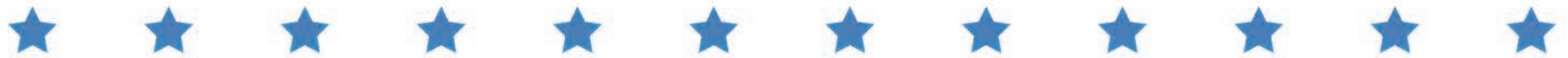


2016 PROGRESSIVE VOTER GUIDE INSIDE



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Carr For Queens

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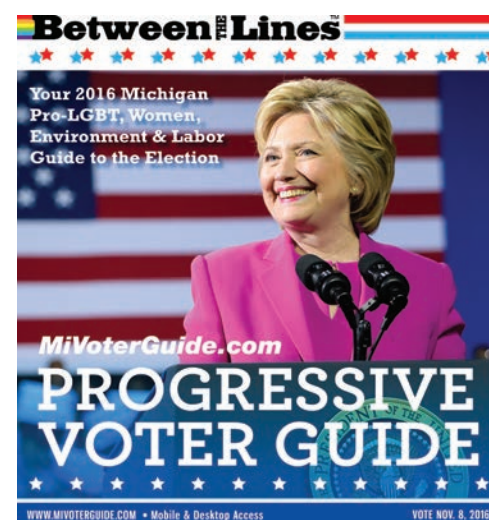


Who You Gonna Call? New Web Series 'Queer Ghost Hunters' Blends Thrill with LGBT History

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BTL will be running a series online and in print this month as part of LGBT History Month.

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NEWS

LGBTQ Youth Need Inclusive Sex Education

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Comprehensive sex education has evolved into so much more than a movie about menstruation and a class or two in human reproduction.

A new online sex ed resource, AMAZE, addresses topics like puberty and healthy relationships, but also explores gender expression in an age-appropriate way, and features a range of body types, racial/ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations and gender identities.

The fun, animated video series by Advocates for Youth, Answer and Youth Tech Health is geared toward youth ages 10-14, their parents and teachers.

A report from GLSEN underscores a need for this kind of resource. While 84 percent of secondary students ages 13-18 report receiving sex ed in school, nearly half of LGBTQ students who received sex ed reported that such classes were not useful compared to less than a third of non-LGBTQ students. And of

course, that's in schools where LGBTQ issues are addressed at all. GLSEN found that only 21 percent of students report that their school taught LGBTQ-related topics in any class and only 15 percent of teachers included such topics in their curriculum, despite that being taught LGBTQ-related topics is related to lower levels of bullying and harassment toward LGBTQ students.

Although some school districts are implementing comprehensive sex education programs, AMAZE encourages parents not to wait. Talking with kids about sex and growing up is important, but it's tempting to put it off. AMAZE videos are available online at <http://amaze.org> to help parents break the ice and start these critical conversations so that kids get the accurate information they need.

Each video is accompanied by resources for parents, including conversation starters, books and websites parents can use to help facilitate talking with their kids.

'Grey's Anatomy' Star Comes Out as Bisexual

LOS ANGELES – Sara Ramirez is known for keeping her private life pretty private, but on Oct. 8, the "Grey's Anatomy" star shared something intimate during a powerful speech.

The actress, who is best known for her role as Dr. Callie on the Shonda Rhimes series, came out as bisexual while speaking at the True Colors: 40 to None Summit, a two-day conversation in Los Angeles that addresses LGBTQ youth homelessness across the country.

"So many of our youth experiencing homelessness are youth whose lives touch on many intersections — whether they be gender identity, gender expression, race, class, sexual orientation, religion, citizenship status," Ramirez said.

"And, because of the intersections that exist in my own life: Woman, multi-racial woman, woman of color, queer, bisexual, Mexican-Irish American, immigrant, and raised by families heavily rooted in Catholicism on both my Mexican and Irish sides, I am deeply invested in projects that allow our youth's voices to be heard, and that support our youth in owning their own complex narratives so that we can show up for them in the ways they need us to."

Ramirez, who married husband Ryan DeBolt in 2011, has never openly spoken about her sexuality, but has admitted in the past that

it comes to question because of her bisexual character on "Grey's."

During a feature spread in Latina magazine back in 2011, Ramirez noted that she would receive hate mail for playing a lesbian on TV



and openly supporting gay rights.

The True Colors Fund tweeted after Ramirez's speech, "We're so moved & inspired to see our dear friend/board member @SaraRamirez share her truth at our #40toNone Summit."

She responded on Twitter, "#ThankYou @TrueColorsFund 4 the work you do 2 end #LGBTQ #YouthHomelessness & your support #Woman #Latinx #Bisexual #Intersectionality."

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2nd Presidential Debate: Rolling Downhill Without Wheels

BY LISA KEEN

It was a 90-minute debate overshadowed by the urgency of the Republican presidential nominee's need to triage a political hemorrhage caused by the release on Friday of a videotape showing him bragging about his sexual aggressions towards women. But near the end, one especially important point came through of interest to LGBT viewers.

Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton would, in selecting a U.S. Supreme Court nominee, made it a priority to choose someone who would "stick with marriage equality." Republican nominee Donald Trump would appoint a nominee "very much in the mode of Justice Scalia," perhaps the most hostile justice to LGBT equality ever to sit on the nation's highest bench.

In a CNN instant poll, 57 percent of respondents said Clinton "won" the debate, 37 percent said Trump did. Many political commentators seemed to consider Sunday night's town hall forum - the second of three debates between the two major party presidential candidates - a draw. Trump reiterated an apology for the sexually aggressive remarks he was videotaped making in 2005, then quickly claimed that Clinton should be ashamed of herself for criticizing him for those remarks. Instead,



he said, Clinton should be ashamed that, as an attorney, she defended a man accused of raping a 12-year-old girl and that her husband, former President Bill Clinton, was accused of forcing himself on several women.

But the forum's openly gay co-moderator, Anderson Cooper of CNN, asked Trump whether he understood that the things Trump

said, on the videotape, that he did to women amounted to "sexual assault."

"Do you understand that?" asked Cooper.

Trump did not answer the question but reiterated his apology for the remarks.

Cooper pressed him again, asking Trump whether he had ever tried to kiss women without their consent. Trump started to

sidestep the question but, when Cooper asked it a third time, Trump finally said, "No, I have not."

But during the debate, Trump seemed at times to illustrate his aggressiveness. While Clinton was speaking to a member of the audience, Trump positioned himself onstage

See 2nd Debate, page 19

In Her Own Words: Clinton's Commitment to LGBT Equality Stronger Than Ever Warns of Trump Presidency Turning Back Gains, Says Pence One of the Most Anti-LGBT Officials

BY HILLARY CLINTON

More than half a century ago, at Independence Hall, participants at the first Annual Reminder march picketed, chanted and sang. They did this to show their fellow Philadelphians that the LGBT community lacked fundamental civil rights.

In the decades since those protests, our country has come a long way. Marriage equality is the law of the land. This year, the last state law prohibiting same-sex couples from adopting was finally struck down. And President Obama signed an executive order protecting federal workers from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. We should celebrate that progress.

But the simple truth is that even now,

in 2016, there are still too many states in America where LGBT people can be fired or evicted from their home because of who they are or who they love. Pennsylvania is one of them. Here, you can get married on Sunday and fired on Monday, just for being gay or transgender.

That goes against everything we stand for as a country.

We need to act on the federal level to take on discrimination in all its forms. That's what I'll do as President - with your help.

But first, we have to win this election. Donald Trump must not be elected president. He would rip away so much of the progress we've made. He would appoint Supreme Court justices who would overturn marriage equality and rescind many of President Obama's executive orders - including those

protecting LGBT people.

It's not just Trump's policies that reveal the kind of president he would be. So does his choice of running mate. Mike Pence is one of the most anti-LGBT public officials in America. As governor of Indiana, Pence supported a bill that legalized discrimination against LGBT people. As a member of Congress, he voted against expanding the definition of hate crimes to include sexual orientation and gender identity. He opposed the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," saying doing so would be "social experimentation." And he's said that homosexuality would bring about "societal collapse."

That's why the stakes in this election are so high.

If I'm fortunate enough to be elected president, I'll protect the progress we've

fought so hard to achieve - and I'll keep fighting until every American can live free from discrimination and prejudice.

That means working to pass the Equality Act. It would finally provide LGBT people full federal nondiscrimination protections in housing, employment and so much more. I know that differences of opinion on LGBT equality still exist in the hearts of some Americans, but they should not exist under our laws. As president, I'll be your partner in bringing about the vision of the inclusive nation that advocates, activists and allies have been seeking for decades.

I also believe we must address the ongoing issue of violence against the LGBT community. LGBT people are now more likely than any other group to be the target

See Hillary Clinton, page 19

Attorney Faces LGBTQ Discrimination

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

If we expect to influence change, we need to stand up against discrimination and make our voices heard. That's why criminal defense attorney Erica Moise is turning her publicly "humiliating" experience into an opportunity to set a good example for the LGBTQ community.

Moise, 34, takes advantage of her "teachable moment" following a mandatory Criminal Advocacy Program training on Sept. 30 at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center in Detroit. The attendance of Moise and her colleagues is required to obtain court-appointed assignments in Wayne County.

While some of the public defenders were busy improving their professional skills, Cliff Woodards II was busy posting offensive comments on Facebook:

"After watching yet another woman dressed up like a man, wearing sagging jeans, boxer briefs and sporting a mohawk, it finally dawned on me to ask this question: Why you wearing men's draws though? It's not like you're gonna need the flap. Do they make you feel more manly? I don't understand."

Woodards, a 54-year-old prominent community figure, practices at The Detroit Law Center which he established in 2003.

Moise said she was notified by others in the room to Woodards' post during their afternoon session. Although he did not identify Moise specifically at first, he later posted "she is sitting right across from me now though."

That's when Moise said, "All hell broke loose." Pages of comments – some in defense of Moise, some ridiculing her – quickly turned into a hate-filled forum where homophobic comments, racial slurs and misogynistic views were expressed.

Woodards' daughter Missy intervened, further exposing Moise by revealing to the public that she and Moise dated in the past. Missy said she can "most assuredly" speak to Moise's choice in undergarments and explained that "some members of our community feel more desirable in more traditional masculine clothing."

In support of her father, Missy's lengthy post included statements such as: "I have to say I genuinely don't think that you are homophobic or targeting the LGBTQ community ... He did not attack Erica's ability to do her job, her intelligence or her professionalism ... The First Amendment will always defend the right to free speech."

Despite her best efforts not to, Moise chimed in later to explain, "This is the type of thing that allows other attorneys to treat me like complete crap. This is everyday for

me in this job. Everyday. To have this posted while I was in a room full of my colleagues is unacceptable. Especially when he has such a public profile and people follow his words. Other lawyers harass me on a regular basis. This is why. Maybe you will think about these words again. Or maybe not. But whatever you choose to do, just know that I will not tolerate someone talking about me or my underwear while I'm sitting in the same professional conference."

With little regard for Moise's feelings, Woodards responded: "No one really cares if you're gay. But no one should be able to see four inches of your underwear at a 'professional conference' either."

Moise defended what she said is a "grossly inaccurate" description of her attire, a little on the baggy side due to weight loss caused by stress and illness, which Woodards empathized with. But he could not acknowledge that what he said was inappropriate.

"Truth is, I simply asked a QUESTION, one that quite frankly many people have asked privately. I just have the courage to speak up publicly. I said you're dressed like a man. Was I wrong? No. Did that 'degrade' you? It shouldn't have. You were. I said your jeans were sagging. They were. I said you sported a mohawk. You are. What in that sentence 'degraded' you? I never said it disgusted me. I never said you shouldn't be who you are. Y'all need to lighten up. Seriously," he posted.

The attention Woodards received via Facebook carried into his nightly show on 910-AM talk radio where he continued for two hours to minimize the problem. Woodards admits he doesn't run from controversy or differing points of view, yet few people who disagreed with his actions were represented on air while talking about Moise's underwear, sexuality and gender.

Moise sat home, listening and taking notes as abusive comments were called in by the public. Woodards entertained his listeners with comments like "the LGBT community is trying to force the rest of the world to conform to your new way of thinking about gender" and "what is it really saying about the legal community when we're getting to the point where we're looking like our defendants?"

The online ugliness continued on Facebook for three days, slowing on Oct. 2, but the derogatory posts made about Moise are out there in cyberspace to be reposted and live long after this incident occurred.

"These are the types of things that people are thinking and feeling when they see me, or people like me. Yes, we have free speech. But speech doesn't come without social

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See Discrimination page 18

Urge MI Attorney General to Withdraw from Federal Lawsuit

EQMI Puts Pressure on Bill Schuette to Protect Transgender Students in Michigan Schools

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

Transgender rights are being litigated in several states and Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette joined one of two multi-state lawsuits with attorneys general challenging the federal government. Specifically, the Obama administration's federal guidance directing schools to allow transgender students to use restrooms and other facilities that match their gender identities is under attack.

The first lawsuit was filed two weeks after the guidance was issued in May in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas. Eleven states, along with the Arizona Department of Education, agreed the guidance "has no basis in law" and could cause "seismic changes in the operations of the nation's school districts."

Opponents doubled down, filing a brief in federal court in July to stop the Obama administration from enforcing its interpretation of the laws. U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor issued a nationwide preliminary injunction ruling that federal officials didn't follow proper procedures in creating the directives. O'Connor said the guidelines contradicted existing statutes and regulatory texts.

Around the same time, a second lawsuit was filed in federal court in Nebraska by 10 more states, including Michigan, which contains many of the same claims raised in the Texas-led lawsuit.

The Nebraska lawsuit hinges on the terms "sex" and "gender identity," saying federal law uses only the term "sex." The lawsuit further states that "Neither the text nor the legislative history of Title IX supports an interpretation of the term 'sex' as meaning anything other than one's sex as determined by anatomy and genetics."

But Joshua Block, senior staff attorney with the ACLU LGBT Project, told POLITICO online that the lawsuits are purely political, noting the administration's directive is non-binding.

"Disagreeing with the Obama administration's interpretation of the law doesn't give them standing to sue over it," he said.

Harmful Lawsuits

Both lawsuits deemed "harmful" by Equality Michigan "relegate transgender people to second-class citizenship under the law and makes them more vulnerable to discrimination



Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette speaking at the Republican National Convention this summer. Schuette wants to strip away protections for transgender Americans. File photo: Washington Blade, Michael Key.

“Attorney General Schuette needs to know that his involvement in a case like this is about so much more than signing his name to a piece of paper. It's about wasting Michigan's taxpayer dollars to dehumanize transgender people across our country.”

– Nathan Triplett, EQMI's director of public policy and political action.

than ever," said Nathan Triplett, EQMI's director of public policy and political action.

"For years the federal government has interpreted existing Title IX and Title VII laws to extend coverage to transgender Americans," Triplett said. "Because of the Obama administration's actions, public schools must respect students' gender identity when it comes to using the restroom; healthcare companies are not allowed to deny coverage to patients just for being transgender; and transgender workers have a path to legal recourse if they are fired for being who they are."

But Schuette wants to strip away those

protections as indicated by his letter to U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch and Secretary of Education John King in May. The letter requested that the Obama administration immediately retract its directive, referred to as the "Dear Colleague Letter on Transgender Students" that was sent to schools that are recipients of federal funding subject to the requirements of Title IX.

"This top-down attempt to control local decision-making failed to involve all parents, who must be involved in decisions involving their children at school. Here in Michigan and across our country, we must not exclude

parents," Schuette said. In July, he released a statement reinforcing his position when he made the choice to join the lawsuit.

"Every child in every school must be provided with dignity, privacy, respect and safety. That is why today, I joined a coalition of 10 attorneys general, led by the State of Nebraska, in a lawsuit that seeks to protect the dignity and privacy of all Michigan students. The Obama administration's unilateral directive on education policy and Title IX funding is yet another example of federal overreach. The manner in which this directive was made ignored the essential role of parents in making decisions about their children, omitted participation of local schools, violated the Administrative Procedures Act and bypassed Congress' constitutional responsibilities."

State Board Action

Since then, the State Board of Education adopted a guidance in September on how Michigan schools can create safe learning environments for all students, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Educators have a responsibility to involve parents in discussions of LGBTQ students' rights, according to the new guidelines. "Of course parents are to be involved with the schools about their child and their status," board president John Austin told The Detroit Free Press. But that responsibility must be balanced with the safety of the children.

"When students have not come out to their parent(s), a disclosure to parent(s) should be carefully considered on a case-by-case basis," the guidance. "School districts should consider the health, safety and well-being of the student as well as the responsibility to keep parents informed."

So when asked what Schuette joining the lawsuit is really about, Austin said, "Not wanting to acknowledge the rights of LGBT people at all."

Lynch issued a statement that there is no room for this kind of discrimination in our schools.

"...Including discrimination against transgender students on the basis of their sex. This guidance gives administrators, teachers and parents the tools they need to protect transgender students from peer harassment and to identify and address unjust school policies,"

See Schuetter Lawsuit page 13



Donald Trump decried transgender military service as “political correctness.” He is seen addressing the anti-gay Family Research Council last month. Washington Blade file photo by Michael Key,

Trump Slams Trans Military Service as ‘Political Correctness’

Derides ‘ridiculous’ changes seen in military in recent years

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

Slamming changes made to foster LGBT inclusion in the U.S. military during the Obama administration, Donald Trump pledged Oct. 3 to “get away from political correctness” when asked about openly transgender military service and women serving in combat roles.

The candidate made the comments in Herndon, Virginia, alongside Tony Perkins, president of the anti-LGBT Family Research Council, in the same forum where he raised eyebrows for suggesting veterans who kill themselves after suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder did so because they couldn’t handle the pressures of war.

After an audience member asked Trump what he’d do about women in combat and openly transgender troops, comparing their inclusion in the military to political correctness, he replied, “We’re going to get away from political correctness, and we are going to have to do that.”

Trump compared movement toward

greater inclusion in the armed forces to opposition to “the whole concept of profiling” in law enforcement. The candidate has defended the controversial practice of racial profiling, including after the terrorist acts last month in Minnesota, New Jersey and New York.

“I mentioned the other day profiling,” Trump said. “Everyone goes, ‘Oh, profiling, profiling!’ Well, profiling, in Israel they’re doing it and they’re doing it well, and we may have to do that and we have to do other things. But you’re right. We have a politically correct military and it’s more and more politically correct every day, and a lot of the great people in this room don’t even understand how it’s possible to do that.”

Trump asserted confusion over why the military is moving forward with greater inclusion is the result of “intelligence, not ignorance,” saying the changes U.S. troops have to endure in the name of political correctness are “ridiculous.”

In June, Defense Secretary Ashton Carter announced after a nearly year-long review the U.S. military would end

its ban on transgender people serving in the U.S. armed forces “effective immediately.” The announcement came months after the Pentagon announced it would begin to allow women to serve in combat roles.

While Trump stopped short of committing himself to reverse those changes, he said he’d allow senior military officials – and noting a recommendation from a lawmaker in the audience, even low ranking troops – to review the changes and take guidance on appropriate policy.

“I will say I would leave many of the decisions of some of the things you mentioned to the generals, the admirals, the people on top, and we get some – the congressman just mentioned to me, and I think it’s true, 100 percent – you get your top enlisted people in that and you have discussions with top enlisted people who know it better than probably anybody. But we get our military people to come back and make recommendations to me,

See Trump Slams Trans Military, page 13

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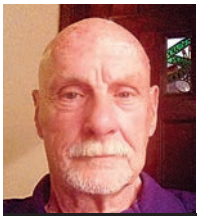
Between the Lines

Your 2016 Michigan Pro-LGBT, Women, Environment & Labor Guide to the Election

PROGRESSIVE VOTER GUIDE

A BTL Project since 1996

VOTE TUESDAY NOV. 8



Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Were You Ever 'Known' or 'Alleged'?

Just a few generations ago, the term homosexual was often qualified by adjectives. Alleged. Avowed. Rumored. Known! The descriptions were used by cautious media, police enforcement agencies and courtroom attorneys.

Not many are aware that until as recently as 35 years ago, Michigan's Liquor Control Commission prohibited bars and "licensed premises to be frequented by or to become the meeting place, hangout or rendezvous for known homosexuals."

It was never clear what was a "known homosexual." Was it a person who had a sex offender arrest record, someone who habitually dressed in clothes of the opposite sex, someone who swished or gossiped in a high-pitched voice, someone brave enough to tell the straight world he or she was gay, lesbian or queer?

The term was so vague that, if nothing else, it provoked bar and nightclub owners, bartenders, waitstaff to insist that possible sexually deviant clientele be warned to behave themselves, not to 'camp it up,' never to hold hands, dance and – throw the miscreants out at once! – kiss or fondle in public.

Presumably sipping drinks through a straw, ordering Shirley Temples, a Gin & Tonic with cucumber or a cutesy drink topped with a cherry or a paper umbrella was acceptable, if one behaved oneself and didn't too obviously follow a straight client or two into the john.

In passing, let me gratefully say that my friend Tim Retzloff has done Detroit's LGBT community a service that is truly dedicated and amazing in its research endeavor, scope and detail.

(I can remember when cautious bartenders at the "discrete" bar in the downtown Detroit Statler Hotel would hand too obvious gay patrons a terse note, "Your patronage is no longer welcome here. Do not return.")

This somewhat egregious prohibition of gays and lesbians from Michigan's bars and nightclubs was rescinded under Republican Gov. William Milliken's administration in 1979, thanks to the efforts of the Michigan Organization of Human Rights.

Interestingly enough, in spite of the Liquor Commission's admonition to keep gays and lesbians from spending hard-earned, ribbon clerk cash on getting inebriated, tipsy, occasionally downright drunk and disorderly, since Prohibition ended in 1933, the number of drinking establishments serving "known" or "suspected" homosexuals is, it turns out, in the hundreds.

According to the "Historical Directory of Gay & Lesbian Bars in Metro Detroit," by Yale University Ph.D. graduate (and former associate editor of BTL) Tim Retzloff, the listing is about 300. (Of that number, I'm pleased to say – or, is it embarrassed to admit? – I've been in about a tenth of these at one time or another, with varying degrees of success at making out or making a fool of myself.)

Among the earliest listed is the Sweetheart Bar, dating back to 1938. The oldest operating gay bar is the Woodward Lounge, still shaking its booze and booty since 1954. Menjo's, which over recent years has hosted changes of clientele and settings, got started in 1974.

(Three pieces of I.D. – including picture – once kept anticipated outsider problems and racial mixing to a minimum.)

See Alexander: Were You Ever, next page



BTL Editorial Hillary for President

For LGBT voters, there is only one reasonable choice for President of the United States on Nov. 8, and that is Hillary Clinton. It is not only because the alternative is unthinkable; it is affirmatively because Hillary Clinton is a champion for human rights, including equal rights for LGBT people here in America and around the world.

Clinton strongly supports marriage equality and has vowed to appoint Supreme Court justices that will uphold the landmark 2015 Obergefell decision that granted marriage equality to same-sex couples nationwide.

Clinton strongly supports the Equality Act of 2015, a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate that if passed would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include protections that ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations, public education, federal funding, credit, and the jury system. This is especially important for LGBT people in Michigan since we have no such protections in our state's civil rights law, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977.

Clinton has spoken out passionately and aggressively about the need to address the ongoing violence against the LGBT community. She correctly states that LGBT people are more likely than any other group to be the target of hate crimes, stressing that the horrific attack at

Pulse in Orlando was as much a hate crime as it was a terrorist act. She understands that trans women of color are particularly at risk, and has vowed to work with the law enforcement community to thwart violence and to respect all people, including LGBT people.

Clinton has dedicated her entire life's work to fighting racism, sexism and xenophobia. She understands that Muslim Americans have contributed to our nation's tapestry of religious expression since even before the Revolutionary War. Including them in the fight against the perversion of Islam by radical jihadists is a smart policy, and it is the right and just way to treat these fellow Americans.

As a young woman, Clinton worked at the Children's Defense Fund. That experience is the underpinning of her life's mission to protect and uplift children, including girls. She has been a role model for girls and young women the world over, expressing their hopes and dreams of full equality wherever they live. Facing down intense pressure to "behave," Clinton bravely pronounced that Women's Rights Are Human Rights in a speech while the First Lady of the United States Sept. 5, 1995 at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. As First Lady she successfully fought a difficult, uphill battle for passage of the Children's Health Insurance Program in 1997

See next page

► Hillary for President

Continued from p. 10

that extended health coverage to 8 million American children who otherwise had no access to healthcare.

Clinton strongly supports Obamacare, but understands that the legislation as passed is far from perfect. Costs are too high, insurance companies and pharmaceutical companies charge too much, and there are still too many people who can't afford coverage, even with the subsidies. Clinton understands that the LGBT community continues to face the ravages of HIV/AIDS and access to affordable healthcare and life-saving drugs is literally a matter of life and death for us. She wants to improve the system of healthcare delivery and to include LGBT people in the process and solutions.

Clinton is an exciting and positive candidate for all LGBT Americans, which is why it is BTL's honor to strongly endorse her for President of the United States.

As if we needed any other reason, the Donald Trump/Mike Pence ticket is a virtual horror show for LGBT Americans. Trump wants to appoint Supreme Court justices that would overturn marriage equality and a woman's right to choose. He wants to repeal Obamacare in its entirety which would leave thousands of people with HIV/AIDS vulnerable to insurance cancellations due to previous condition clauses, cut millions from any insurance coverage including young people under the age of 26 who can remain on their parents' coverage now, and redefine healthcare in America as a privilege, not a basic human right.

Pence is a leader in the anti-LGBT radical right. As Indiana's governor he supported a bill legalizing LGBT discrimination. In

Clinton strongly supports the Equality Act of 2015, a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate that if passed would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include protections that ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations, public education, federal funding, credit, and the jury system. This is especially important for LGBT people in Michigan since we have no such protections in our state's civil rights law, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977.

Congress he opposed hate crimes legislation and the repeal of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." He has stated that homosexuality would bring about "societal collapse."

It is unimaginable to us at BTL how any LGBT person could support the Trump/Pence ticket. The choice is abundantly obvious to us. Trump/Pence would be a disaster. A Hillary Clinton presidency would benefit LGBT people and she will be a partner in the continuing advances we must make towards full equality in America.

Vote for Hillary Clinton for President.

and amazing in its research endeavor, scope and detail. In addition to his Bar Directory, Tim has reviewed over 15,000 arrest records of gays since 1940 and has completed a 680-page dissertation of Detroit's LGBT History.

On behalf of countless gays, lesbians, transgendered persons both present and past: Thanks, Dr. Tim. A loving documentation, well undertaken, meticulously done. OUR history preserved for future generations. I eagerly await its publication in book format soon.

Charles@pridesource.com

Hamilton Attorneys at Law, the Anti-Defamation League, Domino's Pizza, Nakisher Orthodontics, Bernard Wealth Management, Joe Kort and Associates, Between The Lines, Mind Seed Creative, Focus Media, Wentworth Associates, Inclusive Justice and the National LGBTQ Task Force.

► Alexander: Were You Ever

Continued from p. 10

Many, many of the bars and clubs in Retzliff's 2010 Directory are now but fading memories of a vibrant Detroit gay past. The 1011, Rio Grande, Silver Dollar, LaRosa's, Barrel Bar, Foster's, Royal Showbar, Palais were all within walking distance of each other. And to the nearby First Police Precinct jail, bullpen and adjacent courtroom.

In passing, let me gratefully say that my friend Tim Retzliff has done Detroit's LGBT community a service that is truly dedicated

Correction

The following sponsors for the Stand with Trans event on Oct. 16 at Affirmations in Ferndale are GM PLUS (People Like Us), Be Well Medical Center, KnowResolve, Ruth Ellis Center, Mercedes-Benz Financial Services, Temple Israel, Focal Point, Pepper

Creep of the Week

Donald Trump, Again

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI



At this point in the election, you hardly need me to point out that Donald Trump is a creep. He's done so plenty of times himself.

Not only that, but even people like Glenn Beck are all, "Nope. He's gross." Trump is hemorrhaging Republicans faster than he can say, "Grab them by the pussy."

Over and over again people are asking, "WTF? How did this misogynist, racist, ignorant circus peanut with a shower drain clog for a wig become the Republican nominee for President?"

But it's really not such a mystery. Not if you've been following Republican politics at all. I've been closely watching this shit show for over a decade and I assure you that everything that's happened in GOP Land has been leading up to this.

We're talking about a party who has made it a priority to attack women, whether it be punitive reproductive rights laws, giving the middle finger to pay equality, or a collective shrug about rape culture. And now these clowns are all of a sudden upset that their nominee said, "Grab them by the pussy?" Fuck that noise.

Paul Ryan, for example, said, "Women are to be championed and revered, not objectified," apparently unaware that speaking about women like they're show ponies is itself objectification. And Ryan has finally said he can't support Trump. Less than a month before the election.

The Republicans have been playing a sick and dangerous game of, "See no evil, hear no evil" when it comes to Trump for a year now. When he denigrated Muslims, that was okay. His racism was okay. Saying Mexicans are rapists was okay. Dabbling in anti-Semitic stereotypes was cool with his supporters. Fat shaming women? No problem. His complete lack of knowledge about how the government works? Totally fine. His refusal to release his tax returns? NBD. The White Power movement's embrace of Trump? Hey, votes are votes, amirite? And then, of course, was his opposition to LGBT rights.

The list goes on and on. Over the past

year Trump has been given carte blanche to say anything he wants and unlimited media coverage for all of the dumb shit that comes out of his mouth.

So to all of the Republicans who are just now realizing that their nominee is a steaming bucket of excrement, it's too late. You've already stepped in it. This shit is all over you.

And make no mistake: You built this. Republicans have worked tirelessly over the years to demonize immigrants, to portray Muslims as terrorists, to deny voting rights to African Americans, to ignore and laugh off the institutional racism that fuels police shootings, over incarceration, and generational poverty. Not to mention the concerted effort to make the rich richer and make the poor poorer (and then punish poor people for being so gross and poor). This is the party that has been obsessed with what's going on in America's bedrooms and has mandated penis+vagina only sex, hold the birth control.

The current Republican plan is to jump from Trump's sinking yacht and put their efforts into preserving their do-nothing majority in the House and Senate so they can pussy-block President Hillary Clinton just like they cock-blocked President Obama.

Add all of that together and you get Donald Trump. His is the face of the Republican Party, pussy grabbing and all.

The current Republican plan is to jump from Trump's sinking yacht and put their efforts into preserving their do-nothing majority in the House and Senate so they can pussy-block President Hillary Clinton just like they cock-blocked President Obama. No matter how far behind Trump is in the polls come election day, we cannot afford to be complacent. Even if Trump's Tower of Garbage is imploding, we cannot allow its architects to remain in power. Go vote. Grab the Republicans by the ballots.

Federal Law Protects Transgender People at Homeless Shelters

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

The 2011 National Transgender Discrimination Survey reveals that 29 percent of transgender people who sought emergency shelter at some point in their lives were turned away, while 42 percent were forced to stay in shelters for the gender they were assigned at birth.

A new regulation released by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Sept. 20 will prevent further discrimination as shelters are required to respect the gender identity of transgender and gender non-conforming people experiencing homelessness.

“This new HUD rule is an important step towards protecting the marginalized of the marginalized – who are the most defenseless from discrimination – homeless trans and gender nonconforming people. We know that trans and gender non-conforming people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, are disproportionately people of color and people with disabilities, and trans and gender nonconforming youth are especially vulnerable as they often are being forced to flee abusive families. By taking this action, HUD is sending the message to shelters and service providers that discrimination against the trans and gender nonconforming community is against U.S. federal law,” said Victoria Rodríguez-Roldán, Trans/Gender Non-Conforming Justice Project Director, National LGBTQ Task Force.

As explained in the 73-page rule, providers that operate single-sex projects that receive funding from HUD’s Office of Community Planning and Development will be required to provide all individuals – including transgender and gender expansive individuals – with full access to programs, services, benefits, and accommodations in accordance with their gender identity.

Informal guidelines were issued by HUD to homeless shelters in February 2015. It was up to the shelters to follow them, but a study conducted by the Center for American Progress and the Equal Rights Center last year discovered that only 30 percent of shelters were willing to house transgender women with other women. Another 21 percent refused them at shelters altogether. Up to 100 shelters were contacted in four states that were selected based on a range of characteristics. For example, two states, Connecticut and Washington, have gender identity nondiscrimination protections, while the other two, Tennessee and Virginia, do not.

The results of this research validates the need to make the new HUD regulations

“The best way for shelters to achieve their mission of getting more homeless people off the street is to treat transgender people seeking shelter with full respect and dignity.”

– David Stacy, government affairs director for the Human Rights Campaign

mandatory and enforceable. David Stacy, government affairs director for the Human Rights Campaign, told The Huffington Post that he would like the regulations to be expanded even further to apply not just to federally-funded shelters, but also to state-funded facilities as well.

“The regulations are a best practice for any provider,” Stacy said. “The best way for shelters to achieve their mission of getting more homeless people off the street is to treat transgender people seeking shelter with full respect and dignity.”

But not everyone agrees. Critics of the regulation have raised the potential for men to pose as transgender women. The regulation would not provide a “get-out-of-jail-free card” for men who take advantage of the rules to prey on homeless women. HUD states in the rule that “Nothing in this proposed rule is meant to prevent necessary and appropriate steps to address any fraudulent attempts to access services or legitimate safety concerns that may arise in any shelter.” HUD’s regulation further instructs homeless shelters to disregard the “complaints of other shelter residents” who feel uncomfortable living with someone who is transgender.

Tim Wildmon, president of the conservative American Family Association, expressed his disappointment about having to “make room for people who are sexually confused at the expense of everyone else.”

“No one is in favor of beating up transgender people,” Wildmon told The Hill. “But why do you have to force other people to feel really uncomfortable, and in some cases unsafe, just to make your political point?” He asked, “What if I self-identify as a woman today, and tomorrow I want to self-identify as a man? Why not self identify as a minority? Today, I’m white. Tomorrow, I’m black.”

ACLU LGBT Staff Attorney Jay Kaplan explains why another person’s discomfort or unfamiliarity with transgender people should not be a justification for discrimination.

“Well clearly Tim Wildmon lacks an understanding about what it means to be transgender. His statements about transgender people being sexually confused – being a woman one day, a man another day – or changing race are both ridiculous and demeaning to transgender people who are more at risk for violence and harm when they are forced to be housed in shelter space that does not correspond with their gender identity,” Kaplan said, noting, “if these shelters are receiving any federal HUD dollars, they cannot discriminate against transgender people in their programs or they could lose their funding. This is true regardless of whether these shelters operate in cities in Michigan without LGBT-inclusive ordinances, or the fact that Michigan civil rights laws don’t specifically cover transgender people. If the faith-based shelters want government funding for their programs, they have to abide by the rules (or federal non-discrimination policies) just like everyone else.”

With transgender issues at the forefront of the 2016 campaign, some shelter organizations in Michigan already have policies in place to create a safe and welcoming space for LGBT people experiencing homelessness. The South Oakland Shelter in Lathrup Village, for instance, maintains a strong position on this issue.

“We have never singled out a transgender person and we have always essentially accommodated their needs. If someone has an issue, they are going to have to just work around it,” said Ryan Hertz, president and CEO of SOS.

Hertz said he “expects congregations to comply with our policies.” SOS has partnerships with more than 60 area Oakland County congregations, representing Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and soon Muslim, faiths. Connected by the shared belief that all people should have access to a safe and secure place to call home, congregation partners work together throughout the year to meet the needs of those struggling with homelessness. Each week, a congregation takes on the responsibility of hosting SOS’s shelter guests and provides them with overnight accommodations, three daily meals, transportation, and meaningful interactions with caring volunteers.

“Regardless of whether or not their religious position agrees with this, we expect they are still going to provide them with a place to stay in hopes that they ‘come around,’ or however they view it,” he said. “It’s a complicated

issue when trying to help someone who is transgender and someone who may have bigoted views or concerns. We still want to help these people. They are vulnerable and both have rights to services. We want to make everyone as comfortable as we can.”

Hertz notes that homeless shelters deal with far more serious issues that make servicing some people more challenging, such as substance abuse or violent criminal histories.

“The least challenging one should be gender identity. It’s absurd that it needed to be said, but I’m glad it was said,” Hertz said about the requirement, adding that the HUD regulations will help further support SOS’s stance when conflicts arise with faith-based organizations.

The transgender community is a population the Covenant House Michigan in Detroit is familiar with.

“We absolutely serve the transgender community. We are at the forefront of rights and care for the LGBTQ community and reach out to them on a regular basis,” said Gerald Piro, executive director of CHM, a faith-based nonprofit organization that provides hope to homeless, runaway and at-risk youth ages 18–24. CHM provides shelter, educational and vocational programs, and other support services to help overcome hurdles such as homelessness, unemployment, inadequate education, violence, drugs and gangs. It is the goal of CHM to redirect them onto a path toward meaningful and successful adulthood. More than 60,000 youths have been served by CHM since its inception in September 1997.

“Someone, any youth, aside from how they present herself or himself, and is homeless, will immediately be provided with all services from intake to eventual discharge to a permanent housing situation. Our first concern is always their current state of well-being and reintegration into the community,” he said, adding that further accommodation will be considered only if a specific request is made, otherwise youth are invited in as who they present themselves to be.

“Their placement relative to accommodation within the shelter is strictly according to how they present themselves. A transgender female will live with females and a transgender male will live with males. Our young residents enter the shelter with numerous, serious issues that we need to address; we do not want to add any additional anxiety to the situation.”

For more information about CHM, located at 2959 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., call 313-463-2000. To reach SOS at 18505 W. 12 Mile Road, call 248-809-3773.

► Schuette Lawsuit

Continued from p. 8

she said. “I look forward to continuing our work with the Department of Education – and with schools across the country – to create classroom environments that are safe, nurturing and inclusive for all of our young people.”

And while the preliminary injunction sends a “terrible message” to transgender students across the country who are now back in school, Triplett said the ruling changes nothing about the substantive legal rights of transgender students or the inclusive policies in place within their schools.

“There are no laws on the books now, no cases here in Michigan that should result in any school district from denying transgender students access to bathrooms,” he said.

As defendants continue to robustly defend the legitimacy of the Obama administration’s guidance, Triplett encourages any student that is not being treated appropriately to “absolutely avail themselves of the remedies available under Title IX despite these unfortunate

lawsuits by a collection of conservative attorneys general across the country.”

In the meantime, as the case awaits consideration by a higher court, Triplett said, “Attorney General Schuette needs to know that his involvement in a case like this is about so much more than signing his name to a piece of paper. It’s about wasting Michigan’s taxpayer dollars to dehumanize transgender people across our country.”

That’s why EQMI is teaming up with their national partners at Freedom for All Americans and community supporters to circulate a petition that will send a clear message to Schuette that “the people of Michigan will not stand for this.”

That message in the form of thousands of signatures will be hand-delivered by pro-equality advocates from across the state to Schuette’s office. Triplett said the public pressure will continue in the hopes that Schuette will withdraw from the lawsuit, which is in the early stages of the process. So, he said, “There is plenty of time for him to make the right decision for LGBT people in Michigan.”

► Trump Slams Trans Military

Continued from p. 9

and I will follow those recommendations.”

One of Trump’s leading military advisers, Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn, has already suggested he would advise Trump to roll back the changes. On the first night of the Republican National Convention, Flynn in apparent criticism of transgender military service criticized the preoccupation of U.S. troops with “trivial matters about what words to use, what terminology is politically correct and what bathroom door to open up.”

“My God, my God, war is not about bathrooms, war is not about political correctness or words that are meaningless,” Flynn said.

Trump’s deference to military leaders conceivably could lead to a reinstatement of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” When Congress repealed the statute, lawmakers left nothing in its place addressing gay people in the armed services, allowing the Pentagon to decide the policy. Although such a change would be extraordinary given the U.S. military has accepted gay service members in the last five years, a Trump administration could undo that.

Matthew Thorn, executive director of the LGBT military group OutServe-SLDN, said greater inclusion in the armed forces, including transgender service, isn’t a matter of being politically correct but instead preserving “the foundation of our freedoms.”

“Our service members and veterans have risked and continue to risk their lives for the fundamental rights that our democracy is built on, the freedoms that allow Mr. Trump to even stand before an audience and make absurdity out of our armed forces and veterans,” Thorn said. “Transgender service

members and veterans have earned the same respect and honor as any other soldier, airman, sailor or Marine and Mr. Trump should be mindful that the leadership of the Pentagon has agreed, everyone who is able to serve should be allowed to serve regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.”

Thorn said belittling transgender military service members and veterans afflicted with post-traumatic stress disorder is consistent with his criticism of a Gold Star family as well as “disgusting and vile and unbecoming of any individual who would want to hold the highest office in our government.”

“It is very difficult to imagine after today how Mr. Trump can proclaim his love and support for our military and veterans when in the same breath he can willfully admonish those who serve and protect this country with honor and their lives,” Thorn said.

Find the video here: [/www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPw-tfmAQhg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPw-tfmAQhg) This story was originally reported in the *Washington Blade*. BTL and the *Washington Blade* are members of the *National Gay Newspaper Guild*.

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Who You Gonna Call? New Web Series 'Queer Ghost Hunters' Blends Thrill with LGBT History

BY PAIGE COOPERSTEIN

Last December, seven LGBT people approached the cells that first housed inmates in 1889 at the Licking County Historic Jail in Newark, Ohio, about 40 miles east of Columbus. They hoped to find LGBT ghosts.

It had to happen at night — not for any creeping fear, but for the ghost hunters' ability to tune their senses. There was no traffic and no light. They came prepared with dowsing rods to ask yes or no questions and recording equipment to capture "electronic voice phenomena," called EVP, which are noted in paranormal circles as a way to hear spirits' speech.

Scott Priddy had come across a flier for Queer Ghost Hunters around Halloween. He went to a meeting organized by Stonewall Columbus, the LGBT community center for central Ohio, and joined a small group that visited the jail.

"They called me 'ghost bait,'" Priddy said. "I seem to attract the ghosts."

In his first time ghost hunting, Priddy connected with a sheriff. He said he felt a strong tingling and buzzing. All the hair on his arms stood up. Others said the sheriff followed Priddy around and flirted with him.

"We all really cut our teeth on Licking County Jail," said Lori Gum, the program and pride coordinator at Stonewall Columbus.

A Series is Born

From there, the team visited several other sites in Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia.

Stu Maddux, the filmmaker behind LGBT documentaries like "Gen Silent," followed the Queer Ghost Hunters for a web series of the same name. In time for the kickoff of LGBT History Month, the show debuted Oct. 1 with further episodes set for release every Friday on YouTube. The first season includes six episodes, each 8-10 minutes long. A Kickstarter campaign, at <http://ow.ly/HmNe304Je6n>, also launched this month to raise funds for a second season.

"We work really hard to balance the fun of the series and the thrill of the ghost hunt with the history," Gum said. "That's sort of our magic potion."



Lori Gum helped found the Queer Ghosthunters group at Stonewall Columbus, the LGBT community center for Central Ohio. Photo courtesy of: Stu Maddux.

Katy Detrow became the historian for the Queer Ghost Hunters, looking up records of LGBT people who lived and died in the places they investigate.

"Gay people have been around forever in all walks of life," Priddy said. "I'm sure most people don't think of a gay sheriff in the 1930s. Does anybody think of lesbian nuns? It's a broad history."

Gum and Maddux had been discussing LGBT history when she picked him up for the LGBTFest film festival in Columbus last year. He was in town to host a Q&A for his latest film, "The Reel in the Closet," which features home movies of LGBT people dating back to the 1930s.

"It's not history so much as it is seeing ourselves in the past," Maddux said. "It makes you feel like you're part of a people."

On the drive, Gum also rattled off a list of new programs at Stonewall Columbus, ending matter-of-factly with the Queer Ghost Hunters.

She and Shane McClelland, a former staffer from the LGBT center, had dabbled in ghost hunting for fun and found the "presumed heterosexuality" "irritating." People would ask male spirits if they had a wife and children.

That's when Gum decided to bring Queer Ghost Hunters to Stonewall Columbus.

"I stared at her for 10 seconds," Maddux said. "I thought instantly this is going to be my next documentary."

In the last year, Maddux has traveled to Ohio a couple times a month. He's based in San Francisco and works with his husband Joe Applebaum on producing the web series. Maddux said the Queer Ghost Hunters team keeps him motivated.

"They're all very smart and funny people and really into it and skeptical as well," he said.

A Team of History Buffs

Many of the Queer Ghost Hunters described themselves as history buffs. Before a visit to the Ohio State Reformatory — where the movie "Shawshank Redemption" takes place — Gum and Detrow went to the Ohio Historical Society.

They found records for 67 people, many teenage boys, who were convicted of sodomy and sent to the reformatory. A separate wing of the prison was dedicated to these inmates, several of whom died there, according to

the records. At the reformatory, the ghost hunters shared their own coming-out stories to encourage a connection with those inmates.

"That is very attractive to me, to be digging up history from a new perspective," Gum said. "We're coming in with a queer eye."

She said it also encourages young LGBT people to take an interest in their past.

"So many of our Queer Ghost Hunters are young people, under 30," Gum said. "It really bridges the generation gap in our LGBT community. I've never seen a better way to connect these young people to the lives of their LGBT forbearers."

She added, "There's nothing that bonds you to someone quicker than having the bejesus scared out of you."

Kai Stone, one of the younger members of the team, had gone on a ghost hunt about a decade ago with people who considered themselves straight and cis-gender. It was before Stone transitioned.

"With queer people, I thought I'd feel comfortable," said Stone, who's had a longtime interest in the supernatural, but never thought about connecting with LGBT spirits.

One experience that stuck with Stone was a Valentine's Day visit with the Queer Ghost Hunters to Prospect Place, a 19th-century mansion in Ohio.

"A ghost named Sophie initially didn't trust us," Stone said. "We told our stories and she started talking about her lover Ana. [You have] these people living in a mansion, upscale lives, and still having to hide [their sexuality]."

In season two, Stone hopes to find a transgender or gender-nonconforming ghost. Stone said that might be possible by investigating sites connected to the Civil War, when some women presented as men to join the military.

"I really hope we can turn ghost hunting into a fun experience where you can connect with others," Stone said. "I hope more folks feel comfortable to find that history."

Paige Cooperstein has worked as a reporter for the past five years. She graduated from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications with a master's degree in arts journalism. This piece is part of a series during LGBT History Month.

Divided North Carolina

North Carolina's election for governor and even president will be a referendum on the Tar Heel state's right turn and contentious new laws

BY JONATHAN DREW AND ALLEN G. BREED

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) - The Tar Heel State is having a bit of an identity crisis.

Democrats outnumber registered Republicans by more than a half-million voters. Yet the GOP has controlled the General Assembly for six years _ with supermajorities in both chambers most of that time _ and has pushed through a conservative agenda that has slashed taxes, redrawn voting districts and even banned the removal of Confederate monuments without legislative approval.

North Carolina is also dealing with an image problem. Once hailed as a beacon of the New South, it has become something of a pariah state for many, thanks largely to a new law dictating which bathrooms transgender people can use.

In a widening protest, the state has been put on a no-fly-to list by several city and state governments, and it has lost business prospects and rock concerts. Perhaps worst of all in this basketball-obsessed place, it has lost NCAA tournament games - all over House Bill 2, dubbed by opponents as "Hate Bill 2" or simply "the bathroom bill."

"We are no longer viewed as a progressive state but a backwards one," Mayor Harold Weinbrecht of Cary said in early September after the collegiate sports organization announced that it was pulling four events from the liberal town - whose name, the joke goes, is an acronym for "Containment Area for Relocated Yankees."

Of course, there are two people who can't seem to get enough of North Carolina. Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton have visited so often in recent months that they're practically part-time residents. Leading up to the Nov. 8 general election, the GOP and Democratic presidential nominees are in a tight race in the state, perhaps not surprising for a place that has always been something of an enigma.

Banking built the soaring skyscrapers of Charlotte; in Winston-Salem, it was tobacco that raised the skyline. A former textile and furniture manufacturing powerhouse, North Carolina has built an international economy based on higher education, finance and cutting-edge technology.

But the state is a mix of Nasdaq and NASCAR. It has an agrarian heart; only Texas has more rural residents. And it is still coming to terms with a past that allowed a state-funded eugenics program to flourish well into the 1970s and has provided fertile ground for the Ku Klux Klan.

Of the roughly 6.7 million North Carolinians

registered to vote this fall, 2.6 million identify as Democrats, compared with 2 million Republicans. Still, nearly as many - just under 2 million, or about a third of those registered - list themselves as unaffiliated. That makes the state neither stereotypically liberal nor conservative, says political scientist Chris Cooper.

"Of all the states that went for Obama in 2008, we went for him by the smallest margin," says Cooper, who teaches at Western Carolina University. "So we were kind of the reddest blue state in the country. Four years later, we're the bluest red state in the country," tipping to Republican Mitt Romney.

The upcoming elections for governor, U.S. Senate and even president are all referenda on the path that North Carolina has followed these past half-dozen years.

Embedded in the pavement in front of the Legislative Building in Raleigh is the state seal, encircled by its Latin motto: *Esse Quam Videri* - "To be, rather than to seem (to be)."

Many say things are not as they seem.

Backed by groups such as Real Jobs NC and Civitas Action that were funded in part through entities linked to wealthy conservative donor Art Pope, Republicans took advantage of a disorganized state Democratic Party in 2010 to sweep into power, gaining control of both legislative chambers for the first time since Reconstruction. One of their first actions was to schedule a ballot initiative that led to a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

Extreme Right

In 2012, former Charlotte mayor and longtime Duke Energy employee Pat McCrory entered the governor's mansion. What followed was a series of measures that steered what Cooper calls a "pretty middle-of-the-road state" to the extreme right. They included:

- A law requiring women to wait 72 hours before having an abortion, one of the longest waits in the country.
- Rules prohibiting state agencies from factoring long-term sea-level rise into their planning.
- Eliminating teacher tenure, although the courts later ruled it could apply only to future hires.
- Measures limiting early voting and requiring residents to present a photo ID at the polls.

Things came to a head earlier this year when, after giving their colleagues just 15 minutes to read it before opening debate, GOP

legislators pushed through HB2 in a one-day special session. In addition to requiring people to use the restroom of the sex listed on their birth certificates in many public buildings, it excludes sexual orientation and gender identity from a statewide antidiscrimination policy and pre-empts any local measures that would offer wider protection. It also prevents local governments from increasing the minimum wage.

Republican leaders say they're just doing what the voters elected them to do. Senate leader Phil Berger has cast his defense of HB2 as an ideological battle between North Carolinians and meddling forces from outside the state.

"Let me be clear. My job is not to give in to the demands of multimillionaire celebrities pushing a pet social agenda, liberal newspapers like The New York Times, big corporations who have every freedom to set whatever policies they wish under this law. My job is to listen to the people who elected us to

represent them, and the vast majority of North Carolinians we've heard from understand and support this reasonable, common-sense law," he told reporters in April.

However, a late September poll by Elon University showed about 56 percent of North Carolina voters say the law should be repealed, compared to 34 percent supporting it. The poll found 36 percent of voters identify themselves as moderate and 22 percent liberal, while 38 percent say they're conservative.

Elon's poll director, Jason Husser, said backlash over HB2 appears to have hurt McCrory, who was trailing slightly in the poll to Democratic challenger Roy Cooper, the state attorney general.

In the presidential race, the Elon survey gave a small lead to Clinton, while recent polls by Quinnipiac University and Bloomberg politics put the White House hopefuls in a virtual tie in the state.

LGBT activist Chris Sgro says these

See North Carolina Divided, page 17



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U.S. Senate: 57 Percent Chance of New Majority

BY LISA KEEN

The better candidate on LGBT issues is fairly apparent in most U.S. Senate races this year. But in one race, the community seems split. And more important to LGBT people may be which party emerges with a majority of Senate seats once the dust clears on Nov. 8.

If Democrat Hillary Clinton wins the White House, Democrats will need to have retained their existing 46 votes and add four more. That would drop the Republican current seat count of 54 to 50, and with a 50-50 tie in the Senate, Democratic Vice President Tim Kaine would be the tie-breaker thus Democrats would hold the “majority.” By having the majority, Democrats would take control of all Senate committees, making it more likely that pro-LGBT bills, such as the Equality Act, could be advanced, that openly LGBT nominees could be approved, and that pro-LGBT Supreme Court justices can be confirmed.

If Republican Donald Trump wins the White House, Democrats would need to have retained their existing 46 seats plus picked up five new ones from the Republicans to secure the majority.

Nate Silver, the nationally known openly gay election data guru, predicted last week that Democrats have a 57 percent chance of winning the majority in the U.S. Senate Nov. 8.

A survey of the latest polls suggest the best bets for Democrats to pick up four to five seats are: Illinois (where the Democratic challenger leads by 12 points in the polls), Wisconsin (where the Democratic challenger leads by 9.7 points), Indiana (Democratic candidate leads by 4-5 points), Pennsylvania (Democratic challenger leads by 0.6 points), and North Carolina (where the Democratic challenger is up by 0.2 points). In other words, it’s a very tight race as to who will control the Senate next year.

Here’s a survey of how LGBT issues are playing into these important races:

Illinois: The LGBT community is surprisingly split between the two candidates for U.S. Senate from Illinois. The Lesbian Political Action Committee has endorsed and contributed to Democratic challenger U.S. Rep. Tammy Duckworth, while the Human Rights Campaign has endorsed and contributed to incumbent Republican Senator Mark Kirk. HRC based its endorsement largely on the fact that Kirk is the first (and so far only) Republican to co-sponsor the Equality Act. He also supported marriage equality and

Nate Silver, the nationally known openly gay election data guru, predicted last week that Democrats have a 57 percent chance of winning the majority in the U.S. Senate Nov. 8.

co-sponsored a bill to help stop anti-LGBT bullying. LPAC endorsed Duckworth, praising her “long record of legislative activity in support of LGBTQ Americans,” but added that its support was also aimed at establishing a “progressive majority” in the Senate. HRC’s Congressional scorecard has given Kirk only a 78 percent record of voting in favor of LGBT positions, while it’s given Duckworth a perfect 100. Interestingly, the pro-gay American Unity PAC has broadcast ads against Duckworth.

Wisconsin: Former U.S. Senator Russ Feingold (D) is challenging Republican incumbent Senator Ron Johnson for his old seat. Feingold was a strong supporter of LGBT equal rights while in the Senate; he earned scores of 96, 90, 89, and 88 from HRC. Johnson’s HRC scores have been the lowest – zero and 15. Johnson has voted against the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, against inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity in VAWA, and against LGBT appointees. Johnson did say he wouldn’t oppose marriage equality if Wisconsin voters “decide that they want gay marriage.” Both HRC and LPAC have endorsed and given contributions to Feingold.

Indiana: This is an open seat, being vacated by Republican Dan Coats whose HRC voting scores have been consistently the lowest. Democrat Evan Bayh earned HRC scores of 89, 75, 100, 90, 84 during his previous sessions in the U.S. Senate. He voted for adding sexual orientation and gender identity to hate crimes laws, voted to repeal “don’t ask-don’t tell” against a proposed constitutional ban on marriage for same-sex couples, and for ENDA. Rep. Todd Young, the Republican candidate for the seat, earned a zero and a 30 for his voting record in the House so far, voting with HRC only to provide funding for housing for people with AIDS. Democrats have drawn attention in Indiana to Young’s vote against repealing DADT.

Pennsylvania: Democrat Katie McGinty puts her support for LGBT equality upfront on her campaign website, promising support for antidiscrimination protections in employment housing and healthcare and to fight for the

right of transgender Americans to serve in the military and to receive the health care services they need. She has actively sought LGBT support for her election, staging a tour of LGBT nightclubs in Philadelphia. She’s earned the endorsement of Equality Pennsylvania and LPAC. HRC has kicked in \$2,000 to her campaign. Incumbent Republican Senator Patrick Toomey has earned low grades from HRC for his voting record on LGBT issues during the past three sessions: 16, 40, and zero. Among other things, he opposed equal Social Security and veteran benefits for same-sex couples and against inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity in VAWA.

North Carolina: This is where LGBT issues have the greatest possibility of influencing voters. A recent poll found that voters identified HB2 as the third “most important issue facing North Carolina right now,” and 52 percent said the law should be repealed. North Carolina’s incumbent Republican Senator Richard Burr has been trying to walk a fine line – saying the law should be repealed but saying the problem was that Charlotte provoked the legislature into passing HB2 when it passed a non-discrimination law. Burr’s voting record has warranted the lowest possible scores (zero and 15) on LGBT issues, according to HRC. He’s voted against ENDA, against repeal of DADT, and against President Obama’s LGBT nominees to various positions. His Democratic challenger, former ACLU/NC Director Deborah Ross, has been pushing for repeal of HB2. She has the endorsement of LPAC, plus a \$5,000 contribution.

Other Senate races of interest to the LGBT community next month include:

California: Long-time LGBT supporter Barbara Boxer is retiring from her seat and two Democrats are going after it: California Attorney General Kamala Harris and U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez. Both are also long-time supporters of LGBT equality. Sanchez’s voting record in Congress earned her the top score (100) from HRC the past two sessions, and scores of 85, 88, and 75 prior to that. As attorney general, Harris was prominent in the fight against Proposition 8 and for the state

law banning conversion therapy. Equality California and LPAC have endorsed Harris. Neither LPAC nor HRC has contributed to the campaigns.

Nevada: The Democrat’s nominee, Nevada Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto, has not been a consistent friend to the LGBT community. As attorney general, she filed a brief to defend the state’s ban on marriage for same-sex couples. A month later, she withdrew the brief, citing a 9th Circuit decision that made the ban “no longer defensible.” The pro-gay American Unity PAC has broadcast an ad against Masto over her support for a deal with Iran, noting that “it’s illegal to be gay” in Iran. But LPAC has endorsed her bid. Masto’s opponent for the seat being vacated by Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid is Rep. Joe Heck. Heck opposed marriage for same-sex couples but voted against an amendment that sought to eliminate sexual orientation and gender identity from the VAWA. And in committee, he voted against a measure attempting to undermine President Obama’s executive order against sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination by federal contractors. On the HRC’s scorecard for Congressional voting record on LGBT issues, Heck earned the worst possible score (zero) during his first session and a 30 during his second session. HRC has contributed to Masto.

Kentucky: Lexington, Kentucky’s openly gay mayor, Jim Gray, has taken on Republican incumbent U.S. Senator Rand Paul. Gray, a Democrat, told the Washington Post that his being gay has not been an issue in the campaign, but he’s also trailing 12 points behind Paul, according to the most recent poll. And the Kentucky Herald-Leader notes that a significant number of “Business Leaders for Jim Gray” have failed to contribute to his campaign coffers. His campaign has raised \$2.8 million, compared to Senator Paul’s \$3.1 million.

Utah: A transgender candidate, Misty Snow, won the Democratic primary in Utah to take on incumbent Republican U.S. Senator Mike Lee. That makes her the nation’s first transgender candidate for the U.S. Senate from a major party. A UtahPolicy.com poll found Lee with a 37-point lead over Snow in mid-September. Snow has raised only \$11,000 for her campaign, compared to Lee’s \$3.2 million. Snow has used her campaign to criticize Lee for co-sponsoring the anti-LGBT First Amendment Defense Act.

► North Carolina Divided

Continued from p. 15

measures were not the will of the people, but the result of the GOP's skillful use of gerrymandering to hijack the General Assembly.

"North Carolina IS a progressive state," insists Sgro, executive director of Equality NC. "What really happened is that in a low-turnout year, Democrats lost in 2010, and Republicans slammed our state with the worst possible redistricting that turned everywhere in the state into unwinnable conservative districts." Sgro says his hometown of Greensboro was "ground zero" for that effort.

Voter Suppression

In July, a federal appeals court blocked a law that required voters to produce photo identification and follow other rules that it said disproportionately affected minorities. Its GOP sponsors said it was intended to clamp down on voter fraud, but the court saw "discriminatory intent" behind it.

The new ID, early voting and other provisions "target African Americans with almost surgical precision," Judge Diana Gribbon Motz wrote for the panel, but "in fact, impose cures for problems that did not exist."

Another panel of federal judges struck down two U.S. House districts as illegally race-based, requiring lawmakers to hastily redraw

the map of congressional districts for use in the current election.

Several months later, a separate panel ruled that 28 North Carolina General Assembly districts were also illegally race-based. Even so, those will still be used in the November elections.

Jasper Horne, a disabled Vietnam veteran who lives on the outskirts of Greensboro in one of the congressional districts struck down, says he saw the redistricting for a "ploy" to disenfranchise black voters.

"This is nothing new," the 70-year-old former Army engineer said, holding a thick cane in one hand while resting the other on his white pickup decorated with a huge bald eagle and the words, "Some Gave All." "This has been happening for centuries."

In the annals of the civil rights movement, Greensboro is hallowed ground. Downtown, the International Civil Rights Center & Museum occupies the former Woolworth's department store where four college students' 1960 lunch counter sit-in inspired a nationwide movement.

A few miles away, at Motivations Barbershop, Edgar Galloway wonders how much progress blacks really have made in the past half century.

Deftly scraping a straight razor over a client's scalp, Galloway speaks of the recent police shooting of Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte. A new law took effect this month that would make police body- and dashboard-camera footage off-limits to public scrutiny

without a court order.

"I don't know what it's going to take for people to finally give us our honest and fair rights that we deserve as a race," he says, swiveling his customer to check his handiwork. "They're killing us senselessly out here. Our kids are dying out here for no reason."

NCAA Push Back

HB2 is a separate roiling issue.

Greensboro, the self-styled "Tournament Town," is taking one of the biggest hits from the NCAA's push-back against HB2. The convention and visitors bureau estimates the city will lose roughly \$15 million in revenue this year alone. In Charlotte, the NBA also relocated its 2017 All-Star Game that was expected to have a \$100 million economic impact, while the Atlantic Coast Conference pulled a 2016 football championship game that has brought in more than \$30 million in years past.

While many voters complain about the losses, Greensboro resident Tammy Snow is not among them. The white independent voter who works two jobs – mowing lawns and running a forklift at a shipping facility – says HB2 reflects her politics. She has a message for the NCAA's, PayPal's and Bruce Springsteens who want to use boycotts to force the state's hand.

"Good riddance," Snow says. "Look. I have got six grandchildren. And the first time that

I go in the bathroom and there's a man in that bathroom, he's gonna go from a rooster to a hen – REAL quick."

Sgro, on the other hand, is confident the tide has turned. "The Republican supermajority cannot survive the wave year that I believe is coming in 2016," says Sgro, who is openly gay and was appointed to a vacant House seat. "Because of their negligent policies that they have tried to force upon all of us, in a state that is NOT conservative. A state that is moderate to progressive."

Back in one of Greensboro's overturned districts, Lori Cranford is just sad.

This is the first year her two children – 19 and 22, both in college – are both eligible to vote. Standing in her driveway, their absentee ballots in her hand, she talks of how she lectured them on their obligation as citizens to vote, and what a privilege it is.

But with all the bickering, the excitement is gone.

"Obviously, we're very controversial right now, and it's not how we'd like to be seen," says Cranford, development director for a local council of the Boy Scouts of America. "I really wish that everyone would not see our state solely as these issues that are currently going on that not necessarily are in our control."

She says it might be Election Day before she makes up her own mind which direction she thinks her state - and country - should take.

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► Discrimination

Continued from p. 7

consequences. The types of things said about me open the door for all types of hateful comments, and ultimately lead to violence against those who do not conform to strict gender norms,” said Moise. “It wasn’t about a question. It was about thinking it’s acceptable to discuss my underwear on a public forum with a bunch of other lawyers that I’m sitting in the same room with. That’s professionally unacceptable.”

Moise Takes a Stand

In an effort to try and get Woodards barred from future court appointments, Moise has presented a letter to Judge Timothy Kenny in the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan.

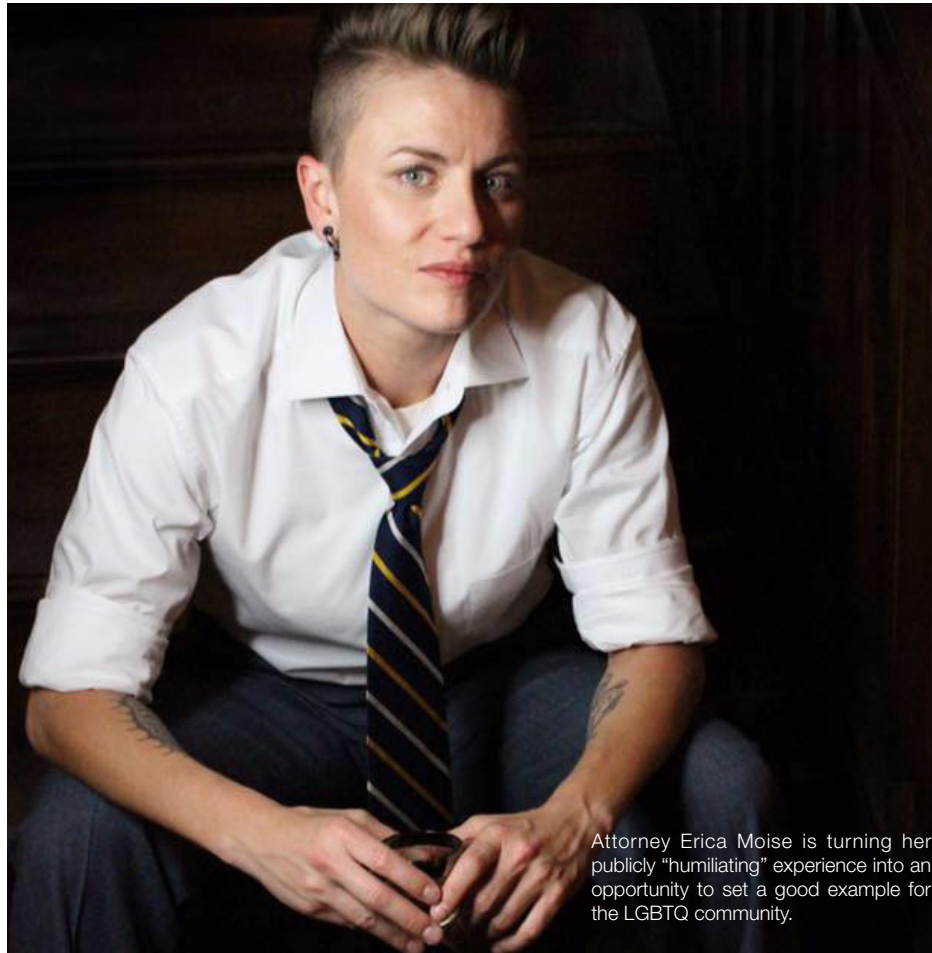
As a former president of the Stonewall Bar Association, and the Vice President of Fair Michigan, Moise has received support from several LGBTQ lawyers and allies.

“The argument that Ms. Moise’s attire was not appropriate for a professional seminar is ludicrous. I attended that same seminar. There were two cisgender female lawyers dressed in T-shirts and sweat pants. There were cisgender male attorneys in jeans, T-shirts and sweatshirts, as well as those in suits and ties,” said Rudy Serra, founding president of the SBA in 1996.

“We are concerned that Mr. Woodards’ attitudes make him unsuitable to represent LGBTQ people. We believe that LGBTQ citizens deserve equality, dignity and respect in the justice system. This applies particularly to LGBTQ members of the State Bar. We are officers of the court. No one who has earned admission should be publicly subjected to harassment, ridicule, disrespect, stereotypes or bigotry,” he said.

“Even if her attire was inappropriate, and it absolutely was not, a professional person might express their opinion privately, but publicly shaming and ridiculing another professional on Facebook, and then on broadcast radio, is not appropriate. I believe that Erica is right to be outraged and that corrective action is needed. I hope a letter from the Stonewall Bar Association will reinforce Erica’s concerns and convey our community’s support. Transgender and gender nonconforming lawyers are not new. The bench and the bar need to adjust to reality. That requires learning about the science, medicine and law pertaining to gender. There is a distressing lack of awareness, even among LGB people, about our transgender community. Ms. Moise’s courage may be a catalyst for positive change.”

That change starts with “realizing the hurt that he (Woodards) has caused,” said Julisa



Attorney Erica Moise is turning her publicly “humiliating” experience into an opportunity to set a good example for the LGBTQ community.

Abad, director of transgender outreach and advocacy at Fair Michigan.

“Having an opinion is fine, but when you represent the public, rants like this are not,” said Abad. “You have people’s lives in your hands who are counting on you to give them justice.”

Woodards posted a video on Facebook Oct. 7 responding to the backlash, pointing outraged members of the LGBTQ community to the First Amendment.

“A week later, I still cannot imagine all of this arose simply because I asked a question about underwear,” he said, and that he has been “savagely attacked” as a homophobe.

“To label heterosexuals homophobes simply because they disagree with how you choose to live your life is just as derogatory as the names and labels that many in our community affix to you.”

In the almost eight-minute video Woodards concludes by stating, “The community rails on endlessly about being stigmatized, ostracized and bullied. I ask a couple of sarcastic questions about women’s underwear and I’m hounded by the LGBTQ community, suddenly the biggest bully on the block. And like most bullies, they want to take not only my lunch money but (also) my dinner money, gas money and bill money. Hell, they want to take all my money. Well it certainly doesn’t seem anyone in the community had an ounce of fear with the tenacity that they’ve attacked me and are

trying to take my livelihood as a repercussion.”

Homophobic Rants

This is not the first time Woodards has publicly demeaned others on social media. There are dozens of posts when Woodards has used dehumanizing language in reference to the LGBTQ community.

On Sept. 28, Woodards posted: “Call me a f**king homophobe if you want to, but when I’m in an EMPTY bathroom with multiple urinals and stalls BY MYSELF and another man comes in and stands at the one right next to me, I can’t help but to think there some gay isht going on.”

On Aug. 4, Woodards posted: “Let Your Boy Be A Boy” to explain that he thinks “a lot of this transgenderism in the black community starts when these little boys are two and three years old. If I see one more little boy walking around with a bushy pony tail, corn rows, or two braids looking like Rudy from the Cosby Show, Imma smack his hood rat momma.”

On June 18, in a lengthy post about the LGBTQ community, Woodards said “They often compare their struggles to those of Black America in the 20th century. However nothing could be further from the truth. Yes black people were fighting for their civil rights. But that’s where the comparison ends. Negroes or ‘colored people’ (as they were

called at the time) really didn’t care if white America ‘loved’ them. They didn’t particularly care if white America ‘accepted’ them. They knew that white America would never ‘love’ or ‘accept’ them. So they never tried to force white America to do so. Their mission was to SHOW love and acceptance, not DEMAND it. But they did demand RESPECT. They did demand EQUAL TREATMENT. America has now given the LGBT community the same civil rights as African-Americans. However, LGBT’s (sic) fail to understand that which black folk knew from the start of their struggle 60 years ago: Straight people (like southern whites then) have the right to disagree. Your goal is to make progress, not friends. Everybody is NOT going to love you. Stop trying to force the issue. You’ve reached the pinnacle. You’ve won the prize. So shut up already, go get hitched and be just as miserable as the rest of America.”

Attorney Ethics

As more states are treating incivility as a possible ethics violation, Moise looks to the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct as she weighs her options. While the State bar confirms this rule does not specifically address social media, Rule 6.5(a) states: “A lawyer shall take particular care to avoid treating such a person discourteously or disrespectfully because of the person’s race, gender or other protected personal characteristic. To the extent possible, a lawyer shall require subordinate lawyers and nonlawyer assistants to provide such courteous and respectful treatment.”

This might be the first time someone decides to file a complaint against Woodards in response to his egregious public statements online, but it’s not the first time Woodards has engaged in unlawful behavior.

The Attorney Discipline Board in Michigan has record of Woodards’ multiple violations including practicing law and holding himself as an attorney while suspended from practice for nonpayment of bar dues; failing to act with reasonable diligence and promptness in representing his clients; engaging in conduct that is prejudicial to the administration of justice; and conduct that is contrary to justice, ethics, honesty or good morals.

As Moise defends herself against Woodards and the wrath of Facebook, there is a growing body of guidance discussing social media and the new ethical dilemmas it presents for attorneys, which has only begun to receive appropriate attention in recent years, according to the American Bar Association.

We’ll find out soon enough what’s permissible in this case and what may have been a click too far.

Learn more about Fair Michigan at www.fairmichigan.org.

► 2nd Debate

Continued from p. 6

behind her in ways that made it look like he was deliberately attempting to intimidate Clinton physically. He also turned to Clinton at one point and threatened that, if he becomes president, he would “instruct” his attorney general to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate her deletion of thousands of emails from her private computer.

When Clinton responded, “It’s awfully good that someone with a temperament like Donald Trump is not president,” Trump interjected, “Because you’d be in jail.”

In a presidential election campaign that has defied all norms, predictions, and even wild expectations, political chaos has its hands firmly on the steering wheel for the next four weeks. But there is a growing consensus that an 11-year-old videotape, first made public by the Washington Post Friday evening, has knocked the proverbial wheels off Trump’s wagon and the candidate intends to hang on until he reaches the bottom.

The videotape was recorded in 2005 as Trump arrived on the set of a Hollywood entertainment news program, Access Hollywood. In that tape, Trump can be heard bragging about his treatment of women, saying he “moved on her like a bitch” in reference to a married woman whom he said he tried to “fuck” but “I couldn’t get there.” He also said he just starts kissing beautiful women - “I don’t even wait and when you’re a star, they let you do it. You can do anything. Grab them by the pussy. You can do anything.”

Trump’s immediate comment on

release of the videotape was: “This was locker room banter, a private conversation that took place many years ago. Bill Clinton has said far worse to me on the golf course -not even close. I apologize if anyone was offended.”

Many people were offended, including many in the upper echelons of the Republican Party. House Speaker Paul Ryan disinvited Trump to an event in Wisconsin, Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus said “No woman should ever be described in these terms or talked about in this manner. Ever.” Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell called Trump’s videotaped statements “repugnant.” His vice presidential running mate, Mike Pence, said he was “offended” by the remarks and “cannot defend them.” And former GOP presidential candidate Senator John McCain said he would not vote for Trump.

By Saturday, Republican leaders and strategists began calling for Trump to withdraw from the ticket. Some suggested Pence could take over as the party’s nominee. Most political observers described the party in “panic,” “crisis,” and complete disarray over how best to respond to the fallout over the tape.

Trump declared he would “never” withdraw from the campaign. He issued a second apology, via videotape, saying he’s never pretended to be a perfect person and that he regrets the comments he made on the 2005 video.

“I said it, I was wrong, and I apologize,” said Trump. He added that his travels on the campaign trail, meeting “grieving mothers” and workers who have lost their jobs, “changed me.”

► Hillary Clinton

Continued from p. 6

of a hate crime. America saw the effects of hate in Orlando, with the attack on the Pulse nightclub – the deadliest mass shooting by a single person in our history. The danger is compounded for LGBT people of color, who face intersectional pressures and dangers, particularly transgender people of color. Last year, more than 20 transgender women were killed in America. Recently, three were murdered right here in Philadelphia.

We need to stop the violence and save LGBT lives. We need to collect more data around gender identity and sexual orientation in hate crimes, so we can stop them in a smarter, more effective way. And we need to finally pass common-sense reforms to address the gun violence epidemic. Along with the vast majority of Americans, I believe

that we can protect the rights of law-abiding gun owners while still making sure that guns don’t fall into the wrong hands.

Finally, we need to continue our fight to achieve our goal of an AIDS-free generation. HIV and AIDS still disproportionately impact gay and bisexual men, communities of color, transgender people and young people. We need to increase research, expand the use of effective prevention medications like PrEP, cap out-of-pocket drug costs and reform outdated HIV-criminalization laws.

Like many, I’ve lost friends and loved ones to AIDS. We owe it to them – the people we love and miss, and the people whose names we’ll never know – to continue this fight.

As First Lady and Senator, I fought to significantly expand funding for AIDS research. As Secretary of State, I changed the rules so that State Department

“I pledge to be a better man tomorrow and will never, ever let you down.” He also said he planned to speak more in the future about how former President Bill Clinton “has actually abused women” and Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton has “bullied, attacked, shamed, and intimidated his victims.”

Gay conservative Christopher Barron, who organized LGBT support for Trump during the Republican convention, said “I support Trump 100 percent,” when asked his reaction to the Trump videotape. Log Cabin Republican national President Gregory Angelo said his group posted this statement on Facebook and Twitter: “There is a moral obligation inherent to conservatism, and it demands that ALL women-straight, gay, bisexual, transgender - be treated with respect.”

Meanwhile, Trump’s efforts to mitigate the fallout around the videotape released Friday may now depend on whether any more videotapes, audiotapes, and other evidence emerge with similar or even more unflattering illustrations of his character. CNN posted an audiotape Sunday from an interview of Trump by shock talk radio host Howard Stern. In that tape, Trump acknowledges that, as owner of a Miss Universe beauty pageant, he went backstage when “everyone is getting dressed.”

“I’m allowed to go in because I’m the owner of the pageant and therefore I’m inspecting it....You know, they’re standing there with no clothes...And so I sort of get away with things like that.” He said he lost his virginity at 14 to a “hot little girl in high school or grammar school or whatever.”

employees in same-sex relationships were treated the same as their colleagues and so that transgender Americans could obtain passports that reflected their true gender identity. So these fights aren’t new to me.


And as president, I’ll keep fighting for LGBT rights, because – as I told the world in one of the most important speeches I gave as Secretary – they are human rights. And I won’t quit until all our laws reflect that basic reality.

This exclusive op-ed in the Philadelphia Gay News www.pgn.com is part of the publication’s annual LGBT History Month Project coverage. Michiganders can find a comprehensive Voter Guide www.mivoterguide.com produced by Between The Lines outlining progressive candidates up and down the ballot. Visit www.mivoterguide.com. Both PGN and BTL are members of the National Gay Media Guild.




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Country's Rising Star on Finding Nashville's Gays, Genre's LGBT Evolution & Miley's Pansexuality

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

A few years ago, Kacey Musgraves shook up country music's conservative politics with "Follow Your Arrow," encouraging people to "...kiss lots of boys, or kiss lots of girls if that's something you're into."

Gay-affirming country music artists were already percolating well before the song's release as a growing number of female country megastars advocated for their large LGBT followings: Reba McEntire, Dolly Parton, Martina McBride and Carrie Underwood. But then, in 2013, Musgraves began leading a new wave of down-home chart-toppers who'd continue to carry the torch through to a "love is love is love," post-marriage equality world.

Joining Musgraves on her mission to embolden the queer community is Camaron Marvel Ochs, the 31-year-old California native known simply as Cam. Last year, Cam picked up a Grammy nod for "Burning House," a breakout hit from her debut "Untamed," ranked No. 15 among Rolling Stone's 40 Best Country Albums of 2015. Now, the singer-songwriter is taking her album on the road for a fall trek entitled the "Burning House Tour."

Before her upcoming performance on Dec. 2 at Coyote Joe's in Shelby Township, an untamed Cam freewheeled through a variety of queer topics: her quest to find the gays in Nashville, why it feels "totally natural" to embrace her LGBT fans and how Miley Cyrus' openness about her pansexuality is "fucking awesome."

Being from the Bay Area, I imagine you knew more gay people than some of your small-town country contemporaries.

It's actually probably the weirder thing! For me, it was a reverse of the typical culture shock. I remember showing up to Nashville and being like, "Where are you hiding all of your gays and Asians? Where is everybody?!" (Laughs) It's a totally different culture. Man, it's a different thing to understand what it means to be outside of the Bay Area. It's a very special little pocket I got to grow up in.

What did you learn about gay culture by being immersed in it at such a young age?

I'm not saying everything was perfect – everything is obviously still getting better everywhere – but I grew up with it being a much more normal part of life. It's funny: When you leave some place, you don't really realize what your values are until you leave, and then you start to realize you accidentally learned all these things.

For example, when I first moved to Nashville, one of my favorite people and my roommate for a while, who's from Alabama and is gay, hadn't come out to her parents yet. Obviously, it's a personal

Photo courtesy of BB Gun Press

decision, but I was just like, “Man, I see this weighing on you. Come on out! Pride is such a big party every year.” To this day, she’ll still be like, “Man, I really appreciated that. You were one of the first people who made me feel like I could be myself.” But then when she came out to her parents it was like an explosion. It was not an easy transition. Her parents grew up with certain values that kind of made it feel like being gay was equal to murdering somebody, and I didn’t even know that mindset existed. So, I was the ignorant one in that situation. I had no clue. And I didn’t realize me encouraging her was putting her in harm’s way.

They got through it and everybody is back on track, but I didn’t see that coming, because coming from the Bay Area, you’re like, “OK, maybe it’ll be kind of stressful,” but I didn’t expect that much. I feel like that’s a very good example of when (helping someone come out) can be a double-edged sword, where you just don’t understand the culture of the people you’re (meeting), and you kind of have to be sensitive to where everybody is.

I remember going to Nashville Pride the first year I went there and telling everybody, “Oh my god, get your wig, get your outfits – we’re gonna go down and we’re gonna party so hard.” It was a small riverfront party, and there were some people picketing and I was just like, “This was not the party that I wanted!”

Why do you think you gravitate toward LGBT people?

I think I really like people who are authentic and who are very much themselves, and I do think – and I don’t know if this is controversial to say – one weird benefit of the fact that maybe not everybody is fully accepting of queer people in general right now is that the people who are proudly themselves, who are out right now, are spectacular people because think how amazingly brave you have to be just to do the normal thing of being yourself. Most of them are just genuinely themselves, whereas most people don’t make a conscious choice. They don’t feel like they have something on the line about being who they are, so I do feel like there’s this special aura around people who are out, or any kind of queer.

Is it still a bold move for a country star to advocate for the gay community?

Personally, I think, and especially with women country stars, we have so many gay fans it feels totally natural. The truth is, there’s a part of the country that is still understanding it – they haven’t quite wrapped their minds around gay culture yet, or some of the people they know who are gay aren’t out to them. There’s a whole host of reasons for all that stuff, but I don’t think they realize that some of their best friends or hairstylists or bankers are gay. There’s some sort of unknown factor that keeps it out of the dialogue in country music sometimes. Obviously, the

gay community is everywhere; it’s just not as outwardly present, I guess, in country music yet. So, maybe it *feels* bold because of that, but it’s not *that* bold.

You recently performed Little Big Town’s hit “Girl Crush” with Alicia Keys during the 2016 ACM Honors. The tune was controversial for being misinterpreted as a lesbian love song. What do you think the controversy says about the country community’s LGBT politics?

It’s so funny. Some people I talked to in radio said they never actually received any backlash, but then some people do. One of the guys who runs a radio station down in Texas is gay, and he got a call from somebody who was like, “I feel like this promotes the gay agenda,” and he’s like, “I do not care.” So I don’t know how much of a crazy backlash there was. It feels so weird. You know you’re in your bubble when no one you know is complaining.

When you sang it, did you *feel* like you were singing a lesbian song?

No! Also, that’s the reality of it: It isn’t one. If you’re gonna be mad about it, at least pick a song that’s actually (gay). I don’t think there’s much logic to it.

Who are your country music girl crushes?

I love Kacey Musgraves. Obsessed with Kacey Musgraves. And I’m kind of friends with her, so it feels weird to secretly admire her all the time! (Laughs) But man, she’s done such a killer job. I’m always so impressed by her.

And then there’s fellow ally Dolly Parton, of course. You recently had a porch sit-down with her.

She’s amazing. When you’re talking to her, she’s always got the cutest and sweetest response. And you can see it in her eyes – she knows what she’s saying at all times, and it’s impressive to be around.

Did she give you any songwriting advice?

Yeah, I was like, “Gimme all your tips!” She’s like, “Pick the right songs.” Not all her best songs were ones that she wrote, so she wasn’t really afraid to do that. And sometimes as an artist you can get a little high and mighty about your art and you want to control all of it.

Were you that way with “Untamed”?

Well, I wrote or co-wrote all of those songs. (Laughs)

So... yeah?

(Laughs) Yeah. I think it’s a tough line to walk where you want to make something that fulfills your creative needs, but also, it has to be something that really reaches other people and isn’t just something you make in your basement for yourself to listen to all day. It’s gotta be

See Cam, page 24



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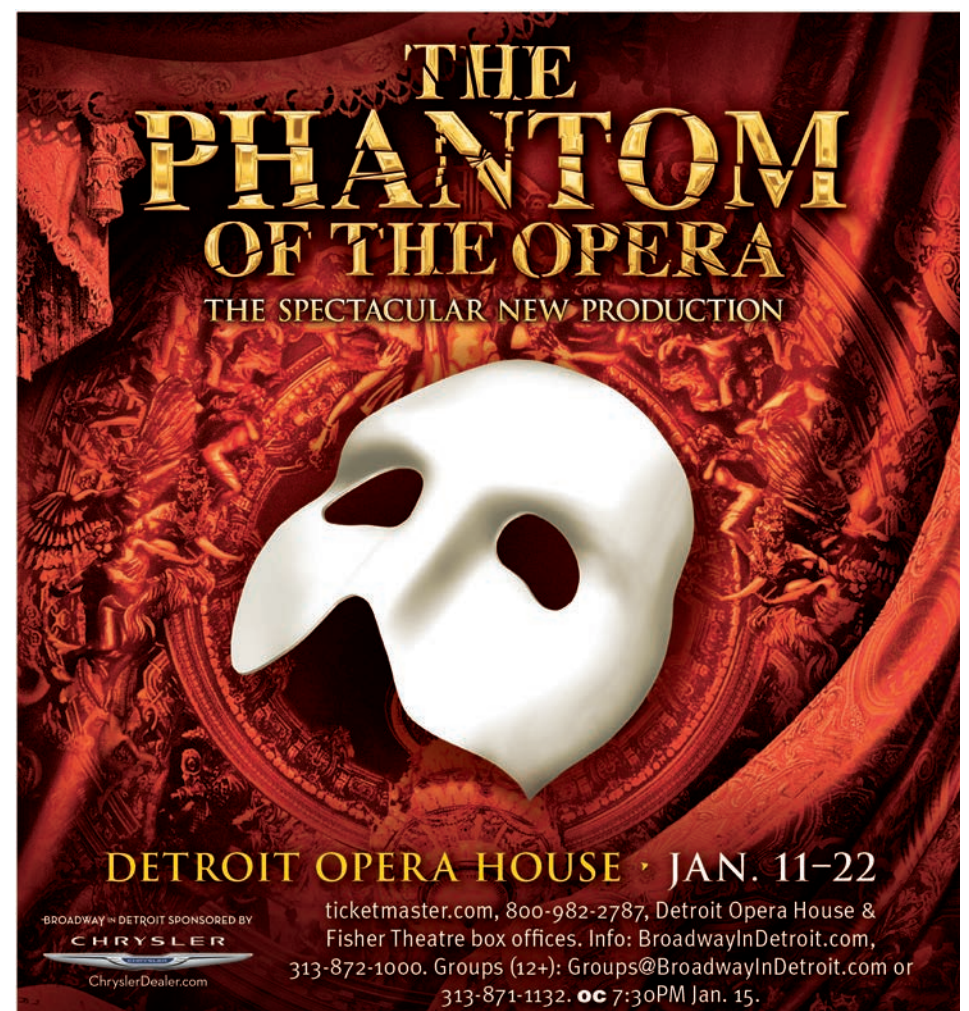
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Theatre Nova and Ellipsis Theatre Announce Partnership at The Yellow Barn in 2017

ANN ARBOR – Theatre Nova, at the “edge” of theater in downtown Ann Arbor since 2014, welcomes Ellipsis Theatre to share performance space at The Yellow Barn at 410 W. Huron St. The 2,500 square-foot venue is a warm, rustic and intimate gathering place for live theater, music, and other performances.

Ellipsis Theatre, a Scott Screws and Joanna Hastings’ company, reinstated after a hiatus of almost a decade. Now, they will produce four shows, running for three weeks each. Theatre Nova will produce six shows, running for four to five weeks each.

Both companies will announce their 2017 seasons later this year. The two theater companies will bring different types of offerings to The Yellow Barn stage, alternating their productions monthly throughout the year.

In addition to live music and stand-up comedy events, the spiritually-oriented Green Room also gathers at The Yellow Barn on Monday evenings.

Cultural programming at the venue also includes workshops for playwrights;



yoga, tai chi, chi gong and other classes.

“Theatre Nova has absolutely loved The Yellow Barn as a theater venue and we see this collaboration as an opportunity to expand the type of plays that audiences can see there. Together, our two companies’ programmatic profiles offer a variety of offerings, from world premieres to classics,” said Carla

Milarch, Theatre Nova’s founding artistic director along with Daniel Walker.

“We’d love to see The Yellow Barn become Ann Arbor’s ‘go-to’ home for theater in 2017, where you can count on catching a great show in an intimate

See Theatre Nova, page 27

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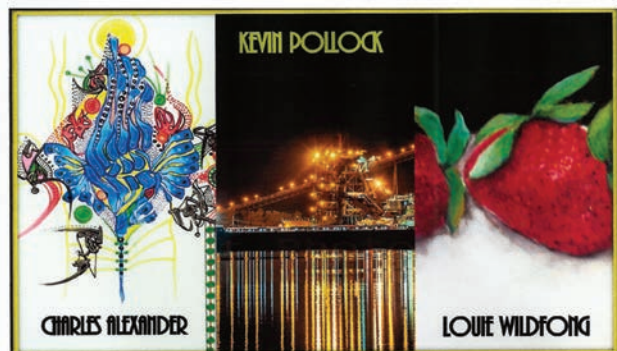
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► Cam

Continued from p. 21

something that appeals to other people, so you can have a joint experience with them. I try to walk the line between obsessively controlling everything that is going on and just realizing that you have to have other people in mind while you're making it.

At this point in your career, are you aware of your gay following?

Yes, definitely. I see all kinds of people at meet-and-greets. It's really nice when younger gay fans do know that you are supportive. That's really important. I hate to call myself a role model, but somebody who is more in the public eye who's on their team is always nice. They seem excited about that, and that's why it is nice when (artists) do take the time to say something a little more public so that their fans know.

That might be more important in the country community because there are so few vocal allies.

Yeah, I know. But I mean, even Carrie Underwood is on it. I remember being younger and my grandpa had a ranch. We went across the street, across to the neighboring spot that had horses. We were small, so we were leaning on the lower rung of the fence. My grandpa and his pal were leaning on the upper rung of the fence. We're watching, and I could hear them shootin' shit and they're talking about, "Did you hear about Bob? He was wearing his heels to church and they asked him to stop coming." This was a heavysset, super-country dude who everybody knew. I didn't know him. I was too little. But I remember over the dinner table my grandpa went, "You know, I don't think that's right." That was a big thing, to hear your grandpa say that. I feel like that's a very country value to say, "I don't think you support each other." I know people talk the talk and don't quite walk the walk.

What did your grandpa teach you about acceptance?

I probably picked up open-mindedness from him, but I just feel my parents and the whole community – it just seemed like a normal thing. I couldn't even tell you where I picked it up from. Being in Nashville, sometimes I'll be behind on (LGBT issues) now because of how progressive the Bay Area is. I'll be behind on the correct term or the correct pronouns, (and) it's my job to keep up with that too, but that's when I feel like, "OK, that's my battle; it's not just, 'Do you accept gay people?'" That's normal.

Tell me about your obsession with the Indigo Girls.

They tweeted at me, and I died. I've been to three of their shows, if not four. And I remember one time seeing them walk by, and my mom is like, "Go say hi," and I said,

"No. I literally can't." And they tweeted at me: "We love 'Burning House,'" and they're like, "We should write some time," and I'm like, I can't. I can't be in the room with them. You know what I mean? It just won't happen. I can't do it. Some of your heroes, you just want them to stay heroes. Like, I don't want you to be a real person.

Did your infatuation with the Indigo Girls ever lead people to assume you might be gay?

To be honest, some of the people who did listen to the Indigo Girls in choir with me did end up being gay! (Laughs) But a bunch of them were straight too! It was a mix. I was really lucky that when I hit college, an album by the Indigo Girls was the first I found on my own; it didn't come to me through my parents or through the radio. I found this music and I was obsessed with it. As far as I know nobody asked if I was gay, but I probably would've been very complimented because I love the Indigo Girls so much! (Laughs)

You co-wrote "Maybe You're Right" for Miley Cyrus' "Bangerz" album. What do you think of her using her platform to talk about issues that address sexual fluidity and queerness?

Her Happy Hippie Foundation (which rallies young people to fight injustice) is so cool. And man, she's country too. I mean, she came from a country background. And I'm not close with her, but I think it's so cool what she's doing. It's kind of a tough line to walk because sometimes I get annoyed when people speak on subjects they aren't fully educated on, or sometimes if I just don't agree with them, I'm like, stick to your trade. I don't want to hear what else you have to say. (Laughs) As far as I know she's straight...

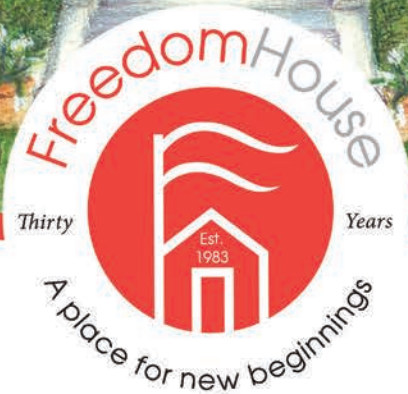
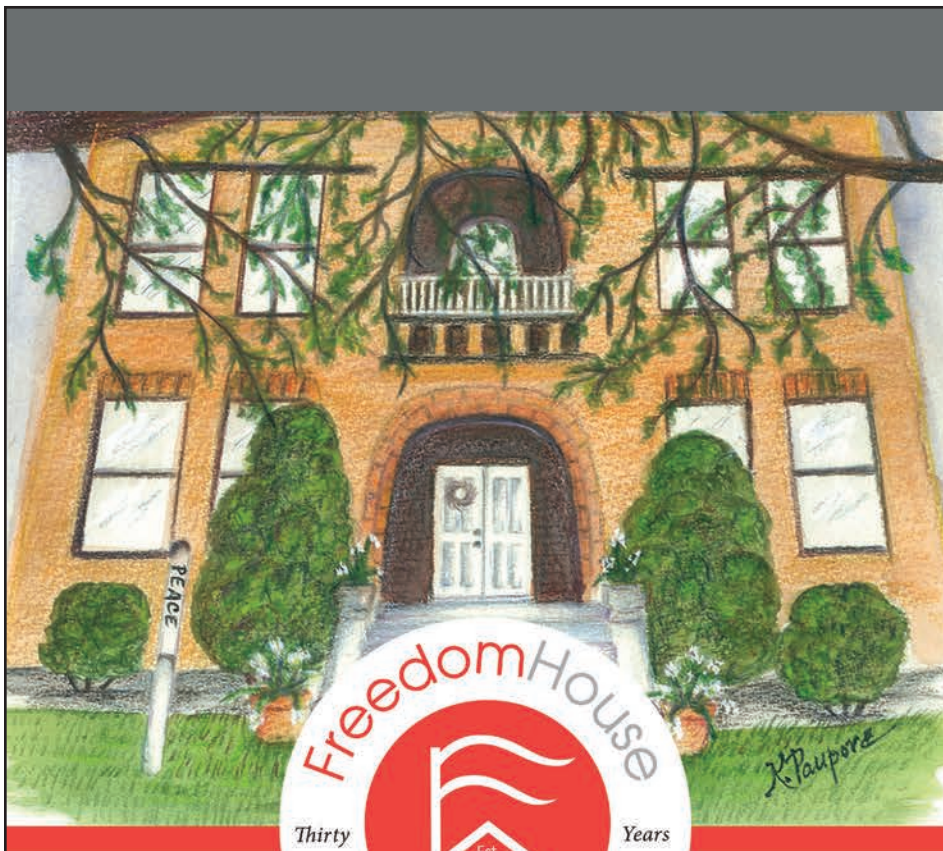
She's openly pansexual, actually.

Oh, really? That's cool. I didn't know that. OK, that's awesome!

And she's become an emblem for young queer kids to subvert labels.

That's awesome. I think that's probably where everybody is headed, which is amazing. I'm so glad she does that. Because as someone who identifies as straight, sometimes it feels very unfair that more often than not a straight person will be the person who has a platform, or a white person will be the one who has a platform, or a man will be the one who has a platform. Sometimes that gets a little tricky because you're speaking about people who aren't quite you. But Miley – if she is pansexual, that's fucking awesome. And it's so great because I'm sure she's taking a lot of heat from people who don't quite understand. But being the one who's pushing forward and taking the blowback is gonna make it so much easier for the next generation.

Chris Azzopardi is the editor of Q Syndicate, the international LGBT wire service. Reach him via his website at www.chris-azzopardi.com and on Twitter (@chrisazzopardi).



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Editor's Pick

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Fourth Annual Innovation in Conservation Awards Gala 5:30 p.m. Tickets starting at \$150. Michigan League of Conservation Voters, 1114 Washington Blvd, **Detroit**. 734-222-9650. events@michiganlcvo.org http://michiganlcvo.org/event/fourth-annual-innovation-conservation-gala/

Friday, Oct. 14

Cardio Relay for Disabled American Veterans 6:30 a.m. Sign up to work out, make a donation to the Michigan Department of Disabled American Veterans and get a \$20 off coupon to Ann Arbor's Tortoise and Hare Running & Fitness Center. Better Living Fitness Center, 834 Phoenix Dr, **Ann Arbor**. 734-747-0123. office@betterliving.biz http://betterlivingfitness.com/

The 2016 Little Witches' Ball 6 p.m. Multiple activities for children, DJ and Karaoke, dancing, pizza and soft drinks. Tickets \$5-\$7. **Detroit Metro Area** Pagans, 25500 Sherwood Ave, **Warren**. http://usoam.org/little-witches-ball/

The Detroit Cocktail Classic 2016 6 p.m. Celebrate the culture and craft of the cocktail with spirit-themed, experimental activities. A portion of the proceeds will benefit O.A.T.S. Offering Alternative Therapy with Smiles. Ages 21 and older. Tickets: \$45. The Detroit Cocktail Classic 2016, 2801 Russell St, **Detroit**. http://detroitcocktail.com/

The Poets in Autumn Tour 2016: Detroit 7:30 p.m. Come see some of the best spoken word artists in the world including Jackie Hill, Preston Perry, Janette-IKZ, Chris Webb and more. Tickets: \$15 - \$25 for VIP. Fearless Entertainment, 13660 Stansbury St., **Detroit**. 313-836-7732. info@evangelministry.org https://detroitpia16.eventbrite.com/

Red Hot Fridays 9 p.m. No cover charge before midnight. Password "Red Hot." Red Door Night Club, 22901 Woodward Ave., **Ferndale**. 248-541-1600. info@reddoorclub.com www.reddoorclub.com

Saturday, Oct. 15

International Day of the Girl Child in Detroit! 1 p.m. A community discussion on the state of human rights for girls in Detroit and around the world, documentary viewing and games for children. Event provided free of charge. Bell Global Justice Institute, 3663 Woodward Ave, **Detroit**. 313-593-3584. detroitcenter@umich.edu www.facebook.com/events/1232149333475701/

Sweetest Day Dinner & Love Songs ft. Sky Covington 7 p.m. Join for Sweetest Day ft. Sky Covington as she serenades ft. Brian Holland on Drums, Jimi BluesPaired with a delicious Greek & American Menu. No Cover. Exodus Rooftop, 529 Monroe, **Detroit**. 3139627093. nicolefreemanmanagement@gmail.com www.skycovington.com



Trans Youth Empowerment Workshop
Join Stand with Trans in the first ever Trans Youth Empowerment Workshop titled "ACE it." Held at Affirmations, the workshop will include a variety of sessions aimed at connecting trans youth with other trans youth in the area and to hang out in the "photo" lounge. Sessions will include creative expression workshops including: music, art, slam poetry, virtual reality and more; as well as vocal training and body language, getting to know your style and self defense. Keynote address will be delivered by ACLU of Michigan LGBTQ Special Projects Attorney Jay Kaplan. A professional photographer will provide professional photographs for all participants.

The workshops for trans youth ages 12-21 will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 16. Attendance is free of charge. For more information, visit <http://www.standwith-trans.org/registration>.

Sunday, Oct. 16

Walk 2 Rescue 9 a.m. To benefit DDR Detroit Dog Rescue, 31300 Metropolitan Pkwy, **Harrison Township**. www.detroitdogrescue.com

Trans Youth Empowerment Workshop 9:30 a.m. Come for a day of learning, skill building, community and friendship for trans youth ages 12-22. Includes 12 sessions to choose from including a bonus workshop with ACLU LGBT Projects Attorney, Jay Kaplan. Parent session begins at 3 p.m. Must register to attend. Only 75 spots available. Stand With Trans, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. laura@temple-israel.org www.standwithtrans.org/registration

The Novi Home Show 10 a.m. One-stop destination to find home improvement products and services for every type of project imaginable, decorating and landscaping exhibits as well as experienced businesses available for consulting or hire. Tickets: \$5-\$10. Home Builder Assoc. of Southeast Michigan, 46100 Grand River Ave., **Novi**. 586-752-6381. gmonette@allseasonscommunications.com www.novihomeshow.com

Karaoke Bowling Fundraiser! 5 p.m. \$20 for 2 games of 9 pin no tap, shoes, 2 slices of pizza and soft drinks, Karaoke, make a donation to sing a song or challenge someone to sing a song. Sing Out Detroit Chorus, 2101 E Twelve Mile Road, **Warren**. 248-943-2411. singoutdetroit@gmail.com www.singoutdetroit.org

Tuesday, Oct. 18

Care To Dance? 7 p.m. Learn to urban ballroom. Sisterhood Social Excursions, 8670 Grand River Ave., **Detroit**. www.meetup.com

Gamenight 7 p.m. Gay Geeks Social Group, 4636 15 MILE RD Apt. xxx, **Sterling Heights**. www.meetup.com

The Intersectionality of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Substance Abuse 7:30 p.m. In-depth, informative discussion on the correlation between domestic violence and substance abuse. Attendance is free. Dawn Farms, 5305 Elliott Drive, **Ypsilanti**. 734-485-8725. info@

dawnfarm.org www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series/

The Intersectionality of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Substance Abuse 7:30 p.m. Free open to anyone with personal or professional interest. Dawn Farms, 5305 Elliott Drive, **Ypsilanti**. 734-485-8725. info@dawnfarm.org http://www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series

Wednesday, Oct. 19

SAGE Metro Detroit Board Meeting 9:30 a.m. SAGE Metro Detroit, 4750 Woodward Ave, **Detroit**. info@sagemetrodetroit.org https://sagemetrodetroit.org/

LGBT Cancer Support Group 6:30 p.m. This LGBT support group provides social and emotional support for LGBT persons with cancer, their partners, LGBT family members and friends. Gilda's Club Metro Detroit, 3517 Rochester Road, **Royal Oak**. 248-577-0800. www.gildasclubdetroit.org/calendar/lgbt-cancer-group-19/

Friday, Oct. 21

Bear Expo 5 Fall Edition 10 p.m. Bear and leather expo raising money for local charities, bringing the leather, bear, and pup communities together. Menjos Complex, 928 McNichols Road W, **Detroit**. 313-863-3934.

Saturday, Oct. 22

Smart Recovery 10 a.m. Smart Recovery offers people with any type of addiction a place to learn how to change unwanted behaviors through cognitive based methods. This is a non-12 step program, led by Smart Recovery trainers, and does not require abstinence. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

Coming Out Over Coffee 10:30 a.m. A casual discussion group covering all aspects of coming out and the effects it may have on your life. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

3rd Annual Leadership for Women

Summit 11 a.m. A one-day summit designed for women who want to be E.P.I.C. (Empowered, Powerful, Intellectual, Committed). Tickets \$147. Leadership for Women, 3071 W. Grand Blvd, **Detroit**. http://www.leadershipforwomen.org/

First Annual Dog Halloween Picnic 12 p.m. Pre-sale tickets: \$3, \$5 day of. Portion of proceeds benefit Detroit Animal Welfare Group. Boo Boo's BoneYard, 22156 Bordman Rd., **Armada**. 586-944-9230. www.facebook.com/booboosboneyard

Alcoholics Anonymous Brownbaggers 1:30 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

Smear Lipstick 3 p.m. A discussion group for self identified feminine lesbian women to identify issues specific to them. The group also does a monthly community service project to increase their visibility in every community. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

Men's Discussion Group 6 p.m. Group for gay, bisexual and transgender men ages 18 and up. This group frequently offers holiday parties and outings such as movie nights in addition to regular meetings. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

Retro Fevre Saturdays 9 p.m. Music from 80s, 90s, and today. Red Door Night Club, 22901 Woodward Ave, **Ferndale**. 2485411600. events@reddoorclub.com http://www.reddoorclub.com/events/

Sunday, Oct. 23

Paddle Group 1 a.m. Yak season is April through October. Yak Womyn, **Ann Arbor**. sapphis@yahoo.com

Moss PAC Brunch 12 p.m. Discuss LGBT issues in Michigan at a brunch fundraiser for MOSS PAC supporting pro-equality candidates for the Michigan House of Representatives. Moss PAC, 18410 Magnolia Parkway, **Southfield**. jereyallenmoss@gmail.com

"The Bucket List of Booze Club" 2 p.m. Michigan playwright Maureen Paraventi shares her first full length work: "The Bucket List of Booze Club." Tickets: \$15-\$17. Barefoot Productions Theatre, 240 N. Main Street, **Plymouth**. 734-404-6889. www.justgobarefoot.com

Monday, Oct. 24

Alcoholics Anonymous 5:45 Serenity 5:30 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

FTM Detroit 7 p.m. This discussion provides trans men an opportunity to discuss a fuller image of transition within their larger life including deconstruction of doubt, male privilege, vulnerability and more. Attendance restricted to FTM/transgender men, anyone who identifies on the transmasculine side of the spectrum. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

Sexual Addicts Anonymous 7 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

Tuesday, Oct. 25

Narcotics Anonymous 7 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

Transgender Life Support 7 p.m. An open discussion group for people identifying as transgender and their allies. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/

► Theatre Nova

Continued from p.23

setting all year long," said Hastings.

"Breathing new life into Ellipsis Theatre at this time and in this place is a dream come true. We're excited to be working in partnership with Nova, and beyond excited to share our passion for powerful theater with Ann Arbor again.

The artists behind both companies have deep roots in the former Performance Network Theatre. Milarch and Walker having been its artistic directors and Hastings and Screws having acted, directed, and produced on its stages.

Both of the companies have distinctly different foci, however. Theatre Nova is making a name for hot-off-the-press new works, with plays such as the new musical "Irrational" by David Wells and R. MacKenzie Lewis, and "Katherine" by local playwright Kim Carney. Ellipsis Theatre, by contrast, has a focus on "telling the old stories in new ways," and will include classics and modern spins on traditional tales in its repertoire.

The unique collaboration evolved from a guest production of "Macbeth" that Hastings and Screws staged at The Yellow Barn in January 2016. The show was a tremendous success artistically and at the box office. Hastings - the former head of school at

support-discussion-groups

Truism and Chemical Use and Addiction 7:30 p.m. Free open to anyone with personal or professional interest. Dawn Farm, 5305 Elliott Drive, **Ypsilanti**. 734-485-8725. info@dawnfarm.org <http://www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series>

MUSIC & MORE

Concerts

AEG Live and React "Autograf and Goldroom" Tickets: \$18-\$25. Majestic Theater, 4120-4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. Oct. 15. 313-833-9700. www.majesticdetroit.com

Live Nation "Gajira" With Tesseract. All ages welcome. Tickets: \$20 - \$40. The Fillmore Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. Oct. 19. <http://concerts.livenation.com/event/08005096BEEED3503>

Live Nation "Die Antwoord" All ages welcome. Tickets: \$30 - \$50. The Fillmore Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. Oct. 15. <http://concerts.livenation.com/event/080050CE505563A5>

Olympia Entertainment "Lindsey Stirling" Tickets: \$29-\$75. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 8 p.m. Oct. 17. 313-471-6611. [www.olympiaentertainment.com](http://olympiaentertainment.com)

React "Bob Moses" Tickets: \$17 general admission, \$55 VIP. Majestic Theater, 4120-4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 9:30 p.m. Oct. 14. 313-833-9700. <http://tktwb.tw/2b7pfd0>

The Ark "Billy Bragg and Joe Henry" Tickets: \$50. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Oct. 19. 734-761-1800. www.theark.org

Film & Video

Michigan Coalition for Human Rights Fall Film Series "Bill Moyers: The Dog Whistle Politics of Race" Co-sponsored by Peace Action of Michigan and NAACP, Detroit. St. John's Episcopal Church, 2326 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. Oct. 18. 3135799071.

Shows

Bakers Keyboard Lounge "Bakers Keyboard Lounge Presents Every Wednesday OGD ft. Sky Covington" Join the Detroit Jazz Greats OGD (Gerard Gibbs, Perry Hughes & Gene Dunlap) ft. Sky Covington for live jazz, drinks and fun. Bakers Keyboard Lounge, 20510 Livernois, Detroit. Oct. 12 - Dec. 28. 313-345-6300. www.theofficialbakerskeyboardlounge.com

THEATER

Civic/Community Theater

Mamma Mia! Farewell tour. Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. Oct. 11 - Oct. 13. 586-286-2222. www.macombcenter.com

Trevor Directed by David Musselwhite. Tickets: \$18. Stagecrafters, Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak. Oct. 14 - Oct. 23. 248-541-6430. www.stagecrafters.org

Professional

Sizwe Bansi is Dead Tickets: \$20. Matrix Theatre Company, 2730 Bagley, Detroit. Through Oct. 16. 313-967-0999.

Summers-Knoll in Ann Arbor who recently made the decision to reinvigorate the former Ellipsis Theatre company - found The Yellow Barn space comfortable and conducive to the type of theater she envisioned.

Since moving into the space, Theatre Nova has made numerous upgrades to it including an 85-seat micro theater complete with a prop and costume storage and shop, a rehearsal hall, dressing rooms, lobby, comfortable raised seating, around a 3/4 "thrust" stage (with seating on three sides), and a new ADA-compliant wheelchair ramp on the front of the building.

In addition, the companies will also share back-office services such as box office, online ticketing, office equipment and more.

"I believe that this type of collaboration is the wave of the future, as it enables both of us to stay true to mission and do the type of intelligent work that engages our audiences, without having to make artistic compromises in order to stay alive," Milarch said.

Theatre Nova is Michigan's only theater exclusively producing brand new plays. Its mission is to raise awareness of the value and excitement of new plays and new playwrights, and provide resources and outlets for playwrights to develop their craft, by importing, exporting and developing new plays and playwrights.

For more information, visit *The Yellow Barn* at www.ouryellowbarn.com.

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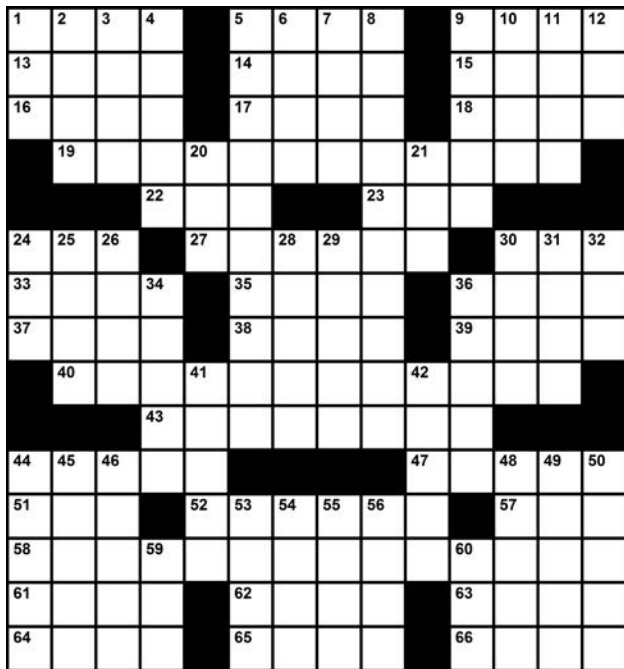
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Q Puzzle



- 36 Cinderella's coming-out party
 37 Lot measurement
 38 Rubberneck
 39 "Modern Family" girl
 40 But on the other hand... (with 58-Across)
 43 Harbored ill will, with no grace
 44 Monastery head
 47 Homophobia and such
 51 "Once Upon a Mattress" legume
 52 1982 biopic with Ian Charleson
 57 Right, to the ass
 58 (See 40-Across)
 61 Go down on a hill
 62 Egyptian vipers
 63 Historic Stonewall event
 64 Business boss
 65 Wear a lot of cologne, e.g.
 66 Word used in dating
- 11 Has an STD, e.g.
 12 Penn. neighbor
 20 Trig. ratio
 21 F, in the orchestra pit
 24 Vowel for Socrates
 25 Adriatic seaport
 26 Pleasured by mouth
 28 Avoid going straight
 29 "Harold and Maude" screenwriter Higgins
 30 "Don't ___ On My Parade"
 31 Cousin of Jethro and Jethrine
 32 Emulate Earhart
 34 Site for a queen of the Nile
 36 Zorro was a gay one
 41 "Take your mitts off!"
 42 Beverage from the land of Nureyev
 44 Forbidden fruit
 45 Henri's boyfriends
 46 Boat with a flat bottom
 48 Another time
 49 Short probe
 50 Take care of
 53 Out and then some
 54 Org. closely watched by bears
 55 411
 56 Corn covering
 59 Dick, for short
 60 Title for a man who avoids sex with women

Down

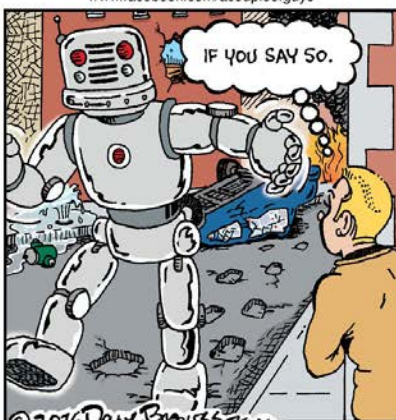
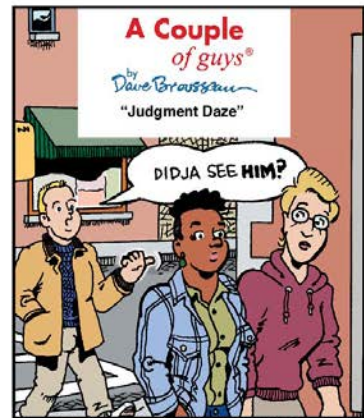
- 1 Mauna ___
 2 River of da Vinci's land
 3 "Death in Venice" author Thomas
 4 Billie Holiday's "God ___ the Child"
 5 Water therapy devices for 3 men in a tub
 6 West Wing worker
 7 Fox comedy with Jane Lynch
 8 Get it up and get up?
 9 Batman's buddy
 10 Pindaric poems

Find solution to this puzzle at www.pridesource.com

Not Just Lip Service

Across

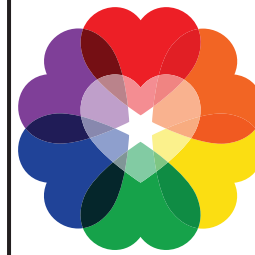
- 1 Mary's pet
 5 Tomlin and DeGeneres
 9 Yellow-brick way
 13 Like phone sex
 14 To the ___ (how to play a pirate)
 15 Garfield's sidekick
 16 Hathaway of "Bride Wars"
 17 Head output
- 18 Billy Elliot portrayer Jamie
 19 Kate McKinnon said she is very uncomfortable with this
 22 Bernstein's fifth
 23 Bear necessity
 24 Flow out
 27 Kevin of "American Beauty"
 30 Striped shirt wearer
 33 Soft rock
 35 "You want the light ___ off?"



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4 Signs Your Friends Are Failing You – And How to Dump Them

BY MIKEY ROX

For gay people, our friends are often our family. They're there for us through thick and thin, even when our blood relatives let us down – which, as unfortunate as it is, happens more than we'd like it to. As a result, we devote more of our time, energy and love to these friends who become our support systems, but that doesn't mean they always have our best interests in mind. On occasion we befriend people who seem benign on the surface but who will also stab us in the back as soon as we turn it. If you've got a "friend" like this in your life, it's time to cut 'em loose. Here are four signs to look for when determining that detrimental presence – and how to eliminate the negativity altogether.

1. They're creating drama for you

Yes, gay people are prone to drama – and at times it's just playful, devious fun – but when one person's backhanded habits, like spreading gossip about you, starts affecting your own happiness, it's time to reevaluate the positives

they provide in terms of friendship. When the cons outweigh the pros, you've got to drop the dead weight before it drags you down further.

Rhonda Milrad, a licensed clinical social worker and founder of the relationship app

Relationup, provides an anecdote for perspective.

"You hear from sources that your friend has been commenting on your relationship, your career and life choices to others. Sure, they're 'only sharing their opinions,' but who needs this?" she asks. "Don't bother discussing this with them; it won't change. Instead, make sure that this person is no longer in your inner sanctum of go-to people. If approached, don't discuss your life with them. When other confidants are telling you things they have said, set a firm boundary and tell them you don't want to hear about it. Your friend will lose their privileged position of knowing what's going on with you and will fade to an acquaintance."

In other words, #gurlbye.

2. They're not there for you when the going gets tough

One of the greatest aspects of friendship is expecting that your friend will provide a proverbial safety net when you're experiencing the hills and valleys of life. But when they're nowhere to be found as the ground starts to shake, can you still count them among your besties? You shouldn't, and mental health professional Noémie Dupont offers advice on how to navigate those murky waters.

"My main tip is to know the difference between comfort and safety," she says. "Sure, a lot of people make us feel comfortable, but can they really keep us safe? And plenty of people who make us uncomfortable are not actually unsafe for us. So what do we want in a friend? True safety. Meaning, someone who accepts you and also challenges you. These challenges may cause us to sit in discomfort, but learning something new always feels like

that. It makes us even better people. A friend who can be with you through uncomfortable learning periods or uncomfortable life stages is the perfect friend. They won't be there for 'fair weather' or ditch you until you work it out yourself."

3. They flirt with your partner in a way that makes you uncomfortable

We've all had that friend who gets a little too flirty with our partner. In many cases it's harmless, but you shouldn't let your guard down. This "friend" may have designs of their own, without any regard for your feelings – especially if they think they can come out on top while leaving you lonely and in the lurch. Thus, unless you want to spend your weekends scarfing down Ben & Jerry's by the gallon, nip the problem in the bud before it comes back to bite you.

"Share your feelings with your partner and get on the same page," Milrad suggests. "No more dinners, brunches or get-togethers. Stop extending invitations and start denying request to this boundary-crossing friend. Drag out responses and appear disinterested. Before long, they'll get the message."

But not your partner.

4. They're a perpetual victim

Have somebody in your circle that always seems to invite trouble then plays the victim? Take that trash to the curb. Because at some point, we all need to grow up and accept responsibility for our actions, and if your friend is still acting like the world owes them something, it's your duty to open the hatch and wave goodbye.

"It's always something – a fight with their partner, a problem at work, a dissing from their family – and they are always the victim," Milrad relates. "It's draining and ugly and you just can't show up for it anymore. This is who they are, and it's time to fade out of their life. Don't be so available. Delay replies, tell them you can't talk, don't ask what's going on, and soon you'll no longer be considered one of their go-to people. They need an immediate audience, and if you aren't there they'll fill your seat."

And Godspeed to that poor sap.

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



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 **Between** THE **Lines**™



**Your 2016 Michigan
Pro-LGBT, Women,
Environment & Labor
Guide to the Election**



MiVoterGuide.com

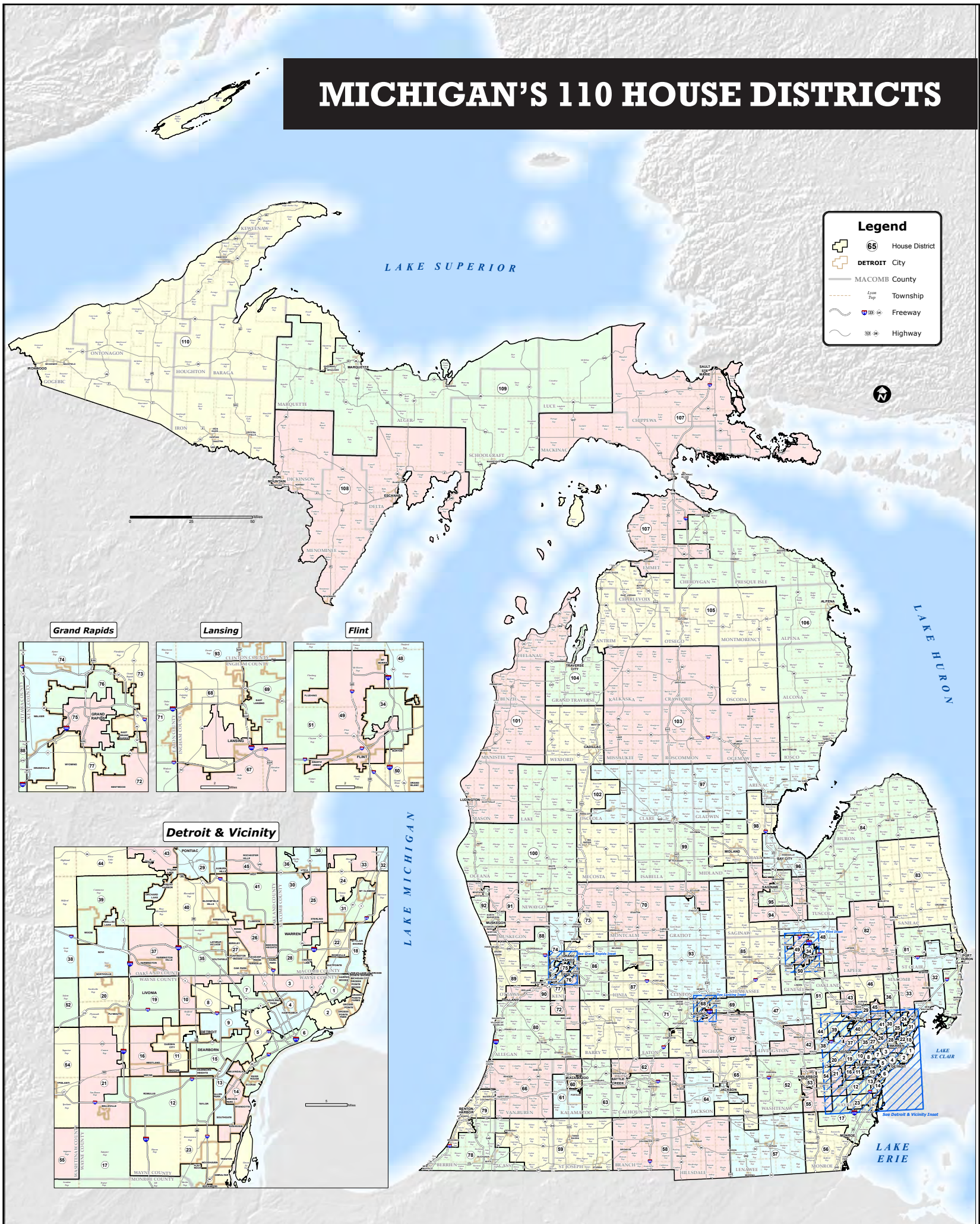
PROGRESSIVE VOTER GUIDE



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VOTE NOV. 8, 2016

MICHIGAN'S 110 HOUSE DISTRICTS



Guide To the Guide

Between The Lines presents the Progressive Voters Guide for Michigan, which includes endorsement information from four key progressive sectors of the electorate – LGBT Issues, Women's Rights, Labor and the Environment. All in one place, voters can see which candidates would support fairness and equality on a host of issues. The Guide also provides right wing, conservative

endorsements so voters can see which candidates, if elected, would actively work against progressive values in Michigan.

Here is a key to each of the organizations that have endorsements included in this Progressive Voter Guide:

LGBT Issues

BTL – Between The Lines is Michigan's weekly newspaper serving the LGBT community in Michigan. BTL has produced a LGBT Voter Guide every other year since 1996. Endorsements are based on responses to questionnaires, incumbents voting records and candidates public positions on LGBT issues including workplace fairness, access to healthcare, adoption and family rights, marriage and safety, including their positions on bullying. www.PrideSource.com

EQMI – The Equality Michigan Pride PAC is an independent Political Action Committee that evaluates and endorses candidates based on their responses to a questionnaire that is sent to every candidate running for public office. www.eqmipridepac.com

HRC Rating – The Human Rights Campaign is the nation's largest LGBT advocacy organization. Each year HRC ranks members of the U.S. Congress on their support for LGBT rights and legislation. The HRC Score indicates the support level for marriage equality of incumbent candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives. For more information on their voting records in the 114th Congress go to: www.hrc.org/your-elected-officials/search?zip=&name=&state=MI

LAHR PAC – The Lansing Association for Human Rights Political Action Committee sends questionnaires to all candidates running for office in the Ingham County/Lansing area. They do not endorse candidates, but do rank the candidates responses on a scale from Extremely Positive to Extremely Negative, and indicate the candidates who ignored their questionnaire. <http://lahronline.org/PoliticalAction.htm>

Women's Rights

MI NOW PAC – The Michigan Organization for Women political action committee supports candidates that demonstrate strong commitments to reproductive freedom, lesbian and gay rights, racial equality, moving women out of poverty, a constitutional amendment that guarantees women's equality, affirmative action and ending violence against women. www.nowpacs.org

PLAN'D P'HOOD – Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit focused on fundraising to endorse pro-choice candidates and electoral work in Michigan. <http://miplannedparenthood.org>

Environmental Groups

SIERRA CLUB - The Sierra Club's Michigan Political Committee is responsible for electing environmentally-minded officials and lobbying in Lansing. www.sierraclub.org/michigan

MLCV – Michigan League of Conservation Voters is a leading non-partisan political voice for protecting Michigan's land, air, and water. MLCV seeks to elect and hold accountable public officials to ensure the right policies are enacted to protect our families' - and future generations' - health, economic well-being, and ability to enjoy the pure beauty of our state. www.michiganlcv.org

Labor

AFL-CIO – The American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations is a national trade union center made up of 56 national and international unions representing over 11 million people worldwide. They endorse candidates and initiatives that support collective bargaining and workers rights. www.miafclcio.org

UAW – United Auto Worker's Community Action Program (CAP) endorsements are based upon membership input and leadership ratification. Decisions are made after examining the voting records of incumbents and previous officeholders or the stated positions and pledges of new candidates. Members often get to grill candidates directly on important issues facing workers. www.uaw.org

Right-Wing

ACU – The American Conservative Union researched and selected a range of bills before the Michigan Legislature that determine a member's adherence to conservative principles. Incumbent Michigan State House members who received at least an 80% score are indicated on the grids as approved by the ACU. Conservative bills the ACU considered in their ranking included pro-gun, anti-LGBT, anti-labor, pro Right To work, anti-choice for women and bills to gut public education. <http://acuratings.conservative.org/>

MI-RTL – Michigan Right to Life political action committee endorses candidates who support a federal Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would outlaw all abortions, even in cases of rape, incest or to protect the mother's life. www.rtl.org

U.S. Congressional Districts - Michigan

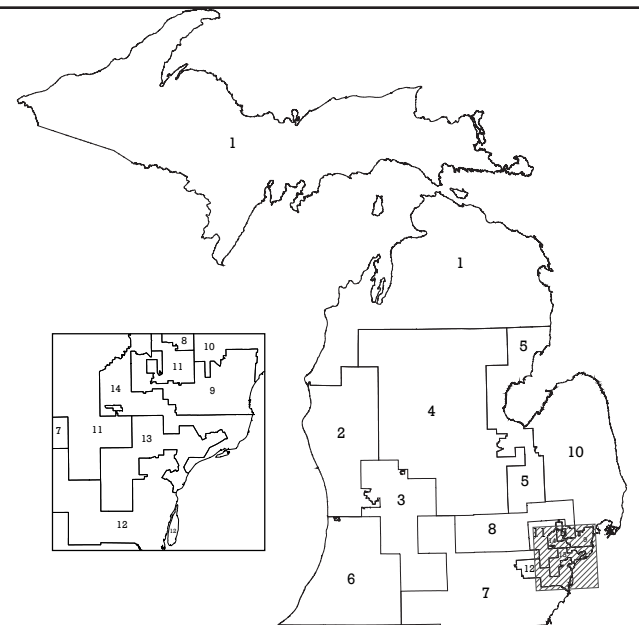
Use this map to determine which Congressional District's voter grid is yours!

Unsure of your district? Go to www.MiVoterGuide.com and enter your zip code to receive a more specific ballot!

Did you know... You can see an example of your ballot before Nov. 8 by entering your voter information at www.Michigan.gov/Vote

Make sure you know as much about those running in your region today!

More links and resources are available at www.PrideSource.com



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MICHIGAN'S GUIDE

FOR

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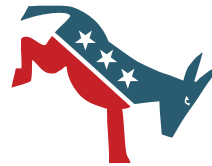
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Guide To The Parties

Despite what the mainstream media would have you believe, there are actually five, not two, political parties on Michigan's ballot this November. The following is a quick guide to the parties, their general stance on progressive issues and where you can find out more about them.



Democratic Party

The MDP party platform includes strong language in support of LGBT people including full marriage rights for same-sex couples, support for a woman's right to choose, workers' right to collective bargaining and support of alternative energy sources as a way to reduce the country's reliance on foreign oil.

www.michigandems.com or call 517-371-5410.

Green Party of Michigan

On the ballot since 2000, the Greens unflinchingly field candidates from the far left of the political spectrum.

<http://migreens.org> or call 734-663-3555.



Libertarian Party

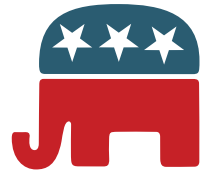


Libertarians favor small government and are supporters of civil rights, individual rights and business' rights. Libertarians are often conflated

with conservatives because they believe in small, unobtrusive government, low taxes and an isolationist foreign policy. www.mi.lp.org or call 1-888-FREENOW.

Republican Party

Republicans platform would reverse marriage equality, ban all abortions and reshape Medicare into a voucher-like program. They reject federal spending as a stimulus to create jobs. The party backs constitutional amendments to balance the federal budget and require a super-majority for any tax increases. It says federal funding should be denied to universities that provide in-state tuition rates to illegal immigrants, and advocates making English the official national language. www.migop.org or call 517-487-5413.



U.S. Taxpayer's Party

Michigan's U.S. Taxpayer's Party is a state affiliate of the Constitution Party. According to their Web site, "The goal of the Constitution Party is to restore American jurisprudence to its Biblical foundations and to limit the federal government to its Constitutional boundaries." www.constitutionparty.com

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1ST U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

U.S. Congress - 1st

			Endorsements									
			LGBT	Women	Envir	Labor	ANTI-					
District	Candidate	Party	BTL	EQMI	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MICV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MIRTL
1	Bergman, Jack	R										x
	Johnson, Lon	D	█			█	█	█	█	█		
	Bostow, Diane	LIB										
	Boal, Ellis	G										

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	BTL	EQMI	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MICV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MIRTL
101	VanderWall, Curt	R										x
	Scripps, Dan	D	█	█		█		█	█	█		
103	Rendon, Daire L.	R										x
	Stancil, Jordan	D				█	█					
104	Inman, Larry C.*	R						█				x
	Coffia, Betsy	D					█					
105	Clark, Kelly J.	LIB										
	Cole, Triston S.*	R									x	x
106	Knight, Wyatt	D								█		
	Allor, Sue	R									x	
107	Kennedy, Robert	D	█			█	█		█	█		
	Carver, Dana	LIB										
108	Chatfield, Lee*	R									x	x
	Belfy, Phil	D	█			█						
109	LaFave, Beau Matthew	R										x
	Ceello, Scott A.	D							█			
110	Pfister, Kevin W.	R										
	Kivela, John*	D	█	█		█		█	█			
110	Roberts, Wade	G										
	Markkanen, Gregory	R										
110	Dianda, Scott*	D	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█		
			█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	x	x

* = Incumbent

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



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Tim Kaine

Vice President

Frank Syzmanski

Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

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2ND U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



Hillary Clinton

President

Tim Kaine

Vice President

Frank Syzmanski

Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens

1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

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Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney

Governor of Wayne State University

Endorsements

U.S. Congress - 2nd

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements										
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MIRTL	
2	Huizenga, Bill*	R		0%								X	X
	Murphy, Dennis B.	D	█						█	█			
	Haas, Erwin J.	LIB											
	Graeser, Ronald E.	UST											

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	EQMI										
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MIRTL	
72	Johnson, Steven	R											X
	Shoemaker, Steve	D											
74	VerHeulen, Rob*	R						█				X	X
	Bigger, Robin	D											
77	Brann, Tommy	R											X
	Knight, Dana J.	D											
80	Whiteford, Mary*	R						█					X
	Andrysiak, John	D											
88	Victory, Roger*	R											X
	Nagy, Kim	D											
89	Lilly, Jim	R											X
	Meyer, Tim	D	█			█			█				
90	Buzuma, Mary	LIB											
	Garcia, Daniela*	R											X
91	Yedinak, Mary M.	D											
	Hughes, Holly*	R											X
92	Lamonte, Collene	D	█	█	█	█	█		█	█			
	Riekse, Max	LIB											
99	Davis, Marshall	R											
	Sabo, Terry J.	D	█	█		█	█		█				
100	VanSingel, Scott A.	R						█					X
	Clarke, Sandy	D											
101	VanderWall, Curt	R											X
	Scripps, Dan	D	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█		X	X

* = Incumbent

Local Races

60th District Judge of District Court (Muskegon County)

Geoffrey T. Nolan

Muskegon County Clerk

Nancy A. Waters

U.S. Congress - 3rd

		Endorsements										
		LGBT	Women	Envir	Labor	ANTI-						
District	Candidate	Party	BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL
3	Amash, Justin*	R		0%								x
	Smith, Douglas	D										
	Gerrard, Ted	UST										

State Representatives

		EQMI										
		LGBT	Women	Envir	Labor	ANTI-						
District	Candidate	Party	BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL
62	Bizon, John*	R										x
	Haadsma, Jim	D										
	Gregoire, Michelle	LIB										
63	Maturen, David C.*	R										
	Shiflea, Lynn	D										
	La Pietra, John Anthony	G										
70	Lower, James A.	R										x
	Hart, Ken	D										
	Anderson, Michael	G										
72	Johnson, Steven	R										x
	Shoemaker, Steve	D										
	Afendoulis, Chris*	R									x	x
73	Havens, Deb	D										
	Heeren, Ron	LIB										
	VerHeulen, Rob*	R									x	x
74	Bigger, Robin	D										
	Gelineau, Bill	LIB										
	Rossiter, Chad C.	R										
75	LaGrand, David*	D										
	O'Neill, Casey J.	R										
	Brinks, Winnie*	D										
76	George, John	LIB										
	Hoezee, Brandon	UST										
	Brann, Tommy	R										x
77	Knight, Dana J.	D										
	Albert, Thomas A.	R										x
	Mason, Lynn	D										
86	Gelineau, Bill	LIB										
	Yankovich, Cliff	G										
	Calley, Julie	R										x
87	Anderson, Eric	D										
	Gillotte, Joseph P.	LIB										

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4TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Tim Kaine

Vice President

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Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens

1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

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Governor of Wayne State University

Endorsements

U.S. Congress - 4th

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements												
			BTL	LAHR	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MIRTL		
4	Moolenaar, John*	R			0%									X	X
	Wirth, Debra	D													
	Schwartz, Leonard	LIB													
	Zimmer, George M.	UST													
	Salvi, Jordan	G													
	Butkovich, Keith	NLP													

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements										EQMI		
			BTL	LAHR	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU		MIRTL	
70	Lower, James A.	R													X
	Hart, Ken	D	█												
	Anderson, Michael	G													
85	Frederick, Ben	R													X
	Karhoff, Anthony David	D	█							█					
	Snyder, Roger L.	LIB													
93	Leonard, Tom*	R											X	X	
	Derke, Josh	D	█	+			█								
	Palmer, Tyler D.	LIB													
94	Kelly, Tim*	R											X	X	
	Seamon, Kevin C.	D													
95	Tanner, Dorothy	R													
	Guerra, Vanessa*	D	█		█		█	█		█	█				
97	Wentworth, Jason	R													X
	Townsend, Robert	D	█			█	█								
98	Glenn, Gary*	R											X	X	
	Malicoat, Geoff	D	█		█			█		█	█				
99	Hauck, Roger	R													X
	Mielke, Bryan	D	█		█		█	█		█	█				
102	Hoitenga, Michele	R													X
	Gabert, Douglas	D	█				█					█			
103	Rendon, Daire L.	R													X
	Stancil, Jordan	D					█	█							

Local Races

* = Incumbent

Bath Township Supervisor	Ryan Fewins-Bliss	Bath Township Treasurer	Leon Puttler
Bath Township Trustees	Sherry Crank	Bath Township Trustees	Denise McCrimmon
Bath Township Trustees	Eric Schlenkermann	Bath Township Trustees	Will Tyler White

U.S. Congress - 5th

Endorsements

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements											
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL		
5	Hardwick, Al	R												
	Kildee, Daniel T.*	D	█	100%		█	█	█	█	█				
	Sluka, Steve	LIB												
	Mikkelsen, Harley	G												

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements											
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL		
34	Brousseau, Page	R												
	Neeley, Sheldon A.*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█	█				
48	Reno, Joseph	R												
	Faris, Pam*	D	█	█		█	█		█	█				
49	Baker, Jeremy A.	R												
	Phelps, Phil*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█	█				
50	Matheny, Michael N.	R												
	Sneller, Tim	D	█	█	█	█	█		█	█				
51	Graves, Joseph*	R										x	x	
	Bladzick, Ryan	D	█	█		█				█				
	Sanborn, Mark L.	LIB												
84	Canfield, Edward J.*	R										x	x	
	Wencel, James L.	D					█		█					
94	Kelly, Tim*	R										x	x	
	Seamon, Kevin C.	D												
95	Tanner, Dorothy	R												
	Guerra, Vanessa*	D	█	█		█	█		█	█				
96	Scholl, David	R												
	Elder, Brian K.	D		█					█				x	
97	Wentworth, Jason	R												x
	Townsend, Robert	D	█		█	█								
98	Glenn, Gary*	R										x	x	
	Malicoat, Geoff	D	█	█			█		█	█				
106	Allor, Sue	R												x
	Kennedy, Robert	D	█			█	█		█	█				
	Carver, Dana	LIB												

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* = Incumbent

6TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



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President

Tim Kaine

Vice President

Frank Syzmanski

Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens

1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

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Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney

Governor of Wayne State University

Endorsements

U.S. Congress - 6th

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements											
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL		
6	Upton, Fred*	R		0%									X	X
	Clements, Paul	D	Red		Orange		Green	Green	Blue					
	Wenke, Lorence	LIB												

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements										
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL	
59	Miller, Aaron*	R										X	X
	Higgins, Carol L.	D	Red				Green			Blue			
60	Ross, Alexander	R											
	Hoadley, Jon*	D	Red	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green	Green	Blue	Blue			
61	Fleckenstein, Logan	LIB											
	Iden, Brandt*	R											X
	Fisher, John	D	Red			Yellow	Green		Blue				
63	Winfield, Ryan	LIB											
	Maturen, David C.*	R											
	Shiflea, Lynn	D											
66	La Pietra, John Anthony	G											
	Griffin, Beth	R											X
72	Brown, Annie	D	Red	Orange		Yellow	Green		Blue	Blue			
	Johnson, Steven	R											X
78	Shoemaker, Steve	D											
	Pagel, Dave*	R											X
79	Hill, Dean E.	D											
	LaSata, Kim	R						Green					X
	Seats, Marletta	D				Yellow			Blue				
80	Oehling, Carl G.	UST											
	Whiteford, Mary*	R						Green					X
	Andrysiak, John	D											
	Davidsons, Arnie	LIB											

LGBT	Women	Envir	Labor	ANTI-
Red	Orange	Green	Blue	X
				X

* = Incumbent

7TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

U.S. Congress - 7th

Endorsements

		LGBT	Women	Envir	Labor	ANTI-						
		■	■	■	■	■						
District	Candidate	BTL	LAHR	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RFL
7	Walberg, Tim*			0%								x
	Driskell, Gretchen D.	■			■	■	■	■	■	■		
	Proctor, Ken											

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	BTL	LAHR	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RFL
17	Bellino, Jr., Joseph	R											
	LaVoy, Bill*	D	■		■				■	■	■		
	Andring, Jeff	UST											
52	Clark, Randy	R											
	Lasinski, Donna	D	■		■				■	■			
55	Baird, Bob	R											
	Zemke, Adam*	D	■		■		■	■	■	■	■		
56	Sheppard, Jason M.*	R											x
	Redmond, Tom	D						■	■	■			
57	Bain, R. Al	UST											
	Kahle, Bronna	R											x
58	Schmidt, Harvey	D	■					■		■			
	Leutheuser, Eric*	R											x
64	Hamaty, Mary	D											
	Alexander, Julie	R											
65	Brooks, Ron	D						■		■			x
	Roberts, Brett*	R		-								x	
71	Johnson, Bonnie	D					■			■			
	Muszynski, Ronald	LIB											
	Barrett, Tom*	R		-									x
71	Abed, Theresa	D	■	+	■		■	■		■	■		
	Lord, Marc	LIB											

* = Incumbent

Local Races

Washtenaw County Clerk/ Register of Deeds	Lawrence Kestenbaum	Delta Township Supervisor	Ken Fletcher
Delta Township Trustee	Dennis Fedewa	Delta Township Trustee	David Arking
Delta Township Trustee	Andrea Cascarilla	Delta Township Trustee	Deana Newman
Eaton County Commissioner	Terrance Augustine	Eaton County Commissioner	Glenn Freeman
Eaton County Commissioner	Howard Spence		

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



Hillary Clinton

President

Tim Kaine

Vice President

Frank Syzmanski

Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens

1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

Ish Ahmed & John Austin

State Board of Education

Laurence B. Dietch & Denise Ilitch

Regent of University of Michigan

Dianne Byrum & Diann Woodard

Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney

Governor of Wayne State University

Local Proposal

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN A Proposal Authorizing the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA) to Levy an Assessment.

**Should this assessment be approved?
Vote YES**

8TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



Hillary Clinton

President

Tim Kaine

Vice President

Frank Syzmanski

Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens

1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

Ish Ahmed & John Austin

State Board of Education

Laurence B. Dietch & Denise Ilitch

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Dianne Byrum & Diann Woodard

Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney

Governor of Wayne State University

Local Proposal

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN A Proposal Authorizing the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA) to Levy an Assessment.

**Should this assessment be approved?
Vote YES**

Endorsements

U.S. Congress - 8th

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements																	
			BTL	LAHR	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MIRTL							
8	Bishop, Mike*	R		--	0%														X	X
	Shkreli, Suzanna	D	█						█		█									
	Wood, Jeff	LIB																		
	Green, Maria	GRN																		
	Burgess, Jeremy	NLP																		

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	EQMI																	
			BTL	LAHR	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MIRTL							
42	Theis, Lana L.*	R																	X	X
	Johnson, Timothy	D	█		█		█				█	█								
	Elgas, Jonathan	LIB																		
43	Tedder, Jim*	R																	X	X
	Villella, Ted	D					█													
44	Runestad, Jim*	R																	X	X
	Venie, Mark	D	█				█													
45	Webber, Michael*	R																	X	X
	Golden, Ted	D					█													
46	Reilly, John	R																		X
	Lillis, David	D																		
47	Vaapel, Henry*	R																	X	X
	Van Houten, Keith	D																		
	Young, Rodger	LIB																		
51	Graves, Joseph*	R																	X	X
	Bladzik, Ryan	D	█		█		█													
	Sanborn, Mark L.	LIB																		
67	Clark, Leon R.	R																		X
	Cochran, Tom*	D	█	++	█		█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
68	Pilon, Randy	R																		
	Schor, Andy*	D	█	++	█		█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
	Powell, Robert	LIB																		
69	Nastas, George	R																		
	Singh, Sam*	D	█	+++	█		█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

* = Incumbent

Local Races

3rd Circuit Judge of Circuit Court (Ingham County): Mark Slavens, Regina Thomas

Ingham County Clerk: Barb Byrum

Ingham County Prosecutor: Carol Siemon

Ingham County Sheriff: Scott Wrigglesworth

Ingham County Treasurer: Eric Schertzing

Ingham County Register of Deeds: Derrick Quinney

Ingham County Drain Commission: Patrick Lindemann

Lansing Township Trustee: John Broughton

Delhi Township Supervisor: Guy Sweet

Delhi Township Clerk: Evan Hope

Delhi Township Trustee: DiAnne Warfield, Jim DravenstattMocerri, Tom Lenard

Meridian Township Supervisor: Ronald Styka

Meridian Township Clerk: Brett Dreyfus

Meridian Township Trustees: Brett DeGroff, Dan Opsommer, John Veenstra

Ingham County Commissioner (1st District): Victor Celentino

Ingham County Commissioner (2nd District): Wyatt Ludman

Ingham County Commissioner (4th District): Bryan Crenshaw

Ingham County Commissioner (5th District): Todd Tennis

Ingham County Commissioner (7th District): Kara Hope

Ingham County Commissioner (8th District): Mark Grebner

Ingham County Commissioner (9th District): Carol Koenig

Ingham County Commissioner (10th District): Brian McGrain

Ingham County Commissioner (12th District): Deb Nolan

East Lansing School Board: Kathleen Edsall, Erin Graham

Haslett School Board: Molly Polverento

Lansing School Board: Mark Eagle, Stephen Purchase, Nino Rodriguez

9TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

U.S. Congress - 9th

Endorsements

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements											
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL		
9	Morse, Christopher R.	R												
	Levin, Sander*	D	█	100%		█	█		█	█				
	Orlando, Matthew	LIB												
	McDermott, John V.	GRN												

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements											
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL		
18	Polonaise, Renata	R												
	Hertel, Kevin	D	█	█		█	█	█	█					
22	Bonnell, Jeff	R												
	Chirkun, John*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█					
24	Townsend, Les	UST												█
	Marino, Steve	R												
25	Camphous-Peterson, Dana	D	█	█		█	█	█	█					
	Naumovski, Steve	R												█
26	Yanez, Henry*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█					
	LeVasseur, Randy	R												█
27	Ellison, Jim	D	█	█	█	█	█		█	█				
	Forrest, Kyle	R												
28	Wittenberg, Robert*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█	█				
	Davison, Antoine M.	R												
30	Green, Patrick	D				█			█					█
	Farrington, Diana	R												█
31	Notte, Michael R.	D	█	█		█	█	█	█					
	Valerio-Nowc, Lisa	R												█
35	Sowerby, William J.	D	█	█	█	█	█	█	█					
	Saliba, Mike	LIB												
40	Brim, Robert	R												
	Moss, Jeremy*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█	█				
41	McCready, Michael D.*	R										█	█	
	Bedi, Nicole	D	█			█	█	█	█	█				
41	Howrylak, Martin*	R					█	█						█
	Peltonen, Cyndi	D	█			█			█	█				

* = Incumbent

Local Races

Oakland County Executive	Vicki Barnett	Oakland County Prosecuting Attorney	Jessica Cooper
Oakland County Sheriff	Craig Covey	Oakland County Clerk/ Register of Deeds	Lisa Brown
Oakland County Treasurer	Andy Meisner	Oakland County Commissioner (5th District)	Julie Pulver
6th Circuit Judge of Circuit Court (Oakland County)	Lorie Savin	Oakland County Commissioner (18th District)	Helaine Zack
Oakland County Commissioner (19th District)	Dave Woodward		

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



Hillary Clinton

President

Tim Kaine

Vice President

Frank Syzmanski

Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens

1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

Ish Ahmed & John Austin

State Board of Education

Laurence B. Dietch & Denise Ilitch

Regent of University of Michigan

Dianne Byrum & Diann Woodard

Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney

Governor of Wayne State University

Local Proposal

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN A Proposal Authorizing the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA) to Levy an Assessment.

Should this assessment be approved?
Vote YES

10TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



Hillary Clinton

President

Tim Kaine

Vice President

Frank Syzmanski

Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens

1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

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Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney

Governor of Wayne State University

Endorsements

U.S. Congress -10th

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements											
			BTL	EQMI	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MIRTL		
10	Mitchell, Paul	R											X	X
	Accavitti, Jr., Frank	D	█						█	█				
	Gioia, Lisa Lane	LIB												
	Nofs, Benjamin	GRN												

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements											
			BTL	EQMI	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MIRTL		
24	Marino, Steve	R												X
	Camphous-Peterson, Dana	D	█	█		█	█	█	█					
25	Naumovski, Steve	R												
	Yanez, Henry*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█					
30	Farrington, Diana	R												X
	Notte, Michael R.	D	█	█		█	█	█	█					
32	Hornberger, Pamela	R												X
	Manley, Paul	D	█			█								
33	Yaroch, Jeff	R								█				X
	Warda, Yani	D												
36	Lucido, Peter J.*	R							█			X	X	
	Young, Diane	D	█											
81	Lauwers, Dan*	R										X	X	
	Sternberg, Stewart	D												
82	Howell, Gary*	R												X
	Guerrero DeLuca, Margaret	D												
83	Hernandez, Shane	R												X
	Frank, Jim	D												
	Bruderick, Deena Marie	G												
84	Canfield, Edward J.*	R										X	X	
	Wencel, James L.	D					█		█					

* = Incumbent

Local Races

16th Circuit Judge of Circuit Court (Macomb County)	Michael E. Servitto
---	---------------------

Local Proposal

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN A Proposal Authorizing the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA) to Levy an Assessment.

Should this assessment be approved?
Vote YES

11TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

U.S. Congress - 11th

		Endorsements										
		LGBT	Women	Envir	Labor	ANTI-						
District	Candidate	Party	BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL
11	Trott, David A.	R		0%								x
	Kumar, Anil	D	█						█	█		
	Osment, Jonathan Ray	LIB										
	Bentivolio, Kerry	O										

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL
11	Pope, Robert E.	R										
	Plawecki, Lauren	D								█		
	Sosnowski, Marc Joseph	UST										
19	Cox, Laura*	R									x	x
	King, Steve	D										
20	Noble, Jeff	R										x
	Pobur, Colleen	D	█	█		█			█	█		
21	Moss, Derek	R										
	Pagan, Kristy*	D	█	█		█			█	█		
29	Griffith, Garren W.	R										
	Greimel, Tim*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█	█		
	Leak, Artelia Marie	G										
37	Swoboda, Mitch	R										
	Greig, Christine*	D	█	█	█	█	█	█	█			
	Young, James K.	LIB										
38	Crawford, Kathy S.*	R										x
	McCusker, Amy	D	█				█					
39	Kesto, Clint*	R									x	x
	Stack, Michael	D	█		█	█	█		█	█		
	McGrath, Beth	O										
40	McCreedy, Michael D.*	R									x	x
	Bedi, Nicole	D	█		█	█	█		█	█		
41	Howrylak, Martin*	R					█	█				x
	Peltonen, Cyndi	D	█			█			█	█		
43	Tedder, Jim*	R									x	x
	Villella, Ted	D				█						
44	Runestad, Jim*	R									x	x
	Venie, Mark	D	█			█						
45	Webber, Michael*	R									x	x
	Golden, Ted	D				█						

* = Incumbent

Local Races

Oakland County Executive: Vicki Barnett
Oakland County Sheriff: Craig Covey
Oakland County Treasurer: Andy Meisner
6th Circuit Judge of Circuit Court (Oakland County): Lorie Savin
Canton Township Treasurer: Dian Slavens
Canton Township Trustee: Anne Marie Graham Hudak
Canton Township Trustee: Dhaval Vaishnav
Oakland County Prosecuting Attorney: Jessica Cooper
Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds: Lisa Brown

Canton Township Trustee: Sommer Foster
Canton Township Supervisor: Syed Taj
Canton Township Clerk: Michael Siegrist
Canton Township Trustee: Steven Sneiderman
Wayne County Commissioner: Nate Smith Tyge
Oakland County Commissioner (5th District): Julie Pulver
Oakland County Commissioner (18th District): Helaine Zack
Oakland County Commissioner (19th District): Dave Woodward

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



Hillary Clinton **Tim Kaine**
President *Vice President*

Frank Syzmanski
Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas
Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens
1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

Ish Ahmed & John Austin
State Board of Education

Laurence B. Dietch & Denise Ilitch
Regent of University of Michigan

Dianne Byrum & Diann Woodard
Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney
Governor of Wayne State University

Local Proposal

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN A Proposal Authorizing the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA) to Levy an Assessment.

Should this assessment be approved?
Vote YES

12TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



Hillary Clinton

President

Tim Kaine

Vice President

Frank Syzmanski

Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens

1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

Ish Ahmed & John Austin

State Board of Education

Laurence B. Dietch & Denise Ilitch

Regent of University of Michigan

Dianne Byrum & Diann Woodard

Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney

Governor of Wayne State University

Local Proposal

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN A Proposal Authorizing the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA) to Levy an Assessment.

Should this assessment be approved?
Vote YES

Local Races

Wayne County Commissioner

Nate Smith Tyge

**Washtenaw County Clerk/
Register of Deeds**

Lawrence Kestenbaum

Endorsements

U.S. Congress - 12th

District	Candidate	Party	BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL
12	Jones, Jeff	R										
	Dingell, Debbie*	D	Red	100%	Orange	Yellow	Green	Green	Blue	Blue		
	Bagwell, Tom	LIB										
	Calewatts, Dylan	G										

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL
9	Stephens, James	R										
	Santana, Sylvia	D				Yellow						
12	Soderquist, Erik	R										
	Geiss, Erika*	D	Red	Orange		Yellow	Green	Green	Blue	Blue		
13	Spencer, Annie L.	R										
	Liberati, Frank*	D	Red	Orange		Yellow		Green	Blue	Blue		
14	Stasik, Darrell	R										
	Clemente, Cara*	D							Blue			
	Gnadt, Loel R.	LIB										
15	Gerin, Terrance Guido	R										
	Hammoud, Abdullah	D	Red	Orange		Yellow	Green	Green	Blue	Blue		
17	Bellino, Jr., Joseph	R										
	LaVoy, Bill*	D	Red	Orange				Green	Blue	Blue		
21	Andring, Jeff	UST										
	Moss, Derek	R										
23	Pagan, Kristy*	D	Red	Orange		Yellow	Green	Green	Blue	Blue		
	Howey, Bob	R										X
52	Camilleri, Darrin	D	Red	Orange		Yellow	Green	Green	Blue			
	Clark, Randy	R										
53	Lasinski, Donna	D	Red	Orange		Yellow	Green	Green	Blue			
	Borregard, Eric	G										
	Bissell, Samuel	R										
54	Rabhi, Yousef	D	Red	Orange		Yellow	Green	Green	Blue	Blue		
	Stevens, Joseph	G										
55	Jardine, Kevin	R										
	Peterson, Ronnie D.	D	Red	Orange		Yellow			Blue	Blue		
55	Baird, Bob	R										
	Zemke, Adam*	D	Red	Orange		Yellow	Green	Green	Blue	Blue		

	Women	Envir	Labor	ANTI-
	Red	Orange	Blue	X

* = Incumbent

13TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Endorsements

U.S. Congress - 13th

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements											
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL		
13	Gorman, Jeff	R												
	Conyers, Jr., John*	D	█	100%	█	█	█		█	█				
	Hayden, Tiffany	LIB												

State Representatives

District	Candidate	Party	Endorsements											
			BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL		
2	Murray, Anthony Matthew	R												
	Scott, Bettie Cook	D								█				
	Simpson, DaNetta L.	IND												
3	Brodersen, John	R												
	Byrd, Wendell L.*	D	█	█										
4	Schonert, Matt	R												
	Robinson, Rose Mary C.*	D	█	█			█		█	█				
	Finn, Dan	G												
5	Patterson, Dorothy	R												
	Durhal, Fred*	D	█	█	█	█	█		█	█				
6	Pollard, Attie	R												
	Chang, Stephanie*	D	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█				
7	Barr, Gina Alicia	R												
	Garrett, LaTanya*	D		█				█	█					
8	Rynicki, Jennifer	R												
	Gay-Dagnogo, Sherry*	D		█					█	█				
	Wilkins, DeShawn													
9	Stephens, James	R												
	Santana, Sylvia	D				█								
10	Brang, William	R												
	Love, Leslie*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█					
	Morgan, Jeremy	LIB												
11	Pope, Robert E.	R												
	Plawecki, Lauren	D								█				
	Sosnowski, Marc Joseph	UST												
12	Soderquist, Erik	R												
	Geiss, Erika*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█	█				
13	Spencer, Annie L.	R												
	Liberati, Frank*	D	█	█		█		█	█	█				
14	Stasik, Darrell	R												
	Clemente, Cara	D							█					
	Gnadt, Loel R.	LIB												
16	Morrow, Matthew	R												
	Kosowski, Robert L.*	D	█	█				█	█	█				

* = Incumbent

Local Races

Wayne County Commissioner	Nate Smith Tyge
---------------------------	-----------------

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



Hillary Clinton **Tim Kaine**
President Vice President

Frank Syzmanski
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Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney
Governor of Wayne State University

Local Proposal

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN A Proposal Authorizing the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA) to Levy an Assessment.

Should this assessment be approved?
Vote YES

14TH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Between The Lines Strongly Endorses These Candidates on the Statewide Part of the Ballot



Hillary Clinton

President

Tim Kaine

Vice President

Frank Syzmanski

Justice of Supreme Court

Deborah Thomas

Justice of Supreme Court

Cynthia Diane Stephens

1st District Judge of Court of Appeals

Ish Ahmed & John Austin

State Board of Education

Laurence B. Dietch & Denise Ilitch

Regent of University of Michigan

Dianne Byrum & Diann Woodard

Trustee of Michigan State University

Yvette McElroy Anderson & Mark Gaffney

Governor of Wayne State University

Local Proposal

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN A Proposal Authorizing the Regional Transit Authority of Southeast Michigan (RTA) to Levy an Assessment.

**Should this assessment be approved?
Vote YES**

U.S. Congress - 14th

		Endorsements										
		LGBT	Women	Envir	Labor	ANTI-						
District	Candidate	Party	BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL
14	Klausner, Howard	R										
	Lawrence, Brenda L.*	D	█	100%		█	█	█	█	█		
	Creswell, Gregory	LIB										
	Squier, Marcia	GRN										

State Representatives

		EQMI										
		LGBT	Women	Envir	Labor	ANTI-						
District	Candidate	Party	BTL	HRC SCORE	NOW PAC	Planned Parenthood	Sierra	MLCV	AFL-CIO	UAW	ACU	MI RTL
1	Broman, William	R										
	Banks, Brian R.*	D		█		█		█	█	█		
2	Murray, Anthony Matthew	R										
	Scott, Bettie Cook	D							█			
3	Simpson, DaNetta L.	IND										
	Brodersen, John	R										
3	Byrd, Wendell L.*	D	█	█								
	Schonert, Matt	R										
4	Robinson, Rose Mary C.*	D	█	█			█		█	█		
	Finn, Dan	G										
5	Patterson, Dorothy	R										
	Durhal, Fred*	D	█	█	█	█			█	█		
6	Pollard, Attie	R										
	Chang, Stephanie*	D	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█		
7	Barr, Gina Alicia	R										
	Garrett, LaTanya*	D		█				█	█			
8	Rynicki, Jennifer	R										
	Gay-Dagnogo, Sherry*	D		█					█	█		
10	Wilkins, DeShawn											
	Brang, William	R										
10	Love, Leslie*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█	█		
	Morgan, Jeremy	LIB										
27	Forrest, Kyle	R										
	Wittenberg, Robert*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█	█		
29	Griffith, Garren W.	R										
	Greimel, Tim*	D	█	█		█		█	█	█		
35	Brim, Robert	R										
	Moss, Jeremy*	D	█	█		█	█	█	█	█		
37	Swoboda, Mitch	R										
	Greig, Christine*	D	█	█	█	█	█	█	█			
39	Young, James K.	LIB										
	Kesto, Clint*	R									█	█
39	Stack, Michael	D	█		█	█			█	█		
	McGrath, Beth	O										
40	McCready, Michael D.*	R									█	█
	Bedi, Nicole	D	█		█	█	█		█	█		

Local Races

6th Circuit Judge of Circuit Court (Oakland County): Lorie Savin
 Wayne County Commissioner: Nate Smith Tyge
 Oakland County Executive: Vicki Barnett
 Oakland Prosecuting Attorney: Jessica Cooper
 Oakland Sheriff: Craig Covey
 Oakland Clerk/Register of Deeds: Lisa Brown

Oakland Treasurer: Andy Meisner
 Oakland County Commissioner (5th District): Julie Pulver
 Oakland County Commissioner (18th District): Helaine Zack
 Oakland County Commissioner (19th District): Dave Woodward
 School District of Pontiac: Michael McGuiness

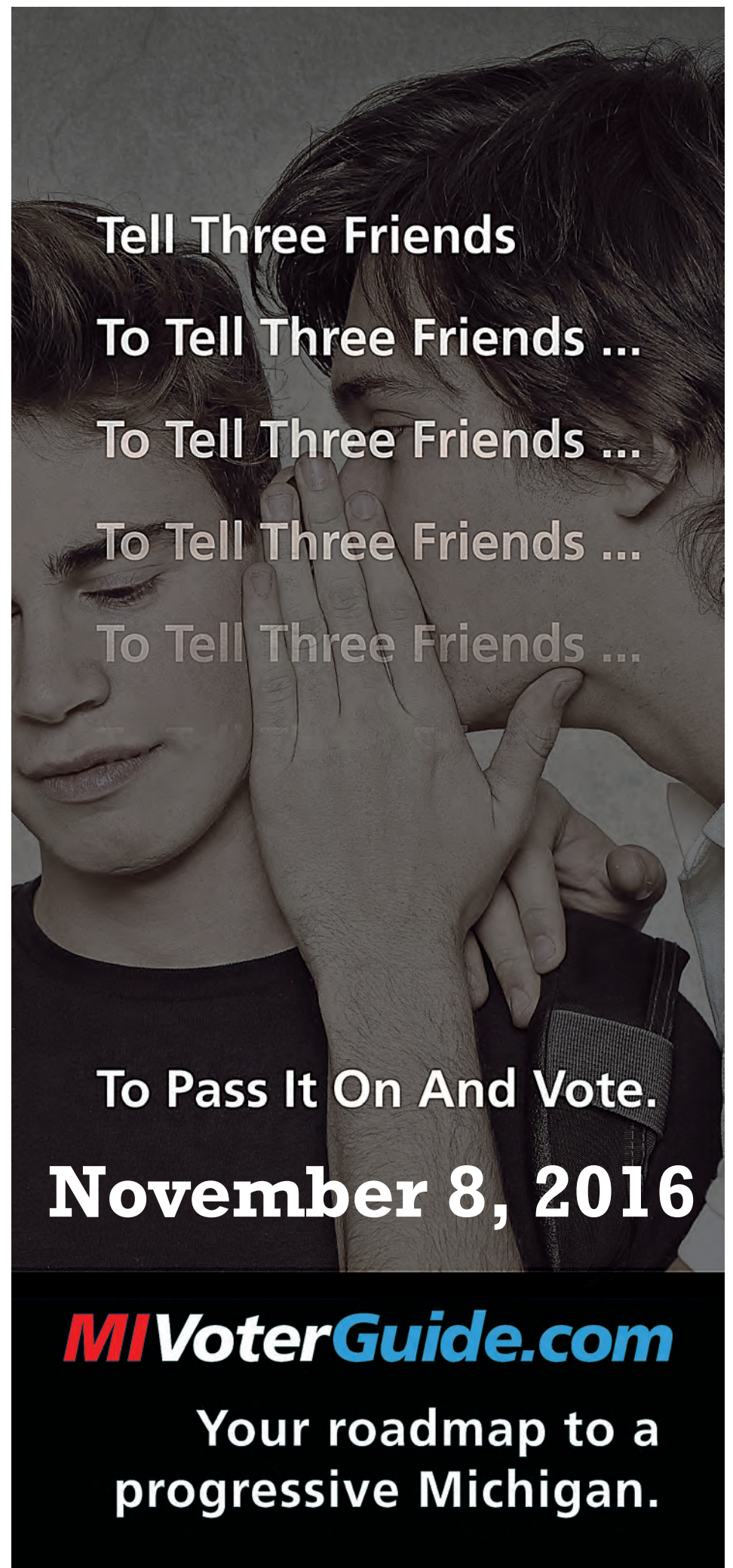
* = Incumbent

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