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Between Lines

Motor City Pride Wrap Up

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Supreme Court: Why Abercrombie Decision Matters

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If we continue the momentum to use this as a real conversation starter about the hurdles that your ordinary every day trans woman, or the trans woman of color, face. If we are using this as an opportunity to talk about how we can bring their quality of life and access to healthcare and their ability to feel safe to new levels, then I think this is a great thing.

> Amy Hunter on the Vanity Fair cover shot of Caitlyn Jenner, pg. 6





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In Anticipation Of Marriage Equality, Motor City Pride Brings Community Together

BY AJ TRAGER

DETROIT – Michigan is a very divided state. But with less than a month before the U.S. Supreme Court issues a decision on nationwide marriage equality, thousands spent their weekend downtown in Hart Plaza for Motor City Pride, the largest LGBT celebration in the state.

The two day festival included local and nationally acclaimed performances; access to over 100 vendors, local non-profit groups, community groups and food trucks; dance parties; and the Pride Parade.

Unlike previous years, no protestors came out to stand at the front gates and added security at both entrances, as well as inside MCP, worked as a preventative measure to maintain that MCP was safe from anti-LGBT hate crimes.

Eastern Michigan University students Crystal and Bri came to MCP to celebrate equality and the LGBT community. They've been together for six months but have both attended MCP separately for many years.

"A lot of people can't get to Ferndale Pride," Crystal said. "This one is a good mid section."

Michigan held its first Pride march 43 years ago which evolved into the annual Motor City Pride festival. Ferndale hosted MCP for many years but Equality Michigan, organizer of MCP, decided to return the festival to Detroit three years ago. Since that decision, Metro Detroit has become home to two Pride festivals, the other remaining in Ferndale.

"I feel like it's good to see the younger LGBT around the older LGBT, they can see that there is still that opportunity to have a family and go on with their regular life because the older LGBT are people with stabilized jobs and younger LGBT don't often see that," Bri said.

The SCOTUS decision will determine if LGBT families will have the right to co-adopt their children. April DeBoer and Jayne DeBoer-Rowse, Michigan plaintiffs in one of several same-sex marriage cases brought before SCOTUS, began their journey seeking out second-parent adoption rights and were declined since the state does not currently recognize same-sex marriage. The family model has drastically changed since the institution of marriage was written into law and it's now extremely common to have single-parent households, as well as youth raised by grandparents, other family members or raised by lesbian and gay parents.

Bonnie and Heidi Jean got together at Ferndale Pride, but have known one another since high school. They married in Windsor in 2007 and came to MCP to celebrate not only their nine year anniversary but also

See MCP Pride, page 12



Sydney Anderson and Adrianna Jacob. BTL Photo: Andrew Potter

Fiat, Major Sponsor Of Motor City Pride, Hosts Discussion With LGBT Community Leaders

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

DETROIT – Representatives of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and the Fiat brand joined Detroit-area LGBT leaders Sunday morning to discuss the growth of Motor City Pride and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the LGBT community in the state of Michigan. About 60 people came out for the discussion, which took place just before the start of the Pride parade in the Great Lakes Business Center of the Chrysler House building in downtown Detroit.

"This is a very special day for us," said Michael Palese, manager of corporate communication for FCA, who moderated the event. "The first weekend of June is all about Motor City Pride and we've had it marked on our calendars each year. We put a lot of time and attention working with our employees and our leaders in trying to put forward the best sense of our commitment to the LGBT community and to all diverse communities throughout southeast Michigan. And, really, Motor City Pride represents the best of that."

This year marks the fourth year in a row that FCA has been a part of Motor City Pride. This year the company expanded their sponsorship with an entertainment stage at the festival in Hart Plaza and by being the lead sponsor of the Pride parade.

"For all intents and purposes, as much work as this is, I can tell you being involved in this is a labor of love," said Palese. "This is something that the company really cares about and has cared about for a long time."

Following Palese's remarks, a video message from Jason Stoicevich, vice president of the Fiat brand, was shown.

"The fabric of Detroit's resurgence includes the contributions of a growing LGBT community and we are very pleased to be a part of it," Stoicevich said. "The Fiat brand strives to maintain a special relationship with the LGBT community. We work hard to understand the issues and concerns that you feel and try to make a positive difference."

Panelists for the discussion included Casey Hurbis, head of Fiat brand communication; William Greene, interim executive director



Gregory Hawkins, chair of FCA's Gay and Lesbian Alliance, speaks at the Fiat media discussion Sunday while fellow panelists Darrious Hilmon, executive director of Affirmations, and Dave Wait, chair of Motor City Pride, look on. BTL photo: Jason A. Michael

The fabric of Detroit's resurgence includes the contributions of a growing LGBT community and we are very pleased to be a part of it.

- Jason Stoicevich, vice president of the Fiat brand

for Equality Michigan; Georgette Borrego Dulworth, director of talent acquisition and diversity for FCA; Gregory Hawkins, chair of FCA's Gay and Lesbian Alliance; Darrious Hilmon, executive director of Affirmations; and Dave Wait, chair of Motor City Pride.

After talking about the present and the success of Motor City Pride, Palese changed the topic to the future. The moderator asked whether, with the possibility of marriage equality being granted by the Supreme Court in a matter of days or weeks, full gay rights will have been achieved and the battle been won.

"Unfortunately the state of Michigan lags (behind) many states in its friendliness to the LGBT community," said Greene, pointing out that there are still issues such as hate crimes, employment protection and the threat of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act to address. "The fight only begins. It's an evolution and continually, unfortunately, the LGBT community is becoming a pawn in this legislative jockeying and lives are hurt, people

are hurt."

Borrego Dulworth said that FCA still has trouble attracting LGBT talent from outside of the state with Michigan's reputation for intolerance being well known.

"While we as a company are doing everything that's right, I think we need the state behind us to be able to support and provide an inclusive environment for these potential employees that will continue to build our city and our state and make it a great place to live, work and play," she said.

For his part, Hilmon said that while gays and lesbians are making great strides, there are still groups under the LGBT umbrella that are struggling.

"One of the commitments that we have made at Affirmations is to the letter T, the transgender community," said Hilmon. "This is not over at the end of June or beginning of July. There are communities within the LGBT community that there is so much work to be done in, just to get caught up to the progress we're making as a whole."



NEWS



Together We Stand: Grand Rapids Pride Preview

BY AJ TRAGER

The 27th Annual Greater Grand Rapids Pride, "Together We Stand: Divided We Fall," will be held in Calder Plaza June 20.

Last year the Grand Rapids LGBT organization, The Network, returned as Pride organizer and turned up the volume with bigger performances and larger crowds. This year, the second largest city in Michigan will experience a Pride event like none other.

The day will start with a kick off "Hand in Hand" rally by the river at 10 a.m. Those attending are encouraged to bring posters and circle the river in a rainbow as a show of solidarity and joy.

"Visibility is our greatest ally! That is what pride is all about! Besides one hell of a party, it is the opportunity for our community, our family and our supporters to come together and celebrate all of our rainbow," said Larry DeShane Jr., volunteer coordinator at The Network.

Nationally recognized entertainers and hometown favorites will come to the main stage for back to back performances stretching from noon to 10 p.m.

Comedian Chris Ryan will begin Pride entertainment at noon followed by Out Pro, Sac Quist, a Drag Show featuring Dymond Denae and the Royal Court of West Michigan, The Network's LGBT Fund, Lady Ace, Experience Grand Rapids and another drag show just before dinner.

Evening performances will include: Hector Fonseca, Eryn Woods and Alex Newell (most known for the role of Wade "Unique" Adams on FOX's "Glee") will take the stage at 8 p.m. followed by an additional performance from Hector Fonseca and the Grand Drag Show. Closing ceremony and the after-party announcement will be held just before 10 p.m.

Over 70 local and statewide vendors will be present at Pride. Many are LGBT owned, with more small local businesses than ever before and proud community partner non-profits that are pro-LGBT, including: StandOUT, Transgender Michigan, Aerial 4 Me, General Electric, Grand Valley State University LGBT Resource Center, HRC, Planned Parenthood, Now GR, Campit Resort, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Fountain Street Church and many more.

Together We Stand will feature family friendly programming in the new Kids and Tween DJ/Dance floor, improved and expanded beer garden, a brand new food court, VIP lounge, community and vendor booths and more.

Cover for GGR Pride is just $\$ for adults. Children 10 and under get in free.

The after party is hosted by the Apartment Lounge and will be catered by West Michigan Catering.

Many changes have been made to the 2015 GGR Pride. Unlike last year, there will be no parade. Those funds have been redistributed into bulking up other areas of Pride including closing down Ottawa Avenue for more celebration space and expanding the kids area to have its own DJ and national performers.

Additional Pride activities for the weekend include: a film showing of "A People's History of The LGBTQ Community In Grand Rapids" beginning at 5:30 p.m. June 19 at the Apartment Lounge located at 33 Sheldon Ave. NE in Grand Rapids, and a White Party (www.facebook. com/events/1612270149043968), presented by The Network, to be held after the film beginning at 9 p.m. for those 18 and over at Eve, 20 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids.

Michigan Trans Activists Respond To The Debut Of Caitlyn Jenner

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

At the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal, Bruce Jenner won a gold medal in the decathlon and, in the process, set a new world record. This week Jenner set yet another new record.

After announcing to the world that she would now be known as Caitlyn in a tweet that featured a photo of her July cover shoot for Vanity Fair magazine, Jenner reached 1 million Twitter followers in just four hours.

After her April interview with Diane Sawyer for "20/20," the world, of course, knew that Jenner was transitioning. But this week, for the first time, the world saw what the new Jenner would look like and found out what her name would be. Her Twitter followers - as of this writing she's up to 2.38 million followers - show there's much public support for Jenner. Just hours after the photos made their debut, in fact, it was announced that Jenner would be honored with the Arthur Ashe Courage Award at the 2015 ESPYS in July.

Still, there has been, as was expected, a bit of a nasty conservative backlash, too. Republican blowhard Rush Limbaugh, in speaking of Jenner, said that transgender people "have a very serious problem, and they need treatment... They need help, not encouragement."

Remarks made in February by former Arkansas governor and Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee were made public following the release of the Jenner photos. Huckabee said, "I wish that someone told me that when I was in high school that I could have felt

like a woman when it came time to take showers in PE. I'm pretty sure that I would have found my feminine side and said, 'Coach, I think I'd rather shower with the girls today.'"

And pundits on Fox News – too many to list – acted predictably when they used the wrong pronouns and continued to call Jenner "Bruce" and refer to her as "he." Perhaps the week's most interesting anti-transgender moment was the announcement that a woman from Fort Worth, Texas, Jennifer Bradford, had started a petition on change.org to have Jenner stripped of her gold medal. "It has recently come to light that gold medalist Bruce Jenner is in fact transgender, and therefore, identifies as a woman," the ludicrous document reads in part. "We congratulate Ms. Jenner on these new developments and wish her the best. However, this creates somewhat of a



Will the Olympic athlete become the new champion for transgender rights? Or are Jenner's fame and Kardashian family values bringing about the wrong attention?

problem as Ms. Jenner (as talented as she is) claims that she has always believed herself to be truly female, and therefore, was in violation of committee rules regarding women competing in men's sports and vice versa."

But enough about the nastiness. Between The Lines wanted to know what the transgender community thought about Jenner's transition. Will the Olympic athlete become the new champion for transgender rights? Or are Jenner's fame and Kardashian family values bringing about the wrong attention?

"I think that Caitlyn coming out and doing it so honestly and so forthrightly is an amazing thing," said Amy Hunter, a trans activist and legislative consultant for the ACLU and Equality Michigan. "Let's face it: the icon status that she had prior to transitioning affords a level of visibility that most of us aren't able to draw. So

her coming out, something like 17 million people watched the Diane Sawyer interview. Then staging it to follow up with the Vanity Fair photos just kind of upped the interest. Monitoring it through social media and the popular media, what I'm noticing is that there's much more substantial conversation around treating trans people with dignity and respect going on. And a lot of folks, (nontrans) folks, defending Caitlyn. So I think over all it's a good thing."

Bre' Campbell, a Detroit area trans activist and a consultant to the Transgender Law Center, said that Jenner's glamorous and rapid transformation is a story that doesn't ring true for many in the trans community. She worries that Jenner is making what is often a painstaking process look easy and giving others the wrong idea.

"I think that Caitlyn Jenner's narrative is similar to those of white trans women who transition older, and I think there's a lot of privilege associated with transitioning when you're older and a lot of access that you're afforded," Campbell said. "But I'm afraid that people will think now that transitioning is just that easy. Because a couple months ago

we saw Caitlyn (as Bruce) and she looked totally different now than she did then. And that's unrealistic, especially for communities of color."

Ethan C.J. Best, a trans activist and transitional life coach, agreed.

"The media is so focused on Caitlyn's physical transition that the opportunity



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Brian, age 45, California



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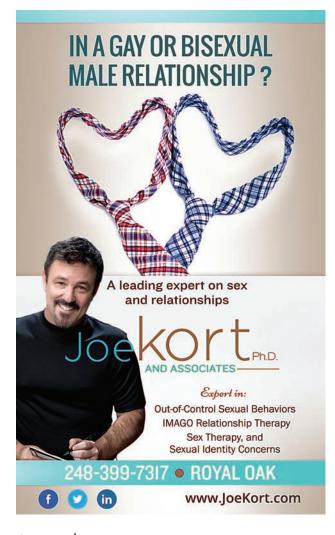




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Pro-LGBT supporters in front of Dieseltec in Grandville in late April responding to owner Brian Klawiter's Facebook post where he said he would refuse service to LGBT people. BTL photo: Todd Heywood

Anti-Gay West Michigan 'Mechanic' To Host Townhall In Jenison Public School

BY TODD HEYWOOD

A West Michigan business owner who made headlines in April for declaring he would refuse to provide mechanic's services to openly gay persons is planning a June 11 event at Jenison Public Schools Center for the Arts.

"This is an event to discuss a lot of issues going on in our nation and our community today. We're going to talk about how the Constitution is applied today. We're going to talk about the Holy Bible," Brian Klawiter, owner of Dieseltec in Grandville, told WOOD TV 8.

Klawiter said his event will feature extreme anti-gay luminaries Bradlee Dean and "Coach" Dave Daubenmire, according to a report on MLive.com.

Dean runs the controversial antigay ministry "You Can Run But You Cannot Hide International Ministries" in Minnesota. The Southern Poverty Law Center reports Dean renounced his "allegiance to the world," and declared to become a sovereign citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven. Sovereign citizens challenge the right of the government to exist, and in this case, Dean's brand opposes secular government.

He is also the host of the radio



Brian Klawiter, center, owner of auto repair company Dieseltec in Grandville, is hosting an anti-gay event this week defending his position to refuse service to LGBT people. BTL photo: Todd Heywood

show, "the Sons of Liberty." Andy Birkey, an LGBT activist and reporter in Minneapolis, has covered Dean extensively over the years. In fact, Birkey was named as a defendant in a \$25 million defamation lawsuit brought by Dean against "The Rachel Maddow Show" in 2011. Birkey was employed by the Minnesota Independent at the time, a publication of the American Independent News Network. The news site has since been dismantled.

Dean claims Birkey and then Maddow defamed him when they reported he said on his radio show that he supported radical Muslims' calls for the execution of gays. Maddow, in a segment on her MSNBC television show, also allegedly made fun of his music and his name, reports SPLC. The case was dismissed by a federal district court in 2012, and Dean was ordered to pay MSNBC's legal fees of nearly \$25,000.

To sue Birkey and Maddow, Dean hired right-wing lawyer Larry Klayman, who has called for a coup against President Barack Obama and filed numerous lawsuits against the Clintons in the 1990s, the civil rights organization reports.

Klawiter, like Dean, claims he does not hate gays, but rather loves them and is obligated to tell them the "truth," from his Christian perspective.

"In my experience writing about figures like Bradlee Dean, I've found that the anti-LGBT rhetoric is often couched in the language of 'love," Birkey wrote in an email to Between the

See Anti-Gay 'Mechanic,' next page

► Anti-Gay 'Mechanic'

Continued from p. 8

Lines. "They love us so much that they want to save us from 'the lifestyle' which their version of God has decided is deserving of eternal torment. I think they really think they are saving LGBT people from hell with this 'love' business. Predictably, that love manifests in some odd ways – denial of services, namecalling and shaming campaigns, and lobbying to end equal protection laws, among others. That's a big part of Bradlee Dean's message. He says he loves homosexuals. I think his definition of love needs some work."

As for Daubenmire, he spent the 1990s as a high school football coach. During that time he allegedly used his position to proselytize, and the ACLU sued and won over that issue. So he moved into the right-wing Christian speaker's circuit, said Ed Brayton, a blogger Dean and Coach Dave Daubenmire are, even by the standards of the Christian right, very extreme figures," said Brayton. "They don't just want to keep gay people from getting married, they want to prevent them from existing at all, at least publicly. They have advocated anti-gay positions that come very close to the religious totalitarianism of Christian Reconstructionism. As experience in the Muslim world demonstrates, theocracy of any kind makes gay people a particular target for punishment, if not outright elimination."

"The community in Michigan should be concerned if this kind of rhetoric is heard and not challenged," Birkey added. "There's an increasing distance between extreme politicized conservative Christianity and the mainstream, but these folks still have the ear of lawmakers. We saw that in Minnesota with Dean when his ministry received donations from a GOP candidate for governor who lost

Brian Klawiter, like anti-gay luminary Bradlee Dean, claims he does not hate gays, but rather loves them and is obligated to tell them the "truth," from his Christian perspective.

who monitors extreme religious issues around the world.

In a video from Daubenmire, released by Right Wing Watch, he is seen talking about Jason Collins coming out. Collins became the first openly gay NBA basketball player in 2013.

"I'm one of the few guys you'll be able to turn onto the camera and say that homosexuality is an abomination," Daubenmire said. "I don't hate homosexuals. I hate homosexual behavior. And I hate what it does to families. I hate what it does to individuals. I hate what it does to our society. I hate homosexuality and I am not afraid to stand up and say it."

Both men say Michigan's LGBT community should be concerned that Klawiter, who does not have a current mechanic's license in Michigan, is aligning with Daubenmire and Dean.

"The LGBT community should be worried about this kind of thing because Bradlee

by only a few thousand votes, and when a leader in the Minnesota House asked him to give the opening prayer. It's important that the public know what kinds of views these religious leaders espouse and that they know who has their ear in elected office."

Klawiter will hold his event, which he billed as a "true state of the union" in an interview with MLive.com, at 6 p.m. on June 11.

"Sunlight is the best disinfectant for this kind of event," Birkey said. "Show up, record it and share it on social media. Let them speak for themselves. These types of anti-LGBT leaders often do a good job of discrediting themselves with their own word."

Birkey and Brayton were both employed by the American Independent News Network, as was reporter Todd Heywood. All three worked for the organization at the time Birkey was sued by Dean. Heywood had no involvement in the lawsuit.

► Jenner

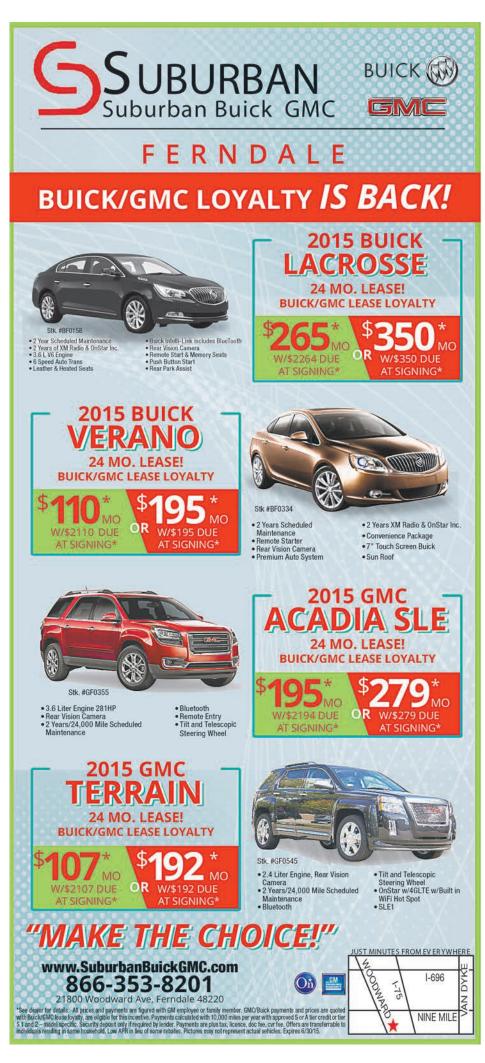
Continued from p. 6

for providing awareness and education about the emotional journey of transition and the hurt, the pain, the struggles, the hurdles and the denial of one's self is being lost," Best said. "This is a huge opportunity to help people understand and relate to members of the trans community through that human connection, but instead we're all caught up in how gorgeous she looks."

Still, Hunter said she believes there's a

legitimate opportunity here.

"The photos were stunning and I had my own objectification moment when I went, 'Wow," Hunter said. "But then I stepped back and thought about what this means in a broader sense. If we continue the momentum to use this as a real conversation starter about the hurdles that your ordinary every day trans woman, or the trans woman of color, face. If we are using this as an opportunity to talk about how we can bring their quality of life and access to healthcare and their ability to feel safe to new levels, then I think this is a great thing."



Encounter With Someone 'Special'



Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

t's been 60 years since I last saw the young man who sits across from me. He has, at 19, what a friend calls "the poetry of youth." An eager freshness that's a joy at my age to see.

He hasn't changed much. Still thin as a rail. Tall as ever. Same deep blue eyes. (But I have changed. Oh, my, my...)

There's a kinship between us. It's hard not to make comparisons. Yes, it was fall of '56 when he left Gilead Baptist Church membership, realizing at 20 he was gay, knowing that because of this "shocking sin" there was no welcoming place for him as a born-again believer.

I'll give him credit for wasting no time to begin what has proven to be for him a long, long journey. (How well I know it!)

Yes, so much has happened since those decades passing quickly by. So many people we both knew are gone. A whole world has vanished. I'm bewildered by the sideshow that's taken its place. A nonstop carnival of glitter, guns, guttersnipe. It scares the hell out of me.

As my young visitor looks out my studio window, and the setting sun weaves slowly in and out among shared memory clouds, my visitor seems both friend and, curiously, stranger.

More than anything I'd like at this moment to give him a reassuring hug. An embrace of acceptance. But how might he react? What if he just, say, up and disappears?

I wonder – did we ever exchange glances or greetings on that longago downtown Detroit gay street thoroughfare? Did we take time to ever get even slightly acquainted? The important thing is that he somehow, unexpectedly, stopped by today.

It's nice to have visitors, especially on a day that's not quite sure whether it's budding spring or last-chance fall. It would be a bit of luck if he could stay through June. (I'm sure it would be "like old times.") But what's youth got to do with old age? Pride celebration or no Pride celebration?

I'm curious how he found me. I'm not in many important address books. Like everyone with nothing to hide, I'm AT&T unlisted. (Foolish I know, but I find myself wondering what he thinks of me? Overweight. Bald-by-choice. Retired fuddy duddy. Have I become someone he's come to respect? Would he likely trade places? Or I with him? Silly question.)

He smiles. Not an open smile, but a smile of gentle introspection. Thoughtful. Troubled? (Maybe he'll be a writer, a poet, an artist. He certainly has sensitivity. Will he make something of his life? Or get by on his looks? Ah, the age-old gay dilemma.)

I hum absentmindedly and he speaks. "If you're wondering why I dropped in out of the blue, it's because I thought you might have answers. I've taken important steps to be me. A gay man. You've been down that special road. What's it like near the finish? Would you do things differently?" Direct and to the point.

"Near the finish?" (Hey, young guy: I'm not over the hill yet.) "Different? Yes! I'd stay out of debt. I'd get a college degree sooner. I wouldn't drink to excess. I'd have fewer chance encounters. A lover or two. More friends. And I'd tell anybody who put us down – you and me – to go chuck it. Would I be gay again? Silly, silly boy!"

Ah! I've said the right thing. He laughs, wholeheartedly.

"Great!" he beams, taking his leave. "It's important to know someone who's been there. Goodbye. For what it's worth: God bless you."

And, as we hug long at parting – maybe for the very last time – he adds so softly, so caring: "Thanks ever, Charles. Thanks for being the me in you that I've finally become."

Charles@pridesource.com



Transmissions Cover To Cover

OPINION BY GWEN SMITH

he cover is overall stark, but arresting. The model, with flowing brown tresses, is sitting somewhat uncomfortably on a barely visible stool, looking directly at the camera. She is wearing a white, satin body shaper. Behind her, fogged metallic walls pick up her blurred reflection.

Across her midriff is a simple phrase, "Call me Caitlyn."

The issue is the latest in a series of "coming out" moments for Caitlyn Jenner, beginning with In Touch Weekly's tawdry photoshopped cover and progressing to a recent Diane Sawyer interview. There will be much, much more to come, no doubt, with a reality program waiting in the wings. Indeed, Jenner is no babe when it comes to the media, starting back in the days of Olympic gold and Wheaties boxes up to her part in the world of the Kardashians.

The cover is groundbreaking. Not only is it the first known transperson to grace the cover of Vanity Fair, but at age 65, Caitlyn Jenner is also the oldest woman to achieve the same honor. The photo by Annie Leibovitz is beautiful, lacking the sort of "shock value" one might normally expect the straight media to revel in.

Indeed, much of the reporting on the cover has been positive, and Jenner remains on our culture's lips for yet another week, seeing heavy coverage throughout the mass media.

The transgender community itself has had a mixed view of it all – though for the most part, the response has

been positive. Many have also considered Jenner's very high-profile transition as a "teachable moment," using her celebrity to springboard additional transgender issues into the public consciousness.

The National LGBTQ Task Force highlighted the stark differences between Jenner's transition and others in a series of online posts. Caitlyn Dewey, with help from Andrew McGill, created a "bot" to automatically correct commentators who chose to "misgender" Jenner.

"'Misgendering,' as this practice is known in the LGBT community, isn't just a style error in violation of AP's own rules," said Dewey in the Washington Post. "It's a stubborn, long-time hurdle to transgender acceptance and equality, a fundamental refusal to afford those people even basic grammatical dignity."

Dewey and McGill sought to challenge this, and while they admittedly only saw very few change their mind on the pronouns they assigned to Jenner, they still felt the project itself was eye-opening, showing that perhaps there is a "seed of a suggestion here... that maybe compromise and dialogue are possible on the Internet."

Perhaps the strongest of the reactions to the Vanity Fair cover within the transgender community was that from Crystal Frasier and Jenn Dolari. I've known both of them for many years, and they were kind enough to take a fair amount of their day answering

► Transmissions

Continued from p. 10

my questions about their hashtag campaign, #MyVanityFairCover. You can see them all at http://myvanityfaircover.tumblr.com/.

While they've made it clear that they are plenty proud of Jenner for transitioning, they were frustrated with the expectation that transgender women – and indeed, all women – have to adhere to certain beauty standards in order to be taken seriously.

Said Frasier, "The only covers we do see featuring trans women though – Caitlyn Jenner, Laverne Cox, Janet Mock – do focus on the physical beauty of these women (just like magazine covers featuring women inevitably do), and gloss over the accomplishments and skills as human beings. So no, I don't generally think the media offers coverage and conceal our trans-looking traits aren't afforded the benefit of the doubt, don't see ourselves represented anywhere. If we're visibly trans, then we're told we have less value as human beings. The mainstream media likes to focus on the passing ones – the 'success stories' as I've heard a lot of cis people refer to them lately – and I think that pushes very unrealistic expectations for what transition is about and the results that are within the reach of the vast majority of the community. And I especially worry that that message can be damaging to young trans kids who just don't know how to find any other narratives yet."

What they started, initially as a lark they expected to only spread amongst "our friends and a few folks," ignited social media as people took templates created by Frasier and Dolari to create their own Vanity Fair cover. These images show the true diversity of the

While they've made it clear that they are plenty proud of Jenner for transitioning, they were frustrated with the expectation that transgender women – and indeed, all women – have to adhere to certain beauty standards in order to be taken seriously.

> - Crystal Frasier and Jenn Dolari who set up a hashtag campaign #MyVanityFairCover

humanizing portrayals of trans women unless we happen to be attractive."

"I find it sets an unrealistic expectation of how trans women should look, which sounds awfully familiar if you drop the 'trans' part of that sentence," said Dolari. "For trans women, there's an extra layer of 'passabilty as identity' added to the expectation of beauty – one that very few of us could ever meet. It sets up the idea that if you're not perfectly passable, you're not passing as a woman 'right.' We do come in all shapes and sizes and colors, and by ignoring that, presenting only the best, you not only create issues with beauty, but identity."

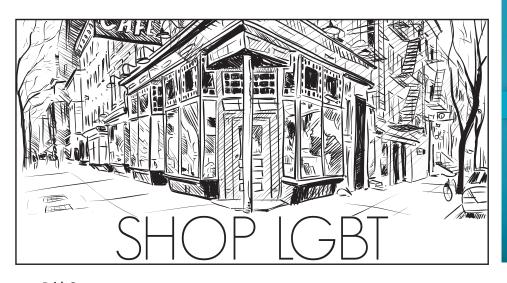
Added Frasier, "Trans people who can't

transgender community: people of all gender presentations, all races and nationalities and all ages have stepped up and shown their face to the world.

For me, I'm glad to see Jenner on the cover, and am more than willing to welcome her into the fold. I also agree with Frasier and Dolari that her beauty did help get her on this cover, though I feel she does have more than a little tenacity and acumen to back her up.

Now is not only Jenner's time, but all of ours. The door is open, and it is time for all of us to step through.

Gwen Smith is strictly below the fold. You'll find her on Twitter at @gwenners.





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June 11, 2015 | BTL 11



Demi Brown, Nicky Smith and Zacier Reid enjoying Hart Plaza festivities. Right: Nick Jones. BTL Photos: Andrew Potter



BTL Photo: AJ Trager



MCP Pride

Continued from p. 4

to show their son, Morrison, what Pride is all about.

"I've got my fingers crossed," Heidi said discussing the SCOTUS ruling. "I have faith that marriage equality will happen."

"We pay joint federal taxes, but our state taxes have to be filed separately. It's really annoying; we have to pay out all this extra money federally, but we have no benefits together. If something were to medically happen to her, I can't make her decisions and vice versa and she also can't adopt him (Morrison)," Bonnie said.

The marriage decision is going to greatly change their lives together, especially the tough decisions that will affect Morrison throughout his life.

"If she were to die, it's sad to say, but he would probably go to her next of kin," Heidi said. "We have legal documents in place but they don't necessarily hold up in court, in schools, (to) doctors and places like that. We have to have special arrangements." Health Alliance Plan employee, Michelle Howard, was celebrating the lives and identities of her LGBT friends at MCP. Unanimously elected by her friends to be their spokesperson, Howard proved that it also takes strong allies to move the rights of LGBT individuals forward, striving for full equality.

"It's important for people to be happy and it's important for people who are considered the 'normal' to support the rest of the community because we are all people," Howard said. "And quite frankly, everyone has the right to be happy and people should support that. I don't believe in all the hate and the agenda from all the religious rights. I would follow these guys through fire until they get to have their personal rights."

Just as meeting and sharing life experiences with her LGBT-identified friends has changed her life, an affirming SCOTUS decision will dramatically change the lives of LGBT Michiganders.

"We are talking about the rights of people, we are talking about American rights for human beings," Howard said. "Everyone has the right to be happy and everyone has the





www.PrideSource.com



Bonnie and Heidi Jean got together at Ferndale Pride, but have known one another since high school. They married in Windsor in 2007 and came to MCP to celebrate not only their nine year anniversary but also to show their son, Morrison, what Pride is all about. "I've got my fingers crossed," Heidi said discussing the SCOTUS ruling. "I have faith that marriage equality will happen." BTL photo: AJ Trager

right to pursue whatever they want to pursue. Marriage shouldn't even be a question in my mind."

BTL ran into Stacy'e, Erinn and Taylor just after the parade June 7. MCP was Taylor's first Pride festival but her friends Stacy'e and Erinn have been to MCP many times and were very excited to show their friend around.

No strangers to Detroit, Stacey'e and Erinn have been an item for nearly three years and are engaged. They would prefer to marry here in Michigan, however, they are prepared to go elsewhere in the event SCOTUS rules in favor of states' bans on same-sex marriage.

"I am loving the parade this year. I haven't been into Pride yet, but I am excited to go in," Erinn said.

"I don't like rules that don't apply to everybody; that is kind of discriminatory," Stay'e said.

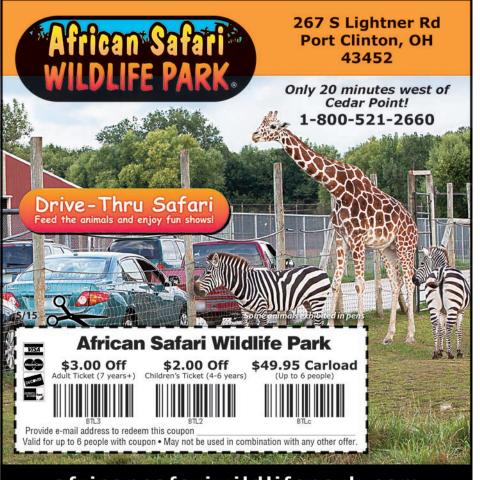
"Yeah, I mean, love is love," Taylor concluded.



Only one fight broke out near the sponsor area between two members of the LGBT community and additional Detroit police were placed on guard Sunday following an abundance of cannabis use.

Motor City Pride was sponsored by FCA US and the FIAT Brand, Bud Light, Pride Source Media Group, Comerica Bank, Menjo's, Domino's, GM Plus, Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit, Necto, Kroger, TD, AMP 98.7 Radio, Zipcar, Inferno, Motorball, Thomson Reuters, Metra Magazine, Flame Magazine, Fifth Third Bank, MotorCity Casino Hotel, Delta Air Lines, MGM Grand Detroit, General Motors, UAW-Ford, Five-15, Whole Foods Market, Great Lakes Distributing and Uber.





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Creep of the Week

Mike Huckabee

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

confess. Once upon a time I thought Mike Huckabee seemed like a nice guy. Granted I disagreed with him on just about every issue imaginable. I thought he was misinformed, kind of crazy, totally wrong on all issues LGBT, but still he seemed like he wasn't a bad person.



Mike Huckabee

That was years ago. The Mike Huckabee of today? He's doing a fine job proving that he is, in fact, terrible. Whether he's changed over the years or has been terrible all along, I don't know. All I know is that Huckabee has apparently caught on that only openly hateful Republicans have a chance in this country.

Case in point: a "joke" he made earlier this year while speaking at the National Religious Broadcasters Convention at the expense of transgender folks.

He set up the "joke" with the premise that trannies lurk in bathrooms, presumably to molest kids.

Huckabee isn't presenting some hypothetical example; he's basically using his ignorance of the transgender experience to tell us how desperate he was to see titties in high school.

"We are now, in city after city, watching ordinances say that your 7-year-old daughter, if she goes into the restroom, cannot be offended and you can't be offended if she's greeted there by a 42-year-old man who feels more like a woman than he does a man," Huckabee says, apparently under the belief that the word "transgender" means a fleeting feeling that comes and goes from day to day depending on whether you want to watch 7-year-olds pee or not.

And then comes Huckabee's big punch line: "Now I wish that someone told me when I was in high school that I could have felt like a woman when it came time to take showers in PE. I'm pretty sure that I would have found my feminine side and said, 'Coach, I think I'd rather shower with the girls today.'"

Ha ha times infinity. Are you laughing so hard right now? Because the audience totally was.

"You're laughing because it sounds so ridiculous, doesn't it?" he says to the audience.

Um, no. That's not why they're laughing. They're laughing because they're idiots.

Because as far as Huckabee's joke construction goes, this is not a "can you even imagine it" kind of joke. Huckabee isn't presenting some hypothetical example; he's basically using his ignorance of the transgender experience to tell us how desperate he was to see titties in high school. Granted, teenage boys wanting to see naked girls is not new or novel. But remember that Huckabee set up his bit explaining that transgender folks were sex-crime perverts. And then he essentially says, "Man, I wish I could have gotten away with being a sex-crime pervert in high school." Granted, he might not consciously mean that. But that's what his little comedy bit translates to.

In case you were wondering, Huckabee stands by the "joke."

"I take nothing back from that speech," he told right-wing radio host Steve Deace on June 5. "I'm giving a common sense answer to the insanity that's going on out there. Because I hear people, everybody wants to be politically correct, everybody wants to be loved by the media and loved by the left and loved by the elitists. But, you know, I know I'm not going to be, so let's just get it over with."

Yes. Let's just get the Mr. Nice Guy thing over with. Why be "politically correct" loved by people who use critical thinking skills when you can pander to the most hateful, delusional and ignorant voters in America. Hey, you've gotta please that GOP base.

Supreme Court: Why The Abercrombie Decision Matters

BY LISA KEEN

It is a rare occasion when LGBT legal activists find themselves on the same side of a case as the conservative Christian Legal Society and the National Association of Evangelicals. It is also rare to find LGBT legal activists on the same side as conservative Justice Antonin Scalia and his fondness for hewing to the original explicit language of a law.

But so it was with EEOC v. Abercrombie & Fitch June 1, when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that an employer cannot escape federal law's requirement to accommodate a job applicant's religious practices by claiming the applicant never told the employer about his or her religious practices.

The case did not involve an LGBT person, but it did involve a scenario with which LGBT job applicants are familiar: where an employer quietly presumes something about the applicant based on the applicant's appearance and then denies the applicant a job based on that suspicion.

In this case, the employer made a presumption based on a piece of attire. The case involved a woman who applied for a job at a national clothing chain store. Because the young woman, Samantha Elauf, is Muslim, she wore a black hijab to the interview, a headscarf that many Muslim women wear in response to the Quran's directive that women cloak their sexuality in public.

During her job interview for a sales rep position with Abercrombie & Fitch, Elauf did not speak about her religion, and her interviewer did not ask about it. But after the interview, the interviewer asked an Abercrombie district manager whether the woman's headscarf would violate the company's "look policy" against sales reps wearing caps and the color black.

The interviewer said she told her supervisors that Elauf was Muslim, but the district manager said he had no knowledge that Elauf wore the scarf for religious reasons. The district manager instructed the interviewer to reject Elauf for the job. A friend of Elauf's who worked at the store told her she was rejected for the position because of her hijab.

Elauf sought help from the the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), which filed

suit against Abercrombie, saying it had violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In a relevant part, the Act says, "It shall be an unlawful employment practice for an employer to fail or refuse to hire... any individual.. because of such individual's... religion..." It also prohibits employers from classifying applicants because of their religion in order to disadvantage them. many employees have cried religious discrimination when disciplined for actions harassing and even menacing to their coworkers, including LGBT workers."

But Lambda's brief also argued that Title VII simply does not include any language that gives an employer a pass on accommodating an employee's religious practices by claiming the employee never told the

The case did not involve an LGBT person, but it did involve a scenario with which LGBT job applicants are familiar: where an employer quietly presumes something about the applicant based on the applicant's appearance and then denies the applicant a job based on that suspicion.

Title VII also prohibits discrimination based on race, color, sex and national origin, but not based on sexual orientation or gender identity. However, in a 1989 decision, Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins, the Supreme Court said Title VII covered discrimination based on "sex stereotyping." And the EEOC has been accepting complaints of discrimination based on a person's sexual orientation or gender identity as potential Title VII claims.

Abercrombie argued that it's rejection of Elauf couldn't be in violation of Title VII because it never had "actual knowledge" that Elauf wore her black headscarf for religious reasons. The 10th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals agreed.

The National Center for Lesbian Rights joined a brief filed by the American Jewish Committee that criticized the 10th Circuit opinion as a sort of "Don't ask, don't tell" approach "for any employer who wants to engage in intentional hiring discrimination based on religion."

"Rewarding such willful or pretended ignorance (or worse) is the antithesis of how Title VII is meant to work," said the brief.

In an online essay, Gregory Nevins, employment fairness program specialist for Lambda Legal, explained why his group filed a brief on Elauf's behalf. First, he said, Lambda was concerned the Supreme Court might issue "an overly broad ruling, extolling the primacy of workers' religious rights, because employer about his or her religion.

Lambda said it has seen a "disturbing tendency" by the lower courts to dismiss certain Title VII claims – including many by LGBT workers – by creating new "rules and prerequisites" that are not in the language of Title VII. In the 10th Circuit's case, the new rule was that an employee or applicant had to inform the employer of their religious practices and work out some potential accommodation in advance.

But in an 8 to 1 decision (with only Justice Clarence Thomas dissenting), the Supreme Court said Abercrombie violated Title VII when it failed to hire Elauf because it suspected she was Muslim and that she would likely seek accommodation at work for her religious beliefs.

The decision, authored by Scalia, said, "An employer may not make an applicant's religious practice, confirmed or otherwise, a factor in employment decisions."

"An employer who has actual knowledge of the need for an accommodation does not violate Title VII by refusing to hire an applicant if avoiding that accommodation is not his motive," wrote Scalia. "Conversely, an employer who acts with the motive of avoiding accommodation may violate Title VII even if he has no more than an unsubstantiated suspicion that accommodation would be needed."

The 10th Circuit's approach

See Abercrombie, next page

Fed Agencies Release Guide On LGBT Discrimination

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Four federal government agencies with roles in ensuring fairness in the federal workplace released a guide June 4 on the rights and processes available to applicants and employees who allege sexual orientation or gender identity discrimination.

The guide, "Addressing Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Discrimination in Federal Civilian Employment: A Guide to Employment Rights, Protections, and Responsibilities," has been reissued after more than a decade and has been substantially revised to reflect major developments in the law.

The guide provides federal workers with a description of employee rights and agency responsibilities under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 and other agency and union procedures. It also offers a comparison table showing differences between procedures available at the EEOC and OSC. The goal of the publication is to assist LGBT employees make more informed choices about how best to pursue their individual claims when they believe they have suffered from discrimination.

Civil service laws have been interpreted to ban sexual orientation discrimination since 1980. Recently, OSC found that these laws also prohibit gender identity discrimination, as reflected in its August 2014 prohibited

personnel practice report, concluding that a transgender woman was unlawfully harassed by agency officials. The EEOC has also issued several decisions in recent years holding that LGBT individuals may bring valid Equal Employment Opportunity claims in the federal sector. Previous claims include Macy v. Holder, 2012, which found that discrimination based on gender identity is unlawful sex discrimination and Complainant v. Department of Homeland Security, which reaffirmed that sexual orientation discrimination based on gender stereotypes is unlawful sex discrimination.

"One of my highest priorities as Director of Office of Personal Management is to make sure we are recruiting and supporting top talent that draws from the rich diversity of the American people. We need all of our employees to be focused on making the most of their skills and their ingenuity, rather than worrying about losing their job or not getting promoted due to discrimination," said OPM Director Katherine Archuleta. "This guide is an important resource for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender members of our Federal family."

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the U.S. Office of Special Counsel and the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board all contributed to the guide. Find it at www.opm. gov/LGBTGuide.



G G I'm very happy about the decision.

- Lambda's national legal director Jon Davidson. Lambda's brief, noted Davidson, "made the point emphasized by Justice Scalia that courts should not add language to Title VII that Congress did not enact in order to achieve what courts may think is a desirable result."

Jon Davidson

Abercrombie

Continued from p. 14

of requiring an employer have "actual knowledge" of an employee or applicant's religious practices, said Scalia, is simply not in the text of Title VII that Congress enacted.

"I'm very happy about the decision," said Lambda's national legal director Jon Davidson. Lambda's brief, noted Davidson, "made the point emphasized by Justice Scalia that courts should not add language to Title VII that Congress did not enact in order to achieve what courts may think is a desirable result."

Meanwhile, LGBT groups are awaiting other Supreme Court decisions this month, including:

Obergefell v. Hodges, an appeal challenging a 6th Circuit decision that upheld state bans on same-sex couples marrying.

King v. Burwell, an appeal challenging a 4th Circuit decision upholding the federal government's tax subsidies to people with low incomes in all 50 states to buy health coverage. Lambda, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders and other LGBT groups filed a brief urging the Supreme Court to uphold the lower court decision. It noted that the subsidies have a "significant impact" on fighting HIV and that limiting those subsidies would have a "devastating public health" impact on people of color.

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LOST & FOUND



Indigo Girls' Emily Saliers Talks Fresh Sound, Pride & Relationship With Amy Ray

BY CHRISTOPHER TREACY

✔ One Lost Day," the 13th studio release of original material from the Indigo Girls, bursts with renewal and refreshment.
 It's unmistakably Indigo Girls – the tone, the harmonies, the melding of pop and folkie

sensibilities. It all bears the Indigo stamp.

But if the Indigo Girls are a deck of cards, "One Lost Day" presents a fresh shuffle. The duo comes to the Ann Arbor Summer Festival on June 19 for a set that'll cover both the old and the new, but the sound of the new collection, out now, is something that can be largely attributed to producer Jordan Brooke Hamlin.

"It's true, I guess a lot of people don't really understand what it is a producer actually does," Saliers says over the phone from Georgia, birthplace of the Indigos and also where she and wife/former tour manager Tristin Chipman are raising a daughter together.

Saliers has a point, and it's less a judgment than a mere observation: Outside of the most musically enthused circles, production is a lost concept. And yet it has so much to do with how the sound of new recordings comes together (or doesn't). Despite the culture of singles

INFO

Indigo Girls 8 p.m. June 19 Power Center 121 Fletcher St, Ann Arbor a2sf.org

created by iTunes and streaming services, hardcore music fans still perceive albums as unified sets of songs - a whole. A producer is brought in to shape that whole, to cast a tone and help bring out the best in the artists while lending a sense of creative direction. Each scenario is different.

That said, it's always telling when you see a multitude of production credits in the liner notes of a new release ... evidence of partially failed creative relationships from which the best tracks are salvaged. Discs with many producers often lack cohesion, but Indigo Girls have had notoriously fruitful relationships with revered production stars like Mitchell Froom, David Leonard and John Reynolds, in addition to their recurring creative union with Peter Collins (who has overseen about half of their output). With Hamlin, they took a chance on an underdog. They sought change and found it.

"We loved Jordan's work with Lucy Wainwright Roche," Saliers explains, referencing Wainwright-Roche's stunning 2013 release, "There's a Last Time for Everything." "She has a classical background and a love of woodwinds and horns - really eclectic tastes and influences. When Amy and I sent her these songs in their nascent stage, she took our rough demos and added in horns. moody swatches of electric guitar, and little bits of oddball percussion. Later she brought us ideas for string arrangements, as well as new engineers and players we'd never worked with before. She brought us a new team, basically."

This is particularly telling. Not all artists are able to set egos aside to let someone come in and rearrange the furniture of their creative space so wholeheartedly. But this many years into the duo's career, making it work with a new producer is the way that sonic ruts are avoided. The result? Progress. The fact that Saliers and Ray, both 51, are able to yield to a new creative partner is proof of their dedication to keeping it compelling for their fans. Even still, there were some moments of tension along the way.

"Jordan had very clear, strong ideas," Saliers says. "Sometimes there was tension suggesting things - either on our part or on hers - that didn't necessarily jibe with the other's vision for the song. Not all producers are musicians in their own right, but Jordan is, and she wanted to play on this record, which is something Amy and I had to adjust to. There were also a lot of parts on the record that she worked on when we weren't there - she really set up her chemistry lab and tested out her potions which was also an uncomfortable feeling for us at the time. There was a very real process of letting go involved."

Saliers and Ray are proud of "One Lost Day," which arrives just in time for them to celebrate 30 years of making music together and also just in time for Pride season, to which Saliers expressed a healthy sense of disconnection.

"Pride feels like partying to me, and I don't really have a place in my life for that anymore," she admits. "It's a celebration for sure, but people tend to associate that with a lot of drinking and getting high. Don't get me wrong - we definitely have a lot to celebrate. We need to be visible, to do our dance, walk our walk, and play our music loud. But we also need to better focus on pressing issues, to find ways to alleviate the suffering of queer teens on the path to suicide, to deal with prostitution and homelessness. We're still a marginalized community.

"I want to see Pride better function as both a party and a platform for activism and change," she adds, noting that, "We still play Pride sometimes and it can be really fun, but it's got to bring you something that's good for your soul and your spirit."

When asked about specific career accomplishments that do instill a sense of pride, Saliers says she prefers to speak in terms of gratitude. She reminisced about climbing the scaffolding at the historic marches on Washington, the duo's support of Honor the Earth for over 20 years and, in general, the power of music to inspire social change.

"Long-term relationships with a dedication to certain forms of work are what stands out for me - I feel very glad for that work; it feels really good to work hard," she says. "In addition, to open for the Grateful Dead and Neil Young, to participate in Lilith Fair-those are unforgettable honors. And at the center of it all is my relationship with Amy, who I adore and love so deeply. We've weathered a lot of stuff, a lot of personal losses, and I feel so grateful for what we still have together after all this time."

DIEGOCFRIDA ON MARCH 15, THEY CAME BACK TO DETROIT INSPIRED AN ſ HAD COCKTAILS NAMED AFTER THEM AND INTRODUCED THEMSELVES TO A NEW GENERATION OF REBELS TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO SEE WHY



DIEGO RIVERA **IN DE**' EXHIBITION ENDS JULY 12 TICKETS AT DIA.ORG DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

The exhibition has been organized by the Detroit Institute of Arts. Generous support for the exhibition has been provided by Bank of America. Additio support has been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Henry and Mary Ellen Bellaimey Family Foundation. Above: Untitled (Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, Mexico City), 1933; Martin Munkácsi, Hungarian. OThe Estate of Martin Munkácsi, Courtesy Howard Greenberg Gallery, NY and International Center of Photography 02014 Frida Kahlo Corporation. All rights reserved **CONACULTA**

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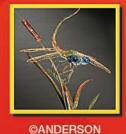
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Summer Gadget Guide 2015

Next-Gen Gizmos and Gadgets to Amp Up the Fun

BY MIKEY ROX

Your summer vacation gets easier and breezier with these innovative thingamajigs that make kicking back and relaxing cool and convenient.

iBT3 Splash-Proof Speaker

Pump up your jams by the pool or at the beach with the iBT3 splash-proof Bluetooth speaker from iHome. Stream your digital summer playlist

- start building this year's with Maroon 5's chart-burning new single "This Summer's

Gonna Hurt Like a Motherfucker" – from your iPhone, iPad, Android, Windows, or other compatible devices. An internal rechargeable battery offers hours of play, and you can view the battery level on your

www.PrideSource.com

5 135 ÷ iOS device so you can keep the party poppin' all day long. A convenient carrying strap makes iBT3 easy to attach to clothing and bags for hassle-free travel. *ihomeaudio.com*

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phone or tablet providing flick-of-thefinger power in your pocket to watch TV or movies, personalize your favorite channels, connect to Netflix, listen to music, or make and accept Skype calls. Save a ton of time on pulling your phone out of your pocket – on average, we do it about 150 times a day – with the Uno Noteband, the world's first wearable device that features Spritz technology, which allows users to read text messages at near-lighting speed right on their wrists.

FitBit Charge HR

Monitor your health more closely with the FitBit Charge HR, an advanced fitness wristband that delivers automatic, continuous heart-rate and activity tracking 24/7. With round-the-clock performance capabilities and built-in pedometer, you'll get a more accurate all-day calorie burn from your daily routine and workouts to help you hone in on target areas and maximize training intensity, as well as sleep-quality stats for a better night's rest. Other features include call notifications, wireless syncing and a bright OLED display.

Hydaway Bottle

Free up space in your summer carryalls by swapping out your bulky water bottle for Hydaway, a collapsible, accordionstyle portable hydration device that travels everywhere without taking up too much space. Certified safe and BPA-free, this silicone bottled features an engineered hinge design that expands from 1-1/4 inches flat to a full-size bottle; a carry handle that fits your finger or a carabiner for easy clipping; and a watertight seal to prevent leaks. Hydaway is the perfect compact solution for frequent flyers, parents on the go, students, fitness lovers and more. *hydawaybottle.com*

Edyn Garden Sensor

All you Mary Mary Quite Contrarys can grow crops with more confidence this summer with the Edyn gardening sensor. The solar-powered stake tracks light, humidity, temperature, soil nutrition and moisture for the most optimal growing conditions. Sync the outdoor, WiFi-enabled device to the accompanying app via your mobile device to continuously monitor conditions, pre-set sprinklers and track data so you can keep your green thumb on the pulse of your garden all season long. *edyn.com*

BioLite

Light up the night while camping or otherwise enjoying the great outdoors with the BioLite NanoGrid, a three-in-one lantern, torch and power bank for more comfortable off-grid living. The pocketsized device, powered by the same battery used in the Tesla Model S, provides 16 watthours of storage, which can give juice to three-and-a-half GoPro charges, refill three iPhone 5Ss or fill two-and-a-half iPhone 6s. As a light source, BioLite offers up to 72 hours of light as a result of its dimmable settings to conserve power. *biolitestove.com*

Uno Noteband

Save a ton of time on pulling your phone out of your pocket – on average, we do it about 150 times a day – with the Uno Noteband, the world's first wearable device that features Spritz technology, which allows users to read text messages at near-lighting speed right on their wrists. Additionally, Uno includes the world's smallest six-axis motion tracker that integrates with Apple Health and Google Fit for a more dynamic experience. *unonoteband.com*

IceMule Cooler



Lugging around heavy plastic coolers filled to the brim with food, drinks and ice is the last thing anybody wants to do on a scorching sunny afternoon. Enter IceMule the cool, easy-tocarry alternative, which allows you to schlep all that summertime sustenance in an insulated backpack that keeps your hands free. Available in a variety of sizes - from 10L to 40L to fit your

needs – IceMule also features adjustable shoulder straps, a double-layered shell (for cold beers even on the hottest of days), a leak-proof design and pliable construction for easy, rollup storage. *icemulecooler.com*

Mikey Rox is an award-winning journalist and LGBT lifestyle expert whose work has been published in more than 100 outlets across the world. He splits his time between homes in New York City and the Jersey Shore with his dog Jaxon. Connect with Mikey on Twitter @mikeyrox.

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Wharton Center Executive **Director Receives National Award**

EAST LANSING – Mike Brand. executive director of Wharton Center for Performing Arts, was honored at this year's Broadway

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Conference in

New York City

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is the highest

award that can

be given to an

executive of a

performing arts



center affiliated with touring Broadway and speaks volumes about Brand's vision, leadership and respect within the industry.

The Samuel J. L'Hommedieu Award, which recognizes outstanding achievement among presenters, was given to Brand last month for demonstrating excellence in management and leadership. At Michigan State University's Wharton Center, Brand supervises a dedicated staff and oversees planning and programming a diverse season of entertainment in four venues: the Cobb Great Hall, Pasant Theatre, MSU Concert Auditorium and Fairchild Theatre.

"I was surprised and honored to be presented with this prestigious award," said Brand. "None of it would be possible without the amazing support I have received during my 30-plus years in this industry, especially from the outstanding staff at Wharton Center."

Brand has nearly 35 years of performing arts experience as a performer, teacher and presenter. He is the executive director of Wharton Center for Performing Arts. Prior to his appointment at Wharton Center, Brand served as a Regional Vice President for Clear Channel Entertainment, overseeing the Baltimore, Maryland and Minneapolis, Minnesota regional offices. From 1986 through 1994, he

served as the First Vice President for programming and marketing at the Ordway Music Theater in St. Paul, Minn.

Brand's performing credits include 16 seasons performing trumpet with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra as well as regular engagements with the Minnesota Orchestra and the Minnesota Opera Orchestra. Brand held artist in residence contracts with Carleton College and St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., and the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. Minn. The Broadway League consists of 700plus members, ranging from theater owners and operators to producers, presenters and general managers across North America. The League is dedicated to fostering increased interest in Broadway theater, and the annual conference in New York City brings together industry professionals to learn, network and celebrate the arts.



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OUTINGS

Wednesday, June 10

clean bandit New Eyes Tour. St. Andrew's Hall, Detroit.

Dining for a Cause 4 p m Anyone dinning or even stopping by for a drink can mention Motor City Bears and 15 percent of their bill will come back to the Motor City Bears. This funding will then be applied to our fundraising efforts for Ruth Ellis Center and Affirmations. This is completely open to anyone from 4-9 p.m. Spread the word. It is an easy way to have fun and help our charities at the same time. Motor City Bears, 22646 Woodward Ave, Ferndale. 248-546-3696. motorcitybears@gmail.com www.Motorcitybears.com

Fourth Annual Sunflow Gardens on Woodward 6 p.m. \$75. Norman Silk and Dale Morgan, Detroit. www. Woodwardavenue.org

Bette Midler 8 p.m. The Palace of

No dance or fitness experience necessary. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for shopping, health checks and fitness demonstrations Zumba party begins at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$10-15 Detroit Zumba All Stars, 2934 Russell St., Detroit. detroitzumbaallstars@gmail.com www Dzas.weebly.com

Saturday, June 13

Fashion With a Twist 7 p.m. Tickets: \$20-25. Papa Weeze, 31440 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. 248-701-2643. www. Papaweeze.org

Stand-Up Fashion 7 p.m. Tickets: \$20-25. Papa Weeze, 31440 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills, 248-701 2643. www.Papaweeze.org

Tuesday, June 16

Alcohol Abuse Weekly Therapy Group A2 TNG (Next Generation of Kinkster) 2 n m The Center for Relationship and 8 p.m. A kink and fetish oriented group Sexual Health. 25600 Woodward Ave.. for younger kinksters. The group focuses Ste. 215, Royal Oak. 248-399-7447. on support, the sharing of information officemar@crsh.com

Editor's Pick



Birmingham's Robert Kidd Gallery has reopened, and with that comes a brand new exhibition for summer. The paintings of Kikuo Saito are celebrations of color and form. Throughout Saito's work, fluid passages in oil are masterfully woven to percussive underlying structures. Within compositions of handsome, highly expressive palettes of color, gestural line and affable brushwork dance together to create a powerful yet elegant

Flint. office@uuflint.org www.Uuflint.

Indigo Girls 8 p.m. Tickets: \$40-50. Ann

St., Ann Arbor. 734-764-2538. www.

Greater Grapid Rapids Pride Festival

The LGBT Network of West Michigan,

Grand Rapids. www.Grlgbt.org

Puttin on the Riz 1 p.m. Tickets:

23 Mile Road, Macomb. www.

2015 LGBT Older Adult Summit 9

a.m. LGBT Older Adult Summit, 3408

\$25-90. The Lois Yeagley & Tami Gleason Memorial Golf Outing, 23650

Arbor Summer Festival, 121 Fletcher

Saturday, June 20

Woodward Ave., Detroit.

Womenoutandabout.net

Indigogirls.com

Japanese-born Kikuo Saito has exhibited his work for over four decades and is represented in many important private, public and corporate collections, both in the United States and abroad. The gallery hosted the exhibition's opening on May 29; the exhibition will run until July 1.

The gallery is located at 107 Townsend St. Birmingham. For more information, call 248-642-3909 or visit www.robertkiddgallery.com.

Auburn Hills, 5 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. 248-377-0100. www. Palacenet.com

balance on the canvas surface.

Friday, June 12

Kalamazoo Pride Including Bianca Del Rio, winner of season 6 of RuPaul's Drag Race. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, Kalamazoo, www Kglrc.org/pride

Dangerous Curves Plus Size Belly Dance Second Annual Convention 4 a.m. The Plus Sized Belly Dancers Dangerous Curves Group on Facebook was founded by Adina Gamal on the principle that plus sized belly dancers of all ages, shapes and sizes should enjoy embracing their inner beauty through dance. The group is made up of a diversified group of performers from all of the world. They enjoy sharing their love, fears, hopes and dreams with each other daily through post using different sources of social media. Detroit Shimmy and Fuse Tribal Belly Dance Magazine, 30559 Flynn Dr., Romulus. 313-288-2007. ms.jeaninewilson@yahoo.com www. Plussizedbellvdancersconvention.com

Detroit's Largest Zumba Fitness Party! 5:30 p.m. Join us for the 4th Detroit Zumba All Stars Fitness party! All ages and abilities are welcome

in the form of demonstrations or discussion groups and socializing. Meets on the third Tuesday of every month. Open to all. A2 TNG, 319 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. CuteSubToy@Yahoo.com www. JimTovCenter.org

Thursday, June 18

All-New Lexus RC and NX Launch Party 5 p.m. Raffle prizes, photos, gift bags, complimentary food truck rally and more. Meade Lexus, 45001 Northpointe Blvd., Utica, www. Facebook com/meadelexus/events

All-New Lexus RC and NX Launch Party 5 p.m. Raffle prizes, photos, gift bags, complimentary food truck rally and more. Meade Lexus, 28300 Northwestern Highway, Southfield. www.Facebook.com/meadelexus/events

Friday, June 19

LGBT Dinner 6:30 p.m. Lansing Association for Human Rights, Lansing. www.Lahronline.org/

Funk and Soul Dance Party 7 p.m. Earth quakin, booty shakin vintage Funk and Soul by DJ Jeremy Westover and MC Jack Mercer.Suggested Donation: \$5. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Flint, 2474 S. Ballenger Highway,

Pizza Dinner & Bowl Off 4 p.m. We invite you and your friends to come have a fun day with the Motor City Bears and at the same time help out a few local charities too. You can join us for dinner and/or bowling. There will be Prizes, a Silent Auction, A 50/50 raffle and desserts. Dinner: \$16, Bowling: \$18, Dinner & Bowling combo \$30. 4 p.m. Meet&Greet. 6 p.m. Dinner. 8 p.m. Bowling. Motor City Bears, 32905 Northwestern Highway, **Farmington Hills.** 248-626-2422. motorcitybears@

Garden Party 6 p.m. Tickets: \$15-20. The Scarab Club, 217 Farnsworth, Detroit. 313-831-1250. www. Scarabclub.org

gmail.com www.Motorcitybears.com

Mitten Mayens versus Bath City Roller Girls 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$12. Lansing Capital Roller Derby , 7868 Old M-78 East Lansing . www.Mittenmavens.net

Loni Love 8 p.m. Tickets: \$15-25. Sound Board 2901 Grand River Ave Detroit. 800-745-3000. www. Motorcitycasino.com

Sunday, June 21

LGBT Parenting Support Group 1 a.m. The purpose of the group is for LGBT families to have a monthly opportunity

to get together to get to know one another and to discuss topics of interest. Free. Organization Name, 318 W. Nine Mile, **Ferndale.** 248-955-3219. info@naturesplayhouse.com www. Naturesplayhouse.com/

Bisexual Peer Group 4 p.m. Our group meets monthly on the third Sunday & discussion relates to bisexual identity. Building is handicap accessible using ramp to rear entrance. Bisexual Peer Group 319 Braun Ct Ann Arbor. paylor9@icloud.com Facebook.com/ groups/110918256984/

Monday, June 22

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

Tuesday, June 23

Saginaw Valley LGBT Pride Awards Banquet Perceptions, 120 Ezra Rust Ave., Saginaw. www.Equalitymi.org

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

The Importance of Being Earnest 7 p.m. Tickets: \$10. Slipstream, 20937 John R. Road, Hazel Park, www Slipstreamti.com

Wednesday, June 24

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 www.lrwg.research.umich. edu/events/exhibitions.html

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. www.Jgnmi.org

Lansing Capital Roller Derby Summer Boot Camp 6:30 p.m. Six week, 12 session Roller Derby basic skills training boot camp. \$60 due day 1 of camp, accepting cash or check. Open to both men and women. Lansing Capital Roller Derby, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. lcrdbootcamp@mittenmavens.net www. Mittenmavens.net/ioin/bootcamp

Music & More

Benefits/Social Events

Musica Hall for the Performing Arts "Cars & Stars" An evening with Jeff Daniels and the Ben Daniels Band. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. June 12. 313-887-8500, www.Musichall.org

Concerts

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

Chene Park Ampitheater "The Gipsy Kings" . Chene Park Ampitheater, 2600 Atwater, Detroit. 8 p.m. June 19. 313-393-7128, www.Cheneparkdetroit.com

Quicken Loans "Free Summer in the Parks" Running through Sept. 2, will be held in: Campus Martius/Cadillac Square, Capitol Park, Grand Circus and Paradise Valley. Four historic parks. Detroit. June 4 - Sep. 2.

Sound Board - Motor City Casino "Chris Botti" Tickets: \$35-50. Sound Board, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. June 12. 800-745-3000. www. Motorcitycasino.com

The Acorn Theater "Women Who Rock!" . The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. June 19. 269-756-3879. www.Acorntheater. com

The Ark "Martha Davis & The Motels" Tickets: \$25. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 19. 734-761-1800. www.Theark.org

The Ark "Concert for Lost Voices" Tickets: \$25-50. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 18. 734-761-1800. www.Theark.org

The Ark "An Evening with Jeff Daniels" Tickets: \$75-250. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. June 14. 734-761-1800. www.Theark.org

The Ark "Hayes Carll" Tickets: \$20. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 20. 734-761-1800. www. Theark.org

The Ark "Bahamas" Tickets: \$18. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 16. 734-761-1800. www. Theark.org

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

The Ark "Drew De Four & Friends" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 11. 734-761-1800. www.Theark.org

The Ark "The Pine Hill Project: Lucy Kaplansky & Richard Shindell" Tickets: \$30. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. June 13. 734-761-1800. www. Theark.org

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

Festivals

Ann Arbor Summer Festival "Ann Arbor Summer Festival" A variety of entertainment, themes and more throughout the festival. Various, Ann Arbor. June 13 - July 5. www.A2sf.org

Film & Video

Cinetopia "Cinetopia International Film Festival" Tickets: \$9-12. Various, Detroit and Ann Arbor. June 4 - June 14. 313-833-7900. www.Cinetopiafestival.org

Shows

Ann Arbor Summer Festival "Golden Dragon Acrobats" Tickets: \$28-46. Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. June 20 -June 21. 734-764-2538. www.A2sf.org

Music Hall "An Evening with Jeff Daniels" Tickets: \$25-75. Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. June 12. 313-887-8500. www.Musichall.org

Sound Board - Motor City Casino

"History's 'American Restoration' w. Rick & Kelly Dale" Tickets: \$20-50. Sound Board, 2901 Grand River Ave., Detroit. 3 p.m. June 14. 800-745-3000. www. Ticketmaster.com

THEATER

Professional

2AZ Michael Brian Ogden's world premiere thriller digs deep into the recesses of our souls to face the monster that may be lurking in all of us. Tickets: \$12-42. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. June 11 - Aug. 29. 734-433-7673. www.purplerosetheatre.org

3 Works By Strindberg Detroit's newest theater company launches its first production with three short plays by the great Swedish writer and painter August Strindberg. Tickets: \$15-18. Detroit Theatre Collective, 1515 Broadway Theatre, 1515 Broadway, Detroit. June 11 - June 17. 313-965-1515.

A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur A lovely summer comedy for all ages written by Tennessee Williams. Tickets: \$20-32. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Through June 28. 248-347-0003. www. tippingpointtheatre.com

Adult Evening of Shel Silverstein The popular children's author takes a very adult look at life. Tickets: Free; for mature audiences only. Summer Circle Theatre, Summer Circle Courtyard, Auditorium Road between the Auditorium Building and the Kresge Art Center on the campus of Michigan State University, East Lansing. June 12 - June 27. 517-355-6690. theatre.msu.edu/sct Bad Jews This dark comedy about family, faith and legacy is filled with hope, inspiration, wit and laughter. 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. Through June 14. 248-788-2900. www.jettheatre. orq

Cabaret Musical theater greats Kander and Ebb take us to the seedy Kit Kat Klub in Berlin, 1929, where a young American writer has just arrived and is immediately taken with Sally Bowles, an English cabaret performer. Tickets: \$26. Riverbank Theatre, 358 S. Water St., Marine City. June 12 - June 28. 810-278-1749. www. riverbanktheatre.com

Clybourne Park A provocative play, both hilarious and appalling, that deals with race, real estate and the volatile state of each. Tickets: \$18-20 in advance; \$2 more at the door. Two Muses Theatre, Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. June 5 - June 21. 248-850-9919. www. twomusestheatre.org

Dbwe' inini A new performance piece by Satori Circus, with all original words, music and visuals. Tickets: \$10. Satori Circus, The Tangent Gallery, 715 E. Mllwaukee, Detroit. June 12 - June 13. 313-873-2955. www.satoricircus.com

Dogfight It's Nov. 21, 1963, and three young marines set out for one final night of debauchery in San Francisco on the eve of their deployment overseas. Tickets: \$32-34; recommended for ages 15 and above. Farmers Alley Theatre, 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo. June 5 - June 21. 269-343-2727. www. farmersalleytheatre.com

Grounded When a top fighter pilot unexpectedly finds that she's pregnant, she is reassigned to operate military drones from a windowless trailer outside Las Vegas. A onewoman show that takes a timely and powerful look at the ethics and costs of fighting wars by remote control. Tickets: \$20, or pay-what-you-can. Theatre Nova, The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron St., Ann Arbor. June 12 - June 28. 734-635-8450. www.theatrenova. org

See Happenings, page 24



Editor's Pick

As part of Motor City Bears' pride events, the group will finish out the month of June with their grand finale: the "Pizza Dinner and Bowl-Off." The event will feature prizes, a silent auction, 50/50 raffle and desserts. Dinner includes up to five slices of pizza, all-you-can-eat salad, pop and a dessert table.

Rob Pierce, Motor City Bears President,

says, "Our planning for these events started in January and this year has more events than any previous year. It is great to be able do this to help out the community. We hope you will help us help them by joining us at our events."

The event begins at 4 p.m. with a "meet & greet" at Langan's Norwest Lanes, 32905 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. Prices start at \$16. Tickets and full details are available at www.motorcitybears.com.



2600 Atwater · Detroit, MI 48207 · 313.393.7128 CheneParkDotroit.com *Licketmaster* All shows are rain or shine. Events subject to change. Prices slightly higher day of show. Lighted and secure parking Chene Park is a City of Detroit, Recreation Dept. facility, managed and operated by Right Productions, Inc.



Editor's Pick

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Puzzle solution on pg. 26 GCLEF OLA ASPS URALS MARY RIGG TINATURNEREVEN S T E P O N I T A B L A Z E S P I N S P A I N O D D E S T B I P L A N E S
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As a part of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival (A2SF 2015), the Golden Dragon Acrobats will perform for a two evening engagement. The Golden Dragon Acrobats hail from Hebei and Henan, China. They captivate audiences with their dazzling acrobatics, traditional dance, brilliant costumes, ancient and contemporary music and spellbinding artistry.

The troupe has toured continuously in the United States since 1978. In 2005, their Broadway debut at the New Victory Theater amazed sold out crowds and they were nominated for two prestigious Drama Desk Awards. As the premiere ambassadors of the centuries-old Chinese acrobatic tradition, they have toured to all 50 states and more than 65 countries. This is breathtaking theatrical entertainment for the whole family.

The Golden Dragon Acrobats will perform at 8 p.m. June 20 and 5 p.m. June 21. Performances will be at the Power Center mainstage in Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$28-46, with a special promotion of 50 percent off two kids tickets purchased with each full priced adult ticket. Visit www.a2sf.org for more information.

► Happenings

Continued from p. 23

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. Tickets: \$5 at the door. Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. Through June 29. 313-365-4948. www.planetant.com

Kolobok A Russian folktale about the adventures of a little butterball named Kolobok, who was baked by an elderly childless couple. Tickets: \$5-10. PuppetART, Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. June 6 - June 27. 313-961-7777. www. puppetart.org

La Traviata A new adaptation of the opera as a platform to address the stigma surrounding mental illness and suicide. Tickets: \$32-62. Arbor Opera Theatre, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 N. University, Ann Arbor. June 11 - June 14. 734-971-2228. www. arboropera.com

Les Miserables Follow the journey of convict Jean Valjean who vows to redeem himself despite the obstacles that arise. Tickets: \$15-30. Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, DeWitt Theatre, 141 E. 12th St., Holland. June 11 - June 30. 616-395-7890. www. hope.edu/hsrt

Love Letters Guest Robert Newman and Barn leading lady Penelope Alex star in the enticing play that tells the story of Andrew Makepeace Ladd III and Melissa Gardner, two affluent East Coasters who meet in the second grade and communicate through letters and postcards over more than 50 years. Tickets: \$37. Barn Theatre, 13351 West M-96, Augusta. June 9 - June 14. 269-731-4121. www.barntheatreschool.com

Mr. Burns, a post electric play In a post-apocalyptic world an episode of "The Simpsons" could be the answer to humanity. Suggested for ages 12 and above. Tickets: Free. Summer Circle Theatre, Summer Circle Courtyard, Auditorium Road between the Auditorium Building and the Kresge Art Center on the campus of Michigan State University, East Lansing. June 10 - June 13. 517-355-6690. theatre. msu.edu/sct

Other Desert Cities The story of a wounded family and the secrets they share. Tickets: \$25-41. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron St., Ann Arbor. June 11 - July 11. 734-663-0681. www.pntheatre.org

Outside Mullingar A delightful new work about how it's never too late to take a chance on love. Tickets: \$15-35. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. Through June 21. 517-655-SHOW. www.williamstontheatre. com

Pippin The story of a young prince on a death-defying journey to find meaning in his existence. Tickets: \$39-95. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. June 9 - June 21. 313-872-1000. www.broadwayindetroit.com

Precious Little The unique story of a woman confronting a personal crisis and the part a gorilla in the zoo and an elderly woman play in offering her comfort. Tickets: \$15-20. Matrix Theatre Company, 2730 Bagley, Detroit. June 11 - June 28. 313-967-0999. www.matrixtheatre.org

South Pacific From the hauntingly beautiful first three notes of "Bali Hai" to the romance of "Some Enchanted Evening," it's no surprise that this Rodgers & Hammerstein favorite is one of the greatest Broadway musicals of all time. Tickets: \$28-32. The Encore Musical Theatre Company, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Through July 3. 734-268-6200. www.theencoretheatre.org

Start Without Me Taken from a series of improvisations over six months with a group of boomers who are not necessarily actors (but who have a lot to say onstage), the result is a hysterical take on modern life and how "people of a certain age" deal with their dilemmas. Tickets: \$10-15. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. June 14 - June 14. 269-756-3879. www. acorntheater.com

The Bikinis, A New Musical Beach Party In 1964, four friends formed a band and won their local talent contest on the Jersey Shore. Now, 35 years later, the girls are back together one more time. Tickets: \$26-41. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, Rochester. Through June 21. 248-377-3300 www.mbtheatre.com

The Importance of Being Earnest

Oscar Wilde's classic tale features an all-male cast and is set in the Deep South (Atlanta and Willacoochie, to be exact), where it takes you on a thrill ride of side splitting laughter and a journey from the city to the country quite literally. Tickets: \$10 in advance only. Slipstream Theatre Initiative, Slipstream's Summer Home, 20937 John R., Hazel Park. June 14 - July 7. www.slipstreamtic.com

The Tail of Peter Rabbit Beatrix Potter's old tale/tail gets a makeover. Tickets: Free; for all ages. Summer Circle Theatre, Summer Circle Courtyard, Auditorium Road between the Auditorium Building and the Kresge Art Center on the campus of Michigan State University, East Lansing. June 12 - June 27. 517-355-6690. theatre. msu.edu/sct

White Ash Falling 9/11 Three actors prepare for an off-Broadway production about the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Tickets: \$17-20. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Through June 28. 313-868-1347. www.detroitreptheatre.com

ART 'N' AROUND

N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art " Susan Aaron-Taylor: Journeying". N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, 52 E. Forest, Detroit, June 12 - Aug. 22.

Detroit Artists Market (DAM) "The Essential Self: Meditations on the Politics of Identity". 4719 Woodward Ave., Detroit. June 12 - July 18. 313-832-8540. www.

Detroitartistsmarket.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. www.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. www. 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. www.Mocadetroit.org

N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art "Sam Gilliam: Prints" . N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, 52 E. Forest, Detroit. June 12 - Aug. 22.

N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art "Gregory Coates: Minutes" . N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art, 52 E. Forest, Detroit. June 12 - Aug. 23.

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. www.Artattheedge.com

Riverside Arts Center Gallery "Light, Bronze and Pigment". Riverside Arts Center, 76 North Huron Street, Ypsilanti. June 4 - June 27. 734-483-7345. www. Riversidearts.org

robert kidd gallery "Kikuo Saito". robert kidd gallery, 107 Townsend St., Birmingham. May 29 - July 1. 248-642-3909. www.Robertkiddgallery.com

Royal Oak "Clay, Glass & Metal Show" One of the country's top art shows, the event features 125+ of the finest artists in clay, glass and metal work, who are selected by a jury process. The event also includes demonstrations and some specialty food choices. Downtown Royal Oak, Royal Oak. June 14 - June 14. www.Cl.royal-oak.mi.us

The Friends of Modern Art "Flint Art Fair" . Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. June 21 - June 21. 810-234-1695. www.Flintartfair.org

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

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

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. www.Umma.umich.edu

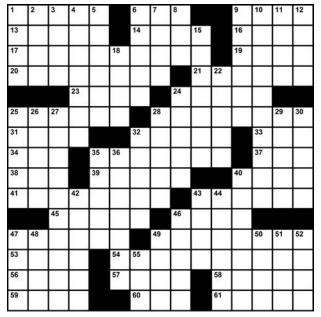
UMMA "Flip Your Field: Objects from the Collection" An exhibition from the Museum's collection of three-dimensional objects. University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Jan. 24 - July 19. 734-763-4186. www.Umma.umich.edu

University of Michigan, Inst. for Research on Women and Gender "Reimaging 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. www.lrwg. research.umich.edu/events/exhibitions. html



www.PrideSource.com

Favorite Gay Things About Mad Max



Across

1 Staff leader for Copland? 6 Plug extension 9 Egyptian vipers 13 Eurasian range 14 Diana of "The Avengers"

16 Madonna, in a creche

17 She plays Aunty Entity in "Mad Max' 19 Like every other number 20 "Move your ass!" 21 Like a flaming queen? 23 Washer cycle 24 "The rain in 25 Most queer

28 Vehicles that swing both ways? 31 Piecrust ingredient 32 It arouses soldiers in bed 33 Lizzie Borden used one 34 Rubber-stamped 35 Material worn by _Mad Max_ cops 37 Vardalos of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" 38 Actress Charlotte 39 Secretes nocturnally 40 "To Kill a Mockingbird" character 41 Stocking materials for queens? 43 High points 45 Dens of bears 46 Farm fare 47 Ruler with a vagina 49 Place for a fruit dessert 53 Skin moisturizer 54 Minimalist clothing worn in "Mad Max' 56 Position to fill 57 Fender nick 58 Oral performances 59 Lamarr of "Samson and Delilah" 60 Writer Harper 61 Back to the present

Down

- 1 Balls
- 2 Lit 3 Nathan of "The Producers"
- 4 Rolled by
- 5 Lens settings for Mapplethorpe
- 6 Utah's Hatch
- 7 Navel fetish accessory?
- 8 Tree rings indication
- 9 Aviator Earhart

"Mad Max" 11 Honest Abe, for one 12 Auld land 15 Fight hand-to-hand 18 Hand, when measuring a stallion 22 Cotton compressor 24 Love-making sounds 25 Prayer start at Metropolitan **Community Church** 26 Senegal's capital 27 Magistrate of Bartertown in "Mad Max' 28 Top targets 29 Send to Siberia 30 Elite divers 32 Attempts to seduce 35 Pinko's hero 36 City hue in Oz 40 Disapprove of 42 Homosexuality? 43 Obi-Wan player 44 Tulip tree, e.g. 46 Barely burn 47 Possible STD symptom 48 Woods of "Legally Blonde' 49 Box material in "Six Feet Under" 50 "Take a crack 51 Adverb for seamen 52 Canadian oil company 55 Lubricant

10 Leader of a tribe of children in





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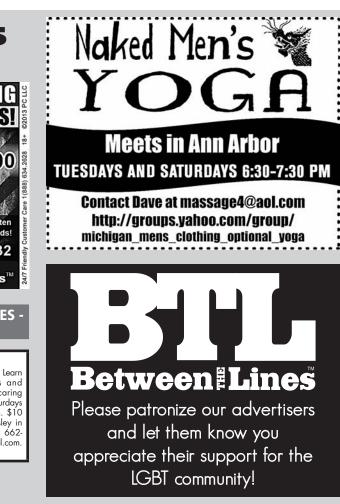


FIERCELY MILITANT ABOUT

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Solution on pg. 22



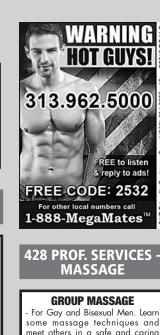
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