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**Clinton Promises,
Biden Beckons**

**Who Did The Pope Really
Meet With Last Week?**

**Classic Madonna
Moments From Her
'Rebel Heart Tour'**



- PG. 21



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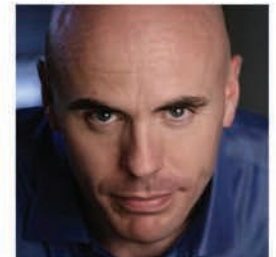
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“ I want you to know that I get it. I see the injustices and the dangers that you and your families still face. And I'm running for president to end them once and for all. ”

-Hillary Clinton
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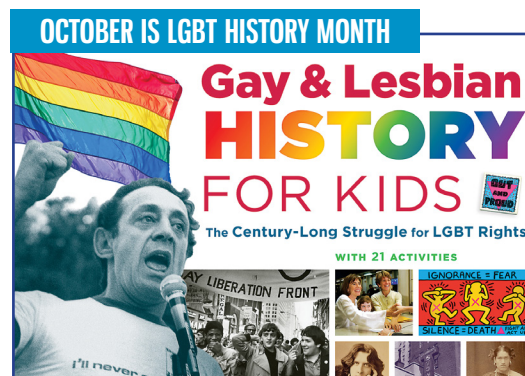


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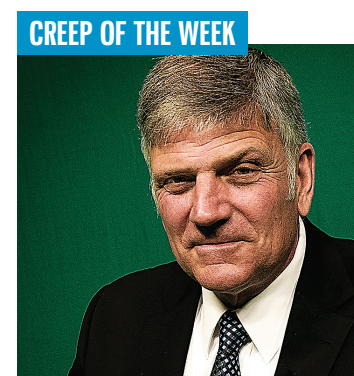
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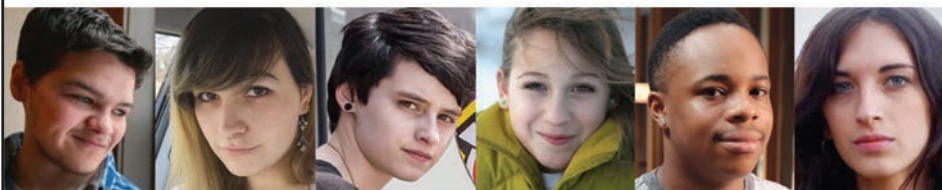
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BRIEFS

Michigan Receives Funds To Assist Providers, Increase Awareness Of PrEP

Michigan has received funds to expand awareness of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis.

A new \$475,000 grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was given to help increase PrEP awareness in Wayne County over the next three years where populations most at risk for HIV is highest, particularly among men who have sex with men and the transgender community.

As of January 2014, there were 7,041 persons living with HIV and approximately 380 new HIV infections each year in Wayne County.

“A single pill taken consistently every day is highly effective in reducing the risk of acquiring HIV when taken as prescribed,” said Dr. Eden Wells, chief medical executive for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. “This has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration and shown to be effective in preventing the transmission of HIV in adults.”

PrEP is a prevention tool in the effort to reduce the number of new HIV cases and improve the health of Michigan residents. The CDC dedicated funding will allow MDHHS to develop the necessary tools and educational campaigns to reach those persons who will benefit from PrEP. Prior to this funding, MDHHS supported PrEP by sharing CDC guidance to providers and publishing a list of physicians who prescribed PrEP in Michigan.

Awareness and educational efforts will focus on reaching residents at risk as well as HIV test counselors, disease intervention specialists, health department staff and providers. The tools, including a risk assessment and readiness assessment, will look at common factors to ensure that PrEP is successful in preventing new HIV infections in Wayne County. The educational campaign focuses on persons who are at a higher risk for HIV and will provide education and information about PrEP and resources in the community.

For more information about PrEP or to view the statewide directory of PrEP providers, visit www.michigan.gov/hivstd.

Survey Calls For Allies Of LGBT Community

A new study is calling for allies of the LGBT community to shed light on their experience in the current fight for LGBT equality.

Kate Caddy, PsyS, M.A., TLLP

and doctoral candidate researcher at the Michigan School of Professional Psychology, is calling for LGBT allies to participate in an extended interview in the hope that increased understanding will lead to growing and strengthening the ally base in current and future social justice movements.

All participants must be 25 years or older, be a visible active member of the LGBT ally community for a period of no less than three years and be able to reflect upon and articulate the lived experience of being an out LGBT ally.

The interview could last up to two hours.

In the past, Caddy has worked as a psychotherapist for Affirmations and Ruth Ellis Center. She is a certified addictions counselor and received her masters in clinical psychology from the Michigan School of Professional Psychology.

To qualify for the survey, contact Caddy at kcaddy@missp.edu.

Community Education And Training On Services For Transgender Youth

BY AJ TRAGER

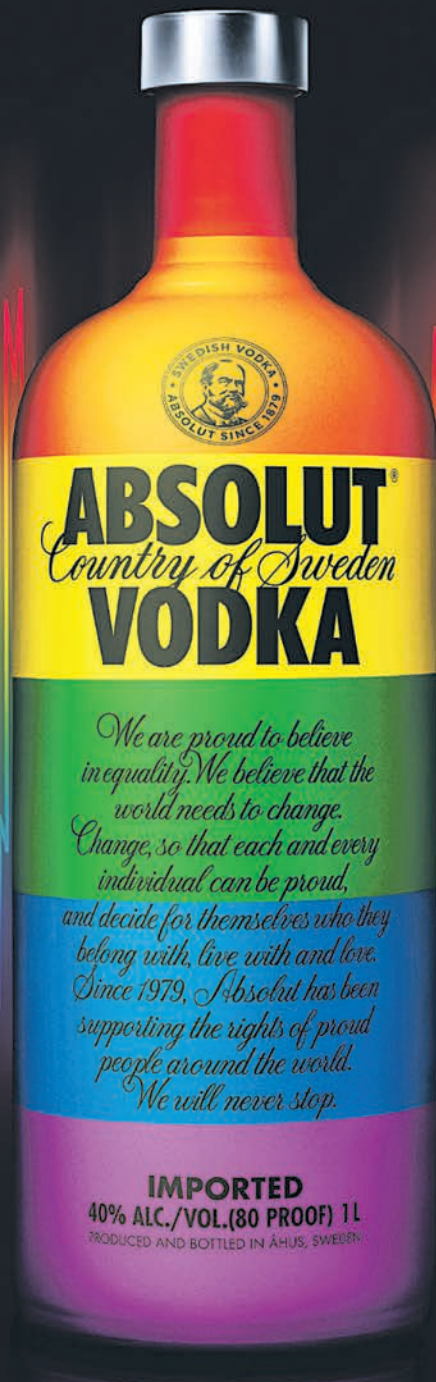
ANN ARBOR – In collaboration with the Washtenaw Community Medical Society, Corner Health Center of Ann Arbor will present a two-hour seminar Oct. 15 on how to better provide care for the growing number of trans youth and young adults in Washtenaw County.

The seminar will discuss current statistics and the state of trans care in Michigan and will look at how healthcare providers can provide better services for trans men and women. Director of the Corner Health Center, Dr. Kathryn Fessler, will give the keynote address. Discussion will be followed by a Q&A.

Corner Health Center requested a partnership with WCMS earlier in the year to discuss trans-related care in Washtenaw County. The center is committed to helping young people make healthy choices now and in the future by providing high-quality primary health care, education and support for adolescents and their children with regard to income level. The Corner serves youth and young adults ages 12-25 and their children and has physicians working across Washtenaw County at St. Joseph Mercy or the University of Michigan Health System.

The seminar will be held at Ann Arbor City Club and is free and open to the public. Doors open at 8 a.m. A continental breakfast will be provided. Ann Arbor City Club is located at 1830 Washtenaw Ave.

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Clinton Promises, Biden Beckons

BY LISA KEEN



Judith K. Butler

Lecture Examines Ethics, Politics Of Non-violence

The philosophy of non-violence is the focus of Oakland University's fall 2015 Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society. Featured speaker Judith K. Butler will present her talk, "The Ethics and Politics of Nonviolence," at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 8 in Oakland University Banquet Rooms A and B. The lecture addresses the question of whether individuals can agree on a clear distinction between violence and non-violence and, if not, what accounts for this disagreement?

Dr. Butler is Maxine Elliott Professor in the Department of Comparative Literature and the program of Critical Theory at the University of California-Berkeley. Her many books include "Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity," considered a landmark work in gender theory, "Frames of War: When is Life Grievable?" and "Notes Toward a Performative Theory of Assembly."

A recipient of many fellowships and honorary degrees, Dr. Butler has earned the Andrew Mellon Award for Distinguished Academic Achievement in the Humanities; the Adorno Prize from the City of Frankfurt in honor of her contributions to feminist and moral philosophy; and the Brudner Prize from Yale University for lifetime achievement in gay and lesbian studies. In 2014, she was awarded the diploma of Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters from the French Cultural Ministry.

Richard J. Burke, Ph.D., was the first faculty member hired at Oakland and taught at the university for 46 years. He established an endowment for the annual Richard J. Burke Lecture Series in Philosophy, Religion and Society, which has brought prominent social philosophers to campus, including Daniel Dennett, Peter Singer and Richard Falk. For more information on the Richard J. Burke Lecture series, visit oakland.edu/phil/burkelecture.

Admission is free, but reservations are requested. To reserve a space, contact Ann Zimmerman at 248-370-3390 or zimmerm2@oakland.edu.

WASHINGTON – Just 10 days before the first televised debate among the 2016 Democratic presidential candidates, Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden elicited enthusiastic cheers Saturday as they addressed two separate Human Rights Campaign events in Washington, D.C. It was an important opportunity for both to lay out their credentials and proposals to the national LGBT community, and the speeches illustrated some important contrasts between them.

Vice President Biden has not yet announced whether he intends to enter the race for the Democratic nomination for president in 2016, and his speech to the HRC National Dinner Saturday night gave no indication he's revving up for such a run. The address consisted mostly of anecdotes that he's shared at many previous HRC events and – except for a clear endorsement of the recently introduced Equality Act – was more a look back at accomplishments than forward to future intentions.

Former Secretary of State Clinton focused on specific things she would do for LGBT Americans "as president," making a number of important promises and carefully couching others. She also eschewed her usual quick departure following her speech and waded into the friendly fray, shaking hands and posing for photos with the large crowd gathered from various HRC boards and major HRC donors.

When a lone audience member at HRC's cavernous black tie sit-down banquet yelled out "Run, Joe, Run" as Biden was about to explain what "a number of you have said to me over the last three to four years," Biden quickly replied, "No, didn't say that," then looked down at the podium and grinned as the crowd sat mostly quiet. "Oh, anyway ... what was I saying?" The audience then erupted into applause.

Clinton's appearance, at 10 a.m. Saturday, drew more of a rousing campaign-like response from an already standing assembly of HRC organizational stalwarts, chanting "Hill-a-ry, Hill-a-ry." Out of the jam-packed room, Clinton found and pointed to Supreme Court plaintiffs Jim Obergefell and Edie Windsor. And, in subtle ways, she addressed what are likely to be her weaknesses in soliciting LGBT support for her campaign if she finds herself in a tough contest with Biden or with the popular progressive candidate, U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont.

"You've helped change a lot of minds, including mine," said Clinton, "and I'm personally very grateful for that." It was a reference to the oft-cited criticism that Clinton did not support marriage equality until after a majority of the American public was already polling its support for it.



Biden said he believes the remaining work for the LGBT movement "will come much more quickly and more surely." And while he said he "strongly supports" the Equality Act, he did not promise he would push for it but rather that "it will pass."

Acknowledging that there are still young LGBT people "terrified of being rejected by the world" around them, Clinton said she knows "we still have work to do."

"Our work isn't finished until every single person is treated with equal rights and dignity they deserve," said Clinton. "...I want you to know that I get it. I see the injustices and the dangers that you and your families still face. And I'm running for president to end them once and for all."

The HRC gathering responded with

prolonged and thunderous applause to that line and one that quickly followed: "I'm running for president to stand up for the fundamental rights of LGBT Americans and all Americans. That's a promise, from one HRC to another."

"Congress must pass the federal Equality Act," said Clinton, later. "As president, I will fight for it and I hope many of you will be with me when I sign it into law."

Regarding the service of transgender people in the military, Biden stated that "transgender people are able to serve," thanks to a directive from Defense Secretary Ash Carter. Clinton more accurately noted that transgender people "are still banned from serving" unless they remain closeted, and she stated her support for "the policy review" Carter directed, adding that she "hopes" transgender people will be

allowed to serve openly.

There were similarities in both speeches. Both emphasized the role of all individual LGBT Americans in reaching today's greater acceptance of marriage equality and non-discrimination. Both acknowledged that, even though the law now enables same-sex couples to be married in any state, it is still legal in most states to discriminate based on sexual orientation or gender identity in employment, housing and public accommodations. Both

“Our work isn't finished until every single person is treated with equal rights and dignity they deserve ... I want you to know that I get it. I see the injustices and the dangers that you and your families still face. And I'm running for president to end them once and for all.”

- Hillary Clinton

urged that LGBT Americans stand up for the rights of LGBT people around the world.

And both took swipes at the current field of Republican presidential hopefuls. Biden got one of the biggest applause lines of the day when he said, “There are homophobes still left – most of them are running for president.” Referring to the “ridiculousness” of the GOP candidates, Clinton noted that Ben Carson said marriage equality “was the cause of the fall of the Roman Empire.”

“If any one of them, heaven forbid, were ever to be elected president, they will do their best to enact policies that will threaten you and your families,” said Clinton. “Every single Republican candidate for president is against marriage equality – every one of them. Many of them are against anti-discrimination laws. Many are against same-sex couples adopting ... If you are ever in a forum with them, see if you can get them to even say the word ‘transgender.’”

Clinton Ahead In Polls

Most recent national polls show Clinton has a clear advantage over other Democrats to win the nomination. The latest poll, conducted by USA Today, found 41 percent of 430 “likely” Democratic primary and caucus voters said they would vote for Clinton, 23 percent for Sanders, 20 percent for Biden. A similar poll by the Pew Research Center found Clinton with even stronger support from “potential Democratic primary voters nationwide.” (Clinton 45, Sanders 24, Biden 8.)

But the latest NBC/Wall Street Journal polls testing individual Democratic-Republican match-ups show only Biden would, at this

point, beat all four Republican frontrunners (Donald Trump, Ben Carson, Carly Fiorina and Jeb Bush). Clinton and Sanders would beat only Trump.

Biden is not likely to jump into the Oct. 13 Democratic presidential debate unprepared, and he still has until November to meet deadlines to participate in the key first caucuses and primaries.

While debate participants may, like their Republican counterparts, be asked one or two LGBT-related questions, Clinton's speech was an especially important opportunity for her to lay out positions on a wide range of issues of specific concern to LGBT voters. Candidates have the luxury in the primary season to play to the party's base – which, for Democrats, is a progressive and liberal one. But they must also be careful not to promise so much that they hobble their campaign to a more moderate general electorate, should they win the nomination. For the most part, Clinton seemed

unabashed about putting herself on record, even ahead of the nationally televised debate, in support of LGBT Americans on most issues. But she did seem to be choosing her words very carefully with regard to allowing gays to adopt.

Calling discrimination against LGBT people in adoption “one of the cruelest vestiges of anti-gay bigotry,” Clinton said that, “as president, I would push to cut off federal funding for any public child welfare agency that discriminates against LGBT people.”

Most discrimination against allowing LGBT people to adopt is being conducted not by “public agencies” but, by Catholic Charities and other private, religious-based organizations. On another matter where religious-based discrimination has played out, however, Clinton has made clear that she believes Kentucky county clerk Kim Davis has a legal duty to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples even though Davis claims an “authority from God” prevents her from doing so. And Clinton promised, in her speech Saturday, that she would not be the sort of politician who is “courting your support at election time, and then disappearing as if your lives and your rights are just a political bargaining chip.”

“Those who know me know that's not me,” said Clinton. “I've been fighting alongside you and others for equal rights and I'm just getting warmed up.”

“Your families matter to me and you matter to me,” said Clinton, closing her 25-minute speech. “I'm going to keep, as I have throughout my life, fighting for you, your rights, your children, your futures ... And I am proud to be fighting right alongside you.”

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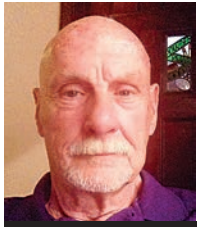
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Not Our Hillary, Too! Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Ah, the forbidden, secret pleasure of enjoying the sudden – or, the prolonged – misfortune or misery of others.

The Germans – some of whom were experts at creating both intolerable conditions on a worldwide scale – invented a word for it. Schadenfreude. “Harm Pleasure.”

Kim Davis pregnant with mixed-media quintuplets? Wow! Serves the – you fill in the blank – right! The pope’s return flight delayed for 16 hours because of toilet clogs? Where’s God when you need him?

Drop into any drugstore, supermarket, megachurch, and you’ll discover to your secret pleasure, your addictive fascination, your pretended temporary alarm – or, your all three – an array of tabloids profiting, five-bucks-a-copy, from American induced Schadenfreude.

October kicks off with headlines from these carved tabloid-toxic pumpkins: National Enquirer (“Cosby Had Son Murdered”); and the National Examiner (“Secrets of the Brady Bunch! Sex, drugs and on-set romps”).

Source references for what’s suggestive of her same-sex orientation date back to when she was a student at Wellesley, a women’s liberal arts college, late 1960s. Blame those damned top-secret emails while she was Secretary of State to out Hillary.

Globe – Gentle PG reader, brace yourself – “World Exclusive: Hillary Confesses: I’m A Lesbian.” Oh, God, is nothing sacred?

Fame is indeed fleeting. How many under age 35 know about, or care to schadenfreude over, snoopy details: “Mickey Rooney’s Shocking Affair with Liz Taylor” (Mickey, who?); “Natalie Wood: Drugged Before She Went Overboard” (Wasn’t she married to Robert somebody-or-other?)

Privately I draw the dotted line about my own queenly touch of schadenfreude. It’s too close for comfort when stepping on to the down escalator to think about geriatric pictures of Gene Wilder (“Months to Live”); Doris Day (“Plans Her Funeral”); Liam Neeson (“Cancer Fears”); Robert Conrad (“Fading Fast”); Sean Connery (“6 Months to Live!”)

But enough of the schaden. Let’s cut to the Freude. (The reason you’ve all read this far in my Great Tabloid Pulp Pumpkin PG column.) Globe’s World Exclusive take on Hillary. Sub-headlined: “Secret emails reveal her lover ... PLUS: Midnight calls to Ellen!”

The cover story explodes, “After 40 years in a sham marriage, Hillary Clinton has confessed, ‘I am a lesbian.’”

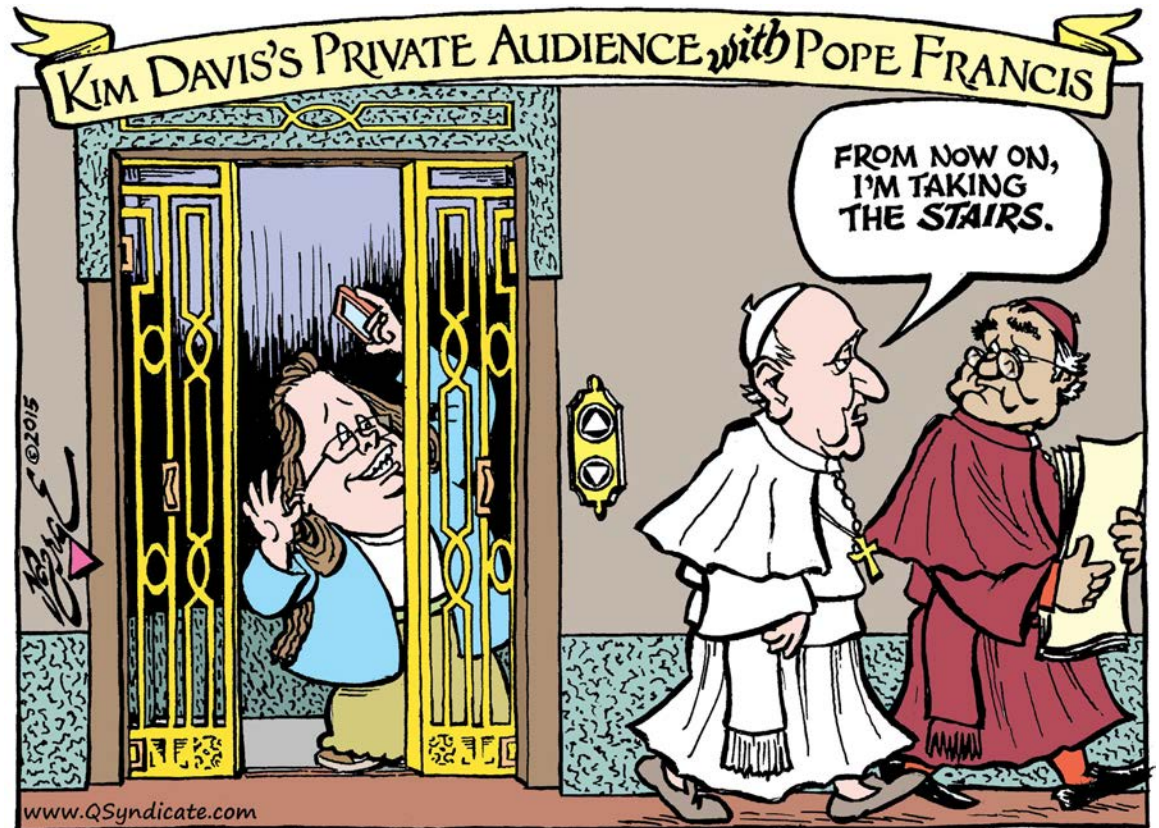
Source references for what’s suggestive of her same-sex orientation date back to when she was a student at Wellesley, a women’s liberal arts college, late 1960s. Blame those damned top-secret emails while she was Secretary of State to out Hillary.

According to an unnamed source who talked to one of Hillary’s unnamed senior advisors, more than 600 of those electronic messages are to an unnamed woman who goes by the pseudonym of “Alice.”

The Globe expose claims the emails are very sexual, very intimate and make it abundantly clear that both Hillary and ‘Alice’ are, well, you know, lesbians.

Hillary allegedly will uncloset herself soon on Ellen’s TV show, preventing Donald Trump “itching to expose her” from jumping the gun with the news and blowing his cool with it.

Charles@pridesource.com



BY GWENDOLYN ANN SMITH

Transmissions

Stonewalled

I’m not saying that you need a Roman emperor to film a story about Nero, but if you cannot see a story to tell without having to impose your gender or race on it, perhaps you are not the right person to tell this story.

Director Roland Emmerich has released his latest disaster movie. This time, though, rather than space aliens blowing up American landmarks, or a freak ice age freezing American landmarks, or even Godzilla entangling himself in American landmarks, it’s the movie itself that ends up the disaster.

Emmerich’s stab at making a film about the Stonewall rebellion will be long remembered on every web-based listicle as one of the worst attempts at making a historical re-creation, up there with Lifetime’s “Liz & Dick” biopic or Oliver Stone’s horrid “Alexander.”

The film was panned practically from the day it was announced, as people wondered why a man best known for blockbuster disaster porn would be doing a film about Stonewall. It wasn’t until the first trailer came out, however, that people could really see how bad things could be.

For nearly as long as the riot itself, there has been

a debate as to who in the community “owns” what happened at that bar in Greenwich Village. The Stonewall rebellion became a pivotal moment of the Gay Liberation movement of the 1970s, which included the whitewashing of transwomen of color – amongst others – from the narrative.

Over the last decade, the history of Stonewall has become much more inclusive, recognizing the importance of people such as Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, Stormé DeLarverie, and others who were a part of the riot.

Enter Roland Emmerich. Seemingly unsatisfied to tell a story centering on the heroes who were there, he feels the need to cut an imaginary protagonist out of whole cloth. His stonewall hero is a young, attractive, Caucasian man who is intentionally in contrast to the

See Transmissions, next page

► Transmissions: Stonewalled

Continued from p. 8

others he has cast.

Danny Winters – who appears to have walked off the set of a “Rebel Without A Cause” remake only to find himself in a casting call for an off-Broadway production of “Hair” – is the typical “farm boy from Indiana who hopped a bus to the big city.” It’s a trope large enough that another character alludes to it. That character is “Ray/Ramona,” a character who is credited second on the bill and yet still doesn’t manage to have a last name.

The film is little more than a coming of age tale for Danny Winters, set against a backdrop of the riot, with the character even being handed the first brick to throw. The film itself is awkward and does little to actually provide a real sense of the importance of that moment.

Emmerich defended his film from critics of the trailer. In an interview by Shannon Keating of BuzzFeed, Emmerich seemed surprised by the reaction. “When (criticism) happened it wasn’t about the film, it was about the trailer,” he said. “And I thought, ‘That’s not right.’”

But the trailer really was a good example of what the movie would be, with the oh-so-white and heteronormative Danny Winters serving as some sort of savior for the trans, queer, people of color surrounding him on a set that resembles Christopher Street.

In response to the critics, Emmerich has this to say: “You have to understand one thing: I didn’t make this movie only for gay people, I made it also for straight people,” he said. “I kind of found out, in the testing process, that actually, for straight people, (Danny Winters) is a very easy in. Danny’s very straight-acting.”

He also said, “As a director you have to put yourself in your movies, and I’m white and gay.”

And there’s the big problem.

I’m not saying that you need a Roman emperor to film a story about Nero, but if you cannot see a story to tell without having to impose your gender or race on it, perhaps

you are not the right person to tell this story. If you have to whitewash a story in order to try and fit it into a demographic that will likely not be interested in a story unless you do so, then there’s a very good chance they won’t come at all regardless.

For decades, movies about transgender people have featured actors and actresses chosen from a heteronormative viewpoint.

John Hansen portrayed Christine Jorgensen in 1970, Hilary Swank very nicely played Brandon Teena in “Boys Don’t Cry,” and later this year we’ll get to see Eddie Redmayne as Lili Elbe. These and many others give us a mixed bag of good and not-so-good portrayals, but where are the transgender actors and actresses? Why must transgender people so often be portrayed by members of their birth genders, rather than by those of their own hard-won ones?

Not only this, but where are the movies about transgender people of color? Why isn’t there a film about Marsha P. Johnson being released by a major studio, or a big budget biopic on Miss Major Griffin-Gracy? There are some great community-funded ones on both in the works, but in the era where “Straight Outta Compton” can break the box office, why must we endure the Stonewall mess?

Oh, and let’s speak about the box office for a moment. Emmerich’s film isn’t a “disaster flick” simply for bad story telling, but for its first week’s receipts. The film cost an estimated \$17 million to create, yet it’s first weekend brought in an embarrassing \$122,414. Even “Ishtar,” a film that is practically synonymous with bad movie making, made \$4.2 million and opened at #1.

So perhaps this film can help us turn a corner. Much like Emmerich attempted, let me say that this has united both straight, white males and trans people of color. It’s not “straight enough” nor is it “queer enough.”

Now, let’s see a real story about Stonewall, and send Danny Winters packing.

Gwen Smith will now be waiting for Michael Bay’s “Compton’s Cafeteria” movie. You’ll find her on Twitter at @gwenners.



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Equality Michigan is working with state legislators to update the Ethnic Intimidation Act to include proper protections for the gay and transgender community.

To get involved in the movement for better hate crimes law, contact policy@equalitymi.org.

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Local Org Calls For LGBT Focus On Michigan Education Survey

BY AJ TRAGER

The Michigan Organization On Adolescent Sexual Health is calling for Michigan residents to fill out a recent Michigan Department of Education survey with LGBTQ youth in mind.

The State Superintendent and the State Board of Education say they are committed to making Michigan a “Top Ten” education performing state over the next 10 years and are asking residents to complete a quick comment-based survey by Nov. 1 on how Michigan can amend its policies to reach that goal.

In response to this outreach initiative, MOASH circulated an online mailing calling for survey participants to bring awareness to the statewide need for LGBT inclusive school curricula, implementation of enumerated statewide anti-bullying and anti-discrimination policies pertaining to LGBT youth, and doing away with zero tolerance policies.

“We felt it was critical to address LGBT students in this mailing because, as we have been delving more into this issue with recent projects, it has become overwhelmingly apparent that this is a population of students that often times face additional barriers to education due to school climate (e.g., victimization and harassment) and, because of these barriers, are significantly more likely to not attend school or engage in behaviors that would affect their health and, thereby, their ability to learn (e.g., risky sexual behaviors, substance use, consider or attempt suicide),” Outreach Coordinator for MOASH Taryn Gal wrote to BTL in an email.

The MDE survey asks about specific areas of improvement including what goals Michigan should focus on, what are the current policies that get in the way of that goal and what polices are needed to expedite the progress towards the goal.

According to a Michigan Department of Education 2013 study, “Sexual Minority Youth More Likely To Experience Multiple Risks,” 6 percent of Michigan high school students have engaged in same-sex behavior. That 6 percent of youth are two and half times more likely to have been bullied, five times more likely to attempt suicide and nearly five times more likely to use injection drugs in comparison to youth who have

only engaged in opposite-sex behavior. These students are at high risk for being targets of violence and bullying and have disproportionately high rates of unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, depression and substance abuse.

“It is abundantly clear that by making all curricula more LGBT inclusive, all students benefit. Inclusive school environments create a safer, affirming and more supportive climate. For the same reasons that greater acceptance of all kinds of diversity benefits all students, faculty and the greater school community, LGBTQ inclusive curricula has been shown to foster a culture of acceptance where all students, many with intersecting identities, are healthier and more able to learn,” Gal said.

The average LGBT youth hears 26 anti-LGBT slurs per day, with a third of them originating from an administrative staff member. What can Michigan do to prevent the further harm of its LGBT youth?

MOASH would like to see all schools include relevant LGBT content to all subjects about contributions LGBT people have made to history and culture; have Michigan implement enumerated statewide anti-bullying and anti-discrimination policies pertaining to LGBT students; and to do away with zero tolerance policies in the state which are often used to set the “stage for student disenfranchisement, academic failure, dropout and the potential for criminalization,” which LGBT youth are disproportionately affected by.

MOASH is currently working with Ann Arbor Public Schools’ Sexual Health Education Advisory Committee, Ann Arbor’s Sex Ed Advisory Board and the Michigan Department of Education’s Sexual Health Initiative for Transformation AAPS District Leadership Team to develop a toolkit similar to the LGBTQ Youth Inclusivity Toolkit for Michigan Health Teachers that is applicable to all lessons and courses, not just sexual health education.

The LGBTQ Youth Inclusivity Toolkit for Michigan Health Teachers provides strategies and resources recommended for making sexual health education lessons more inclusive to LGBT youth.

Fill out the survey at <http://1.usa.gov/1PVVvz4>

Equality Michigan Appoints New Board Members

Jim Murray Seen As Controversial Appointment As Announcement Of New Executive Director Expected

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Equality Michigan, the statewide LGBT organization, has announced four new board members. But one of those appointments is raising eyebrows.

Jim Murray, president of AT&T Michigan, was at the center of a firestorm of controversy last year as the GOP dominated Legislature tried to move on amending the state’s civil rights law, Elliott-Larsen. Advocates, including Equality Michigan, ACLU of Michigan and HRC, were all pushing for passage of a fully inclusive amendment that would encompass both sexual orientation and gender identity. However, working hand in hand with the GOP, Murray supported jettisoning gender identity for a partial compromise bill.

At the time, Murray was co-chair of the Competitive Workforce Coalition. That group was a project of the ACLU and included leaders from major corporations throughout the state. Murray supported the non-inclusive bill, drawing the ire of activists and a rebuke from AT&T national which released a statement that it would only support a fully inclusive amendment to Elliott-Larsen.

At the time, Murray made an analogy to MLive that those who were working for the law were similar to a hungry person.

“If I’m hungry, a half a pizza still looks pretty good,” he said. “I’m going to fight for whatever I can get, whatever that means.”

The legislation – both the

Jim Murray quit working with the Legislature and the workforce group last fall, condemning the “abuse” he endured. Equality Michigan launched a campaign targeting him called dropthecall.com. He now has a seat on the board of directors.

fully inclusive measure and the trans-exclusive measure – failed to come up for vote in the state House during the lame duck session last November. Murray quit working with the Legislature and the workforce group, condemning the “abuse” he endured. Equality Michigan launched a campaign targeting him called dropthecall.com.

Murray’s cohort in pushing the “half a pizza” measure was Speaker Jase Bolger, a Marshall Republican. Bolger was term limited out of office in January 2015. But he told MIRS, a subscription based newsletter covering the state capitol, that he supported Murray’s appointment to Equality Michigan.

Bolger said Murray would bring a “common sense approach” to the board that also “brings respect to treat all people fairly. I hope they’ll listen. Human rights and constitutional protections should not be about pitting one group against another. It should be about respecting and protecting the rights of all.”

Bill Greene, interim executive director of the agency, said Murray’s appointment came about after he met with Murray.

“I approached him. I contacted him,” Greene said

Tuesday by phone. “I was told he was one of the people I needed to meet because of his knowledge of the workings of Lansing.”

Those conversations ultimately led to the board inviting Murray to join. Greene said he was unclear what the conversations with the board looked like.

But MIRS interviewed Equality Michigan Board Member Chuck Otis last week. Otis told the newsletter there were “mixed thoughts” about appointing Murray, but that his talents shouldn’t be lost.

“We’re not always going to agree on tactics, and it’s foolish to lose somebody with Jim’s skill because somebody disagreed with an approach somebody took,” Otis said.

Others appointed to the Equality Michigan board include Mira Krishnan, director of the Center for Autism at Hope Network; S. Kerene Moore, a lawyer with Legal Services of South Central Michigan; and Michael Rowady, the managing attorney of a Southfield law firm.

An announcement is expected shortly about a new executive director.

Vatican Upends Davis Affair With News Of Audience With Gays

VATICAN CITY (AP) – The Vatican turned the tables Friday on the pope’s meeting with Kim Davis: Not only did it distance the pontiff from her claims that he endorsed her stand on same-sex marriage, it said the only “real audience” Francis had in Washington was with a small group that included a gay couple.

The revelations, doled out during the course of the day, put a new twist on Pope Francis’ encounter with Davis after she and her lawyers insisted that her invitation to meet the pope on Sept. 24 amounted to an affirmation of her cause.

The Davis case has sharply divided the United States, and news of Francis’ meeting with the Kentucky clerk, who went to jail after refusing to issue same-sex marriage licenses, had upended his six-day U.S. tour. During the visit, Francis had tried to steer clear of such hot-button issues, only to see the Davis affair dominate the post-trip news cycle.

The Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, sought to give the Vatican’s take of events in a statement early Friday, saying Francis had met with “several dozen” people at the Vatican’s embassy before leaving Washington for New York.

Davis was among them and had a “brief meeting,” he said. Lombardi said such meetings are common during papal trips and are due to the pope’s “kindness and availability.”

“The pope did not enter into the details of the situation of Mrs. Davis, and his meeting with her should not be considered a form of support of her position in all of its particular and complex aspects,” Lombardi said.

“The only real audience granted by the pope at the nunciature was with one of his former students and his family,” Lombardi added.

The man, Yayo Grassi, was later identified by The New York Times and CNN as an openly gay Argentine caterer who lives in Washington. In a video posted online, Grassi is shown entering the Vatican’s embassy, embracing his former teacher and introducing Francis to his longtime partner, whom Francis recognized from a previous meeting, as well as an elderly Argentine woman and a few friends from Asia.

Lombardi later confirmed that Grassi had “asked to present his mother and several friends to the pope during the pope’s stay in Washington.”

“As noted in the past, the pope as pastor has maintained many personal relationships with people in a spirit of kindness, welcome and dialogue,” Lombardi said.

It wasn’t immediately clear if Grassi’s mother was in the audience: Grassi introduced the elderly woman named Salome as “an Argentine friend.” The Vatican couldn’t immediately explain the discrepancy.

Grassi declined to be interviewed Friday, citing a dinner he was catering.

The disclosures completely changed the narrative of Davis’ encounter, making clear that Francis wanted another, more significant “audience” to come to light: that of his former student, who happens to be gay, and his longtime partner.

An audience is different from a meeting, in that it is a planned, somewhat formal affair. Popes have audiences with heads of state; they have meetings and greeting sessions with benefactors or other VIPs. So the fact that Lombardi stressed Grassi’s encounter as the only “real audience” in Washington made clear that Francis wanted to emphasize it over Davis’ “brief meeting” along with several dozen other people.

Earlier this week, Davis said the pope met with her and her husband and thanked her for her courage and encouraged her to “stay strong.”

“Just knowing that the pope is on track with what we’re doing and agreeing, you know, it kind of validates everything,” she told ABC.

The Vatican statement made clear the pope intended no such validation.

However, Davis’ lawyer, Mat Staver, told The Associated Press that the Vatican arranged the meeting as an affirmation of her right to be conscientious objector.

“We wouldn’t expect the pope to weigh in on the particulars of any case,” Staver said Friday. “Rather, the meeting was a pastoral meeting to encourage Kim Davis in which Pope Francis thanked her for her courage and told her to ‘Stay strong,’” Staver said in a statement. “His words and actions support the universal human right to conscientious objection.”

He said an unnamed Vatican official initiated the meeting on Sept. 14, the day Davis returned to work after being jailed, saying the pope wanted to meet her. He said Vatican security picked up Davis and her husband from their hotel and told her to change her hairdo so she wouldn’t be recognized.

Staver disputed a Vatican spokesman’s assertion that the pope only met Davis in a receiving line. He said the couple was in a separate room with Francis and Vatican security and personnel and that no member of the general public was present. He said the Vatican official who arranged the meeting insisted that it not be made public until after Francis had left the U.S.

News of the meeting sent shockwaves through the U.S. church, with Davis’ supporters saying it showed the pope backed her cause and opponents questioning whether the pope had been duped into meeting with her.

Lombardi declined to say who invited Davis or what the pope knew of her case. Such encounters are arranged by the Vatican ambassador and his staff, not the pope’s delegation or

“I don’t think it’s a matter of being tricked as of being fully aware of the situation and its complexities.”

- Rev. Thomas Rosica, an assistant to Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi. Rosica said Davis’ supporters had “overblown” the encounter.

the U.S. bishops’ conference.

Davis’ lawyers confirmed late Friday that the Vatican nuncio in Washington, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, had a hand in arranging the invitation.

While the pope sought during his U.S. visit to avoid hot-button culture war issues, an openly gay TV personality, Mo Rocca, was a lector at the pope’s Mass at Madison Square Garden, a decision that would have been made by the New York Archdiocese.

As for the Davis meeting, an assistant to Lombardi, the Rev. Thomas Rosica, said the pope would have been given a list of people who were invited to bid him farewell as he departed Washington, but was unaware of the details of the Kentucky clerk’s case or any possible implications of the meeting.

“I don’t think it’s a matter of being tricked as of being fully aware of the situation and its complexities,” he said. He said Davis’ supporters had “overblown” the encounter.

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Bakery Owners Refuse To Pay Damages In Gay Wedding Cake Case

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) – The owners of a Portland-area bakery are refusing to pay \$135,000 in state-ordered damages to a same-sex couple who were denied service.

Melissa and Aaron Klein, owners of Sweet Cakes by Melissa, cited religious beliefs when they refused to bake a wedding cake for Laurel and Rachel Bowman-Cryer more than two years ago.

Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian awarded the damages in July for emotional suffering, saying the owners had violated the women's civil rights by discriminating on the basis of their sexual orientation.

The Kleins have filed an appeal of the ruling and are defying the order to pay. They're claiming financial hardship although crowdfunding efforts have brought in over \$500,000 on their behalf, *The Oregonian* reported (<http://goo.gl/HiZdYF>).

The couple closed the Gresham store in 2013 and operate the business from home.

"It's difficult to understand the Kleins' unwillingness to pay the debt when they have, very publicly, raised nearly a half million dollars," labor bureau spokesman Charlie Burr told *The Oregonian* in an email Sept. 30. "They are entitled to a full and fair review of the case, but do not have the right to disregard a legally binding order."

A lawyer for the Kleins, Anna Harmon, told *The Oregonian* she couldn't comment about her clients' actions, citing the ongoing litigation.

A 2007 Oregon law protects the rights of gays, lesbians, bisexual and transgender people in employment, housing and public accommodations. It provides an exemption for religious organizations, but the agency ruled that exemption does not allow private businesses to discriminate against potential customers.

Alabama Judges Use Segregation-Era Law To Avoid Gay Marriage

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) – Some Alabama counties are using a segregation-era law to avoid issuing marriage licenses for same-sex couples.

In 1961, a time when the all-white Legislature was trying to preserve racial segregation, lawmakers rewrote state law to make it optional for counties to issue marriage licenses.

Now, some judges who oppose same-sex marriage are using the provision to get out of the marriage business altogether rather than risk issuing even one wedding license to gays or lesbians.

In at least nine of Alabama's 67 counties, judges have quit issuing any marriage licenses since the U.S. Supreme Court legalized same-sex unions in June.

The precise reason lawmakers gave for making the 1961 change isn't known. But judges opposed to gay marriage say it gives them the right to quit issuing any marriage licenses.

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

New Book Tackles Teaching LGBT History To Children

BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

In celebration of LGBT History Month, author and former elementary school teacher Jerome Pohlen has written, "Gay & Lesbian History For Kids: The Century-Long Struggle for LGBT Rights with 21 Activities." The 180 page book is rife with photos, activities ranging from coloring to discussion, and historical information presented for children ages 9 and up.

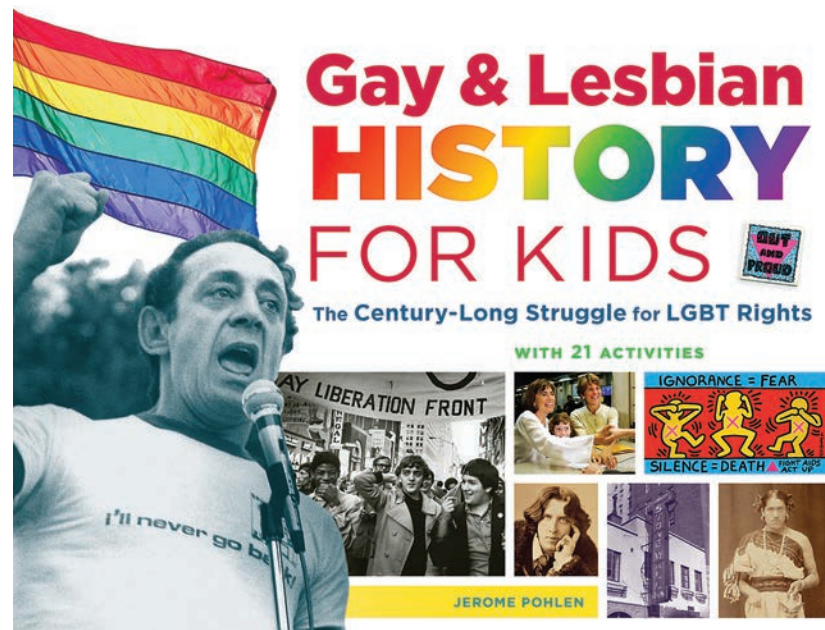
The book begins with a handy timeline which highlights significant events by year (much like *Between The Lines*' own smaller version in the *Pride Source Yellow Pages*.) From referencing the Greek poet Sappho to the very current *Obergefell v. Hodges* ruling, the timeline manages to hit on key points in LGBT history beyond even the United States. The last 130 or so years of the timeline is then analyzed chapter by chapter, starting with an entry for July 22, 1893, though LGBT historical figures and events are still referenced in such times as ancient China and ancient Greece.

"Gay & Lesbian History For Kids" often has the difficult task of presenting history that at times can be considered speculative – for example, whether Katharine Lee Bates (who wrote the poem "America," which would later be set to music as "America the Beautiful") was a lesbian. Other figures discussed in the book that fall under the "Were they gay?" designation include William Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, Henry David Thoreau and even President James Buchanan.

The book does navigate this issue well at the beginning, explaining to young readers that, "The further back in history you look, the more difficult it is to know who was and wasn't lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. The issue wasn't discussed often, and if it was discussed, it was usually in a negative way."

Throughout the book, positive glimpses of LGBT history do interweave in the often turbulent years of navigating LGBT rights. Adult readers may even be surprised to learn that laws against same-sex relationships were repealed during the French Revolution, or that Paris, referred to as "Gay Paree," is far truer to the LGBT turn of the phrase than they thought. Passages such as these widen the reader base of the book from children to adults who may pass it over as simply a kid's book.

There are multiple confirmed gay, lesbian and bisexual figures acknowledged in the book in addition to the murkier subjects. Dubbed "LGBT Heroes," people like Sir Ian McKellen,



Sally Ride, Maurice Sendak and Ellen Degeneres are highlighted and most likely familiar to modern day children and adolescents. More historical LGBT heroes like Oscar Wilde, Bayard Rustin, Marlene Dietrich and Alan Turing are also featured.

The "T" is not left out in the history book, including particularly good coverage of Christine Jorgensen -- one of the most famous transwomen in U.S. history. The section on Jorgensen is particularly well written, highlighting Jorgensen's ability to achieve positive popular reception at the time. The segment also describes how she navigated dealing with her parents while transitioning. Young children wrestling with their gender identity will hopefully find other segments, like the "two spirit" concept in many Native American cultures, to be similarly informative and uplifting.

Parents and guardians concerned about the potential adult nature of content in the book will be able to scan the easy-to-read book rather quickly. The violence and brutality of LGBT history is deftly handled. There are no violent photographs, either, as often found in history books for older adolescents. The death of Matthew Shepard, for example, is introduced with the phrase, "Aaron Kreifels was riding his bike along Snowy Mountain View Road on the outskirts of Laramie, Wyoming, when he spotted what he thought was a scarecrow tied to a fence. Looking closer, he realized it was the body of an unconscious young man, his face coated in blood." The imagery is gruesome, as was the attack on Shepard,

but leaves out further details that could leave younger children uncomfortable or confused. Adults should also take note that "fag" is used throughout the book in historical quotes.

References to sex are inevitable in the book, particularly in light of the AIDS crisis; however, Pohlen manages to spend an entire chapter on the crisis with no more graphic a statement than, "HIV, which causes AIDS, is spread mainly through sexual contact."

For children or adolescents who may find the book, despite its rich photographs and clean graphic layout, difficult to read, the chapters are kept at reasonable lengths to keep even the youngest of readers on track. Activity sections throughout invite readers to go above and beyond simply reading or note-taking. One such activity invites readers to come up with their own symbol after learning about LGBT symbols such as the HRC "equal sign" and the Greek letter "lambda." Another activity guides students to draw a quilt panel for someone they would want to remember, deftly taking the difficult concept of death – particularly when learning about it during the AIDS crisis – and turning it into an art endeavor more palatable for younger "artists."

"*Gay & Lesbian History For Kids: The Century-Long Struggle for LGBT Rights*" by Jerome Pohlen was published by Chicago Review Press and is available at *Common Language Books* in Ann Arbor or through the website <http://glbtbooks.com>.

Creep of the Week

Franklin Graham

In a recent interview evangelist Franklin Graham used the “s” word. And he used it a lot.

That word is, of course, “sin,” as in, “(T)he Obama administration is celebrating sin and they are pushing sin.”



Franklin Graham

That’s right. Obama pushes sin just like a dealer pushes dope. And how does Graham know this? Because Obama doesn’t hate the gays. In fact, Obama downright acts like LGBT people are, like, human or something and worthy of living.

Franklin is not to be confused with his father Billy Graham, the evangelical celebrity who is still alive, by the way (I had to look it up, but I can’t really be blamed since his new book is titled “Where I Am: Heaven, Eternity, and Our Life Beyond.” I mean, that title basically screams “written from beyond the grave”).

But it was the younger Graham who was interviewed recently by the Church Boys, a podcast by two guys who, as far as I can tell, are kind of like the shock-jocks of right-wing radio.

When asked what concerns him most about “where we are now,” Graham replies, “Well, our country has changed so much, and we’ve seen the moral decline, and that moral decline being led by the Obama administration, and championing things like same-sex marriage, which is really defiance against God. Same-sex marriage is a sin against God.”

BY D’ANNE WITKOWSKI

And what evidence does Graham offer for this declaration of “defiance against God”? Penises and vaginas, of course.

“God made us male and female,” he said. “And then to say that marriage is between two men or two women, this is sin.”

Now, I don’t care what Graham or anybody else says about my marriage making God vomit because I don’t believe in God (Santa Claus, on the other hand, I believe in since I’ve seen him at the mall). But there are a lot of LGBT people of faith who would beg to differ that declaring their love for each other before their friends and family and God is a “sin.”

But don’t worry, gays, Graham’s just trying to help you.

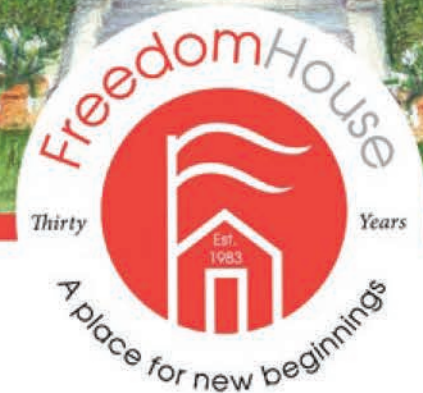
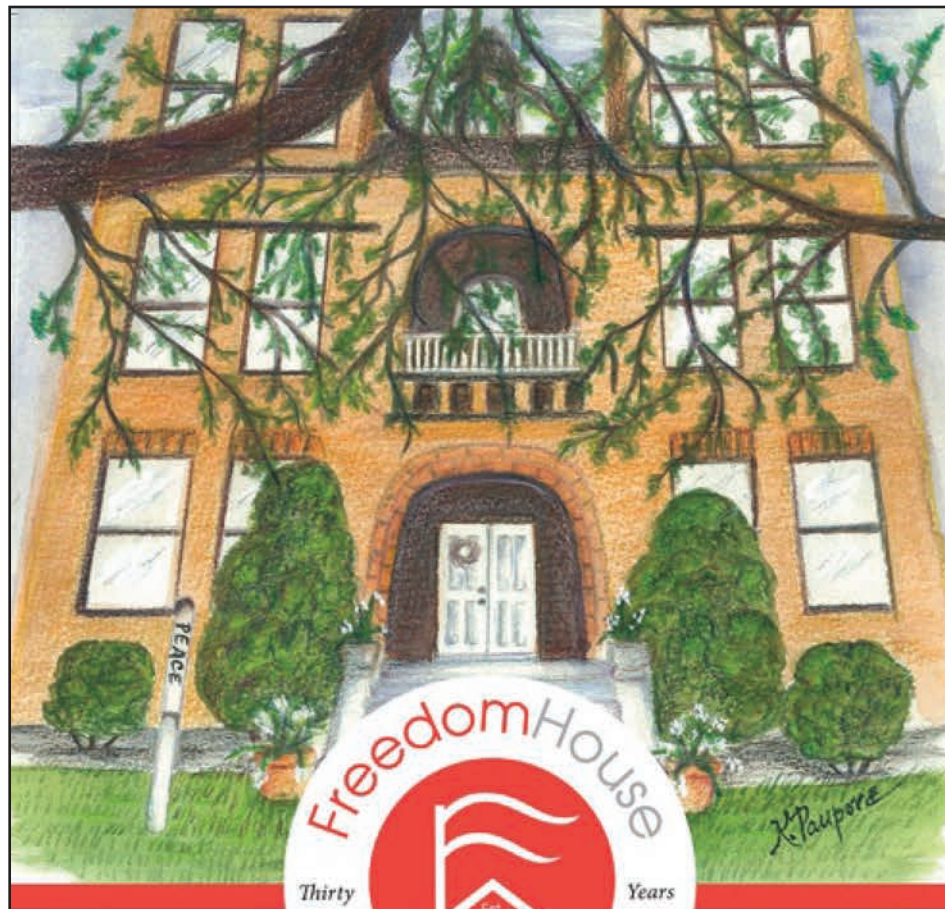
“Now, for a gay person, I don’t want to bash them,” he said, “but I want them to know the truth, that the lifestyle that they are living, God will one day judge that. And they’ll stand before God and God will condemn that and they will spend an eternity separated from him.”

Thanks for the truth bomb, Graham. Will be sure to put that in the Where the Sun Don’t Shine file. It’s pretty shitty to try to use God to scare LGBT people of faith into thinking they can pray the gay away instead of accepting people as they are like some guy named Jesus supposedly did.

And now for some offensive comparisons!

“Whether it be murdering people, or whether it be stealing, or whether it be committing adultery, cheating on your wife or your husband,” Graham said, “you have to turn from those sins. And so for a gay person, or anyone else, you have to be willing to turn and leave those sins. And can you be forgiven? Yes. And you can have that assurance knowing that your sins are forgiven and that one day, when you do stand before God, he’s going to accept you and welcome you.”

Aww, isn’t that sweet? God’s gonna welcome you just like he would a murderer so long as you ask for forgiveness for the terrible thing you’ve done, whether it be killing people or loving someone with the same genitalia.



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GINA YASHERE GOES GLOBAL



Lesbian Comedian Talks Trump, Travel & Telling Stories

BY SHELBY CLARK PETKUS

British comedienne Gina Yashere is at home in New York as the impending Hurricane Joaquin makes its way toward her. Fortunately, she's only there temporarily. When she speaks with BTL,

she's recovering from jet lag after her stop in Hong Kong prior to continuing her tour outside of the city, hoping to dodge *all* bad weather. "Luckily I plan my foreign travel around winter, so I won't be here for the whole thing," she says, laughing.

Yashere is no stranger to Asia, where

she's acquired a diverse following. "It (the reception) is great over there," she says. "I've been over there at least five times. I've developed a little bit of a following. The crowd is usually a mixture of ex-pats – Australians, Brits, Canadians, Americans – and locals."

Culture differences don't seem to affect the reception to her comedy, either. "My comedy's the same everywhere," she adds. "I make a couple of local references and then talk about myself for an hour."

Yashere has found success in such a variety of places primarily because she doesn't see

many differences in humor from place to place. “My style really isn’t British,” she says. “Americans think the British humor is all the same. But it depends on what background you come from. My family are immigrants (Nigerian) to England, so I don’t have that quick, dry sense of humor. My stuff is a lot more elevated, a lot more storytelling. So my stuff travels quite well.”

She also hasn’t had an issue with a language barrier yet. Malaysia, in particular, surprised her. “In Malaysia, they’re not ex-pats,” she says. “They’re Malaysians, they’re locals. So I was thinking, ‘Uh, how is this going to work?’ But their English is fantastic and they love comedy. So I came on and did my thing in English, and it killed. They loved it. I’ve been to Holland and done shows, where I’ve been the headliner, and every other comedian has come out in front of me and done their sets completely in Dutch. And I come on, and then

it’s far flung.”

With that wide array of experiences, Yashere’s stand-up generally consists of storytelling, which doesn’t always include more personal details. Yashere, who is a lesbian, doesn’t feel the need to bring it up in her comedy acts. “I don’t really talk about LGBT issues – it’s one factor of who I am,” she notes. “Yeah, I talk about it, as one routine, but then I move on because there’s a lot more interesting stuff about me. I don’t really talk about it at all; I’m not political. Same with: I don’t want to spend all my set talking about that I’m black; there’s more to me than that ... I talk about everything.”

Though she admits she’s not very political in her acts, it’s hard to avoid the current presidential race. “I have thoughts; I don’t talk about them that much,” she admits. “But I think Trump is a big fucking idiot. And I would not be surprised if he did make it all

“ I don’t really talk about LGBT issues – it’s one factor of who I am. Yeah, I talk about it, as one routine, but then I move on because there’s a lot more interesting stuff about me. I don’t really talk about it at all; I’m not political. Same with: I don’t want to spend all my set talking about that I’m black; there’s more to me than that ... I talk about everything. ”

I do my stuff in English, and it still seems to work, funny enough.”

Despite having seen much of the world, Yashere still has a few to tick off her bucket list. “I’d love to perform in Brazil, only because I haven’t been there yet, and Cuba. Other than that, there aren’t many places I haven’t performed before!”

Yashere’s favorite tour stop was off the coast of Indonesia. “It was so weird,” she reflects. “I happened to do a show in Bali and met a guy, and he’s like, ‘There’s no entertainment on this one island. Would you come and do the first comedy show ever on the island? And as payment I’ll give you a week of accommodation.’ And I said, ‘Yeah, let’s do it!’ So I called my best friend up, they flew out from England, and I did this show for 70 divers. I was standing literally 30 feet away from the ocean. Then I spent the rest of the week eating fresh fish. It was amazing!”

Not many comedians have traveled quite so extensively, which Yashere is well aware of. “Most American comics, when they say they’re going on the road, they usually mean Minneapolis, you know? Whereas me,” she laughs, “when I say I’m going on the road,

the way to presidency. That’s the American voting public. You voted an actor into presidency before, so I put nothing past America!”

Another way Yashere keeps her stand-up unique? She’s reluctant to watch any other comedy. “I don’t want to be influenced by anybody else,” she says. “When you see comedians, you can see who they’re influenced by. I tend to stay away from watching too much comedy ... I am not one of those comedians with an extensive DVD collection of comedians. That’s not my thing at all.” Though she is a fan of “Modern Family”: “I think that’s probably the best sitcom ever made.”

The well-traveled comedian will visit Metro Detroit for the first time on Friday, Oct. 9 when she performs at Kola Restaurant & Ultra Lounge in Farmington Hills. Is she expecting anything from the area? “I’m hoping to bump into Eminem at the show!”

Gina Yashere will perform at 8 p.m. at Kola Restaurant & Ultra Lounge, 32523 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. Visit www.kolalounge.com for more information.

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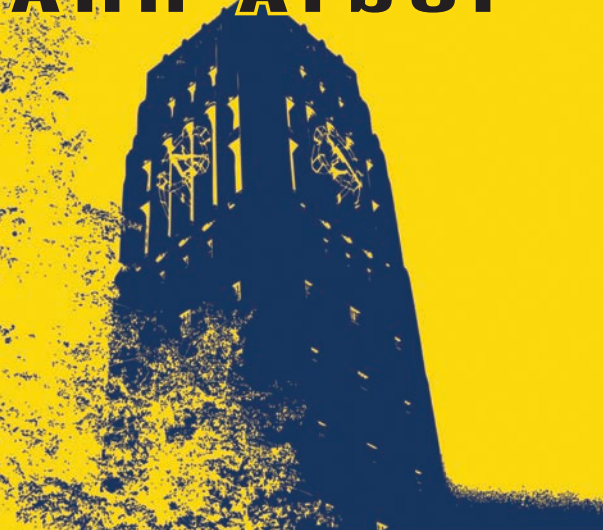
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Theatre Nova's Time-Jumping Tale of Love

BY AMY J. PARRENT

"Relationships are the story you tell each other about yourself," said Dan Walker, producing director at Theatre Nova. And "Bright Half Life" is the innovative story about relationships that the theater is telling to audiences this month. The new play by Tanya Barfield is having its Michigan premiere, following a February debut at the Women's Project Theater in New York.

The play leaps rapidly around time, intercutting snippets of scenes as it covers decades of the complicated relationship between Erica, played by Alysia Kolasz, and Vicky, portrayed by Breon Canady.

"The play is a textbook example of your memory of your life, the way you fill it in," said Walker. "Life is not clean and linear; it's a mess."

Walker, who is the play's director and production designer, has been juggling involvement in three plays and a new college teaching appointment.

"But I didn't want to give this play up," he said. "I fell in love with the script. It's the single best play about relationships I've ever seen. We got (the rights) within a month of it being available."

A divorced father, Walker found strong echoes in the show. He even has a daughter the same name as the fictional couple's child. He said if you described the play briefly, you'd say it's about an interracial gay couple. "But that's completely incidental," he added.

Actor Canady said, "It's about intimacy and what happens behind the scenes (in a relationship). I'm pulling from my relationship with my own girlfriend."

Canady said both actors are onstage for the entire 70 minutes of the show. "It's strenuous, emotionally difficult. The fights are not pretty, they're playing hardball."

Recently Canady found herself overwhelmed by preparations for the challenging role. "I said to my mother, 'Mommy, I don't know what to do.'" So her mom did the mom thing, and ran through lines with her like a drill sergeant, making her repeat each chunk of dialogue multiple times.

But still, Canady said, "Doing a new play is the greatest feeling in the world for an actor. I don't have to compare myself to anyone. It's all us. (Walker) let us find it on our own."

Walker, older than his two 20-something actors, did bring additional life experience to helping them span the half-century in the characters' lives and



Breon Canady and Alysia Kolasz in "Bright Half Life." Photo: Theatre Nova

“I need plays that tell the truth but leave you with hope. It's the perfect play for me and for what I want to do with this theater.”

- Dan Walker, producing director at Theatre Nova

relationship.

For instance, at a rehearsal when one actor didn't feel like going full-throttle yelling, Walker told her, "You don't understand. You're 15 years into this thing. It's the nuclear option. You have to understand the intensity of the negativity and still have love."

"It takes (the characters) a long time, it takes them 50-some-odd years until they're in sync," said Canady, who compares the characters to Maureen and Joanne in "Rent" – "If it kept going on."

Canady said, "Vicky (her character) is a control freak, snarky. When she allows fear of the unknown, she's more likeable. She becomes a person you want to talk to. She still has a heart, and when she shows it, it's 100 percent. Erica – we've been calling her a puppy. She doesn't make a lot of decisions. I'm naturally more Erica. I do the exact thing in my life. I go with what I feel, not the logical."

The play is filled with symbolism of the highs and lows of a relationship, as the characters go skydiving, fly a kite, board a Ferris wheel. The show's experience will be a roller coaster for the

audience as well, with the instantaneous leaps in time coming in the "middle" of a scene.

"We call them flashes," said Canady. "If we're changing time periods, a movement leads us into the next one. We'll be arguing face to face, then jump to a moment where we're in love."

Or vice versa.

"The actors will be in a clinch that turns violent," said Walker. "It's a striking style that asks a lot of the actors and audience. I've seen other plays that jump around in time, but haven't seen one that's this hard, this fast."

"The play is super theatrical," he added. "There's not time to use props. The actors are transformed instantly. Usually when I start a play's design, I preset the computer to do three to five-second fades between scenes. Every fade in this show is one-tenth of a second."

"The play itself is designed to not have a rational experience," said Walker. "If it tracks right, it will rip your heart out. For all the fighting, they really loved each other. I need plays that tell the truth but leave you with hope. It's the perfect play for me and for what I want to do with this theater."

PERFORMING

Bright Half Life

Theatre Nova

416 W. Huron, Ann Arbor 734-635-8450

www.theatrenova.org

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Nicola's Books Brings Patti Smith To Michigan Theater

ANN ARBOR – Nicola's Books has teamed up with the Michigan Theater to present An Evening with Patti Smith at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12. The legendary multi-platform artist will read excerpts from her new memoir, "M Train," lead an audience Q&A and sign books in her only Michigan stop on the book tour.

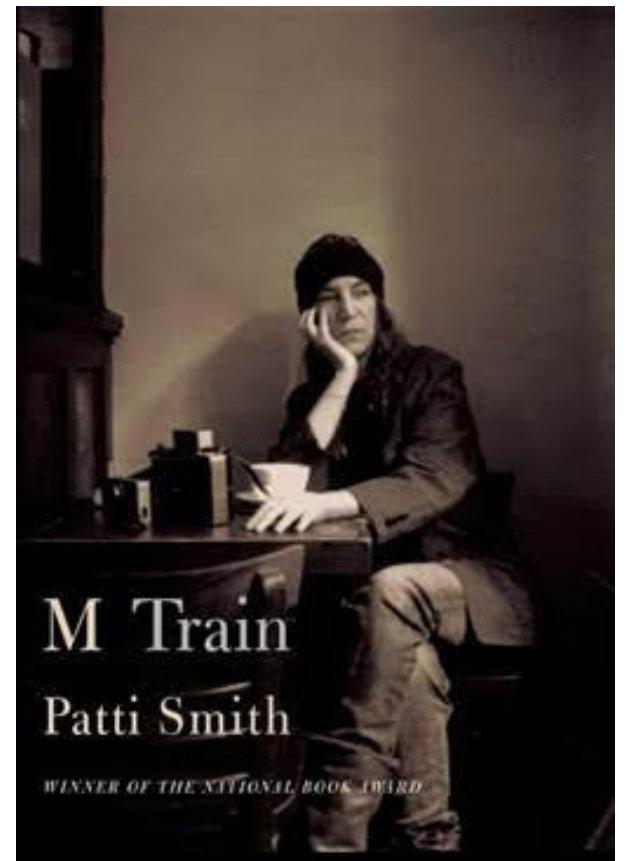
Smith has said of "M Train," "It's a roadmap to my life." The book's odyssey begins in a tiny Greenwich Village café, where Smith goes every morning, and takes readers on a journey through mind, memory and spirit. Travel from Frida Kahlo's Casa Azul in Mexico to a meeting of an Arctic explorer's society in Berlin, and to Smith's favorite cafés and haunts around the world. With prose that shifts between dreams and reality, and across a landscape of creative inspiration, "M Train" illustrates Smith's deepest literary obsessions, augmented by her own stunning black-and-white Polaroids.

Woven throughout are reflections on the writer's craft and on artistic creation, alongside signature memories including her life in Michigan with her husband, guitarist Fred Sonic Smith, whose untimely death was an irremediable loss. For it is loss, as well as the consolation we might salvage from it, that lies at the heart of this exquisitely meditation on endings and on beginnings.

Smith is the author of "Just Kids," which won the National Book Award in 2010, and of five collections of poetry. Her seminal album "Horses" has been hailed as one of the top 100 albums of all time. In 2005, the French Ministry of Culture awarded Smith the title of Commandeur des Arts et des Lettres and she was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2007.

Tickets are available at Nicola's Books and all Ticketmaster outlets, including ticketmaster.com. Tickets are \$24.50 and \$35. All tickets include a hard cover copy of "M Train." Books will be available for pick-up the night of the show at the Michigan Theater.

The photo on the book's jacket is a sacred memento for Smith: It shows her at Cafe 'Ino in Greenwich Village, where "M Train"



begins, and where Smith went every morning for a breakfast of black coffee and brown bread. On the last day before Cafe 'Ino closed, a passing photographer took the picture.

Nicola's Books features adult novels, kids' books, out-of-print searches and everything in-between. Nicola's Books has been Ann Arbor's premier independent bookstore for more than 20 years. Visit Nicola's in the Westgate Shopping Center at 2513 Jackson Ave. or at nicolasbooks.com.

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Classic Madonna Moments From Her 'Rebel Heart Tour'

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Be still my gay heart. Though Madonna's latest spectacle, "Rebel Heart Tour," spotlights her 13th studio album of the same name, the concert queen still reached into her back pocket and pulled out a swoon-worthy collection of classics. Ones she hasn't touched in years—and an exclusive addition just for her fellow Detroiters.

"Hometown girl is back!" Madonna proudly declared on Oct. 1 in Detroit.

And, oh yes, she was. The icon's stop at Joe Louis Arena could only be described as the stuff of dreams, a delicious fusion of old and new, writhing nuns and blissed-out fun. "Rebel Heart" was all sweet... not sticky. And nostalgic.

Gays, we have so much to be thankful for.



Photo: Kevin Mazur for WireImage/Getty

— nearly 30 years after last performing it on tour! Despite the fact that Madonna was actually there, donning gypsy attire and taking our collective breath away, it was hard to tell if this was real life.

Frozen

This used to be her playground, which Madonna enthused during her hometown stop, proclaiming that, "Detroit made me who I am today." And she didn't stop there. She swapped set-list staple "Ghost Town" for "Frozen," her stunning "Ray of Light"-era trip to the dark side, stripped to merely the rawness of acoustic guitar and a vocal that left everyone, well, you guessed it: frozen.

True Blue

"Baby, I love you," Madonna gushed, dipping into her back catalog for this adorable 1985 relic. Stripped of its pop sheen, "True Blue" became a finger-snappin', hand-clappin' campfire sing-along, with Madonna plucking away at a ukulele. Yes, baby, we love you too.

Deeper and Deeper

In 2004, for the "Re-Invention World Tour," she took her great disco rave from 1992's "Erotica" to the cabaret, quieting it down for a lounge-style slowie. Not this time. For "Rebel Heart," "Deeper and Deeper" retained its original pulse, dizzying the crowd of queers with its dance spins as Madge and her crew worked the heart-capped catwalk with a voguish hustle.

Burning Up

Flame bursts boomed from behind Madonna on a towering backdrop, but the diva herself was the one bringing the heat. As she punched her electric guitar, transforming this 1983 fan favorite into a rockin' rush, someone probably should've called 911.

Like a Virgin

Bitch, she's Madonna. Owning the stage like a boss during a solo hip-hop take on "Like a Virgin," Madonna bounced her booty during a ravishing display of agelessness — proof that Pilates and full-powered Beyoncé-type fans are a girl's best friends.

La Isla Bonita

Toro, toro! No, there wasn't a bull, and this wasn't "Take a Bow" (sigh). Hand to pelvis, Madonna moved to the Spanish vibes of "La Isla Bonita," showing off her slow mo gyrations amidst her festively-attired stage gang who came together for a performance that was muy bien.

Dress You Up Medley

If Madonna wants to spoil us, who are we to argue? Not only did "Dress You Up" (in full!) make the cut, but the diva went deep into the '80s for "Into the Groove" and "Lucky Star," essentially giving life to all basking in her presence. #Humanitarian

Who's that Girl

Dusting off the title song from her 1987 film, "Who's that Girl," Madonna gave this ditty a guitar-guided makeover

Material Girl

Raise your hand if you wet yourself during this one. Beyond the obvious fact that "Material Girl" sits atop Madonna's smoldering hit heap, the way she folded it into "Rebel Heart" — simple, chic, "Great Gatsby"-inspired — was pure blast-from-the-past pleasure.

Love Don't Live Here Anymore

After shoving a faux lover down a spiral staircase at the end of "Heartbreak City," Madonna caused a ruckus when she launched into her showstopping ballad "Love Don't Live Here Anymore," from 1984's "Like a Virgin." It was just a snippet, a tease — because, you know, she's Madonna.

Holiday

It didn't take this, the encore, to know that Madonna had let her hair down again, ditching brooding theatrics for the essence of early Madonna: frilly fun. "Rebel Heart Tour" was a two-hour-plus celebration of Madonna's career, and it all came to a boisterous, confetti-filled head with "Holiday."

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Connections 6 p.m. Open to all LGBTQ and Ally youth from 13-18. Join us to meet other LGBTQ and Ally teens and socialize in a safe space. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Laverne Cox 7 p.m. Oakland University, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, **Rochester**. 248-370-2030.

The Ethics and Politics of Nonviolence 7:30 p.m. Featured speaker Judith K. Butler. Oakland University, 2200 N. Squirrel Road, **Rochester**. 248-370-2030. Oakland.edu

MAC Health 11 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), 928 McNichols Road W, **Detroit**. 313-863-3934. MichiganAIDScoalition.org

Friday, Oct. 9

2015 Gala + Art Auction MOCAD, 4454 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 313-832-6622. Mocadetroit.org

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Help Build the OUTober Flag Display 2 p.m. Part of OUTober. EMU LGBT Resource Center, **Ypsilanti**. Emich.edu/lgbtrc

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY - SHABBAT SERVICE 6:30 p.m. You are warmly invited to join us for our Friday evening Shabbat service on October 9, 2015, as we also celebrate National Coming Out Day and the historic Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality. We will also have a dairy vegetarian potluck and open discussion, with guests: Maureen Lyn Bernard Jewish Gay Network of MI, and Congregation Tchiyah, Rachel Crandall-Crocker and Susan Crocker Transgender MI, Michelle Fox-Phillips Gender-Identity Network Alliance, and P-FLAG's Kelsey Hug Community Resource Manager of Affirmations LGBT Community Center, and Rudy Serra, former judge and Oakland County Commissioner. Congregation Tchiyah, 15000 W. 10 Mile Road, **Oak Park**. 248-542-0900. tchiyahorg@gmail.com Tchiyah.org

Josh Groban 8 p.m. Tickets: \$56-95.50. Olympia Entertainment, 2211 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 313-471-6611. Olympiaentertainment.com

MAC Health 11 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), **Detroit**. MichiganAIDScoalition.org

Saturday, Oct. 10

Fall Fling 2015 7 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Bright Half Life 7:30 p.m. Deep in the heart of every true love lies the truth of its inevitable end. Time Out New



Editor's Pick

Affirmations will host its Fall Fling 2015 this October as a celebration of Metro Detroit's LGBT community and its allies. More than 250 guests will enjoy the "creative, chic affair" held inside Affirmations' 17,000 square foot, state of the art Allan Gilmour and Eric Jirgens Community Center.

The event will feature live entertainment, guided center tours, open bar, delicious hors d'oeuvres and decadent desserts. Dollars raised from Fall Fling 2015 will support implementation of Affirmations' life-transforming programs and services. Individual tickets are \$75 per ticket.

Fall Fling 2015 begins at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10. For more information, contact Charlotte Myers at cmyers@goaffirmations.org or 248-398-7105. Tickets can be purchased at <http://bit.ly/1EzqYWR>.

York calls this Critics' pick "Romantic! Virtuoso! For sheer loveliness, you won't surpass Tanya Barfield's exquisite BRIGHT HALF LIFE" and the New York Times says "BRIGHT HALF LIFE shows the volatility in a long-term partnership, the joy and desolation, the hurt and help - all intermingled, all at once." Straight from its New York run, this shatteringly romantic play swirls us through decades in an instant with soul mates Erica and Vicki, as they explore marriage, children, skydiving and the infinite space inside the moments of a life together in this play. Theatre Nova, 416 W. Huron Street, **Ann Arbor**. 734-635-8450. a2theatrenov@gmail.com Artful.ly/theatre-nova/store/events/6413

Sunday, Oct. 11

David Gushee: Leading Evangelical Ethicist 4 p.m. Childcare provided up to age 8 during event. Blue Ocean Faith Ann Arbor, 608 William St., **Ann Arbor**. office@a2blueoceanfaith.org

Pride NA 6:30 p.m. Confidential and anonymous. Open to all individuals impacted by addiction. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Monday, Oct. 12

An Evening with Patti Smith 7 p.m. Tickets: \$24.50-35. Nicola's Books and Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-668-8397. Michtheater.org

Jazz in the Gallery 7:30 p.m. A local jazz ensemble, led by pianist and vocalist Brandon Perkins, rehearses and holds casual jam sessions in the Pittmann-Puckett Gallery every Monday evening. Jazz in the Gallery is open to the public. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Rd., **Ferndale**. (248) 398-7105. khug@goaffirmations.org <http://goaffirmations.org/programs-services/community-events-activities>

Tuesday, Oct. 13

Karaoke and Half Off Wine \autBAR, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

MAC Health 2 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), **Detroit**. MichiganAIDScoalition.org

Free STI & Rapid HIV Testing 5 p.m. Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, Trichomoniasis,

Syphilis. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

NEST 6:30 p.m. Monthly Bible study focusing on LGBTQ issues. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 508 Denner St., **Kalamazoo**. Kglrc.org

MCHR Fall Film Series 7 p.m. Tuesdays in October. \$5 Donation at the door. Michigan Coalition for Human Rights, 11 Mile and Woodward, **Royal Oak**. MChr.org

Film Screening: Gen Silent* 8 p.m. Part of OUTober. EMU LGBT Resource Center, **Ypsilanti**. Emich.edu/lgbtrc

Dynamic Duo 10 p.m. 21+ .Free. Menjo's, 928 McNichols Road W, **Detroit**. 313-863-3934. [Facebook.com/dynamicduoact](https://www.facebook.com/dynamicduoact)

Wednesday, Oct. 14

Free Pool and \$1 Off Beer \autBAR, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

Senior Koffee Klatch 1 p.m. A discussion and networking group for people 45 and older. Various discussion topics, social outings, bake-offs, and potlucks are incorporated throughout the year. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Rd., **Ferndale**. khug@goaffirmations.org <http://goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups>

LGBT Know Your Rights Project 3 p.m. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-995-9867. Jimtoycommunitycenter.org

Affirmations Run Club 6 p.m. An informal group of runners and walkers of all abilities. Seasoned marathoners, beginner walkers, and everything in between! Everyone is welcome, just show up! Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. jproctor@goaffirmations.org Goaffirmations.org/programs-services/community-events-activities

MAC Health 6 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. MichiganAIDScoalition.org

TransCend TransCend provides support and resources to the Southwest Michigan transgender community, their significant others, family, friends, and allies. Meetings occur twice per month

on the 2nd Wednesday and 4th Sunday. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Seeking Shelter: The Estimated 40 Percent 7 p.m. Part of OUTober. EMU LGBT Resource Center, **Ypsilanti**. Emich.edu/lgbtrc

Yours Truly, John Waters 7 p.m. A different John Waters film every week. Michigan Theatre, 233 State St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-668-TIME. Michigantheater.org

Thursday, Oct. 15

MAC Health 1 a.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), **Detroit**. MichiganAIDScoalition.org

Faith Alliance Meeting 12 p.m. Welcoming new members who would like to be involved with the intersection of faith, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 2208 Winchell Ave., **Kalamazoo**. Kglrc.org

Healthy People & Planet Wellness Festival 4 p.m. The event offers exhibits, presentations and roundtables promoting healthy, holistic, organic, non-toxic, eco-friendly, natural, sustainable, plant-based, fair trade, alternative and green products, services and programs. Enjoy show specials, samples, music, door prizes, yoga, massage, wellness programs, food concessions, and fun activities for all ages. Admission and convenient parking are free. MI Green Team, 316 E. 11 Mile Road, **Royal Oak**. Hppfest.com

The Parent Network 6 p.m. This group aims to assist parents in understanding their child's identity, while also giving parents the opportunity to socialize with other adults who have LGBT children. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., **Kalamazoo**. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

Speed Friending (QUEST) 7 p.m. Spirit Day: Wear purple! Part of OUTober. EMU LGBT Resource Center, **Ypsilanti**. Emich.edu/lgbtrc

Friday, Oct. 16

Divas Sound Board - Motor City Casino, 2901 Grand River Ave., **Detroit**. 800-745-3000. Motorcitycasino.com

Frank Marino's Divas 8 p.m. Tickets: \$17-37. Sound Board - Motor City Casino, 2901 Grand River Ave., **Detroit**. 800-745-3000. Motorcitycasino.com

MAC Health 11 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), **Detroit**. Michiganaidcoalition.org

Saturday, Oct. 17

Theatre Bizarre Tickets: \$85. Theatre Bizarre, 600 Temple St., **Detroit**. Theatrebizarre.com

turnIT aut \aut\BAR, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

Home and Lifestyle Shows of Michigan 10 a.m. Tickets: \$5. Street Marketing, Hewitt Drive, **Ypsilanti**. 248-347-4350. terri@streetmktg.com Homeandlifestyleshowsofmichigan.com

Annual Witches Ball 7 p.m. 21+. Tickets: \$40+ Michigan Pagans, 8201 E. Old 13 Mile Road, **Warren**. Meetup.com/Michiganpagans

Sunday, Oct. 18

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 Naturesplayhouse.com/

Salsa Night Salsa lessons. \$1 tacos. \aut\BAR, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

Transgender Youth Empowerment Workshop 9:15 a.m. FREE includes lunch and t-shirt multiple sessions to choose from throughout the day including self-defense, vocal techniques, spoken word poetry, fine art collage, music sharing, style. To participate please register in advance and you must be between the ages of 12 and 23. Learn about your rights, bullying and how to connect with trans friendly business when job/career planning. Stand with Trans, 290 West Nine Mile Rd. **Ferndale**. 248-739-9254. roz@standwithtrans.org http://standwithtrans.org/empowerment_workshop

Livingston County PFLAG Monthly Meeting 2 p.m. Please join us for our monthly support group the third Sunday of every month at 2 p.m. Livingston County PFLAG, 200 W St Paul St., **Brighton**. 517-548-0839. LivingstonPFLAG@aol.com Facebook.com/pflaglivingston

The Whale 3 p.m. A play for mature audiences; limited seating. The Theatre Company, 22742 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. 248-545-5545. theatre@udmercy.edu UDMarts.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/

MUSIC & MORE

Classical

Flint Institute of Arts "Dave Bennett" Isabel Hall, Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., **Flint**. 7 p.m. Oct. 9. 810-234-1695. Flintarts.org

University Musical Society "New York Philharmonic" Esa Pekka Salonen L.A. Variations Richard Strauss Ein Heldenleben (A Hero's Life). Hill Auditorium, 825 North University Ave., **Ann Arbor**. 8:30 p.m. Oct. 10. 734-764-2538. Ums.org

University Musical Society "New York Philharmonic" Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 1 in C Major, Op. 15 Beethoven Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92. Hill Auditorium, 825 North University Ave., **Ann Arbor**. 8 p.m. Oct. 9. 734-764-2538. Ums.org

Concerts

Blind Pig "Widowspeak" 18+. Tickets: \$10. Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., **Ann Arbor**. 9 p.m. Oct. 12. 734-996-8555. Blindpigmusic.com

Sound Board "Vanessa Williams" Tickets: \$35-50. Sound Board, 2901 Grand River Ave., **Detroit**. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 11. 800-745-3000. Motorcitycasino.com

The Ark "Patty Griffin" Tickets: \$30-60. Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., **Ann Arbor**. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 10. 734-764-2538. Theark.org

The Ark "The Black Lillies" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., **Ann Arbor**. 8 p.m. Oct. 13. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Lindi Ortega" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., **Ann Arbor**. 8 p.m. Oct. 12. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas" Tickets: \$20. The Ark, 316 S. Main

St., **Ann Arbor**. 8 p.m. Oct. 9. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Veterans For Peace John Lennon Birthday Concert" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., **Ann Arbor**. 7:30 p.m. Oct. 8. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

The Ark "Ben Daniels Band" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., **Ann Arbor**. 8 p.m. Oct. 10. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

THEATER

ComedySportz Two teams battle for laughs and points as they make up scenes, games and songs on the spot. A family-friendly show! CLICK HERE for complete show information. ComedySportz Detroit, Michigan Actors Studio, 648 E. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. Through Oct. 31. 877-636-3320. comedysportzdetroit.com

Jersey Boys Tickets: \$35+. Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. Oct. 13 - Oct. 18. 800-WHARTON. Whartoncenter.com

Nunset Boulevard The Little Sisters of Hoboken have been invited to sing at the Hollywood Bowl. They are thrilled at the prospect until they arrive and realize that they are booked into the Hollywood Bowl-A-Rama, a bowling alley with a cabaret lounge. Cornwell's Dinner Theatre, 18935 15 1/2 Mile Rd, **Marshall**. Through Oct. 24. 269-781-4293. turkeyville.com

ART 'N' AROUND

Detroit Artists Market (DAM) "The Change We Want To See: Artists Reflect on Detroit" Detroit Artists Market, 4719 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. Sep. 11 - Oct. 17. 313-832-8540. Detroitartistsmarket.org

MOCAD "United States of Latin America" Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. Sep. 23 - Jan. 3. 313-832-6622. Mocadetroit.org

UMMA "The Art of Tyree Guyton: A Thirty-Year Journey" University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., **Ann Arbor**. Aug. 22 - Jan. 3. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

UMMA "Jem Cohen: Life Drawing" University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., **Ann Arbor**. Aug. 15 - Nov. 29. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

MON., OCT. 19 AT 7:30 P.M. IN ORCHESTRA HALL*

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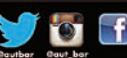
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Saturday
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Editor's Pick

The Michigan Coalition for Human Rights is presenting their "Fall Film Series" every Tuesday this month. As part of the presentation of films, experienced facilitators will guide and lead discussion following the movies. Films to be shown will include issues on clean and affordable water, growing up transgender, Selma and voting rights and the fight for Yemen.

Episcopal Bishop Coleman McGehee, Rabbi Richard Hertz and Roman Catholic Bishop Thomas Gumbleton launched MCHR in December 1980 amid a growing conservative

climate in religion and politics. Today MCHR is still strong and its membership continues to focus on MCHR's mission to educate, organize and advocate on behalf of human rights. After 27 years, MCHR is still on the Detroit scene, educating and mobilizing with others to build a freer and more peaceful world for our children and the world's children.

Films begin at 7 p.m. every Tuesday in October. The film series will be shown at St. John's Episcopal Church, located at 11 Mile and Woodward in Royal Oak. There is a \$5 donation at the door. For more information, visit www.mchr.org.

Deep Inside Hollywood

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

'Mary Poppins 2: The Possibly Very Bad Idea'

We've reached a point in film history – and more specifically, in the history of the business of Hollywood – where remakes and reboots are just How Things Are, like it or not (we side mostly with “not,” just fyi). So it'll come as zero shock that Walt Disney Studios has big plans to revisit its most beloved and acclaimed live-action film of all time: “Mary Poppins.” It isn't going to be a proper sequel, nor will it be a remake. It will be set about 20 years after the original film, in 1930s London, and will draw its plot from stories in P.L. Travers eight “Poppins” books. Disney has chosen a director – Rob Marshall – and “Life of Pi”'s David Magee as screenwriter for the project. They've also chosen acclaimed songwriters Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman (“Hairspray”). But what they haven't chosen yet is the big catch: Mary Poppins herself. Who steps into the shoes of the legendary Julie Andrews and holds

her own? Who dares? We have no idea. But she'd better be that perfect combination of stern disciplinarian and bright, song-filled enthusiasm, or it's all going to be like a pot of room-temperature tea. Oh, wait, we've got it: Emily Blunt. It's Emily Blunt. You hear that, Hollywood? It's Emily Blunt. You have your instructions.

Sexy queer disability begins to 'Oscillate Wildly'

Setting aside the trendy appropriation of a Smiths song title for his latest feature, “Oscillate Wildly,” filmmaker Travis Mathews doesn't much like to go where others have already tread. His narrative feature, “I Want Your Love,” featured explicit real sex as it told the story of a going-away party and gay male longing. His next, “Interior. Leather Bar.,” imagined an alternate life for the controversial film “Cruising.” And now he's teamed with executive producer James Franco and some gay men with disabilities – such as queer blogger Andrew Morrison Gurza, who lives with cerebral palsy and served as a production consultant – for



Emily Blunt. Photo: Debby Wong

“Oscillate,” which is shooting now. The film revolves around a subject usually ignored by queer cinema: the lives of physically challenged gay men, specifically one working-class guy with CP and his search for love during a scorching Austin, Texas, summer. The goal is simple: matter-of-fact representation and moving drama not based on triumphant “overcoming,” and a reminder that stories for everyone often come from highly specific, and singular, circumstances.

Mother's Day for lesbian stand-up Cameron Esposito

Look, we're not going to lie and tell you we're overly excited for Garry Marshall's upcoming mega-ensemble comedy, “Mother's Day.” That's because we saw his earlier movies, “Valentine's Day” and “New Year's Eve” (fool me twice, and all that). But these films are big hits with big swaths of the population, in the same way that Olive Garden is a popular Italian restaurant; “somebody” out there is lining up for it. But let's talk about love for a moment. We love lesbian stand-up Cameron Esposito and “Mother's Day” will have a lesbian storyline featuring the comic. She'll play a young mother raising a son with her female partner, and she'll be joined on screen by the usual Garry Marshall cast of dozens: Julia Roberts, Jennifer Aniston, Kate Hudson, Jason Sudeikis, “Tomorrowland”'s Britt Robertson, Timothy Olyphant, “The Daily Show”'s Aasif Mandvi, and “Pretty Little Liars” star Shay Mitchell, to name but eight. And after the ludicrously timid gay male storyline of “Valentine's Day,” there's only one way for Marshall's brand of sometimes clueless inclusiveness to go, and that's up. Get ready for April

of 2016. Your mom is going to want to see this one.

'Hart to Hart,' but with gay dudes

A “by the book” lawyer named Jonathan Hart and his free-spirited partner in life and crime-solving, Dan Hartman, are about to pick up where Robert Wagner and Stephanie Powers left off. Who are Robert Wagner and Stephanie Powers, you ask, oh young person? They were the backbone of the breezy, silly, glamorous “Hart to Hart,” that ABC TV staple of the 1980s. And now that show is getting the queer reboot it needs, thanks to producer Carol Mendelsohn and Sony TV. We love this idea, and we want something more than two pretty, bland, white guys as leads, OK? Go outside the box, with us, remakers, and give us Guillermo Diaz and Alec Mapa; or alt-comics Hannibal Buress and Kyle Kinane; or Empire's Jussie Smollett and Damon Wayans, Jr. Whatever it takes, really. Just don't be boring and we'll watch.

Romeo San Vicente is the king of Smiths song karaoke and will dominate all competitors. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.

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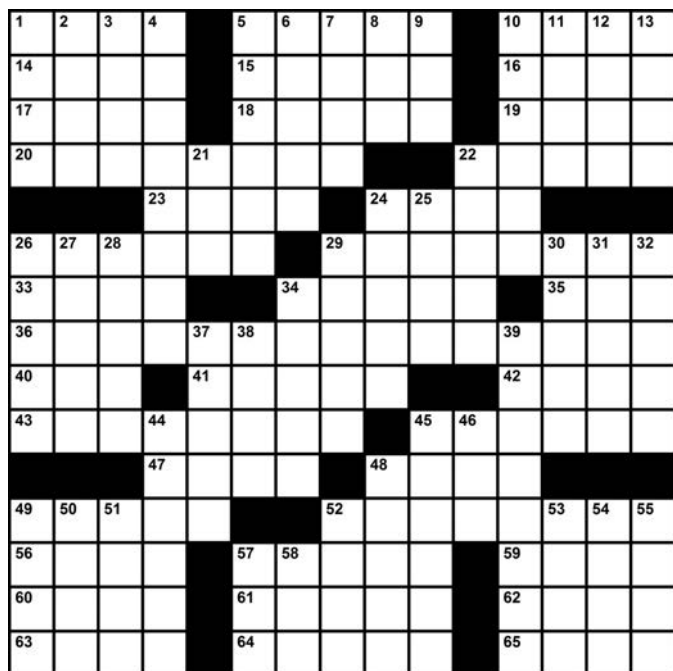
- MAC Offices, Ferndale
- Affirmations, Ferndale
- MAC Offices, New Center

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

To make appointments or get more information, call:
1-888- A CONDOM (226-6366)

MAC MICHIGAN AIDS COALITION
www.michiganaidcoalition.org

Q Puzzle



- 35 Where to go for Carnaval
 36 Item denied to gay couples by 49-Across
 40 And so on, for short
 41 Cole Porter title city
 42 Disney pictures
 43 Pirate, for one
 45 Short-legged dog
 47 Caesar's girlfriend told them "Bite me!"
 48 Homer's boy
 49 Homophobe Kim
 52 Homophobe Mike
 56 Like some twins
 57 Dean Cain's role with Lois
 59 Georgia spread on the screen
 60 Tutti-frutti holder
 61 Japanese poem
 62 Vows now legal for the LGBT community
 63 Got a little behind
 64 Gawks at
 65 It's for Colette
- 11 Jackie's designer
 12 Pasolini's well
 13 Wild male
 21 Murphy Brown's TV show
 22 Something to talk about
 24 Shaft from way back
 25 Petty of "A League of Their Own"
 26 Has the big O
 27 Let up
 28 Spanish castle city
 29 Gay rodeo target
 30 Beach birds
 31 Controversial path for same-sex partners, once
 32 Perform, to Shakespeare
 34 Shrek and others
 37 Transvestite boast?
 38 Golden years org.
 39 Ticked pink
 44 Blew it
 45 Foppish "Gilligan's Island" actor Jim
 46 Sacred chest
 48 Glenn who played for the Dodgers
 49 Style of many South Beach buildings
 50 Openly confess
 51 It crosses Hollywood
 52 Word with Mary
 53 Expressed, as farewell
 54 Love of Lesbos
 55 Right on a map
 57 Comedienne Margaret
 58 Fall behind

The Thrill of the Right

Across

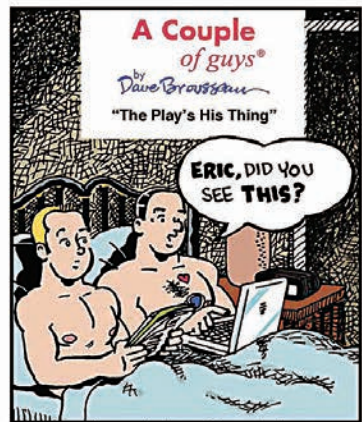
- 1 Hit boxers
 5 Alexandre, who wrote about a male threesome
 10 Ty with a big stick
 14 Fine-tune
 15 Not straight
 16 Bars for gay chefs
 17 Where to see "Modern Family"
 18 Cagney's TV partner

- 19 Elizabeth of "Transamerica"
 20 Title start of a rock anthem used without permission at a rally for 49-Across
 22 End of the title
 23 Daughters of Bilitis co-founder Phyllis
 24 Fruit flavor for gin
 26 Klein of underwear
 29 Be stunned by a hottie, e.g.
 33 Reed in a pit
 34 Funny Cheri

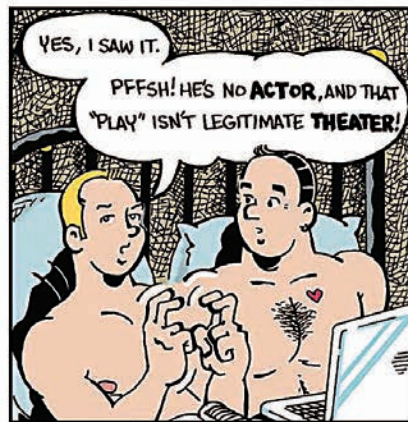
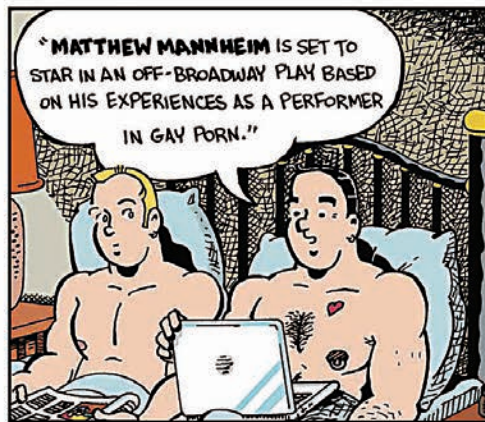
Down

- 1 Where a cobbler puts the tongue
 2 Express ride
 3 Opening amount
 4 What a cowboy shoots off
 5 007 portrayer Timothy
 6 Brigham Young man, for one
 7 Disney's Mickey and Minnie, e.g.
 8 Tavern order
 9 Swine cooler?
 10 Reproduced nonheterosexually

Find solution to this puzzle at www.pridesource.com



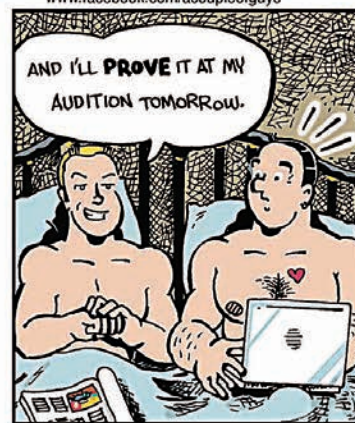
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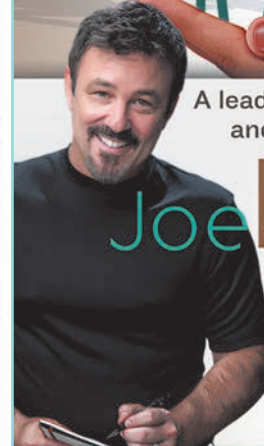
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 Associate Pastor Rev. Deb Dysert

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