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by New HHS Rule**

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Hoadley On Showing Up**

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20222 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone 734.293.7200

PUBLISHERS

Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

MEMBER OF

Michigan Press Association
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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

Feature News Editor

Kate Opalewski, 734.293.7200 x 10
kate@pridesource.com

Editorial Assistant

Eve Kucharski, 734.293.7200 x 10
eve@pridesource.com

News & Feature Writers

Emell Derra Adolphus, Michelle Brown,
Todd A. Heywood, Jiquanda Johnson, Ellen
Knopow, 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

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Southeast Michigan Religion and Health Officials Outraged by New HHS Rule

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

The LGBTQ Community is no stranger to stigma. It infiltrates lives daily, and, sometimes, in cases of life or death, it can be deadly. Dr. Soumya Rangarajan, an internal medicine physician, said that she's seen it take lives firsthand.

"There was a 50-something gentleman who I saw a couple of years ago when I was taking care of him in the intensive care unit. He was a gay male and had been in and out of (care)," Rangarajan said. "He didn't have support or anybody that could take care of him. He comes into the hospital with chest pain, and we don't really have much background on him."

After weeks in the ICU and multiple cardiac arrests, Rangarajan and her colleagues realized that the patient's situation was irreparable. To ensure his quality of life in his final moments, she and her team consulted an ethics committee on how to proceed.

"We finally made him what we call 'Do Not Resuscitate,' and he did pass within a few weeks of coming in," Rangarajan said. "It was a really heartbreaking story because he was from a more conservative state where his family kicked him out when they found out he was gay, and I feel like because of that, he never sought medical care. It just kept advancing and advancing to the point that he ended up coming in with this massive heart attack that ended up ending his life."

Stories like these are why Rangarajan and other medical professionals are highly critical of a new division of the Department of Health and Human Services called Conscience and Religious Freedom. The division just proposed a new rule that would allow medical providers to not give abortion-related services to patients on the grounds of religious or moral objection. However, critics argue that the law's broad language and usage of terms like "sterilization" procedures could be viewed as a direct attack on gender reassignment surgery for transgender people, among other vulnerable populations both in and out of the LGBTQ population.

Patrick Yankee, the chief development officer for Corktown Health Center, an LGBTQ clinic in Detroit, said that this rule legally reaffirms stigma.

"That fear of disclosing something because of how people might react is



"That fear of disclosing something because of how people might react is really alive and well," Yankee said. "I think, with a lot of people who are in the LGBTQ community and with people who are HIV-positive who are not LGBTQ, it just reinforces that idea that something is not good about your status."

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really alive and well," Yankee said. "I think, with a lot of people who are in the LGBTQ community and with people who are HIV-positive who are not LGBTQ, it just reinforces that idea that something is not good about your status."

Corktown Health's Chief Operating Officer Teresa Roscoe agrees.

"I think it opens the door to broader discrimination under the guise of protection for religious beliefs, and, unfortunately, the proposed rule seems to be pretty broad and there doesn't seem to be a lot of limitation about how one could assert that type of a concern," Roscoe said. "From our perspective it appears pretty darn broad."

Rev. Dr. Roland Stringfellow is the senior pastor at MCC Detroit—an LGBTQ congregation. He also takes issue with the rule because of its ambiguity, and because of its potential to do harm.

"I support religious liberty. Where I don't support it is when it encroaches on a life and death situation or peoples' dignity," Stringfellow said. "I think that, even with the Masterpiece bakery case. Some people say, 'Fine, if you don't want to service LGBT people or anyone who you don't care for, then go ahead and put the placard out. Let people know. You should have the right to do that.' People don't want to do that because they don't want to receive the backlash that would surely come from that. My thing is, then you can't have it both ways. If you want

to practice this, then tell people up front what this is."

Corktown Health's Medical Director Dr. Latonya Riddle-Jones said that the danger of patients walking into a situation where they expect equal and fair treatment only to be denied, can be far worse than simply avoiding and non-inclusive practice. However, Riddle-Jones said the rule's follow-through to health insurance can be even more insidious than refusing service outright.

"The change that is more alarming to me is that small businesses and employers can decide to provide healthcare insurance that doesn't have all services available to all people," Riddle-Jones said. "I think that is definitely in the direction of really overturning Roe v. Wade. That is their effort in all of these rule changes. There's discrimination when it comes to gender, discrimination when it comes to sex, I feel like we're going back decades right now."

Currently, the proposed rule is scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on Jan. 26, at which point a 60 day period of public commentary will commence before it can be finalized. Comments can be made online on regulations.gov during this time.

The Corktown Health Center expects to see over 800 patients in the coming year. The clinic is located at 1726 Howard St. in Corktown. For more information, call 313-832-3200.

New HHS Division Slammed as Tool for Anti-LGBT Discrimination

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

Consistent with media reports indicating the move was coming, the Department of Health & Human Services on Thursday formally established a conscience division that critics say will allow medical practitioners to deny abortion-related services and treatment to LGBT people on religious grounds.

Roger Severino, a former Heritage Foundation scholar and now director of the HHS Office for Civil Rights, said in a statement the new agency — called the Conscience & Religious Freedom Division — will help enforcement of laws designed to protect religious freedom.

"Laws protecting religious freedom and conscience rights are just empty words on paper if they aren't enforced," Severino said. "No one should be forced to choose between helping sick people and living by one's deepest moral or religious convictions, and the new division will help guarantee that victims of unlawful discrimination find justice."

As a Heritage Foundation scholar, Severino expressed anti-transgender views, such as opposition to allowing transgender people in the U.S. military and the Obama administration's litigation against North Carolina's anti-trans bathroom law House Bill 2.

Acting Secretary of Health & Human Services Eric Hargan echoed Severino's praise for the new division in a statement.

"President Trump promised the American people that his administration would vigorously uphold the rights of conscience and religious freedom," Hargan said. "That promise is being kept today. The Founding Fathers knew that a nation that respects conscience rights is more diverse and more free, and OCR's new division will help make that vision a reality."

The new division was unveiled Thursday at HHS in an event with both Hargan and Severino as well as members of Congress who have anti-LGBT records, including House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), Rep. Vicky Hartzler (R-Mo.) and Sen. James Lankford (R-Okla.).

But LGBT groups decried the establishment of the Conscience & Religious Freedom Division on the basis that it would enable religious objectors to refuse to treat transgender people or provide abortion-related services.

Rea Carey, executive director of the National LGBTQ Task Force, said in a statement the new division is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

"We are not fooled: The new office announced this morning is meant to make it easier for people to discriminate, not to protect people of faith," Carey said. "Health professionals have a duty to care for

all their patients regardless of one's gender identity, sexual orientation, faith, creed, race, political views, gender or disability, and no one should be denied care for being who they are."

Creation of the division was first reported on Wednesday by Politico in an article indicating HHS would establish the agency as part of a proposed new rule enabling religious exemptions for medical providers. Although the new agency was created, no new rule has been published in the Federal Register.

HHS hasn't responded to repeated inquiries from the Washington Blade on the nature of the new division or whether a new rule would be forthcoming.

Gregory Angelo, president of the Log Cabin Republicans, was among the LGBT groups that criticized the new division as means to enable anti-LGBT discrimination.

"It's amazing how the same people who regularly deride the LGBT community for seeking special rights are now reveling in the creation of special rights for themselves," Angelo said. "Log Cabin Republicans is proud to support both religious liberty and LGBT



Roger Severino hailed the creation of a conscience division at HHS. (Image courtesy C-Span)

equality, but the Conscience & Religious Freedom Division at HHS seems primed to tip the scales in favor of overly broad, vague, and frivolous complaints that disproportionately impact the LGBT community in matters — quite literally — that could mean life and death."

Jason Lemieux, director of government affairs for the Center for Inquiry, said in a statement the new division is at odds with ensuring access to health care.

"The Department of Health & Human Services should have as its sole priority the health and well-being of every American, pursuing policies based in facts and evidence, regardless of any person's religious beliefs or lack thereof," Lemieux said. "This grossly misnamed division represents the opposite. It is an abdication of the department's vital responsibility to the health of all Americans, placing the dogmatic beliefs of a few above the health and lives of the people they serve."

Cheering the creation of the division as means to protect religious freedom, on the other hand, was Tony Perkins, president of the anti-LGBT Family Research Council.

"Health care providers and others protected under federal conscience laws should be greatly encouraged that HHS will address any government actions taken against those who have objections to participating in an abortion or purchasing health insurance that includes abortion," Perkins said. "Americans should not be forced to choose between their faith and their desire to help patients."

In contrast to the Trump administration, the Obama administration issued a rule interpreting the provision barring sex discrimination under Obamacare to bar medical providers from discriminating against transgender patients or women who have had abortions. After a legal challenge, however, HHS was enjoined from enforcing that rule as a result of a court order issued by U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor in Texas.

The Center for American Progress published a report on the same day the HHS division was created indicating a significant minority of LGBT people have faced denial of services in the medical sector. The report, titled "Discrimination Prevents LGBTQ People from Accessing Health Care," is based on a 2017 survey conducted by the organization.

Among the findings was 29 percent of transgender people surveyed said a doctor or health care provider refused to see them because of their gender identity. Another 12 percent said a health care provider refused to provide them transition-related care.

For individuals who identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual or queer, the survey found eight percent said a doctor or other health care provider refused to see them because of their sexual orientation. Another six percent said a doctor or other health care provider refused to give them health care related to being lesbian, gay, bisexual or queer.

Shabab Mirza, an LGBT research assistant at the Center of American Progress and co-author of the report, said in a statement the conscience division "is the latest in the harms the Trump administration has enacted on this community."

"These data show the breadth of the discrimination that LGBTQ people, and especially transgender people, experience in health care settings," Mirza said. "From avoiding doctor's offices out of fear of discrimination, to hearing demeaning language, to being denied care outright, it is no wonder that LGBTQ people report poorer health than their peers."

Conscience & Religious Freedom Division is created days before the anti-abortion rights March for Life rally in D.C., which President Trump is set to address via a video message. Trump may address the creation of the new division in remarks to the crowd.

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

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Non-discrimination Policies Trigger Recall, Lawsuits

Community Near Lansing Caught in the Middle of Battle for Equality in Schools

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Leaders of the Williamston Community Schools in Ingham County are facing blowback from a small, but vocal, group of opponents to a series of reforms meant to protect LGBTQ youth in the district.

First, four members of the Board of Education — Greg Talberg, the board's president and members Christopher Lewis, Nancy Deal and Sarah Belanger — are facing recall petitions after the Ingham County Election Commission voted 2 to 1 to approve the petition language Jan. 9. The petitions call for the recall of the board members for their support for amending Williamston Community Schools' policies to explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity or expression.

The district of about 2,000 students is located 20 miles east of Lansing.

This was the fourth time at the plate for Williamston resident Jonathan Brandt in attempting to get language through the election commission, which is composed of Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum, Ingham County Treasurer Eric Schertzing and Ingham County Chief Probate Judge Richard Garcia. Garcia and Schertzing cast votes

approving the recall petition language.

Belanger, Deal, Lewis and Talberg sued the election commission last week in Ingham County Circuit Court. They claim in their suit that the language approved by the commission was "neither factual nor clear." The case has been assigned to Judge Joyce Draganchuk, who is the former Chief Deputy Ingham County Prosecuting Attorney.

"This recall effort targets a school board that has an overwhelmingly positive approval rating for doing exactly what they did in this case — advocating for every student's right to access education safely and as their authentic self," said Emily Dievendorf, president of the Lansing Association for Human Rights, a local LGBTQ advocacy group. "The Williamston that voters love is represented by the same school board members that are under attack today."

On Friday, right wing anti-LGBT activist David Kallman filed a federal lawsuit against the district on behalf of four adults and three children. According to a press release from Kallman's Great Lakes Justice Center, the suit claims the challenged policies "deny students' their right to privacy, dignity, and personal identity," "violate parents' right to be notified of their children's health decisions," "Parents' and students' right to free speech is denied," "violate Title

“ This recall effort targets a school board that has an overwhelmingly positive approval rating for doing exactly what they did in this case — advocating for every student's right to access education safely and as their authentic self. ”

— Emily Dievendorf, president of the Lansing Association for Human Rights

IX by allowing boys to take spots on girls' teams, or vice versa" and "violate the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act by creating a hostile and offensive environment." The suit claims further that the board acted beyond its authority in adopting the policies.

Kallman has tried similar legal maneuvers in Michigan courts previously, but has been rejected. His anti-LGBTQ history dates back to 2000 when he claimed Jackson Public Schools were improperly allowing a Gay Straight Alliance, while preventing the formation of a Bible club. That's an allegation he had to withdraw. He fought tooth and nail to prevent the Delta Township Board of Trustees from approving a comprehensive human rights ordinance that includes the LGBTQ community in 2013, sued Planet Fitness in Midland for allowing a transgender woman to use the women's locker room and most recently attempted to intercede on behalf of former a Jackson City Clerk who improperly certified petitions to repeal that city's nondiscrimination ordinance.

The attorney's legal drive is linked to his nonprofit organization Salt and Light Global. That organization believes that only conservative evangelical "Bible believing" Christians should serve in elective and other leadership positions in the U.S. His collaborator on that ministry, William Wagner a Cooley Law School professor, co-wrote a 2007 paper with former Michigan Assistant Attorney General Andrew Shirvell on pro-life issues. Shirvell came under fire, and was ultimately fired by then Attorney General Mike Cox for his stalking and blogging of openly gay University of Michigan student body president Chris Armstrong. Armstrong filed suit against Shirvell, and won a \$4.5 million ruling.

Dievendorf slammed the lawsuit in a statement to BTL. "These lawsuits are a desperate attempt to thwart progress for LGBTQ kids that put the fears and venom of warring adults above the safety and education of Williamston's students," she said. "The plaintiffs are relying on bias, ignorance and a misreading of the U.S. Constitution to bring them victory."

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Jon Hoadley: Representing Daily Lives in the State House

BY JONATHAN W. THURSTON

Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo) is running this year for State House for District 60, and, if elected, this will be his third and final term for the House. For Hoadley, a seat in the House is about representing the common man.

“I’ve always ran,” Hoadley said, “because I believe in a Michigan that believes in people. I want to tell the stories of the people who work and live in our community and state.”

A lot of this interest in the daily lives of people stems from Hoadley’s background. He comes from a family of educators and tries to bring that perspective into his politics.

“How can kids compete globally, especially when there are laws in place to take money from schools to support corporations?” Hoadley said.

He extends that critique of corporation-based funding more generally, too.

“It’s about raising wages,” Hoadley said. “Ending giveaways to the most profitable

When asked what the biggest takeaway from 2017’s political environment for him is, Hoadley had this to say: “We win when people get involved.”

corporations at the same time our small businesses aren’t getting those breaks. Your profitability should be based more on how you work.”

Hoadley’s primary platform focuses on social justice and the environment. Along with other LGBTQ voices in the state legislature, Hoadley fights for equality in the State House.

“We have to be at the table when decisions are being made. I continue to do that work whether that’s standing up for those who dream or making polluters pay,” he said. “These are things I’ve been really proud of

doing.”

Something Hoadley is not as proud of is the state of federal affairs currently.

“I am incredibly disappointed that we have President Trump,” Hoadley said. “I think his words and actions represent some of the worst examples of what leadership can look like. And putting other people

down to put other people up. Telling blatant lies. This is not America at its best.”

However, despite these critiques, Hoadley remains hopeful and inspired by everyday people, people who fight against Trump’s agenda, whether it’s rallies, protests or even just word-of-mouth. To Hoadley, these are examples of people challenging that system.

“They are saying ‘I don’t like where the country is going, and I can see the result if I’m not involved.’ People all over the country are coming to help,” he said.

Hoadley said it’s a good sign that more LGBTQ people are running and winning in places across the country.

“It’s not just one place that elects a LGBT candidate. We see that success all over the country. It’s diversifying the faces and voices of who are LGBT candidates.”

However, Hoadley thinks we need more of that diversity here in Michigan.

“I’d love to see even more running in Michigan in particular and every corner of our state. We’re telling compelling stories of people’s lives. That’s what we should be doing in the first place.”

Still, in America, running for any office as



Jon Hoadley

an LGBT candidate is tricky.

“It’s important to note that in plenty of places being an LGBT candidate still sets you potentially back from the starting line, and you have to push forward a little more to overcome those challenges. When you find LGBT candidates that you agree with, since a lot of times those candidates have to do just a little bit extra, do a little bit extra and support them. Support them in social media. Tell others about them,” Hoadley said.

Hoadley encourages members of the community to support LGBT candidates by paying attention to the organizations that are looking at these candidates, such as the Equality Michigan PAC and the Victory Fund.

“Reach out to these organizations,” Hoadley said. “By seeing how these kinds of organizations interact with candidates, we can see how to better support LGBT diversity and representation in political roles.”

When asked what the biggest takeaway from 2017’s political environment for him is, Hoadley said this: “We win when people get involved.”

Connect with Jon Hoadley online at housedems.com/hoadley.

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Report: Record Number of Anti-LGBT Homicides in 2017

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

A new report from the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Project has found the number of anti-LGBT homicides in 2017 was 52 – making it the recorded worst year ever for murders of LGBT people.

The report, published Monday, comes after a mid-year report in August signaling 2017 was the worst year ever for anti-LGBT homicides. The new report, however, indicates anti-LGBT violence increased even further after that report and reached 52 deaths by the end of the year.

According to the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Project, that's the highest number ever recorded in its 20-year history and represents an 86 percent increase from 2016.

Beverly Tillery, executive director of the Anti-Violence Project, said in a statement the report is “a wake-up call for all of us” and blamed the anti-LGBT policies of the Trump administration for the increased violence.

“Our communities live in an increasingly hostile and dangerous climate, after a year of anti-LGBTQ rhetoric and policies coming from the White House, federal government agencies, state and local sources and in our communities across the country,” Tillery said. “Anti-LGBTQ violence has long been a crisis, but NCAVP has watched the escalation of violence this past year with great concern.”

Included in the report is a graph of the number of anti-LGBT homicides in 2017 compared to violent deaths of LGBT people in recent years. (The recorded numbers don't count the 2016 mass shooting at a gay nightclub in Orlando, Fla., which killed 49 people and wounded 58 others.)

NCAVP found 2017 was the worst year on record for anti-LGBT homicides.

Among the key findings pulled out by

NCAVP in the report:

- * The victims of these hate violence related homicides have overwhelmingly been transgender women and queer, bi, or gay cisgender men;

- * There was a significant increase of reports of homicides of queer, bi, or gay cisgender men, from 4 reports in 2016 to 20 reports in 2017;

- * For the last five years NCAVP has documented a consistent and steadily rising number of reports of homicides of transgender women of color, which continued into 2017;

- * In 2017, NCAVP collected information on 27 hate-violence related homicides of transgender and gender non-conforming people this year, compared to 19 reports for 2016;

- * 22 of these homicides were of transgender women of color; and

- * Of the total number of homicides in 2017, 71 percent of the victims were people of color: 31 (60 percent) of the victims were Black, 4 (8 percent) were Latino, 2 (4 percent) were Asian and 1 (2 percent) was Native American.

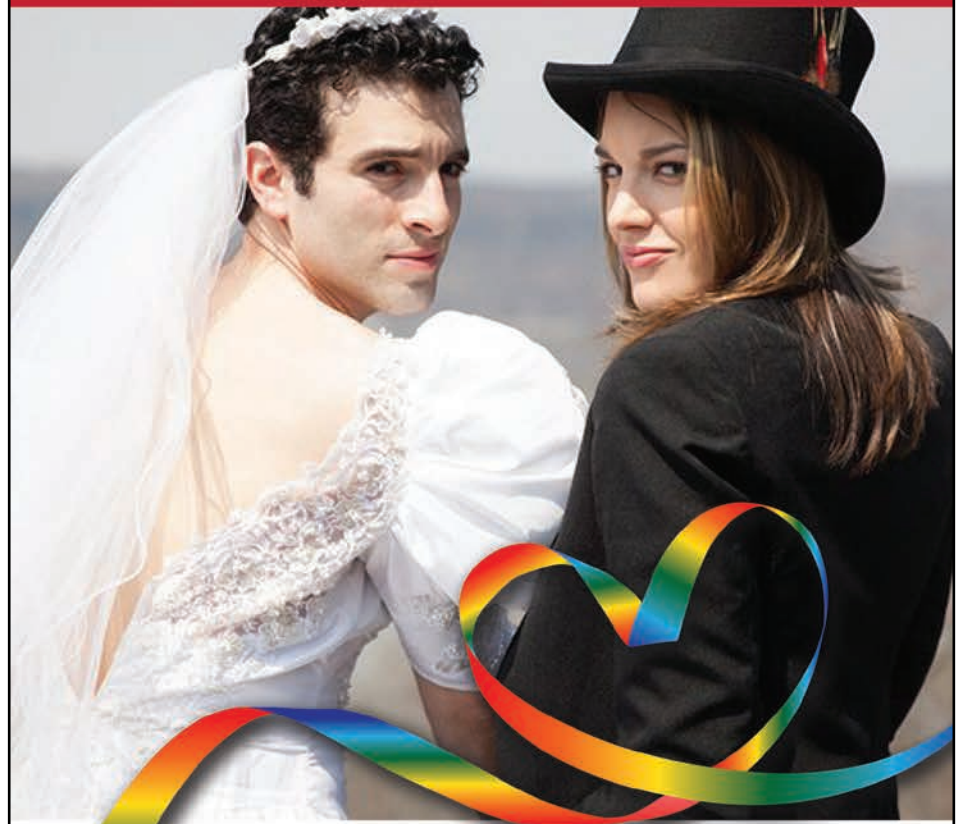
The report includes a list of the 52 LGBT individuals lost to hate violence in 2017 as well as the circumstances of their death.

“I urge everyone to read the stories and look at the photos of the 52 individuals lost to hate violence in 2017 – they are our friends, family, co-workers and fellow LGBTQ community members,” Tillery said. “NCAVP will continue to say their names and re-commits to doing all we can to prevent hate violence and support survivors.”

Read the full report here. (gaybe.am/vR).

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

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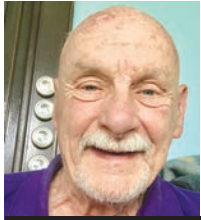
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Peel Me a Grape, Kitty! Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

In 1953, a madam by the name of Polly Adler wrote a tell-all best seller about her 30 years in the brothel business, “A House is Not a Home.” It created a sensation

(I was too young to apply for a real estate license; but I do recall my parents talking hush hush about Polly while I tried to listen for Good Housekeeping details. Glass to the bedroom wall.)

I was 13 when I got an inkling that something was more than “a miss” on my own inner city block. An older, macho guy about 25 asked me if I knew where the “party girls” – said with a wink and an elbow nudge – hung out. “You know, kid. The whore house.”

I hadn’t a clue why he hit on me. Maybe he was nearsighted and thought I looked butch, or sexually precocious beyond my prepubescent years. I learned later that the bordello was around the corner from me. The Hickory House Restaurant. Upstairs. Short ribs. Long rubs!

One hot summer at Samhat delivery I met my first “sex worker.” Miss Blonde Bombshell answered her door in a see-through nightie. I dutifully surrendered my bread, milk, cheese, grapes. And, not knowing what else to do, I bowed. Instead of a tip I got a cleavage peek. (I would have preferred the tip.)

At 14, I delivered groceries for Samhat’s Market, a Muslim brothers-owned store, where I also learned a smattering of Arabic: Keef-hollic? (How are you?) Mah-ah-salamah! (Thank you!) Nish-good Allah! (Praise Allah!) Fee-kee honi. (Best left untranslated.)

I also found myself, one scary evening, ducking behind counters during a bang-bang armed robbery at the Samhat Market. But that’s another story.

One hot summer at Samhat delivery I met my first “sex worker.” Miss Blonde Bombshell answered her door in a see-through nightie. I dutifully surrendered my bread, milk, cheese, grapes. And, not knowing what else to do, I bowed. Instead of a tip I got a cleavage peek. (I would have preferred the tip.)

I’m sure her intentions were meritorious. To help me earn my Boy Scout Badge for exploring unknown, impregnable terrain. To be truthful, I wasn’t much interested in her kind of tenderfoot instruction. My boyhood motto: To light a fire, rub two sticks together. Long enough. Hard enough.

Probably the most famous 20th century brothel was Salon Kitty. Established by the German Gestapo in the fashionable west end of Berlin at the onset of World War II. It was a high-class operation catering to horny Axis diplomats (German, Italian, Japanese), war heroes, politicians.

Kitty’s workers were glamorous madchen, motivated not by sex for fun and/or profit but by a sense of patriotic duty to the Vaterland. Heil Hitler! Deutschland uber alles! (Germany over all. Or, more accurately: Germany on top of everyone! Donald Trump take note.)

Kitty Salon was electronically bugged. The girls were trained to tease, titillate, twist classified information from clients. Fascist Italy’s Prime Minister, Count Ciano, was a frequent guest. He was rated an “indolent lay” by staff. Meglio che scam!

Few earthshaking diplomatic secrets were ferreted out at Kitty

See next page



BY MICHELLE E. BROWN

Viewpoint

Rallying the Crowd at the Ann Arbor Women’s March

Radio host Michelle Brown of “Collections by Michelle Brown” told Women’s March attendees in Ann Arbor last Saturday, to “grab them by the midterms and take our power to the polls.” Below is her full speech.

Hello Ann Arbor!
We are back!

Here we are one year later still standing in solidarity for the America we believe in.

An America hijacked a year ago, when a toxic orange cloud settled over our nation’s capital.

Most days, it feels like common decency is under siege as republicans use their almost overwhelming political power to paralyze our dreams for our communities.

It no longer, even remotely, feels like a government of, for and by the people but a renegade government operating under its own agenda.

From day one, it’s been about turning back the hands of time for women, the LGBTQ community, workers, immigrants, education, the environment, you name it.

Making America great, not for the majority, but for the same minority that continues to hold all the wealth.

Almost every morning we wake up to another blast of

presidential tirades from an overnight Twitter storm that’s regurgitated all day by 45’s band of clueless henchmen and women.

He’s a stable genius alright but apparently that stable never got cleaned and its full of muck!

The travel ban, the transgender ban in the military, his nuclear pissing contest with North Korea, putting the nation’s education system in the hands of the most unqualified secretary of education in history, continuing attacks on healthcare even for children, appointing a climate change doubter to head the EPA - like the song goes “We’re living in bad conditions.”

2017 was a hard year!

But I continue to look for the best of times, the best in people, the best in possible outcomes and I’ve seen it in the faces of women, students and everyday people.

See next page

► Viewpoint: Brown

Continued from p. 8

Last year across the country we marched together, our children in tow, not just in protest of the election but for the protection of all we hold dear.

We still believe the greatness of this country lies in its diversity, inclusion and equality for everyone — all of the huddled masses whether born here, brought here as children or immigrating here. We are all yearning to breathe free.

We continue to resist and it's women leading the charge.

Thousands of women came to the Women's Convention planning strategies and actions to "reclaim" our time.

Women in office are speaking out and holding their male political counterparts to task. And we have seen even more women thinking about and running for office.

Women, people of color and members of the LGBTQ community were elected to office across the country in record numbers last November.

And despite 45's endorsement, Alabama's Roy Moore, was defeated. That election which saw a large turnout from voters, especially black women.

The #Metoo movement has finally put the spotlight on sexual assault, harassment and just bad behavior. It's time we call out the occupant of White House for his actions.

In her Golden Globe acceptance speech Oprah Winfrey talked about a new day on the horizon! A new day finally dawning because of a lot of magnificent women.

She was speaking to the women primarily in that room, but I say it is because of the magnificent women - black, white, brown, of all colors, ethnicities, sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as a few good men, that

we stood together to make our community strong, to fight for what we believe! So we are going to march on.

We say to The White House, McConnell, Ryan and the Grand Old Party of Prevaricators, Predators, Perverts and Phonies - your time is up!

And we are not going to keep fighting about 2016. We say to the democrats, we are watching you too. Hear our voices! Do your job and open the doors to all of us and our new ideas and this new wave of women joining your ranks.

And finally, to our dear confused sisters who continue to vote against their own best interest, We always love you, even though we don't like you right now. If you can't vote for yourself vote for your daughters, your granddaughters, those little girls born every day who will live under the choices you make. Wake up and stay woke!

So, I'm going to ask you - Whose time is this?

This time is ours!

Now let's grab them by the midterms and take our power to the polls!

Now let's grab them by the midterms and take our power to the polls!

Michelle E. Brown is a public speaker, activist and author. Her blog radio podcast "Collections By Michelle Brown" airs every Thursday at 7 p.m. Current and archived episodes can be heard on Blog Talk Radio, iTunes, Stitcher or SoundCloud. Follow her on Facebook at facebook.com/CollectionsByMichelleBrown.

Online Coverage

See all of our Women's March 2018 Coverage online at pridesource.com.

this steamy tidbit for his "Facts & Figures" collection: "the decor was nautical." (But nice!)

"The house was staffed with multilingual agents for the purpose of extracting shipping — and receiving! — information from sailors. The FBI later claimed it was a very successful operation." (Especially for those sailors on the multilingual pegging end of the business. Ship, ship ahoy! Turn over, and drop anchor!)

Charles Alexander is prolific both as a BTL columnist (700-plus columns) and as a well-known LGBT community artist (1000 Face Book images). He is a Spirit of Detroit Award recipient and an Affirmations LGBT CENTER Jan Stevenson awardee. Connect with him at Charles@pridesource.com.

Creep of the Week

Alex Jones

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI



Is it true that some gays treat other gays terribly? Well, yes. Of course. Because gays are human and some humans are trash (see: Alex Jones).

and discrimination. Nope. They kill themselves because they a bunch of catty bitches.

"I've witnessed it for myself," Jones said. "I've had friends, family, neighbors that are gay. You go to their party, they're being meaner than hell to each other."

I'd like to point out the use of the past tense "had" to describe his gay friends, family and neighbors. Presumably they stopped associating with him after watching his show. Either that or he stopped associating with them after they refused to buy the "proprietary" vitamin supplements Jones pedals on his website.

And what did Jones mean when he said, "You go to their party?" What gay people are inviting this man to their parties?

"A lot of gay people are really mean," he lamented.

"Let's not lie about that, and let's not lie about how [gays] treat each other," he said. "And that lesbians have the highest level of abusing each other."

I'm not sure what he means by "highest level of abusing each other." If he's talking about domestic violence then, yes, that's an actual problem that exists in some lesbian relationships. But it also exists, at a much higher rate, in heterosexual relationships, and Jones doesn't seem concerned about that.

Is it true that some gays treat other gays terribly? Well, yes. Of course. Because gays are human and some humans are trash (see: Alex Jones).

And there are definitely some killer queens out there with razor sharp wits and lashing tongues. But I'd argue that the external obstacles gays face play a much larger role in suicide rates than some queen dishing out devastating reads at the bar.

I can't help but think Jones has been binge watching too much RuPaul's Drag Race.

But if he truly is so concerned about gays committing suicide, I'm sure he'd be more than happy to donate some of his vitamin supplement money to The Trevor Project (thetrevorproject.org).

► Parting Glances

Continued from p. 8

Salon, but everyone had a helluva good time, at least until the Soviet Ruskies came and raped and ravaged the city up one end and down the other.

As far as the spy brothel business goes, we Americans did the Germans one better. We set up a male brothel, operated patriotically. Cost efficiently. Wiretapped. Run by the FBI. (Somebody's gotta do it, Mary, er, J. Edgar Hoover!)

The brothel (or "peg house" as it was called) was located near — no big goose step! — Gay Street in Greenwich Village. Reports the late, prolific writer Isaac Asimov, who dug up

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Iván Chanis Barahona is a gay Panamanian lawyer who is working pro bono on a case that seeks to extend marriage rights to same-sex couples in his Central American country. (Photo courtesy of Iván Chanis Barahona).

Panama Signals it Will Comply with Landmark LGBT Rights Ruling

BY MICHAEL K. LAVERS

The government of Panama has signaled it plans to comply with a landmark Inter-American Court of Human Rights ruling that recognizes same-sex marriage and transgender rights.

Vice President Isabel de Saint Malo on Tuesday announced the Panamanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs notified all government agencies about the ruling. She pointed out to reporters during a Panama City press conference that the Panamanian Constitution “guarantees the principle of nondiscrimination as the court’s ruling has in fact established.”

“We are sure that with it we will be able to advance an agenda of equity and nondiscrimination even further,” added Saint Malo, according to TVN, a Panamanian television station.

The court issued its landmark ruling on Jan. 9 in response to the Costa Rican government’s request for an advisory opinion on whether it has an obligation to extend property rights to same-sex couples and allow trans people to change their name and gender marker on identity documents.

The Organization of American States, which is based in D.C., created the Costa Rica-based court in 1979 in order to enforce provisions of the American Convention on Human Rights. The Jan. 9 ruling is legally binding in Panama and the 19 other countries that currently recognize the convention.

“She is complying with the opinion itself

that calls upon member states to adjust national law and practices to implement the full human rights protections for LGBTI people,” Iván Chanis Barahona, president of Fundación Iguales, a Panamanian advocacy group, told the Washington Blade on Wednesday from Panama City. “This decision of the Panamanian government is consistent with a long tradition of international support and respect of the inter-American human rights system, and Panama’s recognition of the binding, ipso facto jurisdiction of the court on all matters relating to the interpretation or application of the American Convention on Human Rights.”

The Panama Supreme Court in 2017 heard oral arguments in a case that would extend marriage rights to same-sex couples. Chanis—a lawyer who lived in D.C. for seven years and worked with the Organization of American States before returning to Panama in 2016—is working pro bono on it.

“We have a really solid case,” he told the Blade last September during an interview in Panama City.

Saint Malo and Panamanian First Lady Lorena Castillo both publicly support marriage rights for same-sex couples. TVN reported Saint Malo did not say whether her government has any immediate plans to allow gays and lesbians to legally marry in the country.

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

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NEWS

First Active Duty Gay Couple Wed at West Point

BY MARIAH COOPER

A gay couple wed in a historic ceremony on Jan. 13 that marked the first same-sex wedding at West Point, according to the New York Times.

Capt. Daniel Hall, 30, and Capt. Vinny Franchino, 26, exchanged vows in their blue mess uniforms at the Cadet Chapel in front of a crowd of 150 family, friends and other military officers. The couple, who both serve as Apache helicopter pilots in El Paso, Texas, exited the chapel under an archway of sabers.

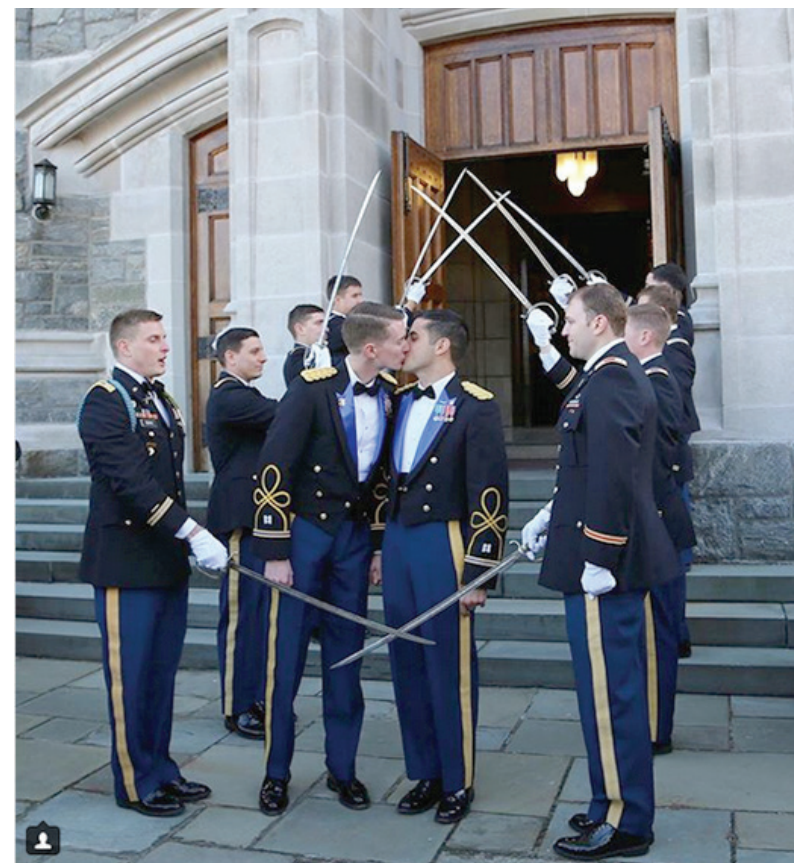
Hall and Franchino met in 2009 when Hall was a senior and Franchino was a freshman. Although they were initially attracted to each other, they were forced to stay silent due to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

"Through mutual friends at West Point, we had each learned the other was gay, and though we were attracted to one another, we couldn't say or do anything about it," Hall told the New York Times.

When "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was repealed, they decided to openly pursue a relationship. Hall and Franchino went on their first date in 2012. However, homophobia was still rampant.

"That's where some guy called us both faggots," Franchino says.

The couple met another obstacle when Hall was deployed to South Korea. They agreed to date other people but eventually decided to get back together.



Although things haven't been easy for the couple, Franchino says the freedom to be who they are is worth it.

"We've experienced everything from people feeling awkward around us to being called faggots while holding hands and walking down the street, stuff like that," Franchino says. "But despite

what we've been through, nothing was worse than having served during the 'don't ask, don't tell' years."

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



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Dr. Theodore Carson Baker, II and Richard William Thomas, Jr. met in 1999 and married last year, despite Baker's traumatic brain injury

“It was a Cinderella and Prince Charming thing ... well, a Prince Charming and Prince Charming. The number of people, how big it was, how long it was, we did it with all the pomp and circumstance. We did the chauffeurs and everything.”

– Dr. Theodore Carson Baker, II

A Dream Wedding

Couple Ties the Knot in Prince Charming Ceremony

BY JONATHAN W. THURSTON

Many people grow up dreaming of the Cinderella–Prince Charming wedding. And last September, one couple got to see their dream come true during their Prince Charming–Prince Charming ceremony.

Dr. Theodore Carson Baker, II (60) and Richard William Thomas, Jr. (57) are, in Baker's words, “nontraditional.” They met in 1999 at an HIV retreat and, despite challenges over the years, have remained together.

Both Baker and Thomas are disabled veterans. While Thomas was a computer technician who joined the navy to enter computer repair, Baker joined the army around 1978 and stayed for 10 years as an army medic and surgeon technician. Afterward, he went to medical school in 1991, left in 1996 and became a counselor.

While their future wedding would become a dream come true, their proposal was in less ideal circumstances.

“I got into a very tragic car accident,” Baker said. “They took me to the hospital, and I was DOA but went into cardiac arrest on the table for 11 minutes.”

They managed to revive him, but he was in a coma for three days.

“I don't remember anything for that whole week. I don't remember getting into the accident.”

And that's when Thomas proposed to him, right there in the hospital.

“We would have gotten married years ago, but, due to the laws, we thought about it, but we didn't have legal marriage.”

He accepted the proposal in September

2015. They had their wedding two years later. The couple was married at the Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church in Ferndale (Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit). Their reception was held at DeCarlo's Banquet & Convention Center in Warren.

“I had two years to get ready,” Baker said.

But he was already a different person. He had a traumatic brain injury due to the accident. While it did not affect his memory, multiple visits to the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor revealed there were issues with how he processed information.

“I had to literally relearn how to walk, talk, use the phone, keyboard, computer ... When I got out, I couldn't play video games like I could when I was a kid. I could only do one task at a time.”

Managing all of that trauma along with a wedding was a difficult task.

Even with these struggles though, Baker and Thomas wanted a big wedding with all the trimmings.

“It was a Cinderella and Prince Charming thing ... well, a Prince Charming and Prince Charming,” Baker said with a laugh. “The number of people, how big it was, how long it was, we did it with all the pomp and circumstance. We did the chauffeurs and everything.”

When it came to planning, Thomas handled the money, while Baker handled more of the management tasks.

“With each thing that was done,” Baker said, “I had to do it or find somebody to do it. The person I found to do it had to check with me, and I had to check back on them. It was a nightmare. The preparation was atrocious, yet, for

some reason, it was the grandest time of my life.”

Coming from the 60s, the two are still amazed at their marriage.

“I was allowed,” Baker said, “to be married in a church, and we're going to church and getting married in front of God and everyone. The fact that we were able to do this and present to people, ‘Look at this. We're going to do this just like when my sister got married!’ We literally did it.”

If given the chance to do it over again, Baker said he would have second thoughts about the planning, “but I'd still marry him!”

For people with wedding plans as big as Baker and Thomas' (BATO's, as the pair loves to be called), Baker has very specific advice: “If you have a handful of people, maybe four or five that you can absolutely trust to do a thing and know what they're doing and you trust them to do it, and you have a lot of money to pay for things, do it.” Otherwise, he said, don't aim for a wedding like his.

Their wedding had the title of “Diamonds and Pearls.” And they focused intensely on the fashion, giving all the women pearls for the occasion. For Thomas' suit, they went to Nan's Wearhouse for Tuxedos, and for Baker's tailoring, they went to Saginaw Suits and Alterations.

Now, a year later, they live happily together with Thomas' mother and their three dogs.

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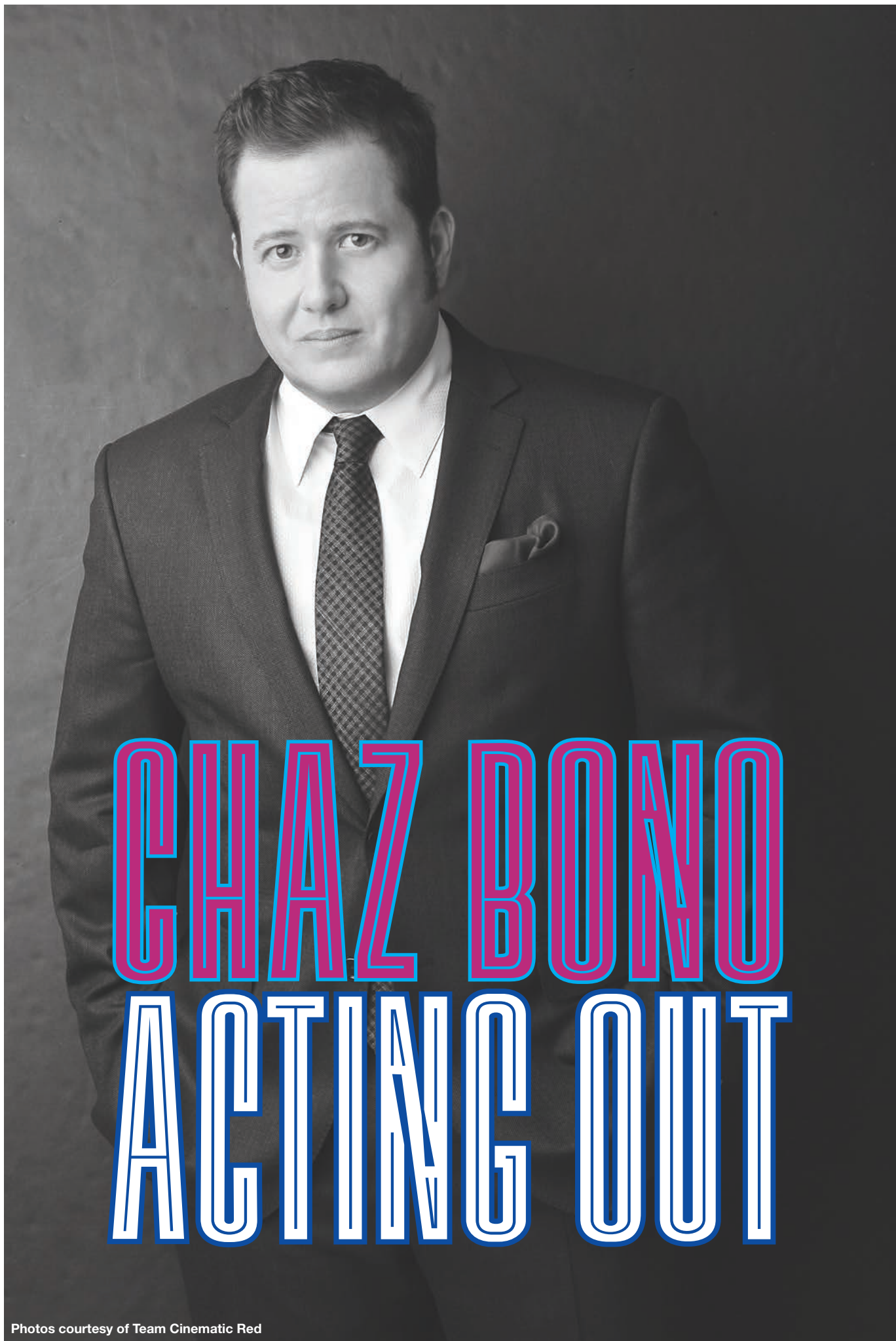
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CHAZ BONO ACTING OUT

Photos courtesy of Team Cinematic Red

Activist on How His Transness 'Was the Issue That Made Me Stop Acting,' Cult Seduction and His Thoughts on Working With Mom Cher

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

As radical right-winger Gary Longstreet on last year's "American Horror Story: Cult," a far cry from his own liberal leanings, Chaz Bono had his breakout role at the age of 48. Why did it take so long for Bono, who just happens to be Cher's transgender son, to make his mark as an actor?

Because Bono was often in conflict with the female gender of the person he was playing but didn't know why.

At least not at first.

Then, suddenly, his interest in male roles changed more than just his acting career – in 2009, the activist transitioned from female to male. Years later, in 2016, Bono followed a recurring role as Reverend Rydale on "The Bold and the Beautiful" with a foray into Ryan Murphy's "American Horror Story" anthology, first on "Roanoke" and then on the prolific TV creator's grisly Trump-era "Cult."

Here, Bono opens up about why understanding his gender identity was the long first step to acting again, the "bizarre" possibility of working with mom Cher and what he's learned about LGBTQ representation from trans youth.

One of my favorite parts of you starring in "American Horror Story: Cult" was reading your mom's tweets about the show.

You know, she gets confused a little bit. (Before I was killed off) she was in Vegas, and she and her best friend Paulette did a binge of the show, but they didn't know I had gotten killed already, so I think that was a realization. She tweeted me about that and was like, "Was this on yet?"

What was it like to be part of a show that is steeped in total conservative radicalism with a cast that is so LGBTQ-oriented? The contrast is so ironic.

Yeah, it was interesting, 'cause I would say, for me, I had two very distinctive experiences on the show. The first part of it was what you just said: very steeped in a lot of people in the community, and then those who are just incredibly open-minded. But then all of these guys come in and I started spending all of this time with all of these young actors and extras, and it suddenly became a different experience. That was the first time for me that I started to feel like I was in a cult, and started to experience what that feels like and the comfort it brings.

Are you saying you could understand the appeal of a cult?

I could understand the appeal a little bit, yeah. I'm somebody who keeps up with the news obsessively, but there was something really nice about when I'd go to work, turning my brain off and being with a bunch of younger actors who were really exuberant, like this full-on, testosterone-driven experience of all of us hooting and hollering and just waiting on every word that Evan (Peters) would say as (cult leader) Kai. That group mentality is very – I understood how it could be very seductive at certain times.

I found it seductive too, but I couldn't figure out how much of that was because the guys were so hot.

(Laughs) Well, yeah, that didn't really do it for me, but some of the guys were really great actors. We got along really well, because I've done a lot of theater and I've been at my acting studio for five years now. I'm used to being around younger actors because I haven't been incredibly successful in my career, so I'm around young actors all the time, so I feel very comfortable and know what it's like to be the new guy, because that's how I felt last season (on "Roanoke"). We kind of all bonded (on "Cult"), and it was just this really strange experience, like this group mode mentality. And you know, we were obnoxious. It definitely became a presence on set – and, I mean, I think I was maybe less obnoxious because I'm 48. (Laughs)

Why have you purposefully avoided playing trans roles?

It's really a twofold thing. First of all, I really consider myself a character actor, and I really like playing parts that are very different from myself. That's what I enjoy about acting, that's what's fun for me, and I think it's what I'm really good at.

I don't really have any interest in playing a trans guy because I don't want to play something that's close to me. If I wasn't trans, I probably would wanna play a trans person because that's the kind of actor I am, but it doesn't interest me that much because I've seen so many actors that I know who are trans playing trans parts and I wanted to try to establish myself as not that. I wanted to show people that that's just a ridiculous thing and I didn't want to get pigeonholed, so I just waited and took small stuff here and there that wasn't that because it's just not the career that I want.

While working for GLAAD as entertainment media director in the '90s, you were a consultant on Ellen DeGeneres' sitcom, "Ellen." Considering the show's lead, Ellen, is gay, what did it mean to be a consultant on that show?

I looked over scripts. I was doing a lot with them as far as – there was a tremendous amount of press and hoopla around the coming out stuff. We were working to coordinate a lot of that stuff for her, and then

doing a lot of press because she did so little. So, picking up a lot of slack. I was actually on one of the episodes right after the coming out episode, which was fun, and just kind of there for them. It's so long ago that I just remember always being there and always organizing shit around that.

She's a lesbian, so she knows how to portray that (laughs). But there were other questions that came up about other stuff related to the community and little specifics here and there about being a lesbian. You'd probably be surprised to find out that – because one of my good friends is the guy who handles all trans stuff for GLAAD, and so I know this – about the number of calls that he gets from actors, writers, producers and people who want to get it right.

You hear stories from celebrities who don't necessarily want their child to go down the same showbiz path they did. Was that the case for you growing up?

No, not at all. My mom was actually the one who got me into acting. I was 14 and a really miserable kid in middle school, not relating to other kids at my school and just really unhappy, and my mom made me go to an acting class. I was kind of like, "Oh god, why do I have to do this?" and I ended up totally falling in love with it. Then, I auditioned for a performing arts high school and got in and moved to New York, so yeah, my mom has always been incredibly supportive of creative endeavor.

Regarding your sexuality and gender identity, I know you've gone through a lot with her.

She has evolved a lot!

She's getting the pronouns right these days?

She does get the pronouns right. Now she just gets mixed up and calls me my brother's name. (Laughs)

Ha! Well, every mother does that.

Yeah, right! But yeah, she's been supportive. For me, I didn't know that I was trans at the time, but it was the issue that made me stop acting. I knew that I couldn't play women. And I didn't really know why at that point. I chalked everything up to being gay and masculine.

When did you come to the realization that you couldn't play female roles?

I was 18. I was a senior in high school and I got cast as a male in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," our big senior production at performing arts, and it was the first time that I really felt like I knew what I was doing and felt comfortable and was really good. It was like, "OK, why do I have a handle on playing a middle-aged man? Why is that easier than playing a teenage girl?"

Did you process this on your own? Did you talk to your mom?

See Chaz, page 20

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► Chaz

Continued from p. 19

No, I didn't process it on my own. And I couldn't – I wasn't out to my mom. My mom did not handle the coming out thing well, so no, trans wasn't there yet and what I knew was, OK, clearly as a working actor I wouldn't be able to go out for these parts. But this was the first time I really loved acting and it didn't feel like a struggle. It was fun and joyous and "wow." Honestly, it didn't really strike me until I started to realize I was transgender and looking back over my life for evidence when I was in that fact-finding part of the journey of trying to figure it out.

It's a weird thing, because on the one hand I try to emphasize that being transgender doesn't affect my acting at all, which it doesn't – I'm just an actor who happens to be transgender – but what it did affect was that, unfortunately, I started doing what I love so late in life because it happens to be a profession where you have to be comfortable and in the right body to do it.

I imagine now you're hustling for roles.

Always hustling.

What's next for you acting-wise? Will we see you on this year's season of "American Horror Story"?

I don't know. I mean, yeah, I've got little projects and stuff that I'm working on, but that kind of stuff takes forever. I'm hoping to have a better pilot season than last year and, yeah, we'll see.

Are you interested in self-financing and self-directing? Have you collaborated on any projects with your mother?

No, I haven't collaborated with her. Yeah, that I would probably do. That would be so bizarre, but I think she's very talented (laughs). But I don't have any interest in directing. I'm just not a very visual person, but I do have an interest in getting projects off the ground and producing. I produced a play out here – a Lee Blessing play called "Down the Road" – and I would probably do more.

As GLAAD's former entertainment media director, are you encouraged by the increase in trans representation in media? What do you see as far as trans representation goes?

It's really interesting because I facilitate a group once a month with a bunch of other people for an organization that I'm on the board of. It's a big organization with lots of moving parts, but I facilitate a group for trans youth, and so we had a conversation recently and all these trans kids – basically middle school through college – were talking about representation. It was interesting to hear from them, because as an adult with a long

life growing up in the '80s where there was – forget about no trans representation, there was no gay or lesbian representation – my feeling is, "Wow, we've come so far."

But, listen, these kids they were like, "God, why am I not seeing XY and Z? I'm not seeing this, and I'm not seeing that." It was a really interesting perspective to see because, yeah, we've come a long way, but there's still a long way to go. And the people who need to see themselves reflected in media really badly are not getting their needs met. The number of trans youth just seems to be growing vastly and they are not seeing themselves represented, and when they are, it's the same story. It's always about figuring it out and transitioning and they're like, "I don't want to see that anymore. I want to see a trans person in sci-fi. I want to see a trans person in fantasy. I want to see trans people represented in the kind of stuff that I like. I'm not seeing that."

Is that something you want to see as well?

Honestly, it's not something I think about that much. My life is so much about my acting career, and so what I want is to just get more work (laughs), so it's hard. And when I think about politics or that kind of stuff, there is, to me, just so many bigger fish to fry. It's been so long for me since I needed to see myself reflected in anything that you forget, so it was an interesting lesson. Because I don't need to see myself reflected. I don't need to relate to

a character because they're trans. If I were to say all of the things that I am, trans is at the bottom of my list, so it doesn't affect my life in any way. It's just a thing. It's not a part of my identity at all.

Does the fact that last year we elected trans officials, such as Danica Roem of Virginia, excite you?

Yeah, totally, that was amazing. That was awesome. That was a little bit more exciting, but I have to say I also get excited about any person that is a minority – that is the first person to get, in this climate, ahead.

So, any people of color, people of Muslim faith, anybody who is marginalized. Because at this point in my life, I see us all as the same thing. I really don't differentiate. To me, I've evolved to the point where we're all the same, and I think if everybody could get there we'd be such a very large, strong majority. So, I was really excited by all the women who took office, and there was a woman of color who got elected where that had never happened before, so all those milestones were exciting for me.

As editor of Q Syndicate, the international LGBTQ 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).



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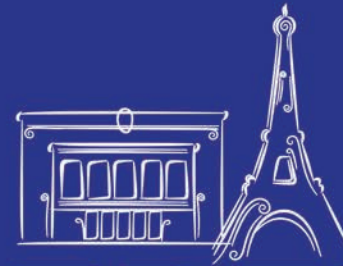
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Lansing's Old Town Hosts 5th Annual Chocolate Walk



BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Perhaps mixing chocolate with exercise isn't an idea that many would consider, but in Lansing it has certainly stuck, as Lansing's Old Town debuts its fifth Annual Chocolate Walk.

"Throughout this event, community members have the opportunity to get to know Old Town and all of its unique businesses, retailers and restaurants," said an Old Town Commercial Association press release. "All are encouraged

to come and take part in the Old Town chocolate walk and collect gourmet chocolates just in time for Valentine's Day."

With the purchase of a ticket, participants will each receive a 2-pound chocolate box to fill to the brim with sweets, a punch card and a map. From 3 to 7 p.m., event-goers will follow the provided map to each participating business and collect its featured gourmet chocolate. And attendees can expect more than simply stopping off for treats.

"We are excited to continue the tradition of providing a warming station at the Old Town Marquee at our Chocolate Walk," said the press release. "Participants can pop in for some hot chocolate, generously donated by Eagle Eye Golf Club, and warm up from a Michigan winter evening."

Based on sold out attendance from last year, the Old Town Commercial Association advises interested individuals to sign up early.

Tickets to the 5th Annual Chocolate Walk in Old Town cost \$25 in advance and \$30 day of. To purchase tickets, visit otca.wildapricot.org/event-2784887. For additional information about the event contact the Old Town Commercial Association at vanessa@oldtownmainstreet.org or call 517-485-4283.

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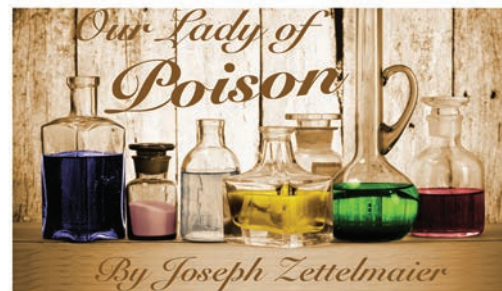
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Composer Adam Schoenberg. Photo by Erik Rynearson.

Grammy Award-Nominated Composer to be Featured in Two MSU Music Concerts

BY BTL STAFF

The week of Jan. 28 will be a busy one for Adam Schoenberg. After attending the 60th Grammy Awards in Madison Square Garden for his nominated work “Picture Studies,” he’ll be flying to East Lansing for two follow up performances on Jan. 29 and 30.

Schoenberg is a professor at Occidental College in Los Angeles where he runs both the composition and film scoring programs. He is also a classical orchestral composer and film scorer and he has worked with a variety of “major American orchestras, including the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (‘Up!’ and ‘La Luna Azul’), the Kansas City Symphony (‘American ‘Symphony’ and ‘Picture Studies’), and the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Aspen Music Festival and School (‘Bounce’),” according to an MSU press release.

Schoenberg’s works have also been premiered in several notable venues like the Library of Congress, the Kennedy Center, the New York Philharmonic, The Cleveland Orchestra, Dallas Symphony Orchestra and Hollywood Bowl.

His following performances will be under

the direction of MSU Professor of Music and Director of Bands Kevin Sedatole.

“Adam Schoenberg’s compositions are a delight to bring alive, and I’m thrilled to be leading back-to-back performances with ‘Musique 21’ and the MSU Wind Symphony,” Sedatole said. “Presenting his work through our contemporary ensemble and the Wind Symphony will show the breadth of his invigorating style. The fact that he and Zhou Tian are nominated for Grammys in the same category and the timing of the awards adds to the fun!”

Tian is an MSU associate professor who is also nominated for a Grammy Award this year, for his work “Concerto for Orchestra.”

The Musique 21 concert will feature “Bounce for Two Pianos,” “One Acquainted with Night for Solo Flute and Piano” and more. The Wind Symphony performance will also include a version of “Bounce” and Schoenberg’s Grammy-nominated piece.

Tickets for these concerts are \$10 each, \$8 for seniors and free for students with ID and attendees under 18. To find tickets online or find more information about these events, visit music.msu.edu, or call 517-353-5340.

‘Waitress Cast Album Karaoke’ at Wharton Center

BY BTL STAFF

It’s the dream of many to sing Broadway hits live onstage, and with Wharton Center’s upcoming performance of “Waitress,” that dream is all the more accessible through “Cast Album Karaoke.” The karaoke was such a success on Broadway that it is now part of the touring show. After the Jan. 24 performance of the show, interested audience members will be chosen at random to sing one minute of their favorite “Waitress” song onstage, accompanied by the show’s musical director. The event will be hosted by the Wharton Center’s Bob Hoffman and a cast member from the production.

Based on the 2007 film written by Adrienne Shelly, “Waitress” first appeared on Broadway in 2016. The story follows Jenna, a waitress and expert pie makers who is stuck in a small town and loveless marriage. Jenna realizes that in order to change her life, she must take action. She is given the chance when a baking contest is held in a nearby town and a new doctor takes up residence.

According to a Wharton Center Press



Desi Oakley as Jenna in “Waitress.”

release, “‘Waitress’ is the first Broadway musical in history to have four women in the four top creative team spots, with a book by Jessie Nelson, a score by five-time Grammy Award-nominated singer-songwriter Sara Bareilles, choreography by Lorin Latarro and direction by Tony Award-winner Diane Paulus.”

The musical will be at the Wharton Center from Tuesday, Jan. 23 through Sunday, Jan. 28. Tickets are on sale now through whartoncenter.com or by calling 1-800-WHARTON. The Wharton Center is located at 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing.

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Happenings

Mary Lambert at the Blind Pig

Mary Lambert got a kick-start to her career in 2012 when, in a pinch, a friend reached out to her for help with a song for Macklemore and Ryan Lewis: "Same Love." Informed by her experience as a lesbian and a Christian, she wrote the hook within three hours. Now she's on tour with her queer pop EP "Bold." She'll be at Ann Arbor's Blind Pig on Thursday, Feb. 8 at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$18. The Blind Pig is located at 208 S. 1st St., Ann Arbor. Ticket information can be found online at blindpigmusic.com and marylambertsings.com/shows.

OUTINGS

Thursday, Jan. 25

2018 Creating Change Conference
1:00 am Alexa Elizabeth Rodriguez, Ben de Guzman, Eliot Sutler, Rodney McKenzie, Jr., and Terrance Laney will be serving as host committee co-chairs. Marriott Wardman Park, 2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington, D.C.. <http://www.thetaskforce.org>

45+ Club 12:00 pm Activity and community group for persons age 45 and up. Play games and socialize in the Affirmations' Game Room. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105 <http://www.goaffirmations.org>

Friday, Jan. 26

2018 Creating Change Conference
1:00 am Alexa Elizabeth Rodriguez, Ben de Guzman, Eliot Sutler, Rodney McKenzie, Jr., and Terrance Laney will be serving as host committee co-chairs. Marriott Wardman Park, 2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington, D.C.. <http://www.thetaskforce.org>

Saturday, Jan. 27

2018 Creating Change Conference
1:00 am Alexa Elizabeth Rodriguez, Ben de Guzman, Eliot Sutler, Rodney McKenzie, Jr., and Terrance Laney will be serving as host committee co-chairs. Marriott Wardman Park, 2660 Woodley

Road NW, Washington, D.C.. <http://www.thetaskforce.org>

Friends and Families 12:30 pm Support group for friends and families of LGBTQ identifying persons. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105 <http://www.goaffirmations.org>

Sunday, Jan. 28

2018 Creating Change Conference
1:00 am Alexa Elizabeth Rodriguez, Ben de Guzman, Eliot Sutler, Rodney McKenzie, Jr., and Terrance Laney will be serving as host committee co-chairs. Marriott Wardman Park, 2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington, D.C.. <http://www.thetaskforce.org>

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Trauma, Chemical Use and Addiction
7:30 pm By Tana Bridge, PhD, ACSW, LMSW, ACTP. Learn about the relationship between addiction and trauma, and recovery from both conditions. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. 734-485-8725 <http://www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series>

Friday, Feb. 9

Swing Dance Party 9:00 pm Dust off those dancing shoes and come decked out in your best vintage attire for the ultimate swing dance party at The Cube in Midtown Detroit. Arrive early for a dance lesson and your favorite Max M.

& Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 3135765162 <https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4971&prod=4970>

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Does Addiction Treatment Work?
7:30 pm By Carl Christensen, MD, Ph.D., D-FASAM. Learn about the relative efficacy of various treatments for addiction. Free. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. 734-485-8725 <http://www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series>

MUSIC & MORE

Friday, Jan. 26

The Novi Home Show Jan. 24-26 2:00 pm Suburban Collection Showplace, 4.Novi. 5867526381 gmonette@allseasonscommunications.com www.novihomeshow.com

41st Ann Arbor Folk Festival 6:30 pm The 41st Ann Arbor Folk Festival, a fund-raiser for The Ark, Ann Arbor's non-profit home for folk, roots, and ethnic music. Doors Open: 6:00 pm Show Starts: 6:30 pm Ticket Price: \$42.50-\$200 (one night); \$75-\$360 One event on Jan. 27 at 6:30pm Ann Arbor Hill Auditorium, 825 N. University Ave., Ann Arbor. 555-555-5555 <http://www.theark.org>

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Valentine's Day With Cyrille Aimée 7:00 pm "A massively talented international chanteuse," exclaims the New York Observer. Spend this Valentine's Day with your special someone and French cabaret vocalist Cyrille Aimée. TICKETS: \$49 - VIP Experience -Includes reserved section premium seating and Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 3135765162 <https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4760&prod=4759>

<https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4760&prod=4759>

Friday, Feb. 16

Le Ciné Cube 10:30 pm Film Shorts + Live Music by the Andrew Alden Ensemble
Silent French films come to life with live music performed by the Andrew Alden Ensemble. From 1920's Avant-Garde horror to famous shorts by

French Filmmaker Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 3135765162 <https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4765&prod=4764>

Editor's Pick

American Landscape: An Exploration of Art & Humanity by Nabil Mousa in Dearborn

Featured in the New York Times for his work, Nabil Mousa incorporates two seeming opposites in his exhibit "American Landscape." First, the politics of LGBTQ rights in the U.S, while weaving in the cultural tensions of his native, Syria. This mixed-media exhibition focuses on the hope for greater equality in a world of changing politics and religion. His work will be displayed at the Arab American National Museum from now till April 8. Viewing the exhibit is free with museum admission. The museum is located at 13624 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. 313-582-2266. More information can be found online at arabamericanmuseum.org/american-landscape.



Editor's Pick

Two Nights of Greensky Bluegrass with Joshua Davis at The Fillmore Detroit

Combine a dobro, banjo, guitar, upright bass and a mandolin, and you've created Greensky Bluegrass' lineup. Originally from Kalamazoo, the quintet has been making music for 18 years, and has nearly a dozen albums to its name. Famous for its unique take on bluegrass music, the five-piece group will be at The Fillmore Detroit with Joshua Davis for two nights, on Feb. 9 and 10. Tickets start at \$29. More information can be found online at theFillmoreDetroit.com and greenskybluegrass.com/tour. The Fillmore Detroit is at 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit.



Saturday, Feb. 17

Le Ciné Cube 5:30 pm Screening of Round Midnight + Q&A Bertrand Tavernier's 1986 American-French musical drama film Round Midnight stars legendary jazz saxophonist Dexter Gordon, François Cluzet, and Herbie Hancock and captures the Paris jazz scene of the 1950s. Martin Scorsese, Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center, 3711 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. 3135765162 <https://www.dso.org/ShowEventsView.aspx?id=4762&prod=4761>

Thursday, Feb. 22

Ravel's "The Child and the Spells" and Poulenc's "The Breasts of Tiresias" 7:30 pm Tickets: \$25 adults, \$15 students Jam Handy, 2900 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. 313-451-0806 <http://www.operamodo.com>

Friday, Feb. 23

Ravel's "The Child and the Spells" and Poulenc's "The Breasts of Tiresias" 7:30 pm Tickets: \$25 adults, \$15 students Jam Handy, 2900 E. Grand Blvd., Detroit. 313-451-0806 <http://www.operamodo.com>

ART 'N' AROUND

Monet - Framing Life 10:00 am One ticket sends you on two artistic adventures — Monet: Framing Life and Church: A Painter's Pilgrimage. Travel to distinct places and time in history to experience the world as these two artists did. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313-833-7900 <http://www.dia.org>

The Art of Containment 10:00 am 50 plus Vessels from Bloomfield Hills resident Sidney Swidler's Collection, curated & amassed over 30 years! Tickets: Adults \$7, Kids \$5, Senior Citizens \$5, Free under 12, FREE SATURDAYS! Flint Institute of Arts, 1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint. 810-234-1695 <https://flintarts.org>

Penny Stamps Series presents Chico MacMurtrie: Border Crossers- Part 1 7:00 pm Special Event: Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 7pm / Riverside Art Center, 76 N. Huron St, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 Chico MacMurtrie is an award-winning artist, renowned internationally for his large-scale sculptures, whose work combines materiality and Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron St, Ypsilanti. 734-480-2787 <https://www.riversidearts.org/> https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/chico_macmurtrie

Penny Stamps Series presents Hito Steyerl: Bubble Vision 5:10 pm Hito

Steyerl's prolific filmmaking and writing occupy a highly discursive position between the fields of art, philosophy, and politics and explore capitalism's social, cultural, and financial imaginaries. Her films and lectures have increasingly addressed the Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 734-668-8397 https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/hito_steyerl

THE BODY ECLECTIC 2018 12:00 pm Show Dates Jan. 31 - Feb. 24 2018 Opening Reception Feb. 2 from 6-9 pm Mid Month Reception Feb. 11 from 2-5 pm Gallery Hours Wednesday through Saturday 12 - 5 pm, Friday 12 - Lawrence Street Gallery, 22620 Woodward Avenue, Ferndale. 248-544-0394 lawrencestgalleries@gmail.com

DMTC Library Series: Anatomy of a Scene 7:00 pm Join Detroit Mercy Theatre Company at the Royal Oak Public Library for "Anatomy of a Scene" — A movie scene. A scene from a play. How do scenes work? The University of Detroit Mercy Theatre Royal Oak Public Library, 222 E 11 Mile Rd, Royal Oak. 2482463700 <https://www.facebook.com/events/1466099340153947/>

Joseph Keckler: Dragon at the Edge of a Flat World, Penny Stamps Speaker Series Special Event 5:30 pm Special Event: Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 5:30 pm / Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington St, Ann Arbor 48109 Straddling the worlds of music, art, and performance, Joseph Keckler has garnered acclaim for his rich, versatile Rackham Auditorium, 915 E. Washington St, Ann Arbor. (734) 764-8572 <http://www.rackham.umich.edu/rackham-building/amphitheatre> https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/joseph_keckler2

Penny Stamps Series presents Jaime Hayon: Design Follows Function, and then What? 5:10 pm Spanish artist-designer Jaime Hayon was born in Madrid in 1974. From his very first collections, Hayon has been at the forefront of a new wave that blurs the lines between art, decoration, and design, leading Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 734-668-8397 https://stamps.umich.edu/stamps/detail/jaime_hayon

The Erotic Poetry & Music Festival 8:00 pm "An eclectic celebration of the erotic arts!" The infamous "Erotic Poetry & Music Festival" is Detroit's oldest community arts festival. "An eclectic celebration of the erotic arts!" it features provocative poetry, dirty spoken word, erotic Tangent Gallery, 715 East Milwaukee Avenue, Detroit. 2484451277 <http://www.facebook.com/EroticPoetryandMusicFestival>

THEATER

Into The Woods Tickets \$23-\$26.50 Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. 2485418027 <http://www.stagecrafters.org>

Our Lady of Poison Giulia Tofana and her daughter Girolama are beloved apothecaries, and skilled poisoners. This mother-daughter team run an infamous underground operation to provide unfortunate wives with an escape from untenable marriages. Based on historical events. Check Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Road, Williamston. 517-655-SHOW <http://www.williamstontheatre.org>

DMTC Library Series: Anatomy of a Scene 7:00 pm Join Detroit Mercy Theatre Company at the Royal Oak Public Library for "Anatomy of a Scene" — A movie scene. A scene from a play. How do scenes work? The University of Detroit Mercy Theatre Royal Oak Public Library, 222 E 11 Mile Rd, Royal Oak. 2482463700 <https://www.facebook.com/events/1466099340153947/>

A2CT Junior Theatre Audition Workshop 10:00 am A2CT will hold a workshop on auditioning for Junior Theatre productions on Saturday, Feb. 3, from 10:00am to noon at the A2CT Studio, 322 West Ann Street, Ann Arbor, MI, 48104. As a part of A2CT Studio Theatre, 322 W. Ann St., Ann Arbor. 734-971-2228 <http://www.a2ct.org>

DMTC Library Series: Community Show and Tell 7:00 pm Join Detroit Mercy Theatre Company at Ferndale Area District Library for "Community Show and Tell: Music that Inspires." Join us and share a song or piece of music that inspires you or your life. This ferndale public library, 222 E 9 Mile Rd, Ferndale. 2485462504 <https://www.facebook.com/events/108153576658387/>

A2CT Auditions for Arcadia 7:00 pm Ann Arbor Civic Theatre announces auditions for its main stage production of Arcadia by Tom Stoppard, directed by Melissa Freilich. Auditions will take place Thursday and Friday, Feb. 8 and 9, beginning at 7 A2CT Studio Theatre, 322 W. Ann St., Ann Arbor. 734-971-2228 <http://http://www.a2ct.org/audition>

Satori Circus: These Are My Friends 7:00 pm Performance Artist SATORI CIRCUS, performs with The Theatre Bizarre Orchestra under the leadership of Joshua James. Featured acts opening the show include: Michigan artists Josie Pace, Lushes LaMoan, Scott Dambacher (Scotty D.), The F.A.H. Corps The Crofoot, 1 s. Sagina, Pontiac. 248-850-9333 www.thecrofoot.com <https://www.facebook.com/events/149039172418719/>

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Stand with Trans Adds Support Groups and Holiday Celebration

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Valentine's Day can be a stressful time for many, particularly someone who might be dealing with coming out. That's why Stand with Trans is hosting a Share the Love Valentine's Day Party for both trans people and their families. Stand with Trans is a 201(c)(3) organization whose mission is "to provide the tools needed by transgender youth so they will be empowered, supported and validated as they transition to their authentic life." It's an effort to create a safe space for people to start off the new year in a safe, non-judgmental space.



"It's a social event. The last two summers we've had a big family picnic, and so we made a decision that we would add another social event throughout the year, and we decided to do that in February," said the organization's Founder and Board President Roz Keith. "And, it was an opportunity for families who had transgender members to come together. So, it's a great way for the kids to connect, families get to meet each other, to just have fun, relax and find community with each and each other's families. There's no pressure to do anything beyond just hang out."

Attendees are encouraged to bring a dish to share with other guests at the free event, and come dressed in their finest Valentine's Day attire. The event will feature a wide array of activities ranging from face painting, music, crafts and of course, food.

Although the event isn't a direct celebration of the organization's recent addition of nine new support groups, the timing ties in well with this expansion. Keith said the groups will be a valuable new addition to Stand with Trans' current services.

"The support groups are really important because it's an opportunity for the parents to share what's going on in a safe, non-judgmental space," she said. "A lot of times I think parents, who may be supportive of their child, are hesitant to come because they feel like maybe their opinions will be judged, or they're not understanding certain things and it's hard to put that into words; that their issues and struggles may be so different that they don't feel comfortable opening up."

Keith said that the groups are not therapy, they're peer support groups that vary based on the intended audience.

"We have parent support groups, we have trans youth groups and we have one - and soon two - groups for young children," Keith said. "Those aren't really support groups, those are really play-based gatherings."

According to Keith, the meetings have been so successful that it's usually the kids who beg their parents to bring them back again.

"So, the youth, I've heard from several families that once they come, they're the ones asking their parents, 'Can we go back?' They can come, they can hang out, have some conversations and, again, it's a safe space with other kids that, 'get it,'" she said. "So they're not explaining themselves, and they look forward to it."

Share the Love will be held on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Orchard United Methodist Church at 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. To attend, RSVP to Roz at roz@standwithtrans.org or call ahead at 248-739-9254. Stand with Trans offers a variety of support groups in Adrian, Ann Arbor, Farmington Hills, Flint, Lake Orion, Lansing, Livonia and Macomb. A full list can be found online at standwithtrans.org/resources/support-groups.

Meet Transgender Evangelist Selena Little

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

Selena Little, who might just be Michigan's first out African-American transgender evangelist, is making her presence known at pulpits across the state.

As a member of the ministerial team at Whosoever Ministry United Church of Christ in Grosse Pointe Farms, Little is thriving.

"She's exceptional," said Rev. Dr. Selma Massey, the pastor of Whosoever. "I think that for too long we have forgotten about the transgender community and she gives an opportunity to be educated and be informed so we can put our arms around the transgender community and not leave anyone behind. With Selena telling her story then others will be encouraged to revisit the idea of knowing God."

Little tells the story of when she first began her transition from male to female in the early '70s.

"I was about 16," Little recalled. "Before then it was illegal, unless you had an entertainer's license, for a man to dress in women's clothes. So when the law changed then it made it a little easier for me."

Though she had support at home, Little's friends at school failed to embrace her as she changed her physical appearance.

"My friends didn't agree with my transition," Little said. "All of them knew I was gay but there was something about my transition that they didn't grasp. So it made it difficult for me to go to school. I dropped out in the 11th grade, though I later went back to get my GED."

While living authentically as a woman, Little married a man in 1974.

"I met him in Buffalo, New York and he eventually came here and asked my mother and father if he could marry me," Little said. "They said yes. My father got him a job at Chrysler and we stayed married a couple years until drugs intervened."

By the late '70s, Little was performing in drag shows and as a female impersonator in local nightclubs. She met Phil, who Little describes as a "butch lesbian," "a stud," and the two had a sexual encounter.

"I thought it was the nastiest thing in the world," Little said about having sex as two women. "It was like I had sinned before God. I felt dirty. I had a lot of bad feelings about that. But something touched me and said she was pregnant. So Phil asked me to get married."

Living as a man once again, Little married and adopted Phil's daughter.

"Then we had two more children. So we had three children total," Little said.

Little worked at General Motors to support the family. Fast forward a decade or so and the marriage,

Little said, was in trouble.

"Now that the kids had gotten older, Phil felt some kind of way about going back to her old life and I felt some kind of way about going back to my old life," said Little. "So I went back to being Selena."

Initially, Little tried to hide her transition from the children.

"I used to sneak out of the house and rent a hotel for the weekend and perform," Little said. "Then my

oldest daughter came to me one day and said, 'Dad, you don't have to get a hotel to do what you want to do. We saw pictures of you and you are so beautiful.' We cried and I was so overwhelmed with joy because I realized that what I had believed was true. Love conquered all. It was really scary. I really didn't know how my children were going to react to my new life, and I was so correct. Love conquers all."



Reconnecting with Her Faith

In addition to performing in clubs, Little got a job at Technicolor where she stayed for 22 years.

"It was the late '80s and

I started my transition all over again while I was at Technicolor," she said. "It was very good to me."

While still working at Technicolor, Little began reconnecting with her faith.

"I've always had a desire to be in ministry but I didn't know how it would fit with my being transgender, because of what the world thinks," Little said. "But I decided to step out on faith and become more involved. I was led to go to a place called Full Truth Fellowship of Christ Church."

In 2012, Little was ordained an evangelist by Pastor Ronchele Andres.

"It meant that God had a special purpose for me," Little said. "I've always wondered why would he create me the way that he did. It was very baffling to me because I loved him so much. I knew that God doesn't make mistakes. He knows exactly what he's doing. So I always said when he came to create me, even before I was in my mother's womb, he would need someone who was transgender to help people. He created us all for his purpose and that's how I feel about me. When I was ordained it meant the world to me."

Today, Little has six grandchildren and one great grandchild.

"The grandchildren call me papa," Little explained. "Some people look at us a little strange but that's what I want them to call me because that's what I am to them."

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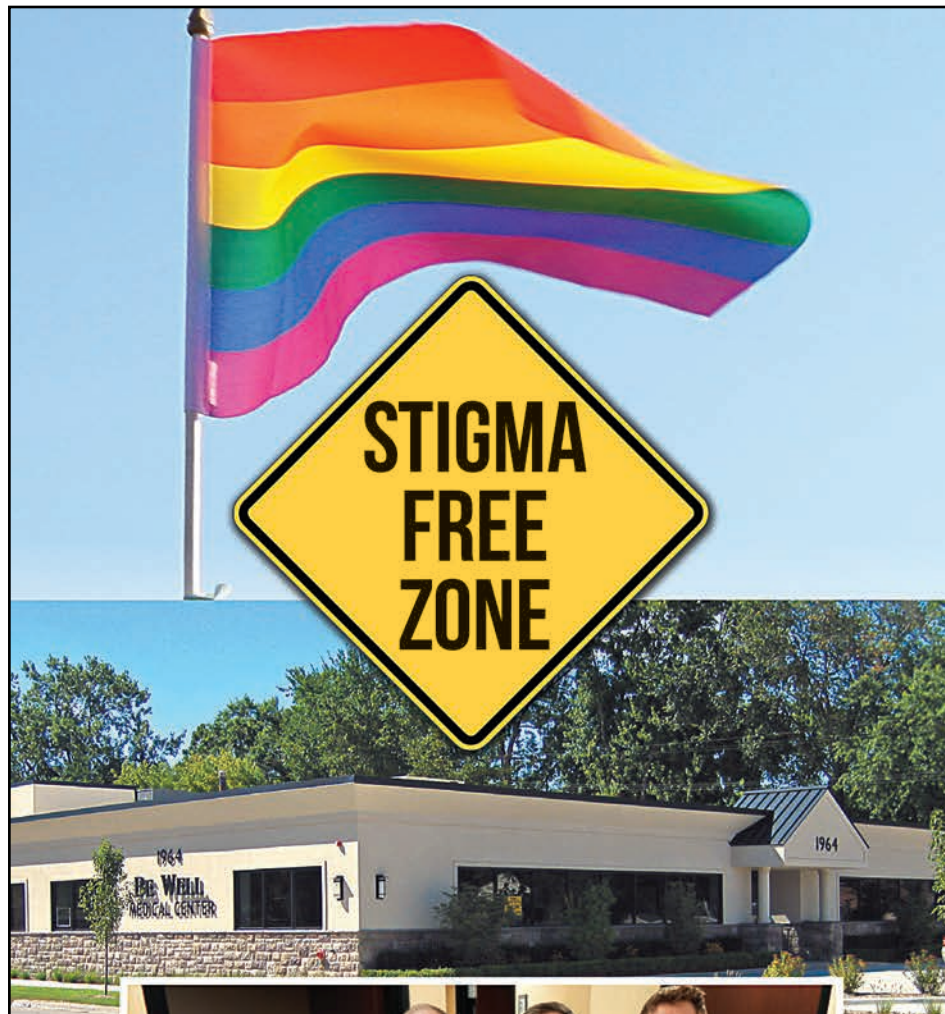
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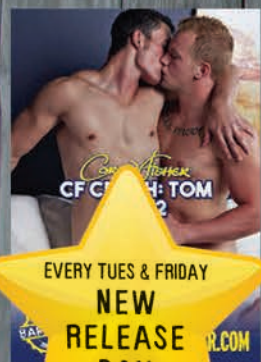
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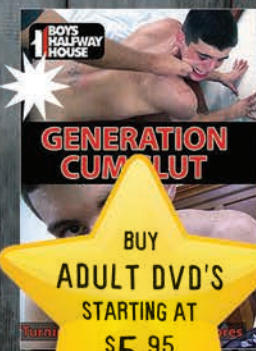
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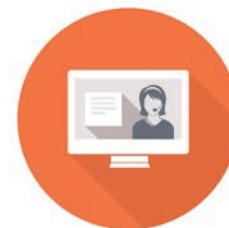
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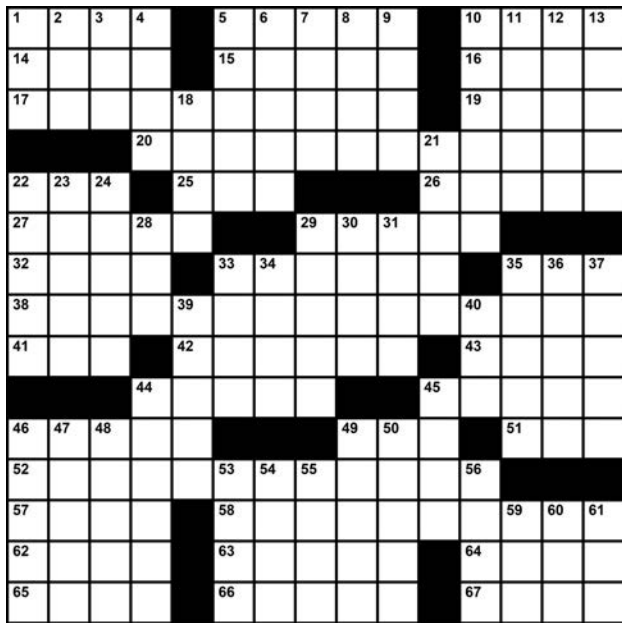
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Q Puzzle



- 35 U. degrees
 38 Series that explores polyamory rebooted from a movie
 41 Phallic fish
 42 Orderly formations
 43 La Douce part for Shirley
 44 Garson of "Mrs. Miniver"
 45 Homer, or spud, to Gomer
 46 Went undercover
 49 Pacific battle site, in brief
 51 Nongay, briefly
 52 Lena Waithe won an Emmy for writing an episode of this series
 57 Date of March madness?
 58 Like a big dictionary
 62 Fruit source
 63 Bottoms, to loafers
 64 Hollywood canine
 65 AIDS flick "Under ____"
 66 It may be rough
 67 See 1-Across
- 12 Write "The Hot'l Baltimore"
 13 Sharon of "Queer as Folk"
 18 Web info source
 21 Marilyn's almost normal name?
 22 Got up
 23 "Milk," when it plays in Mexico?
 24 Merman of Broadway fame
 28 Silly goose
 29 Place to become wife and wife
 30 Time of decision
 31 Reactions to seeing a hottie
 33 Missing lubricant
 34 Raison d' ____
 35 Place for a moving experience in the sack?
 36 Singing Mann
 37 Opening
 39 Avant- ____ (like Warhol)
 40 Caesar's way
 44 Command before "Go!"
 45 Collette of "United States of Tara"
 46 Bessie of the blues
 47 Frida's father
 48 " ____ little silhouetto of a man ..."
 49 Where some may lie
 50 Declining in health
 53 Trail of the Tin Woodman's tear
 54 "You want the light ____ off?"
 55 Eleanor's pooch
 56 Grocers who sell this have balls
 59 Family-hetero school org.
 60 "Yadda, yadda, yadda," briefly
 61 E. Fanning's sister?

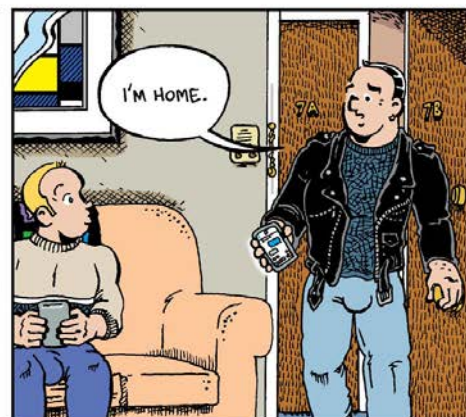
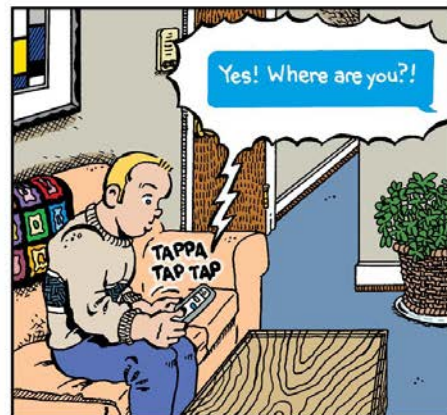
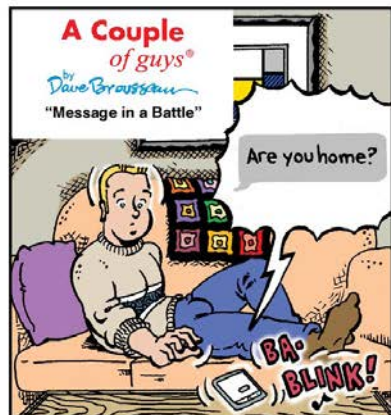
Family Entertainment Firsts of 2017

Across

- 1 With 67-Across, first Disney Channel series with a gay storyline
 5 Dance with a stick
 10 Force that causes you to go down
 14 One that plays with balls at the circus
 15 Tear producer
 16 ____ in the hay
 17 Good judgment by a stallion?
- 19 "Nurse Jackie" nurse
 20 Series that featured a raw sex scene between two Muslim men
 22 Maugham's "Cakes and ____"
 25 Gallery objects
 26 Comes out slowly
 27 Raise the price of, at Barneys
 29 Hairspray name
 32 Phil of '60s folk
 33 How often you have sex after bed death

Down

- 1 Wood for Billy Bean's bat, perhaps
 2 Prefix with natal
 3 Folksinger Williams
 4 Rick's old flame
 5 Hamilton Burger to Perry Mason, usually
 6 Not potent
 7 Skimpy skirt
 8 Fruit of Peter Pears?
 9 Ready to go in
 10 Setting for TV's "Portlandia"
 11 Sex-enhancing drug for a bored lover?
- Find solution to this puzzle at www.pridesource.com



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COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Find over 300 Non-Profit Listings Serving Michigan's LGBTQ Online @ 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>
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/TheLGBTALCAucusoftheMDP](https://www.facebook.com/TheLGBTALCAucusoftheMDP)

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

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STEPHEN KELLOGG
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JOE PUG, EMCEE



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SATURDAY, 6:30 PM

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AIMEE MANN
MOUNTAIN HEART
BIRDS OF CHICAGO
THE CACTUS BLOSSOMS
THE WAR AND TREATY
JOE PUG, EMCEE

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Affirmations
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5:30PM-8:30PM
Walk-In or Appointment
Mpowerment Detroit
MIDTOWN
11AM-7PM
Walk-In

THURSDAY

Matrix MAC Health
FERNDALE
9AM-4:30PM
Walk-In

FRIDAY

Matrix MAC Health
FERNDALE
9AM-5PM
Walk-In
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Gonorrhea, Syphilis, Chlamydia, Hep C

SATURDAY

Mpowerment Detroit
MIDTOWN
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11AM-2PM
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