT adoptive parents.

The Every Child Deserves a Family Act would prohibit any entity that receives federal funds from discriminating against adoptive or foster parents based on sexual orientation, gender identity or marital status.

New York is one of seven states that explicitly ban discrimination in adoption based on sexual orientation.

Louisiana, Mississippi and Michigan prohibit same-sex couples from jointly adopting.

Four other states restrict same-sex couples from using the second-parent adoption process.

Gillibrand says the absence of a consistent national policy prevents thousands of children from growing up with devoted parents.

More Indiana Cities Offer Transgender Health Benefits

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) — An initiative by the city of Bloomington has led to municipal employees in more than 30 Indiana cities and towns gaining access to transgender-inclusive health care benefits.

The (Bloomington) Herald-Times reports Bloomington employees didn’t previously have such benefits in insurance plans provided by the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns Medical Trust.

Bloomington human resources director Doris Sims proposed in June 2014 that the trust include insurance plans that cover gender dysphoria treatment. Such plans went into effect this year, with covered treatments including hormone replacement and surgeries.

The personnel manual for the city of Bloomington was recently updated to add transgender people as a protected class under its nondiscrimination policy. Mayor Mark Krusan says it’s a “matter of respect” and “inclusiveness.”

Nevada Panel OKs Ban On Conversion Therapy For Youth

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP) — A Nevada Senate panel has approved a bill that would ban therapies aimed at turning gay young people straight.

The Senate Commerce, Labor and Energy Committee voted on Friday to approve SB353.

The bill is sponsored by Democratic Sen. David Parks and would prohibit social workers and psychotherapists from providing sexual conversion therapy to people under the age of 18.

Parks said the therapy is unscientific, unethical and can permanently damage minors during their formative years.

The bill was amended to remove language that addressed legal actions a victim of the conversion therapy could take against a therapist. It was granted an exemption from legislative deadlines in April.

The measure now moves to the Senate floor for a full vote.

DHS Publishes Draft Guidance On Blood Ban For Gay And Bisexual Men

On May 12 the Department of Health and Human Services published draft guidance on their proposal to move from a lifetime blood donation ban for all gay and bisexual men to a one-year deferral period.

In December 2014 when the Food and Drug Administration first announced the proposal, the ACLU concluded that the deferral would continue to function as a de facto lifetime ban, and that criteria for determining blood donor eligibility should be based on science, not stereotypes.

“As the ACLU made clear late last year, this inadequate proposal must be seen as part of an ongoing process and not an end point. Deferral decisions should be based on activities presenting an elevated risk, not on the identity of a person or that person’s partner. The reality for the vast majority of gay and bisexual men is that this policy continues to stigmatize their intimate relationships and will indefinitely bar them from donating. In addition, this proposal leaves open the possibility that transgender individuals will continue to be needlessly barred from being able to donate,” said Ian Thompson, legislative representative for the American Civil Liberties Union.

The Williams Institute at UCLA estimates this revised policy will continue to exclude over two million men whom otherwise would be eligible to donate, depriving our hospitals of nearly 300,000 pints of blood.

The draft guidance is up for a public comment period of at least 30 days.

Jury Recommends Decades In Prison In Missouri HIV Sex Case

ST. CHARLES, Mo. (AP) — A jury is recommending at least 30 years in prison for a man convicted of infecting another man with HIV and endangering four others with the disease while attending college in Missouri.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports that the St. Charles County jury on Friday recommended a 30-year prison term on the most serious charge against 23-year-old Michael Johnson.

Jurors convicted the former Lindenwood University student and wrestler on Thursday of one count of recklessly infecting another with HIV and four counts of recklessly risking infection of another with HIV.

Johnson’s convictions on lesser counts could bring the potential prison term to more than 60 years, if the sentences are ordered to be served one after the other.

Johnson, a college wrestler, was expelled from the university in St. Charles and has been jailed since his arrest in 2013. Prosecutors argued that Johnson knew he was HIV positive but lied to his sexual partners.


Johnson’s case has drawn the attention of gay rights activists and some legal reform groups. They argue that laws in Missouri and dozens of other states criminalize a medical condition and deter those at risk of infection from seeking medical treatment.

During Friday’s sentencing phase of the trial, St. Charles police Detective Don Stepp testified that after media accounts of Johnson’s 2013 arrest, he was contacted by about a dozen other men who said they had sex with Johnson. But Stepp said they did not want to file a formal complaint, with some saying they hadn’t told their families they were gay and one man saying he did not want to upset his wife.

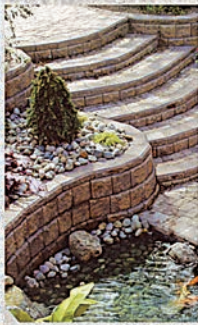
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2015 Motor City Pride Preview

BY AJ TRAGER

DETROIT – Motor City Pride has been Michigan's largest pride festival for the last 25 years. This year, in anticipation of an affirmative ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court on the constitutionality of marriage equality, thousands of people will gather June 6-7 in Hart Plaza in celebration of love and identity, honoring the lives and experiences of the LGBT community and the strides in equality that have been made in the past decades.

With all the national attention on LGBT equality, this year's festival is an especially important opportunity to raise awareness about LGBT issues and provide a safe space for the community to celebrate the successes they've had and to look forward to future solidarity.

The two day festival is expected to draw over 35,000 attendees who will spend the weekend enjoying a pride parade, family fun area, youth activities, senior activities, five stages of entertainment, delicious food from four food trucks and visit with over 100 national and regional non-profit, sponsor and sales booths. The family area, hosted by MCC Detroit, has been expanded and will provide a great, safe space for children to play.

This year the Pride and Pyramid stages will host headlining performances, the Festival Stage will host grassroots and spoken word performances and the Underground stage will showcase nightlife and sponsor a J-setting competition.

Admission is \$5 per day with no charge for children 12 and under.

June 6

A wedding ceremony will begin promptly at 12 p.m. on the Pride Stage followed by back-to-back entertainment including Mouths of Babes, Lauren Fisher, Shangela and Darriene Lake before headliner Carmen Electra with Rich White Ladies takes the stage at 7 p.m.

The four other stages will provide entertainment throughout the day including a Miss Motor City Pride Pageant, a dance party, open mic and karaoke performances by the Coffee House Cabaret, Selina Style, Jason Michael, Evan Ficaj, Macho City and Dave Wheeler.

Beverage sales and entertainment end at 8 p.m. Participants are expected to exit Hart Plaza by 8:30 p.m.



Motor City Pride will take place on June 6-7 in Hart Plaza. BTL file photo: Andrew Potter

June 7

The Pride Parade, sponsored by FCA US LLC and the FIAT Brand, will be bigger than ever and highlight many of the 323 couples that were legally married in the state on March 22, 2014 when the state's ban on same-sex marriage was temporarily lifted. The parade is scheduled to begin at noon outside the Chrysler House and will follow Griswold until it reaches the gates of the festival.

Out Loud Chorus will take to the Pride Stage beginning at 12:30 p.m. followed by a Drag Showcase with Miss Motor City Pride and performances by Killer Flamingos, Garek, Georgie Porgie and Betty Who at 6 p.m.

The Festival Stage will showcase an InterFaith Service beginning at noon followed by a performance by Jamie Wilson and two hours of spoken word performances. Local DJs will provide day-long entertainment on the Underground stage with Showcases from Stiletto's and Inferno on the

Pyramid Stage beginning at noon.

Festivities end at 7 p.m.

Equality Michigan has worked closely with the Detroit Police Department to ensure that the safety and security of pride-goers is top priority for the weekend and additional security will be present in designated areas. Protest areas will be held in "free speech zones" so that they do not obstruct the entrance to Pride.

Motor City Pride is a product of Equality Michigan, the statewide organization committed to LGBT activism in the state legislature and raising awareness on LGBT issues. Sponsors for the 2015 MCP include FCA US and the FIAT Brand, MotorCity Casino Hotel, Delta Air Lines, MGM Grand Detroit, Fifth Third Bank, General Motors, UAW-Ford, Five-15, MCC Detroit, Comerica Bank, Whole Foods Market, Great Lakes Distributing, Menjo's, Necto, Zipcar, TD Auto Finance, Inferno, Uber, Pride Source Media Group, Metra Magazine, Flame Magazine and AMP Radio.

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Crossing The Viral Divide

It was little surprise when HBO's "Looking" – a critically acclaimed but poorly rated TV series about gay men in San Francisco – introduced an HIV-positive character in season two. After all, the city was once the epicenter of the AIDS crisis and now has one of the nation's highest rates of HIV-positive gay and bi men.



The real revelation, though, was that Eddie, the character

Daniel Franzese (already popular from his influential role in "Mean Girls") plays is poz, proud and body positive.

People with HIV are rarities on TV (the last series to have one was "Brothers & Sisters" in 2011), and when they exist there's usually a lot of stigmatizing, handwringing and self-loathing around them, with singular storylines that play like a "very special episode."

But "Looking" (and the season finale of "How to Get Away with Murder," in which Conrad Ricamora's character Oliver finds out he has HIV) broke the mold with an ordinary gay man who just happened to have HIV. Moreover, it was the first scripted television series to talk about PrEP, or Truvada, as pre-exposure prophylaxis.

"The brief conversation that we have in the Halloween episode happens in a way that I've heard PrEP come up amongst my friends... not too preachy," Franzese told Plus magazine. "I really like the way that it's handled."

So did I. Eddie is sexy, healthy and – this is important – romantically pursued by an HIV-negative character. So that the pair can have sex without either of them worrying about transmission, the love interest begins a regimen of PrEP, the daily HIV prevention pill that the iPrEx study proved can reduce HIV infection by up to 99 percent when taken properly.

The fact that "Looking" handled PrEP in this manner may mean the tide has turned on PrEP, a prevention method initially debated



Photo: Kevin Thomas/Dallas Voice

– and actually lobbied against – by some gay men (notably AIDS Healthcare Foundation's Michael Weinstein, who argued it was a "party drug" that would make users ditch condoms).

Today in many gay communities, on TV or otherwise, we're increasingly hearing one thing about PrEP: It's changing everything.

Both the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention have begun recommending PrEP to gay and bi men and transgender women, in hopes of stemming the tide of the 50,000 new HIV cases each year in the U.S.

It's not the numbers, though, that are interesting. It's the sociocultural changes we see from PrEP. The social dynamics among gay men are changing. I've talked to dozens of men who are dating across the viral divide: poz and negative guys dating

each other, marrying each other, becoming what romantics call "magnetic couples." (The rest of us call them serodiscordant couples, partnerships in which one is poz and one isn't.)

Between "treatment as prevention" (a method in which someone with HIV suppresses the amount of HIV in their blood, or their viral load, to "undetectable" levels and thus can no longer transmit HIV) and

PrEP, many gay men are now having sex without the fear that they can transmit, or acquire, HIV, whether or not there are condoms involved.

My friend Alex Garner, who conducts HIV awareness and prevention programs across the country, says this has impacted how gay men now relate to each other because it's eliminated a key emotional obstacle to love that gay men have had since the late 1980s: fear.

Like a lot of guys, Alex used to almost exclusively date other HIV-positive men, but PrEP has changed that. He told Plus magazine that the possibility of having a real relationship with someone who is serodiscordant seems much more realistic now because PrEP is available – and it changes the relationship too.

Despite Weinstien's rants, PrEP really doesn't seem to be used by wanton sluts who want to man-whore about town. (But, if it is, more power to the users, I say; the LGBT rights movements was built on sexual liberation, and PrEP is to gay men in 2015 what birth control was to feminists in 1970, but I digress.)

In fact, when someone is considering PrEP because their partner has HIV, it's very often a sign that they love and want to build a future with that person, the exact opposite of one-night stands popular in hookup culture.

Weinstein's ditching condoms theory seems inaccurate. At least one study from Brown University found that many HIV-negative men in relationships already ditch condoms because they want more intimacy in their relationship (and they do so even when one or both of the guys are having sex outside of that relationship).

Over half the men in that study said they'd go on PrEP, which is good because we know from another study out of Emory that nearly 70 percent of all new HIV transmissions

for both gay and bi men and transgender women occur in a primary relationship. But the Brown researchers are quick to note: These men and women are willing to go on PrEP, not to suddenly ditch condoms once they're on PrEP, but to protect themselves because they already ditched those condoms long ago.

Today, PrEP is appearing in dating profiles and on apps like Grindr and Scruff. Even sites aimed at HIV-positive men, like BarebackRT, report that HIV-negative men are now posting profiles there and touting that they are on PrEP. For generations of men and trans women who've lived in fear of HIV, suddenly having a prevention pill is a godsend. That it's mired in controversy is no surprise; birth control was once as well for many of the same concerns.

But the bottom line is that Truvada as PrEP is one option, one of the best we have available today. Like birth control pills, though, it isn't for everyone. Soon we'll have a rectal microbicide, injectable pre-exposure prophylaxis, vaginal rings, and more. And when we do, I hope the writers of "Looking" get at least a tiny footnote in history for breaking ground on TV and for having helped destigmatize PrEP for a generation of LGBT viewers.

Diane Anderson-Minshall is editor in chief of Plus magazine, the HIV Plus Treatment Guide mobile app, and HIVPlusMag.com. This column is a project of Plus, Positively Aware, POZ, The Body and Q Syndicate, the LGBT wire service. Visit their websites – hivplusmag.com, positivelyaware.com, poz.com and thebody.com – for the latest updates on HIV/AIDS.

“It's not the numbers, though, that are interesting. It's the sociocultural changes we see from PrEP. The social dynamics among gay men are changing. I've talked to dozens of men who are dating across the viral divide: poz and negative guys dating each other, marrying each other, becoming what romantics call 'magnetic couples.'”



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Editor's Pick

Head to nearby Windsor-Essex across the border this weekend for "Sip Into Summer." EPIC Wineries and Windsor-Essex Pelee Island Tourism invite Canadians and Americans alike to try a "taste of place" in Essex County.

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and many will be offering live entertainment. Reservations are not necessary. Chart your course using Epic Wineries' online wine route map.

The self-guided tour runs 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 23 and 24. Visits are \$5-7 per winery. For more information, visit www.epicwineries.com or call 519-255-6530.

Happenings

OUTINGS

Thursday, May 21

Give OUT Day Give OUT Day! The national initiative engages hundreds of organizations and people to give in support of the LGBTQ community. LGBTQ groups across the United States are given a chance to "work across the wide range of issues and activities that matter to the LGBTQ community from sports to policy change, families to the arts." Bolder Giving, **All Over**. 646-678-4394. info@boldergiving.org giveoutday.org

Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival Each one of these films is like entering another world, a once-in-a-lifetime adventure. Jewish Community Center, 6600 West Maple Road, **West Bloomfield**. 248-661-1900. info@theberman.org Theberman.org

Friday, May 22

Hot Daddies Contest Think youXre the hottest daddy in Ferndale? Males 35+ can put their name in the running for this first of its kind Hot Daddy contest to benefit Ferndale Pride. Ferndale Pride, 205 W. Nine Mile, **Ferndale**. Ferndalepride.com

She Gees 7:30 p.m. Kalamazoo Pride, 355 E. Kalamazoo Ave., **Kalamazoo**. Kglrc.org

Saturday, May 23

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

NORCECA Champions Cup 6 p.m. Men's volleyball teams from North America compete. Olympia Entertainment, 19 Steve Yzerman Dr., **Detroit**. 313-396-7000. Olympiaentertainment.com

Sunday, May 24

Sip Into Summer Weekend 11 a.m. Self-guided tour. Cost: \$5-7. EPIC Wineries, **Windsor**. Epicwineries.com

Tuesday, May 26

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

Wednesday, May 27

Free to be Me Group 12:30 p.m. This

is a support group for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning. The Jewish Gay Network of Michigan (JGN), 6600 W. Maple Road, **West Bloomfield**. 248-432-5467. Jgnmi.org

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

Thursday, May 28

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

Alive Inside 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15. Big Hearts for Seniors, U of M Health System and More, 603 E. Liberty St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-668-8397. Med.umich.edu/geriatrics/BHS

All-Female Hamlet 7 p.m. Tickets: \$10. Slipstream, 20937 John R. Road, **Hazel Park**. 248-298-9617. Slipstreamti.com

You Are Not Alone: Transgender Youth and Families 7 p.m. Join us for an informative evening about Transgender, Non-conforming and Questioning Teens. Temple Israel will host this warm, informal and informational evening in a safe and secure environment. Let us help you and your family navigate your journey and hear from experts in the field. Jewish Gay Network (JGN), 5725 Walnut Lake Road, **West Bloomfield**. Jccdet.org

Friday, May 29

Kinky Boots Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University, 750 E. Shaw Lane, **East Lansing**. 800-WHARTON. Whartoncenter.com

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

Ferndale Pride Pre-Party 8 p.m. \$5-8. 18+. The Loving Touch, 22634 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. Facebook. com/events/378490539001600

Saturday, May 30

Ferndale Pride Street fair. Ferndale Pride, **Ferndale**. Ferndalepride.com

Poppy Champlin Presents The Queer Queens of Comedy Tickets: \$20. The Acorn, 107 Generations Dr., **Three Oaks**. 269-756-3879.

Rainbow Run 8:30 a.m. The Rainbow Run is a 5k and 2k family-friendly run/walk for acceptance and diversity. The course weaves through the streets of downtown Ferndale. Each participant receives a Rainbow Run t-shirt as they pass along the course through different color stations everyone gets rainbow-colored with bright pigments. Produced by the Ferndale Area Chamber of Commerce, Rainbow Runs proceeds go to local non-profit organizations Affirmations, Ruth Ellis Center, Ferndale Pride and Defeat the Label. The run/walk start times will be staggered by category. Strollers are welcome (no bikes or dogs please.) Registration and pricing details here: http://eventbrite.com/rainbow-run-2015-registration-15880149956?aff=RainbowRunwebsite Ferndale Area Chamber of Commerce, Nine Mile and Woodward, **Ferndale**. 248-542-2160. info@ferndalechamber.com Ferndalemicoc.wliinc31.com/events/rainbow-run-199/details?dnh=true

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

Youth Prom 7 p.m. For ages 13-20. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Sunday, May 31

Kinky Boots Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University, 750 E. Shaw Lane, **East Lansing**. 800-WHARTON. Whartoncenter.com

Transgender Day of Empowerment 2015 9:30 a.m. Ferndale Pride, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Ferndalepride.com

Rosie's Annual After Pride Brunch and Drag Show 11 a.m. Ferndale Pride, **Ferndale**. Ferndalepride.com

See Happenings, page 21



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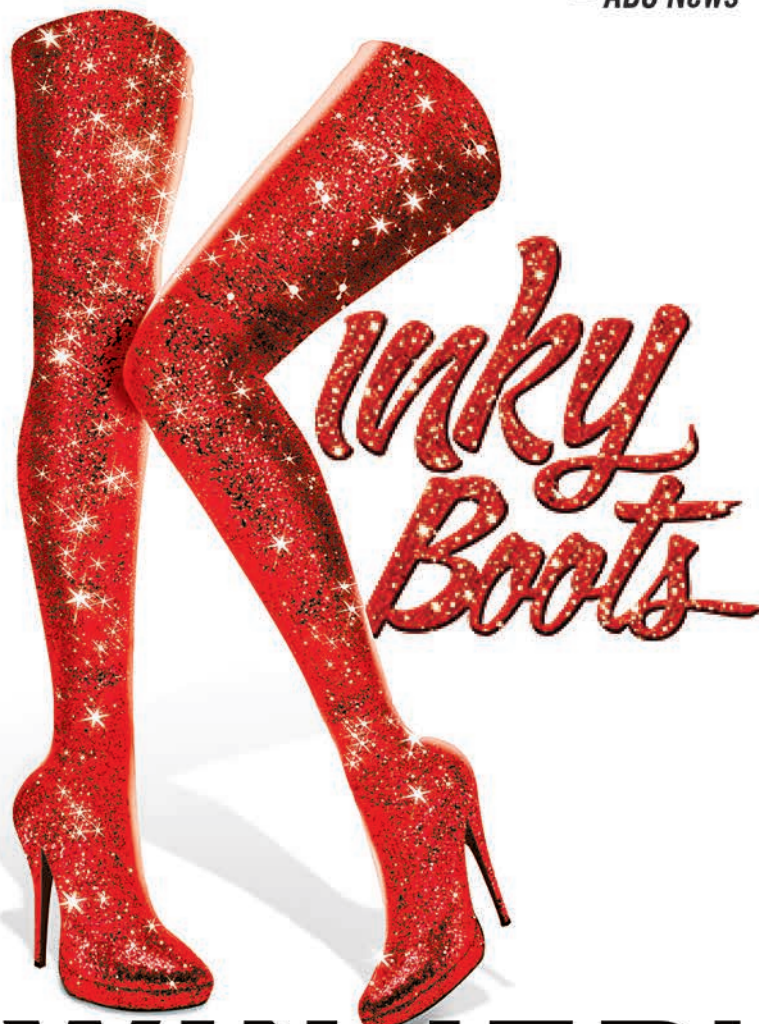
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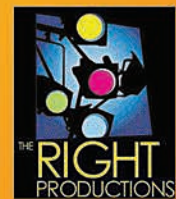
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► Happenings

Continued from p. 18

Pre-Pride Bowling Extravaganza 2 p.m. Family friendly. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 5570 Gull Road, Kalamazoo Township. Kglrc.org

All-Female Hamlet 7 p.m. Tickets: \$10. Slipstream, 20937 John R. Road, Hazel Park. 248-298-9617. Slipstreamti.com

Monday, June 1

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. University of Michigan, Inst. for Research on Women and Gender, 204 S. State St., Ann Arbor. 734-764-9537. schwarze@umich.edu irwg.research.umich.edu/events/exhibitions.html

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

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Classical

Detroit Symphony Orchestra "Midori and Mahler's First". Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. May 21-May 23. 313-576-5111. Dso.org

Concerts

Chene Park Ampitheater "Jazzy Nights". Chene Park Ampitheater, 2600 Atwater, Detroit. May 6-Aug. 12. 313-393-7128. Cheneparkdetroit.com

Saugatuck Center for the Arts "Roger McGuinn" Tickets: \$39-42. Saugatuck Center for the Arts, 400 Culver St., Saugatuck. 8 p.m. May 23. 269-857-2399. Sc4a.org

The Acorn Theater "Expo'76". The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. May 24. 269-756-3879. Acorntheater.com

The Acorn Theater "Jamboni!". The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. May 22. 269-756-3879. Acorntheater.com

The Ark "Los Lobos". Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. May

22. 734-668-8397. Theark.org

The Ark "Trampled by Turtles" Tickets: \$20-40. Royal Oak Farmers Market, 316 E. 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak. 7 p.m. May 27. 248-246-3276. Theark.org

The Ark "Joe Ely" Tickets: \$25. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. May 27. 734-761-1800. Theark.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

Festivals

St. Mary's "44th Annual St. Mary's Polish Country Fair" Summer starts in Orchard Lake this Memorial Day Weekend with the 44th annual St. Mary's Polish Country Fair. Hosted and sponsored by the St. Marys Preparatory Moms & Dads Club. For the first time ever, Keego Harbor, Mich. -based restaurant Yardbird Smoked Meats will serve food during the inaugural Country Music Night. From 5-11 p.m. on the first night of the fair, guests will enjoy live music as well as food from the restaurant. General admission is \$5 per person or \$10 for families of up to six people. Children up to age three are free. Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 3535 Indian Trail, Orchard Lake. May 22-May 24. Stmaryspolishcountryfair.afrogs.org/#/index

Film & Video

Michigan Theater "Wine & Film Series". Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. April 29-May 27. 734-668-8397. Ticketweb.com

Other

Detroit Symphony Orchestra "Om at the Max". Max M. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. May 24. 313-576-5111. Dso.org

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

THEATER

10 Naked Men Playwright Ronnie Larsen's hit comedy about prostitution in Hollywood focuses on 10 individuals: three hustlers, two producers, two agents, one banker, a single photographer and a lone actor. And yes, they get naked. CLICK

HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$10-20. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Through June 8. 248-545-5545. thearingwald.com

Bad Jews This dark comedy about family, faith and legacy is filled with hope, inspiration, wit and laughter. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$41-48. The Jewish Ensemble Theatre Company, in the DeRoy Theatre on the campus of the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield. May 20-June 14. 248-788-2900. jetttheatre.org

Fridays and Saturdays at Go Comedy! Fridays open at 8 p.m. with a different program each week (\$18), while "The Go Comedy! All Star Showdown" continues to open Saturdays at 8 p.m. (\$18). Following at 10 p.m. each night is "The Go Comedy! All Star Showdown" (\$18) and at midnight by "Name This Show" (free). CLICK HERE for complete show information. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through May 30. 248-327-0575. gocomey.net

Frost/Nixon History comes alive based on a series of televised interviews between former U. S. President Richard Nixon and broadcaster David Frost in 1977 regarding the Watergate scandal. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$5-20. What A Do Theatre, 4071 Dickman Rd., Springfield. Through May 23. 269-282-1953. whatado.org

Hamlet Slipstream takes its first leap into "immersive theater" with this all-female version of Shakespeare's classic. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$10 in advance only. Slipstream Theatre Initiative, Slipstream Summer Home, 20937 John R., Hazel Park. Through June 7. slipstreamti.com

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

Mother's Nature Three, original, locally written, one-act plays. CLICK HERE for complete show information. Tickets: \$15. Ixion, AA Creative Corridor, 1133 S Washington Ave., Lansing. May 23-May

See Happenings, page 29



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Editor's Pick

Rob Pruitt's "The Obama Paintings" and "The Lincoln Monument" will be presented to the public for the first time at MOCAD, running until Aug. 2. Both works serve as monuments in themselves, as well as examinations of presidential monuments in general. The exhibition will spotlight how images of past presidents are disseminated and function in our society.

Rob Pruitt began "The Obama Paintings" as a means of tracking President Barack Obama's presidency. Since Obama's inauguration

on Jan. 20, 2009, Pruitt has created a 2-by-2 painting of the president every single day, with particular imagery drawn from the news of that day. Upon completion, The Obama Paintings will comprise 2,922 paintings, incorporating such seminal events as his first State of the Union address to seemingly mundane activities.

The Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays, and open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays. MOCAD is located at 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. For more information, visit www.mocadetroit.org.

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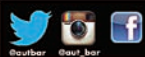
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Ann Arbor Fundraiser To Benefit Seniors, LGBT And Straight

Big Hearts for Seniors and the University of Michigan Health System present "Alive Inside," an evening celebrating the power of music "to revive mind and spirit" at Ann Arbor's Michigan Theater.

The May 28 fundraiser will feature performances by the Chenille Sisters, presentation of the film "Alive Inside" and more. Rob Reinhart, host and producer of Acoustic Cafe, the two hour weekly radio show that features an international showcase of new acoustic music, will emcee the event. Reinhart started his professional broadcasting career while still in college, pursuing his degree in psychology. Feeling the future of the human psyche to be limited, he threw himself into the infinitely expanding universe of radio and vinyl discs containing music. Over the last 20 years, Reinhart has also owned a small ad agency and

radio production company, written and produced syndicated comedy for radio, voiced thousands of radio and TV commercials, consulted movie, television and internet media projects, created and hosted both Acoustic Café and The No Depression Alt-Country Radio Hour (produced with No Depression Magazine) and even been the voice of Radio Bonnaroo. "Good radio," he says, "is now one of the only media that isn't designed to simply reflect the taste of the user. It's still a community that brings together lots of different people. Neat, huh?"

A VIP event featuring pre-movie reception, refreshments and a free drink ticket will feature remarks by Reinhart, as well.

According to their website, the Chenille Sisters' "performance is a blending of three uniquely gifted souls into a musical phenomenon that's more poignant, funny

and entertaining than any single performer anywhere – and oh, those exquisite harmonies! What these three women have in common are heavenly voices, a lot of witty wisdom and a passion for connecting with their audiences. But as in a constellation, each Chenille shines her own particular kind of light."

The fundraiser will benefit Ann Arbor Meals on Wheels, the Housing Bureau for Seniors, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Silver Club Memory Programs and Turner Senior Wellness Program.

The VIP reception begins at 5:30 p.m.; tickets are \$50. General admission begins at 6:15 p.m., with tickets at \$15. To purchase tickets or find more information, stop by the Turner Senior Resource Center at 2401 Plymouth Road, Suite C, Ann Arbor. Call them at 734-998-9350 or visit www.med.umich.edu/geriatrics/BHS.

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Hear Me Out

Tori Amos

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI



actualizing queers who revel in the earnest emotions the then-29-year-old Tori confronted. “Me and a Gun” harrowingly detailed her own personal rape-at-knifepoint nightmare. “Crucify” took the piss out of religion. In all her commanding glory and groundbreaking artistry, Amos was vulnerable and translucent, skewering childhood ideals and wailing her way out of social exile.

And she took you with her.

The journey would lead to another feelings-fueled outpouring two years later. As she slayed more demons and firmly established herself as an emblem of empowerment, “Under the Pink” once again expressed a deeply resonant facet of the human condition: the need to love and be loved.

No one knows these songs better than Amos, of course. She revisits them within the “Under the Pink” liner notes on the Deluxe Edition, explaining their emergence in her own words and offering longtime fans extra insight, a boon for Tori-philes already versed in every album cut *and* every B-side.

Among the B-sides on these packages: “Smells like Teen Spirit,” where Amos turns Nirvana’s grunge staple into an evocative whirl of piano-guided emotions, and the dizzying, delicate “Here, in My Head.” The latter, included on “Under the Pink,” is a live version from a 1994 performance in Bristol, and the track – clean and crisp – sounds particularly divine. Included along with stage versions of “Past the Mission” and “The Waitress” is “Winter,” performed the same year in Manchester. Like a whisper in time, it’s just as you remember it: gripping, intimate, rich.

“When you gonna make up your mind / When you gonna love you as much as I do.” Simple yet profound, those words, spoken to her by her father, would find a hideaway in my heart despite my resistance to them at such a defiantly young age. Looking back, it’s hard to imagine I resisted them at all.

It’s even harder to imagine my life without the truth-baring salvation I’ve come to know as Tori Amos.

Chris Azzopardi is the editor of Q Syndicate, the international LGBT wire service. Reach him via his website at www.chris-azzopardi.com.

“Tori Amos who?”

My dear friend, then boyfriend, must have been dumbfounded when I – a gay man – uttered these words that, in retrospect, are among the most naive of my life.

I rolled my eyes at him as we cruised the interstate, dismissively contorted my face, and swapped the Tori CD out for something else – something that would accord my young, inexperienced ears instant gratification.

I was just 20 then.

Following a fortunate musical maturation in the years after, I was drawn back to that car ride and the twinkling magic of the Bösendorfer. Over time, I became completely swept up in the mesmeric awe of Tori Amos.

Now 32, I’ve curiously wandered through the pianist’s magical musical chasm – I’ve even enjoyed interviewing her many times – and with every fresh project or recently discovered rarity, I’m the one telling that same friend (who’s lately lost touch with Tori) that *he* is the one missing out.

So, friend, the time has come yet again. “Little Earthquakes” and “Under the Pink” have both been newly remastered and flexed beyond the back-to-back

albums’ staples. (You know: “Pretty Good Year,” “Baker Baker,” “Crucify” and “Precious Things,” to name a few.) Both double-disc releases glean rarities performed in studio and on stage during each LP’s subsequent era.

And no, these reissues aren’t afterthoughts, especially for casual Tori followers.

While record labels are infamous for putting out rehashed, “remastered” releases with nil new material to offer, fans can rest assured that Atlantic is mindful of the fact that a legacy artist like Amos deserves legacy treatment. Perhaps the biggest sell for aficionados: The audio gets a noticeable upgrade, making subtle improvements to the original cuts while still preserving their original essence. Plus: Eighteen additional songs on “Little Earthquakes! Fifteen on “Under the Pink”!

Released during the chanteuse’s golden age, these seminal works were critical to the singer-songwriter’s repertoire, setting the stage for over 30 years of soul-baring artistic expression.

Looking back over those three prolific decades, her debut, “Little Earthquakes,” endures as her masterwork. To this day, it’s a lifeline to legions of self-

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Editor's Pick

"Kinky Boots" is coming to East Lansing with a production at the Wharton Center, but festivities aren't limited to the musical. A special fundraiser will be held to benefit "miPRIDE" and "LAAN: Lansing Area AIDS Network" on Thursday, May 28. The fundraiser involves the 7:30 p.m. performance of the musical, followed by dessert with cast members at Wharton Center's Christman Lounge.

"Kinky Boots" is Broadway's huge-hearted, high-heeled hit. With songs by Grammy and Tony-winning pop icon Cyndi Lauper, this joyous musical celebration is about the friendships people discover, and the belief that one can change the world when one changes one's mind. Inspired by true events, "Kinky Boots" takes audiences from a gentlemen's shoe factory in Northampton to the glamorous catwalks of Milan.

Tickets for the "Kinky Boots" fundraiser are \$100. To purchase tickets for "Kinky Boots," visit whartoncenter.com. "Kinky Boots" runs May 26 through May 31 at the Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall, located in East Lansing.

► Happenings

Continued from p. 21

31. 517-775-4246. ixiontheatre.com

Open Table Series Readings of Stephen Cooper's "Spiritual Bliss" and Joseph Zettelmaier's "Pulp" on May 13 and May 27 respectively. [CLICK HERE](#) for complete show information. Tickets: Free. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through May 27. 734-663-0681. pntheatre.org

Outside Mullingar A delightful new work about how it's never too late to take a chance on love. [CLICK HERE](#) for complete show information. Tickets: \$15-35. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. May 21-June 21. 517-655-SHOW. williamstontheatre.com

Salvage A shy owner of a collectables store in Detroit finds his staid existence turned topsy-turvy when a mysterious woman enters his life with valuable items that just should not exist anymore. [CLICK HERE](#) for complete show information. Tickets: \$12. 50-41. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. Through May 24. 734-663-0681. Pntheatre.org

Sleeping Beauty A puppet ballet. [CLICK HERE](#) for complete show information. Tickets: \$5-10. PuppetART, Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. Through May 31. 313-961-7777. puppetart.org

Sundays at Go Comedy! A full night of improv, including "Fresh Sauce," "Go Comedy's Sunday open improv jam at 7 p. m., followed by "The Sunday Buffet," featuring a variety of Detroit's best improv groups (8 p.m.). [CLICK HERE](#) for complete show information. Tickets: \$10 in advance or pay-what-you-can at the door. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through May 31. 248-327-0575. gocomedy.net

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. [CLICK HERE](#) for complete show information. Tickets: \$12-42. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Through May 23. 734-433-7673. purplerosetheatre.org

The School for Scandal The misadventures of young Lady Teazle, who must not only fend off the jealous accusations of her elderly husband,

but also the backbiting "frenemies" who are secretly out to ruin her reputation. [CLICK HERE](#) for complete show information. Tickets: \$20. The Snug Theatre, 160 S. Water St., Marine City. Through May 24. 810-278-1749. riverbanktheatre.com

Thursdays at Go Comedy! The evening opens with an ever-changing variety of programming at 8 p. m., with additional shows at 9 and 10 p.m. (\$5-10 per show) [CLICK HERE](#) for complete show information. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through May 28. 248-327-0575. gocomedy.net

Wednesdays at Go Comedy! The night begins at 8 p.m. with the "ITTY BITS Tournament" (\$10), followed at 9 p.m. by "Go Labs: Beta Testing" (\$7) and a variety of shows at 10 p.m. [CLICK HERE](#) for complete show information. Go Comedy! Improv Theater, 261 E. Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale. Through May 27. 248-327-0575. gocomedy.net

ART 'N' AROUND

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 "Beauty, Passion and Bliss: 19th Century Masterworks". Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. May 17-Aug. 16. 810-234-1695. flintarts.org

MOCAD "Detroit City: Detroit Affinities" Detroit: Affinities, Speaks and Stages. Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Sep. 12-Aug. 2. 313-832-6622. mocadetroit.org

MOCAD "The Obama Paintings and the Lincoln Monument". Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. May 15-Aug. 2. 313-832-6622. mocadetroit.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

River's Edge Gallery "Dream(Face)Land" Bill Morrison, Corey Scillian, Edgar Sterling Wise, Jerome Ferretti, Kyra Wojcik, Mark Julians, Mary Y. Trusel, Niagara, Patricia Izzo, Steve Glazer, Tony Roko. River's Edge Gallery, 3024 Biddle, Wyandotte. May 15-June 12. artattheedge.com

The Scarab Club "Third Thursday". The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. March 19-Aug. 20. 313-831-1250. Scarabclub.org

The Scarab Club "2015 Blooms, Bugs, Beasts Exhibition". The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. May 20-June 27. 313-831-1250. Scarabclub.org

UMMA "In Focus: Lynn Davis, Iceberg". University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. May 1-July 19. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

UMMA "Mine More Coal: War Effort and Americanism in World War I Posters". University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. May 9-Sep. 20. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

UMMA "Sophie Calle: North Pole". University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. May 2-Aug. 9. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

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 "Flip Your Field: Objects from the Collection" An exhibition from the Museum's collection of three-dimensional objects. University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 24-July 19. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

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

Yourist Studio Gallery "Drink (c)up! Celebrating the Art and Ritual in Our Daily Life" Opening and Artists Reception for Drink (c)up!, an exhibit and sale of handmade ceramic cups by Yourist Studio Gallery Resident Artists. Free. Yourist Studio Gallery, 1133 Broadway, Ann Arbor. April 24-May 24. 734-662-4914. Youristpottery.com

VOLUNTEER ROLL CALL

FERNDALE PRIDE

MAY 30, 2015

FERNDALE PRIDE NEEDS YOU TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. PROMOTION, FUNDRAISING, LOGISTICS AND EVENT SUPPORT ALL HAPPEN WITH OUR LGBTQ AND ALLY VOLUNTEER FAMILY.

JOIN US AT AFFIRMATIONS FOR ANY OF OUR VOLUNTEER MEETINGS AND WE WILL HELP FIND THE PERFECT VOLUNTEER FIT FOR YOU.

JOIN US AT AFFIRMATIONS FOR OUR VOLUNTEER MEETINGS.



APRIL 21ST - 7PM

MAY 6TH - 7PM

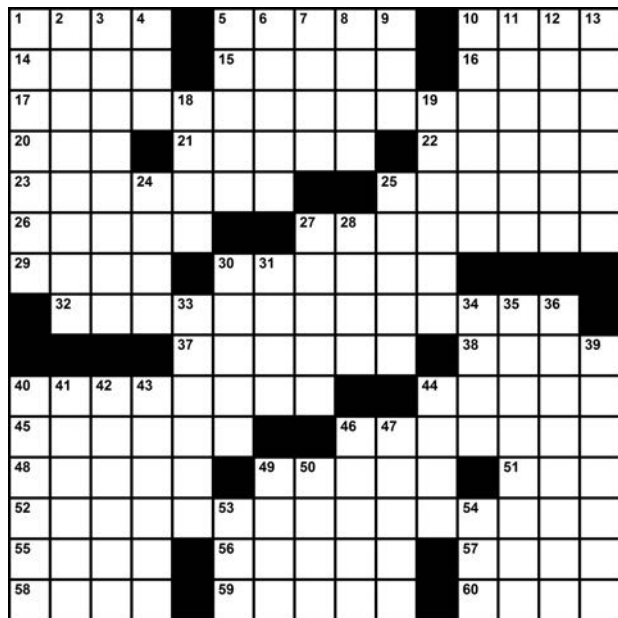
MAY 27TH - 7PM

MEETING UPDATES WILL BE POSTED ON FERNDALE PRIDE'S WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA OUTLETS

WWW.FERNDALEPRIDE.COM

Q Puzzle

Orientation Identification



Across

- 1 Lie beside
5 Gold Olympic award for Megan Rapinoe
10 "My stars!"
14 Kelly McGillis' "The Monkey's _____"

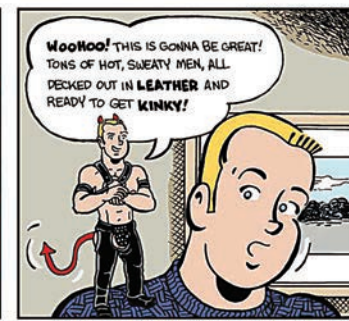
- 15 Shelley in "Popeye"
16 Stow, as cargo
17 Start of a quote from 32-Across
20 Be in the hole
21 Mishima, for one
22 Like notebook paper
23 Title woman in a 1925 Broadway hit

- 25 Novelist de Balzac
26 Prefix for da Vinci's land
27 Got naked and wet
29 Records, to Lambda Legal Defense
30 Bundle up
32 Movie about an overprotective parent
37 One that reproduces without sex
38 Shrinking sea
40 "Desperate Housewives" lane
44 Hull section
45 Words after honey
46 Customer on "Six Feet Under"?
48 Cathedral of Hope topper
49 Hindu master
51 Alternate sp.
52 End of the quote
55 Pasolini's bone
56 Writer Wystan Hugh
57 Barely gets, with "out"
58 They wave their sticks at Citi Field
59 Fourth Estate
60 Where a co. can bet its bottom dollar

Down

- 1 Smelling salts ingredient
2 Jaason Simmons was a lifeguard in this TV show
3 Tammy Baldwin's body?
4 WBA decision
5 Excited
6 Interior designer de Wolfe
7 Merrill who played with Dick Sargent in "Operation Petticoat"
8 Shakespearean stream
9 Give the green light
10 Noble or Valby
11 "I Will Survive" singer Gloria
12 Stick fast
13 Signed over
18 Western defense gp.
19 Look from Judi Dench in "Notes on a Scandal"
24 Carrier to Tel Aviv
25 Hang around
27 Mapplethorpe's "Dark ____ Rose"
28 Type of crime
30 Bernstein manuscript, e.g.
31 Native American tongue
32 Male deliverers
34 Despina, in "Cosi fan tutte"
35 Allen Ginsberg partner Peter
36 Captains of industry
39 "A Girl Thing" director
40 Smarts
41 Make obligatory
42 Most bashful
43 Trunks of sculpture
44 Inconsequential upturn
46 Bars of soap
47 Black pussy cats, e.g.
49 Epithet
50 Like some bad shots by Mauresmo
53 Ben Vereen forte
54 Adverb for Lord Byron

Solution on pg. 26



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BTL Between THE Lines

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CALLING ALL LGBT MARRIED COUPLES!



Calling all LGBT married couples! Join Affirmations and FCA US and FIAT brand at this year's Motor City Pride Parade and be part of marriage equality history!

The biggest wedding procession Detroit has ever seen, will be on its way to Hart Plaza and we need YOUR help to do it! Come dressed in your wedding best and walk down the the Pride Parade aisle. Those interested in being a part of the procession should plan to meet at Chrysler House, 719 Griswold St. at 11am. We'll end with a rally at the Pride stage in Hart Plaza. #marriedinmi

SUNDAY JUNE 7 12PM

For more information contact Cass Varner, Director of Communications at (248) 677-7227 or email CVarner@GoAffirmations.org

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>

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- MAC Offices, New Center



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Time: 1pm-6pm (By Appointment Only)	Time: 2pm-10pm (Walk-in or Appointment)	Time: 6pm-9pm (Walk-in or Appointment)	Time: 9am-noon 2pm-5pm (Walk-in or Appointment)	No Testing Available
Where: Ferndale MAC Office Only	Where: Detroit MAC New Center Office	Where: Ferndale Affirmations Location	Where: Ferndale MAC Office Only	

To make appointments or get more information, call:

1-888- A CONDOM (226-6366)

MICHIGAN AIDS COALITION
www.michiganaidcoalition.org



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