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MAY 12, 2016

VOL. 2419 | FREE

A close-up portrait of a woman with dark, curly hair and glasses, looking slightly to the right. She is wearing a dark top and a necklace with a circular pendant. The background is a light, textured surface.

# Secrets, Lies and Videotape

LGBT Activist's 'Memories of a Penitent Heart' Seeks Truth  
About the HIV-Positive Gay Uncle Her Family Shunned

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**Please see Brief Summary of  
Patient Information with important  
warnings on the following pages.**

## Brief Summary of Patient Information about ODEFSEY

**ODEFSEY (oh-DEF-see) (emtricitabine, rilpivirine and tenofovir alafenamide) tablets**

**Important: Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with ODEFSEY.**

There may be new information about ODEFSEY. This information is only a summary and does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

### What is the most important information I should know about ODEFSEY?

**ODEFSEY can cause serious side effects, including:**

- **Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis may happen in some people who take ODEFSEY or similar medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**
  - feel very weak or tired
  - have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
  - have trouble breathing
  - have stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
  - feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
  - feel dizzy or lightheaded
  - have a fast or irregular heartbeat
- **Severe liver problems.** Severe liver problems may happen in people who take ODEFSEY. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large and you may develop fat in your liver. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:**
  - your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
  - dark “tea-colored” urine
  - light-colored bowel movements (stools)
  - loss of appetite
  - nausea
  - pain, aching, or tenderness on the right side of your stomach area
- **You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking ODEFSEY or a similar medicine for a long time.**
- **Worsening of Hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection.** ODEFSEY is not approved to treat HBV. If you have HBV and take ODEFSEY, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking ODEFSEY. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.
  - Do not run out of ODEFSEY. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your ODEFSEY is all gone.
  - Do not stop taking ODEFSEY without first talking to your healthcare provider.
  - If you stop taking ODEFSEY, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking ODEFSEY.

### What is ODEFSEY?

**ODEFSEY is a prescription medicine** that is used to treat HIV-1 in people 12 years of age and older:

- who have not received HIV-1 medicines in the past and have an amount of HIV-1 in their blood (“viral load”) that is no more than 100,000 copies/mL, **or**
- to replace their current HIV-1 medicines in people who have been on the same HIV-1 medicines for at least 6 months, have a viral load that is less than 50 copies/mL, and have never failed past HIV-1 treatment.

It is not known if ODEFSEY is safe and effective in children under 12 years of age or who weigh less than 77 lb (35 kg).

**When used to treat HIV-1 infection, ODEFSEY may help:**

- Reduce the amount of HIV-1 in your blood. This is called “viral load”.
- Increase the number of CD4+ (T) cells in your blood that help fight off other infections.

Reducing the amount of HIV-1 and increasing the CD4+ (T) cells in your blood may help improve your immune system. This may reduce your risk of death or getting infections that can happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

**ODEFSEY does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS.** You must keep taking HIV-1 medicines to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.

**Ask your healthcare provider about how to prevent passing**

**HIV-1 to others.** Do not share or re-use needles, injection equipment, or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them. Do not have sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

### Who should not take ODEFSEY?

**Do not take ODEFSEY if you also take a medicine that contains:**

- carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Epitol®, Equetro®, Tegretol®, Tegretol-XR®, Teril®)
- dexamethasone (Ozurdex®, Maxidex®, Decadron®, Baycadron™)
- dextansoprazole (Dexilant®)
- esomeprazole (Nexium®, Vimovo®)
- lansoprazole (Prevacid®)
- omeprazole (Prilosec®, Zegerid®)
- oxcabazepine (Trileptal®)
- pantoprazole sodium (Protonix®)
- phenobarbital (Luminal®)
- phenytoin (Dilantin®, Dilantin-125®, Phenytek®)
- rabeprazole (Aciphex®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®, Rimactane®)
- rifapentine (Priftin®)
- the herb St. John’s wort or a product that contains St. John’s wort

### What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking ODEFSEY?

**Before taking ODEFSEY, tell your healthcare provider if you:**

- have liver problems including hepatitis B or C virus infection
- have kidney and bone problems
- have had depression or suicidal thoughts
- have any other medical conditions
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if ODEFSEY can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking ODEFSEY.

**Pregnancy registry:** there is a pregnancy registry for women who take HIV-1 medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk with your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.

- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed if you take ODEFSEY.
  - You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
  - At least one of the medicines in ODEFSEY can pass to your baby in your breast milk. It is not known if the other medicines in ODEFSEY can pass into your breast milk.
  - Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take**, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Some medicines may interact with ODEFSEY. **Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.**

- You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a list of medicines that interact with ODEFSEY.
- Do not start a new medicine without telling your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider can tell you if it is safe to take ODEFSEY with other medicines.

### How should I take ODEFSEY?

- Take ODEFSEY exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it. ODEFSEY is taken by itself (not with other HIV-1 medicines) to treat HIV-1 infection.
- Take ODEFSEY 1 time each day with a meal.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking ODEFSEY without first talking with your healthcare provider. Stay under a healthcare provider's care when taking ODEFSEY.
- Do not miss a dose of ODEFSEY.
- If you take too much ODEFSEY, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.
- When your ODEFSEY supply starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to ODEFSEY and become harder to treat.

### What are the possible side effects of ODEFSEY?

**ODEFSEY may cause serious side effects, including:**

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about ODEFSEY?"**
- **Severe skin rash and allergic reactions.** Skin rash is a common side effect of ODEFSEY. Rash can be serious. Call your healthcare provider right away if you get a rash. In some cases, rash and allergic reaction may need to be treated in a hospital. **If you get a rash with any of the following symptoms, stop taking ODEFSEY and call your healthcare provider right away:**
  - fever
  - skin blisters
  - mouth sores
  - redness or swelling of the eyes (conjunctivitis)
  - swelling of the face, lips, mouth or throat
  - trouble breathing or swallowing
  - pain on the right side of the stomach (abdominal) area
  - dark "tea-colored" urine

- **Depression or mood changes.** Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms:

- feel sad or hopeless
- feel anxious or restless
- have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself

- **Change in liver enzymes.** People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus infection or who have certain liver enzyme changes may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening liver problems during treatment with ODEFSEY. Liver problems can also happen during treatment with ODEFSEY in people without a history of liver disease. Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your liver enzymes before and during treatment with ODEFSEY.

- **Changes in body fat can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicine.** These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known.

- **Changes in your immune system** (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having any new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.

- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before you start and while you are taking ODEFSEY. Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking ODEFSEY if you develop new or worse kidney problems.

- **Bone problems** can happen in some people who take ODEFSEY. Bone problems may include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your bones.

**The most common side effects of rilpivirine**, one of the medicines in ODEFSEY, are depression, trouble sleeping (insomnia), and headache.

**The most common side effect of emtricitabine and tenofovir alafenamide**, two of the medicines in ODEFSEY, is nausea.

**Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.**

- These are not all the possible side effects of ODEFSEY. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.
- Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

This Brief Summary summarizes the most important information about ODEFSEY. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about ODEFSEY that is written for health professionals.

For more information, call 1-800-445-3235 or go to [www.ODEFSEY.com](http://www.ODEFSEY.com).

**Keep ODEFSEY and all medicines out of reach of children.**

Issued: March 2016

**Odefsey**  
emtricitabine 200mg/rilpivirine 25mg/  
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### Go Girl Saugatuck!



Go Girl Saugatuck! has been rebranded with a new name by producer Mimi Gonzalez and it's loaded with many more events. Everything from dancing to comedy to music to partying will be happening at the Dunes Resort June 3-5.

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## DEFINING HOME ONLINE



### BTL SPRING HOME GUIDE ONLINE

There goes the gayborhood  
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Making Detroit feel more like home

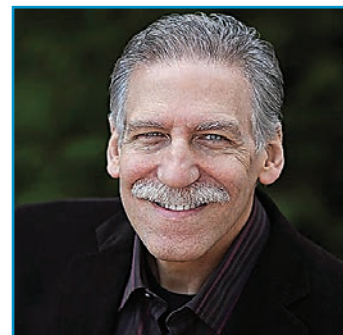
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[www.BTLWeddingExpo.com](http://www.BTLWeddingExpo.com)

## CREEP OF THE WEEK



Michael Brown attacks  
lesbian moms as his  
Mother's Day offering!

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## NEWS

### BEGIN PURGING STATE DEPT. OF HOMOSEXUALS

BY WILLIAM MOORE  
(Chicago Tribune Press Service)  
Washington, April 20—A senate appropriations subcommittee today began the task of ridding the state department of homosexuals, subversives, wasters, and propagandists for international

Suit Seeks Records Tied to  
Ike's 1953 Anti-Gay Order

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### PRIDE SOURCE MEDIA GROUP

20222 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48152  
Phone 734.293.7200

### PUBLISHERS

Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

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Michigan Press Association  
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Q Syndicate



### EDITORIAL

#### Editor in Chief

Susan Horowitz, 734.293.7200 x 12  
susanhorowitz@pridesource.com

#### Entertainment Editor

Chris Azzopardi, 734.293.7200 x 24  
chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com

#### Assistant Editor

Shelby Clark Petkus, shelby@pridesource.com

#### Calendar Editor

Shelby Clark Petkus, shelby@pridesource.com

#### Staff Writers

AJ Trager, ajtrager@pridesource.com

### CREATIVE

#### Webmaster & MIS Director

Kevin Bryant, kevinbryant@pridesource.com

#### Contributing Writers

Charles Alexander, Michelle E. Brown,  
Emell Derra Adolphus, Todd Heywood, Jason  
Michael, Jerome Stuart Nichols, Gwendolyn  
Ann Smith, Christopher J. Treacy

#### Cartoonists

Paul Berg, Dave Brousseau

#### Contributing Photographers

Andrew Potter  
Alexander Godin

### ADVERTISING & SALES

#### Director of Sales

Jan Stevenson, 734.293.7200 x 22  
jan@pridesource.com

#### Sales Representatives

Ann Cox, 734.293.7200 x 13  
anncox@pridesource.com

Donelle Kremke, 734.293.7200 x 16  
donelle@pridesource.com

#### National Advertising Representative

Rivendell Media, 212.242.6863

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May 14  
9pm - Ben Sharkey

May 19  
8pm - Alexander Zonjic



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## NEWS



Minneapolis rock band Sick of Sarah will headline the sixth annual Ferndale Pride street fair on Saturday, June 4.

### 'Sick of Sarah' to Headline Ferndale Pride Volunteers Still Needed for Annual Event

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

**FERNDALE** – Minneapolis rock band Sick of Sarah has been signed to headline the sixth annual Ferndale Pride street fair on Saturday, June 4. Listed on the website After Ellen as a “small city Pride that is worth the trip,” Ferndale Pride draws more than 15,000 people for a full week of events leading up to the daylong street fair.

“This will be our biggest Pride ever,” said Julia Music, Ferndale Pride’s event chair. “We’ve increased our footprint to Troy Street. More space will make it more comfortable for the crowd and allow more booths and food trucks.”

The street fair will include more than 100 vendors, and a total of eight bands, disc jockeys and other performers that will converge on downtown Ferndale. Music said securing Sick of Sarah as the headliner was a major coup.

“Sick of Sarah has been our number one requested group from fans of Ferndale Pride for two years in a row,” she said. “Luckily, this year their schedule fit ours and we are able to have them grace our main stage. Their strong punk rock style is perfect for the main stage of this event. Sick of Sarah is the perfect band for those who like to rock.”

Other performers scheduled for the main stage on Saturday include For Ghosts, Katie Stanley and Scarlet Lies. The dance stage’s lineup will include Detroit Music Awards winner DJ Maestro and Octavia.

“I look forward to ‘hello’ and ‘goodbye’ not being used as a greeting,” said Music. “On Pride day, everyone says ‘happy pride’ in Ferndale.”

### A week’s worth of events to take place in the city

In addition to the street fair, Ferndale Pride will be hosting events all throughout the week leading up to it. Pre-pride events will include a Hot Daddies contest on Friday, May 27 at SoHo, which is located at 205 W. Nine Mile Road. The contest will feature men age 35 or older competing for the title of “Hottest.” Then on Thursday, June 2, Ferndale Pride’s All Media Art Exhibition will open from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Pittmann-Puckett Art Gallery inside Affirmations.

On Sunday, June 5, the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce will present its annual Rainbow Run, which includes 5K and 2K running/walking routes. New this year is a 2K Canine Color Walk. A full day of free events will also be presented Sunday, June 5 as part of the Transgender Day of Empowerment from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Affirmations. Finally, Rosie O’Grady’s Drag Queen and King Brunch will offer shows starting at 1 and 3 p.m. Rosie O’Grady’s is located at 279 W. Nine Mile Road.

There are still open spots for vendors at the street fair. If you’re interested, go to [www.ferndalepride.com](http://www.ferndalepride.com). Proceeds from Ferndale Pride will benefit Affirmations, Ferncare Free Clinic, Ferndale Community Foundation, Matrix Human Services MAC Health and Transgender Michigan.

INFO

**Ferndale Pride 2016**

>> [www.ferndalepride.com](http://www.ferndalepride.com)





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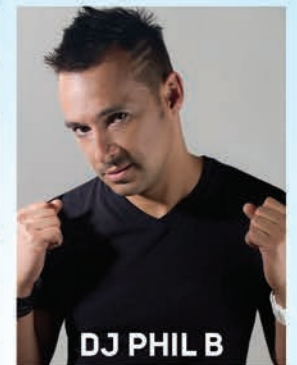
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# MEMORIAL Weekend

MAY 26 - 30



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#### FRIDAY

DJ Doug 9p  
Men of Manwatch  
Dunes Divas

#### SATURDAY

Pool DJ Doug 1-6p  
PM DJ Phil B 9p  
Kelly & Rick

#### SUNDAY

Early Tea DJ Doug 4p  
Main Tea DJ Drew G 7p  
Men of Manwatch @ Tea  
Hannaniah Whitley

#### MONDAY

Memorial Day Tea  
DJ Doug 4p



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## Indiana Primary: Stranger Than Fiction

BY LISA KEEN

The stranger-than-fiction Indiana primary has knocked Republican hopeful Ted Cruz out of the race and given Democratic hopeful Bernie Sanders a nod to hang in a little longer. But many political commentators agree: The 2016 presidential contest is now a two-way race between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Clinton now has 2,220 delegates – 93 percent of what she needs to secure the Democratic nomination. Trump has 1,048 – 85 percent of what he needs to secure the Republican nomination.

Both the Clinton and Sanders campaigns in Indiana were headed up by gay people. Openly gay politico Peter Hanscom led the Clinton campaign in Indiana. He organized business support this year for efforts to expand laws prohibiting discrimination against LGBT people. And openly gay Carli Stevenson led the Sanders effort in Indiana. She has been involved in communications work for unions and supported the move by the Indiana-Kentucky AFSCME chapter to move its convention to another state last year after Indiana passed an anti-gay “religious freedom” law.

Sanders took 53 percent of the Democratic vote in Indiana May 3; Clinton took 47 percent.

According to the Washington Post, 60 percent of Democratic voters who identified as “liberal” supported Sanders. Neither Clinton nor Sanders gave speeches directed to Indiana voters Tuesday night. But Sanders told Associated Press that he will continue his bid for the Democratic nomination.

“I know that the Clinton campaign thinks this campaign is over. They’re wrong,” Sanders told AP in a telephone interview. “Maybe it’s over for the insiders and the party establishment, but the voters today in Indiana had a different idea.”

Last week, when Clinton won four out of five primaries, Sanders said his campaign would be more focused on the party platform and would begin laying off hundreds of campaign staff.

## Cruz Takes a Beating

Cruz’s announcement May 3 that he was pulling out of the race was a surprise to some, but it was also the culmination of a week-long string of disasters for his campaign. On the Thursday before the primary, transgender Olympic legend Caitlyn Jenner posted a video on Facebook, showing that she entered a Trump hotel bathroom for women. She ended the post by saying, “By the way Ted, no one got molested.”

Cruz had used his primary events in Indiana to pound home a message in support of North Carolina’s new law banning transgender people

See Indiana, page 20

# North Carolina Fight Escalates Dramatically

BY LISA KEEN

The controversy over North Carolina’s anti-LGBT “bathroom law” escalated dramatically this week, dominating much of the national media’s attention. The U.S. Department of Justice threw down the gauntlet Friday, threatening to cut off federal funds to the state if North Carolina enforces the law and, on Monday, Gov. Patrick McCrory picked up that gauntlet and promised a major effort to defend the law.

The Republican governor filed a lawsuit in federal court Monday morning, seeking a declaration that the law is not discriminatory. And at a press conference Monday afternoon, U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch responded with strong words, indicating that the DOJ and the Obama administration would do “everything we can to protect (transgender people) going forward.”

Lynch likened the North Carolina law to Jim Crow laws that, for decades following the Civil War, tried to segregate blacks from whites. She also compared it to laws that attempted to ban same-sex couples from obtaining marriage licenses.

Lynch said the DOJ would file a federal civil rights lawsuit against McCrory, North Carolina and other North Carolina entities, seeking to have the state law declared in violation of federal law. She said the DOJ would also retain the option of curtailing federal funding to the state.

The state received more than \$4 billion from the federal government in 2015 for educational programs and \$1 billion for highway and transportation needs.

Noting that she is a native of North Carolina, Lynch said the bathroom law is a “pretext for discrimination and harassment” that “inflict(s) further indignity on a population that has already suffered.”

“This is not the first time that we have seen discriminatory responses to historic moments of progress for our nation,” said Lynch, referring to Jim Crow laws that sought to enforce racial segregation.

“State-sanctioned discrimination never looks good and never works in hindsight,” she said. “... It was not so very long ago that states, including North Carolina, had other signs above restrooms, water fountains and on public accommodations, keeping people out based on a distinction without a difference. We’ve moved beyond those dark days.”

McCrory signed House Bill 2, also known as HB 2, on March 23, setting off an onslaught of protest and media scrutiny, prompting a number of corporations and

U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch responded with strong words to North Carolina Gov. McCrory, indicating that the DOJ and the Obama administration would do “everything we can to protect (transgender people) going forward.”

celebrities to cancel activities in the state.

While most of the widespread national media attention has focused on the bill’s requirement that people use public restrooms based on the gender indicated by their birth certificate, the law also prohibits any local jurisdiction in the state from enforcing non-discrimination laws to punish any discrimination beyond that based on race, religion, color, national origin, age, biological sex, or handicap. The latter provision is aimed at undoing local ordinances that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

DOJ official Vanita Gupta, the principal deputy assistant attorney general at DOJ, sent a May 4 letter to McCrory, saying the law violates Title VII of the U.S. Civil Rights Act and the federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). It notes that Title VII prohibits an employer from discriminating based on sex and that the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins* in 1989, ruled that discrimination based on sex includes any “sex-based consideration.” The DOJ gave North Carolina until 5 p.m. EDT Monday, May 9, to confirm whether it intends to enforce House Bill 2. After first asking for an extension of the deadline, McCrory instead announced Monday morning that the state would sue for relief.

The lawsuit, *McCrory v. U.S.*, says the DOJ’s claim against the state law is “a baseless and blatant overreach” by the DOJ. It notes that the governor issued an executive order on April 12 to expand “discrimination protections to state employees on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, among others.” And it asks the court to declare that HB2 does not violate federal law.

In various interviews and press statements since last Friday, McCrory has claimed that North Carolina has “not taken away any rights that currently existed in any city” in the state. He said opponents of the law have



U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch

“distorted the truth” and are “smearing our state in an inaccurate way.”

He characterized HB 2 as a “basic, common sense bill” that protects the privacy rights of individuals.

McCrory’s lawsuit and public statements this week stood in stark contrast to his reaction last month to a 4th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals ruling. That ruling, in *Grimm v. Gloucester*, said Title IX of the federal Education Amendments Act prohibits discrimination based on gender identity. McCrory said then that he would “respect” the 4th Circuit panel decision as it applies to federally funded educational facilities.

North Carolina’s HB 2 has been the subject of many news reports during the past month, including the 2016 presidential campaign. Only one candidate – Republican presidential hopeful Ted Cruz – spoke in favor of the law. He tried to use the issue to drum up support for his campaign in Indiana’s primary last week. But Cruz came in a distant second in that primary and subsequently dropped out of the race.

In her remarks Monday afternoon, Attorney General Lynch spoke director to transgender people, promising that the DOJ and the entire Obama administration “see you ... stand with you and we will do everything we can to protect you going forward.”

Lambda Legal and the ACLU, which have filed their own federal lawsuit against the North Carolina law, applauded the DOJ’s actions Monday. Jon Davidson, legal director for Lambda Legal, issued a statement Monday afternoon saying, “We are fighting this case with everything we have. We have the law on our side, we have the facts on our side and we have the federal government on our side.”

The Williams Institute estimates that more than 336,000 LGBT people live in North Carolina.

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## Two Planned Parenthood Michigan Affiliates Merge

**ANN ARBOR** – As Planned Parenthood celebrates its 100th anniversary nationally this year, a new era begins in Michigan: two Planned Parenthood affiliates have come together to form Planned Parenthood of Michigan. Planned Parenthood of Michigan (PPMI) is the result of a merger between Planned Parenthood Mid and South Michigan (PPMSM) and Planned Parenthood of West and Northern Michigan (PPWNM) that became official on May 1.

“At a time when the health care industry is experiencing seismic change, and the attacks against Planned Parenthood have been accelerating, Michigan’s two affiliates have joined forces to act with a singular, powerful statewide voice for reproductive health care policy; and to strengthen our ability to serve the health needs of Michigan families,” said Lori Carpentier, president and CEO of PPMI. Carpentier is the former president and CEO of PPMSM, and served at that affiliate in various roles for over 30 years.

The new PPMI operates 20 health centers throughout Michigan, from Benton Harbor to Detroit to Marquette. PPMI is headquartered in Ann Arbor with administrative offices in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo and Traverse City. All health centers and offices remain in their current locations. Twenty community leaders and representatives from across the state will serve as the board of directors to provide governance, fiduciary oversight, strategic planning and related guidance to PPMI.

The merger will help further Planned Parenthood’s mission of working to ensure broad public access to health care through medical services, education and advocacy. As a combined, \$20 million organization, PPMI will serve the health needs of nearly 65,000 women, men and young people, and provide comprehensive sexuality education programs to approximately 10,000 youth each year.

Carpentier said PPMI will remain the leader when it comes to providing family planning services to Michigan’s underserved populations through the federal family planning program. “In 2015, the two affiliates saw nearly 50,000 patients under the federal family planning program (Title X), which is 69 percent of all the patients seen under that program in Michigan. Without Planned Parenthood, these patients would have difficulty accessing key services like birth control, cancer screenings and STD or pregnancy testing.”

“Additionally, access to Planned Parenthood’s brand of compassionate, quality, affordable care will be protected for those who come to us with health insurance, or those who pay out-of-pocket fees based on their income,” Carpentier said.

Carpentier also sees potential to meet the health care needs of a wider diversity of Michiganders. And she expects that as a larger organization, PPMI will be better positioned to attract and retain highly skilled employees, decrease overhead costs and expand its supporter base.

“This merger, which coincides with our national centennial, will insure that we continue serving the women, men and young people of Michigan for the next 100 years,” added Carpentier.

Planned Parenthood of Michigan provides reproductive health care and sexuality education services, and advocates for access to these services for everyone. PPMI, an affiliate of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, operates 20 health centers in Michigan, providing medical and education services to 75,000 women, men and teens each year. Log on and learn more at ppmi.org.

## Two Gay Men Vie for Same Seat on Ingham County Commission

BY TODD HEYWOOD

**LANSING** – Two openly gay men are vying to replace Democrat Rebecca Bahar-Cook on the Ingham County Commission.

Democrats Ryan Sebolt, 33, and Wyatt Ludman, 21, will face off on the Aug. 2 Democratic primary. The winner of that primary is expected to win in November because of the makeup of the district.

The two men’s ages aren’t the only differences between the candidates. Sebolt graduated from Albion College in 2005 with a bachelor’s degree with dual majors in psychology and gender studies. Ludman expects to graduate from Michigan State University’s James Madison College with a degree in Social Relations and Policy.

The MSU student said he has the experience of putting political rhetoric into action – and wants to put that to work at the commission.

“It is relatively easy to make a lot of noise and posture on policy issues, especially in the age of social media,” he observed. “What I believe makes me unique for this position is that I don’t stop with advocacy. I have a history of working to bring about positive change. My experience and education is extensive and relevant to the work of the Ingham County Commission.”

For Sebolt, his extensive roots in the community are key to why he thinks he will be successful if elected as county commissioner.

“Having lived in the area nearly my entire life, I have long been an advocate for, and promoter of, Lansing,” he wrote in response to questions. “I have also worked for the state Legislature since 2007, which has given me the opportunity to interact with various levels of government including the local and county level. My work experience has given me insight into the legislative and budgeting processes which I can draw on while performing the duties of a county commissioner.”

Ludman cut his teeth with a fellowship with the Obama re-election campaign, followed by work implementing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. He too is currently employed by the state Legislature.

From that perspective, as well as serving as chair of the MSU College Democrats and as the secretary of the Ingham County Democratic Party, Ludman said he had witnessed the importance of openly LGBTQ leadership

in political offices.

“As a member of the LGBTQ community, I have witnessed, firsthand, how important it is that community members and elected officials establish a commutative dialogue,” he said. “This establishes mutual accountability and diligence. If elected, I will use this experience to ensure that I am taking into consideration the experience of the individual constituent when making decisions. This has driven me to ensure that I am making decisions that take into consideration the personal rights of each individual in the district.”

The 2004 ballot initiative to ban same-sex marriage in Michigan was a key issue in driving Sebolt’s drive for social justice, he said.

“The 2004 ballot initiative to ban same-sex marriage in Michigan prompted me towards political involvement and led me to be an advocate on issues of equal protection and social and economic justice,” he said. “Moving forward I will continue to be a voice for the fair and equal treatment of all people.”

He has served on the board of directors of the Suits in the City LGBTQ business and social mixer group in Lansing for the last five years.

As for priorities, Sebolt said regionalism was key for him.

I hope to build on successful regional cooperation efforts, such as Potter Park Zoo, to help provide the level of services and quality of life that attracts a talented workforce,” he said.

And taking a swipe at rural commissioners who have been pushing to put cash from a two year old parks and trail millage towards the development of trails within their municipalities, Sebolt said he favors upkeep over building new.

“I believe we should protect the investments we have made by prioritizing maintenance of existing trails and pathways infrastructure,” he said.

Ludman said he would push to expand the county’s healthcare millage, as well as be a voice for employees and work to address the issues of homelessness and criminal justice involvement in the county.

“Although the PPACA has extended coverage to many individuals who were once covered by the Ingham County Health Plan, this service continues to play an important role in many people’s lives,” he said. “In addition, I hope to work to explore ways to educate the public on the service provided by the county, including STI and HIV screening services, etc.”

Ingham County has one of the highest HIV rates in the state.

## Covenant House Benefit to Feature Broadway Stars

Broadway comes to Detroit for one special night at “A Night of Broadway Stars,” a benefit for Covenant House Michigan. The show, produced and led by renowned composer and lyricist Neil Berg whose credits include “Grumpy Old Men” and “The Prince and the Pauper,” will feature 20 solo and group performances by Broadway’s biggest stars re-creating their roles and music from “Phantom,” “Les Mis,” “Miss Saigon,” “Dreamgirls” and more.

Young people from Covenant House Michigan will also take the spotlight that evening joining in with the performers to showcase their own talents as well as share personal stories of resilience, hope and accomplishments.

Since 1997, Covenant House Michigan has helped thousands of homeless and at-risk young people annually. In addition to food and shelter, Covenant House provides job development services and crisis intervention to its residents and other young people. The agency operates an outreach van that drives through Metro Detroit-area neighborhoods and offers on the spot assistance to homeless and other needy youth.

Covenant House Michigan spearheaded three second chance high schools, Covenant House Academy (authorized through Grand Valley State University), to offer dropouts and at-risk youth the opportunity to obtain a high school diploma. Over 900 youth are enrolled each year. For more information on Covenant House Michigan, call 313-463-2000 or visit [www.covenanthousemi.org](http://www.covenanthousemi.org).

Tickets for “A Night of Broadway Stars” are \$250 per person. Sponsorship and program book opportunities are available as well. To purchase tickets and for more information, click the event link at [www.covenanthousemi.org/NOBS](http://www.covenanthousemi.org/NOBS).

The event begins at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 19 with a cocktail and hors d’oeuvres reception. Showtime begins at 7:45 p.m., with a Meet the Stars dessert reception at 9:15 p.m. “A Night of Broadway Stars” will be at the Gem and Century Theatres, 333 Madison St., Detroit.



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## State PFLAG Organizations Send Open Letter to Michigan Legislature

Fourteen organizations from all over Michigan representing parents, family members and allies to the LGBTQ communities signed an open letter May 5 to Michigan lawmakers affirming their support for the safety and well-being of all students. The letter was written in response to the recent threats of legislative backlash following the Michigan State Board of Education Statement and Guidance on Safe and Supportive Learning Environments for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) Students guidance released for public comment on March 14 of this year. Public comment was extended to May 11.

“According to the 2015 Michigan Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 41 percent of LGB students report being bullied on school property, yet Michigan remains one of 28 states that still does not have an enumerated anti-bullying and harassment policy to protect LGBTQ youth in schools. This saddens me,” said Terri Dinsmore, Michigan PFLAG state coordinator. “PFLAG supports The Guidance on Safe and Supportive Learning Environments for LGBTQ Students that was introduced in response to repeated requests for assistance from Michigan educators and school districts. We will oppose any legislation that would force transgender students into situations where their safety and well-being is at risk. We need to be doing what is best for all of our children.”

In this letter, families and allies make clear their support for the LGBTQ student and opposes any legislation targeting transgender students. They note that “transgender students are already at heightened risk for violence, bullying and harassment, and these bills exacerbate those risks by creating a hostile environment in one of the places they should feel the safest and most supported. In addition, students who would be affected by these bills are among our most vulnerable to experiencing depression and engaging in self-harm, including suicide.”

George Belvitch, president of PFLAG Plymouth-Canton, said, “As a parent, longtime educator and PFLAG leader, I am deeply concerned about the safety of our trans kids and the education they are getting in hostile school environments. And as a citizen, I am angry that this type of legislation would put us in clear violation of Title IX, and risk federal funding to already struggling school districts.”

Visit the guideline website at <http://everyvoicecountsmi.org>.

## Suit Seeks Records Tied to Ike's 1953 Anti-Gay Order

BY ERIC TUCKER

WASHINGTON (AP) — A gay rights group sued the Justice Department on April 27 for failing to produce hundreds of pages of documents related to a 1953 order signed by President Dwight Eisenhower that empowered federal agencies to investigate and fire employees thought to be gay.

The suit in U.S. District Court accuses the government of conducting an inadequate search for the material and of groundlessly withholding some records on the basis of national security.

Executive Order 10450 allowed broad categories of federal workers, including those with criminal records, drug addiction and “sexual perversion,” to be singled out for scrutiny and termination as threats to national security. Suspicions of homosexuality led to between 7,000 and 10,000 workers losing their jobs in the 1950s alone, according to one estimate cited in a 2014 report from the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board.

“We want to know, and history needs to know, how this thing was administered and how it was enforced, and what was the dynamic inside the Justice Department and the FBI driving” it, said Charles Francis, president of the Mattachine Society. The gay rights research and education organization has sought to obtain the records since 2013.

“This is an issue of public importance — how your government treats people who work for it, how your government has historically targeted people based on their LGBT status and destroyed their lives,” said Paul Thompson, a partner at McDermott Will and Emery LLP, the law firm that filed the Freedom of Information Act suit. “People are paying attention to this right now.”

Justice Department spokeswoman Nicole Navas declined to comment.

Eisenhower's order came at a time of widespread anti-gay discrimination authorized at the highest levels of government, including a 1950 Senate subcommittee report that concluded that gays were unsuitable as federal employees.

Under a “sex deviate program” put in place by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, agents were directed to “completely and fully” investigate anything about a prospective employee's sexual orientation developed during background checks. A May 1950 FBI bulletin to local police agencies told officers to make a notation on arrest fingerprint cards if anyone they arrested on suspicion of being a “sex deviate” worked for the federal government. The FBI collected copies of the

fingerprint cards.

“In other words, by the time of Eisenhower's election in November 1952, Hoover already was amassing a cache of information to use against homosexual employees of the federal government,” the lawsuit states. “And he was using state and local police as his deputies to gather it.”

The executive order went a step further by effectively approving of the investigation and firing of federal workers believed to be gay.

**Eisenhower's order came at a time of widespread anti-gay discrimination authorized at the highest levels of government, including a 1950 Senate subcommittee report that concluded that gays were unsuitable as federal employees.**

The government now makes it explicitly illegal to discriminate against federal employees on the basis of sexual orientation. President Barack Obama in 2014 signed an executive order to prohibit federal contractors from discriminating against gay workers, though he lamented that being gay can still be a fireable offense “in too many states and too many workplaces.”

While the government's position has changed dramatically since the 1950s, debate about the scope of LGBT rights persists in state legislatures and courthouses. Francis said the documents sought in the suit would help reveal early and overt anti-gay bias that lingers in some corners.

“The evidentiary history is critical to see the roots of the animus,” he said.

Documents culled from the National Archives, libraries and other sources have shed light on the order, as have several hundred pages already disclosed by the Justice Department. But Francis' group believes hundreds of additional pages that have been withheld could help flesh out the portrait.

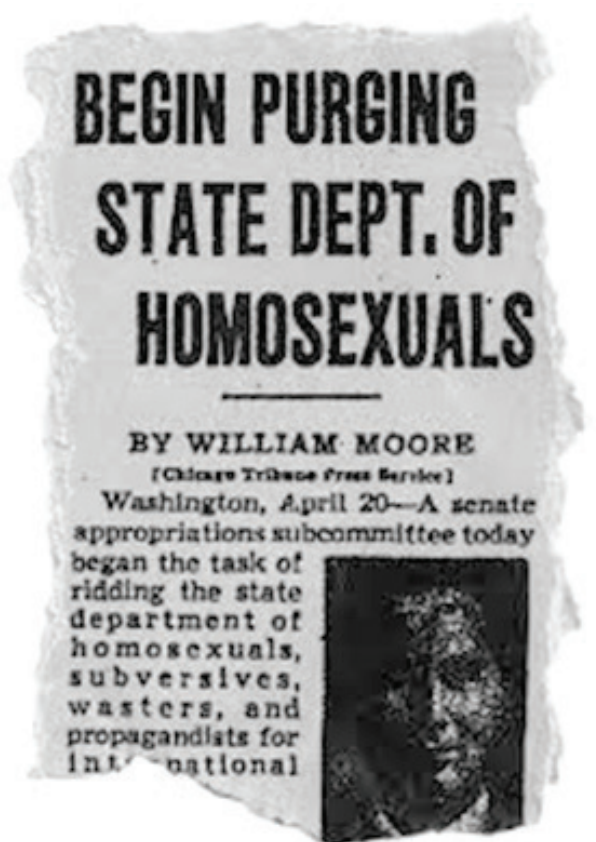
“We put the puzzle together but we're still missing an ocean of material,” he said.

The organization requested documents in January 2013, including all correspondence involving Warren Burger, a senior Justice

Department official tasked with helping enforce the order who later become chief justice of the Supreme Court.

The FBI has invoked multiple exemptions to the public records law, including a provision that protects against the disclosure of classified information for national security reasons — an assertion Thompson said he found “particularly troubling” because national security was the rationale of the order in the first place.

“What the lawsuit is for us is the final step



in us saying, ‘No, we really are serious’” Thompson said. “We are serious, and we're not going to stop until we feel like we have exhausted all possible avenues to obtain these records.”

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## Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

### A Meeting: Charles Past, Charles Present

It's been 60 years since I last saw the young man who sits across from me. He has, at 20, what a friend calls "the poetry of youth." An eager freshness that's a joy at my age to see. Once more.

He hasn't changed much. Still thin as a rail. Tall as ever. Same somewhat shy blue eyes. (But I have changed. Oh, my, my. Today celebrating my 80th birthday. Strangely enough, mentally I feel 38, 39, well, let's just say for the heck of it, would you believe 40?)

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

Yes, much has happened since those decades passing so quickly by. Harvey Milk. Stonewall Riots. AIDS. So many people we both knew are gone. A whole world has vanished. I'm bewildered by the sideshow that's taken its place. A nonstop carnival of glitter, guns, guttersnipe. Right-wing theocratic encroachment. Cruz. Trump. Palin. Fiorina. It scares the hell out of me.

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

Yes, much has happened since those decades passing so quickly by. Harvey Milk. Stonewall Riots. AIDS. So many people we both knew are gone. A whole world has vanished. I'm bewildered by the sideshow that's taken its place. A nonstop carnival of glitter, guns, guttersnipe. Right-wing theocratic encroachment. Cruz. Trump. Palin. Fiorina. It scares the hell out of me.

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

and, curiously, stranger.

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

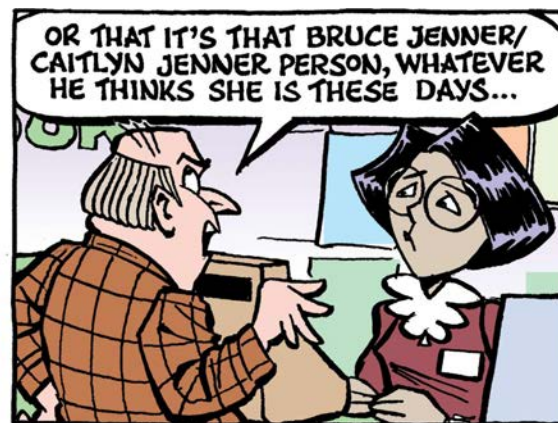
I wonder – did we ever exchange glances or greetings on that long-ago downtown Detroit gay street, Farmer & Bates thoroughfare? Did we take time to ever get even slightly acquainted? The important thing is that he somehow, unexpectedly, stopped by today. Did he sense it's my birthday?

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

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

He smiles. Not an open smile, but a smile of gentle introspection.

See Charles, next page



BY GWENDOLYN ANN SMITH

## Creating A Problem

### Transmissions

I had once erroneously thought that 2014 or 2015 was going to be the year of "pee politics," with clashes over trans bathroom rights taking up a fair amount of the time spent in fighting for transgender rights. Little did I know what 2016 had in store.

The biggest issue remains House Bill 2 in North Carolina, which is a batter that continues on. Gov. Pat McCrory remains defiant, even after the United States Department of Justice has informed him that the law violated the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

While McCrory likes to point to "liberal Democrats" somehow forcing his hand on HB2 – even after a report from the Charlotte News & Observer made it clear that both business leaders and other lawmakers tried to steer McCrory away from HB2 – it is the stroke of his pen that moved the trans rights movement to another level.

He is right, of course. None of this happened in a vacuum, and fights over transgender access to public accommodations have been ongoing for some time now. Anti-trans bathroom laws have especially taken off in the wake of Obergefell v. Hodges.

McCrory likes to claim that it was Charlotte, North Carolina's expansion of protections based on gender identity and sexual orientation that somehow forced him into action, citing "major public safety issues" in an email on Feb. 21.

"This shift in policy could also create major public safety issues by putting citizens in possible danger from deviant actions by individuals taking improper advantage of a bad policy," said McCrory.

Once again, McCrory was right in his concern – but, again, not quite in the way he may have been suggesting.

In the wake of the passage of HB2, many musicians have cancelled performances in North Carolina, and many businesses have shifted jobs and money out of the state. A handful of businesses have gone on record to say that all their bathrooms are trans friendly, most notably Target.

The Target policy has led to two important happenings. First, the American Family Association started an online petition, allowing people to sign onto a boycott of Target over the policy. The petition now has over 1.2 million signatures. It is also an unsecure online form that allows anyone to sign, multiple times, meaning that their claim is suspicious as best.

Second, it has led to a slew of reported cases of non-transgender people causing disruptions in bathrooms to either protest the policy, or to "police" restrooms for their possible use by transgender people.

Ellie DeLano on singlemomentism.com speaks of being spied on in the restroom by another woman, who stated in her defense, "Target lets men and homosexuals use just any bathroom now. I was making sure you were a

See Problem, next page



## ► Problem

Continued from p. 16

woman.”

Michael L. Merichko was charged with disorderly conduct after protesting the policy in a Bradley, Illinois Target location. On a video on his Facebook page, Merichko said, “I don’t want some wicked pervert in the same bathroom as my wife or my daughter.” This was his second run-in with police at this Target over the policy.

In Dallas, Texas, a man who followed her into the women’s room challenged Jessica Rush. He claimed that Rush, who is not transgender, was “dressed like a man” and was using the wrong facilities.

**How have we gotten here? In an attempt to score political points in an election year, an extremely toxic environment towards transgender people has been created – as if the record levels of anti-transgender violence and murder was not already plenty toxic to us.**

Joey Salads, a “YouTube Star,” donned a bad wig and floral dress and attempted to get responses to following women into restrooms and claiming to be “a transgender.” Or so it seemed: Zinnia Jones debunked his video on her Gender Analysis YouTube channel.

Oh, and we’re back to the American Family Association, too. Sandy Rios, who serves as the director of government affairs for the AFA, addressed the bathroom issue on the Breitbart New Daily radio show.

“I think there’s no question when you say that there are no barriers in the bathroom. The net effect will be that people will not be stopped,” said Rios. “We’ve already had

people testing this, going into Targets and men trying to go into bathrooms. There is absolutely no barrier.”

Now, perhaps they simply wanted more signatures on their online petition, but what Rios just admitted was that they were sending men – not transgender people – into women’s rooms at target, presumably to frighten and harass women in these facilities.

To date, there have been no proven instances of people using transgender bathroom rights in the way McCrory or the AFA claim. Instead, their actions are causing vastly more issues than actually exist when transgender people are allowed to use their proper facilities.

How have we gotten here? In an attempt to score political points in an election year, an extremely toxic environment towards transgender people has been created – as if the record levels of anti-transgender violence and murder was not already plenty toxic to us. For nearly 20 years I’ve spoken out against anti-transgender violence, but never before have we been fighting this hard for our humanity.

One final story, and this one did not happen in a bathroom: In Montreal, Québec, Canada, just one hour north of the New York border, a man entered the Metropolitan Center of Surgery. He had an axe, a machete and a can of gasoline. He then set fire to an operating room. The clinic is where Dr. Pierre Brassard performs gender reassignment surgeries.

It feels like we’re rapidly approaching a flashpoint. One of these confrontations will turn violent, or we’ll see more “anti-abortion style” attacks on our caregivers. All thanks to lawmakers like Pat McCrory and groups like the AFA, who felt they could score some political points.

*Gwen Smith hopes everyone stays safe. You can find her at [www.gwensmith.com](http://www.gwensmith.com).*

sooner. I wouldn’t drink to excess. I’d have fewer chance encounters. A lover or two. More friends. And I’d tell anybody who put us down – young you, old me – to go chuck it. Would I be gay again? Silly, silly boy!”

Ah! I’ve said the right thing. He laughs, wholeheartedly. “Great!” he beams, taking his leave. “It’s important to know someone who’s been there. Goodbye. For what it’s worth: God bless you.”

And, as we hug long at parting – maybe for the very last time – he adds so softly, so caring: “Thanks ever, Charles. Thanks for being the me in you that I’ve finally become.” And as he vanishes down life’s sun-shady neighborhood street, I wave goodbye, recalling to mind, “Gay is good.” We are indeed not alone. But after all, we are one.

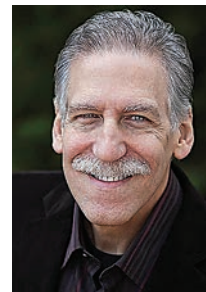
*Charles@pridesource.com*

# Creep of the Week

## Michael Brown

BY D’ANNE WITKOWSKI

**M**y 6-year-old son has two moms. For Mothers’ Day (and, yes, that’s where we put the apostrophe) he



Brown

gave both my wife (a.k.a. “Mommy”) and I cards with “coupons” for things like “let the dogs owt” and “serv dinr.” At school he drew both of our portraits and wrote a little essay about each of us. He wrote that I was “good at writing poetry” and that my wife’s favorite hobby is “worcinq owt.”

In the morning he made my wife breakfast (a cheese omelet, with a little help) and then in the evening he and my wife gave me a hot stone calf and foot massage. He was disappointed that we ran out of time to paint Mommy’s nails.

This Mothers’ Day was especially meaningful because it’s the first one I’ve been able to celebrate as a legal parent. Anti-gay marriage and adoption discrimination made me a legal stranger to my son for over five years of his life. Now my name is on his birth certificate and he has the protection of having two legal parents.

So when President Obama mentioned the existence of lesbian mothers – and even thanked us! – in his 2016 Mother’s Day Presidential Proclamation, that felt really good.

“Performing the most important work there is, mothers – biological, foster or adoptive – are our first role models and earliest motivators,” Obama wrote. “Regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or marital status, mothers have always moved our Nation forward and remained steadfast in their pursuit of a better and brighter future for their children.”

Not everybody was pleased, however.

Dr. Michael Brown, right-wing radio host and author of books like “Outlasting the Gay Revolution,” wrote an opinion piece on BarbWire in which he lamented, “It’s a real shame that our president, rather than just making a positive statement about the importance of our mothers, chose to politicize the moment, putting his radical social agenda above the sacredness of motherhood.”

Yes, what a shame that Obama should

acknowledge people like me as real mothers. As you can see by the examples at the beginning of this column, my wife and I are obviously raising our son to be an evil creep.

**Brown writes that it’s “sad” that “kids raised in a lesbian home will not be able to celebrate Father’s Day, and this by the choice of the moms.” Nope. That’s not sad. Kids who have abusive parents or who spend their lives tossed around in the foster care system? That’s sad. Having two moms who love you is not sad.**

But as far as Brown sees it, we are terrible parents because neither one of us has a penis.

Mind you, he does say “without a doubt, there are single moms, adoptive moms and lesbian moms who are deeply devoted to their kids and are doing their utmost to be the best parents they can be.”

**But** he goes on to say that these women are basically selfish bitches who never should have brought a child into this world without a man. Specifically without being married to a man.

He writes that it’s “sad” that “kids raised in a lesbian home will not be able to celebrate Father’s Day, and this by the choice of the moms.” Nope. That’s not sad. Kids who have abusive parents or who spend their lives tossed around in the foster care system? That’s sad. Having two moms who love you is not sad.

He then goes on to give some anecdotes about some girls becoming man-hating lesbians just like their moms! And how kids raised by trans mothers are likely to be trans, too. He doesn’t provide any evidence, because he doesn’t have to. It’s what his audience wants to hear, after all. Never mind that the majority of LGBT people were raised by heterosexual parents.

Not all mothers live up to Obama’s proclamation. Some mothers are terrible. Raising kids is a really hard job that demands everything of you. I am proud to be my son’s mom, and I don’t need Brown’s approval to celebrate Mothers’ Day, damn it.

## ► Charles

Continued from p. 16

Thoughtful. Troubled? (Maybe he’ll be a writer, a poet, an artist. He certainly has sensitivity. Will he make something of his life? Or get by on his looks? Ah, the age-old gay dilemma.)

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

“Near the finish?” (Hey, young guy: I’m not over the final hill yet.) “Different? Yes! I’d stay out of debt. I’d get a college degree

## Angsty Conservatives Licking Wounds in Age of Trump

BY NANCY BENAC

**WASHINGTON (AP)** – For a lot of angsty conservatives, there's more to worry about than just Donald Trump. There's the future of the conservative movement to consider.

The soul-searching over what to do with the Republican Party's presumptive presidential nominee includes a broader debate over who gets to define conservatism.

An Iowa talk show host on the right talks of conservatism going into “temporary exile.” A senator and self-described “movement conservative” still is casting about for an alternative to Trump and expected Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. The head of a grassroots conservative group in Texas wishes he could wake up from a dream and discover the Trump-as-nominee notion is nothing more than the product of indigestion from a bad burrito.

“The conservative movement, a movement I have been proud to be a part of, has been hijacked and twisted, and all the work we've done has been totally reversed,” laments RedState columnist Joe Cunningham.

The bitter irritation over Trump isn't just about ideology; there's ego in play, too.

“There are certain conservatives who view themselves as the brains and leadership of the movement who are somewhat offended that their call to action to stop Trump failed,” says Matt Schlapp, chairman of the American

Conservative Union, the oldest and largest conservative grassroots organization. “When they told people to go in a certain direction, the people didn't follow. And so there's a certain amount of ego and pride wrapped into the current state of affairs.”

For Schlapp, the answer to the what-now question is easy, although his organization hasn't made an endorsement. He's ready to “strongly, enthusiastically, full-throatedly” support Trump – given the Democratic alternative.

“Look,” he says, “Donald Trump is not on trial to determine whether or not he is an award-winning conservative. It is a choice between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton.”

Further, says Schlapp, Republican voters didn't reject conservatism to vote for Trump. They simply put a higher priority on Trump's shake-up-the-system message than they did on evaluating how his positions jibe with their policy manuals.

Some glass-half-full types say conservatives need to stop the gloom-and-doom over Trump, and use this as a teachable moment.

Michael Quinn Sullivan, head of the grassroots group Empower Texans, says conservatives should be reflecting on how they underestimated the frustration of the electorate and consider how they can do a better job of communicating with the millions of first-time voters Trump is bringing into the system.

“A lot of folks on the elected side of the

movement have been trying very hard to keep the lid on top of the frustration and the angst and the anger, and when it finally blows it gets a little messy,” says Sullivan. “We need to be encouraging some of our elected officials and some of our politicians and party officials to be willing to let the steam off, and be willing to engage folks at the level where they really are.”

Sullivan adds that based on his conversations with Texas voters, Trump's early supporters included plenty of frustrated conservative activists who decided, “I know he may not be necessarily exactly one of us, but he's going to go burn the place down. He's going to shake up the establishment.”

For now, though, Sullivan is with House Speaker Paul Ryan – just not ready to support Trump.

The speaker said Thursday: “Conservatives want to know, does he share our values and our principles on limited government, the proper role of the executive, adherence to the Constitution? There are a lot of questions that conservatives, I think, are going to want answers to, myself included.”

### Log Cabin Republicans

Gregory Angelo, president of the Log Cabin Republicans, which advocates for LGBT rights, says he hears from plenty of “died-in-the-wool conservatives who are splintered

right now in terms of where they're going.”

“The wounds are still fresh, as it were, and I don't think people are going to digest where we're headed until several months have gone by,” says Angelo, adding that his organization is “just as splintered and soul searching” as other GOP groups.

Exit polling in the primaries found Trump doing less well with people who are the most conservative.

Across all states so far where exit polling data is available, Trump voters included 36 percent of those who are very conservative, 43 percent of those who are somewhat conservative and 41 percent of moderates.

Count Sen. Ben Sasse of Nebraska among those who are most outspoken about the conservative dilemma.

He used a Facebook post after Trump's last GOP rivals dropped out to hold out hope for another option, saying he was willing to set aside “an ideological purity test, because even a genuine consensus candidate would almost certainly be more conservative than either of the two dishonest liberals now leading the two national parties.”

Syndicated talk show host Steve Deace in Iowa, in a column written for USA Today, was even more cutting about how the GOP has failed conservatives.

“Conservatism's role in the 2016 election is now over while the idiocracy takes it from here,” he wrote.

## Alabama Chief Justice Faces Ouster After Gay Marriage Fight

BY KIM CHANDLER

**MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)** – Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore – ousted from office more than a decade ago over a Ten Commandments display – now faces possible removal from the bench over his effort to block gay marriage from coming to that state after the U.S. Supreme Court effectively legalized same-sex marriage nationwide.

The Alabama Judicial Inquiry Commission on Friday filed ethics charges against Moore, saying that the state chief justice abused the power of his office and displayed disrespect for the judiciary. Moore, 69, has been automatically suspended from the bench until there is a resolution.

The charges stem from a Jan. 6 administrative order Moore sent to probate judges telling them an Alabama court order and law banning same-sex marriages remained in full force and effect even though the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* effectively legalized gay marriage six months prior.

“By issuing his unilateral order of January 6, 2016, Chief Justice Moore flagrantly disregarded a fundamental constitutional right

guaranteed in all states as declared by the United States Court in *Obergefell*,” the Judicial Inquiry Commission wrote in the charges.

The chief justice's order to probate judges also came even though a federal judge had enjoined probate judges from enforcing Alabama's same-sex marriage ban, the commission wrote.

The Court of the Judiciary will decide whether Moore is guilty of violating judicial ethics. If found guilty, he could face removal from office.

Moore issued a statement Friday night saying he doesn't believe the commission has authority over administrative orders and state court injunction. Moore, as he did in a press conference last week about the complaints, referenced a recent protest outside his office by gay and transgender people.

“The JIC has chosen to listen to people like Ambrosia Starling, a professed transvestite, and other gay, lesbian and bisexual individuals, as well as organizations which support their agenda. We intend to fight this agenda vigorously and expect to prevail,” Moore said.

The Southern Poverty Law Center, a civil rights legal advocacy group, filed the

complaint against Moore that led to Friday's charges.

“Moore has disgraced his office for far too long,” SPLC President Richard Cohen said. “He's such a religious zealot, such an egomaniac that he thinks he doesn't have to follow federal court rulings he disagrees with. For the good of the state, he should be kicked out of office.”

Moore previously served as Alabama's chief justice. The Court of Judiciary removed him from office after 2003 after he refused to comply with a federal court order to remove a boulder-sized Ten Commandments monument that he installed in the rotunda of the state judicial building.

Moore was re-elected in 2012. The fiery Republican chief justice has been an outspoken critic of same-sex marriage both on and off the bench. During a 2012 campaign stop he said gay marriage would be the “ultimate destruction of our country because it destroys the very foundation upon which this nation is based.” He sent a Jan. 27, 2015, letter to Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley asking him to stand up to “judicial tyranny” after a federal judge ruled Alabama's same-sex marriage ban

unconstitutional.

The chief justice held a press conference last week in Montgomery with attorney Mat Staver, who represented Kentucky clerk Kim Davis after she refused to issue marriage licenses. Moore and Staver criticized the Southern Poverty Law Center complaint as politically motivated.

Moore said he did not tell probate judges to defy a court order but was telling them that the Alabama Supreme Court order to refuse same-sex marriages had not been lifted.

“There is nothing in writing that you will find that I told anybody to disobey a federal court order. That's not what I said,” Moore said last week. Asked last week if judges should be issuing licenses to gay couples, Moore said it remained for “probate judge to decide.”

Despite Moore's January order, most Alabama counties are issuing marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples. However, a few Alabama counties have shut down marriage license operations and are not issuing them to anyone, in order to avoid giving licenses to gay couples.



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### ► Indiana

Continued from p. 10

from using a public restroom that corresponds to their identity. On CNN's State of the Union, he doubled down, suggesting the law was to prevent people from trying to use a bathroom based on "whatever you feel like at the given moment."

"This is the height of political correctness for Donald Trump to say, 'Yes, let grown men in the bathroom with little girls.'"

Trump never said that. He said he thought people should be able to "use the bathroom they feel is appropriate." (He also said he thought it was a matter for each state to decide.) On "Meet the Press" Cruz began a steep spiral downward into chaos, as he was asked to respond to former Republican House Speaker John Boehner's characterization of Cruz as "Lucifer in the flesh" and a "miserable son of a bitch."

Also on Sunday, many observers thought he seemed to deliberately turn his back on his running mate, Carly Fiorina, when she accidentally slipped off a rally stage. On Monday, he was penned in by a circle of reporters as a group of grinning Trump supporters rudely confronted him with "Indiana don't want you" and "Are you Canadian?" On Tuesday, he was pranked by a Trump

supporter who asked for a handshake then withdrew his hand and called Cruz a "fish monster." And then he had to respond to Trump's discussion on Fox News Tuesday morning of an article in the National Enquirer claiming Cruz's father associated with Lee Harvey Oswald just prior to the assassination of President Kennedy.

Cruz seemed to start coming apart: He engaged in an unusually harsh rant against Trump, calling him a "pathological liar" and "narcissist" and said he is "utterly amoral" and "mindless."

"Yes, my dad killed JFK, he's secretly Elvis and Jimmy Hoffa is buried in his backyard," said Cruz, mocking Trump.

### Kasich Hangs On, Drops Out

Ohio Gov. John Kasich did not campaign heavily in Indiana, in part because of an agreement he and Cruz had to divide up the remaining primaries in order to have a better chance of stopping Trump's march to the nomination. But Kasich, too, had to handle an LGBT-related question this week. While Kasich was taking questions during an appearance April 29 in San Francisco, an audience member told him, "Gay people are human beings and not a lifestyle choice. Please respond without prayer being an answer." Kasich responded

that he doesn't believe in discrimination but thinks "there is a balance, however, between discrimination and people's religious liberties."

"I think we should just try to, like, take a chill pill, relax and try to get along with one another a little bit better instead of trying to write some law to solve a problem that doesn't frankly exist in big enough numbers to justify more lawmaking." The response was similar to ones he's given on the campaign trail in other states, when asked about gay marriage or North Carolina's bathroom laws.

He also said he thinks some people are "probably" born gay.

"But I don't see any reason to hurt you or to discriminate (against) you or make you feel bad or make you feel like a second-class citizen," said Kasich. "I don't think that's right. So let's just, like, respect one another a little bit more, tolerate each other's individual beliefs. And I'm not going to sign any law in Ohio that is going to create discrimination against anybody."

Kasich's campaign said Tuesday night the governor would continue campaigning at least until Trump secures the 1,237 delegates needed to clinch the nomination. But on May 4, the campaign said Kasich would suspend his campaign later in the day.

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# Go Girl Saugatuck! at Dunes Resort June 3-5

BY CAROL TANIS

Formerly known as “Women’s Weekend” at the Dunes, Go Girl Saugatuck! has been rebranded with a new name by producer Mimi Gonzalez and it’s loaded with many more events. Everything from dancing to comedy to music to partying will be happening at the Dunes Resort June 3-5.

Gonzalez, who is a nationally-touring comedian, hosts this unforgettable weekend packed with activities including dancing, karaoke, a pool party, live music and a comedy show, workshops and a tea dance, as well as a fire pit and Sunday brunch hosted by Campit Resort.

Two DJs, one from Detroit and one from Chicago, will be spinning to get things going on the dance floor.

The weekend promises to be among the season’s best opportunities to hang out with friends and make new ones.

“I’m going to try to have something for everybody,” Gonzalez says. “It’s something brand new. I encourage everyone to come and help me launch it. We’re going to have a great party at the Dunes that’s for everybody: lesbian, straight and queer! I want all of the bar hardies and clubbers to come to this event.”

Gonzalez is serving as the weekend’s host and will have attendees laughing non-stop with her high-octane humor during her comedy portion of Saturday night’s show. A native of Michigan and proud of her roots, she has played Pride events from New York City to San Francisco to Atlanta, to name just a few. Gonzalez is a regular at Provincetown and with Olivia women’s travel. She’s wowed women with her humor at the Michigan Womyn’s Festival and has also entertained the U.S. military in Japan, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Her years in the field have built a lot of relationships along the way. Not only will she perform and produce, but Gonzalez has lined up a roster of events and musical artists not to be missed. Go Girl Saugatuck! is a return to her producing beginnings in Los Angeles where she ran an event called “Women with Balls.” The weekly women’s comedy room was consistently chosen by LA Weekly as the “pick of the week.”

Friday night kicks off at 7 p.m. with one of the Dune’s regular fabulous attractions – a karaoke party. Then at 9 p.m. Detroit’s DJ Lena launches the dance floor. DJ Lena has been spinning since 2006 at clubs throughout the Metro

Detroit area. Her appearances include Detroit’s Movement Festival, Ferndale Pride, Beyond The Bar, Motor City Pride, Michigan Womyn’s Festival, and Lavender Ladies Valentine’s and NYE Dances. She won “best female DJ” in Flame magazine’s Best Of Detroit Contest in 2012.

Saturday the party starts with



Mimi Gonzalez

workshops available to all who have Go Girl Saugatuck! weekend passes. The schedule is still being finalized, but the likely topics to be covered include instruction by Detroit’s “Ball Room Chicks,” making the online program LinkedIn work for you, a writing class, and a movement class.

The pool party begins at noon and will be hosted by a Dunes DJ in the resort’s party-size pool.

The comedy and music show, which will also feature surprise guests, includes Mimi Gonzalez and features acoustic rock and soul performer Reina Williams. Williams’ bio states, “If Lauryn Hill, Lenny Kravitz, Pink and Justin Timberland could miraculously make a love child, it would be Reina Williams. Daughter of an opera singer and a sculptor, Williams began writing music at age 12. In 2011, she made an appearance on FOX Network’s ‘The X-Factor’ where Simon Cowell said of her, ‘She made my year!’”

After the comedy and music show, Chicago DJ “All the Way Kay,” the reigning queer female DJ of more than 10 years, will get everyone on the dance floor. She matches beats with seamless transition, producing sets that are as sonically varied as Chicago’s streets.

“All the Way Kay” has held residency at numerous Chicago bars and nightclubs.

On Sunday, the Dunes’ afternoon tea dance features a DJ from the Dunes. There’s also a brunch being offered at Campit Resort, which is just six miles from the Dunes Resort.

While the rooms at the Dunes are sold out, the Dunes’ staff can refer attendees to nearby hotels that are within walking distance. Just a short drive away from the Dunes is Campit Outdoor Resort, which caters to the LGBT crowd. Tent, trailer and RV sites are available, along with small “sleeper” cabins, vintage trailers and a bed and breakfast lodge. Campit has more than 150 campsites spread over 33 acres and also features a swimming pool. All attendees are encouraged to use the GOGIRL16 code to receive a discount on their lodging.

“I want new people who’ve never been to the area to come and see how beautiful Saugatuck and Douglas are,” Gonzalez says. “Go enjoy a day trip to gay-friendly Oval Beach and don’t miss the beautiful Saugatuck Dunes. Lake Michigan on the west side of the state has the most gorgeous fresh water, ocean-looking sunset.”

Gonzalez is passionate about making everyone feel welcome at Go Girl Saugatuck! “I am determined to create an event that is truly inclusive,” she says. “I’m all about radical inclusion. I invite everybody to Go Girl Saugatuck!, including gay, straight, young, old, festies and clubbies. Come socialize, laugh, relax and party at West Michigan’s premier gay resort!”

To buy tickets, go to dunesresort.com. A weekend pass is \$20, Friday is \$10 and Saturday is \$15. Buy the weekend pass for \$20 and save \$5. Passes cover all events at the Dunes Resort including the pool party, the shows in the cabaret, the fire pit and the disco.

The Dunes Resort is located at 333 Blue Star Highway, Douglas. Contact the resort at 269-857-1401 or by going to gogirlsaugatuck.com.

Campit Outdoor Resort is at 6635 118th Ave., Fennville. Contact Campit at 269-543-4335 or by visiting campitresort.com.

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# Secrets, Lies & Videotape

## LGBT Activist's 'Memories of a Penitent Heart' Seeks Truth About the HIV-Positive Gay Uncle Her Family Shunned

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Cecilia Aldarondo's uncle Miguel died of AIDS-related illness in the mid-1980s when she was 6. She barely knew him, and then he was gone. Moreover, Miguel's truth was obliterated. His life as a gay man? Just a "disease." His longtime partner, Robert? Not even a mention in the obituary.

Fast forward thirty years. Set against the backdrop of dense cultural and rigid

Catholic influences, Miguel's niece exposes the family's buried secrets in her captivating film "Memories of a Penitent Heart," which played this year's Tribeca Film Festival and continues its rollout throughout 2016. In the touching doc, the first-time filmmaker reunites the remaining members of her family for a series of interviews, along with revealing historical context, to uncover the truth about the uncle she never knew. Here is her story, in her own words:

### The catalyst

My mom found some 8mm home movies in the garage and that actually preceded my desire to find things out. Also, my grandfather had passed away the year before and there was a lot of stuff around his death. When somebody has just died, everyone is still mourning them and talking about them, so that was around the same time. It started out as more

idle conversations. The more I talked about (my uncle) with my mother and other family members, I was like, "Wait a minute. I'm not very comfortable with this."

### The first shoot

I started filming in 2011. I went to Puerto Rico with some friends and we literally just stole some cameras from school and flew to Puerto Rico. We filmed in the cemetery where

“People have asked me, ‘What do you want people to do when they see this film?’ I say, ‘I want them to pick up the phone and call somebody they might not know how to talk to or maybe just put your stuff aside for a second and try and actually connect with somebody.’ That’s my Pollyannaish hope. But I do think that there are a lot of different ways to transform society, and one of the ways to transform society is at the most intimate level.”

my uncle was buried. I had no idea what it was at that point. It really was me chasing a series of hunches for a really long time.

## The crisis

I approached making the film by doing as much research as possible. I was born in 1980, so I was a kid when AIDS was becoming an epidemic and it was in the background for me. AIDS and my uncle were these ghostly presences but not something I really understood. From the very beginning of making the film I just started reading as much as I could and seeing as many films as I could as a way to familiarize myself with the context in which he was existing. I started with reading “And the Band Played On,” and I just remember weeping throughout the whole book, because I knew it was bad... I just didn’t know how bad.

## The importance of ‘being generous toward one another’

I think in so many stories of discrimination – not just LGBT discrimination but any kind of discrimination – we can often get very black and white about who the victim is and who the perpetrator is. What I would like this film to make possible is for people who see it to put themselves in the other person’s shoes, whether it’s a parent who has a gay child and doesn’t know how to talk to them or the opposite – a gay person who has a lot of resentment toward a family member. How can these people try to come to a mutual understanding and be generous toward one another?

## ‘You just changed my life’

There’s one guy, a longtime survivor who lost a lot of people during the peak crisis years, and he said the film enabled him to look at things that he’s been scared to look at for years. Another guy, a 20-something Puerto Rican

guy, came up to me after the second screening in tears and was like, “You just changed my life.” He was like, “I was seeing my own story on the screen.” Those are the kinds of things where I’m like, “OK, I’m done.” (Laughs)

There’s all this intense pressure around, where’s the film gonna go next? And what are the critics saying? Ultimately, none of that matters. What I wanted was for people to look at their own lives and their own stories, and if people are having those kind of reactions, that tells me I’m doing something right.

## Her hope

People have asked me, “What do you want people to do when they see this film?” I say, “I want them to pick up the phone and call somebody they might not know how to talk to or maybe just put your stuff aside for a second and try and actually connect with somebody.” That’s my Pollyannaish hope. But I do think that there are a lot of different ways to transform society, and one of the ways to transform society is at the most intimate level.

## Her mother’s journey to acceptance

I think for my mom this is a very scary and challenging thing. She’s a product of her time; there are still things she can’t get her head around, but she’s really invested and grateful for what this film can do for people. She really wants to promote love and acceptance, and I think we do agree on the principle of what the film is trying to achieve. But we still disagree. She doesn’t see things the way I do, but that doesn’t mean that she doesn’t want this film to help her change, to help the world change. I think she wants to be an advocate for mutual understanding between LGBT people and their families. I think she believes very strongly in that.

See *Penitent Heart*, page 26



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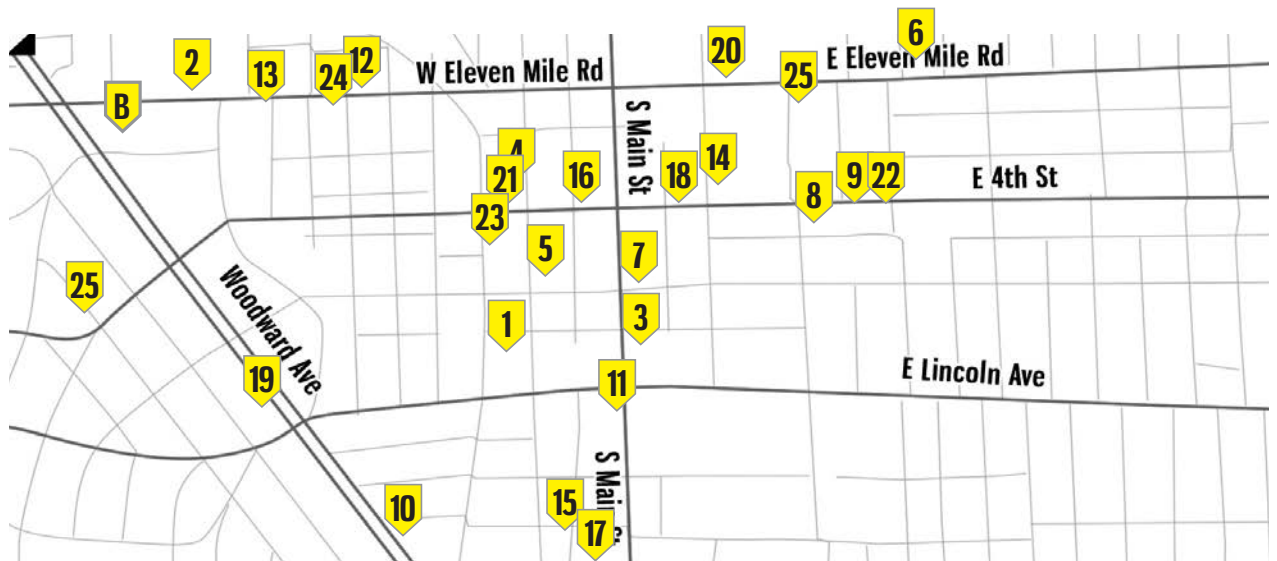
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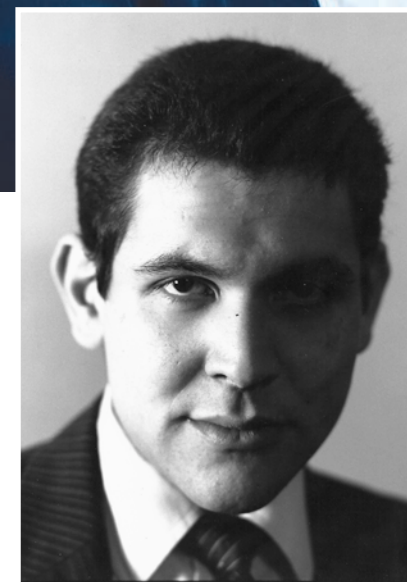
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(Top) Filmmaker Cecilia Aldarondo. (Right) Her uncle Miguel.



## ► Penitent Heart

Continued from p. 23

### Seeing the film with her family

It was kind of insane. The Florida Film Festival screening was in my hometown – I grew up in Orlando – and so my entire family came out for it. It was a crazy thing that this movie was, like, splashing our history on the screen and everybody was just so happy about it. (Laughs)

### A different kind of activism

I always had this feeling my uncle was cool. I grew up in the suburbs. I didn't have any artist role models and I had this uncle who died, who was living in New York, and he was an actor and it just sounded like he was really cool. The more I was learning about the AIDS crisis, I was really hopeful... I wanted him to be in ACT UP or something. I wanted him to be a card-carrying guy who's, like, in the streets (laughs). I didn't want him to be mainstream. I was really excited when I

found out he was into leather! (Laughs)

I wanted this cool uncle, and I was kind of disappointed when I realized that he wasn't that kind of activist. At the same time, I found these letters where he would write to my grandmother and to my mom, and in these letters he's so eloquent and so loving, and also grounded and convinced of who he is. He was being an activist with *them*. He was fighting for himself. That was so amazing to me.

So, I would say it's less that he was an influence on me and more that I felt that we were working together. There are certain moments where it feels like a collaboration between us. There's (been) nothing more gratifying than when my dad said to me that my uncle would be proud of me and that is, again, one of those moments where it's like, I can't do better than that.



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# 5 Reasons You Need to Stop Treating Your Gym Like a Bathhouse

BY MIKEY ROX

Visit a gym in any major city and you'll quickly pick up on the local "culture." You know what I'm talking about. New York and Los Angeles, specifically, are notorious for the goings-on in its gyms showers, steam rooms and saunas. It's become such a huge problem in certain places that there are signs posted warning guests about lascivious behavior, and a handful of locations have removed the locker-room relaxation stations altogether to discourage such activities. While I contend that exercising your demons to completion can be exciting and fun and – probably, the most appealing part of it – anonymous, it can make other gym-goers uncomfortable. Thus, five reasons you need to stop treating your gym like a bathhouse – if you know what's good for you.

## 1. You're making other people uncomfortable with all that cruising

Although it may seem like everybody came to the gym to get a "full body" workout – from your perspective, anyway – not every guy in the joint is looking for play. Believe it or not, the majority of dudes are there to get their lift on and go about their day. Staring bros down with come-hither glances may work on some patrons, but there are a high percentage of people who aren't into



it – at all. Of course, as gay men we think every hot bloke pumping iron must be at least a little bit homo, but that's rarely the case. Do what you came to the gym to do – stay active and healthy – and save the cruising for the bars and

bedroom apps where they belong, lest you become a homophobe's new punching bag.

## 2. Most guys prefer discretion in the locker room

It must be a generational thing, because when I'm in the locker room I rarely see guys my age – I'm 35 years old – milling about with their junk hanging out. Rather, it's the older crowd that likes to walk around naked, stand at their locker for an extended period of time in the buff (sending minutes-long emails, no less), and generally move at a glacial pace drying off every nook

and cranny of their bodies. Certainly that's not a definitive statement – there are men of all ages trying to entice the rippling mass of man-flesh next to them with an ample showing of their own skin – but from my experience there's consistently an age gap between those of us who from go from soaking wet post-shower to dry and draped in clothing in less than 60 seconds and those who could've had a three-martini lunch in the time it takes them to put on a pair of underwear.

## 3. Likewise, most guys came to workout and relax – not hookup

Your gym's saunas and steam rooms exist to serve its customers with a place to unwind and loosen tight muscles after an intense workout. They were not installed for anybody to have sex inside them, despite popular opinion. But thanks to the bathhouse culture that's deeply rooted within our community, we've come to regard any heated, clothing-optional area as a destination of desire. Sure, these spaces and situations can be sexy – exposed private parts have a way of getting a rise out of people, after all – but not all

occupants are up for getting down. That's not to say that two consenting adults can't make a go of it, but you shouldn't put anyone else out, run them off, or otherwise make them uncomfortable because you want to act out a fantasy. You have a bedroom for that. And if your boyfriend is home – making a one-on-one tryst with a gym trick a no-go – that's your problem and nobody else's.

## 4. What you're doing in the 'facilities' is unsanitary

All that grimy sweat pooling on the benches and floors of steam rooms and saunas aside, the fact remains that not everyone showers before they enter; that's issue number one, and it's pretty disgusting if you've just come from a five-mile run on the treadmill. Secondly, if you're having sexual contact with another person in these rooms, you're introducing a whole host of other bacteria to the scenario that, personally, I'd rather do without – and I'm not alone. I've witnessed plenty of questionable activities happen here – from making out to oral sex to full-on penetration – and I'm never more disgusted (or run out of a room quicker) than when a guy blows his load all over the wood or tile structures instead of his towel and quickly exits without a second thought about cleaning it up. This is how things like death get spread, and it needs to stop.

## 5. Performing lewd acts in public is illegal

While the after-exercise facilities at your gym seem like private places – low lights and condensation-covered doors have a way of suggesting to your subconscious that they are – they're still very much public. As such, if you get caught performing lewd acts in public, you're subject to the codes of conduct that help keep our world free from sexual predators – and that's exactly how you'll be defined, perhaps forever if you're charged with a criminal act. Now, most gyms will simply ask you to leave and revoke your membership in this case, but if you've offended or touched someone else without their consent, it could mean big trouble, and in the end that's just not worth it. Which brings me back to the bathhouse: If you're feeling frisky, head over there. Otherwise, keep your love muscle to yourself at the gym and nobody gets hurt.



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# Hear Me Out

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

## Cyndi Lauper, Rihanna



### Cyndi Lauper, 'Detour'

Girls just want to have... a country album? If you're Cyndi Lauper and your repertoire is as delightfully ADHD as hers – the American Songbook, pop ear-candy, the blues, a damn musical (she won a Tony for "Kinky Boots") – the next "logical step" is, well, inevitably illogical. But hearing the "Time After Time" singer channel good ol' honky-tonk alongside a mélange of veterans isn't so unusual after all; in fact, Lauper sings this collection of country classics as if she never even turned the pop world upside down three decades ago with a string of bubbly hits and timeless power ballads. She did, of course, but on "Detour," she sinks her cowboy boots so far into Nashville soil it's hard to believe this is the same Cyndi whose polished pop songs continue to abide under the disco glow of the gay clubs. Even so, Cyndi's personality and charisma is intact, from the yelpy runs on Guy Mitchell's 1959 No. 1 single "Heartaches by the Numbers" to the husband-and-wife razzing she and Vince Gill partake in on "You're the Reason Our Kids Are Ugly." Lauper's version of Patsy Cline's "I Fall to Pieces" is a staggering achievement. Just listen to the way Lauper enters the track, her voice low and husky and, through and through, divine; yes, hand over the Best Female Country Vocal

Grammy right now. Skeeter Davis' 1963 hit "End of the World" also gets a lovely Lauper reading. That quiver near the end? Ah, nice touch. Though the singer recently confirmed that she's working on another Broadway musical, let's hope she laces up her cowgirl boots and takes another detour as radical and rich as this. *Grade: A-*



### Rihanna, 'ANTI'

Rihanna can sing. Soar and dip and drop – she's no Adele (because who is?) but when the Barbadian pop princess commits

herself, the result is otherworldly. So if creative differences are the reason behind RiRi's decision to split with longtime label Def Jam (she's now with Jay Z's Roc Nation), going in for the vocal kill, as she does on "Love on the Brain," is the best kind of record-label retribution. The swaying slowie is refreshingly not-Rihanna, unless you've envisioned that Ri's time offstage is spent belting Etta James' classics. That's what this soul throwback resembles, after all. Her fluttery voice is dramatic and full, and she slays every syllable, channeling

her inner vocal goddess. "ANTI," the "Umbrella" singer's surprise drop, then, resists the Rihanna we knew, the one who wasn't known for the kind of avant-garde, Beyoncé-like wildcard that "ANTI" is. Let her pointedly remind you that she, too, can dig deep and pour her innermost feelings all over a solo piano, which she does on "Close to You." Listen as she lashes out at an ex-beau, which she does atop the slinky grind of "Needed Me." Yes, like 2009's head-turner "Rated R," Rihanna excels when she challenges not just herself but those who expect the superficiality of her baity-and-sometimes-bland singles, from "S&M" (bland) to "We Found Love" (not bland). That's not to say that now, eight albums in, Rihanna is getting everything right (that grating Drake collaboration, "Work," is a bust), but her persona-altering diversions are less eager to please and more eager to be everything you thought she couldn't be. *Grade: B*

## Also Out

### Margo Price, 'Midwest Farmer's Daughter'

Rural flavor meets Southern sizzle – and, naturally, the dive bar down the street – on Margo Price's superbly drawn "Midwest Farmer's Daughter." The Nashville singer-songwriter is heated during the jukebox jam "Since You Put Me Down," directing her drinking problem – and a prayer that requests her "voice haunt you above the ground" – at a cheat. A compliment to both Price and her throwback style, the cheeky song could be mistaken for a Tammy Wynette cover. Heck, the entirety of "Midwest Farmer's Daughter," with its hard-won narratives and vintage production, and all the way through the mellifluous coda "World's Greatest Loser," is a classic country stunner.

### Lukas Graham, 'Lukas Graham'

At 11, Danish child actor-turned-pop star Lukas Graham Forchhammer was "smoking herb" and heeding to his father's advice to "go get yourself a wife or you'll be lonely" because he didn't know the difference. He distills that truth into "7 Years," his personal verity and the launch track for his band's respectable debut. Ed Sheeran, Jason Mraz, Gavin DeGraw, Five for Fighting – the comparisons are apparent. From the rollicky "Annie"-sampled "Mama Said" to the pained "Happy Home" and the churchy campfire sing-along "Funeral," this is old-soul folk-pop designed for maximum cross-generational appeal.

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## Author of Novel Featuring Transgender Tween Visits Ferndale Library

Author of a new novel focusing on the experiences of a trans youth, titled "George," will be featured at the Ferndale Library May 17 to talk about their book, offer a book signing and provide a meet-and-greet for fans beginning at 6:30 p.m.



Author Alex Gino

"Be Who You Are," begins the book description for "George." The 2015 novel follows a fourth grade transgender girl who is known to almost everyone as George – her birth name. When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy; she knows she's a girl.

While the book follows George, author Alex Gino – who identifies as gender queer and prefers the pronouns they/them – specifically used female pronouns to identify the protagonist on each page. Just as George thinks she'll have to keep this secret forever, a window of opportunity opens when "Charlotte's Web" is announced as the year's class play. When George wants to play Charlotte, the teacher denies her an audition because she's a boy. The book becomes about much more than George's plan to win the part: it chronicles how everyone can know, once and for all, who she is.

"Well, we're both trans, white, bad at sports and grew up in New York. (I grew up in Staten Island; she lives an hour north of the city)," Gino says of the character. "We both want to be seen for who we are, and we both love Mario Kart! In other ways, we're not all that similar. I knew I was different as a kid, but I could never have named my gender as clearly as Melissa knows for herself. Part of that is about the fact that I'm genderqueer. Another part is that Melissa was born into a different culture than I was, one in which she's able to find the word transgender and what it means outside of an afternoon talk show brawl," Gino said in a September 2015 interview with the Guardian.

Gino has been an active proponent of providing more space in children's literature for transgender voices to be heard, telling specifically transgender stories.

In 2016 Gino won the American Library Association's 2016 Stonewall Book Award, and they are an active member of the online campaign We Need Diverse Books: <http://weneeddiversebooks.org>.

The Ferndale Library is located at 222 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale.

## June Pride Events Coming Up

From Hart Plaza to Kalamazoo, Michiganders will have a chance every weekend in June to gather, celebrate and share in great local entertainment.

Beginning with this edition of BTL, where Ferndale Pride announces the headliner profiled on page 8, we will have extensive coverage throughout May and June.

Volunteers are needed to help, so locate your favorite city and pitch in. You can find an organization near you online at [www.pridesource.com](http://www.pridesource.com). Search the extensive Gay Yellow Page listings for LGBTQ Pride groups near you at [pridesource.com/directory.html](http://pridesource.com/directory.html).

## OUTINGS

### Thursday, May 12

**Holland Tulip Festival** 7 a.m. \$75 person Step On Bus Tours, 215 W Troy St. Ste2046, **Ferndale**. 248-619-6692. [steponbustours@gmail.com](mailto:steponbustours@gmail.com) [www.steponbustours.com/trips.html](http://www.steponbustours.com/trips.html)

**Gilda's Big Night Out** 6 p.m. Tickets are \$100, \$200, and \$500. All proceeds fund out mission of ensuring anyone impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action and sustained by community totally free of charge. Gilda's Club Metro Detroit, an affiliate of Cancer Support Community, 3711 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 248-577-0800. [kgrams@gildasclubdetroit.org](mailto:kgrams@gildasclubdetroit.org) [www.gildasbignightout.org](http://www.gildasbignightout.org)

**A Conversation with the Author of The Danish Girl** 7 p.m. On May 12 the author of *The Danish Girl* will be on stage at the Traverse City Opera House to talk about his book adapted into an Academy Award-winning movie. He also wrote *The 19th Wife*, a #1 bestseller. This is author David Ebershoffs ONLY engagement in Michigan. David is a former Random House editor who oversaw more than 20 bestselling books and three Pulitzer Prize winners. *Out Magazine* twice named him to its annual *Out 100* list of influential LGBT people. If you're out of town, the GT Resort will give you a discount. Host National Writers Series is a nonprofit that supports aspiring young writers. The National Writers Series, 106 E. Front St., **Traverse City**. 231-941-8082 206. [box-office@cityoperahouse.org](mailto:box-office@cityoperahouse.org) [www.cityoperahouse.org](http://www.cityoperahouse.org)

### Friday, May 13

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### Saturday, May 14

**Relay for Life** 8 a.m. Run for Your Life Fun Run (5K) 8 a.m. More events, including Bark for Life, throughout the morning. Relay for Life, 105 E. Bennett St., **Saline**. [grunch11@cloud.com](mailto:grunch11@cloud.com) [www.Relayforlife.org/salinemi](http://www.Relayforlife.org/salinemi)

**Meet Your Best Friend at the Zoo** Dogs, cats, puppies and kittens from more than 30 animal welfare organizations will be available for adoption. Free (standard admission rates into the zoo apply). The Michigan Humane Society and The Detroit Zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile Road, **Royal Oak**. 248-283-1000. [www.Michiganhumane.org](http://www.Michiganhumane.org)

**Dignity Detroit's 42nd Anniversary Dinner Dance** 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$50-350. None will be sold at the door. Dignity Detroit, 23400 Park St., **Dearborn**.

**Dan Savage's 11th Annual HUMP! Film Festival** 9:30 p.m. The HUMP! Film Festival is still the only place to see creative, homegrown porn. HUMP! Tour, 233 S. State St., **Ann Arbor**. [www.humpfilmfest.com](http://www.humpfilmfest.com)

### Sunday, May 15

**Casa Valentina** 2 p.m. Play explores identity struggle and "the girl within." Tickets: \$18. Stagecrafters, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., **Royal Oak**. 248-541-6430. [www.Stagecrafters.org](http://www.Stagecrafters.org)

### Tuesday, May 17

**International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia** International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia, **Everywhere**. [Dayagainsthomophobia.org/](http://Dayagainsthomophobia.org/)

**Alex Gino book signing** 6:30 p.m. Author of novel featuring transgender tween, "George." Ferndale Library, 222 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. [Weneeddiversebooks.org](http://Weneeddiversebooks.org)

### Wednesday, May 18

**Relationship Skills Class** This 7-session series is for LGBTQ people and their friends & loved ones. Topics include: exploring relationship values, healthy conflict resolution, establishing boundaries, accountability and building community connections. This series is open to everyone, regardless of relationship status or relationship history. The cost of the series is \$35 per person. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [www.Goaffirmations.org](http://www.Goaffirmations.org)

### Thursday, May 19

**A Night of Broadway Stars: A Benefit for Covenant House** 6 p.m. Tickets: \$250. Covenant House, 333 Madison St., **Detroit**. [www.Covenanthousemi.org/NOBS](http://www.Covenanthousemi.org/NOBS)

### Friday, May 20

**Interfaith Reproductive Justice Conference** Registration: \$20. Woodside Church, 1509 E. Court St., **Flint**. 248-549-5170. [www.Ujjustice.org](http://www.Ujjustice.org)

**LGBT Speed Dating: For Chocolate Loving Males** 6:30 p.m. Both events are open to trans and gender queer individuals. The cost is \$10 which covers participant's first drink from our full espresso bar and a choice of truffle. For ages 21-35. Gayle's Chocolates, 417 S. Washington Ave., **Royal Oak**. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/speed-dating-at-gayles-for-single-gay-males-aged-21-35-tickets-24817766608>

### Saturday, May 21

**Annual Picnic in the Park** 2 p.m. Food, Beverages, Veggie Options, Desserts, Games, 50/50 Raffle, Music, Performance by Sing Out Detroit, Prizes & Surprises! Sing Out Detroit, 1101 W. 13 Mile, **Royal Oak**. [www.Singoutdetroit.org](http://www.Singoutdetroit.org)

**Oak**. [www.Singoutdetroit.org](http://www.Singoutdetroit.org)

**LGBT Speed Dating: For Chocolate Loving Females** 6:30 p.m. First drink is free and truffles will be given out. For ages 21-35. Gayle's Chocolates, 417 S. Washington Ave., **Royal Oak**. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/speed-dating-at-gayles-for-single-gay-females-aged-21-35-tickets-24818161790>

**Destination: Me - The Journey of Transformation** 8 p.m. Join Out Loud for a journey of transformation. Selections include a medley from Kinky Boots, Defying Gravity, Unwritten, Beautiful and I've Gotta Be Me. Paul Haebig directs the chorus with Annie Jeng on piano, Edie Herrold on bass and Tamara Perkuhn on percussion. \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door, \$12 for students and seniors, free for children under 4. Tickets available online, from chorus members or at Common Language Books. Out Loud Chorus, 530 S. State St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-265-0740. [outloudchorus@gmail.com](mailto:outloudchorus@gmail.com) [www.OLonline.org](http://www.OLonline.org)

### Tuesday, May 24

**Transgender Day of Visibility Art Show** Pittmann-Puckett Gallery, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [www.Goaffirmations.org](http://www.Goaffirmations.org)

**Naked Men's Yoga** 6:30 p.m. Naked Men's Yoga, **Ann Arbor**. [message4@aol.com](mailto:message4@aol.com) [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan\\_mens\\_clothing\\_optional\\_yoga](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan_mens_clothing_optional_yoga)

## THEATER

### Civic/Community Theater

**Disney's The Jungle Book** A2CT Junior Theatre presents Disney's "Jungle Book Kids," directed by Caitlin Rowe. Tickets: \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and children. Ann Arbor Civic Theatre, Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin Ave., **Ann Arbor**. May 13 - May 15. 734-971-2228. [www.a2ct.org/junior-theatre/disney-s-jungle-book](http://www.a2ct.org/junior-theatre/disney-s-jungle-book)

### Professional

**Heathers the Musical** Tickets: \$10-25. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. May 13 - June 13. 248-545-5545. [www.TheRingwald.com](http://www.TheRingwald.com)

**Rogers & Hammerstein's The Sound of Music**

**Music** Directed by Jack O'Brien. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., **Detroit**. May 10 - May 22. 313-872-1000. [www.Broadwayindetroit.com](http://www.Broadwayindetroit.com)

## ART 'N' AROUND

**Detroit's Pioneer Building "PIONEERS"** Curated by Peter Gahan, this varied exhibition features painting, photography, mixed media, glass work, encaustic, drawing and fiber. Cass Cafe, 4620 Cass Ave., **Detroit**. April 16 - June 25. 313-831-1400. [www.Casscafe.com](http://www.Casscafe.com)

**DIA "Dance! American Art 1830-1960"** The exhibition is organized by the DIA and presents more than 90 paintings, sculptures, photographs and costumes brought together for the first time to celebrate and explain the important place of dance in American culture. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. March 20 - June 12. 313-833-7900. [www.Dia.org](http://www.Dia.org)

**Lawrence Street Gallery "Birds of a Feather"** A few years ago a group of artists - Suzanne Allen, Glenn Corey, Gwen Joy, Sabrina Nelson, and Gary van Gorp - got together to put on an exhibit at the Majestic Cafe in Detroit. They decided that the unifying theme of the show would be Birds, and hence the title of the show, "Birds of a Feather." This year they are back together and include Laura Whitesides Host, Nancy Moseley and Joe Smith as part of the flock to show at Lawrence Street Gallery. One will see a variety of avian subjects ornithological birds, fantasy birds, even English Birds. It's an exhibition that will send you soaring like an eagle. Lawrence Street Gallery, 22620 Woodward Ave, **Ferndale**. May 6 - May 20. 248-44-0394. [www.lawrencestreetgallery.com](http://www.lawrencestreetgallery.com)

**Yourist Studio Gallery "Spring Pottery Sale"** The Spring Pottery Sale at Yourist Studio Gallery features the latest pieces by Kay Yourist and the Yourist Studio Gallery Resident Artists. Stock up on planters, vases, pitchers, serving bowls, berry bowls, and other ceramic accessories for all those delightful spring and summer occasions your planning. No admission charge. Plenty of free parking. Yourist Studio Gallery, 1133 Broadway, **Ann Arbor**. May 14 - May 15. 734-662-4914. [Youristpottery.com](http://Youristpottery.com)



## Editor's Pick

Gilda's Club Metro Detroit presents Gilda's Big Night Out, which will be held on Thursday, May 12 at the Max M. Fisher Music Center in Detroit. This signature event enables Gilda's Club Metro Detroit to offer social and emotional support programming, at no cost, to anyone touched by cancer in our community.

This evening features a strolling dinner, music, an awards ceremony, silent and live auctions and signature entertainment. Michigan native and accomplished stand-up comedian Michael Kosta will be part of the evening. Kosta's comedy has been seen on the "Tonight Show with Jay Leno," "Conan" and "Chelsea Lately."

The event begins at 6 p.m. The Max M. Fisher Music Center is located at 3711 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.gildasbignightout.org](http://www.gildasbignightout.org). Tickets are \$100, \$200 and \$500. All proceeds fund Gilda's Club's mission of ensuring anyone impacted by cancer is empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action and sustained by community totally free of charge.

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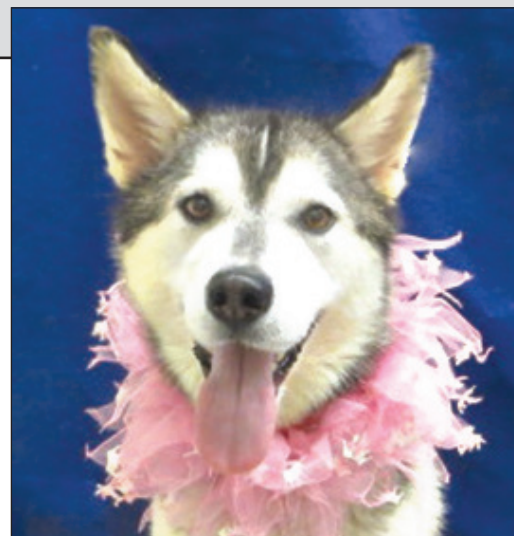
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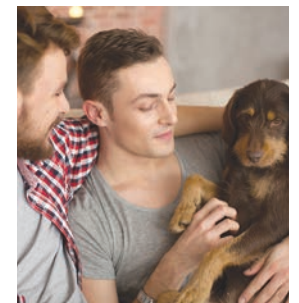
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# Deep Inside Hollywood

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

## 'Steven,' take a bow

In news marked "It Was Only A Matter of Time," get ready for "Steven," the biopic about England's most quotable rock star, Morrissey. Did that time come too soon, do you think? Is he not yet old enough or legendary enough for his own biopic? Well, that's where you'd be wrong; the man's 30-plus-year career began with his leading of the UK's most influential '80s band, The Smiths (probably even more popular today than in 1985) and has thrived over time with a refusal to retreat from the solo limelight ever since. Furthermore, his mark on queer culture is probably more indelible than even his openly gay musical peers (Morrissey has never fully sexually identified himself, because he's Morrissey). Shooting now, the film is being directed by Mark Gill, a relative newcomer riding a wave of success after his short film Oscar and BAFTA nominations. British TV fixture Jodie Comer co-stars, as does "Downton Abbey"'s Jessica Brown Findlay, and in the title role, Scottish up-and-comer Jack Lowden ("War & Peace") will play the man who sang "Meat is Murder." It looks to be a 2017 release, so stretch out and wait.



Gwyneth Paltrow

## Another 'Hit' for Ryan Murphy and Gwyneth Paltrow

All this silly animosity for Gwyneth Paltrow – you'd think she was running for President on a platform of racism and ignorance. But no, that's some guy people seem to love. Paltrow's crimes are, apparently, worse: expensive smoothies and spa treatments, publishing cool cookbooks, and being an Academy Award-winning actor. So we would like to invite all of you to get over yourselves for long enough to remember her hilarious turn as the kooky substitute teacher on Ryan Murphy's "Glee." And now that you've done that, enjoy this news: she's re-teaming with Murphy for another music-centric TV project, "One Hit Wonders." Still in the early stages, Paltrow will get to twirl on her haters as a

washed-up, forgotten, '90s singer who had a single popular song. Broke and aimless, she finds herself re-teamed with other '90s has-beens to form a supergroup. Call it "The Comeback" with pop songs and an actress who can actually sing and pull it off. And honestly, the entire scenario sounds like a really good idea. Somebody call JJ Fad and make something happen.

## Bret Easton Ellis gets 'Deleted'

Bret Easton Ellis ("American Psycho") is an author, a screenwriter, a controversial Tweeter, a podcaster, and now, at long last, a director. He's teaming up with Fullscreen, a successful streaming content producer, to launch the online series "The Deleted." Based on an original screenplay – as opposed to other Ellis-based films that have been either based on his novels or were screenplays he wrote for other directors such as Paul Schrader ("The Canyons") – "The Deleted" is a thriller concerning the disappearance of seemingly unrelated people in Los Angeles. These random "deletions" trigger a mysterious sort of group paranoia among a collection of twentysomething cult survivors. All of it feels very "Disappear Here," which is a recurring line in Ellis' debut novel, "Less Than Zero," and from our perspective, that's something to get excited about. Now, will Patrick Bateman be making a cameo, breezily passing through the background? Let's hope.

## Asian women in the spotlight: Quentin Lee's 'The Unbidden'

In a filmmaking universe that involves digital tech tests that would allow CGI employees to make Scarlett Johansson look vaguely Asian for "Ghost in The Shell" (yes, we're still shaking our head over every bit of that, and will continue to do so, thanks), it's nice to see a little good news come along. And that's "The Unbidden," directed by queer filmmaker Quentin Lee ("White Frog," "The People I've Slept With"), which recently premiered at Los Angeles' Asian Pacific Film Festival and has just been picked up for distribution by Viva Pictures. It's being called the first all-female Asian American supernatural thriller, one that involves ghosts, demons, hauntings, and a dinner party, and it stars the following underrated character actresses: Tamlyn Tomita (The Joy Luck Club), Julia Nickson ("Rambo"), Amy Hill ("Lilo & Stitch"), Elizabeth Sung ("The Joy Luck Club") and Michelle Krusiec ("The Invitation"). Set a Google alert or whatever it is you do to keep yourself reminded. When this sort of thing comes along, it deserves support. Otherwise, progress takes a back seat to complaints when it should be enjoying popcorn instead.

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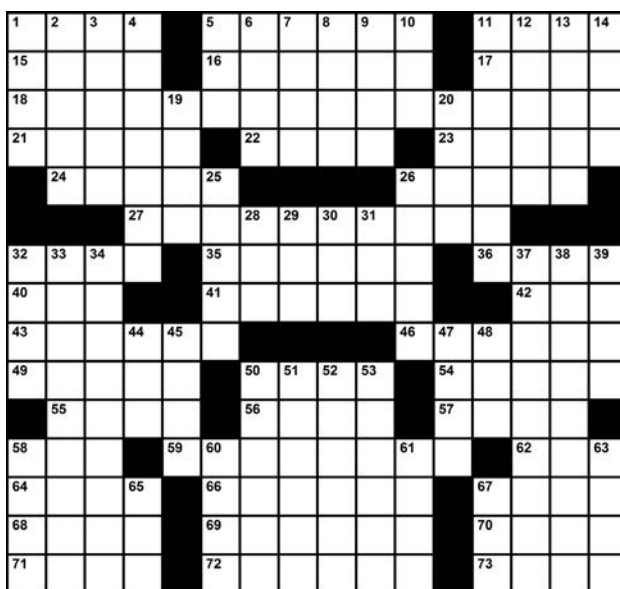
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## Epitaph

### Across

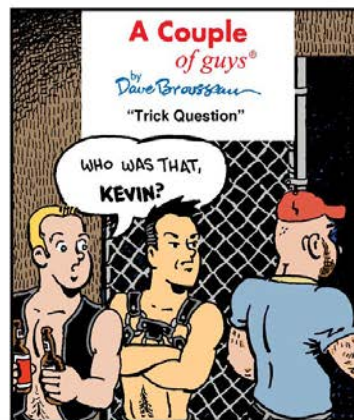
- 1 Coin for Kahlo  
5 Not cut, say  
11 Supporter of bedroom activity  
15 Jack of old Westerns  
16 Emulated Kerouac's "On the Road"  
17 Dancer Tommy  
18 Start of a quote from a song about lost loved ones  
21 Speedy train  
22 Ball lover  
23 Ram as far up as you can get?  
24 Snake, to Medusa  
26 Big squares above crossword clues  
27 More of the quote  
32 Butch lesbian accessories  
35 Robert of "Camelot"  
36 Partner of Felix, for example  
40 E. Lynn Harris' "\_\_\_ Way the Wind Blows"  
41 Cooked immediately  
42 Hero's ending  
43 More of the quote

- 46 Writer of the song  
49 "Same here!"  
50 Rhett Butler's final word  
54 Maria's "do" equivalent  
55 Time that goes either way  
56 Homeopathic plant  
57 Lorca's zip  
58 Start of a footnote abbr.  
59 End of the quote, and title of the song  
62 Deli sandwich holder  
64 Painting and such, to da Vinci  
66 "The Karate Kid" star Pat  
67 Layer beneath two plastic brides  
68 "Va-va-va-\_\_\_!"  
69 Sign of hominess?  
70 Shape of George Frenn's track  
71 Pomo \_\_\_ Homos  
72 Feel rancor about  
73 Moliere's mom

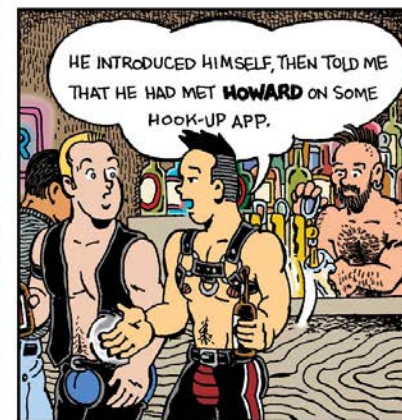
### Down

- 1 Elizabeth of "Transamerica"  
2 Word on a Stonewall Democrat's poster  
3 Pack rat  
4 Brunch dishes  
5 Pirate interjections  
6 Sticky-tongued critter  
7 "The Black Clark Gable" Diggs  
8 Vital team  
9 Old fruit drink  
10 JFK's predecessor  
11 Some Willa Cather works  
12 Appealingly shocking  
13 Warhol's range?  
14 Gay wedding guide author Ayers  
19 Too hasty  
20 Shoot off a flare, e.g.  
25 George of "It's My Party"  
26 Crawled out of bed  
28 "Getting to Know \_\_\_"  
29 Obstacle, to Shakespeare  
30 Wright angle?  
31 Beginning to whiz  
32 Skin designs, for short  
33 Commemorating  
34 Examiner of the balls in your sockets  
37 Solid hit, in Glenn Burke's sport  
38 Like annual sex  
39 One with a foamy head  
44 "\_\_\_-hoo! Fellas!"  
45 "Mod Squad" character  
47 Colonel, to Cammermeyer  
48 Lupino of "Women's Prison"  
50 Vocalist Vic  
51 Gives a heads-up to  
52 Disney's "The Gnome-\_\_\_"  
53 Spruce up  
58 Liquid that's shot off  
60 Nicky, in "Funny Girl"  
61 It shouldn't come before the horse  
63 Gardner of mystery  
65 Alt-rock genre  
67 Hulce of "Amadeus"

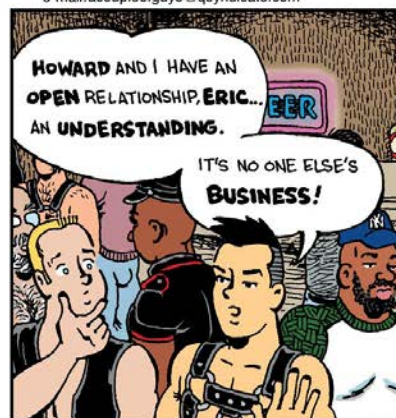
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## Become A Pride Volunteer

Get involved with Motor City Pride by joining our "Pride Team" as a volunteer! We have a number of positions, shift times and days available to fit any schedule. Volunteering at pride is a great way to meet other people and become involved with the pride movement. Volunteers receive free admission to the festival, a t-shirt, snacks, food and much more! Individuals can sign up to volunteer at

<http://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=20f044bac-a92fa4fe3-motor&view=standard>

## Motor City Pride Parade

*Presented by the FIAT Brand*

The Motor City Pride Parade is the highlight of the weekend for many festival attendees. Join us as thousands gather in the streets of Detroit to celebrate and make our presence in the community known. Floats, Queens, Cars & more the parade bring together a fantastic cross section of groups, companies and entertainers for an exciting march to Hart Plaza!

**The parade will  
step off at noon on  
Sunday, June 12, 2016.**

## Exhibit locations are filling up!

Motor City Pride is the largest gathering of the LGBT community in the state of Michigan and is a terrific place for your company or group to connect and get noticed. There are a variety of different exhibit options and price points available to fit any size group. We have booth space available for small non-profit groups, vendor spaces for those looking to sell products, spots for larger groups & companies looking to make an impact.

The vendor application can be found at [Register.motorcitypride.org](http://Register.motorcitypride.org)

## Live Entertainment

Motor City Pride is proud of our five stages of entertainment that offers a large and diverse entertainment lineup over two days of the festival. The lineup for 2016 will be released in a few weeks.

### Admission

There will be a \$5.00 cover each day of the festival. There is no charge for children 12 and under.

### Stay Informed

Festival information can be found at [www.motorcitypride.org](http://www.motorcitypride.org)

Follow us on Facebook at Motor City Pride for updates and features on acts performing at the festival.

Motor City Pride is sponsored by the following companies that support our goal to build an inclusive community that is free of violence, intimidation and discrimination.

Current sponsors include: Delta Air Lines, UAW-Ford, FIAT Brand, MotorCity Casino Hotel, MGM Grand Detroit, Fifth Third Bank, General Motors, Comerica Bank, Great Lakes Distributing, Menjo's, UHY LLP, Inferno, TD Auto Finance, Zipcar, Pride Source Media, Metra Magazine, and AMP Radio.

**MOTORCITYPRIDE.ORG** \$5 COVER 