

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993



GLSEN: Championing LGBTQ Issues in K-12

Supreme Court Sets Gay Wedding Cake Arguments for Dec. 5

Unlikely Advocate

Actress Alexandra Billings Talks Trump-Era 'Transparent'



The Hair Diva

Making Her Beauty Mark

Roots Keep Lexie Washington Grounded as Her Business Grows in Detroit

HAGOPIAN
CLEANING SERVICES

FALL CLEAN-UP

RUG CLEANING

2 FOR 1

Bring your rugs to any of our
drop-off locations and we'll clean
every other one **FREE!**
some restrictions apply

CARPET CLEANING

3 ROOMS
\$89.99

some restrictions apply

1-800-HAGOPIAN (424-6742)

SCHEDULE ONLINE! OriginalHagopian.com



OAK PARK • BIRMINGHAM • CLARKSTON • NOVI • PLYMOUTH • UTICA • ANN ARBOR

JUDY FRANKEL ANTIQUES

FALL WAREHOUSE & CLEARANCE SALE
3 DAYS ONLY

25% To 75% Off Everything
Special Items Galore

Thursday, Friday & Saturday - November 2nd, 3rd & 4th
10:30 am til 4:30 pm

ALL SALES FINAL!!

1748 Northwood Drive, Troy, MI 48084
judy@judyfrankelantiques.com or 248-649-4399

Join The Conversation @ PrideSource.com



COVER

'The Hair Diva': Making Her Beauty Mark at Salon Kinki
BTL Photo: Andrew Potter

NEWS

- 4 GLSEN: Championing LGBTQ Issues in K-12 Education
- 5 Supreme Court Sets Gay Wedding Cake Arguments for Dec. 5
- 9 Sex Discrimination Case Arguments Heard in Court of Appeals
- 10 Roots Keep Lexie Washington Grounded as Her Business Grows in Detroit
- 12 Sessions Undoes DOJ Support for Trans Workers Under Title VII
- 12 Trump Administration: Legal Challenge to Trans Military Ban 'Premature'
- 13 \$1M Settlement Paid to Family of Murder Victim Shelly Hilliard
- 18 Elton John AIDS Foundation to Address HIV in Black Gay and Trans Community

OPINION

- 10 Parting Glances
- 11 Viewpoint
- 11 Creep of the Week: Jeff Sessions

LIFE

- 20 Actress Alexandra Billings Talks Trump-Era 'Transparent' and Surviving the '80s
- 22 Cool Cities: Ann Arbor
- 25 Deborah Cox Fills Big Shoes in 'The Bodyguard'
- 26 Happenings
- 28 Puzzle & Crossword
- 30 Classifieds

FEATURE



4 GLSEN: Championing LGBTQ Issues in K-12 Education

OCTOBER LGBTQ HISTORY MONTH



17 New Doc Explores Mysterious Death of a Mother of the Trans Community

16 1954 Miami Murder Leads to 'Homosexual Panic'

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



- 32 ArtWorks Detroit Supports Community HIV Outreach Efforts
- 32 Social Worker at UM Seeks Input from LGBTQIA Community
- 32 Community Input Wanted for New Transgender Church
- 32 Royal Oak Farmers Market Transforms Into Artist's Market

BTL FALL HOME GUIDE



HOME: NOW ONLINE

Approachable and Comfortable Design
Tips for Buyers and Sellers in Our 'Hot' Housing Market
Marriage Equality Paving the Way for Increased LGBTQ Interest in Home Ownership

VOL. 2541 • OCTOBER 12, 2017
ISSUE 1036

PRIDE SOURCE MEDIA GROUP
20222 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone 734.293.7200

PUBLISHERS
Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

MEMBER OF
Michigan Press Association
National LGBT Media Association
National Gay & Lesbian Chamber
Q Syndicate



EDITORIAL
Editor in Chief
Susan Horowitz, 734.293.7200 x 12
susanhorowitz@pridesource.com

Entertainment Editor
Chris Azzopardi, 734.293.7200 x 24
chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com

Senior News Editor
Kate Opalewski, 734.293.7200 x 10
kate@pridesource.com

News & Feature Writers
Emell Derra Adolphus, Todd A. Heywood,
Jiquanda Johnson, Eve Kucharski, Ellen
Knoppow, Jason Michael, David Ryals

CREATIVE
Webmaster & MIS Director
Kevin Bryant, kevinbryant@pridesource.com

Columnists
Charles Alexander, Michelle E. Brown,
Mikey Rox, Dan Woog, D'Anne Witkowski
Gwendolyn Ann Smith

Cartoonists
Paul Berg, Dave Brousseau

Contributing Photographers
Andrew Potter
Alexander Godin

ADVERTISING & SALES
Director of Sales
Jan Stevenson, 734.293.7200 x 22
jan@pridesource.com

Sales Representatives
Ann Cox, 734.293.7200 x 13
anncox@pridesource.com

Donelle Kremke, 734.293.7200 x 16
donelle@pridesource.com

National Advertising Representative
Rivendell Media, 212.242.6863

Our rate cards are available online. All material appearing in Between The Lines is protected by federal copyright law and may not be reproduced in whole or part without the permission of the publishers. Between The Lines is supported by many fine advertisers, but we cannot accept responsibility for claims made by our advertisers, nor can we accept responsibility for materials provided by advertisers or their agents.

ONLINE AT

- "Between The Lines Newspaper"
- Follow us @YourBTL
- Email your op-eds to editor@pridesource.com
- Sign up online to receive our E-Digest

Copyright 2017 Pride Source Media Group

GLSEN: Championing LGBTQ Issues in K-12 Education

BY ELLEN SHANNA KNOPPOW

“What should young people do with their lives today? Many things, obviously. But the most daring thing is to create stable communities in which the terrible disease of loneliness can be cured.”

- Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

When he came out at the age of 14, Josh Lee thought he didn't know anyone else who identified as LGBTQ. But when he took the initiative to launch Rochester Adams High School's first Gay-Straight Alliance a few years later, Lee soon found a community of support. He was not alone.

Gay-Straight Alliances, or GSAs, are student clubs that work to improve school climate for all students, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. Schools are required to support GSAs just as they do any other club, if they receive federal funding due to the Federal Equal Access Act. GSAs are just one program of GLSEN (“glisten”), a national network that provides support and advocacy for LGBTQ students, grades K-12.

Lee's experience starting his school's GSA was extremely positive. As he recalls, “posters celebrating diversity were posted in the hallways and we had bake sales supporting GLSEN and other LGBT-friendly organizations.” He explains that “when I found GLSEN I was a youth just figuring out my identity and place in the world. Now that I have found myself, it is my ambition to help others understand their worth and value in this world.” For that reason, he has chaired GLSEN's Southeast Michigan chapter for the past five years.

Founded in 1990, GLSEN's stated mission is to create safe and affirming schools for all, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. They work to ensure a healthy school environment, free of heterosexism and homophobia, by educating teachers, students and the public through their national and local programs.

Whether it's lobbying for the adoption and enforcement of anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policies that are inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity, training school employees on LGBTQ issues, or ensuring that educational and extra-curricular activities are available to all students, GLSEN seeks to accomplish their goal that every student, in every school is valued and treated with respect.

Their 40 chapters nationwide are designed



GLSEN at Ferndale Pride in June.

to help make change and provide support on a local level. Lee is proud to share some of the initiatives in place to ensure safe schools in Michigan. For one, the Southeast Michigan chapter offers professional development for all educators in the state, and has conducted many of these trainings already in school districts across the region. Lee adds that their goal is to disseminate this information to all school districts in the state. (And to contact him with inquiries; information below.)

On the national level, GLSEN's two Days of Action each year help GSAs bring attention to the public regarding the concerns of LGBTQ students. The Day of Silence is a student-led event designed to illustrate the silencing effects of anti-LGBTQ name-calling, bullying and harassment. And Ally Week is an effort to encourage LGBTQ students and LGBTQ educators to lead the conversation on what they need from their allies in school.

In addition, GLSEN promotes other national programs and events like the Transgender Day of Visibility, an annual awareness day celebrated worldwide.

Unfortunately, in Michigan, LGBTQ populations are not protected under statewide education or policies. However, last year the State Board of Education published a guide, “Safe and Supportive Learning Environments for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Students.”

At present, the adoption of its recommendations is voluntary. Lee stresses that “implementing comprehensive school policies that protect the LGBTQ+ population is a great first step toward an inclusive, welcoming school environment for all staff and students.” The hope is that implementing these policies will one day be required by law.

Overall, the reception in Michigan to

GLSEN's efforts has been positive. They have partnerships with MOASH (Michigan Organization for Adolescent and Sexual Health) as well as the Michigan Department of Education. And while GLSEN comes across resistance within schools occasionally, Lee states that “we remind educators that they have a professional obligation to the safety of their students. If the problem persists, we have a partnership with the ACLU [which] can file legal ramifications should a school be found in violation of municipal, state or federal law.”

When asked to address any concerns regarding the current presidential administration, specifically Michigander Betsy DeVos's actions as education secretary, Lee's response was diplomatic: As a nonprofit organization, GLSEN can take a stand on specific legislation, but not elected officials,

See next page



The Supreme Court has scheduled gay wedding cake arguments for Dec. 5. (Photo by Bigstock)

Supreme Court Sets Gay Wedding Cake Arguments for Dec. 5

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

The U.S. Supreme Court has set Dec. 5 as the day for oral arguments on whether a Colorado baker has a First Amendment right to refuse to make wedding cakes for same-sex couples over religious objections.

The high court announced Oct. 6 the case, known as Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission, will be the first of two arguments on that day.

Consideration of the case will mark the return of the U.S. Supreme Court to the issue of LGBT rights in the first major way since its milestone 2015 decision in favor of marriage equality nationwide.

The case has been percolating in state and federal court for years. It came about after Jack Phillips, the owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop, refused to make a wedding cake for Charlie Craig and David Mullins, a Colorado same-sex couple, in 2012 for their wedding in Massachusetts. Phillips refused the wedding cake based on his religious beliefs, but said he would be happy to make and sell the couple other baked goods.

In 2013, the American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of Colorado filed a lawsuit on behalf of the couple, alleging the bakery discriminated on the basis of sexual orientation under Colorado state law.

An administrative judge ruled in favor of the same-sex couple – a decision the Colorado Court of Appeals upheld in 2015. Although the Colorado Supreme Court had declined to review these decisions and let them stand, the U.S. Supreme Court granted a writ of certiorari, or agreed to take up the case, in June.

The U.S. Justice Department has already weighed in on the case, siding with the Colorado baker in a friend-of-the-court brief on the basis that baking a wedding cake is inherently an act of expression and therefore refusing to same-sex couples is a protected right under the First Amendment.

This article originally appeared in the Washington Blade and is made available in partnership with the National Gay Media Association.

► GLSEN

Continued from p. 4

political candidates or political parties. That said, he notes that recently they have seen an overwhelming increase in requests for their Professional Development program. Also on a nonpartisan note, Lee emphasizes that at GLSEN, “we strive to ensure all students are respected throughout their schooling and are protected

under the law upon entering adulthood, [yet]

we still have a lot of work to do to ensure all students are safe and feel accepted in society.”

For more information about GLSEN: <https://www.glsen.org>; Day of Silence: <https://www.glsen.org/day-of-silence>; Ally Week: <https://www.glsen.org/allyweek>; Southeast Michigan chapter: <https://www.glsen.org/chapters/southeastmichigan>. For inquiries regarding professional development and other local programs and services, contact Chairperson Josh Lee directly: jlee7575@gmail.com.

RON T. WILLIAMSON DDS

Dedicated to make our
community brighter
One Smile At A Time

248-399-4455

Zoom Special

\$249

One-hour Teeth Whitening

*Must mention this BTL ad - Expires 10/31/17

Nitrous Oxide (relaxing air)
Proud participants in the Ryan White Program
No charges for emergency examinations and consultations.
Uninsured? No problem. Significant savings with our in-office club.

Care Credit

1964 W. 11 Mile Road, Suite 4,
Berkley, MI 48072

www.rontwilliamsondds.com

Find us on
 facebook

Wolverine
Human Services
Helping Children to be Victors

ANY CHILD, ANY PARENT, ANY TIME.

FOSTER OR ADOPT WITH WOLVERINE HUMAN SERVICES

TEXT “PRIDE” TO 51555 FOR MORE INFORMATION

WOLVERINEHS.ORG

What is TRUVADA for PrEP?

TRUVADA for PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) is a prescription medicine that is used together with safer sex practices to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 through sex. This use is only for HIV-negative adults who are at high risk of getting HIV-1. To help determine your risk of getting HIV-1, talk openly with your healthcare provider about your sexual health.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to prevent getting HIV. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about TRUVADA for PrEP?

Before taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- ◆ **You must be HIV-negative before you start taking TRUVADA for PrEP.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1. Do not take TRUVADA to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-negative.
- ◆ **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** If you have flu-like symptoms, you could have recently become infected with HIV-1. Tell your healthcare provider if you had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting or at any time while taking TRUVADA for PrEP. Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin.

While taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- ◆ **You must continue to use safer sex practices. Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.**
- ◆ **You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP:**
 - ◆ Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months.
 - ◆ If you think you were exposed to HIV-1, tell your healthcare provider right away.
- ◆ **To further help reduce your risk of getting HIV-1:**
 - ◆ Know your HIV status and the HIV status of your partners.
 - ◆ Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV to infect you.
 - ◆ Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior, such as having fewer sex partners.
 - ◆ Do not miss any doses of TRUVADA. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
- ◆ **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.

TRUVADA can cause serious side effects:

- ◆ **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** TRUVADA is not approved to treat HBV. If you have HBV and stop taking TRUVADA, your HBV may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health.

Who should not take TRUVADA for PrEP?

Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP if you:

- ◆ **Already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status.** If you are HIV-1 positive, you need to take other medicines with TRUVADA to treat HIV-1. TRUVADA by itself is not a complete treatment for HIV-1. If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.
- ◆ **Also take certain medicines to treat hepatitis B infection.**

What are the other possible side effects of TRUVADA for PrEP?

Serious side effects of TRUVADA may also include:

- ◆ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider may do blood tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with TRUVADA. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking TRUVADA.
- ◆ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ◆ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ◆ **Bone problems,** including bone pain, softening, or thinning, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.

Common side effects in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP are stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or do not go away.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking TRUVADA for PrEP?

- ◆ **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis.
- ◆ **If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.** It is not known if TRUVADA can harm your unborn baby. If you become pregnant while taking TRUVADA for PrEP, talk to your healthcare provider to decide if you should keep taking TRUVADA.
- ◆ **If you are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed.** Do not breastfeed. If you become HIV-positive, HIV can be passed to the baby in breast milk.
- ◆ **All the medicines you take,** including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. TRUVADA may interact with other medicines. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.
- ◆ **If you take certain other medicines** with TRUVADA, your healthcare provider may need to check you more often or change your dose. These medicines include certain medicines to treat hepatitis C (HCV) infection.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.FDA.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see Important Facts about TRUVADA for PrEP including important warnings on the following page.

A photograph of two men with beards and short hair, both wearing black leather vests. They are smiling and looking towards each other. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with buildings and greenery.

We're adventurous, not reckless.

We know who we are. And we make choices that fit our lives.


TRUVADA for PrEP™ is a once-daily prescription medicine that can help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 when taken every day and used together with safer sex practices.

- ◆ **TRUVADA for PrEP is only for adults who are at high risk of getting HIV through sex.**
- ◆ **You must be HIV-negative before you start taking TRUVADA for PrEP.**

Ask your doctor about your risk of getting HIV-1 infection and if TRUVADA for PrEP may be right for you.

GILEAD

Learn more at truvada.com

 **Truvada®**
emtricitabine 200 mg / tenofovir
disoproxil fumarate 300 mg tablets
for **PrEP** pre-exposure prophylaxis



(tru-VAH-dah)

MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP

Before starting TRUVADA for PrEP:

- **You must be HIV-1 negative.** You must get tested to make sure that you do not already have HIV-1. Do not take TRUVADA for PrEP to reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 unless you are confirmed to be HIV-1 negative.
- **Many HIV-1 tests can miss HIV-1 infection in a person who has recently become infected.** Symptoms of new HIV-1 infection include flu-like symptoms, tiredness, fever, joint or muscle aches, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, night sweats, and/or enlarged lymph nodes in the neck or groin. Tell your healthcare provider if you have had a flu-like illness within the last month before starting TRUVADA for PrEP.

While taking TRUVADA for PrEP:

- **You must continue to use safer sex practices. Just taking TRUVADA for PrEP may not keep you from getting HIV-1.**
- **You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.** Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months while taking TRUVADA for PrEP. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you think you were exposed to HIV-1 or have a flu-like illness while taking TRUVADA for PrEP.
- **If you do become HIV-1 positive, you need more medicine than TRUVADA alone to treat HIV-1.** If you have HIV-1 and take only TRUVADA, your HIV-1 may become harder to treat over time.
- See the "How To Further Reduce Your Risk" section for more information.

TRUVADA may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** TRUVADA is not approved to treat HBV. If you have HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking TRUVADA. Do not stop taking TRUVADA without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.

ABOUT TRUVADA FOR PrEP

TRUVADA for PrEP is a prescription medicine used together with safer sex practices to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 through sex. This use is only for HIV-negative adults who are at high risk of getting HIV-1.

- To help determine your risk of getting HIV-1, talk openly with your healthcare provider about your sexual health.

Do NOT take TRUVADA for PrEP if you:

- **Already have HIV-1 infection or if you do not know your HIV-1 status.**
- Take certain medicines to treat hepatitis B infection.

HOW TO TAKE TRUVADA FOR PrEP

- **Take 1 tablet once a day, every day,** not just when you think you have been exposed to HIV-1.
- Do not miss any doses. Missing doses may increase your risk of getting HIV-1 infection.
- Use TRUVADA for PrEP together with condoms and safer sex practices.
- Get tested for HIV-1 at least every 3 months. You must stay HIV-negative to keep taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

IMPORTANT FACTS

This is only a brief summary of important information about taking TRUVADA for PrEP™ (pre-exposure prophylaxis) to help reduce the risk of getting HIV-1 infection. This does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your medicine.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF TRUVADA FOR PrEP

TRUVADA can cause serious side effects, including:

- Those in the "Most Important Information About TRUVADA for PrEP" section.
- New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.
- Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- Severe liver problems, which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- Bone problems.

Common side effects in people taking TRUVADA for PrEP include stomach-area (abdomen) pain, headache, and decreased weight.

These are not all the possible side effects of TRUVADA. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking TRUVADA for PrEP.

Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with TRUVADA for PrEP.

BEFORE TAKING TRUVADA FOR PrEP

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- Have or have had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis.
- Have any other medical conditions.
- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
- Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. If you become HIV-positive, HIV can pass to the baby in breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with TRUVADA for PrEP.

HOW TO FURTHER REDUCE YOUR RISK

- Know your HIV status and the HIV status of your partners.
- Get tested for other sexually transmitted infections. Other infections make it easier for HIV to infect you.
- Get information and support to help reduce risky sexual behavior, such as having fewer sex partners.
- Do not share needles or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- This is only a brief summary of important information about TRUVADA for PrEP. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more, including how to prevent HIV infection.
- Go to start.truvada.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5
- If you need help paying for your medicine, visit start.truvada.com for program information.



TRUVADA FOR PrEP, the TRUVADA FOR PrEP Logo, the TRUVADA Blue Pill Design, TRUVADA, GILEAD, and the GILEAD Logo are trademarks of Gilead Sciences, Inc., or its related companies. All other marks referenced herein are the property of their respective owners.

Version date: April 2017

© 2017 Gilead Sciences, Inc. All rights reserved. TVDC0133 07/17

It's Not Just About the Suit: Sex Discrimination Case Arguments Heard in Court of Appeals

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

CINCINNATI, OHIO – Justice Helene White of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals questioned attorney Douglas G. Wardlow on Wednesday during his oral argument on behalf of R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes who are being sued by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) for both the firing of a transgender employee over a dress code dispute, and over an unequal policy that provided uniforms for the men but required women to buy their own.

“Is it your position that its simply the suit?” Judge White said. “So if he came in with makeup and other indicia of being a woman, it would be fine as long as he wore that company issued suit? ...It’s not just about the suit. It’s about presenting as a woman.”

Wardlow held firm to two points - that the firing was over dress-code and that the funeral home owner Tom Rost had a right based, on religious freedom, to not allow a transgender person to interact with the public as the face of his business.

Aimee Stephens, formerly Anthony Stephens, had worked at the Garden City location of Harris Funeral Homes since 2007, and was fired in 2013 after disclosing that she would be taking a vacation and returning to work as a woman. She was told not to return and terminated because she’d been planning to dress in female attire.

“The EEOC and Stephens claim that Title Seven eviscerates Tom Rost’s right to control the face of his business through a sex specific dress code,” Wardlow said. “He operates his business according to the tenants of his faith including that sex is a beautiful gift from God. To employ Stephens when Stephens is violating the sex-specific dress code and dressing as a women when Rost knows that Stephens is not a woman would send a message to the public... that is contrary to his deeply held belief that sex is an immutable gift from God.”

Attorney Anne Noel Occhialino for the EEOC argued that Harris Funeral Home was not a religious institution and that there was no doctrine or text that called for denying employment based on gender.

Wardlow said, “In this case, that business is a religious ministry because Tom Rost feels a religious calling to serve the grieving.”



He argued that Free Exercise Clause and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) protected him from having an employee that did not represent his beliefs while on the job. He also argued that having a sex-specific dress code was not discrimination because “we don’t have disparate impact here to men or women.” Both men and women are impacted by the code equally.

The Price Waterhouse court case was mentioned by both sides. In this case a woman was fired for not being feminine enough, and the courts ruled that to be sex discrimination. The EEOC contended that it gave the basis for not discriminating against men or women who do not conform to gender stereotypes. Wardlow used the same case to say, “This shows there is a difference between men and women.”

The Hobby Lobby case was also a discussion point. In that case Hobby Lobby did not have to provide contraception coverage to employees because there was another method for women to obtain it. The EEOC argued that Hobby Lobby would not apply in this case because the matter was not of a benefit, but of employment itself.

John Anthony Knight, arguing as Intervener for Aimee Stephens, referred to Justice Samuel Alito’s decision that said “RFRA provides not shield to discrimination in hiring since the government has a compelling interest in providing equal opportunity to participate in the workplace without regard to race and prohibitions are tailored to achieve

that crucial goal.”

Knight also had the last words of the hearing stating, “I just wanted to direct the court to the fact that the implications for this decision would just be horrendous in terms of the kinds of discrimination that could be opened up by recognizing a RFRA defense here.”

The oral arguments were heard by Justice Helene White (a Bush appointee), Justice Karen Nelson Moore (a Clinton appointee), and Bernice B. Donald (an Obama appointee). A decision could be made within days or months.

Listen to the oral arguments at <http://files.eqcf.org/cases/16-2424-oral-argument-audio>.

National LGBT Bar Association Announces Victory in 11th Circuit

WASHINGTON, DC – In the appeal *Berthiaume v. Smith et al*, the plaintiff, Raymond Berthiaume, was represented by Akerman LLP and the plaintiff’s trial counsel, Hugh L. Koerner, P.A. At oral arguments, Akerman argued that the lower court’s failure to question potential jurors about anti-LGBT bias was an abuse of discretion because of the high likelihood of prejudice the plaintiff was likely to face in a proceeding where the fact that he is a homosexual was inextricably bound up with the facts of the case and the conduct of the trial. The 11th Circuit agreed and today ruled that the judge’s refusal to permit inquiry into whether potential jurors harbor any biases or prejudices against homosexuals was an abuse of discretion and ordered a new trial.

The National LGBT Bar signed an amicus brief submitted by Lambda Legal in this case.

“LGBT individuals facing trial have the same right to a jury of their peers,

free from prejudice, as every other American,” said D’Arcy Kemnitz, executive director of the National LGBT Bar Association. “Today’s decision goes a long way in ensuring that these rights are granted. No one should ever face a jury filled with potential animus, and it is time that members of the judiciary recognize sexual orientation and gender identity as legitimate classes in need of protection.”

The National LGBT Bar Association is the leading organization working for LGBT equality on juries. The LGBT Bar works with legislators on both sides of the aisle to ensure a fair selection process. The main focus thus far, The Jury ACCESS and Juror Non-Discrimination Acts (S. 635/H.R. 1515), are bipartisan pieces of legislation that would ensure potential jurors cannot be struck on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.



Top: David McCants, Lexie “the Hair Diva” Washington, Latrenda Hill. Middle: Carmen McGee, Nesha Patterson, Erica Carter, Emmatine Kemp. Bottom: Regina Anderson, Deborah Kirkland, Carlita Brown, Mary Williams. BTL Photos: Andrew Potter.

‘The Hair Diva’: Making Her Beauty Mark at Salon Kinki

Roots Keep Lexie Washington Grounded as Her Business Grows in Detroit

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

Lexie Washington came to life in her mother’s closet as a young person. “She didn’t really like the fact that I was dressing up in her closet, but I just loved those shoes she wore,” said Lexie. Her mother, a pastor, raised Lexie with her father in the small town of Sanford, North Carolina.

“We lived in a home on a dirt road with no running water - I had to pump it from the well - no toilet, no tub, no walls. My parents had to hang curtains to separate our bedrooms for privacy. We were extremely poor and all we had was Jesus,” she said. Lexie stepped into her mother’s shoes once again at the age of 18 to care for her younger siblings when their parents died.

“I was determined,” she said. “I told myself before I died, this world will know me for doing something great. I have to make my mark.”

This meant allowing the woman inside her to emerge outside of her mother’s closet. Otherwise, she said, “I was doing myself and the community an injustice.”

Although Lexie comes from a religious family, they were loving and supportive when she came out as transgender in her early 20’s. By then, Lexie had graduated in the top of her class in cosmetology school.

“I worked really hard to polish my craft,” she said. Her dreams were coming true in the Tar Heel State before the age of 25. Lexie already owned two salons (one in partnership with her late friend Barbara Wallace), but she wanted to pursue a bigger name for herself in the cosmetology industry. So she packed up and drove to Detroit on Sept. 10, 2001.

“I said ‘God there is no way you let

me move here in the middle of a war,’” said Lexie, who woke up to the news of 9/11 in a friend’s mother’s basement where she lived for the first six months in the city. Lexie said, “I’ve been grindin’ ever since.”

She began working at Silver Spoon Cosmetics and Salon where she built her name and a clientele despite the recession. Lexie felt the pinch caused by Detroit’s fiscal woes, but the downturn in the housing market afforded her a couple of inexpensive properties and in January 2014, she had the opportunity to take over the salon.

“It is an absolute blessing and an honor to stand with Detroit on the comeback and to be a business owner in Detroit at this time,” she said.

Lexie changed the business name to Salon Kinki and uses the slogan “Beautiful People” to promote their full-service salon menu including nail, lash and makeup services.

Although stylists there cater to all types of hair and hairstyles, Lexie said the name Salon Kinki spoke to her as an African American woman who understands the natural texture of kinky, or tightly coiled and overly curly hair. Salon Kinki specializes in everything from extensions, weaves, braids, sew-ins, dreadlocks and twists to natural hairstyles, which Lexie said, “we have embraced so much more in the last three to four years. We have a newfound love for ourselves and who we are.” Lexie, who sees up to 20 clients on any given day, said she is known for cutting and coloring short hair creating edgy and funky styles with vibrant colors.

“It is an absolute blessing and an honor to stand with Detroit on the comeback and to be a business owner in Detroit at this time.”

– Lexie “the Hair Diva” Washington

INFO

Salon Kinki

Located at 12811 W. 7 Mile Rd. in Detroit. Call 313-341-2575 or email Salonkink@gmail.com to make an appointment. For more information visit [@SalonKinki](https://www.facebook.com/SalonKinki) on Facebook and Instagram.

The Hair Diva

Billy Cason, publisher of Hair Designer Magazine, came into Silver Spoon to do business with Lexie. Back then, he called her “the Hair Diva” and it stuck.

Lexie loves the name and recognizes the expectation that comes with it.

“It forces me to live up to the glam and glitz,” she said. Lexie has become a premier stylist for the stars. It’s not her way, but Lexie can boast of many famous people she has worked with like the Clark Sisters, Robin Givens, Angela Winbush, Blanche McAllister, Vanessa Bell Armstrong, and Jennifer Holliday. Lexie also works with BET and Oxygen Media. In June, she was asked to style the ladies for Aretha Franklin’s tribute during Detroit Music Week.

Anything but a prima donna, Lexie is giving the word diva a meaning of her own.

“She is so encouraging, uplifting and motivating,” said Emmatine Kemp, one of 14 hair stylists at the salon. There are more than a dozen styling chairs available as well as three nail tech stations. Lexie said she is always looking for fresh, new talent.

“We are part of a team. There is no competition,” said Deborah Kirkland. “She [Lexie] works hard and it’s not about the money.”

Salon Kinki finally has a team that gels after a few staff turnovers. Some stylists did not want to work for a transgender person. Despite that, Lexie stays true to herself and remains visible.

“This is so important because the stereotype is that we are promiscuous, we’re on drugs, we’re ladies of the night or whatever you want to call it,” she said. While that may be true for some, often times, she said, “It’s

because these women have been abandoned by their families and their communities.” Lexie hopes to uplift the narrative of trans women of color by sharing her positive story.

“Many of us are smart and are goal driven and have morals. All of us don’t do the unthinkable.” If given a chance, she said, “We don’t have to do the unthinkable. There is another way. We can use our brain in another way. We can be entrepreneurs. We can use our beauty and our looks in another way.”

In the last 15 years, Lexie has established a reputation for her community and philanthropic efforts for which she received the Spirit of Detroit Award two times. Salon Kinki collects school supplies during the fall in exchange for discounts on hair services through Lexie’s “Stylist Beating Hunger” program. Lexie has also participated in the Craig Memorial



Tabernacle Church’s community outreach program, “My Sister’s Closet,” to provide new and gently-used clothing to women.

“I constantly remind myself what I was taught and where I came from,” said Lexie, reflecting on the values her parents impressed upon her growing up. “Living like I did brought a certain amount of humbleness and no matter where you go and no matter what you do, if you stop for a second and think back on all that the higher power has done for you, there’s no way that you can be haughty or puffed up.”

Mama Lexie

About eight years ago, Lexie made the choice to end a 15-year relationship with a “bad boy” who taught her things about love and forgiveness that she carries with her today.

“I wanted to make sure I had all the right influences around my child,” she said. Her outlook on life changed when she unexpectedly became a mother after a woman struggling with a drug addiction came to the salon and left her little boy with Lexie.

“She said she’d be back. She never returned. After finding her three weeks later, she asked if they could stay with me until she figured things out and found a place to live. I helped her out for a little while, she left again and we haven’t seen her since. I don’t know what his mother was thinking when she didn’t come back for him,” she said. But over a decade later, Lexie said her 15-year-old son is doing great on the National Honor Society at Renaissance High School.

“We have our challenges, which is expected considering the way we came into each other’s lives, but hey, we’re just goin’ for it. I am so proud of him,” she said.

As a single working mother, a day in the life of Lexie is hectic squeezing in workouts at the gym, driving her son to school, planning meals, answering calls from two different cell phones,

balancing budgets, making wigs for mail orders and juggling her salon schedule.

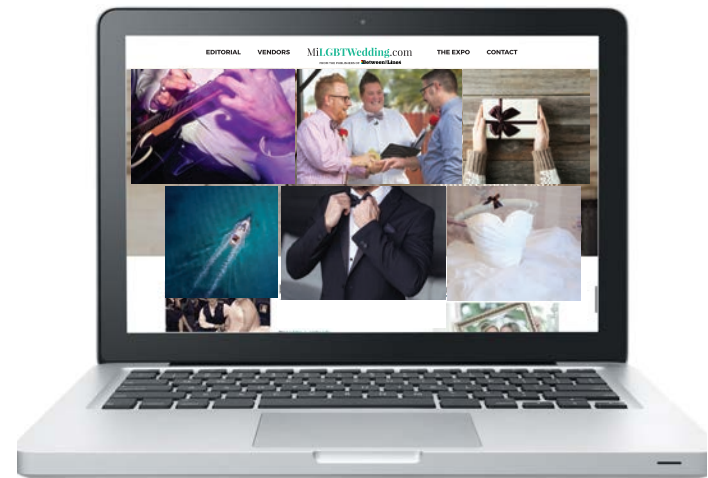
Lexie has made time for herself to prepare for the International Beauty Show in February 2018 in Atlanta, Georgia hosted by Bronner Bros. – the largest private African American hair and skin care producers in the U.S.

In their search for the next face of Detroit, Lexie’s friend and world-renowned fantasy hair stylist Kevin Carter – who owns Artistry of Hair in Farmington Hills – suggested she apply. Lexie will begin her studies this month to become an educator and platform artist.

This validates for Lexie that “everybody doesn’t have to see us in a negative light. You can come out and be yourself and be successful and make a difference in the community regardless of what anybody thinks about who you are.”

Michigan’s Definitive LGBTQ-Friendly Wedding and Anniversary Guide

MiLGBTWedding.com



A PROJECT OF

Between THE Lines™

To learn more contact donelle@pridesource.com

Call **734-293-7200** ext. 22

PROVIDING EXCEPTIONAL CARE FOR WOMEN OF ALL AGES

PartridgeCreek

Obstetrics & Gynecology

At Partridge Creek Obstetrics & Gynecology we take time to get to know each of our patients and their families. Our practice is dedicated to caring for women of all ages, from adolescence to beyond menopause.

Contact our Main Office to schedule your appointment.



Center: Rhonda L. Kobold, DO, FACOOG

Left:
Beth K. Mutch, MSN, FNP-BC
Teresa C. Kuz, MSN, WHNP-BC
Angela V. Viviano, MSN, FNP

Right:
Hina Javaid, MD
Marcie S. Mullins, MSN, CNM
Tanya M. Vaughn, MS, CNM, FNP-BC

1991 Hall Road,
Suite 105
Macomb, MI 48044



586.247.8609

partridgecreekobgyn.com

Sessions Undoes DOJ Support for Trans Workers Under Title VII

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

Bucking a string of court rulings and the views of a separate U.S. agency, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions on Oct. 5 reversed the Justice Department's support for the legal view trans workers are eligible for non-discrimination protections under current civil rights law.

In a two-page memo dated Oct. 4, Sessions informed Justice Department attorneys the U.S. government will no longer view the prohibition on sex discrimination under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to apply to discrimination on the basis of transgender status.

"Although federal law, including Title VII, provides various protections to transgender individuals, Title VII does not prohibit discrimination based on gender identity per se," Sessions writes. "This is a conclusion of law, not policy."

The memo is consistent with the Justice Department's view under the Trump administration Title VII affords no non-discrimination protections to lesbian, gay and bisexual workers. Just last week, a Justice Department attorney argued before the U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals the law



Attorney General Jeff Sessions

doesn't apply to an employment discrimination case filed by Donald Zarda, a deceased gay skydiver, because Congress didn't intend Title VII to cover sexual orientation.

Session's view reverses the position former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder staked out under the Obama administration in a 2014 memo affirming Title VII covers "encompasses discrimination based on gender identity, including transgender status."

The position also ignores multiple circuit court rulings affirming transgender people are eligible for protections under Title VII. Four federal appellate courts – the First, Sixth, Ninth and Eleventh circuit courts of appeals – have determined employment discrimination against transgender people is barred under

the law.

Further, Sessions' position conflicts with the position of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which determined in its 2012 ruling in *Macy v. Holder* under the Obama administration that Title VII covers transgender discrimination.

Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality, said in a statement the Trump administration is "determined to promote discrimination through a false view of the law that has been rejected again and again by the courts."

"The attorney general does not get to make law, but he should at least read it," Keisling said. "Simply: He is once again abdicating his responsibilities to enforce the law. Courts have repeatedly ruled that transgender people are protected by sex discrimination laws in employment, education, housing and healthcare. We'll see him in court."

Transgender people have a high incident rate of employment discrimination. In 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey, one in six respondents reported losing a job because of being transgender. Among Black respondents, the rate is higher: One-quarter reported losing a job because they're being transgender.

James Esseks, director of the American

Civil Liberties Union LGBT & HIV Project, said in a statement the memo "marks another low point" for the Justice Department in its abdication of responsibility to LGBT Americans.

"Discrimination against transgender people is sex discrimination, just as DOJ recognized years ago," Esseks said. "We are confident that the courts will continue to agree and will reject the politically driven decision by Attorney General Sessions."

Joel Kasnetz, a spokesperson for the Democratic National Committee, also condemned the move as an attack on LGBT people.

"By reinterpreting our employment laws to try to stop protecting transgender people from discrimination, Donald Trump, Mike Pence, and Jeff Sessions have revealed their real goal - turn the clock back to a time when life was even more difficult for LGBTQ people, transgender individuals in particular," Kasnetz said.

This article originally appeared in the Washington Blade and is made available in partnership with the National Gay Media Association.

Trump Administration: Legal Challenge to Trans Military Ban 'Premature'

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

The Trump administration called a legal challenge to President Trump's transgender military ban "premature several times over" in a brief filed late Wednesday seeking to block LGBT legal groups from putting the policy on hold as litigation against it moves forward.

In a {URL 49-page filing <http://www.pridesource.com/btl-db/images/2540/GovtBrief.pdf>}, the U.S. Justice Department responds to {URL a request for a preliminary injunction <http://www.washingtonblade.com/2017/08/31/court-asked-block-trumps-trans-military-ban/>} in *Doe v. Trump*, the lawsuit filed by the National Center for Lesbian Rights and GLBTQ Advocates & Defenders pending before federal court in D.C. The lawsuit was assigned to U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, a Clinton appointee.

The brief takes issue with the filing of the lawsuit, noting it was filed after Trump tweeted he'd ban transgender service members, but before he formally directed the Pentagon to take that action in a Whit Hose memo.

"The president's memorandum states that no policy changes to the status quo will be effective until at least after January 2018," the brief says. "The president further directed

the secretary of defense to determine how to address transgender individuals currently serving in the military and that no action be taken against such individuals until after a policy review is completed."

Moreover, the brief points out a review at the Pentagon on implementation of Trump's ban is ongoing and Defense Secretary James Mattis has issued interim guidance barring separation of transgender service members and allowing them to re-enlist in the armed forces.

"Plaintiffs' current complaint and motion account for none of this," the brief says. "The amended complaint does not even mention, let alone challenge, the interim guidance in effect today. Similarly, plaintiffs declined to bring the interim guidance to the court's attention in connection with their pending motion, even though the guidance plainly constitutes a significant development that negates their demand for emergency relief."

The plaintiffs in the lawsuit are six anonymous transgender service members who are currently in the armed forces and fear discharge under Trump's policy as well as two named plaintiffs: Regan Kibby, a student serving at the U.S. Naval Academy, and Dylan Kohere, who's participating in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at the University of New Haven.



The Justice Department argues these plaintiffs lack standing because none of them "face a current or imminent threat of injury during the interim period while the policy is being studied." With respect to the two named plaintiffs, the brief maintains "they will not be in a position to apply for an officer's commission until after they complete their respective courses of study in 2020, at the earliest."

In the event the court were to allow plaintiffs to challenge the policy, the Justice Department argues such a challenge would fail because the policy "is plainly lawful."

The filing argues courts have traditionally deferred to the military on its on defense policies on the basis the judiciary isn't suited to second-guess the military on the issue. Further, the Justice Department argues an

injunction would compromise the ongoing study on transgender service at the Pentagon.

"The public interest would be significantly harmed if an injunction precluded the president and secretary of defense from receiving expert advice on important issues of military personnel policy and acting in light of the results of that study," the brief says. "And even if plaintiffs somehow hurdle every problem with their challenge, there is no basis for the worldwide injunction against the military they request."

The Justice Department concludes the court should grant its motion to dismiss the case and reject the LGBT legal groups' request for a preliminary injunction.

Signing the brief is Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division Chad Readler, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Brett Shumate, Branch Director John Griffiths, Deputy Director Anthony Coppelino, Senior Trial Counsel Ryan Parker and Trial Attorney Andrew Carmichael.

Absent from the brief is the widely held perception that although Mattis set up a review to study transgender military service, the outcome is predetermined and just a process to implement Trump's ban on transgender

See Trump Ban, page 18

\$1M Settlement Paid to Family of Murder Victim Shelly Hilliard

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

A lawsuit brought by the family of Shelly Hilliard against Oakland County has ended with a \$1.07 million settlement. Hilliard was murdered and dismembered at the age of 19 after a Madison Heights police officer revealed that she was the informant in a drug bust in October 2011.

The civil suit, filed in February 2013 and amended in October 2013, described how Hilliard had agreed to contact Qasim “Red” Raqib about purchasing drugs after she herself had been busted for marijuana. Madison Heights Police Officer Chad Wolowiec, who now works for Warren Police, “made these disclosures to Red (the killer) through Red’s associate and companion, despite knowing that doing



so would significantly increase the risk, and indeed the likelihood of serious bodily injury and/or death to Shelly Hilliard,” according to the court filing.

Raqib was convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to 25 to life in prison. Hilliard’s family brought suit against Madison Heights and Oakland County. In January 2016 a Federal Appeals Court refused to dismiss the case against Oakland County, stating that a jury could find that there was “blatent exposure” of Hilliard as the source and that there was “deliberate indifference” to her safety. Oakland County agreed to pay \$1.07 million. Madison Heights settled their portion of the suit for \$20,000.

Attorney Katherine Bruner James of Goodman Hurwitz & James, P.C. represented Hilliard’s family. “Cases like this matter because it’s the best tool we have to effectuate change that could prevent another tragedy like this in the future. I would imagine that Oakland County does not want to face future lawsuits, and so they will hopefully revamp their training for how they use confidential informants - to avoid hastily planned operations when there is no reason to rush, to get more supervisor input, to put more distance between the informant and the eventual bust, and certainly never to reveal facts that would disclose the role of a confidential informant,” she said. “It also matters because it’s a check on governmental power. The government and police work for us. They cannot put private citizens in unnecessary danger without consequences.”

Bruner James, who specializes in Civil Rights law, added that “The state-created danger doctrine has been whittled away by the courts so that plaintiffs almost never overcome summary judgment, but these facts were so outrageous that the legal system had to take notice. It’s gratifying to know that the constitution still protects private citizens who are hurt, or in this case killed, when a police officer puts them in danger that could have easily been avoided.”

“I think Shelly’s family feels at least some sense of relief. Nothing can replace or bring back their daughter/sister - their Treasure, as they call her. But I think they gain some comfort and relief from the outcome,” she said.

In 2015 Hilliard’s life, and her death, were explored in a film called “Treasure: from Tragedy to Transjustice, Mapping a Detroit Story.”

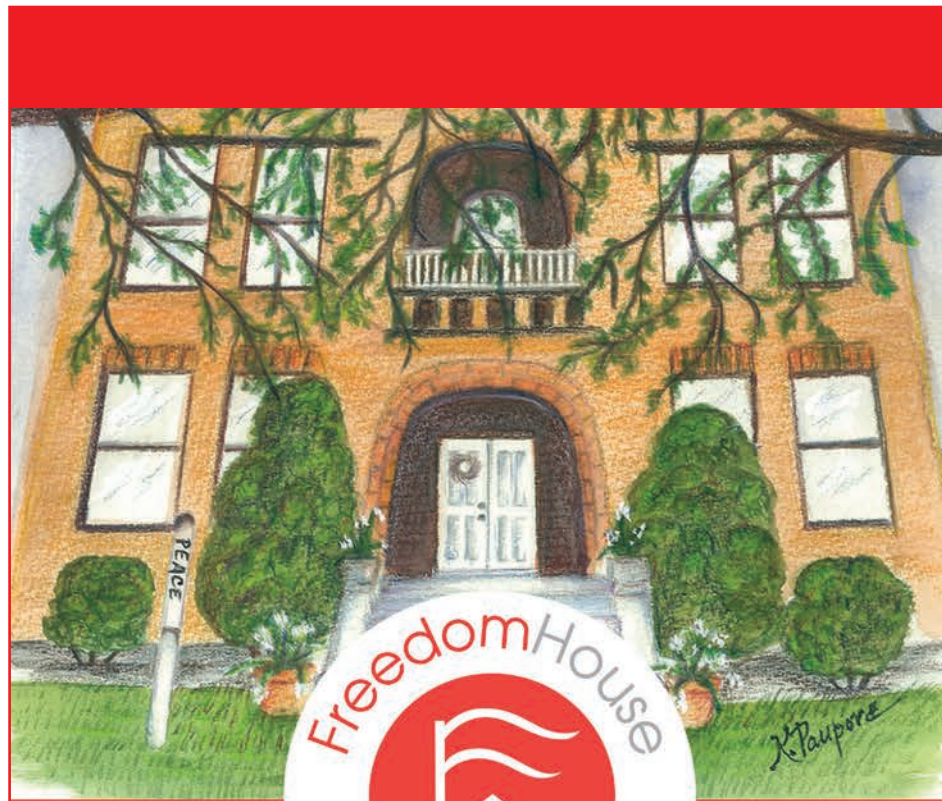
The film, directed by Dream Hampton, was released in June 2015 with a showing at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Hampton showed how her story touched the lives of other transgender people in Detroit.

Much of the film involved the Ruth Ellis Center, a youth social services agency that provides short- and long-term residential safe space and support services for runaway, homeless, and at-risk LGBTQ youth in Highland Park and Detroit. Like hundreds of other young people, Hilliard found support, friendship and basic needs met through programs at the Center.

When she was missing, and when parts of her body began popping up through the city, emotions spread through the community. People grieved. But there was also increased fear.

“Shelly was an active youth at Ruth Ellis Center. Her death had an incredible impact on young people there,” Jerry Peterson, executive director of the Center, said at the time. “It’s critical in the days with everyone talking about ‘Call me Caitlyn,’ that we see the whole other side of transgender lives, without the benefits and the privilege to be just accepted or seen as beautiful. This is an important story to fill in what’s happening in our country.”

The feature documentary can be viewed online at <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/treasure>.



2017 Annual Dinner & Auction “VOICES OF FREEDOM”



featuring Cleve Jones, Author & Organizer

Thursday, October 26, 2017
The Atheneum Suite Hotel
1000 Brush St., Detroit, MI 48226

VIP Reception: 5:00pm / Dinner: 6:00pm

Ticket Prices

Dinner: \$100⁰⁰ / Dinner & Exclusive Reception: \$150⁰⁰
Table Sponsor (10 Dinner Tickets & Recognition): \$1,250⁰⁰

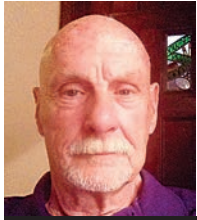


FreedomHouseDetroit.org/VOICES



f Freedom House Detroit
t @FreedomHouseDel

LGBT-Q Lining Memory Lane



Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

I was in the Sunday habit, a few years back, of taking a suburban bus to Birmingham. Riding with me were regulars, most of whom were off to church, or gave that halo'd impression by dress or demeanor.

Motivated by whimsy by a half-hour drive of boredom, uneventful scenery, I dubbed these weekend travelers with romantic titles: The Dowager Empress, The Princess Royal, The Countess, The Waterloos.

Looking up now and then from my current BTL, I made mental notes on this group of not unreasonably friendly faces, although as the saying goes, “distance lends enchantment to the view.”

Dowager Empress and Princess Royal were Aunt Joan and niece Laura. (They were Catholic. Aunt Joan would dutifully – and quickly – cross herself when passing Royal Oak’s International Shrine of the Little Flower.) Aunt Joan had raised niece Laura “properly from early on.”

Charitably, the two were wallflowers who blushed, rarely bloomed, lived mostly sight unseen. They had limited social life, used public transportation to get to shops, Big Boy restaurants for small and low-caloric, treaty non-adventures.

When I came out in the 1960s, gays all went by nicknames. We led a double life. Anonymity was a must. You told no one where you worked, where you lived, who your dates were. It was a big sin to out someone as gay, especially to anyone who unfortunately happened to be straight.

Countess was middle-aged, a school teacher. Prim, proper, pleasant. She got off at People’s Community Church on Woodward Avenue. She was white. The congregation, persons of heavenly color. I admired her spirit of integrated belonging.

Waterloos, Angie and Tony, were seniors. Tony told bus driver Stella he was “an energetic 85,” his girl friend, a “keep-pace 67”. They were health food faddists, living on combined SS incomes. Angie, once a ballerina, chatted on and on about her glory days. Tony was an “expert” on New Testament numerology. 666. That sort of nonsense.

Abruptly, the Waterloos went AWOL. I learned sometime later from SMART driver Stella that Angie had died in Tony’s arms following a brief illness. (I never saw ballerina-bereft, “energetic” Tony again.)

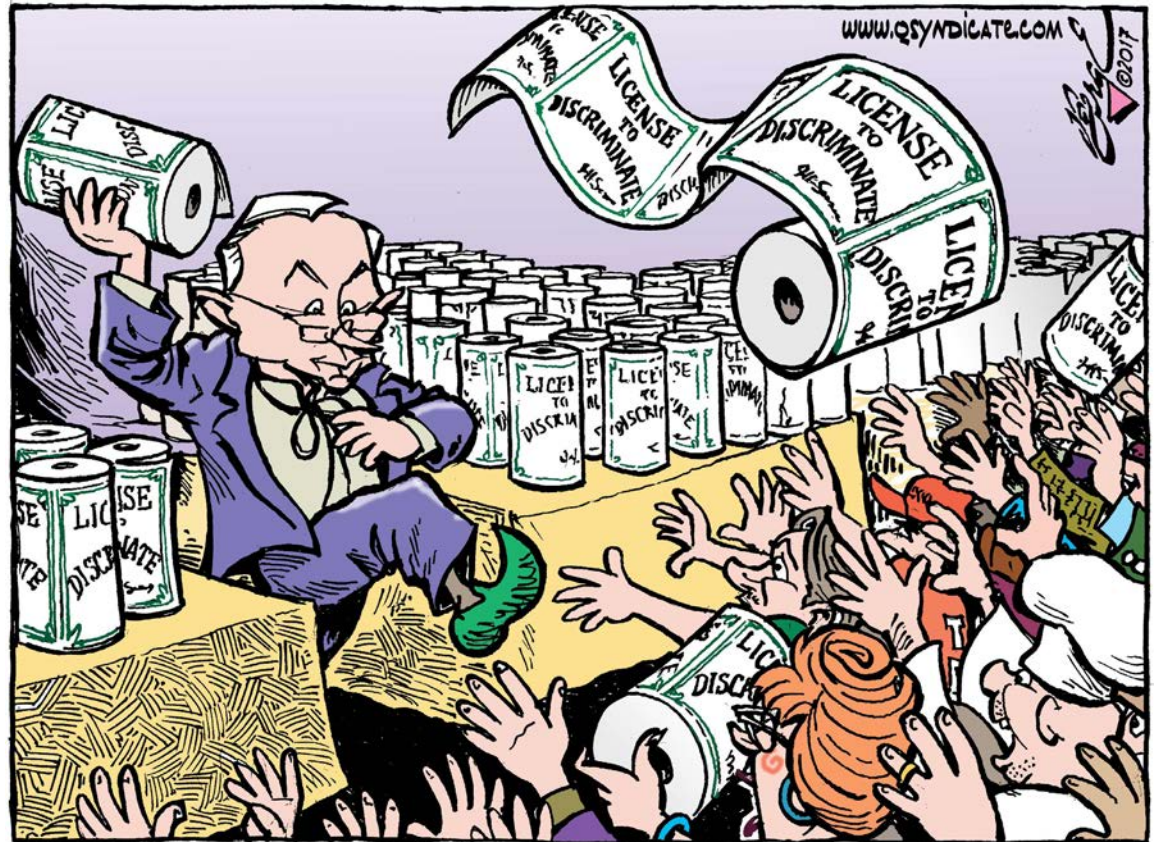
What’s in a nickname? There was a time when gays and lesbians lived and survived with only a nickname to negotiate by. Sometimes campy, sometimes exotic, a colorful bit of ID rainbow.

When I came out in the 1960s, gays all went by nicknames. We led a double life. Anonymity was a must. You told no one where you worked, where you lived, who your dates were. It was a big sin to out someone as gay, especially to anyone who unfortunately happened to be straight.

Nicknames did provide a clue as to whether or not a new face was “family,” “a friend of Dorothy” – reference to Judy Garland’s “The Wizard of Oz.”

Among my friends were Little Bobby, Marshmallow, Butch Jimmy, TD (Tall Dick – vertically speaking!), Estralita, Miss Bruce, Streeta Gayworth. Among dykes: Drano, Speedy, Rusty, Sky, Big Red, Big Mamoo, Mack, Bombshell Betty.

See Parting Glances, next page



Viewpoint

Where Are We?

Calling for the Representation of MoC (Masculine of Center) Lesbians and Trans Men

BY SHARRON FINCHER



The more I become involved in the community the more I notice something is missing. Not totally missing, but the representation of MoC lesbians is lacking. Masculine of Center (MoC) is a term, coined by B. Cole of the Brown Boi Project, that recognizes the breadth and depth of identity for lesbian/queer/womyn who tilt toward the masculine side of the gender scale.

This project includes trans men that I also rarely see and this is concerning to me. I personally know many MoC lesbians as well as trans men who are great individuals with amazing ideas that could contribute to the many discussions that are often held within the LGBT community, but I feel as if those perspectives are missing.

I am a MoC lesbian and I have become very active and visible not only in the LGBT community but within the community as a whole. I feel as if all issues

are important and just because something doesn’t directly affect me during a particular time doesn’t mean that it won’t in the future or affect someone I may care about. I must admit that I am a grassroots type of activist so there have been many opportunities for me to meet and interact with different types of people.

I meet many feminine lesbians and bisexual women. I meet many trans women and I also meet and interact with many gay and bisexual men along with allies. I appreciate all of the people who I have crossed paths with but I have noticed that I don’t often see members of the LGBT community in leadership positions that are similar to me.

It would make me feel good to see more people who are similar to me representing various organizations and speaking on different panels. I would enjoy

See next page

I personally know many MoC lesbians as well as trans men who are great individuals with amazing ideas that could contribute to the many discussions that are often held within the LGBT community, but I feel as if those perspectives are missing.

► Viewpoint

Continued from p. 14

working with other MoC lesbians and trans men to host conferences here in the Detroit area. I would enjoy having discussions that pertain to our demographic of the LGBT population but where are we? Why are we not more visible?

This is not to bash anyone but to express a genuine concern that voices and perspectives are being excluded from the many conversations that are resulting in the advancement of our community. I do not believe that anyone is purposely not including us in the conversations but I do believe that at times we may not be including ourselves.

When I say “in the community,” I mean in positions of leadership, but why aren’t more MoC lesbians and trans men getting involved? I facilitate the Woman 2 Woman group at LGBT Detroit which meets the third Friday of every month. The meetings are usually filled with feminine lesbians and bisexual women. Occasionally, there will be an MoC lesbian other than myself in attendance. Not only do I notice this within the group I facilitate but I also notice this in other settings that are not club related.

I spoke with Greg Green, Supreme President of Alpha Omega Kappa Fraternity, Inc., a non-collegiate fraternity for trans men. He shares the concerns that I have. Greg agreed that we must become more visible within the community. Greg works with South Carolina Equality where he is a voice for trans men. Greg feels that he is a voice for the trans community but not the only voice that should be heard when he attends functions to speak on the behalf of trans

► Parting Glances

Continued from p. 14

As my imagination then was a long way behind in coming out – I was shy, skinny, 19 – I called myself - rather uneventfully, I must confess — Buzz. (Alexander the Great might have opened many doors, both private, public and revolving.)

A friend, Tom Ingersoll, a police precinct captain’s son (later caught in an after-hours police raid) took perverse delight in bestowing secret put-down nickies on rivals. Victory Garden. No No Nannette. H. Livonia Beckons. Lovely Hula Hands. Tiny Tears (who cried non-stop during President Kennedy’s televised funeral).

men. Often times discussions surrounding health and safety needs more representation among other topics of discussion that require more trans men to be present. He too would like to see more men like himself being heard and taking on leadership roles.

There may be more of us behind the scenes and all the work we are doing is appreciated but we need to be more visible in the forefront. With everything that is happening locally and nationally it would make more sense for us to be more vocal and present so that we can speak and be heard from our own perspectives and add to the conversations. This is vital because with all of the progress and changes taking place it is very important that our input is needed, not just for ourselves but for those who will come after us.

Fighting for progress and change is not an easy task but nonetheless it is an important task. As I mentioned before I know that we have some amazing MoC lesbians and trans men who have great ideas to add to the many conversations that are being had. I am asking for more participation so that those who are coming after us have a path to follow. If you don’t know how to get involved look up different organizations within your area to work with or partner with someone who shares in the ideas that you have and create your own projects. Whatever your passion is please just be visible.

Sharron Fincher is the Program Facilitator at LGBT Detroit. Connect with her at 313-397-2127 or email sharronfincher@lgbtdetroit.org. Learn more about the Woman 2 Woman group online www.facebook.com/Lgbtdetroitwoman2woman.

Tom’s nickname – bestowed by lover Paul – was Beads O’Bleach, given for hitting the peroxide bottle, with not infrequent patchwork results. (God bless you, Tom. Missed now some 45 years.)

Entertainer names were always used as forms of polite show-biz address. Miss Rae Bourbon. Miss Chunga. Miss Lola Lola. Miss Vicki Marlane. Fat Jack. Tabu. Chi Chi Latrine. My favorite drag name’s a classic. Gay Cocken! It has a feygeleh ring to it. Yiddish: Little bird. Queer. Gai Kokken. Go take a dump!

And not in the Betty Davis “what a dump” sense, either. Oy, veh!

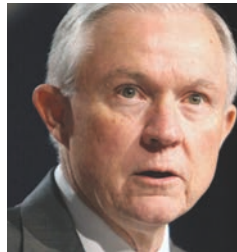
Connect with Charles Alexander at charles@pridesource.com

Creep of the Week

Jeff Sessions

BY D’ANNE WITKOWSKI

Ah, religious freedom. That call to arms for conservative Christians who believe that they live in some Bizzaro Land version of America where they are persecuted for their beliefs.



And so, in the name of religious freedom, Jeff Sessions has issued guidance that says ladies ain’t get no free birth control anymore.

Because if you do a survey of American women almost all of them are going to say, “I hate birth control and want to get pregnant as many times as my lawfully wedded husband wants to climb on top of me, thank you very much.” After all, only whores use birth control.

And so employers who religiously object to their female employees havin’ whose sex don’t have to include birth control coverage.

Also in the name of religious freedom, the the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) guidance memo tells federal agencies about how to reign in those LGBTQ sinner types. Especially if some lesbos want you to bake a cake for their wedding you can shout with confidence, “I only frost for Jesus!”

According to Buzz Feed, “The policy does not create new law, but rather interprets how the government should construe the Constitution and existing federal law.”

In other words, the policy basically erases LGBTQ people from federal protections. Keep in mind that LGBTQ people are not protected from discrimination by law in many states. So this is a particularly low blow.

The memo outlines 20 principles of religious liberty. One of my favorites is #12: “RFRA does not permit the federal government to second-guess the reasonableness of a religious belief. RFRA applies to all sincerely held religious beliefs, whether or not central to, or mandated by, a particular religious organization or tradition.”

In other words, you can literally just say, “Because Jesus” as your excuse for any discrimination you want to get away with.

Not surprisingly, LGBTQ people and allies aren’t happy.

I often feel like I’m in a LGBTQ rights video game and every time I advance a level I save my game. But whenever I turn it back on again all of my saved data is gone and I find myself yelling, “Damn it, I already finished this level!”

“The Trump-Pence administration launched an all-out assault on LGBTQ people, women, and other minority communities by unleashing a sweeping license to discriminate,” HRC President Chad Griffin said in a statement. “This blatant attempt to further Donald Trump’s cynical and hateful agenda will enable systematic, government-wide discrimination that will have a devastating impact on LGBTQ people and their families. Donald Trump and Mike Pence have proven they will stop at nothing to target the LGBTQ community and drag our nation backwards. We will fight them every step of the way.”

And fight them we must, but let’s not pretend it isn’t exhausting. I often feel like I’m in a LGBTQ rights video game and every time I advance a level I save my game. But whenever I turn it back on again all of my saved data is gone and I find myself yelling, “Damn it, I already finished this level!”

The Sessions memo comes as the Supreme Court is getting ready to hear a case about a baker refusing to bake a cake for a gay couple. Sessions has filed a brief with the court in favor of the anti-gay baker, just in case there was any confusion about what side he’s on.

Bringing that case is the Alliance Defending Freedom, which is a rabidly anti-LGBTQ group. No doubt the Sessions memo was as much a love letter to ADF as it was a fuck you to LGBTQ people.

Sessions also declared that transgender people are not covered by anti-discrimination protections under Title VII. The Obama administration had declared the opposite. Make no mistake that dismantling any and all gains made under Obama is the number one goal of Sessions and the rest of the Trump Pence administration. The fact that they hate LGBTQ people is just icing on the definitely-not-for-a-same-sex-wedding cake.

1954 Miami Murder Leads to ‘Homosexual Panic’

BY GRAHAM BRUNK

The “Homosexual Panic” that started in the 1950s can be traced back to one event – the murder of Eastern Airlines Flight Attendant William T. Simpson in August of 1954. Maybe more importantly wasn’t the murder itself, but how Miami Daily News reporter Milt Sosin covered the tragedy.

The Man: A Gay Flight Attendant

Like most gays at the time, Simpson lived a pretty modest life. He was 27 and among many gay men who worked for Eastern Airlines as a flight attendant. Eastern Airlines was based in Miami and was Dade County’s largest employer at the time.

He was a low-key guy who would often skip the “crew parties” that were planned among his coworkers. He rarely visited the underground gay bars that existed in Miami at the time. Simpson had no family nearby. He came to Miami in 1951 from Louisville, Ky., for his career and his sexuality. For the most part, the gay community in Miami lived in obscurity, but if you were gay, you knew Miami was full of gay men.

On the evening of Aug. 2, 1954, Simpson landed at Miami International Airport after a final shift working aboard a flight from Detroit. For most of the flight, his colleague, fellow flight attendant Dorothy Hoover, remembered him having a giddy attitude, mentioning several times a date he had planned for that evening.

The Murder: A Heinous Crime

Simpson reportedly left his NW Fourth Avenue apartment around 10 p.m., according to his landlord, who was the last to see him. Two hours later, his body was found face-down in some gravel by Dick Cline and his girlfriend Joan at a spot near the Arch Creek Bridge, near NE 134th Street and Biscayne Boulevard.

Today, a Flanigan’s Bar & Grill marks the spot, but in the mid-1950s this area was a “lovers lane,” featuring a small, secluded beach area under the bridge where one could park a car right along the Little Arch Creek waterway and engage in sexual activity.

Simpson never made it to his date. It is believed that on the way there he was propositioned by a young man named Charles Lawrence on the side of the road. Unknown to Simpson, Lawrence was notorious for “rolling” gay men (as local media called it then) – luring them to a secluded spot where



his accomplice, Lewis Killen, would jump out and help rob the victim.

Usually, Killen would wait until Lawrence began engaging in sexual activity with the victim before attempting the robbery. Killen and Lawrence would not kill their victim, but in Simpson’s case, for reasons still not clear, something spooked Lawrence when Simpson didn’t cooperate like other victims had done.

Lawrence shot him in his left side and Simpson, stumbling out of the car yelling, “Leave me alone! Leave me alone!” finally tossed over his keys and wallet before collapsing a few yards away.

According to the North Miami Police report, Lawrence and Killen made off with \$25 and claimed they thought Simpson would live. They said they were surprised when they found out the next day that he had died.

The Reporting: Murder Blamed on “Gay Drama”

Miami Daily News reporter Milt Sosin was on the story from the moment it broke. He wrote his first front page article aptly titled “EAL [Eastern Airlines] Man is Slain on Lovers Lane” in the afternoon edition of the paper Aug. 3, 1954.

Along with the headline, there was a picture of the head of Simpson’s corpse. Sosin suspected Simpson was gay because of the location in which the murder took place. Sosin referenced the potential killer as a man and suggested that it was possibly a sex crime.

The story immediately gained traction, but rather than trying to report on the heinous crime itself, Sosin instead focused on Simpson’s

sexuality. At the time, homosexuality was rarely mentioned in mainstream media. Following the police investigation, Sosin learned that police felt they were busting a colony of maybe 30 gay men in the area, but he knew he had a major story when he learned that police actually discovered the area was actually home to about 500 gay men – much larger than they could have imagined.

The follow-up front-page story focused on Simpson’s sexuality, rather than the crime, in a story on Aug. 9, 1954 with the headline “Pervert Colony Uncovered In Simpson Slaying Probe.”

The article detailed that nearly 500 gay men conjugated in a northeastern part of downtown Miami around where the Omni Center is today. The article went on to further accuse Simpson of mixing with the wrong crowd and getting involved in “gay drama,” which it suggested might have been the motive behind his murder. One investigator quoted in the article even claimed the murder might have been because Simpson was looking to become “queen” of the colony.

The Trial: The Gay-Panic Defense

There was no doubt about who committed the crime – Lawrence and Killen both admitted to the murder – but, even so, they played the gay-panic defense, testifying in November 1954 that, while they did like to “roll” gay men, Simpson took it too far. They claimed Simpson made them feel unsafe and made unwanted sexual advances towards Lawrence.

The jury appeared to be influenced by the

fact that local newspapers alarmed them and the rest of the public about the activity that was going on.

The Miami Herald and Miami Daily News mostly ignored the trial, instead focusing on stories of homosexuality around the Miami community.

With the term “pervert” being used to describe Simpson in court, the jury might have also felt sympathetic to Lawrence’s claims.

Lawrence and Killen were eventually convicted of a lesser charge of manslaughter and sentenced to 20 years in prison. Both men are alive today and in their 80s, living in Palm Beach County.

SFGN contacted both men by phone. Lawrence hung up after learning what the call was in regards to and Killen never returned the voicemail.

The Aftermath: The Media Warns Community of the Gays

Simpson’s murder was the catalyst of what quickly seemed liked endless homophobia in South Florida. Various Christian activist groups stepped up and called for Dade County politicians to rid the area of homosexuality by raiding known gay bars, clubs and hangout spots.

WTVJ ran a documentary warning people of the dangers of gay people in the mid-1960s. All three major area newspapers (The Miami Herald, Palm Beach Post and Ft. Lauderdale News) would run article after article throughout the ’60s informing readers to be aware of their neighborhood surroundings and who their neighbors might be, in the event that one was gay.

In response to this panic, the state of Florida set up the Florida Legislative Investigation Committee (commonly known as the Johns Committee). This committee was responsible for distributing literature throughout the state warning citizens of gay activity. The committee also targeted, interrogated and stripped teachers of their credentials whom members suspected of being gay.

In the 1970s, singer and orange juice spokeswoman Anita Bryant launched her now infamous “Save Our Children” campaign in Miami-Dade county against the LGBT community – showing gay panic was still alive and well.

Graham Brunk, born and raised in South Florida, is a librarian in Palm Beach County and has an interest in local LGTBQ historic events.

New Doc Explores Mysterious Death of a Mother of the Trans Community

BY JEN COLLETTA, LGBT HISTORY PROJECT

Almost 23 years to the day after helping to lead the seminal uprising against police at the Stonewall Inn, Marsha P. Johnson was reported missing.

The trans woman was a well-known figure in New York City's LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities, an organizer and activist whose contributions to social change persisted long after the Stonewall riots subsided. She and friend and fellow activist Sylvia Rivera founded Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries to provide resources, care and advocacy for homeless queer youth. The two are credited with encouraging the development of a trans community, separate from the larger LGB community, yet with attention to intersectional issues like racial justice, homelessness and criminal-justice reform.

Her contributions were cut short, as Johnson's body was found in the Hudson River on July 6, 1992. The death was quickly ruled a suicide but a number of friends blasted that finding, especially considering a head wound Johnson suffered, a report she had been harassed near the river and a witness who claimed overhearing a man bragging about murdering "a drag queen named Marsha."

Twenty-five years later, a new documentary is seeking justice for Johnson. "The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson," directed by David France, who was nominated for an Academy Award for his 2012 AIDS documentary "How to Survive a Plague," follows the Anti-Violence Project's work to gain traction for a new investigation into Johnson's death. With archival footage, the documentary brings to life one of the trans community's earliest pioneers, using Johnson's life and death to speak to systemic issues like ongoing violence against trans women of color.

France spoke to PGN about the historic yet timely film.

What brought you to this story?

I knew Marsha personally from her role in gay life in the '70s, '80s and '90s. She was widely known and widely celebrated, in part because she was a central figure in the Stonewall uprising. But the exact details of what she had done and what she had accomplished politically were largely lost to time. I knew enough about her that I knew that a story that excavated her political contributions would be really important.

How did you get connected to the Anti-Violence Project's Victoria Cruz?

Marsha died in 1992 and it was a terrible year

for crime in New York. I was reporting for the Village Voice at the time and covering this wild uptick in anti-LGBT crimes. I knew that at the time the police department was not responding adequately to the epidemic, nor were politicians or newspapers, but the Anti-Violence Project — which is a 30-year-old initiative to advocate for LGBT crime victims — was very aggressively investigating cases in a way to force police to take crimes against us seriously. So when I began my work on the documentary, I turned back to the Anti-Violence Project to ask if they would go back to this old case with me. They assigned me Victoria Cruz, which was like incredible luck to find somebody who was so gorgeous and compelling to follow. But also somebody who had a great personal connection to the case and to the history of Marsha and Sylvia Rivera.

I understand there were roadblocks throughout the process of getting access to files and records. Do you think that was connected to anti-trans bias?

We went back to the people who were working on the case 25 years ago and their biases from the time seemed to remain fully intact. To them, Marsha was an insignificant victim of crime, a person whose case could be easily dismissed or glossed over. There was no appetite on their part to look back on her case, although they remembered it. One officer Victoria talked to immediately remembered the name Marsha Johnson and that she was a trans woman found in the river. It's not that it was a small case in their mind but they treated it as though it was a meaningless case, and continued to. Certainly they didn't want Victoria stumbling into discovering things they should have discovered or discovering things they knew about and buried. And that's why she hit obstacles there. Victoria proves that it was a massive cover-up. And that it was a cover-up of the death of a significant historical figure just adds to the tragedy of it. But hers was one of, I'm sure, scores of cases that year alone that were covered up.

There's no finite closure on Marsha's death by the conclusion of the film; was that challenging for you, personally and/or professionally?

It's frustrating in some regard because everybody deserves to have their killers brought to justice. The bigger question Victoria helps us discover in the course of her research is that the cause of Marsha's death is much greater than any individual or individuals; she fell victim to systemic

prejudice against trans people, especially trans women of color. Those fundamental problems that existed in 1992 are still with us today and account for year after year of new records of trans women of color being killed and their cases generating too-little public sympathy. I think that her focus on the systems that created the cops that created the cover-up that let the killing go unanswered is the bigger, more important discovery. She does justice for Marsha in that way.

Marsha has been gone for more than 25 years. How did you work to bring her to life, to show modern audiences who she was as a person?

Well, luckily, there was a good quantity of archival footage in which Marsha and Sylvia both narrated their own lives. I didn't want to have a film filled with talking heads, academics, historians, contextualizing Marsha and Sylvia. I wanted them to speak for themselves, to have a voice, to tell us who they were and what they wanted and what was really in their soul. There was enough footage I was able to unearth after two years of archival research.

The film addresses the recent trends in violence against trans women of color. What is the message there? Is there a call to action?

Absolutely. I think the film makes that call to action really plain. In a really important way, we all are responsible for Marsha's death and we are all responsible for this current wave of crime against the community. We all have to own that and do something about it, individually and collectively. That's, I think, the lesson we learn from the film.

The film is going to be released on Netflix. How do you think distributing the film this way will impact viewership?

I don't know Netflix's numbers off the top of my head but I'll tell you this: On Oct. 6, "The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson" is dropping in 190 countries simultaneously. It's been translated into 18 languages from day one. In that way, Marsha is going global,



The late Marsha P. Johnson, right, is the subject of a new documentary airing on Netflix.

which is exactly what she deserves. It's the best possible platform for reaching into the furthest corners of the earth with this story of empowerment.

In this LGBT History Month, what do you think the LGBT community of 2017 can learn by looking back on Marsha? What is her legacy?

Her legacy is tremendous. She and Sylvia were the first to conceptualize the idea of a trans community. It was born from their minds, a theory they developed, and, in doing that, they set in motion a revolution in the way we understand gender. That revolution is coming to full bloom now and would not be what it is today if it were not for them. All of us owe something to them for that revolution they touched off. The film has shown at festivals around the world, and what I heard from people in the transgender community in particular is the importance of knowing how significant their foremothers were and how they fought what they fought for and what they achieved. The idea of there being heroes and heroines in the trans community is something in too-little supply. These are definitely heroic figures and their stories deserve to be in the canon of other world-changing individuals. That's an empowering development for the community, the transgender community in particular, but I think for the entire LGBT community.

The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson is on Netflix now. Jen Colletta is editor of Philadelphia Gay News.

Elton John AIDS Foundation to Address HIV in Black Gay and Trans Community

Funding Initiative Will Help U.S. Program Reach 5,000 HIV-Positive Individuals

NEW YORK – The Elton John AIDS Foundation (EJAF) announced on Tuesday new funding initiatives to increase advocacy and service delivery for people living with and at-risk for HIV and hepatitis C.

In the U.S., EJAF will be launching a new funding initiative to address HIV in Black gay men and transgender individuals, building on our years of experience and support in fighting AIDS in these communities. In Eastern Europe, EJAF will launch the Key Populations Fund for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA KP Fund), focused on prevention and treatment of HIV and hepatitis C for individuals most vulnerable to the HIV epidemic in the region: people who use drugs, sex workers, and gay and bisexual men in the region.

The U.S. program will reach an anticipated 5,000 HIV-positive Black gay men and transgender individuals to learn about their HIV status and get linked to health care, social services and treatment. Another estimated 10,000 will receive HIV prevention services including access to PrEP. Support for advocacy will seek increased coverage for PrEP through Medicaid and ADAP programs and expansion of state Medicaid programs to provide HIV treatment to thousands of Black gay men and transgender individuals across the U.S. One key aspect of this new initiative will be to engage leadership from Black gay and transgender communities to help set priorities and strategies for this funding and to support community mobilization through the funding process as well as through the grants themselves. This will be the largest private

funding initiative specifically supporting Black gay and transgender communities in history.

The EECA KP Fund will address the needs of key populations in the region. Over three years, the Fund will reach an estimated 20,000 people with HIV prevention, testing, and treatment. Mirroring a current Fund that EJAF runs for LGBT populations in countries in Africa where homosexuality is criminalized, the EECA KP Fund will also include a Rapid Response element to address emergencies, including the physical safety of people living with HIV. The EECA Key Populations Fund will also develop “Lighthouse” grants that support HIV and hepatitis C care within the public health system.

Funding for the new initiatives will be supported by EJAF and include financial contributions from Gilead Sciences. Gilead will also provide a donation of hepatitis C products to the EECA Fund to help cure 5,000 patients – a critical contribution in a region where up to 97 percent of people living with HIV are co-infected with hepatitis C.

Although Black gay and bisexual men account for one in 500 people living in the U.S., they make up nearly one in four new HIV infections and one in six Americans living with HIV. One in four Black gay and bisexual men are already infected with HIV by the time they reach age 25, and one in two will become HIV-positive in their lifetimes. An estimated overall 21 percent of transgender individuals are infected with HIV in the U.S. and that number is approximately three times higher among Black transgender people.

The U.S. program will reach an anticipated 5,000 HIV-positive Black gay men and transgender individuals to learn about their HIV status and get linked to health care, social services and treatment.

Over the past three years, EJAF-US has invested more than \$6.6 million in organizations working to change the course of the epidemic in Black communities of gay and bisexual men and transgender individuals. Through this new initiative, EJAF’s goal will be a more intensive focus to support community mobilization to develop programs and advocacy to:

Reduce new infection rates through support for innovative community-based programs to increase access to and use of HIV prevention and testing services.

Reduce AIDS-related illness and death through support for advocacy and community-based service delivery to improve engagement in health care and earlier access to HIV treatment and care.

Confront racism, homophobia, and transphobia as key drivers of HIV infection and disease.

“Our new funding initiative in the U.S. has the potential to substantially change the course of the HIV epidemic among Black gay men and transgender individuals by supporting

the leadership and organizations within those communities,” said Scott Campbell, Executive Director of EJAF-US.

In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, over 1.5 million people are living with HIV. New HIV infections in the region have increased by over 50 percent since 2010. People who inject drugs, sex workers, and gay men make up over 96 percent of those infected. Over 75 percent of people living with HIV in EECA are not on treatment. Co-infections with hepatitis C are also widespread with an estimated 60–97 percent of people living with HIV who inject drugs co-infected with hepatitis C, depending on the country.

“The HIV epidemic in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, particularly in Russia and Ukraine, remains the fastest growing in the world,” said Anne Aslett, Executive Director of EJAF-UK. “As other donors have withdrawn from the region, EJAF remains committed to supporting people who use drugs, men who have sex with men, and sex workers throughout the region to improve their health and protect their human rights. The EECA KP Fund is the first initiative of its kind. It aims not only to save the lives of thousands of very vulnerable people but to introduce new ways of addressing and scaling up response to the region’s expanding epidemic.”

EJAF Founder Sir Elton John said. “These investments will make a measurable difference at a pivotal moment by connecting people most vulnerable to HIV to the care they need and the compassion they deserve.”

For more information, visit <http://ejaf.org>.

► Trump Ban

Continued from p. 12

people in the military. The brief also ignores the perception the ban originated with Trump, not the military.

LGBT groups responded by the brief by ridiculing the assertion a request for legal relief at this time for transgender service members is premature.

Jennifer Levi, director of GLAD’s Transgender Rights Project, said in a statement the filing “reads like pure fiction.”

“It states a fantasy that the president’s

announcement of a ban on military service for transgender people has changed nothing,” Levi said. “That’s simply not true. Every day this reckless ban stays in place, our military strength is diminished and our country is less safe for it. We are optimistic the court will see through this smokescreen and halt the ban.”

Shannon Minter, legal director for the National Center for Lesbian Rights, said in a statement the Justice Department is “asking the court to turn a blind eye to the devastation the President has caused in the lives of real people and real families.”

“Because of the President’s ban, smart, dedicated, and idealistic young people like our plaintiffs Regan Kibby and Dylan Kohere are barred from fulfilling their dreams of military service,” Minter said. “And transgender people who are already serving have been told that their skills, training, and years of dedicated service are not valued. The ban has left them scrambling to make new plans for their futures, just as it has undermined our nation’s security. This is the exact opposite of how military policy should be made.”

The brief responds to one of the four

pending lawsuits in federal court against Trump’s transgender military ban. In the three other lawsuits one filed by OutServe-SLDN and Lambda Legal, one filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, one filed by Equality California – the pro-LGBT legal groups have similarly requested preliminary injunctions against the ban, although the Justice Department hasn’t yet responded in those cases.

This article originally appeared in the *Washington Blade* and is made available in partnership with the National Gay Media Association.



On the go? No appointment needed.

Stop in for an oil change, tire rotation or other minor maintenance services -- no need to schedule ahead of time! Our dedicated team of factory trained technicians will get you and your Subaru back on your way. Fast.

- ▶ Oil Change
- ▶ Tire Rotation
- ▶ Engine Air Filter Replacement
- ▶ Cabin Air Filter Replacement
- ▶ Wiper Blade Replacement
- ▶ Tire Pressure Adjustment
- ▶ Tire Tread Depth/Condition Check
- ▶ Fluid Top-Offs
- ▶ Light Bulb Replacement
- ▶ Battery Health Test



**2018 Crosstrek
2.0i**



**HODGES
SUBARU**
Metro Detroit's "Subaru-Only Dealer"

21205 Woodward Ave • Ferndale • MI • 48220
248.547.8800 • www.hodgessubaru.com
HOURS: TUES, WED, & FRIDAY SALES - 9 A.M.-6 P.M. SERVICE - 7:30 A.M. - 6 P.M.
MONDAY & THURS SALES - 9 A.M. - 8 P.M. SERVICE - 7:30 A.M. - 8 P.M.
SATURDAY SALES - 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. SERVICE - 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

'THE HOTTEST TICKET IN TOWN'
SUNDAY MIRROR

THE BODYGUARD
THE MUSICAL

STARRING
DEBORAH COX

Deborah Cox is not scheduled to perform at the Saturday matinee or Sunday evening performances.

OCTOBER 17-22 | MSU's Wharton Center | **ON SALE NOW!**
BROADWAY AT WHARTON CENTER | WHARTONCENTER.COM | 1-800-WHARTON

SUPPORTED BY MSU FEDERAL CREDIT UNION East Lansing engagement welcomed by BEEMS Group at Merrill Lynch, The Christmas Company, Delta Dental of Michigan, and Farm Bureau Insurance.

LIVING WITH HIV? WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

(248) 266-5545 | MetroCareNetwork.org | (877) 931-3248



MetroCare Coordination Network, offering FREE comprehensive services to those living with HIV/AIDS





Photo: Amazon

Actress Alexandra Billings Talks Trump-Era 'Transparent' and Surviving the '80s

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

“I’m shocked that I’m sitting here talking to you, to be honest,” Alexandra Billings reveals, blown away by the fact that she survived the '80s when many of her AIDS-stricken friends did not.

Around that time, the actress was living and working in Chicago as Shante, her stage name while performing at a local club called The Baton. In the '90s, she would memorably star in a number of theater productions, including campy fare such as “Vampire Lesbians of Sodom” and “Cannibal Cheerleaders on Crack,” before shifting to dramatic roles such as Mama Rose in “Gypsy.”

Now we marvel at her as Davina Rejennae in Amazon’s Emmy-winning series “Transparent.” The role is esteemed not only

for her genuine, real-life-influenced portrayal of the trans, HIV-positive character, a guide to her friend Maura (Jeffrey Tambor), but in the significant way Billings and Davina have become torchbearers for the trans community. Take, for instance, the episode “Groin Anomaly” from the show’s recently released fourth season, where Billings’ pre-op body is seen au naturel, the first time a trans performer has gone full frontal on TV.

With rich insight and heartfelt gratitude, Billings, 55, spoke about “Transparent” and how the show has afforded her a fortuitous, life-changing platform to be a voice for the trans community.

Given the resistance to the trans community from political powers, is there a new sense of

urgency and importance with “Transparent”?

I think that there has always been a sense of urgency and need in the trans community – that’s been true for generations. The portal that the Trump administration has opened up is actually a great gift because it’s afforded us a much louder voice. I think it’s doing the opposite of probably what their intention is, but thank god that that’s true. I always find the angriest, loudest voices in the room usually tend to come from a place of misdirection. That’s not to say that advocacy needs to be quiet and kind – it doesn’t – but as long as it’s in service of the movement and not in service to self, then the loud voices should take up more space. And so, these voices that are coming out of the administration are angry and misguided and misinformed.

Misguided, misdirection – those are all very politically correct ways of addressing their ignorance. I appreciate that outlook. What do you say to these misguided people?

It’s less about what you say and more about what you do. I think the great thing you can do for those people is to have more trans friends and bring them over to their houses for dinner, for lunch, or bring them places that are queer-friendly and are self-created safe spaces for trans people. I think that would help. Usually humans behave better when they surround themselves with people who do better.

That’s where “Transparent” continues to excel: It humanizes trans experience through personal narrative. So, if you’ve never met someone who

is transgender, well, you've met Maura, you've met Davina.

Yeah, I think that's right. We have to be really mindful that the character, Maura, is trans, but the actor who plays Maura, Jeffrey Tambor, is not. So, the important thing is to make sure the direction is specific when we're talking about the trans experience. You really look at Davina. You really look at other people on the show. (Trans comedian) Ian Harvie was on for a season. Really look at the people who are actually trans, because we come from a whole other experience. Not a better experience or a deeper experience, but a specific experience, and Jeffrey will be the first to tell you that. So, I think it's important that we're mindful.

How does this season reflect what it means to be trans in Trump's America?

("Transparent" creator) Jill (Soloway) has spoken about that. It's a great question. What Jill says, and I think it's really smart, is that she doesn't want to get really specific at this time because this political pendulum swings so rapidly, and if we get time specific and event specific, by the time it airs it may not be true and she wants it to be inclusive. So, I think that's smart.

When I interviewed Judith Light in 2015 regarding "Transparent," she told me, "My service and my work have all come together in one place, so it makes me feel fantastic." As a fellow actress and LGBT activist, can you relate to that?

I think she hit the nail on the head. "Transparent" is, for me, an open door, and what it's done is given me a megaphone, so now, what I believe to be true is heard globally. It has great reverberation, and with that comes a great, honorable way of being in service in a way that I never dreamt would be possible. It has afforded me a real clarity and a real need to be clear in what I believe to be true, and ignited something in me as well. It's all come to fruition.

Can you tell me about the time in your life when you didn't see that in your future?

I transitioned in 1980 when it was illegal and unheard of, so I spent many years – as most trans people do – in a deep, deep shame. Also, for me, (there was) resentment, which caused a deep-rooted anger that has taken me a very long time, and continues on a daily basis, to look at. Remember, too, this was in the '80s when the plague had hit, so my friends began contracting HIV and dying, so I was dealing with an enormous amount of loss while I was transitioning too. Just really looking back on it, I'm shocked that I'm sitting here talking to you, to be honest. It's just too good to be true.

Is this a better time to be trans than it was in 1980?

I don't know that it's a better time – I think that it's a different time. I think as human beings, as the human race, we expand and move forward. We always have people trying

to put on the brakes, but it's never really stopped us. It's why we have phones that you can hold in your hand and just talk into, and it starts to work. I mean, that's extraordinary. Now, I don't know if that's better, but it certainly is different. So, I don't know if it's better to be trans now; it certainly is at least honored in a way that wasn't true when I was transitioning.

"Transparent" exemplifies the very importance of casting people who do relate to the experiences of its characters.

Oh my god, it's extraordinary. I've never ever been around this many of my tribe before on any set ever.

Have you ever felt the need to speak up about a storyline that didn't feel particularly right or representative of the community, or do the writers always get it right?

They always get it right. I know that sounds like I'm blowing smoke up someone's ass, but Our Lady Jay is a writer and she's trans and she's in the room, so we have a trans writer in the room who speaks from her own experience too. I've never looked at a script and said, "I'm not gonna say that," or, "I'm not gonna do that." It's not that kind of show.

Have you experienced that previously?

Oh god, yes. I was on a show and I don't remember what it was now. But it was a big monologue and I did it, and the director came up to me and said, "That was great, Alex. Just great. Now, could you do it again? But this time if you could do it a little bit more drag queen-y."

What are some trans tropes played by non-trans actors that you would like to see abandoned?

I'd like to see any kind of label or container thrown away, or any part of the gender binary spectrum, and I mean calling people "he," "she," "they," "it," "their." Pronouns that people prefer to use – use those pronouns. Also, the trans experience comes in all different shapes and sizes and races and beliefs, and by beliefs, I mean spiritual beliefs. And we need to start addressing that what we are is *not* learned behavior. It's not fashion and it's not commentary. It is biological, it is genetic, and it reverberates throughout history – let's start talking about that.

As an actress, what in particular did you enjoy about digging into Davina's backstory this season?

There's a really beautiful scene that (trans "Transparent" actress) Trace Lysette has with young Davina, who is identifying as male at the time, and they're in a dressing room backstage at a pageant and it could've come directly from a memory chip of mine. I mean, that's how freakish it was. The way it was written and Trace's beautiful portrayal is

Continued on page 24

THE SPELLBINDING SEQUEL TO THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA



ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S
Love Never Dies

BEGINS TUESDAY · FISHER THEATRE · OCT. 17-29

Broadway In Detroit sponsored by



ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 & box office.

Info: BroadwayInDetroit.com, 313-872-1000. Groups (12+):
Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com or 313-871-1132. **OC** 8PM Oct. 20.

The Art of Containment Vessels from the Sidney Swidler Collection

through 3.18.18

50+ objects from the
Bloomfield Hills resident's
carefully curated collection,
amassed over 30 years.

Judi Tavill, American, b. 1968, *Carved Sculptural Vessel*, 2012.
Wheel thrown and hand carved stoneware, 9 1/4 x 5 inches.
Promised gift of Sidney Swidler.

Huntington | FREE SATURDAYS



FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint • 810.234.1695 • flintarts.org

BTL Cool Cities Ann Arbor

IGLESIA MARTELL
Law Firm, PLLC

Holistic Law - Practicing From The Heart.

Angie Martell, Partner

Experienced attorney and mediator with over 23 years of legal experience.



Specializes in:

Divorce & Family Law • Criminal Defense
Estate Planning & Elder Law
LGBT Issues • Mediation • Civil Litigation
Civil Rights • Business Law • Litigation
Employee Rights



117 N. First St., Suite 111, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
www.iglesiamartell.com | 734-369-2331



ANN ARBOR ADVERTISERS

- Abracadabra Jewelry & Gem Gallery1
- Anderson, PLLC, Mary K.2
- Ann Arbor City Club.....19
- Ann Arbor Civic Theatre3
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra .4
- The Ark.....5
- /aut/ Bar6
- Bassett & Associates.....*
- Common Language.....6

- Dependable Collision Center*
- Esquire Interiors.....*
- First Unitarian Church of Ann Arbor.....*
- Gail van Langen Ph.d.....9
- Greene, LMSW, ACSW, Marge...10
- HIV/AIDS Resource Center (Harc)*
- Humane Society of Huron Valley..*
- Iglesia Martell Law.....11
- Jim Toy Resource Center6
- Lewis Jewelers.....12

- Lord of Light Lutheran Church....*
- Men's Yoga13
- Merkel Carpet One.....*
- Michigan Theater12
- Mitchell Gold & Bob Williams ...14
- Necto.....15
- Orion Automotive Services Inc....*
- People's Food Coop.....16
- Performance Network.....17
- Peterson, PLLC, Lisa J.18
- PFLAG Ann Arbor.....*

- Rock Shoppe*
- Spectrum Center.....19
- Three Chairs Co20
- Tios Mexican Cafe21
- Top of the Lamp.....*
- Trillium Real Estate6
- Two Men And A Truck.....*
- UMHS Comprehensive Gender Services Program*
- University Musical Society22

* Not shown on map

LASHBROOK

A RING HE'LL WANT TO WEAR



THE LINDA LOM TEAM
Helping People Make Good Decisions

TRILLIUM REAL ESTATE

You're home.

www.LindaLom.com
734-302-3600
323 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor



trusted dedicated consummate pro



BASSETT LAW

Legal Services for Life's Changes

Elder Law - Adoptions
LGB & Transgender Law
Assisted Reproduction Law - Estate Planning

www.bassettlaw.com 734-930-9200

THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW



OCTOBER 28 | 10:00 PM



ANN ARBOR'S DOWNTOWN CENTER FOR FINE FILM AND THE PERFORMING ARTS
603 E. LIBERTY ST. • ANN ARBOR (734) 668-8397 • MICHTHEATER.ORG

Ozone House Celebrates Successful Fundraiser

BY BTL STAFF

The Fall is off to special start for Ozone House. On Sept. 23, they raised over \$194,000 during “An Evening with Ozone House” fundraiser presented by Masco Cabinetry and delivered by Domino’s.

Guests were treated to presentations by Ozone House’s SpeakOut group and Shawntae Harris, co-chair of Ozone House’s Millennial Board and academic advisor at Eastern Michigan University and Washtenaw Community College.

SpeakOut is comprised of youth who speak about and represent homeless youth in the community, as well as statewide and nationally. Over the past year, SpeakOut has worked with staff and students at the department of Applied Drama at EMU to turn their real-life stories into theatrical performances. Guests during the fundraising event were treated to a few of those spectacular performances.

The SpeakOut performances also included a poem by a young man named Ramone. Ramone was featured in local, state and national media two years ago because he was a homeless student at EMU. He was one of 58,000 youth nationwide who faced homelessness as a college student. There was an article in Bridge Magazine (<http://gaybe.am/Tw>) and another one at MLive.com (<http://gaybe.am/FL>). Ramone graduated from EMU in 2016 with a bachelor’s in Electronic Media and Film Studies. He is now employed as an AV technician at a local hotel resort.

Shawntae Harris’ keynote address was about hidden homelessness on college campuses. She bravely shared her story of being homelessness during college, aptly pointing out that many students, including herself, do not self-identify as homeless while experiencing extreme housing instability. Shawntae gave great



Happy guests showing off their flags for the paddle raise at “An Evening with Ozone House” at Domino’s World Resource Center. Photo courtesy of Ozone House

examples of how she thought her life was “normal” and yet her grades were slipping away while she struggled with the reality that she did not have a consistent place to sleep as night.

Susan Allison was named the first recipient of the Open Door Award honoring the Ozone House’s dedicated volunteers. Susan follows in the footsteps of many incredibly dedicated volunteers over the years such as Ethel Lee, who was a strong advocate for Ozone House when they moved to their Washtenaw Avenue location, and Angela Williams who shows up every week for the last 24 years as crisis line volunteer, and many other countless volunteers.

Susan started volunteering with Ozone House in 2008 organizing their first fall fundraising event, “An Evening at the Farmer’s Market.” Susan didn’t stop there. Since 2008 she has been involved in every aspect of Ozone House and she has filled the role of family for both staff and for youth. Susan has been on the Board of Directors at Ozone House since 2011.

Each year Ozone House will add a new “brick” to their house in honor of an outstanding volunteer. The award will be displayed proudly in their lobby.

For more information about the Ozone House at 1705 Washtenaw in Ann Arbor, visit www.ozonehouse.org.

Nationwide Solidarity March for Peace and Justice

On Oct. 14, a Nationwide Solidarity March for Peace and Justice will be held in Ann Arbor from 12-3 p.m. as part of a nationally coordinated day of more than 30 sister rallies and marches to amplify a message of social justice and compassion. Confirmed speakers thus far include representatives from Jobs with Justice-Michigan, Detroit Water Brigade, and the National Organization for Women-Michigan Chapter. In addition to speakers, there will be a rally and a concert following the march.

In solidarity, communities nationwide will stand for peace, tolerance, compassion and social justice. Anyone wishing to help, offer suggestions or contact information for speakers, please email solidaritymarcha2@gmail.com. Participants are encouraged to meet at Hanover Park at Packard/Division in downtown Ann Arbor to march followed by a rally and concert at Liberty Square.

Visit the Facebook event page <http://gaybe.am/aL> for more information.



colorful
comfort

BONA SERA
restaurant



EVENTS . CATERING . RESERVATIONS

734-340-6335 | bonaserarestaurant.com
200 W. Michigan Ave | Ypsilanti, MI 48197

TIOS TEQUILLA BAR!



THURSDAY LATE
NIGHT SPECIAL

1/2 OFF
ALL TEQUILLAS - 10PM-2AM

HAND-CRAFTED
MEXICAN FOOD & DRINKS
IN ANN ARBOR

You can now enjoy one of our
Classic Margaritas or Sangria Especial
along with your scrumptious Mexican meal.
Taste the difference!

HOME OF
ADAM RICHMAN'S
MT. NACHEESMO CHALLENGE!

open 7 days 10 am - 2 am



401 E. LIBERTY · ANN ARBOR MI
761-6650 · WWW.TIOSMEXICANCAFE.COM

► Transparent

Continued from p. 21

really just extraordinary, and it's a view into our world that not a lot of cis people get to see. That really brought me back to a state of grace and gratefulness.

Is your own personal story a source of inspiration for Davina?

Oh, 100 percent. Actually, speaking of Trace, she is the one who has said to me before the season started, "Hey, we should go in and talk to the writers about our lives and our journeys and our characters," and I was like, "Really? We should? OK." So we did. And I just wrote down facts of my life and they took all of it and put it in the show.

It speaks volumes to the kind of people that we're working with. I mean, what other show says to you, "Hey, tell us about your life and give us the gift of you and we're gonna use that in order to represent human beings on the planet"?

Beyoncé is being lauded for having Laverne Cox model her new Ivy Park fashion line.

Oh, yes, I did hear about that!

What does something like Beyoncé taking the trans community under her wings mean for the T community?

Well, back in the day you had people like



Jeffrey Tambor as Maura, with Alexandra Billings, who plays her friend, Davina, in "Transparent." Photo: Amazon

Liza Minnelli and Barbra Streisand, so a lot of gay and queer icons have been doing this for generations, so the fact that Beyoncé is doing it is fantastic, but she's hardly the first. The difference is that this generation – this younger generation – has been the mother of invention, so the only real difference in being queer nowadays is that you can post it all over the freakin' world, whereas in my day you had to write letters, for god's sake. So it's a larger megaphone, that's what's going on. You know, the great thing about Beyoncé is she's a woman of color, so that's huge. And

she's a mega superstar, who also comes from a marginalized background, so that's what's worth noting.

There's been a lot of debate about non-trans actors playing trans roles.

All actors should tell all kinds of stories. I think in order to authenticate a story you need to have someone who is rooted in the historical experience of the storytelling, otherwise it can fly into fabrication. If you're going to have an African-American story, you need to have African-American people

in it; if you're going to have a trans story, you need to have trans people in it.

Felicity Huffman ended up with the role you were originally supposed to play in 2005's "Transamerica" because the studio wanted a more commercial lead. Do you think a major studio would be open to casting a trans woman in a lead trans role now?

That's a good question. I really don't know. You'd probably have to ask the Hollywood people. I know that I have been in conversations with a director, and we're supposed to be filming a movie next summer that is trans-centric and has me in the lead role, but all kinds of things can happen till then.

I just had a movie come out called "Valley of Bones" in which I played a non-trans role, and I'm filming "Goliath" too. I really am just sort of shocked and eternally grateful, and certainly the tide is turning. But when we have conversations about, "Do you think it's possible that at least one time in movie history a trans person can play a lead role?" then we've got a long way to go.

As editor of Q Syndicate, the international LGBT wire service, Chris Azzopardi has interviewed a multitude of superstars, including Meryl Streep, Mariah Carey and Beyoncé. Reach him via his website at www.chris-azzopardi.com and on Twitter (@chrisazzopardi).

BOOK BY JOE MASTEROFF | MUSIC BY JOHN KANDER | LYRICS BY FRED EBB
DIRECTED BY KAT WALSH | MUSIC DIRECTION BY JENNIFER GOLTZ | CHOREOGRAPHY BY TYLER STICKEL

CABARET

OCTOBER 26-29, 2017 AT
THE ARTHUR MILLER THEATRE

THURSDAY AT 7:30 | FRIDAY-SATURDAY AT 8:00 | SUNDAY AT 2:00

FOR TICKETS AND INFO, VISIT:
WWW.AZCT.ORG OR CALL 734.971.2228

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre
your theatre. your town.

BTL
Between the Lines
MEDIA SPONSOR

Deborah Cox Fills Big Shoes in ‘The Bodyguard’

Award-Winning Musical Based on the Smash-Hit Film Plays Wharton Center, Fisher Theater

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

The film marked the acting debut of Whitney Houston, grossed \$411 million worldwide and spawned what would become the best-selling soundtrack of all time with more than 45 million copies sold worldwide. Simply put, “The Bodyguard” was a big deal.

Now, some 25 years later, singer Deborah Cox is reprising the role in a musical that is currently touring the country. Cox definitely comes with credentials. She has released five albums since the mid ’90s, including two No. 1 singles (“Nobody’s Supposed To Be Here” and “We Can’t Be Friends,” the latter a duet with singer R.L.) and more than a dozen songs that topped the dance chart. In addition to her own success, she actually sang a duet with Houston – 2000’s “Same Script, Different Cast” – and provided the vocals for the 2015 biopic “Whitney,” which was directed by Angela Bassett.

“The Bodyguard,” the musical, features not only songs from the movie’s soundtrack, including “I Will Always Love You,” the Dolly Parton-written tune that spent 14 weeks in the number one spot on the pop charts, and the two Oscar nominated songs “I Have Nothing” and “Run To You,” but also 10 other greatest hits by Houston.

Cox said she had to think long and hard before accepting the role.

“I was a little hesitant at the beginning because I knew what the expectations were and I knew this was a role that had to be delivered successfully every night,” she said. “There were big shoes to fill. The songs of Whitney Houston are not easy so I knew that tackling the soundtrack of the show as well as acting and dancing was going to be a huge undertaking.”

But Cox is not new to the stage. She has twice appeared on Broadway – in Elton John and Tim Rice’s “Aida” and “Jekyll & Hyde” – and also played the legendary Josephine Baker in “Josephine” at the Asolo Repertory Theatre in Sarasota, Florida. There is, however, a great difference between appearing on Broadway and doing a touring production.

“There are pros and cons,” Cox said. “I love to travel. I love to be in different cities, and I enjoy meeting new people and performing in different theaters. I think the toughest part is the schedule, the amount of shows. I get the opportunity to bring the show to a completely new audience every night. Not everyone gets the opportunity to go to New York and see shows. I think it’s great I get to bring this show to not



Deborah Cox as Rachel Marron, with Jaquez André Sims, Brandon Chan, Willie Dee and Benjamin Rivera in “The Bodyguard.” Photo by Joan Marcus

only different audiences but a different generation, too. A lot of young people come to the shows that have never seen the film.”

And even if they have, the musical, Cox said, is different from the movie.

“I think because it’s a musical it kinds of lends itself to being a little different from the film,” she said. “The relationship between Rachel Marron and Frank Farmer is the same. But, you know, you really see their connection as it unfolds in the musical

because Rachel is expressing herself and giving the audience some insight through the songs that she sings, which is one of the reasons I wanted to be a part of this production. I just love the way that the songs really helped to tell the story.”

While she’s in most of them, Cox doesn’t sing every number herself.

“The sister also sings a few songs as well and there’s a little bit of a love triangle so that’s why the songs really help to shape

PERFORMING

Wharton Center

Show times are Oct. 17-19 at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 20 at 8 p.m., Oct. 21 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Oct. 22 at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Deborah Cox is not scheduled to perform at the Oct. 21 matinee and Oct. 22 evening performance. The Wharton Center is located at Michigan State University, 750 E. Shaw LN in East Lansing. For more information, call 517-432-2000 or visit www.whartoncenter.com.

Fisher Theater

Shows times are 8 p.m. Jan. 17-20, Jan. 23 – 26, 27 & 28. At 7:30 p.m. Jan. 21 & 28 and Matinees at 2 p.m. Jan. 21 & 2; The Fisher Theater is in The Fisher Building at 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Call 313-872-1000 or visit fisher.theatredetroit.com.

the story and give insight into what these characters are feeling,” she said. “I’d say there are a lot of more musical numbers to help tell the story than scenes and it works. Another thing is you get the chance to hear the songs in their entirety as opposed to the film where there are only snippets of them.”

Sure to be in the audience for every show are some of the legions of LGBT fans Cox has made in the past two decades. A huge supporter of gay rights, she performs at Pride festivals regularly.

“It’s been such a great union,” Cox said. “It’s been a great relationship. I think it just happened organically. I think it started secretly when I was in high school when I had friends who were afraid to come out and were being bullied and being chastised by their family when people in my own family were afraid to come out. I think it started from a young age and then when I got into the music business and recorded some remixes. They resonated in the clubs and when the DJs picked them up they’d ask me to come sing at circuit parties at 4 or 5 in the morning and I just sort of did it on a whim.

“It was a groundswell from there,” Cox continued. “It just became about being there to support in a real way rather than just showing up at press opportunities. So over the years I’ve continued to keep an open mind about the struggle and about equality – a lot of the very simple things in regards to love are the very things that I believe in, too.”

'Kinky Boots' Takes the Fox Theatre Stage

"Kinky Boots," the smash-hit musical that brings together four-time Tony Award-winner Harvey Fierstein (Book) and Grammy Award-winning rock icon Cyndi Lauper, plays Nov. 3-5 at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave in Detroit. Tickets are \$30-70. Purchase by phone 800-745-3000 or online at www.olympiaentertainment.com.



U.S. National Touring Company of Kinky Boots. Photo: Matthew Murphy

Happenings

OUTINGS

Thursday, Oct. 12

Justice for Our Neighbors 1 p.m. Free legal consultations for LGBTQ immigrants Grand Rapids Pride Center, 343 Atlas Ave. SE, **Grand Rapids**. www.grpride.org

Gender Non-Conformists 7 p.m. A social and support group for genderqueer, genderfabulous, transgender, gender-exploring folks and all those who transgress gender binaries. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

Friday, Oct. 13

Working with Transgender Youth in the Juvenile Justice System (12 Social

Work CE(s) 9 a.m. NASW members: \$325. Non-members: \$390. NASW student, retired, gold, unemployed, and transitional members: \$165. Non-member student: \$325. National Association of Social Workers - Michigan Chapter, 1679 Broadway St., **Ann Arbor**. 517-487-1548. tmccarthy@nasw-michigan.org www.nasw-michigan.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1004305&group=

Department of Victim Services Open Office Hours 2 p.m. Contact Serena Johnson, lead advocate, for more information or to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins welcome. Equality Michigan, 343 Atlas Ave. SE, **Grand Rapids**. 313-537-7000 Ext 115. sjohnson@equalitymi.org www.grpride.org

Artworks Detroit 2017 7 p.m. ArtWorks proceeds helps support the diverse Matrix family of programs that are focused

around educating children, supporting families and rebuilding neighborhoods in Detroit. Matrix Human Services, 460 W. Baltimore, **Detroit**. <http://gaybe.am/Q8>

Saturday, Oct. 14

Motor City Bears 6:30 p.m. A gay male, social and fund raising activity group for Bears and admirers, established in 1994. Meet and greet starts at 5:30 p.m. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org/programs-services/support-discussion-groups

Sunday, Oct. 15

Ann Arbor Dog Walking Academy 9 a.m. An intensive 3-day workshop leading to professional dog walking certification. Admission: \$850. dog*tec, 30847 Flynn Dr., **Romulus**. 510-525-2547. info@dogtec.org

PFLAG Meeting 2 p.m. Info and Support Meeting PFLAG Tri-Cities, 2525 Hemmeter Road, **Saginaw Township**. 989-971-7085. leishashaler@gmail.com www.pflag.org

PFLAG Monthly Meeting 2 p.m. Entry from parking lot behind church. Every third Sunday. PFLAG Ann Arbor, 306 N. Division at Catherine Street, **Ann Arbor**. 734-741-0659. info@pflagaa.org www.pflagaa.org

Monday, Oct. 16

Brotherhood of Support 6 p.m. For transmasculine identified people ages 16 and older. Group is affiliated with FtM Detroit. FtM A2 Ypsi, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-995-9867. www.jimtoycenter.org/

Whole Lives, Healthy Lives Adult Support Group 7 p.m. This one-of-a-kind program in Berrien County helps attendees support each other in healthy ways through active listening and caring feedback. OutCenter, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330. www.Outcenter.org

Tuesday, Oct. 17

Sexual Assault Survivors Groups 4 p.m. Youth group, ages 13-17, meets at 4 p.m. Adult group, ages 18 and over, meets at 5:15 p.m. OutFront Kalamazoo, 340 S. Rose St., **Kalamazoo**. www.outfrontkzoo.org

10 Year Anniversary 6 p.m. Join us for our 10 Year Anniversary! Milton E. Ford LGBT Resource Center, 301 Fulton Street West, **Grand Rapids**. 616-331-6620. meet@gvsu.edu www.gvsu.edu/meetatgvsu

Young Adult Group 7 p.m. For young people ages 18-24 Grand Rapids Pride

Center, 343 Atlas Ave. SE, **Grand Rapids**. www.grpride.org

Tobacco Recovery 7:30 p.m. By Anna Byberg, LMSW, CAADC. This program will describe the relationship between tobacco use and addiction recovery, and cessation techniques. Free, no reservation needed. Dawn Farm, 5305 Elliott Drive, **Ypsilanti**. 734-485-8725. info@dawnfarm.org www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series

Ann Arbor TNG 8 p.m. For the kink and fetish community Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-995-9867. www.jimtoycenter.org/

Wednesday, Oct. 18

The Pastor is In 3:30 p.m. Pastor Dani Veenstra, local United Church of Christ faith leader and ally to the LGBTQ community hosts this free service every Wednesday. OutCenter, 132 Water St., **Benton Harbor**. 269-925-8330. thepastorisin@outcenter.org www.outcenter.org

The State of LGBT Affairs: Lessons for SE Michigan 5:30 p.m. The inaugural Hope Fund Learning Series Event featuring Kris Hermanns, CEO of the Pride Foundation. Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, 3929 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 313-961-6675. <https://cfsem.org/event/state-of-lgbt-affairs/>

Fostser Care and Adoption Orientation 6 p.m. Orchards Children's Services is seeking adults from all counties to provide temporary care in their home for children ages 0 to 17 for foster care or independent living. Financial reimbursement, training and support system provided. Orchards Children's Services, 24901 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 601, **Southfield**. 248-530-5370. marks@orchards.org www.orchards.org

Our 10 Year Anniversary 6 p.m. The second of two events celebrating the 10 Year Anniversary of the Milton E. Ford LGBT Resource Center. Join us at the Creston Brewery! Milton E. Ford LGBT Resource Center, 1504 Plainfield Ave., N.E. , **Grand Rapids**. (616) 805-4523. www.crestonbrewery.com

Out Loud Chorus Board Meeting 7 p.m. Out Loud Chorus, 319 Braun Court, **Ann Arbor**. 734-995-9867. www.jimtoycenter.org/

Thursday, Oct. 19

Polyamory Network 7 p.m. Open and inclusive community of people living polyamorously, people interested in polyamory and people of, friendly to and curious about polyamory. Welcomes diversity of sexual orientation and gender identity. Polyamory Network, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-995-9867. jimtoycenter.org

Friday, Oct. 20

Equality Michigan Fall Reception 5:30 p.m. Special Guest: Anna Navarro, Political contributor to CNN & ABC News. Live jazz, valet parking. Equality Michigan, 1 Energy Plaza, **Detroit**. 313-537-7000 x105. pbrewis@equalitymi.org www.equalitymi.org/tickets

Woman 2 Woman 5:30 p.m. For lesbian, transgender and bi-attractional individuals. RSVP to Sharron Fincher via email. Woman 2 Woman, 20025 Greenfield Road, **Detroit**. sharronfincher@lgbtdetroit.org www.lgbtdetroit.org

Saturday, Oct. 21

Bisexual Peer Group 5 p.m. Meetings are a freeform discussion of current bi/pan/omni news, events, and other LGBT topics. Jim Toy Community Center, 319

Editor's Pick

Nicole Piccolomini Makes Michigan Opera Theatre Debut

This season, "the alluringly dusky-voiced" mezzo-soprano Nicole Piccolomini makes her Michigan Opera Theatre debut as Maddalena in "Rigoletto" at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St. on Oct. 14 at 7:30 p.m. "Rigoletto" keeps audiences on the edge of their seats with a thrilling score and a heartbreaking tale of love, lies and sacrifice. Visit www.michiganopera.org/opera/rigoletto/ for more information or to purchase tickets.



Editor's Pick



Calling All Depression Glass Collectors, Admirers

The Michigan Depression Glass Society's 45th Annual Show & Sale welcomes 23

dealers from 11 states to fill a 15,000-square-foot ballroom with vintage glassware for sale Nov. 4-5 at 10 a.m. Everything is American-made before 1970 (from Victorian glass to Pyrex) at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave. in Dearborn. The theme this year is Flowers in the Garden. Admission is \$5. Visit www.MichiganDepressionGlass.com for more information.

Braun Court, Ann Arbor. 734-995-9867. paylor9@mac.com www.jimtoycenter.org/

LGBTQ with HPV 6 p.m. Support, discussion and activity group for anyone with HSV1/2 and HPV. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. haymer@goaffirmations.org www.goaffirmations.org

MUSIC & MORE

Penny Stamps Distinguished Speaker Series "Penny Arcade Longing Lasts Longer" Penny Arcade is an internationally respected performance artist, actress, poet, and theater maker. Her work is a cultural critique on class, race, and identity that has always focused on the other and the outsider. Wasserman Projects, 3434 Russell St, #502, Detroit. 7 p.m. Oct. 21. 7347639275. https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/penny_arcade

Static Network "CAT MANIA! A cat variety show!" A celebration of cats variety show! A night of music, art, burlesque and vendors capturing the feline frenzy for local cat rescues! Care-Rescue.com and Hater Kitty Rescue Army! 18 & over are welcome. \$8 suggested donation. Raffle with fab prizes from our vendors and other local shops!. Tangent Gallery, 715 E. Milwaukee, Detroit. 8 p.m. Oct. 20. 313-961-4668. <https://www.facebook.com/events/688294131363894/>

University Musical Society "Ragamala Dance Company" "Written in Water" explores the concept of spiritual ascension. Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann

Arbor. 8 p.m. Oct. 20. 734-764-2538. <https://ums.org>

Benefits/Social Events

MI Armed Forces Hospitality Center "2017 Freedom Center Gala" Please join us for a rewarding, enriching, and enjoyable evening, and most of all, the opportunity to provide continued support of our mission, Serving Those Who Serve Us. \$100 tickets include a speaker, heavy hors d'oeuvres and drinks. The War Memorial, 32 Lake Shore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms. 6 p.m. Oct. 18. (517) 253-0896. <https://www.mifreedomcenter.org/2017-gala-rsvp--ticket-purchase.html>

Concerts

Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Cube "Jamison Ross" Ticket information available online. Max M. Fisher Music Center, Music Box, 3711 Woodward Ave, Detroit. 10 p.m. Oct. 20. 3135765111. www.cubedetroit.org

Other

Detroit Symphony Orchestra "Om @ The Max Season Kick-Off" Practice solo to live music. Admission \$25 Student, General Admission \$20, VIP Experience \$39. Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 10:30 a.m. Oct. 21. 313-576-5111. www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4691&prod=4690

dog*tec "Ann Arbor Dog Walking Academy" Three day workshop leading to Professional Dog Walker Certification.

Admission is \$850.00. LaQuinta Inns & Suites, 30847 Flynn Drive, Romulus. Oct. 13 - Oct. 15. 510-525-2547.

The Society of Canary & Finch Breeders of MI "Bird Show" Exhibitor sale birds, silent auction, raffle, 50/50 & concessions. Non-exhibitor show admission \$4.00. Livonia Elks Lodge 2246, 31117 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 10 a.m. Oct. 21. www.scfbmichigan.com

Shows

Detroit Masonic Temple "Formal Masquerade Gala & Theatre Bizarre" Theatre Bizarre is proud to present legendary psycho-spook masters MESSER CHUPS. Costumes are mandatory. Tickets: \$95. Detroit Masonic Temple, 500 Temple Ave., Detroit. Oct. 13 - Oct. 21. <http://theatrebizarre.com/choose-your-fate/>

THEATER

A Midsummer Night's Dream Shakespeare's most popular comedy where four young lovers find themselves in an enchanted forest. Comedy, love, and confusion collide on this magical moonlight night. Theatre & Dance at Wayne, Studio Theatre at The Hilberry, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Oct. 12 - Oct. 28. 313-577-2972. www.theatreanddanceatwayne.com

Detroit '67 It is the summer of 1967 in Detroit where a sister and brother, Michelle and Langston lives change forever, along with the life of their city. Stagecrafters, Baldwin Theatre 2nd Stage, 415 S. Lafayette, Royal Oak. Oct. 13 - Oct. 22. 248-541-6430. www.stagecrafters.org

See Happenings, page 29



Rigoletto

Giuseppe Verdi, composer

A heartbreaking tale of love, lies and sacrifice.
A can't miss opportunity!

Featuring the Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra
Conducted by Stephen Lord, Principal Conductor

4 spectacular performances at the Detroit Opera House

Sat., Oct. 14 at 7:30 p.m. Wed., Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Sun., Oct. 22 at 2:30 p.m.

FREE Opera Talk one hour prior to performance.

Tickets: michiganopera.org or 313.237.7464



The 2017 Fall Opera Season made possible
by the Ford Motor Company

MICHIGAN
OPERA
THEATRE

DSQ

DALLAS STRING QUARTET
- ELECTRIC -

Saturday, October 28
8 p.m.

TICKETS START AT
\$23-\$38

"One of the most unique string quartets you'll ever see."
- Good Morning Texas

"It was the best show ever! We clapped, sang and tapped our feet for two hours."
- Ceaderburg, WI

theberman.org/dsq THE BERMAN
CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS 248.661.1900



Get all the discounts you deserve.

Joan M Warner Ins Agcy Inc
Joan Warner, Agent
joan@warneragency.com
Toll Free: 888-298-8020
www.warneragency.com

FREE Discount Double Check®.
Like a good neighbor,
State Farm is there.®
CALL ME TODAY.



PAGE TOYOTA  

CALL DEAN
21262 TELEGRAPH RD
SOUTHFIELD, MI 48033
DEANJ@PAGETOYOTA.COM
248-352 8580 X1110



2017 Toyota Corolla LE

Lease for as low as

\$198 per month

for 36 months/12k miles
with \$0 down



Leases are 36 months, 10K/12K mi/yr. Due at signing noted above plus 1st monthly payment, doc fee of \$210, cvr, tax, title and lease acquisition fee at signing. No security deposit required with approved credit and out of dealer stock. Expires 10/31/2017.

2017 Accord Sedan CVT LX

Featured Special Lease

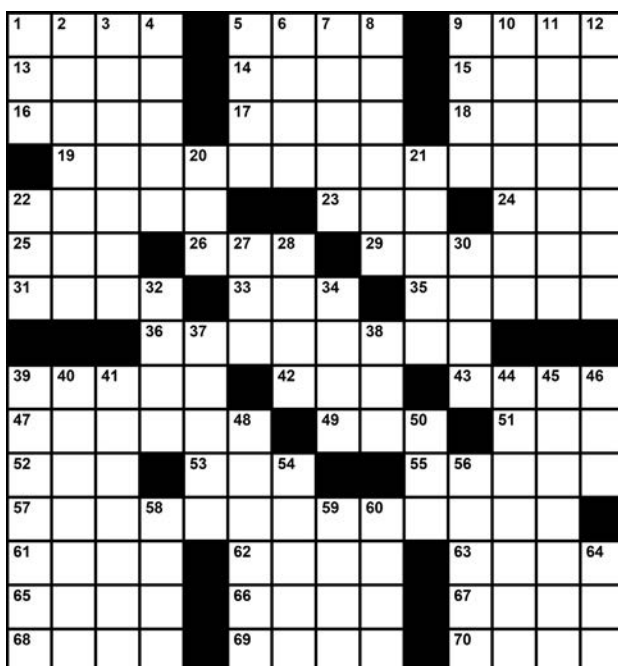
\$169 per month

for 36 months with
\$2,699 due at signing



Includes down payment with no security deposit. Excludes taxes, title and either dealer fees or documentary service fee. For well-qualified lessees. Offer valid 9/06/2017 through 10/31/2017.

Q Puzzle



33 Comics cry
35 "I Dream of Jeannie"'s Barbara, et al.
36 More of the edited line
39 Doesn't swallow
42 On the down ____
43 Judy's daughter Lorna
47 Pleasures oneself, with "off"
49 When repeated, campy
51 Gaza Stripper's assn.
52 "Can't Get It Out of My Head" band
53 "Poppycock!"
55 Patty Sheehan's partner, to golf, perhaps
57 End of the edited line
61 "Exotica" director Egoyan
62 It's for Rimbaud
63 One way to cook fruit
65 Debtor's car, maybe
66 Ziegfeld Follies costume designer
67 Mark Bingham of United Flight 93
68 Very in Vichy
69 Make a hole bigger
70 Canadian oil company

9 Crude cartel
10 Brooks of portraits
11 "War Requiem" composer Benjamin
12 Castro, in San Francisco, and others
20 Soap ingredient
21 Push forward
22 Popular fruit drink
27 Triangle side
28 Boat bottom
30 Pastoral work
32 Experts in CPR
34 Seaman's unit of speed
37 Former NFL player Tualo
38 Eagle, on a par four
39 Patrick of the "Moby Dick" miniseries
40 More like Miss Manners
41 Pink Kryptonite, for one
44 Where tops like to put it?
45 Puppeteer Wayland
46 Pull behind
48 Sport of "Bend It Like Beckham"
50 "A League of Their ____"
54 When repeated, end of a Stein quote
56 "____ Really Going Out with Him?"
58 Med. care grps.
59 Film canine
60 Bit from Michael Musto
64 Put the moves on

The Heathers, Edited

Across

1 Nick Adams character Johnny
5 "Hairspray" list
9 Heavenly balls
13 "And giving ____, up the chimney ..."
14 Moon, to fifty million Frenchmen
15 Harbor city
16 "Margaret Mead ____ Me Gay"

17 Alfred Douglas' school
18 Bahrain biggie
19 Start of an edited line from the reboot of "The Heathers"
22 "Modern Family" daughter
23 Curry of Rocky Horror fame
24 Suffix with suburban
25 Land of O. Wilde
26 Lodge man
29 Upright, but not erect
31 Sperm homophone?

Down

1 Orange tuber
2 Like friends of a closeted person, perhaps
3 Sat for Tee Corinne
4 One-named pop singer
5 Symbol on Bernstein's score
6 Erotic opening
7 Stallion's sound
8 Mauresmo's game

Find solution to this puzzle at www.pridesource.com

Prism of Possibilities Psychotherapy

Christine Cantrell, PhD
Fully Licensed Psychologist



Give yourself an extreme self makeover ...

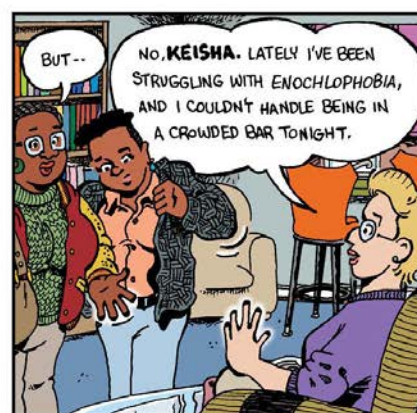
- ▼ Speak Your Truth
- ▼ Discover What You Want
- ▼ Create Your True Self
- ▼ Heal Old Hurts, Find Wholeness

Located in Royal Oak
www.christinecantrell.com
christinecantrellphd@gmail.com

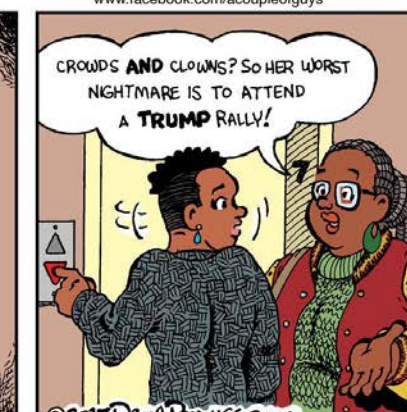
CALL NOW! 248-591-2888



e-mail: acoupleofguys@qsyndicate.com



www.facebook.com/acoupleofguys



©2017 Dave Brusseaux

Editor's Pick

The Laramie Project

The Laramie Project - Looks at the events around the death of Matthew Shepard in 1998. Tickets \$12 or \$16 to donate to The Matthew Shepard Foundation. Directed by Katie Cooper and Melissa Dane. Lakeland Players, CUMC, 3882 Highland Road, Waterford. Oct. 13 - Oct. 22.

www.lakelandplayers.net/tickets



▶ Happenings

Continued from p. 27

Love Never Dies The Phantom of the Opera Returns in a spellbinding sequel! Broadway In Detroit, Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Oct. 17 - Oct. 29. 313-872-1000. www.BroadwayInDetroit.com

Rigoletto A heartbreaking tale of love, lies and sacrifice. Michigan Opera Theatre, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. Oct. 14 - Oct. 22. 313-237-7464. www.michiganopera.org

Roustant Theatre Troupe "Dark Ride Radio Hour". Bona Sera Underground, 200 W. Michigan Ave, Ypsilanti. 8 p.m. Oct. 14. 7087041004. roustanttheatre.com

State of Siege Performed in French with English Subtitles. University Musical Society, Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor. Oct. 13 - Oct. 14. 7347642538. <https://ums.org>

Steve Martin's The Under Pants An uproarious comedy adapted from 1910 German farce Die Hose by Playwright Carl Sternheim. Theatre & Dance at WSU, Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. Through Oct. 15. 313-577-2972. <https://events.wayne.edu>

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street A 1979 musical thriller with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by Hugh Wheeler. Sweeney Todd was the victim of a ruthless judge who exiled him to Australia. Todd returns to seek revenge on the judge and others at his barbershop above a meat pie shop. Tickets \$27-\$35. Encore Musical Theatre Company, Encore Musical Theater Company, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Oct. 5 - Oct. 22. 734-268-6200. www.theencoretheatre.org

The Bodyguard Based on the smash-hit film, the award-winning musical The Bodyguard will star Grammy Award nominee and R&B powerhouse Deborah Cox! There will be an AfterChat following Thursday's performance inside the Great Hall. Broadway at The Wharton Center, Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. Oct. 17 - Oct. 22. 800-WHARTON. www.whartoncenter.com

The Rocky Horror Show Tickets: \$25 on Friday and Saturday. \$10 on Monday. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Through Oct. 30. 248-545-5545. www.theringwald.com

Vagina Monologues by Eve Ensler Tickets on sale Sept. 7. The Detroit Actor's Theatre Company, Boo's Music Lounge, 215 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Oct. 6 - Oct. 28. www.thedatc.org

Professional

Dark Ride Radio Hour . Roustant Theatre Troupe, Bona Sera Underground, 200 W. Michigan Ave, Ypsilanti. 8 p.m. Oct. 14. 734-681-0112. roustanttheatre.com

Dark Ride Radio Hour Tickets: \$20. Roustant Theatre Troupe, Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. 6 Mile Rd., Livonia. 8 p.m. Oct. 21. 7346810112. www.roustanttheatre.com

Evil Dead: The Musical Tickets: \$30. Sweat Equity Studio and Olympia Entertainment, City Theatre, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Through Oct. 28. 313-471-6611. www.olympiaentertainment.com

God of Carnage by Yasmina Reza . Purple Rose Theatre Company, Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Through Oct. 29. 734-433-7673. www.purplerosetheatre.org

Love Never Dies . Broadway in Detroit, Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Oct. 17 - Oct. 29. 313-872-1000. www.broadwayindetroit.com

The Laramie Project Tickets \$12 or \$16 to donate to The Matthew Shepard Foundation. Directed by Katie Cooper and Melissa Dane. Lakeland Players, CUMC, 3882 Highland Road, Waterford. Oct. 13 - Oct. 22. www.lakelandplayers.net/tickets

The Taming . Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. Through Oct. 22. 5176557469. www.williamstontheatre.org

ART 'N' AROUND

Artist Heaven Detroit "Artist Heaven" Don't miss this FREE program for LGBTQ youth! Artist Heaven is a mobile non-profit that uplifts, educates and inspires youth, ages 7-18, through various forms of art. RSVP to ijunger@goaffirmations.org Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 6:30 p.m. Oct. 13. 248-398-7105. www.goaffirmations.org

DIA "Art of Rebellion: Black Art of the Civil Rights Movement" Explore powerful artworks by African American artists who formed collectives during the Civil Rights Movement of the '60s and '70s. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. July 23 - Oct. 22. 313-833-7900. www.dia.org

Downtown Development Authority "Art & About" Every second Friday from June through October Downtown Berkley, 3338 Coolidge Hwy, Berkley . June 9 - Oct. 13. <http://gaybe.am/DG>

Flint Institute of Arts "Size Matters" Big and small works from the FIA Collection Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. Sep. 16 - Dec. 30. 8102341695. flintarts.org

Ford Motor Company Fund "ArtWorks Detroit 2017" Fundraiser to benefit Matrix

Human Services College for Creative Studies, 460 W. Baltimore, Detroit. 7 p.m. Oct. 13. MatrixHumanServices.org/artworks

Lawrence Street Gallery "Celebrate the Print '17" Opening reception Oct. 6 from 6 to 9 p.m. Lawrence Street Gallery, 22620 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. Oct. 4 - Oct. 27. 2485440394. www.lawrencestreetgallery.com

Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit "A Walk in the Woods" Following morning services, join us for a Walk in the Woods. Cost is free, but a donation is suggested for lunch. Johnson Nature Center, 3325 Franklin Road, Bloomfield Township. 12 p.m. Oct. 22. 248-399-7741. www.mccdetroit.org/walk.html

Michigan Manufactured Housing Association "The MMHA Home Showcase at The Novi Home Show" The Novi Home Show is proud to host the Michigan Manufactured Housing Association (MMHA) Home Showcase featuring six stunning model homes. Featuring gorgeous open floor plans, incredible kitchens and luxurious master baths. Adult admission (ages 13 and over) is \$10, senior admission is \$9 and children 12 and under get in free! Parking is not included. Purchase advance tickets online, sponsored by Mosquito One at www.novihomeshow.com. Address: Suburban Collection Showplace Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave, Novi. Oct. 13 - Oct. 15. 5867526381. www.michhome.org

Penny Stamps Distinguished Speaker Series "Presenting Kiki Smith: Copy Cat, Meandering Prints" Kiki Smith is known for her multidisciplinary practice relating to the human condition and the natural world. Smith uses a broad variety of materials, continuously expanding and evolving a body of work that includes sculpture, printmaking, photography, drawing, and textile. Michigan Theater, 525 S. State St, Ann Arbor. 5:10 p.m. Oct. 19. 7347643464. https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/kiki_smith

Penny Stamps Distinguished Speaker Series "Jennifer Daniel: Talk to Me" Jennifer Daniel is an illustrator, graphic designer, author, and regular contributor to the New York Times and the New Yorker. through charts and diagrams, data, and facts created. Michigan Theater, 603 E Liberty St., Ann Arbor. Oct. 12 - Oct. 12. 7347643464. https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/jennifer_daniel

Penny Stamps Distinguished Speaker Series "Mark Dion: Waiting for the Extraordinary" Mark Dion's work examines the ways in which dominant ideologies and public institutions shape our understanding of history, knowledge, and the natural world. UMMA, 525 S. State St, Ann Arbor. 5:30 p.m. Oct. 18. 7347643464. https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/mark_dion1

EQMI

2017 Fall Reception

EQUALITY MICHIGAN

BUILDING BRIDGES

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR

2017 Fall Reception

BUILDING BRIDGES

FRIDAY | OCTOBER 20 | 6:30PM - 9:00PM

DTE ENERGY HEADQUARTERS | 1 ENERGY PLAZA | DETROIT

VIP Reception 5:30pm \$200 | Main Event 6:30pm - 9:00pm \$125

Presenting

AWARDS TO LILIANNA REYES | JOHN PIRICH | APRIL & JAYNE DEBOER-ROWSE | NIKKI JOLY & DEREK DOBIES | KA'JUAN HILL

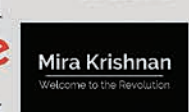


With ANA NAVARRO

POLITICAL CONTRIBUTOR TO CNN, ABC NEWS AND THE VIEW

Join Us

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW AT
WWW.EQUALITYMI.ORG/TICKETS
OR CALL (313) 537-7000 x 105



Norman Horowitz & Robert Tomasik

THE FINEST IN ADULT ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BEST PRICES!

ALL XXX
DVD RENTALS
AS LOW AS \$1.25
EVERY DAY!

TEACH MY
COCK

NEXTDOORSTUDIOS production

AUSTIN RED WESLEY MARKS CHASE YOUNG ALEX GREENE DRAC
NOLAN JOEY PERELLI MICHAEL ANDREWS LEX PATRICK KENNEDY

SUPER LENGTH

Got A
LIGHT

EVERY TUES & FRIDAY
NEW
RELEASE
DAY

ALMOST CAUGHT SUCKING DADDY'S
COCK

PRIDESTUDIOS

BUY
ADULT DVD'S
STARTING AT
\$5.95

UPTOWN SALE
\$10 OFF
ANY \$50 PURCHASE
\$20 OFF
ANY \$100 PURCHASE
REGULAR PRICED MERCHANDISE ONLY!
NOV 2-5 2017

DVD SALE
50% OFF
BUY ONE DVD AT REG. PRICE &
GET 2ND DVD AT 1/2 PRICE
SECOND DVD MUST BE THE SAME PRICE OR
OF LESSER VALUE! RED STICKER ONLY!
OCT 19-22, 2017



Rush - Jungle Juice Platinum - Maximum
Impact - Swiss Navy Lube Silicone -
Uninhibited 2-Ring Harness - Wii Vibe -
Lucid Dreams #14 - Dual Bunny Teaser -
Butterfly Kiss Pink - Titan Enlargement
System - The Exotic Water Garden Massager

UPTOWN
BOOKSTORES
ADULT VIDEO
2 LOCATIONS

16541 Woodward Ave.
at McNichols next to "Deja Vu"
Highland Park
313.869.9477

16401 W. 8 Mile
Between Greenfield & Southfield
Detroit
313.836.0647

Hours:
Mon-Sat 9am - 10pm
Sun Noon - 8pm

Classifieds Call 734-293-7200 ext.22

309 EMPLOYMENT -
PROFESSIONAL

**Prevention Education
Program Director**

Passionate, skilled, and multi-faceted educator to implement comprehensive and multi-tiered prevention programs within organizations and school systems. Looking for someone with a passion to work girl-specific programs that focus on leadership development, creative self-expression, self-care and healing, media creation, and other activities, in middle and high school settings. Full-time, salaried, with benefits, and a competitive non-profit compensation package. Email cover letter, resume and salary requirements to: hr@haven-oakland.org and include HAVEN and the position title in the subject line.

320 EMPLOYMENT -
WANTED

**HIRING MUST
LOVE DOGS !!
HappyHounds Dog
Daycare & Boarding
Always Cage-Free
734-459-3649**

1102 EROTICA -
MASSAGE

MASSAGE
Massage for men. Safe-Dis-
crete, good prices. Royal Oak
Area. 12yrs. Experience.
Call Lee 248-548-6516

401 AUTOS

Ferndale Honda

Call Eric Hay today!
248-548-6300
hay@ferndalehonda.com

Always FREE
to listen and
reply to ads!

Playmates
or soul mates,
you'll find them
on MegaMates

1-888-MegaMates*
Detroit:
(313) 481-9301
www.megamates.com 18+

350 PETS - PETS

**HappyHounds Dog
Daycare & Boarding
Always Cage-Free
734-459-3649**

808 ARTS & LEISURE
- PSYCHICS

Psychic
Maggie Kelly, renowned
Irish clairaudient, defines
relationships, insures suc-
cess. 832-358-7464.

Hello?
I've got a question.

Talk to a live expert about STDs

800 872 2437

The Michigan HIV/STD Hotline. Live weekdays, 10 am - 6 pm.

- CALL NOW** FIND A TESTING SITE NEAR YOU.
- CALL NOW** LEARN ABOUT PREP, PEP AND OTHER RISK REDUCTION TOOLS.
- CALL NOW** LOOKING FOR FREE CONDOMS?
- CALL NOW** GET CONNECTED WITH CARE.
- CALL NOW** THINK YOU WERE PUT AT RISK?
- CALL NOW** NEED HEALTH INSURANCE?
- CALL NOW** FIND SUPPORT GROUPS.
- CALL NOW** LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

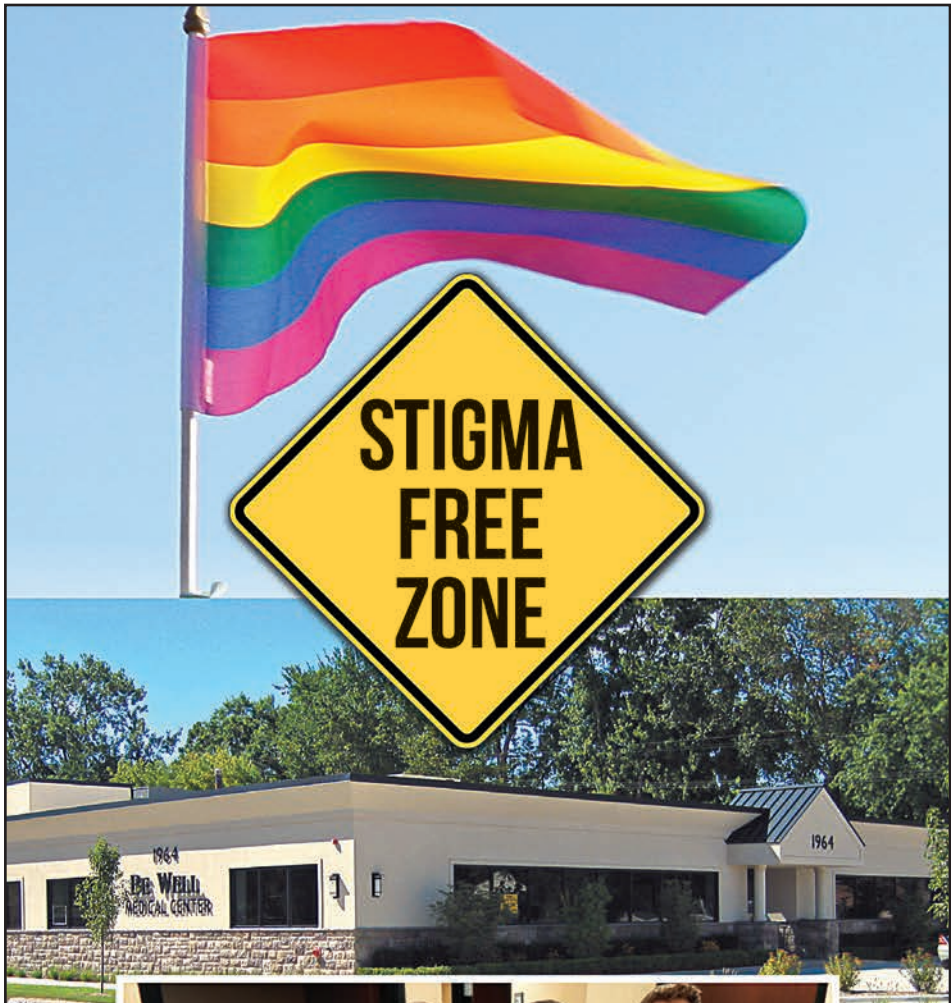
ONLINE CHAT NOW AVAILABLE
WWW.MIUNIFIED.ORG

f t ps

THE MICHIGAN HIV/STD HOTLINE IS A PROGRAM OF UNIFIED - HIV HEALTH AND BEYOND




The hookup site
TOO HOT
for the app store

\aut\ BAR
315 Braun Court Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(734) 994-3677 www.autbar.com

Common Language Bookstore
317 Braun Court Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(734) 663-0036 www.glbttbooks.com




Jesse Kramer

It's Patio Season
Live Music Every Tuesday and Wednesday
Dining al Fresco
Cocktails Under the Stars
Ann Arbor's Best Patio

Women's Music Wednesday
with Marsha Gayle and Debbie Vogel
6:30 - 9:00

Every Tuesday
Jesse Kramer Jazz Trio
7:30 - 10:30

Taco Tuesday
Why go anywhere else?


Every Wednesday
Camp Wednesday

Every Thursday
Trivia with Terry
8pm

Every Saturday
DJ Nicole Myint

Brunch
It's the Gayest Meal
Saturday 11-3
Sunday 10-3

Follow us on  Like us on 



Healthy Sexual Care

LGBTQ Primary Medical Care
HIV Prevention (PrEP) • HIV Care & Clinical Trials
All Genders Welcome!

Dr. Benson's
Be Well
Medical Center

1964 Eleven Mile Rd
Berkley, MI 40872
(248) 544-9300
doctorbewell.com

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Social Worker at UM Seeks Input from LGBTQIA Community

BY BTL STAFF

Input from the LGBTQIA community is needed to help Kate E H Vallerand, a social worker at the University of Michigan Hospital to help countless medical and mental health practitioners provide better service to LGBTQIA people.

Vallerand is part of an initiative at the university that is working to create a more inclusive and accessible patient-centered environment. While there are many branches to this initiative, one of the areas she is part of is specifically working with care given to the LGBTQIA community. Vallerand will be presenting as a guest lecturer at both Wayne State University College of Nursing and UM Hospital to emergency care providers on the basics of providing inclusive and informed care to the community.

“Now I can talk until I’m blue in the face but I’m only one voice from the LGBTQIA community,” she said in a Facebook post.

“I am reaching out to you guys looking to get other opinions and suggestions for care givers.”

Specifically, Vallerand wants to know - What makes an interaction with a physician or nurse successful for you? Is there any crucial information you feel all care providers should know? What are the absolute do’s and don’ts when working with the LGBTQIA community? Have you had any amazing or terrible experiences with care providers that you want to share?

Any information you have to offer, Vallerand welcomes. Information received would potentially be included in the presentations anonymously. The only exception is the personal experience stories, which will also remain anonymous unless Vallerand is given authorization to share them.

To participate or for more information, email Vallerand at kateehv@med.umich.edu.

Community Input Wanted for New Transgender Church

BY BTL STAFF

When it comes to attending church, Rachel Crandall Crocker said the transgender community is “tired of being a small t in LGBT.” She said, “So many trans people are not feeling comfortable or understood even at the LGBT affirming churches. They honestly do not feel welcomed from so many people. I have heard this over and over.”

Crandall Crocker, the executive director and co-founder of Transgender Michigan, said she has a solution. She is looking for input and support from the community in her effort to start a new church she will call the Church of Transformation where services will be geared specifically toward the transgender

community. Crandall Crocker is ordained through the Universal Life Church.

“We are looking for people who want to be on our board to help with the formation of this church. We would especially like people who have been rejected from their church and feel rejected from their higher power,” she said. “I mentioned my transition at an extremely welcoming church and they all thought I was dying. We like to educate but we don’t want to have to educate every time we go to church. Our objective is to give people back their church.”

For more information or to offer up input, contact Crandall Crocker at 800-842-2954, ext 102 or email rachel@transgendermichigan.org.

ArtWorks Detroit Supports Community HIV Outreach Efforts

BY BTL STAFF

Matrix Human Services is now one of the largest and most comprehensive providers of HIV prevention and treatment services in metro Detroit. Members of the community will have an opportunity to support the organization’s efforts to educate children, help families, rebuild neighborhoods in Detroit and provide information, risk reduction training, counseling and testing, and case management services for people living with HIV throughout Southeast Michigan.

Detroit’s premier art auction event – Artworks Detroit – celebrates its 22nd Anniversary at 7 p.m. on Oct. 13. The evening offers a live, silent auction of donated works – more than 150 original pieces by well-known metro Detroit artists – paired with drinks, food tasting and entertainment worthy of the Detroit art community. Featured artists include Yoko Ono, July Elias, Jeri Hollister, Ken Axelrad, Robbie Aaron and Darcel Deneau.

Tickets for Artworks Detroit are \$75 each. The event will be held at the College for Creative Studies, 460 W. Baltimore in Detroit. For more or to purchase tickets, visit www.matrixhumanservices.org/artworks.



Royal Oak Farmers Market Transforms Into an Artist’s Market

Just in time to beat the holiday sales rush, the Guild of Artists & Artisans will host the Royal Oak Market’s Art Fair Edition from 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Nov. 16-17. This new show will take place indoors at the Royal Oak Farmers Market, which provides one of the premium market venues in Southeast Michigan and is conveniently located in the Civic Center at the corner of E. 11 Mile Road and Troy Street in downtown Royal Oak. This is a juried fair and admission is free for fairgoers. The event will feature 75 artists; fairgoers will find the same excellence and variety as they do at the Guild’s Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair. For more information, visit www.theguild.org/fairs/royal-oak-market-art-fair-edition.



Works by Terrance Butler of Ann Arbor

October Series

Broadway

‘From the Inside Out’

A Sermon & Worship series focused on finding our place and influence in the world

MCC. Detroit

Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit: A diverse and inclusive Christian Church serving the LGBTQ and Ally Community since 1972.

Join us for Sunday Worship and our Children’s Ministry at 11am

2441 Pinecrest Ferndale, MI
248-399-7741
www.mccdetroit.org

Rev. Dr. Selma Massey
FOUNDER & PASTOR

Whosoever
MINISTRY

SUNDAYS AT 11:00
2930 WOODWARD AVE.
DETROIT, MI 48201
313.259.0000
WWW.WHOSOEVERMINISTRY.ORG

Find Your Tools of Engagement



There are hundreds of businesses and nonprofits in this edition of Pride Source Magazine & they welcome everyone.

Invest in equality and work with organizations that support Michigan's LGBTQ community!

128 Pages of Essential Michigan Resources
In print & online @ www.pridesource.com

How do you speak to the **LGBT** community?

Through the publications they know and trust.



Representing the "best of the best" in LGBT media, with over a million readers weekly in print and online.

212-242-6863
info@nationallgbtmediaassociation.com
www.nationallgbtmediaassociation.com



BAY AREA REPORTER

BAY WINDOWS

BTL

dallasvoice

Gay City

bade

pgn

SFGN

Voice

bade

watermark

WINDY CITY TIMES

Atlanta | Boston | Chicago | Dallas/ Ft Worth | Detroit | Los Angeles | Miami/ Ft Lauderdale | New York | Orlando/Tampa Bay | Philadelphia | San Francisco | Washington DC

Seeking CANCER SURVIVORS, CARETAKERS & ADVOCATES

LGBT Communities are disproportionately affected by cancer.

Join a Cancer Action Council today!

Council members use their personal experiences with cancer to ensure that cancer research addresses the needs of the LGBT community.

For more information and to apply visit

DETROITHEALTHLINK.ORG

Questions? Contact Danny Inman, LGBT Detroit (313) 397-2127;
dannyinmanlgbtdetroit.org

DETROIT HEALTHLINK
FOR EQUITY IN CANCER CARE

LGBT
DETROIT

Karmanos
CANCER INSTITUTE
Wayne State University

Detroit HealthLink (Wayne State University & Karmanos Cancer Institute) is funded by a Eugene Washington Community Engagement Award from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute Award #6252.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Find over 300 Non-Profit Listings Serving Michigan's LGBTQ Online @ www.pridesource.com

Editor's Note: This is a sampling of the hundreds of Michigan non-profits working with the LGBTQ community across the state. From time to time this print resource will emphasize different sectors as space permits.

AIDS/HIV

There are dozens of AIDS/HIV organizations and resources listed at www.pridesource.com. Here are just three of them:

AIDS Walk Detroit

Contact info@aidswalkdetroit.org or 248-399-9255 for more information. The walk takes place this year on Sunday, Sept. 15, 8:30 a.m. at the Royal Oak Farmers Market

Macomb County STD Clinic

27690 Van Dyke
Warren, MI 48093
586-465-9217
<http://health.macombgov.org/Health-Programs-HPDC-HIVAIDSCounselingTesting>

Matrix Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

120 Parsons Street
Detroit, MI 48201
888-226-6366
248-545-1435
www.matrixhumanservices.org/programs/ryanwhite/

UNIFIED - HIV Health and Beyond

3011 W. Grand Blvd. Suite 230
Detroit, MI 48202
313-446-9800
www.miunified.org
Michigan HIV/STD Hotline
800-872-2437

Advocacy

Equality Michigan

19641 W. 7 Mile, Detroit, MI
313-537-7000
equalitymi.org
[Facebook.com/equalitymichigan](https://www.facebook.com/equalitymichigan)

Campus

Currently there are 19 organizations listed as active online at www.pridesource.com/ yellow pages. The following are some in the southeast Michigan area:

U-M Ann Arbor

Spectrum Center
Spectrumcenter@umich.edu
<http://spectrumcenter.umich.edu>
734-763-4186

Oakland University Gender & Sexuality Center

gsc@oakland.edu
www.oakland.edu/gsc
248-370-4336

Eastern Michigan University

LGBT Resource Center
emich.edu/lgbtrc
734-487-4149

The Lawrence Tech LGBT Resource Center

ltu.edu/student_affairs/lgbt.asp

Wayne State JIGSAW

[Facebook.com/groups/WayneStateJIGSAW](https://www.facebook.com/groups/WayneStateJIGSAW)
wsujigsaw@gmail.com

Community Centers

Michigan has nine active LGBTQ community centers, with a tenth planned in Lansing. Here are three of them.

Jim Toy Community Center

Ann Arbor
www.jimtoycenter.org
www.facebook.com/jimtoycenter
or follow them on Twitter @JimToyCenter.
319 Braun Court
Ann Arbor, MI
734-995-9867
LGBT Detroit

Detroit

www.lgbtdetroit.org
www.facebook.com/lgbtdetroit
or follow them on Twitter @LGBTDetroit.
20025 Greenfield Road
Detroit, MI
Phone: 313-397-2127

Affirmations

Ferndale
<http://goaffirmations.org>
www.facebook.com/Affirmations/
or follow them on Twitter @GoAffirmations.
290 W. Nine Mile Road
Ferndale, MI
248-398-7105

Legal

American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan

Jay Kaplan, Staff Attorney, LGBT Project
2966 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI
www.aclumich.org
313-578-6800

Fair Michigan

PO Box 6136
Plymouth, MI 48170
877-432-4764, 313-556-2300
fairmichigan.org
[Facebook.com/fairmichigan2016](https://www.facebook.com/fairmichigan2016)

Know Your Rights Project

Outlaws U-M student group
outlawslegal@gmail.com
734-995-9867

Older Adults

SAGE Metro Detroit

290 W. Nine Mile Rd. Ferndale, MI
313-578-6812
sagemetrodetroit.org
Facebook: SAGE Metro Detroit

Political

The LGBT and Allies Caucus of the Michigan Democratic Party

[Facebook.com/TheLGBTACaucusoftheMDP](https://www.facebook.com/TheLGBTACaucusoftheMDP)

Stonewall for Revolution

www.facebook.com/stonewall4revolution

Professional Groups

Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 32446
Detroit, MI 48232
detroitlgbtchamber.com
1-800-DET-LGBT

Ties Like Me

Professional networking events
third Weds. 5:30 - 8 p.m.
TiesLikeMe.org

Suits And The City

Lansing, MI
suitsandthecity@gmail.com
www.suitsandthecity.org

Transgender

FtM Detroit

<https://www.facebook.com/FtMDetroit/>
ftmdetroit@gmail.com

FtM A2 Ypsi

ftmannarborypsilanti@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/ftma2ypsi/>

Transgender Michigan

23211 Woodward Ave.
Ferndale, MI
info@transgendermichigan.org
www.transgendermichigan.org
800-842-2954

Trans Sistas of Color Project

19641 W. 7 Mile Rd. in Detroit
313-537-7000 Ext 107
info@tscopdetroit.org
www.facebook.com/TSCOPD/

Youth

Ruth Ellis Center

77 Victor Street, Highland Park, MI
48203
info@ruthelliscenter.org
Facebook: Ruth Ellis Center
313-252-1950

Ozone House

102 N. Hamilton Street
Ypsilanti, MI
734-662-2265
734-662-2222

Stand With Trans

Farmington, MI
www.standwithtrans.org
248-739-9254



Find a digital version of PrideSource Magazine online under Our LGBTQ Yellow Pages

Find these resources online

- Adoption Services
- AIDS/HIV Hotlines
- AIDS/HIV Organizations
- Alzheimer's Association
- Animal Shelter
- Anti-Violence
- Archives/Collections
- Campus; Student and Alumni Groups
- Cancer Support Groups
- Choruses
- Community Centers
- Employee Resource Groups
- Families and Parents
- Foster Care
- Foundations and Funders
- Hotlines & Switchboards
- Labor Union
- Legal Organizations
- Museums
- Music Groups
- National Organizations
- Political Organizations
- Professional Organizations
- Religious & Spiritual
- Senior Living
- Seniors
- Social/Community Organizations
- Sports
- Substance Abuse
- Transgender Groups/Services
- Women's Health
- Youth Services

Get Listed, Promote Your Events

You can add or update any listing by going to www.PrideSource.com and clicking on Yellow Pages. Once you submit your listing, our staff will contact you to confirm your information.

You can add your event to the Pride Source Calendar online and in print by going to www.PrideSource.com and clicking on Calendar, then "Add Event." Send any press releases and announcements to editor@pridesource.com

'Electrifying
and Stunning'

-BROADWAYWORLD.COM

'Fierce, Volcanic
and Eclectic'

-DANCE MAGAZINE

'Mesmerizing!'

-THEATRE JONES DALLAS

TRAVIS WALL'S

SHAPING
SOUND

AFTER THE CURTAIN

NOVEMBER 1, 7:30PM
MSU'S WHARTON CENTER
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

WHARTONCENTER.COM · 1-800-WHARTON

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
WHARTON
CENTER
FOR PERFORMING ARTS

DANCE SERIES MEDIA SPONSOR: MICHIGAN RADIO

PRODUCED BY
break
the floor
SHAPINGSOUND.CO.COM



Kyle
RIABKO

Close to You: Bacharach Reimagined

OCTOBER 28, 2017

THE BLACK BOX THEATRE at the Detroit Opera House

First show at 7 p.m. | Second show at 9:30 p.m.*

*Enjoy a three-course dinner before the show!

For more information or to order tickets, please
call 313.405.5061 or visit cabaret313.org

Use code "PRIDE" to save 10% on General Admission
Tickets to the Second Performance.

CABARET
313

parade

© 2017 Parade Jewelry, Inc. All Rights Reserved. paradejewelry.com



DIAMOND CASTLE
Jewelers since 1902

Family Owned and Operated

39955 GRAND RIVER AVE
NOVI, MI 48375
T: 248.442.2440
diamondcastlejewelers.com

