

MICHIGAN'S LGBTQ NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993



PRIDESOURCE.COM

US House Approves
Equality Act to
Ban Anti-LGBT
Discrimination

PAGE 16

BBB Holds HIV
Town Hall

PAGE 12



Anjelica Huston Q&A
PAGE 18

MAY 23, 2019

VOL. 2721 | FREE



THE ART OF EMPOWERMENT

Jaye Spiro on 40 Years Teaching Peace Through Strength

Photo: Andrew Potter

Saturday & Sunday
June 8 & 9, 2019

Hart Plaza,
Detroit

\$5
for everyone over
12 years of age.



PRESENTED BY
DELTA

**greyson
chance.**

**TUNDE
OLANIRON**

SABIN'S DRAG REVUE FEAT. RUPAUL'S ONGINA · DJ JACE
BOY RADIO · HAUTE 2 DEATH · THE KILLER FLAMINGOS
LVRS · HARDINGS PRODUCTION DRAG SHOW · LIPSTICK JODI
ALISE KING · LAURA RAIN & THE CAESARS · JOEY SUAREZ
ACCOUSTIC ASH · ALEXYN WUNDRAND · CRAYFISH HUNTERS · DELIA KOLANOWSKI
DETROIT DEEP SESSIONS · DJ DISCDETROIT · DJ DIGIMARK · DJ HOLOGRAPHIC
DJ KEVIN BAILEY · DJ KNOWLEDGE · DJ NADER · DJ TONE · FURRILLOSTAR
HOLMES AND ACT NATURAL · I'M WITH MOLLY · J.SANTINO · JASON RICKETTS
JHARID · KEVIN BAILEY · LELE XO AND HER BAND · MAE JAMES AND THE FORT ST. UNION
NAMOLI BRENNET · OUTLOUD CHORUS · PAYTRA · PHRESH SYNDICATE
REMINGTON TAYLOR · SAM TOLSON · SINGOUT DETROIT · SOLAR DISCO FORCE
THE BAND MINT · THE DOABLES · THE IDIOT KIDS · THE SYMPATHY ORCHESTRA · TYLR...

f t #MOTORCITYPRIDE · VISIT MOTORCITYPRIDE.ORG TO LEARN MORE!

**THANKS TO OUR
SPONSORS!**





6 COVER: THE ART OF EMPOWERMENT

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

Copyright 2019

NEWS

- 4 History Wheel
- 6 The Art of Empowerment
- 8 Rural Americans are LGBTQ, too
- 12 Michigan Founder of Transgender Day of Visibility to Be Honored at National Trans Visibility March
- 12 Black Bear Brotherhood, Onyx Great Lakes Chapter, LGBT Detroit Host Community Forum on HIV in Black, Gay Community
- 16 In First, House Approves Equality Act to Ban Anti-LGBT Discrimination

OPINION

- 14 Parting Glances
- 14 Viewpoint: Resisting the Dangers of Michigan's Abortion Ban
- 15 Creep of the Week: James Dobson

LIFE

- 18 Anjelica Huston Empowers Through Truth

COOL CITIES

- 24 May LezRead: 'Of Gryphons and Other Monsters'
- 24 Ann Arbor Summer Festival Announces 2019 Artists Performing

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- 26 Happenings
- 29 Puzzle & Crossword
- 30 LGBTQ Drama 'Rafiki' Screens at Cinema Detroit May 24-30
- 30 TYLR_ Talks Movement Music Festival and the LGBTQ Electronic Music Scene

VOL. 2721 • MAY 23, 2019 • ISSUE 1112

PRIDE SOURCE MEDIA GROUP

20222 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone 734.293.7200

PUBLISHERS

Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief

Susan Horowitz, 734.293.7200 x 102
susanhorowitz@pridesource.com

Entertainment Editor

Chris Azzopardi, 734.293.7200 x 106
chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com

Feature News Editor

Kate Opalewski, 734.293.7200 x 108
kate@pridesource.com

Editorial Assistant

Eve Kucharski, 734.293.7200 x 105
eve@pridesource.com

News & Feature Writers

Emell Derra Adolphus, Michelle Brown,
Ellen Knoppow, Jason Michael, Drew Howard,
Jonathan Thurston

CREATIVE

Webmaster & MIS Director

Kevin Bryant, kevinbryant@pridesource.com

Columnists

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

Cartoonists

Paul Berg

Contributing Photographers

Andrew Potter, Andrew Cohen

ADVERTISING & SALES

Director of Sales

Jan Stevenson, 734.293.7200 x 101
jan@pridesource.com

Sales Representatives

Ann Cox, 734.293.7200 x 103
anncox@pridesource.com

National Advertising Representative

Rivendell Media, 212.242.6863

MEMBER OF

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



"Between The Lines Newspaper"



Follow us @YourBTL



Email your op-eds to
editor@pridesource.com



Sign up online to receive our E-Digest

Tickets On Sale NOW!

4th Annual
GO GIRL!
Saugatuck!
MAY 31 - JUNE 2, 2019



WWW.GOGIRLSAUGATUCK.COM



Campit Outdoor Resort
SAUGATUCK, MI
SaugatuckOutdoorResorts.com



Roxanne
Frith
Photographer.com





ROARING WITH PRIDE

Proud Sponsor



We stand together with our beautiful brothers and sisters in the LGBTQ+ community. You inspire us with your courage and your pride. Thank you for helping make the world a better place for us all.

20% HOTEL OFF OFFER | **TURN PRIDE FEST INTO A WEEKEND GETAWAY!**
Receive 20% off when you book a two night stay June 7-9.

MGM GRAND.
DETROIT

An MGM Resorts Luxury Destination

mgmgranddetroit.com

If you bet more than you can afford to lose, you've got a problem. Call 1-800-270-7117 for confidential help.



Jaye Spiro on 40 Years Teaching the Art of Empowerment

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Despite operating a martial arts school for decades, practicing various forms for almost 50 years and pioneering early self-defense courses for women across the U.S., Central America and Europe, Ferndale Meijishi Martial Arts founder and instructor Jaye Spiro is kept on her toes by her students. Most recently, when a 17-year-old black belt decided to offer a self-defense seminar in her own high school. Something Spiro said she would have been terrified to do at her age.

“If you put yourself out like, ‘I’m going to teach self-defense’ at your own high school, you’re going to be harassed. People are going to be threatened,” she said. “And as has happened to me and any other women who have done it, as soon as we’re going to stand up and do it, somebody will come up and say, ‘Well, my friend over here is a third degree black belt and whatever. Can you beat him up?’”

And just as Spiro predicted, her student was challenged.

“She stood up there without even batting an eye, looked at the whole audience and said, ‘If you’re interested in that, you should leave right now, because I am here to help people, and specifically women and girls, who need some tools for empowerment. I’m not here to be challenged or to get involved in beating people up,’” Spiro said. “I was like, ‘Oh my God. At 17?’ I mean even 10, 15, 20 years ago [that wouldn’t have happened]. I did coach her that people will challenge, but she just wasn’t having any of it.”

Spiro said that experiences like that bring her joy not only as a teacher but as a woman who fought hard for women’s empowerment since the early days of the women’s movement. Now in 2019, decades removed from the start of her own martial arts practice, Spiro’s school is set to celebrate its 40th anniversary in October. In honor of both that milestone and the upcoming pride season, Spiro sat down with BTL to reflect on the advances in both women’s and LGBTQ equality in martial arts, how she uses her school to promote peace and how she got her own start as a martial artist and activist.

Humble Beginnings and Lessons Learned

Among her other qualifications, Spiro is a seventh-degree back belt in ai mute shotokan karate, a sixth-degree black belt in modern arnis and a student of the balintawak escrima style. However, ask Spiro directly what her greatest takeaways are from her long and storied career and she’ll remind you that martial arts is a practice; as in, it’s not so simple as that.

“So, it’s not like you get something and then you’re done, you have it. Like, you know, you bought your car and now you have your car. As you train and practice and teach, you’re



Jaye Spiro (left) pictured with her wife Su Ferrari (right) and mother-in-law Giuseppina Ferrari.

constantly growing. I mean, the martial arts originally are very connected to Buddhism and the practice of Buddhism is to lead to enlightenment and I’m not quite there yet, you know,” she said with a laugh. “But I think that you really learn how to grow with other people and people are always helping, presenting new challenges, ideas and how to keep growing.”

Though she knows that now, Spiro said she didn’t go into martial arts with a goal of pursuing it long-term or perhaps finding something as seemingly abstract as inner peace — though she said she’s since attained that state. Her reasoning was simple: she didn’t want to be scared anymore.

“I started in the early days of the women’s movement and in so many cities there were women just like me who were going, ‘Wait a minute, I want some personal sense of empowerment. I’m afraid,’” she said. “Now, we do have empowerment self-defense classes for women and especially for other marginalized groups. However, back then there was only martial arts so that was the only way to learn confidence, but it’s different than studying self-defense. Self-defense is pretty short-term whereas martial arts is a lifelong, long-term practice.”

Beyond not having places to go and learn self-defense generally, Spiro — who began her own martial arts training in 1971 — said that

being a woman was an added obstacle, too. She remembered that many of the already few women involved in martial arts during that period were forced to clean up after the male students and common public “debates” were had “about whether it was safe for women to do pushups or whether it would hurt their bodies.” Even students at martial arts schools weren’t always fair to their female counterparts.

“There were the ones that would baby you when you sparred with them and there were the other ones who would just pummel you, you know?” she said. “But my teacher wasn’t like that. He had enough sensitivity.”

His leadership and foundational lessons provided Spiro with a good enough basis to eventually start teaching herself, and in 1979 she opened up Meijishi Karate Dojo.

The #MeToo of the ‘70s

Though small at first, the collection of women interested in the martial arts in the ‘70s began to overlap with those in the women’s movement. Eventually, those pushing for overall equality aided in the formation of the National Women’s Martial Arts Federation. That organization is now over 40 years old and its mission still reflects the intentions of the women who formed it: to share skills, resources and to promote excellence in martial arts for

everyone involved, regardless of “lifestyle, sexual preference, race, color, creed, religion, class, age or physical condition.” Beyond the formation of that organization with her women’s empowerment peers, Spiro pursued the development of self-defense courses that could be used by women around the world to not only protect them but empower them, too.

“Empowerment and self-defense kind of goes hand-in-hand with martial arts,” Spiro said. “But a lot of the people who teach self-defense aren’t necessarily martial artists and people who teach martial arts don’t necessarily always understand empowerment self-defense which has to do with no victim-blaming, and it has to do with understanding the dynamics of power.”

In many ways, Spiro said she was part of the #MeToo movement of the early ‘70s, leading with a judgment-free mindset in all self-defense courses and martial arts classes.

“We didn’t have the internet but we started Sexual Assault Awareness Month,” she said. “You know, we were connected with these women and we were these women. Some of us were doing martial arts and some of us weren’t and many of us were lesbians. And so, we were sort of on the cutting edge of women in the martial arts, women teaching self-defense, women doing anti-violence.”

Promoting Peace

And though anti-violence and martial arts might not seem like natural companions, Spiro said that her practice has helped her not only become “a better person” but learn “how to interact with others.” Part of that positivity, she said, is because the martial arts community is a very strong one, and in her school, an intentionally diverse one.

“The Meijishi Martial Arts community, it’s touched people; whether they’ve come and stayed or moved I think they’ve taken from this a sense of how to connect well with other people and also to be disciplined and focused,” Spiro said.

However, she does admit that many people don’t come into martial arts with a peaceful mindset, saying that she’s “constantly” fighting against misconceptions surrounding the practice.

“I had a call the other day from somebody and they wanted aikido for their child and they wanted aikido because their perception of karate was that karate was aggressive and that aikido was more cooperative and it depends on how you practice it, it really does,” Spiro said. “Fighting has to do with anger, I think, and self-defense, you may not feel angry at all. You may feel afraid, you may feel neutral, but it’s about taking care of yourself, and it’s not about punishing others.”

And those who practice martial arts to “punish” their enemies don’t tend to stick around too long, either.

“It’s too hard,” Spiro said with a laugh. “It’s too demanding to stay in it for revenge, you know? And those people will end up going out and buying a gun or doing something that they can feel like then they have more power than whoever it is they’re afraid of. I think my instructor showed me right away that it wasn’t just kicking and punching. I mean, from the beginning, you’re breathing, and the breath is the central practice of any meditation. That is incorporated in our classes at the beginning and end of every class we stop and we breathe together.”

That breathing, she said, makes martial arts as effective as any other meditation practice. And in fact, Spiro’s approach over the years to empowerment and peace earned her national recognition in 2016, when she was chosen along with hundreds of other activists across the U.S. to participate in the first ever Summit on The United States of Women, sponsored by the Obama administration and the Aspen Institute.

What Confidence Means

Today, Meijishi Martial Arts occupies a large space in downtown Ferndale – a significant jump from her original space in a church basement – housing Karate classes for both adults and children, modern arnis – a Filipino martial art – for all ages and even a Brazilian capoeira martial art club. Spiro said she takes pride in the fact that she’s created an inclusive environment that has “always been welcoming

to men and women.”

“I had friends who had women-only schools and still do, but I always wanted a community that had men and women and I mean the men who come here and commit and have stayed long-term. I think are here because they understand sexism and women’s oppression and they’re excited to be allies and they really are,” Spiro said. “They’re committed to being allies, even though they still slip up. I mean, sometimes they do, it’s almost in our water supply, sexism, racism, but men and women, the way that they are culturally indoctrinated is different.”

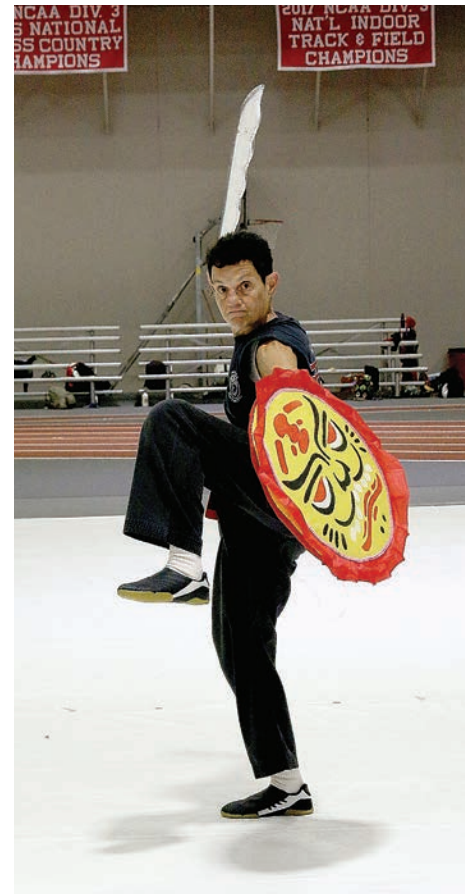
Still, despite occasionally confronting some of those familiar battles, Spiro said she’s seen marked progress in how accepted female and LGBTQ people are within martial arts. With that comes confidence that she sees in those students, like with her 17-year-old black belt and even in younger ones, too.

“I had a whole conversation with a 13-year-old girl and a mother about what confidence looks like,” she said. “And that you don’t have to be perfect to be confident.”


And with confidence in oneself, Spiro said, comes strength.

“And Meijishi, this is a strong school,” Spiro said. “It’s very community-based. It’s really different than I think any other school you’re going to find. I never did this for the money, I keep my prices low. I want diversity, I want racial diversity, I want sexual diversity, I’ve always thought that that made us so much better and stronger and so I’ve always tried to promote that kind of community.”

To learn more about Meijishi Martial Arts visit meijishi.com.







VIP SOLDOUT!

Ford Globe 25th Anniversary Dinner

in partnership with the Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Thursday, June 6, 2019, 6:30p.m.

Keynote

Wade Davis
Former NFL Player,
Corporate Inclusion
Advisor and Educator



Host

Brian Abel
WXYZ-TV, Reporter
Channel 7 Action News



Honoree

Allan Gilmour
Honoree, Outstanding
Leadership in
Inclusion




Dearborn Inn, A Marriott Hotel
20301 Oakwood Blvd,
Dearborn, MI 48124

VIP Reception: 5:30p.m.
Dinner: 6:30p.m.



























Tickets still available
detroitlgbtchamber.com/Ford25

Rural Americans are LGBTQ, too

MAP Study Analyzes Challenges, Benefits of Millions of LGBTQ People who Consider Rural US Home

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Though urban areas are often considered huge draws for those in the LGBTQ community – a 2015 Gallup poll found that San Francisco, Portland and Austin all ranked highest in the country for the largest LGBTQ population – little is written about those LGBTQ people who choose to call rural communities home. However, a study released last month by the LGBTQ Movement Advancement Project, The Equality Federation, The National Black Justice Coalition and The National Center for Lesbian Rights finds that of the 62 million Americans who live in rural areas, between 2.9 and 3.8 or 15 to 20 percent of that number identify as LGBTQ and call rural America home.

“General societal stereotypes and pop culture portrayals of LGBT people suggest that LGBT people live solely in urban settings, while stereotypes and portrayals of rural communities rarely, if ever, include LGBT people – except as targets of anti-LGBT violence, or as people yearning to leave their rural home to migrate to ‘more accepting’ urban areas,” says the study.

The study’s authors go on to say that those stereotypes falsely create “singular understandings” of how and where one can “be” LGBTQ in the U.S., unfairly excluding those who do not adhere to the urban “expectations” of LGBTQ community.

“In reality, not only do LGBT people live in rural America, but many of them want to and enjoy living in rural America,” the study says. “LGBT people in urban and rural areas report similar levels of subjective well-being, health and satisfaction. In discussions with LGBT people living in rural communities, researchers find that for many LGBT people in rural areas, living in a rural area may be just as important to who they are as being LGBT.”

This report will break down key findings within this study, along with its recommendations for serving the LGBTQ community that lives outside of the “traditional” LGBTQ spaces.

Rural Life Amplifies Impacts

The study makes clear at the outset that to find a singular example of the “LGBT experience” would be impossible, but it does show that those members of the community who live in rural America and responded to inquiries by the authors described their communities similarly: “built around family and close-knit community; centered around strong social institutions such as churches,



schools and local businesses; deeply connected to place and the environment; and based in a sense of efficacy and self-reliance to make change in their own communities.”

The LGBTQ community living in rural America also is exposed to specific rural issues like the ongoing economic hardships, addiction and substance abuse issues and fewer options for quality health care due to distance. Those challenges, authors found, amplified the overall experiences – positive or negative – of the LGBTQ people facing them. Below are those challenges summarized:

Increased Visibility

The study found that lower population calls more attention to anyone “different,” and that being open about one part of their identity puts people in the LGBTQ community at risk of having that information spread among people more quickly than in urban areas.

Ripple Effects

Due to the interconnectedness of rural life, both positive and negative impressions about a person may spread throughout the community more quickly.

“For example, if a person is excluded from their faith community for being gay, they may have a difficult time at work or finding a job, because their church members may also be their coworkers or potential employers,” the study said. “This effect may also work in a

positive way: if a rural church community or employer takes a supportive stand for local LGBT residents, that support can also ripple outward to other areas of life.”

Fewer Alternatives in the Face of Discrimination

Particularly impacting LGBTQ people of color, if a negative ripple effect is felt, LGBTQ people in rural areas have less recourse due to geographic limitations.

Less Support Structure

Geographically, it proves challenging for LGBTQ people to find social and legal support or even basic information on LGBTQ-specific issues.

Family, Faith and Community

The report finds that people living in rural areas create tight bonds and nurture and sustain emotional connections to one another. In positive circumstances, LGBTQ people can find themselves key members of their rural community, though it’s also common to find the opposite to be true, resulting in isolation that impacts prospects for wellbeing and success.

Education and Schools

Though these are “cornerstone institutions” of rural areas, resources and teachers are rarely

in adequate supply. That impacts the ability of LGBTQ students to seek help if they encounter hostile school environments.

Employment and Economic Security

Because there are both high rates of entrepreneurship and poverty across the U.S.’s rural areas, LGBTQ people are exposed to those factors, too. If they live in areas without equal rights protections, that can feel that impact much more than straight and cisgender community members.

Housing and Homelessness

With the affordability of rural housing comes less of it. Discrimination and potential homelessness becomes a more worrisome factor for those who have fewer housing options.

Public Places and Businesses

Also known as public accommodations — examples including coffee shops, health care providers and libraries — fewer options means a greater likelihood for potential discrimination and less access.

Health Care

The likelihood of discrimination is increased in those rural areas that have religious exemption laws. This can make it difficult for LGBTQ people to find quality care suited to their needs in smaller towns and cities.

The Legal System

Poverty traps can be an issue for those communities that have a “reliance on fines, fees and cash bail” where poverty is high. With fewer legal resources and outside help available, this can be a difficult situation to overcome, particularly for those LGBTQ community members of color.

Vulnerability to Discrimination

On average, the report states that public opinion tends to be less favorable regarding LGBTQ issues, “but it is far more diverse than might be assumed.” Still, rural areas are less likely to have non-discrimination policies

See **Rural LGBTQ**, continued on p. 10



A Must-See Exhibition

Isabelle

DE BORCHGRAVE

FASHIONING ART FROM PAPER

6.15.19 – 9.8.19

Flint Institute of Arts

1120 E. Kearsley St., Flint

810.234.1695

flintarts.org

 **Huntington** | FREE SATURDAYS

The exhibition has been organized by Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Society of the Four Arts, Oklahoma City Museum of Art, Frick Art and Historical Center, Baker Museum, Flint Institute of Arts, and SCAD FASH Museum of Fashion and Film.

Major funding was provided by FedEx.

Isabelle de Borchgrave
Belgian, born 1946
Maria-Maddalena d'Austria (detail), 2007
Mixed media
74 x 47½ x 48 inches
Collection of the artist

► Rural LGBTQ

Continued from p. 8

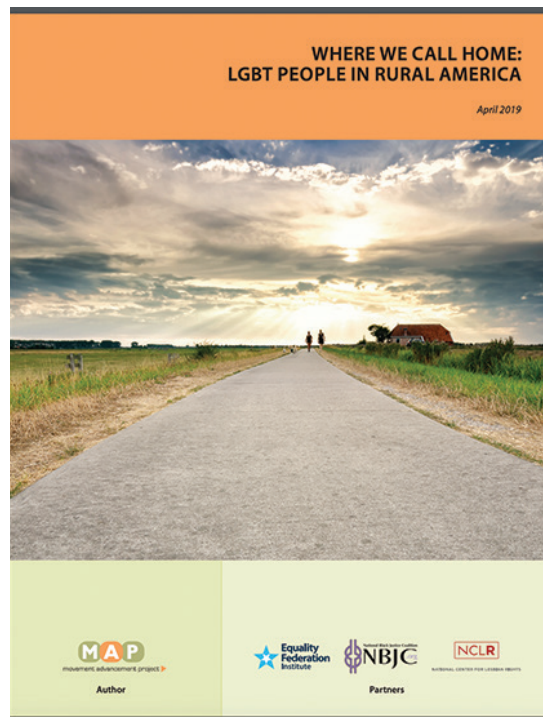
for the LGBTQ community living there, fewer LGBTQ elected politicians and less of a sociopolitical infrastructure available to advance an understanding of the community. The study pinpointed three ways in which these factors can come together to expose LGBTQ people to more discrimination.

Public Opinion

“The lower population of rural areas means there are fewer LGBT people in rural areas overall,” the study found. “Therefore, rural populations may be less familiar with LGBT people (and indeed, people in rural areas are less likely than urbanites to have a close friend or family member who is gay, lesbian or transgender).”

however, the study also reports that public opinion in these areas is “complex” and communities should not be written off as opposing LGBTQ equality entirely.

“Certainly, the public opinion landscape may be more challenging in rural areas than outside them, but support for LGBT people exists – and has always existed – within rural America,” the study wrote. “Significant policy and legal work still needs to be done to protect LGBT people in rural areas, but public opinion data show that this significant work can be done.”



The 102 page report can be found online.

Policy Landscape

An exacerbated challenge for rural Americans is the lack of non-discrimination policies in their home areas. This translates to a potential risk for all aspects of life like in schooling, health care, in public accommodations and even in peer-to-peer relationships.

“In short, LGBT people in rural areas are disproportionately harmed by the lack of protections and the presence of discriminatory laws,” the study reports “The current policy landscape demonstrates the clear and urgent need for federal and state nondiscrimination protections for LGBT people, as well as the potential harm from discriminatory laws such as religious exemptions.”

Political Power

Similar to the policy landscape, regarding political power, LGBTQ people are less likely to be represented and proactively served in their communities.

“LGBT people in rural areas may also face different political challenges than LGBT

people in urban areas, such as needing to focus on more basic public education about LGBT people,” the study said. “Given the relative scarcity of resources in rural areas, LGBT people may have different (i.e., not LGBT-specific) priorities altogether. Taken together, these structural challenges mean that LGBT people in rural areas have fewer resources and a strained ability for advocating for the political changes they may need.”

Recommendations

Perhaps the single most important takeaway from this MAP study is that LGBTQ Americans who find rural communities home largely enjoy their lives and the tight-knit relationship they can find there. However, those who are LGBTQ in rural America find that general LGBTQ issues faced in more populated areas are exacerbated, just as the positives are emphasized. To that end, the report’s authors conclude the study with clear recommendations for improving the lives of rural LGBTQ Americans.

“LGBT people in rural areas shouldn’t have to choose between basic rights and protections and the place they call home. This is why it’s critical to pass LGBT-inclusive non-discrimination protections at the federal, state and local level, while also pursuing important advances such as resisting or repealing religious exemption laws that may allow service providers to discriminate, expanding LGBT competency training for service providers and more,” the report said.

Continuing to address those challenges as well as structural ones like health care access will improve life overall for that community, as well as the lives of all who live in those communities and provide “meaningful and long-lasting change.”



CAGE FREE 24 / 7

BOARDING IN COMFORT

HAPPY HOUNDS

Day & Overnight Care!



FOR DOGS

WHO DON'T LIKE TO BE TREATED LIKE ANIMALS

GROOMING

pet care extraordinaire

BOARDING

A SECOND HOME FOR YOUR FURRY FRIEND

1 ACCOMMODATIONS






Dog Day Care & Lodging

24/HR SUPERVISION

Call (734) 459-3647 or visit
www.HappyHoundsDayCare.com



673 S. Main, Plymouth, Michigan



CORKTOWN
—HEALTH CENTER—

Michigan's first medical home focused on
the needs of the LGBTQ Community.

Primary Care - Behavioral Health Services – HIV Care
Breast/Cervical Cancer Screening
Hormone Therapy – Insurance Navigation
Fully integrated PrEP Services and more!

(313) 832-3300
www.corktownhealth.org

RON T. WILLIAMSON DDS



Dedicated to make our
community brighter
One Smile At A Time
248-399-4455

**Uninsured?
No Problem.
Significant Savings
with our Smile Club**

Nitrous Oxide (relaxing air)
Proud participants in the Ryan White Program
No charges for emergency examinations and consultations.

Care Credit



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

Find us on
facebook



at Hodges...

We know that moving forward means remembering where you came from. That's why we're proud to say that Hodges is celebrating nearly 90 years in Ferndale, Michigan. We'll help you get where you're going, because you've helped us get where we are. Thank You!



2019 SUBARU
OUTBACK
2.5i PREMIUM

\$229 PER MONTH LEASE/
36 MONTHS/10,000
MILES PER YEAR

\$2,000 Down Payment
\$0 Security Deposit
\$229 First Month's Lease Payment
\$2,229 Total Due at
Lease Signing

KDD-11



SUBARU

**HODGES
SUBARU**

Metro Detroit's "Subaru-Only Dealer"

21205 Woodward Ave • Ferndale • MI • 48220

248.547.8800 • www.hodgessubaru.com

HOURS: TUES, WED, & FRIDAY SALES - 9 A.M. - 6 P.M. SERVICE - 7:30 A.M. - 6 P.M.

MONDAY & THURS SALES - 9 A.M. - 8 P.M. SERVICE - 7:30 A.M. - 8 P.M.

SATURDAY SALES - 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. SERVICE - 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

EXCELLENT SERVICE • OUTSTANDING SELECTION • FANTASTIC PRICES....

*36 month lease @ 10K miles/year. \$2,000 down, 1st months payment due at lease signing. \$0 security deposit. Tax, title, and plate fee extra. Must be approved tier one through Subaru Motors Finance.

EVERYDAY!

We are an Honest & Friendly Family Owned Business - Fair Prices Always!



NEW ENTRY DOORS • MANY STYLES • GARAGE DOORS & OPENERS TOO!

SERVING WAYNE, OAKLAND, MACOMB & WASHTENAW COUNTIES

- Residential Experts ■ We Sell New Doors
- Cable & Roller Replacement ■ Openers Repaired & Installed
- All Types Of Garage Door & Opener Repairs ■ Spring Replacement



**We Service
All Makes
& Models**

NO
Extra Service
Charge For
Evenings
& Weekends

We Fix Broken Springs

✓ **Check Our Prices On
Broken Spring Replacement**



FAST 24 Hr Emergency Service



**TOWN & COUNTRY
DOOR LLC**

Over 450 Five Star Reviews



**If We Can't Fix It...
Our Service Call
Is Free**

All Work Warranted In Writing

248-600-4683

WWW.TOWNANDCOUNTRYDOOR.NET

Michigan Founder of Transgender Day of Visibility to Be Honored at National Trans Visibility March

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

The first annual National Trans Visibility march will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28, in Washington, D.C. in honor of members of the LGBTQ community who are transgender, gender non-conforming and non-binary. They will march together along with their allies together against the hate and discrimination they are facing like the transgender military ban and threats against the national equality act.

Before the march, however, organizers have put together the Torch Award Ceremony “honoring TGNC/NB leaders for their more than 15 years of national service.” Among the awardees is Michigan’s own Rachel Crandall-Crocker, a registered social worker and licensed psychotherapist, as well as the founder and organizer of the International Transgender Day of Visibility. She said she was surprised but thrilled to receive the recognition.

“I only heard about it a week ago when I found out that they were honoring me. It wasn’t anything I was aware of and it wasn’t anything I applied for. However, I am really flattered,” she said. “It was amazing when I found about it. I am really honored.”

The march will also serve as a call to action, organizers said.

“... to dismantle the social structures that have oppressed and disenfranchised transgender, gender non-conforming and non-binary people.”

To attend this event visit glaad.org.

Douglas Hosts Community Pride Event in Honor of Stonewall

A community event will be held in Douglas, on June 1, to honor the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprisings. Before the 1960s, almost everything about living openly as a member of the LGBTQ community was illegal. In New York City, the events of Stonewall sparked a movement within the LGBTQ community.

“Everyone is invited to this community event,” said organizer Dale Lower, “all are welcome to come and learn more about Stonewall and celebrate the fight for equality with us.”

Main events include a presentation by Elizabeth Estes on the history of Stonewall; a performance by the PerSisterhood Choir; Marsha Caspar and Glenna DeJong will share their story as the first gay marriage in Michigan; a bullying presentation by James Gammicchia with GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network) and much more.

Held at Beery Field Park in Douglas, on June 1, from 1 to 5 p.m. Visit the Facebook Page “Community Pride, MI” or email douglaspridefestival@gmail.com.



Staff from LGBT Detroit and members of Onyx Great Lakes Chapter and The Black Bear Brotherhood pose with panelists at a co-sponsored community town hall on HIV in the black, gay community. Photos: Chris “Inpaq” Sutton

Black Bear Brotherhood, Onyx Great Lakes Chapter, LGBT Detroit Host Community Forum on HIV in Black, Gay Community

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Life, love and HIV within the context of the black, gay male experience was the topic of a town hall gathering on Friday, May 17, held at LGBT Detroit’s brand-new expanded campus known as its #SafeBraveSpace. This meeting was a culmination of the efforts of two groups in addition to LGBT Detroit, The Black Bear Brotherhood – a social collective for black, gay men of size and their admirers – and the Onyx Great Lakes Chapter – a leather fraternal order for men of color. Jerron Totten is LGBT Detroit’s legislative advocacy specialist and social outreach coordinator and helped put the event together. He said after meeting both groups at last year’s Hotter Than July – the world’s second oldest black, gay pride event – he was excited to see the groups collaborate to host community forums like this one.

“They always coexisted in the same community and would be in the same spaces and I believe what happened is that they came to the consensus that we can do more together and make a bigger impact together. Since, first of all, there’s a lot of overlap in Black Bear Brotherhood and Onyx and people who have engaged historically with LGBT Detroit,” Totten said. “So, why not bring all those people together since we all know each other? And we already know that we have some shared resources and

some individual resources that, if we can pull them together, we’ll be able to make the most impact.”

This particular event drew a crowd of several dozen and was sold out on its Eventbrite page, according to L. Michael Gipson the lead organizer of this meeting, principal of The Black Bear Brotherhood and the event’s host. The third of its kind in an ongoing series, Gipson said when he addressed the crowd that he had been eager to tackle the topic of HIV for some time but wanted to be intentional in how it was handled.

“The last topic we did was crystal meth and sex work, the topic before that was political power how do we gain it. Our two-year anniversary is May 27. We purposely have not tackled HIV because when we say black, gay men the first thing that we all hear following that is something about HIV,” Gipson said. “But with the update in the HIV criminalization laws and knowing how many of our brothers are, in fact, impacted, we felt it was critical that you know what the law is, both as people who may not have HIV and as people who may have HIV.”

Changes to Michigan’s HIV Legal Landscape

The meeting kicked off with a presentation from the ACLU of Michigan’s Jay Kaplan

who is the LGBT Project’s staff attorney. He outlined in four points Michigan’s recently adopted HIV statute’s originally proposed by State Rep. Jon Hoadley of Kalamazoo:

1.) “A person who knows that they are HIV-positive and engages in anal or vaginal intercourse with another person without first informing that person that they have HIV and has the specific intent to infect that other person can be guilty of a felony – whether or not HIV was transmitted.”

2.) “If you’re HIV-positive you don’t inform [your partner], you engage in anal intercourse, you transmit HIV, even if you didn’t have the intent to infect another person, you can be charged with a felony.”

3.) “If you engage in intercourse and you don’t inform and you’ve engaged in what is considered to be reckless disregard, even if there’s no transmission, you can be charged with a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in prison or a \$1,000 fine. If they find that there is not reckless disregard, then no criminal charges can be brought. Another flaw in this statute is that they don’t explain what is ‘reckless disregard.’”

4.) “If you’re HIV-positive and you’re in a medical treatment that you’re adhering to and your viral load has been suppressed due to this medical treatment protocol then you

can't be considered to have acted with reckless disregard."

Kaplan followed up by saying that though the law still contains flaws, it is a marked improvement from its previous iteration.

"It's problematic with this too because it assumes that everybody has access to a medical treatment program and is going to benefit from the anti-retroviral medications," Kaplan said. "In the long run, it's much, much better because it's focusing on behaviors, looking at intent in most instances and looking if someone was actually infected, but we still can do better. This was a result of a compromise with the current legislature."

Understanding HIV Treatment and Prevention

Kaplan's presentation was followed up by an interactive game show that was played for the audience's benefit to cement information surrounding HIV treatment and to allay some of the fears and misconceptions that might exist surrounding it and those affected by HIV. Gipson shared experiences from his own background and career involving HIV prevention.

"Around the time I was born if you were gay you were considered crazy, it was a mental illness. And then, you were an outlaw or a criminal until about 2002, so I was a criminal from 16 until 2002 anytime I engaged in same-sex relationships," Gipson said. "Then we got same-sex marriage and that was a huge change in what we could expect. We also now have PrEP and in what we can do to prevent HIV. We now have U=U which is information that is totally different than what we used to share with people and, I think, for people who work in HIV prevention as I used to for a time, sometimes we get all this kind of information that's very common knowledge for us over the last five years, but that the public still actually doesn't know."

For instance, though pre-exposure prophylaxis or PrEP is a preventative measure for HIV, even Gipson's health care providers don't often know its intended use.

"I still, as someone on PrEP, have to educate my nurses, my doctors, the medical assistant, literally every single time I access health care that I'm not HIV-positive, not living with HIV but I'm on this medication which, to them, can only be viewed in a lens of having HIV," Gipson said. "This was particularly burdensome when I was getting surgery for a hernia and so you have new nurses every few hours who would say, 'Oh, I see you have this HIV med,' and I was like, 'No, it's not that.'"

Some of the questions posed to contestants covered topics like the effectiveness of PrEP for a daily user in pill form – 90 percent – those who receive it as an injection – 70 percent – and the brand name of the medicine – Truvada.

Love, Dating and Relationships

The final section of the town hall meeting opened up the discussion to a panel of six participants, two of whom represented single black, gay males, and two couples both monogamous and polyamorous. Gipson started that portion of the programming with a question about their thoughts on the new HIV rules within the current landscape in Detroit among men who have sex with men.

"Because one out of two black gay men is projected to get HIV it's important to talk about that and also about how does that impact relationships and how we deal with them. In some ways we've gotten some good news and mediocre, OK news about that," Gipson said. "But as brothers in the community where that is the truth, and we're also still the most likely to get incarcerated under such rules, what were your first impressions of the changes you heard in the HIV criminalization tonight?"

Panelist Thomas Wendell Williams III spoke first.

"For me, the changes that I saw I was still very critical of like the fine," Williams said. "One, I was thinking about the fact that we're disproportionately targeted by this and if a lot of us struggle economically and financially, how are we going to pay a \$1,000 fine on top of everything else we're probably dealing with? So that to me was a slap in the face and rubbing salt in the wound of someone that's in poverty."

Other panelists agreed the changes weren't ideal but did seem hopeful that it was a step in the right direction. Ronald Moore was a panelist representing the senior, black, LGBTQ community. He said that in his eyes the changes didn't affect him directly, but he saw how some of the existing flaws could be problematic for those living in poverty.

"It didn't really impact me that much because I think my practice is just to assume that anyone I'm having sex with is positive and I've never relied on what the other person says, I've always relied on myself to take responsibility because I own what happens," Moore said. "I do think it's homophobic and all that stuff, but it doesn't cause me to change."

Gipson followed up with various questions about the impacts of the HIV law and the stigma surrounding the disease even among the LGBTQ community. Overall, when asked about the importance of sharing information even within the community, panelist Amar Rushing summarized it well.

"I think it helps because there's a lot of misinformation and lack of understanding within our own community," Rushing said. "These changes and things that are happening help us connect and learn from each other."

To learn more about the Black Bear Brotherhood visit blackbearbrotherhood.life. Find out more about Onyx Great Lakes Chapter at onyxgl.com and visit lgbtdetroit.org to learn more about it and its new #SafeBraveSpace.



Welcome Home to Urbane on Manderson in historic Palmer Park. Our newly renovated, pet-friendly, **1 and 2 bedroom** apartment homes **from \$750**, offer an extensive array of amenities in an urban setting.

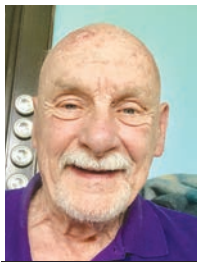
We're less than five miles away from Wayne State University, The Detroit Medical Center, and are close to excellent shopping, dining and entertainment options. Whether you're heading to work or looking for a fun night out, you'll never have to venture far from home. What are you waiting for? Call to see how you can become a part of Detroit's historic Palmer Park neighborhood.

248-988-7125

17435 Manderson Road, Detroit, MI 48203

URBANEAPTS.COM/PALMER PARK





Parting Glances

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

In Drag for Jesus, Lady T and Chance

GATORADE, Ariz.: I'm a skeptic concerning things supernatural; but the wonder-working weekend I spend reporting for BTL on the Drag Queens for Jesus confab is, well, miraculous – awe-inspiring.

It's also ecumenical, as the three-day drama-queen pageant coincides with the 40th-anniversary departure to Greater Graceland in the Sky of Elvis Presley, king of kings (as in rock & roll, sideburns, sunglasses, pelvic-articulated gyrations and exit-cue peristalsis go).

With 100 drag queens, two-dozen Elvis look-alikes, a DQ4J Passion Play non-equity cast of Jesus, Mary, Pontius Pilate, John the Baptist, Salome, 'Madonna,' Judy Garland, Mae West, Pope Donald Trump, VP Pence, Pat Robertson, assorted flagellants and semi-naked line-dance slaves, gathered, Gatorade (pop. 1776) is transformed into Vatican City Meets Mel Gibson's S/M – sandals and mascara – Hollywood West at High Noon.

As usual, Rainbow America flight attendant Chance Ankleman's posing early at poolside our last day, and, after giving me his trademark wink, flexing his biceps, triceps, abs, glutes, toes, suggests I join him for lunch at the town's No Spic, No Spam (Show You Green Card) Cafe.

"Two years ago I bought one of your hypnotic pictures," begins Chance, looking me reasonably straight in the eye. "And discovered your hidden 'for a good time call the artist' message and phone number.

"I called several times, but never got an answer. Frankly, I was disappointed. Do I get some sort of discount?"

(I must say Chance looks splendid in rainbow-colored Speedo with hidden uplift testicular support, and much more physically articulate than I do in my passion play, sequin-stitched, sag-crotch, WWJD-embroidered loincloth.)

"I'm sorry, Chance, but I quickly grew out of my blue period. Now that I've gone exclusively sexting, my subliminal art messages have changed. An artist has to keep pace with his audience. Tell you what, Chance. I'll pop you for lunch."

It's reassuring to find proven once more – thousands of miles from home – and in a small hamlet like Gatorade – that the profession of choice among good-looking gay men is waiter.

(The Guinness Book of Records list the count for gay waiters at 1, 795, 320.)

"Goodness, what abs," our gay waiter greets us.

"Goodness had nothing to do with it," replies Chance, off on another bout of winking.

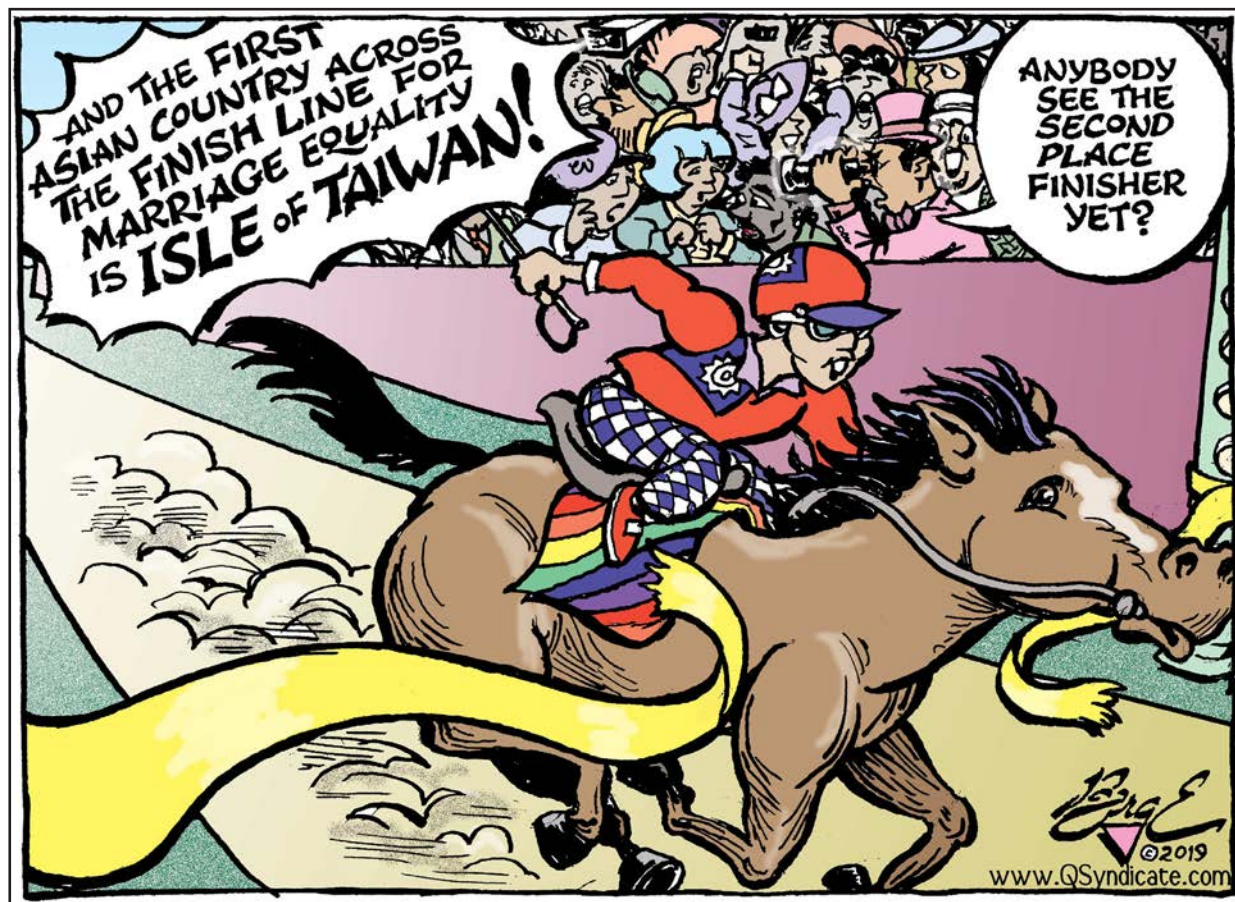
Over our meal of tacos, chili, tortillas, we earful big-time gossip making the Gatorade rounds.

"You may be out-of-towners," says Hunkers Jones, our waiter, "but three weeks ago, Rev. Dowler P. Sparks had lotsa explaining to do.

"He was caught by a Greyhound bus attendant baptizing someone in a stall in the men's room.

"Things quieted down a bit 'til the ACLU got involved. Rev. Sparks says he's got a right to baptize anybody he wants, anywhere he wants, as the spirit leads. Immigration and Mitch

See next page



BY JEM ZERO

Viewpoint

Resisting the Dangers of Michigan's Abortion Ban

For the past week, I haven't been able to log on to social media without seeing controversy about the abortion bans that are sweeping the country. Even the most politically apathetic people are weighing in on it.

I grew up in a cultishly tight Evangelical Christian community. I went to private Christian schools. It shouldn't be a surprise that I was raised to be pro-life.

Nowadays, I call that kind of mindset "anti-choice" or "forced birth."

As a young adult, I was fed a number of horrifying lies about abortion, such as the level of embryonic development at certain stages and the reasons people get abortions in the first place. This made even "reasonable" abortion accommodations hard to defend, given the huge stigma placed on allowing pro-choice rhetoric any validity at all.

My biggest breakthrough in my fight for choice happened a few years ago when an old friend needed a life-saving abortion that she couldn't afford. I raised \$1,000 to cover the cost of this procedure.

After my brutal journey through this ethical mire, it was devastating when I woke up to find that Michigan's House and

Senate had both voted to ban a common abortion procedure. Dilation and evacuation is considered by doctors to be among the safest options for terminating a pregnancy between the 13- and 24-week stages.

Michigan throwing its hat in on restricting reproductive rights hit very close to home for me, because at the beginning of this month I had a scare of my own.

I have a Nexplanon birth control implant. The implant, which is placed in the arm, has a failure rate of only 0.05 percent. If it does fail, however, there is a higher chance of ectopic pregnancy. Curled up in my bathroom after midnight, I was afraid that had happened to me.

An ectopic pregnancy happens when the fertilized egg implants in the fallopian tube rather than the uterus. These pregnancies are almost never viable, and if untreated can result in rupture of the fallopian tube which can be fatal. Survivors of ectopic pregnancy may be left with scarring that affects their future reproductive health.

Fortunately, my symptoms were related to a violent irregular period, but between the heavy bleeding, the extreme pain and the vertigo so intense I was seeing things in stop-motion, I

After my brutal journey through this ethical mire, it was devastating when I woke up to find that Michigan's House and Senate had both voted to ban a common abortion procedure.

► Viewpoint

Continued from p. 14

had legitimate concern that I'd have to go to the emergency room. I genuinely feared that I might die.

I'm not in the market for an abortion. In June I will be married to a beautiful woman with whom I want to start a family. Termination of any pregnancy, even before I stop my birth control, is not on the menu ... unless medically necessary. As I am disabled, with family history of high-risk pregnancies, it is an unfortunate possibility.

Many forced birthers wonder why people like me are concerned about these bills. "Medically necessary" abortions, as they deem them, would be "allowed" for pregnant people who would die without one. Actual legislation and opinions from our lawmakers state otherwise.

An Ohio bill which claims to have an exception for ectopic pregnancies requires that the fertilized ovum be re-implanted into the pregnant person's uterus. This procedure is medically impossible – it does not exist.

Miscarriage is another issue that brings fear to pregnancy-capable people. On top of the trauma of losing a child, which often is accompanied by pain and bleeding, now pregnant parents have to fear being criminalized for a natural physiological process. Miscarriages are no one's fault, yet there are increasing cases of people being

► Parting Glances

Continued from p. 14

McConnell should mind their own business, he says.

"Baptism's a matter of separation of church and State. I paid my 25 cents to use that damned stall ..."

DQ4J THE CLIMAX: "I'm on stage at the Los Alamos A-Bomb Memorial Theater. The auditorium's packed. Not a vacant seat. The mayor's here. Rev. Sparks, front-row center, with what appears to be a recently baptized person. (Unfortunately, still wet behind his ears.)

"The gilded curtain rises. The overture to 'Jesus Christ Superstar' blares into high-kick tempo and 100 Drag Queens for Jesus take center stage, blowing kisses everywhere, making signs of the cross, genuflecting – one by one joining a gigantic line dance of sheer

accused of 'infanticide' upon losing a pregnancy.

In a horrifying move for Michigan's forced birth community, a lawmaker shared the belief that abortions "should be painful." Republican State Sen. Kim LaSata said that parents carrying unviable pregnancies should "allow God to take over ... and deliver that baby."

The idea that "pro-lifers" take an anti-abortion stance to protect children seems to many people like a thinly veiled cover-up for the truth: a desire to hurt and further disenfranchise women.

Catchphrases like "consensual rape" and "life begins at conception" highlight perspectives stating that forcibly impregnated minors should be required to carry the infant because "it's not the baby's fault" and "a C-section would be less traumatizing than an abortion." So much for protecting children.

All I want, as a future parent, is the assurance that I will be allowed to terminate a pregnancy if it is a danger to me. I want this right for every person who is capable of pregnancy, whether that danger is financial, physical or emotional.

Abortion rights are intrinsic to protecting reproductive health. Even if I hadn't had my own unviable pregnancy scare, I would still fight for the reproductive rights of all people.

Jem can be reached at jemzero.art@gmail.com; www.jemzero.com; Jem Zero (on Facebook).

mind-blowing jubilation. (You know how drag queens can mind blow. Or jubilate.)

Miracle of miracles, the audience rises and applauds wildly. One or two begin to speak in tongues. (Or, maybe Spanish.) Suddenly, out of nowhere a banner waves, "Have a blessed day. Get in drag for heaven's sake!" Everybody hugs.

I look adoringly at Chance. He winks lovingly at me. I wink back at him. He winks back at me. Life is good, even if it's occasionally a drag. Happily – and for a small deposit – we find a private corner to genuflect in.

Charles Alexander is prolific both as a BTL columnist (700-plus columns) and as a well-known LGBTQ community artist (1000 Facebook images). He is a Spirit of Detroit Award recipient and an Affirmations LGBT CENTER Jan Stevenson awardee. Connect with him at [Charles@pridesource.com](https://www.charlesatpridesource.com).

Creep Of The Week

James Dobson

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Hello LGBTQ Americans! Are you ready to enslave "people of faith" throughout these United States of America?"

Because the U.S. House just passed the Equality Act and, according to James Dobson, that's our job now.

I don't know about you, but I'm NOT PREPARED. Also, full disclosure, I'm not interested. The "people of faith" Dobson is talking about have done a fine job subjugating themselves by living in fear of two men kissing or a woman in control of her own uterus. Also, note that I didn't use the word "enslaved" because let's not just throw that word around like hundreds of years of that shit didn't happen in this country and foster the deeply entrenched racism black and brown people are still dealing with.

Dobson, however, is particularly tone deaf on this topic.

"In the history of our nation, there have been times when evil was so apparent – and so heinous – that they stand in infamy decades later," he wrote for Charisma News. "They include the Dred Scott Decision on slavery in 1857 and the Roe v. Wade ruling that legalized abortion in 1973. Now, we are faced with another such tragic moment in American history."

Dred Scott, you'll recall, affirmed the rights of slaveholders and was horrible. Roe v. Wade legalized a medical procedure. Not horrible. I get that Dobson thinks it is, but it isn't.

And now Dobson is comparing the Equality Act, which would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to protect LGBTQ people, to slavery and the thing he thinks is the worst thing ever: abortion.

According to the Human Rights Campaign, "The Equality Act would provide consistent and explicit non-discrimination protections for LGBTQ people across key areas of life, including employment, housing, credit, education, public spaces and services, federally funded programs and jury service."

This sounds perfectly reasonable. And, in fact, the majority of Americans think LGBTQ people should be protected from discrimination. But if you only asked people who don't think that LGBTQ people are actual human beings, I suspect that number would drop by a lot. And no doubt Dobson is in that category.

Why is Dobson so afraid of the Equality Act? Because civil rights laws give LGBTQ people a legitimacy that he wants to continue to deny. Dobson calls the Equality Act "breathtaking in its scope" and he's not wrong. It's pretty momentous.

The HRC explains, "Decades of civil rights

Dred Scott, you'll recall, affirmed the rights of slaveholders and was horrible.

Roe v. Wade legalized a medical procedure. Not horrible. I get that Dobson thinks it is, but it isn't.

history show that civil rights laws are effective in decreasing discrimination because they provide strong federal remedies targeted to specific vulnerable groups. By explicitly including sexual orientation and gender identity in these fundamental laws, LGBTQ people will finally be afforded the exact same protections as other covered characteristics under federal law."

Why, if this passes the Senate (it won't. Mitch McConnell is a ghoul), then bakers might have to make cakes for same-sex couples and employers can't just fire someone for being trans and landlords can't kick you out of your home for being gay!

According to Dobson, "This legislation will represent one of the most egregious assaults on religious liberty ever foisted on the people of this great nation. It therein imposes a thinly veiled death-sentence to the First Amendment to the Constitution."

Wow. That's some hyperbolic shit right there. A "thinly veiled death-sentence to the First Amendment?" Can someone please let Dobson know that the First Amendment isn't "Freedom to use your religion as a weapon against people you don't like?"

Dobson continues, "We must not remain silent as our historic liberties are gutted by Democrats and their friends in the LGBT movement. They will enslave us if they prevail. We must let our voices be heard, first in the U.S. Senate, and then to the world."

Okay, first of all, just about every right-wing conservative Christian has his or her own radio show so I don't know what he means by this "remain silent" business. Also, a blanket right to discriminate is a "historic" liberty only in that it belongs in the past. With slavery.

Dobson ends with, "Viva biblical values and beliefs."

I know what you're thinking: isn't "viva" Spanish? Yes! It is. And after vowing to continue to make life as miserable as possible for LGBTQ Americans, Dobson launches into an impassioned plea that we stop ripping Spanish-speaking children from their parents at the border and putting them in cages because it is unchristian.

Just kidding. He did not. That would require some sort of moral code that cared about other people. Somebody should send Dobson a pamphlet or something about Jesus.

In First, House Approves Equality Act to Ban Anti-LGBTQ Discrimination

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

For the first-time ever, a chamber of Congress has approved legislation – with bipartisan support – that would amend the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964 to ban comprehensively discrimination against LGBT people.

Under the new Democratic majority elected in the mid-term election, the House approved the legislation by a vote of 236-173 as openly gay Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney (D-N.Y.) presided over the chamber. At other times during debate, gay Rep. Mark Pocan (D-Wis.) and lesbian Rep. Angie Craig (D-Minn.) served as speaker pro tempore.

As a majority of votes for the bill became apparent and as the vote was called, Democrats and guests in House gallery applauded and cheered. Among those giving a standing applause in the gallery were Chad Griffin, president of the Human Rights Campaign, and Sharon McGowan, legal director for Lambda Legal.

Rep. David Cicilline (D-R.I.), the most senior openly gay member of Congress and chief sponsor of the Equality Act, said the legislation would “grant full legal equality to the LGBTQ community here in America” and the vote was “truly historic.”

“The American people think it’s time to protect the LGBTQ community,” Cicilline said. “There is nothing more central to the idea of America than the guarantee of equal protection under the law for every single American.”

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), wearing a rainbow wristband as she spoke on the House floor, invoked both the Founding Fathers and the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots in support of the Equality Act.

“Fifty years after the LGBTQ Americans took to the streets outside of New York’s Stonewall Inn to fight against harassment and hate, we take pride in the progress we have forged together,” Pelosi said. “Our Founders, in their great wisdom, wrote in our beautiful preamble – wrote of the blessings of liberty, which were to be the birthright of all Americans. To bring our nation closer to the founding promise of liberty and justice for all, we, today, pass the Equality Act and finally, fully end discrimination against LGBTQ Americans.”

The Democratic caucus was united in support of the legislation. Eight Republicans voted for the Equality Act: Reps. Susan Brooks (Ind.), Mario Diaz-Balart (Fla.), Brian Fitzpatrick (Pa.), Will Hurd (Texas), John Katko (N.Y.), Tom Reed (N.Y.), Elise Stefanik (N.Y.) and Greg Walden (Ore.).

Pocan, holding up a photo of Pelosi swearing him in with his husband at his side, said the Equality Act ensure the LGBT non-discrimination protections enjoyed under the law in some capacity in 21 states are part of



Rep. David Cicilline (D-R.I.) speaks at a press conference for the Equality Act on Friday. Washington Blade photo by Michael Key

U.S. code.

“We’re really lucky because we live in Wisconsin, the first state in the nation to pass a gay and lesbian civil rights bill back in 1982, and it was signed by a Republican governor, but that’s not true for a majority of America,” Pocan said. “If we pass the Equality Act, people like Phil and I can be free to love who we love, and we can live where we want to live, and we can work where we want to work without fear of being fired or evicted simply because of who we are or who we love. That’s pretty simple.”

The Equality Act would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Fair Housing Act to ban anti-LGBT discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, jury service, education, federal programs and credit.

The bill also seeks to update federal law to include sex in the list of protected classes in public accommodation in addition to expanding the definition of public accommodations to include retail stores, banks, transportation services and health care services. Further, the Equality Act would establish that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act – a 1994 law aimed at protecting religious liberty – can’t be used to enable anti-LGBT discrimination.

The House approved the Equality Act after a tumultuous 90-minute debate in which Democrats affirmed supported for equality for LGBT people and Republican stoked dubious and incorrect complaints about children being forced to have gender reassignment surgeries, imposition on women’s privacy and penalties imposed on religious organizations.

Leading the charge in stoking fears over

the Equality Act was Rep. Tom McClintock (R-Calif.), who said the Equality Act violates fundamental principles of America.

“This bill harms people in so many ways: Destroying safe spaces for women, undermining women-owned businesses, intimidating the free exercise of conscience,” McClintock said.

Drawing on fears of men being able to compete as transgender women in women’s sports under the Equality Act, McClintock said, “Wherever these laws are imposed, biological males have begun to dominate women’s competition.”

Rep. Vicky Hartzler (R-Mo.), an anti-LGBT lawmaker who last week sought to pass an amendment on the House floor banning the U.S. government from paying for transition-related care, including gender reassignment surgery for transgender people, lamented non-transgender women having to compete with transgender women in sports.

“If we continue down this track, how long will it be before nations recruit men identifying as females to outmedal other countries and ultimately uproot the ancient tradition of the Olympics?” Hartzler said.

The House voted to approve the Equality Act after rejecting by a vote of 228-181 a motion to recommit introduced by Rep. Greg Steube (R-Fla.). The measure ostensibly sought to clarify the legislation can’t be construed to diminish Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which bars sex discrimination and fostered women’s participation in sports.

“Science has proven time and time again that there is a significant competitive performance

difference between biological males and females from the puberty onward,” Steube said. “From percentage of lean muscle, to heart size, to body fat, to joint ankles, the bodies of men and women are distinctly unique and produce a vast difference in performance ability when it comes to certain activities. In fact, there is an average 10 to 12 performance gap between elite biological males and females athletes.”

Representing Democrats in opposition to the motion to recommend was Rep. Katie Hill (D-Calif.), an openly bisexual member of Congress who disparaged Republicans for “having a man tell me what kind of protections I need in sports.”

“This is fear-mongering about trans women playing in sports,” Hill said. “Are you kidding me? I don’t know if my colleagues on the other side realize that they met trans people, but they have. They definitely have, and I’ve met many, and this motion reflects nothing more than the prejudice of my colleagues.”

Prior to the vote, Rep. Ben McAdams (D-Utah) held with Cicilline a colloquy on the House floor to clarify houses of worship could continue to restrict entrance to its membership and clergy could refuse to perform same-sex weddings despite the ban on discrimination in public accommodations in the Equality Act. In the event of litigation before the courts, the colloquy would clarify that was intent of lawmakers behind the Equality Act.

“HR5 does not, nor could any legislation, supersede the First Amendment,” Cicilline said. “HR5 allows the standard set by prior civil rights law to not interfere with worship and religious practices by religious organizations.”

Rep. Doug Collins (R-Ga.), however, said that wasn’t enough in addressing concerns opponents of the Equality Act had on its impact on religious organizations, such as Catholic hospitals or adoption agencies.

“None of us, especially myself, have said anything about houses of worship,” Collins said. “We do know that’s the bridge too far. What we are concerned about in the bill is where it says any of these groups or affiliations, Catholic affiliations, Jewish affiliations, who get federal money to do other things, they would come under this, and this is where the RFRA protections is something.”

With 241 co-sponsors in the House, there was no doubt when the vote was scheduled on Friday the chamber would approve the legislation. But the bill now heads to the Republican-controlled Senate, where it faces an uphill battle. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), who has called himself the “grim reaper” of legislation approved by the Democratic-controlled House, controls the chamber.

In the miraculous event the Senate approves the Equality Act, the bill would head to the desk of President Trump, who indicated this

See next page



LGBTQ Equality Act: MI Delegation Vote

U.S. Reps. Brenda Lawrence (D-14) and Andy Levin (D-12) celebrating the passage of the LGBTQ Equality Act in the U.S. House of Representatives May 17. The legislators were among dozens of elected Democratic officials at the 2019 Michigan Democratic Party Legacy Dinner May 18 at Detroit's Renaissance Center.

Also in attendance were Michigan's two U.S. Sens. Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow, both of whom said they are excited by the passage

of the LGBTQ Equality Act in the House, and when Peters was asked if he thought there was any chance of it coming to the floor in the Republican controlled Senate he said, "We'll see."

The Equality Act passed the U.S. House by a vote of 236-173. All the Democrats voted for the bill and only 8 Republicans joined them to support the legislation – none from Michigan.

Ayes to LGBTQ Equality Act:

Dan Kildee (D - MI 5)
Elissa Slotkin (D - MI 8)
Andy Levin (D - MI 9)
Haley Stevens (D - MI 11)
Rashida Tlaib (D- MI 13)
Brenda Lawrence (D - MI 14)

Nays to LGBTQ Equality Act:

Jack Bergman, (R - MI 1)

Bill Huizenga (R - MI 2)
Justin Amash (R - MI 3)
John Moolenaar (R - MI 4)
Fred Upton (R - MI-6)
Tim Walberg (R - MI 7)
Paul Mitchell (R - MI 10)

Not Voting:

Debbie Dingell (D - MI 12)

► Equality Act

Continued from p. 16

week via a senior administration official to the Washington Blade he opposes the legislation based on unspecified "poison pills" in the bill.

Nonetheless, LGBT rights advocates, who have fought long and hard to pass the Equality Act – an early version of which was first unveiled more than 40 years ago in 1974 – hailed the win in the House as a historic milestone.

Griffin in a statement House approval of the Equality Act is "a major milestone for equality and sends a powerful and profound message to LGBTQ people, especially LGBTQ youth."

"No one's rights should depend on which side of a state or city line they live on, and today we took a giant step forward in our journey toward full equality," Griffin said. "This historic victory would not have been possible without

the millions of LGBTQ people and our allies who organized, mobilized and turned out to elect a pro-equality majority in 2018. Now, we will take our fight to the U.S. Senate and turn up the pressure on Leader McConnell to allow a vote on this crucial legislation."

Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality, said in a statement the vote was "a proud triumph for the liberty of transgender people nationwide."

"But we have not come this far to only come this far," Keisling added. "Leader McConnell must bring this bill to the Senate floor for a vote. Denying transgender people their most basic rights would be nothing short of a moral crime, one that would stain this Senate for years. Now is not the time for brinkmanship, partisanship, or cowardice. Now is the time senators must fulfill their duty to uphold the rights of all people in their states and serve the interests of the nation over the interests of party."

PRESENTED BY:



Inspired Brewing®



2019 | kalamazoo
PRIDE

LOVE WHO YOU ARE

**Friday,
June 7th**
6pm-12:30am

**Saturday,
June 8th**
2pm-12:30am

Arcadia Creek Festival Place, Downtown Kalamazoo

ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDES:

DJ DISOBEDIENCE ALISE KING "MISS(TER) KALAMAZOO PRIDE 2019" DRAG COMPETION FARMER'S ALLEY THEATRE DACIA BRIDGES PROJECT TIA SIMONE SOLOMON GEORGIO DAVID HERNANDEZ SUTTON LEE SEYMOUR & CACOPHONY

GET YOUR \$15 TWO-DAY PASS – AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE ONLY.

Includes entrance to Kalamazoo Pride and entry in raffles on both days. Passes are available until June 6th at OutFront Kalamazoo. Cost at the gate is \$10 per day.

Kalamazoo Pride is a fundraising event for OutFront Kalamazoo. Visit our website for program information, news, events and resources. www.outfrontkzoo.org





Photo: Niko Tavernise

Anjelica Huston

EMPOWERS THROUGH TRUTH

Screen Legend on Her Heroines, Dodging a Gay Pride Penis & Why Morticia Was ‘Almost Drag’

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Give Anjelica Huston a character so fierce it will single-handedly galvanize the gay community and she'll devour the role. Unapologetically powerful, her Grand High Witch in "The Witches" wielded kid-hexing Wiccan powers, her ghastly face both a hideous fright and a delicious, drag-queen-dream marvel.

A year later, in 1991, she made weirdness cool as Morticia Addams, bringing a grace all her own to "The Addams Family" as the household's ghoulish glue. On NBC's short-lived musical-drama "Smash," from 2012 to 2013, the Academy Award winner played legendary

tough-as-nails producer Eileen Rand. Now, complete with Russian accent, she portrays The Director – the leader of the assassins' headquarters – opposite Keanu Reeves, Halle Berry and non-binary actor Asia Kate Dillon in "John Wick: Chapter 3 – Parabellum." A mighty role for a mighty woman.

During a recent call with the 67-year-old actress, just hours before the "John Wick" premiere in New York, Huston discussed her affinity with the LGBTQ community, her wig in "Smash," and going head-to-head with a giant latex penis during a Pride parade.

What do you think is the connection between your strength and resilience as a woman – both

in life and in film – and the gay men who are empowered by you?

Aww! Well, I like to think I empower the people around me, and that definitely is something that I would wish. I think maybe, hmm... I've never really considered it. But I think maybe it's just a sort of similar feeling, similar reaction to certain things, and I think maybe the ability to speak out for yourself even though it might get you in trouble sometimes (laughs). I think that's something, you know, that we all have to deal with.

You laugh like you might have just had experience with the latter.

(Laughs) Recently, I had a little experience

with this Vulture interview (Huston recently gave a controversial tell-all to the news site). But you know, it has to do with speaking your mind and speaking your truth, and I think that's something that has gone a little bit out of fashion since I've been working and giving interviews. (Laughs)

One of the things about the gay community is that they've always been outspoken; they speak their truth and they've taken a lot of chances in their lives, because often these opinions aren't popular. But it takes all kinds to make a world, and I think we narrow our sights very much when we constantly adapt to sort of the rigors of everyday life and that everything has to be safe and that everything

has to be presentable.

And you don't do that. You don't play it safe.

I'm afraid I don't. I'd like to a lot of the time, but I don't really think that that's my truth, though sometimes it is. But overall, I like to have the freedom to have my opinions that don't necessarily adhere to everyone else's. And I think that's sort of an individuality, maybe. A sign of speaking one's own mind and not necessarily being influenced by trends and what people consider to be proper.

Because you play these powerful women and because those women sometimes dress exuberantly, many gay men have even given you credit for their gayness. Looking back, what roles of yours do you think could have had that kind of power over them?

I don't know, and I'm sort of hesitant to say because, again, everyone's different and I think different things attract different people. But I think overall the parts that I've done that are not necessarily cookie-cutter, in which characters have some kind of power even though it's not necessarily going to win them any kudos (laughs), are the ones who have a personal power that I think is attractive to the gay community.

There was a real appreciation in the gay community for the shade you threw as the evil stepmother in "Ever After," and with simply a single eyebrow raise.

Aww, well, thank you. (Laughs)

Some in the LGBTQ community have classified Morticia Addams as a gay icon. Do you think she has what it takes to be one?

I can only wish! (Laughs) I loved playing Morticia, and I think, also, probably because she had so much going on – so many corsets and wigs and nails – that yeah, she was almost drag.

Your role as The Director could be potential inspiration for drag queens. When it comes to her look – but also her attitude – what should a drag queen keep in mind?

I don't know. I think she's a tough gypsy, she knows the score, she's lived the life, she is rigorous, she's strong. And I think that appeals to people. It certainly appeals to me.

How do you explain the fact that, while most kids were scared of you in "The Witches," gay boys wanted to be you?

(Laughs) Well, she has fabulous powers and she revels in her ugliness and in her vileness; she's somebody who takes full advantage of being horrible! (Laughs) And in a way, I think that's something very attractive, to be able to really enjoy your hideous outer shell; there's something to be said for fully being who you are. And I think it doesn't necessarily just belong to the gay community, it belongs to all of us who are searching to find a way or searching to find out who we are and how far

we can go.

What do you think of Anne Hathaway playing the role you originated?

I think, great, good luck to her. And I hope they find a way to not have to encase her in rubber for seven hours at a time (laughs). The makeup was very challenging on that movie.

CGI has certainly come a long way.

It has, it has. But I think one of the things that's so beautiful about the Nic Roeg movie is that there was practically no CGI. A little bit around the mice, but overall it was all makeup, it was the Jim Henson workshop, and I enjoyed the reality-based visuals of that film. And actually, it's rather simply shot. There weren't a lot of trick shots or anything like that. A few fish-eye lenses, but all of it was sort of based on what the camera could do and not what you could do post.

Will you star in the remake?

Oh, I have no idea. They haven't spoken to me about it at all. I know nothing about the remake or how closely it will adhere to the Roald Dahl story. I have no idea.

Some gays had problems with your "Smash" wig. They said it could've been softer, that it made you look like a drag queen. Are we to assume a gay man did not pick out that wig for you?

(Laughs) Yeah, well, I don't know – it helped me because I felt it was kind of an armor for my character, and she's dealing with a lot of volatile, crazy stuff and kind of has to be the anchor in the middle of it. Something about that particular wig – although, no, it wasn't the soft approach – helped me and kind of grounded me.

What about your role in "Transparent" spoke to you as an actress and as a longtime supporter of the community?

I think "Transparent" was just kind of a wonderful show, and I started to watch it for quite some time before they invited me on the show. I thought it was very moving and also very reality-based, and I loved these characters. I found it very involving. For me, to play a member of the LGBTQ community was important and fascinating. I didn't want to make it a caricature in any way and so I didn't go to great lengths to kind of change Vicki's sexuality. I felt like, you know, she's a sexual person, she's not someone who has a rule book about who she should be or if she should fall in love, but she's a person who's making it on her own – who's got her cheese shop! (Laughs) A normal woman making a life who happens to be gay, which I think many people in the community are.

It's not that you carve yourselves out to be sexually different or to make those choices. A lot of the time the choices make you, and it's up to you to find your way and negotiate your life. And there's a lot of resistance out there. People love to criticize. And people

See **Anjelica**, continued on p. 20

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
LEONARD SLATKIN *Music Director Laureate*
A COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED ORCHESTRA

CLASSICAL SERIES

NAGANO CONDUCTS BRUCKNER

Kent Nagano, *conductor*
Beatrice Rana, *piano*

FRI., MAY 24 AT 8 P.M.
SAT., MAY 25 AT 8 P.M.

PROKOFIEV *Piano Concerto No. 3*
BRUCKNER *Symphony No. 3*

SPONSORED BY



PARADISE JAZZ SERIES

THE MOVIE MUSIC OF SPIKE LEE & TERENCE BLANCHARD

SUN., JUN. 2 AT 4 P.M.

Spike Lee and **Terence Blanchard** have enjoyed a fruitful relationship as filmmaker and composer on several collaborations. This special concert showcases the stunning scores and songs from eight Spike Lee films, featuring Blanchard's E-Collective, the **Detroit Symphony Orchestra**, and R&B powerhouse **Ledisi**, with specially designed images of the films projected throughout the performance.



MADE POSSIBLE BY
GENERAL MOTORS

WITH SUPPORT FROM
HIGH GROUND



PNC POPS SERIES
BRASS TRANSIT: THE MUSIC OF CHICAGO

Robert Bernhardt, *conductor*
WED., JUN. 12 AT 7:30 P.M.

In this tribute, Brass Transit embodies the distinct sound of rock 'n' roll, iconic melodies, and unforgettable horns that launched the band Chicago to stardom. Together with the DSO, they perform all the hits, including "Saturday In The Park," "25 or 6 To 4," and "You're The Inspiration."

TITLE SPONSOR:



PRESENTED BY
MASCO
FOUNDATION

WITH ADDITIONAL
SUPPORT FROM



ORDER YOUR TICKETS NOW!

dso.org or 313.576.5111

GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE CALL 313.576.5130

ORCHESTRA HALL • MAX M. & MARJORIE S. FISHER MUSIC CENTER
3711 WOODWARD AVE. • MIDTOWN DETROIT

PROGRAMS, PRICES, AND ARTISTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. * THE DSO DOES NOT APPEAR ON THIS PROGRAM



All Well-Being Services (AWBS) is a nationally accredited organization that has provided services to residents of Wayne County for sixty-five years.

BRINGING WELLNESS TO LIFE



AWBS offers a variety of services to allow members to function at their greatest potential by using trained professionals and best practices

AWBS SERVICES: Mental Health Services, Substance Use Prevention & Treatment, Assertive Community Treatment, HIV/Hepatitis Prevention & Testing, Primary Care & Dental Services, Health Workshops and Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Services (Skill Building, Family Support and more).

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR APPOINTMENT
CALL (313)924-7860 | www.awbs.org



► **Anjelica**

Continued from p. 19

really think they know better. I think a lot of the time we're dictated by our feelings and by who we find ourselves to be. It's not that we can go out and carve ourselves a personality a lot of the time.

Your history with the LGBTQ community goes back: In fact, you met your late husband, Robert Graham, at Pride. What brought you there?

I'm not quite sure. I think probably because – I don't want to say. I can't really remember why now that you've stirred my memory. (Laughs)

Do you have a memory from being at Pride that day?

I'm trying to put two things together. I can only say that it would've been a perfect day for Bob and I to meet, for Bob and I to get together, because I think it was a coming together of individuals – and a very artistic love-match, as far as I was concerned. I fell in love with his work, I fell in love with the man, and I think something about the liberation of gay Pride weekend is always a thrill and it's always a great day in Los Angeles. And probably here (in NYC), although I haven't spent many gay Pride weekends here. But I think it's an ebullient moment, it's a moment you can get out there and show who you are and not be ashamed. And flaunt it!

And weren't you almost run over by a giant latex penis at a gay parade?

Oh, yes! (Laughs) That was in New York, on 10th Street. That was a gay Pride weekend. Yes, I was stuck behind a latex penis for at least 20 minutes trying to get downtown.

Is there photo evidence of this?

No! None! *None*. And also, the skies opened, and it began to rain, so it was a huge latex penis and me struggling through the crowd. But there's actually very little that's funnier than gay Pride weekend in New York, now that I think about it. The imagination, the costumes! I remember there was a whole team of cocktails trotting down the street, and another one where the people put their faces inside milk cartons and were dancing down the street (laughs). There's a great sense of fun and liberation and celebration.

With "Smash" and "Transparent," both of which represent the underrepresented, how much did their cultural significance factor into your involvement?

Well, I think, because they're current and they're modern they hopefully represent the strengths in the community, and I think in some way those kinds of characters symbolize a certain freedom and a declaration of independence, and I think we all need that.

Especially now.

Especially now, where things are very safe. In actual fact, they're not that safe (laughs). I think our normal news every day is – there's a lot that they worry us with. One of the wonderful things about the LGBTQ community is that they kind of throw caution to the winds and it's a moment where people get together and celebrate the positive rather than the negative.

As editor of Q Syndicate, the international LGBTQ wire service, Chris Azzopardi has interviewed a multitude of superstars, including Cher, Meryl Streep, Mariah Carey and Beyoncé. His work has also appeared in GQ, Vanity Fair and Billboard. Reach him via Twitter @chrisazzopardi.

PRIDESOURCE
MICHIGAN'S LGBTQ ANNUAL MAGAZINE
2019 - 2020 FREE • ONLINE • IN PRINT
Pridesource.com

STONEWALL 50

#resist

OVER 1000 LGBTQ-Friendly Businesses & Organizations

From the Publishers of **Between!Lines**

SAFE SPACES
Michigan's LGBTQ Community Centers

HEALTH BOOM
Growing LGBTQ Health Resources

STONEWALL 50
Organizations Then & Now

OUT AT PRIDE EVENTS JUNE 1

128 PAGES OF MICHIGAN LGBTQ RESOURCES
ALSO AVAILABLE DIGITALLY @ PRIDESOURCE.COM

An Evening Reception for

Jon Hoadley for Congress

THURSDAY, JUNE 20TH 2019
7:00PM - 8:30PM

ROBERT KIDD GALLERY
107 TOWNSEND STREET, BIRMINGHAM, MI, 48009

PLEASE JOIN:

Faye Schuett & Linda Burnett,
House Democratic Leader Rep. Chris & Bob Greig,
Henry Grix & Howard Israel,
Bryan Hoffman & Mark LaChey,
Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson, Rep. Padma Kuppa,
Hon. Erin Knott, Roland Leggett, David Lilly,
Rep. Mari Manoogian, Sen. Jeremy Moss,
Steven Quinkert & Tom Wilczak,
Nancy Schlichting & Pam Theisen, Rep. Robert Wittenberg,
and Grace Wojcik

(Host Committee in Formation)

CHAMPION \$2,800 HOST \$1,000
SUPPORTER \$500 ADVOCATE \$250 FRIEND \$100

RSVP ONLINE HERE: ACTBLUE.COM/DONATE/190620BIRMINGHAM
FOR QUESTIONS OR TO RSVP, CONTACT BRANDON@JONHOADLEY.COM OR (989) 550-4626

CONTRIBUTIONS OR GIFTS TO JON HOADLEY FOR CONGRESS ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE. FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES US TO USE OUR BEST EFFORTS TO COLLECT AND REPORT THE NAME, MAILING ADDRESS, OCCUPATION AND NAME OF EMPLOYER OF INDIVIDUALS WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS EXCEED \$200 IN AN ELECTION CYCLE.

Paid for by Jon Hoadley for Congress

INSTAGRAM: @REPHOADLEY FACEBOOK.COM/JON.HOADLEY TWITTER: @JONHOADLEY
LADEN DONATED-PRINTED IN HOUSE



Michigan Pride March, Rally and Festival

Saturday, June 15, 2019

STATE PRIDE MARCH

March to the steps of the Michigan Capitol and help us make history!
Assemble at 10:45am, step off at noon.

RALLY ON THE STEPS OF THE CAPITOL

let's make our voices heard!
Starts immediately following the Parade.

FESTIVAL

In Old Town
1 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Entertainment featuring Sabin from Detroit, New fame (female duo from Vietnam), and Tell Yo Mama (local Lansing band).
Over 75 vendors, food available, and a community of love.
\$10 wristband gets you in all day.

More info at www.MichiganPride.org

Pet Blessing



SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND - 11:00 AM

Geary Park, 1198 Earle Blvd., Ferndale

Join us at Geary Park in Ferndale for one of our favorite Sundays - our annual Pride & Pet Blessing Service. Bring your pups to church or photos of your four-legged family member so they may receive a blessing.



Weekly Sunday Worship @ 11:30 am.
205 N. Main St. www.mccdetroit.org
Clawson, MI 48017 (248) 399-7741



United
Strong
Diverse



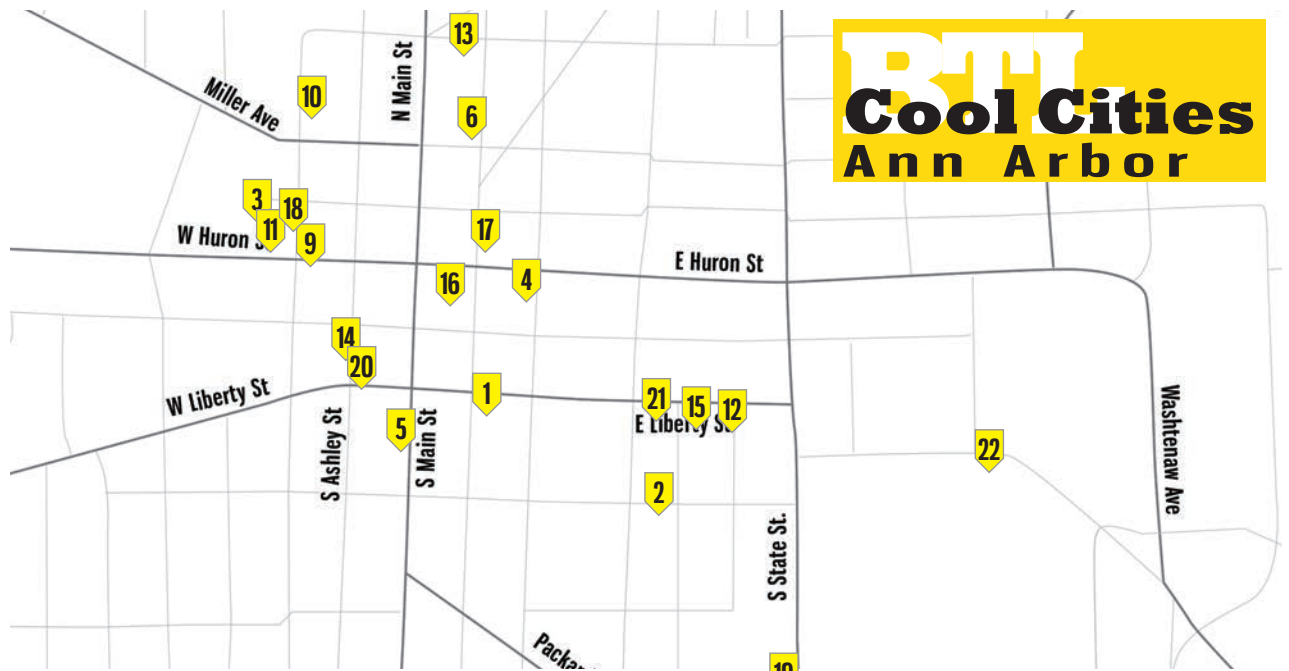
IT'S ABOUT CONNECTING
YOUR LIVES TOGETHER...



LEWIS JEWELERS
SINCE 1921
"YOUR DIAMOND STORE"

2000 W. Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor
734.994.5111 www.lewisjewelers.com

BTL
Cool Cities
Ann Arbor



Ann Arbor Advertisers

- Abracadabra Jewelry & Gem Gallery 1
- Anderson, PLLC, Mary K. 2
- Ann Arbor City Club.....19
- Ann Arbor Civic Theatre..... 3
- Ann Arbor Symphony
- Orchestra..... 4
- The Ark..... 5
- /aut/ Bar 6

- Brookside Veterinary Hospital*
Bassett & Associates..... *
- Common Language 6
- Delux Drapery *
- Dependable Collision Center. *
- Esquire Interiors..... *
- First Unitarian Church
of Ann Arbor..... *
- Gail van Langen Ph.d. 9
- Greene, LMSW, ACSW,
Marge.....10

- HIV/AIDS Resource
Center (Harc)..... *
- Humane Society of
Huron Valley *
- Iglesia Martell Law11
- Jim Toy Resource Center 6
- Lewis Jewelers.....12
- Lord of Light Lutheran Church*
Merkel Carpet One *
- Michigan Theater12
- Necto15

- People's Food Coop.....16
- PFLAG Ann Arbor..... *
- Rock Shoppe *
- Spectrum Center19
- Three Chairs Co..... 20
- Tios Mexican Cafe.....21
- Trillium Real Estate..... 6
- UMHS Comprehensive
Gender Services Program ... *
- University Musical Society ...22
- * Not shown on map

Supporting the
Community Since
Before it was Cool.

100% Local Agents. 100% Client Focused.
Trillium Real Estate Helps People
Make Good Decisions.



Sandi & Linda
www.trilliumrealtors.com

323 Braun Ct. Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-302-3011





**Legal Services
for Life's Changes**

Elder Law - Adoptions
LGB & Transgender Law
Assisted Reproduction Law - Estate Planning
www.bassettlaw.com 734-930-9200

Dependable Collision Center



FREE
loaners on
any job
(subject to terms and conditions)

We are committed to providing
the highest quality precision service.



5133 Carpenter Road, Suite A
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Phone (734) 528-9581
Fax (734) 528-9593
www.dependablecc.com

We work with all insurance companies!

**BTL Cool Cities
Ann Arbor**

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ♦ YOUR MARKET

Pinpoint your ad dollars where
they will do the most good . . .
Advertise in the next Cool Cities
TO PLACE AN AD CALL 734.293.7200



BASED ON A TRUE FANTASY

ROCKETMAN

**OPENS FRI.
MAY 31**

 **STATETHEATRE** 233 S. STATE ST. • ANN ARBOR • (734) 668-8397 • STATETHEATREA2.ORG

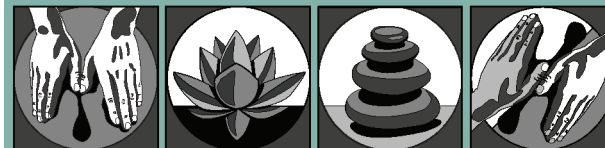
**MASSAGE
MECHANICS**

Accessible. Inclusive. Exceptional.

Find us at **YPSI PRIDE** for **FREE** massages on June 7th!

734.408.1648

7 S. WASHINGTON, YPSILANTI
YPSIMASSAGEMECHANICS.COM



TIOS TEQUILLA BAR!



**THURSDAY LATE
NIGHT SPECIAL**

1/2 OFF

ALL TEQUILLAS - 10PM-2AM

**HAND-CRAFTED
MEXICAN FOOD & DRINKS
IN ANN ARBOR**

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

HOME OF
ADAM RICHMAN'S
MT. NACHEESMO CHALLENGE!

open Mon-Sat 10 am - 2 am



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

**If you were to die today,
who would be in charge of
your funeral tomorrow?**

Although your partner may be aware of your
wishes, they may not be legally entitled to advocate
for you. By filling out a **Funeral Representative
Declaration Form**, LGBTQ+ individuals can ensure
their final wishes are met.

It's *your* life. Call us to take this simple, yet crucial
step toward peace of mind today:

734-783-2646

Michigan Memorial

Funeral Home • Park • Crematory

www.MiMemorial.com

Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, Inc.; Michigan Memorial Park, Inc.; Michigan Memorial Park
Crematory Company, Inc. These companies are separately owned and operated. Daniel P. Dwyer,
President / Owner of Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, Inc.



IGLESIA MARTELL
Law Firm, PLLC

Holistic Law - Practicing From The Heart.

Angie Martell, Partner

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

Specializes in:

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



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

May LezRead: 'Of Gryphons and Other Monsters'

BY BTL STAFF

Held monthly at the Ann Arbor Jim Toy Community Center, LeRead is a lesbian-centered book club that focuses on bringing together women-loving-women from across the area through a love of reading. The chosen literature features LGBTQ themes. This month, the group will be reading "Of Gryphons and Other Monsters" by Shannon McGee.

"And it looks like Shannon, a Michigander, is even planning to join us! Of Gryphons is the first novel of a young adult, fantasy quartet," wrote event organizers. "The series features many LGBTQIA+ characters and is already receiving great reviews."

The novel is set in a mythical world filled with warriors, monsters and magic. Find a full description of the book on the group's Facebook page.

This event will start at 4 p.m. and will last until 6 p.m. New members should email kerenem@jimtoycenter.org to join the private Facebook group.



Ann Arbor Summer Festival Announces 2019 Artists Performing



Melissa Etheridge will perform July 3.

Music Highlights Include:

Melissa Etheridge, Detroit Party Marching Band, The Outer Vibe, The Ragbirds, May Erlewine & The Motivations, Sona Jobarteh, Planet D Nonet, Heavy Color, Orquesta Tradición, Cold Tone Harvest, Liquid Monk, Shake Steady, Paddlebots, Falu's Bazaar, 47Soul, Diane Coffee, Laith Al-Saadi, George Bedard & The Kingpins

Ninety-two musical performances will take place on two stages at Top of the Park on the campus of the University of Michigan and in the City of Ann Arbor:

Rackham Stage (915 E. Washington St.)
O&W Acoustic Stage in the Grove (under the Burton Tower on North Ingalls Mall)

For the most up-to-date information, please visit the festival's website at: a2sf.org. Additional free family activities, beer and wine tastings, Annex community events and art installations will be announced soon. The Movies by Moonlight, Retreat, KidZone and Mainstage series were announced earlier in March and April. The festival series sponsors are O&W, Toyota, and T.D. Ameritrade.

Shop The Rainbow



There are hundreds of businesses that advertise in BTL and welcome everyone.

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

Brookeside Veterinary Hospital 10% off ENTIRE BILL

(734) 761-7523

3010 Warren Rd.

Ann Arbor, MI 48105

www.BrookesideVet.net



Like us on Facebook!

BY BTL STAFF

ANN ARBOR — The Ann Arbor Summer Festival's 36th Season runs from June 14 through July 7 at Top of the Park, six nights each week starting at 5 p.m. The entire festival features an eclectic mix of events showcasing some of the best in music, comedy, film, spoken word, contemporary circus, street arts and family entertainment.



Cultivate a timeless look.



THREE CHAIRS CO.

208 & 215 Ashley Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734.665.2796

215 South River Road
Holland, MI 49423
616.393.9433

www.threechairs.com

Exclusive dealer for Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams



Castle Remedies

Homeopathy • Herbs • Quality Nutritional Supplements
Essential Oils • Flower Essences • Books • Gifts • Jewelry

www.CastleRemedies.com | Ann Arbor, MI | 734-973-8990

We value diversity in the City of Ann Arbor,
and take pride in being **different** from the rest.



The City of Ann Arbor is an Equal Opportunity Employer

We are proud of our diverse workforce and our commitment to equal opportunity. We do not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived age, arrest record, color, disability, educational association, familial status, family responsibilities, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, height, HIV status, marital status, national origin, political beliefs, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, source of income, veteran status, victim of domestic violence or stalking, or weight in any aspect of our hiring or employment process. The City of Ann Arbor has earned a perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Municipal Equality Index (MEI), which assesses lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer equality in more than 500 cities across the nation.

a2gov.org/jobs



Ann Arbor Civic Theatre
your theatre. your town.

presents

CURTAINS

June 6-9, 2019

Thurs @ 7:30 | Fri-Sat @ 8:00

Sun @ 2:00

Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre
911 N. University | Ann Arbor, MI
48109



Tickets and Info: www.a2ct.org | 734.971.2228

YPSI PRIDE

PRIDE

JUNE 7 2019

5-10PM

CELEBRATING WASHTENAW COUNTY'S VIBRANT QUEER COMMUNITY

WASHINGTON ST. DOWNTOWN YPSI
YPSIPRIDE.COM



ANN ARBOR SUMMER FESTIVAL

SUMMER HAPPENS HERE

175+ CONCERTS & EVENTS, JUNE 14 - JULY 7, 2019

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE IN PERSON, BY PHONE AT 734.764.2538, OR ONLINE AT A2SF.ORG



CHEEKY. BRAZEN. STRANGE. EDGE-OF-YOUR-SEAT ENTERTAINMENT

BARBU ELECTRO TRAD CABARET

CIRQUE ALFONSE

THU & FRI
JUNE 20 & 21

8PM

POWER
CENTER

Prism of Possibilities Psychotherapy

Christine Cantrell, PhD
Fully Licensed Psychologist



Give yourself an extreme
self makeover ...

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

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

CALL NOW! 248-591-2888

Happenings



Rob Thomas' 'Chip Tooth Tour' Comes to Meadow Brook

Three-time Grammy Award-winner and Matchbox Twenty co-founder Rob Thomas will stop by the Meadow Brook Amphitheatre on Saturday, June 1 at 8 p.m. touring with his anticipated solo album "Chip Tooth Smile." Joining him on the tour is singer Abby Anderson. Find out more about the show at 313presents.com. Tickets start at \$33.

S	A	R	A	E	Y	E	D	S	O	U	L		
S	T	I	R	M	A	L	E	U	N	T	O		
N	E	M	O	I	C	B	M	E	T	A	S		
		B	U	T	H	E	I	O	W	A			
P	I	A	N	I	S	T	T	W	I	R	L	S	
S	T	U	D	S		F	A	N	C	I	E	S	
S	A	D		H	A	I	L	S		K	O	B	E
				C	A	U	C	U	S	E	S		
C	A	P	O		R	O	B	E	S	A	P	T	
S	T	A	N	D	I	N		S	Q	U	I	D	
A	O	R	T	I	C		O	R	A	N	G	E	S
		A	R	E	U	P	T	O	Y	O	U		
H	O	P	I		L	I	E	U		T	S	A	O
I	L	E	T		A	C	R	E		E	T	C	H
P	E	T	E		R	A	I	N		S	A	T	S

Solution to puzzle on page 29

OUTINGS

Friday, May 24

LGBT Social Meet Up 6:30 p.m. LGBT social meet up group is a group for all lgbt people who want to meet have light hearted discussions and social activities some activities , all is welcomed , we are on going every ongoing Hazel Park Community Center, 620 West Woodward Heights, Hazel Park. <http://MichiganLgbtpeer.support.network.facebook>

Saturday, May 25

LGBT Community Chat 11 a.m. Saturday LGBT Chat is an on going social discussion group meets every week to discuss issues LGBT people face. Coming out , dating, and much more. Come join us. Java Hut Ferndale Michigan, 165 w 9 mile, Ferndale.

Monday, May 27

LGBT Game Night 7 p.m. LGBT Game Night is an opportunity for all LGBT people and allies to come play a board game, drink coffee and socialize with other LGBT individuals. Java Hut, 165 W Nine Mile, Ferndale.

Tuesday, May 28

Strand with Trans Support Groups – Ann Arbor – Washtenaw 6:30 p.m. Meeting the 4th Tuesday of each month @ Journey of Faith Christian Church. Parent Support Group Facilitator – Yma Johnson, ymaj1968@gmail.com or 734-780-4092. 1900 Manchester Road, Ann Arbor. www.standwithtrans.org

Wednesday, May 29

Affirmations Senior Koffee Clatch! 1

p.m. A discussion and networking group for people 45 and older. Various discussion topics, social outings, and potlucks are held throughout the year. With age comes wisdom but, for LGBTQ seniors, loneliness can often come along. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105 www.goaffirmations.org

Sunday, June 2

Stand with Trans Wyandotte Support Group for Trans Youth and Parents of Trans Individuals 4 p.m. the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month @ St. Stephens Episcopal Church. For Parent Support Group information, contact facilitator Kim Tooley, 734-747-4363. St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 2803 1st Street, Wyandotte. 734-747-4363 www.standwithtrans.org

Stand with Trans 2018 Support Groups

– Adrian-Lenawee County 6:30 p.m. FREE and OPEN to the community. For parents of transgender kids, this group meets the 1st Sunday of each month @ Hilltop Counseling For Trans Youth Support Group information, contact facilitator Socorro Sevilla, MSW: socorro@hilltopcounseling.org Hilltop Counseling, 115 W. Maumee Street, Adrian. 313-909-5408 www.standwithtrans.org <http://www.hilltopcounseling.org>

Tuesday, June 4

Stand with Trans 2018 Support Groups – Lake Orion / Oakland County 7 p.m. FREE and OPEN to the community. For parents of transgender kids, this group meets the 1st Tuesday of each month @ St. Mary's In-the-Hills Episcopal Church. Parent Support Group Facilitated by Lisa Goyette, ally, activist, An event every month that begins at 7:00pm on day First of the month, repeating indefinitely St. Mary's In The Hills Episcopal Church, 2512

Joslyn Court, Lake Orion. 248-391-0663 www.stmarysinthehills.org <http://www.standwithtrans.org>

Thursday, June 6

Ford GLOBE 25th Anniversary Dinner, In partnership with the Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce 5:30 p.m. Keynote speaker will be former NFL player and motivational speaker, Wade Davis. Allan Gilmour, former Vice Chair of Ford Motor Company, will be presented with the inaugural Allan D. Gilmour Outstanding Leadership in Inclusion Award. All The Dearborn Inn, 20301 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. 313-673-3001 info@detroitlgbtchamber.com, www.detroitlgbtchamber.com

Pewabic House and Garden Show – Preview Party Fundraiser

6 p.m. The House & Garden Show kicks off with a ticketed preview party fundraiser. The evening includes the release of Pewabic's newest pieces, plus work by more than 80 ceramic artists from throughout North America. Pewabic Pottery, 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. 313-626-2000 www.pewabic.org

Pride Night at Thunderbowl! 7 p.m. Meet & Greet First Thursday of every month, unlimited bowling, shoe rental, private room, private bar area, drink specials, billiard room, 250 foot video wall. Come as you are!! Thunderbowl Arena, 4200 Allen Road, Allen Park. 313-928-4688 www.thunderbowl.org/

Friday, June 7

Pewabic House and Garden Show 10 a.m. The House & Garden Show features the release of Pewabic's newest pieces plus work by more than 80 ceramic artists from throughout North America. Pewabic Pottery, 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. 313-626-2000 www.pewabic.org

24/7/365 • Hot Tub • Cedar Wood Sauna
Large TV Areas • Hot Videos • Theatre
And many more amenities!
www.thediplomatclub.com

2324 Division Ave S, Grand Rapids, Mi 616-452-3754

Our Second Floor

THE UPPER LEVEL

A QUIRKY URBAN STAY

3 Great Rooms; The Retro Room
The Loft | The Suite | Hot Breakfast Served Daily

GENDERFLUID

Check in 3 pm and Check out 11am
RESERVATIONS/INFO: 616-427-3323

First Saturday Each Month

PRIVATE GAY HEALTH CLUB

Editor's Pick

Motor City Pride Pre-Party

On Friday, June 7, LGBTQ people from across the Metro area are invited to Detroit's Club Bleu for a Pride pre-party. The event starts at 10 p.m. and will last through 2 a.m. Find out more information on eventbrite.com.



Saturday, June 8

Motor City Pride Festival and Parade

1 p.m. The Motor City Pride Festival and Parade returns to Hart Plaza for Michigan's largest pride celebration! Check our website for all the info on the Festival, Parade, Candlelight Vigil, and all other activities. Hart Plaza, 1 West Jefferson, Detroit. www.motorcitypride.org

Sunday, June 9

Om @ The Max 10:30 a.m. Practice yoga to live music! Certified yoga instructor and DSO Librarian Ethan Allen leads a group yoga session open to all skill levels—accompanied with live music performed by DSO musicians. Namaste. The Cube, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. www.dso.org

Monday, June 10

Stand with Trans 2018 Support Groups

— **Macomb County** 6:30 p.m. Come and meet other trans* youth and teens and support each other. Dakota High School, 21051 21 Mile Road, Macomb. 586-723-2700 www.chippewavalley.schools.org/schools/high-schools/dhs

Thursday, June 13

Toastmasters International SpeakOUT! LGBTQ Meeting

7 p.m. Professional & personal communication skills development. Warm & welcoming members. Find out what Toastmasters can do for you. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Court, Ann Arbor. 734-995-9867 <https://speakout.toastmastersclubs.org>

Saturday, June 15

Pride Performance by PRISM Gay Men and Allies Chorus

June 15, On Saturday, June 15, the PRISM Gay Men's and Allies Chorus will perform a series of tunes as part of a double performance, titled Destination Detroit – Music That Put Us on the Map. Royal Oak Music Theatre, 318 W. 4th Street, Royal Oak. 248-399-2980

www.royaloakmusictheatre.com

MUSIC & MORE

Co-Occurring Disorders: Understanding Self-Medication and Complex Recovery

May 28, 7:30 p.m. Jeremy Suttles, MSE, LMSW; will provide an overview of what co-occurring disorders are, how they are identified, their prevalence St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. 734-485-8725 www.dawnfarm.org

Movie Music of Spike Lee

June 2, 4 p.m. The Movie Music of Spike Lee & Terence Blanchard showcases the stunning scores and songs from Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313-576-5111 www.dso.org

Makoto Ozone Trio

June 5, 7 p.m. Japanese pianist Makoto Ozone is a unique force in both jazz and classical music. Join us for a one-night-only set with Ozone's jazz trio. The Cube, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. www.dso.org

Coordinating a Community Response to the Opioid Epidemic

June 25, 7:30 p.m. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. 734-485-8725 <http://www.dawnfarm.org/programs/education-series>

ART 'N' AROUND

Kensington Metropark Art Show May 25, 10 a.m. Join the thousands of people who attend Kensington Metropark Art Fair each year. Kensington Metropark, Martindale Beach, 4570 Huron River Parkway, Milford. 810-227-8910 www.metroparks.com/parks/kensington-metropark

Jeremy Ian Harvey's New Art Show – Ghost the World

June 8, 7 p.m. Local artist Jeremy Ian Harvey is known for his wildly colorful paintings, his new show is a deeply personal one called Ghost The World. Hidden Gate Gallery, 1353 Division Street, Detroit. 313-686-3433 www.hiddenagategallery.com

THEATER

Stagecrafters Baldwin Theatre Presents "Oklahoma!"

Oklahoma! is classic Broadway at its best. Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. 248-5418027 www.stagecrafters.org

Detroit Repertory Theatre Presents "Williston"

Three energy reps travel to Williston, ND to get mineral rights to the last big piece of undeveloped land. A scintillating exploration of how business corrupts people and the fine line between commerce and conscience. 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 313-868-1347 www.detroitreptheatre.com

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Presents "Curtains"

1959. Boston, Colonial Theatre. Opening night of Robbin' Hood, a new western musical starring film star Jessica Cranshaw, turns into closing night for her – forever! Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University, Ann Arbor. 734-763-3333 www.a2ct.org

Barbu Electro Trad Cabaret – Cirque Alfonse

June 20, 8 p.m. Part of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival entertainment series, Barbu Electro Trad Cabaret by Cirque Alfonse delves into the origins of the circus in Montreal at the end of the 19th Power Center, 121 Fletcher Street, Ann Arbor. (734) 647-3327 <https://a2sf.org/events/barbu/>

GEN'L ADM. \$20

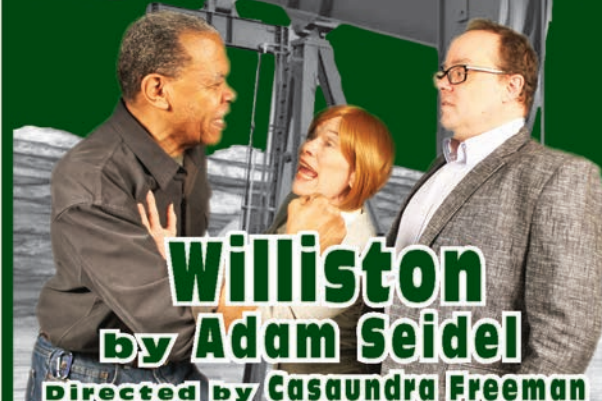
Free Attended Parking

Detroit
REPERTORY
THEATRE

ADV. ADM. \$17

Free Attended Parking

World Premiere
May 30 to June 30, 2019



A ruthless oil industry clash about American Indian land in Williston, ND. Strong Message; Strong Language.

Curtain Times
8:30pm Thursdays & Fridays;
3pm & 8:30pm Saturdays; 2pm & 7:30pm Sundays

detroitreptheatre.com
Box office & Information 313-868-1347

BZ
BODYZONE
DETROIT

\$5 Lockers for members in Chaps/Harness
LIGHTS OUT Party
Friday June 7

LEATHER Night
Sat. June 15

\$5 Lockers for members in Chaps/Harness

Pride Special!
\$5 Lockers 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.
June 1, 8 & 9
***Just Mention this BTLAD**

***Room upgrades charged and normal rates**

TUESDAYS: College Night
FREE LOCKERS
for Members 18-25

WEDNESDAYS:
Wet & Wild Wednesdays
FREE LUBE with a room or locker rental

THURSDAYS:
COUPLES NIGHT
Couples get a \$5 Locker
when renting any room

1617 E. McNichols @ 1-75 Det 313-366-9663 OPEN 24/7
PRIVATE GAY HEALTH CLUB Entry ID: Drivers License-State ID-Passport

Editor's Pick

May Metro Detroit Ecstatic Dance!



At Berts Warehouse Entertainment on Saturday, May 25, all are invited to dance like no one is judging, because no one is. Ecstatic Dance is a Freeform dance, consent-based safespace for all, where music is one's intoxicant. Substance and alcohol free. Charity Loring, LMSW is host. This event features DJ Sity of HOUSEHEADZ and will play all music genres. Featured live artist for this event is Belozero. Find out more on the event's Facebook page.

THE FINEST IN ADULT ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BEST PRICES!

BUY
ADULT DVD'S
STARTING AT
\$5.95

EVERY TUES & FRIDAY
NEW
RELEASE
DAY

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



SPECIAL

50% OFF

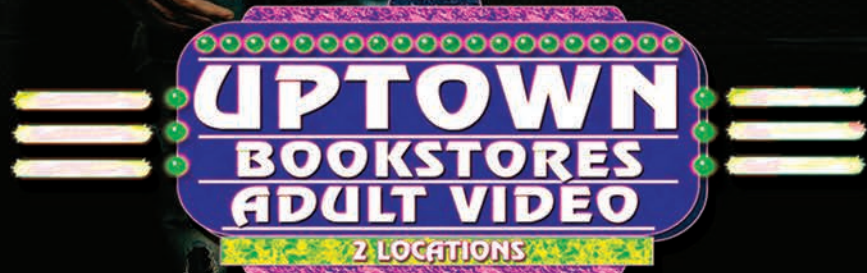
BUY ONE DVD AT REG PRICE
& GET THE SECOND DVD AT 1/2 PRICE
SECOND DVD MUST BE SAME OR
LESSER VALUE, RED STICKER ONLY
MAY 31-JUN 4

**UPTOWN
SPECIAL**

XXX DVD'S 3/\$9.99
WHILE THEY LAST
MAY 22-28, 2019



Rush - Jungle Juice - Maximum Impact -
Swiss Navy - Amsterdam - ID Glide - COLT-
Butterfly Kiss Pink - The Womanizer



WWW.UPTOWNADULT.COM

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

16401 W. 8 Mile
Between Greenfield & Southfield
Detroit
313.836.0647

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

THE WHITE PARTY

FRIDAY JUNE 14

SPIRAL-DANCEBAR LANSING, 1247 CENTER ST.,
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48906

Hosted by Michigan Pride,
Sir Pizza Grand Cafe
and Spiral DanceBar

White attire is strongly encouraged

Featuring DJs:

Tent:
Justin Elemnt Taylor

Big Room:

Klees

Drag Performances by:

Asio Aviance // Caj Monet // Miss Spiral AM

The White Party: Doors at 8pm

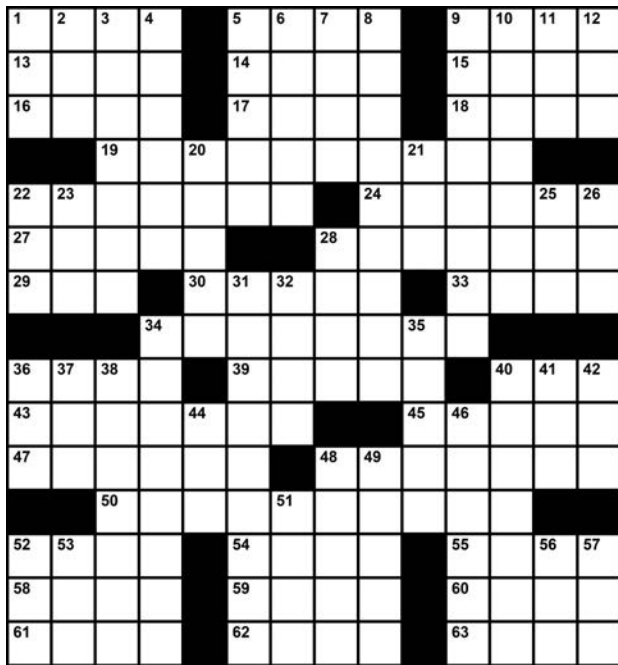
21+ \$10 // 18-20 \$15

Afterglow Black Light Party:

June 15th // Doors at 8pm //

18+





We Won't Make You Spell Buttigieg

QPuzzle

Across

1 Gilbert of "Roseanne"

5 Gave the once-over in a gay bar

9 "The condition of my ___ is in the hands of God..."

13 Direction from Stephen Pyles

14 Word after International

15 Golden rule word

16 DeGeneres voice role

17 SALT subject

18 Vowels of Sappho

19 Continuation of the quote at 9-Across

22 Elton John, to his instrument

24 Spins a baton

27 Macho man with an earring?

28 Takes a liking to

29 Down in the mouth

30 Says a word to Mary

33 Port on Osaka Bay

34 More of the quote

36 Syndicate bigwig

39 They come out of the choir closet

40 Prone

43 Same-sex partner, in prison

45 Ink user

47 Of a major blood vessel

48 Juicy fruits

50 End of the quote

52 Native American tongue

54 Stead

55 Poet ___ Wu

58 Slumlord's declaration?

59 160 square rods

60 Emulate Paul Cadmus

61 ___ Buttigieg, source of the quote

62 Prince's purple precipitation

63 Exams for srs.

Down

1 1040 ID

2 Prepared for the Twinkie Defense

3 Author Arthur

4 In the vicinity

5 What a guy does nocturnally

6 Luxury cruiser

7 River in Roehm's country

8 Cup for Moore coffee?

9 Former New York Liberty player

10 Xtra's province

11 Hagen of "The Boys from Brazil"

12 Article for Frida

20 Campbell of "Martin"

21 "A League of Their ___"

22 Ends of letters

23 It changes a seOor's gender

25 Neighbor of Isr.

26 NNW's opposite

28 Totally screw

31 Like "Stick it in your ear!"?

32 "My Computer," e.g.

34 On bended knee

35 "A Room of One's Own," e.g.

36 Land of Stonewall Jackson (abbr.)

37 From ___ Z

38 Feature of the queen's castle

40 The Masters Tournament site

41 Brown's Sneaky ___

42 Scores with David Kopay

44 Monopoly piece

46 LGBTQ publication based in Charlotte

48 "Scary Movie" Cheri

49 City in Colette's land

51 Not elite

52 Body part to shoot from

53 Hurrah for Jose

56 ___ UP (advocacy org.)

57 Cries of surprise

Find solution on page 26 and at www.pridesource.com

PrEP Clinic

Now Open
Tuesdays
10:00am-3:00pm

3011 West Grand Blvd
Suite 230
Detroit, MI 48202
313-446-9800

UNIFIED
HIV health and beyond
LIFE CONTINUES. LIVE HEALTHY.

In partnership with
Sinai Grace Hospital


For more information about PrEP and prevention services please contact our Lead Prevention Specialist Keith Hughes at khughes@miunified.org

WWW.MIUNIFIED.ORG


Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a way to help prevent HIV by taking a pill every day.
PrEP must be taken every day to be most effective.

HIV Testing
 PrEP Assessment
 Insurance & Payment Guidance
 PrEP Education


When taken consistently, PrEP has been shown to reduce the risk of HIV infection in people who are at high risk by more than 90%.


Your risk of getting HIV from sex can be even lower if you combine PrEP with condoms and other prevention methods.



FERNDALE

FERNDALE, MICHIGAN – FINANCE TEAM

Ferndale, MI (pop. 20,428) – The City of Ferndale is located in southeast Oakland County, Michigan, offering an outstanding, unique and dynamic urban experience with easy access to major metropolitan areas and an international airport. Known for its award-winning downtown; community events; excellent housing options; and welcoming culture, the City of Ferndale is proud of the high quality of life it offers its residents.

Department: Finance

Location: Ferndale City Hall

Salary Range: Patrol, \$46,297.80 - \$57,023.27

FLSA: Non-exempt/Union

Employment Type: Full-time

The City of Ferndale is seeking an Accountant to join the City's Finance team. This position will be a key member of our finance team and will be responsible for a variety of routine and complex clerical, accounting, finance, and administrative work. Two years of college or other advanced training with a concentration in business administration, finance, accounting, or a closely related field is required. A minimum of three years of increasingly responsible related municipal experience, including property tax administration is preferred. Salary Range is \$46,297.80-\$57,023.27 commensurate with experience. For a full list of qualifications and to apply, visit www.ferndalemi.gov/jobs.



FERNDALE

FERNDALE, MICHIGAN – DDA DEPARTMENT

Ferndale, MI (pop. 20,428) – The City of Ferndale is located in southeast Oakland County, Michigan, offering an outstanding, unique and dynamic urban experience with easy access to major metropolitan areas and an international airport. Known for its award-winning downtown; community events; excellent housing options; and welcoming culture, the City of Ferndale is proud of the high quality of life it offers its residents.

Department: DDA

Location: Ferndale City Hall

Salary Range: \$20.00 – \$25.00 Hourly

Employment Type: Temporary/Contractual

The City of Ferndale is seeking a Downtown Development Authority Business Consultant to lead outreach and retention efforts for the Ferndale business community. We're looking for a self-motivated individual who can successfully communicate with business owners, implement a robust business retention program, and act as the main contact for the City's mixed-use parking development project, The dot. This is a temporary contractual (1099) position with a salary range of \$20-25/hour. It is expected that the scope of work for this position will require between 25-29 hours per week. Candidates must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited college. 2-3 years of experience in business engagement, recruiting, and retention services is preferred. For a full list of qualifications and to apply, visit www.ferndalemi.gov/jobs.

LGBTQ Drama 'Rafiki' Screens at Cinema Detroit May 24-30

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Originally banned in its country of origin, Kenya, "Rafiki" is the story of two young women who fall in love in a society that criminalizes their relationship. The film, which made international ripples after its ban was taken up to the country's supreme court where it was lifted for seven days for Academy Award consideration, is set to be shown at Cinema Detroit from May 24 through 30. Paula Guthat is the co-founder and programmer at the venue. She said "Rafiki" is an important film to be shown so that, among other reasons, director Wanuri Kahiu can share her message of love and hope with a large audience.

"I think it's been a pretty big hit worldwide. More people have seen it around the world than have seen it in Kenya which is ridiculous. When people see the movie they won't believe it's banned, but homosexuality is still a crime in Kenya." Guthat said. "They were willing to show it if she made some changes but those changes would have completely subverted what the director was trying to do, which was to show a relationship that happens to be between two women."

Guthat went on to say that showing "Rafiki" is a good way to draw attention to international issues of inclusion.

"I think it's important to see how underrepresented voices see the world, to see other parts of the world and to broaden horizons so we see what's going on elsewhere. And also because it's 95 percent a fun film that really does celebrate love," Guthat said. "And I think we can all use that. And I think there's amazing work coming out of all parts of the world, not just here."

To find out more about the film and Cinema Detroit visit cinemadetroit.org.



TYLR_ Talks Movement Music Festival and the LGBTQ Electronic Music Scene

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Thousands of music fans from across the globe are gearing up to visit the birthplace of techno for three days of some of the world's best electronic music played by dozens of artists across five stages. In advance of the festivities, BTL caught up with Tyler Yglesias or, TYLR_ to his fans, to get a feel for his first time performing at the festival, being an LGBTQ artist in Detroit's electronic scene and to learn more about his upcoming music projects.

You originally come from Toledo, what made you travel to Detroit?

When I moved up here it really wasn't for any musical reason, I really wasn't even in the music scene when I was in Toledo. I got into the scene around 2010. That was my first year that I went to Movement and it was just so incredible and inspiring and spiritual. I just knew I wanted to be involved somehow in the scene and I knew that I wanted to create a space all year-round where my friends could feel the same feeling [they felt] during Movement. So, I decided I wanted to throw parties. I got a really good response and a couple of people came who wanted me to do the same type of thing at their bar. So, me and a couple of friends started getting into DJing and that's how I fell into the scene and fell in love with it.

Since Detroit is considered the birthplace of techno, does that inspire your music?

Oh, completely. I've had so many old-school DJs befriend me and help me like



D Wynn, Claude Young, all these people have been so supportive. When I go to other cities and the scene there is not like it is here, it's very kind of cutthroat. It's very, "Oh, you're trying to DJ? I'm a DJ. You can't do this, you can't do that." Here, it's the complete opposite.

You're part of the LGBTQ community. What's it like being an LGBTQ electronic artist in Detroit?

Yes, I am. So, when I first moved up here I started working at two gay bars and that's kind of where I fell in love with the community before I knew about electronic music. When I was doing parties I was doing this party called BAK DØR at this club called Grenadier that's not open anymore but I started going back to the gay bars I used to work at and would say, 'Guys, we have after-hours parties, I would love for you guys to come it's just an amazing experience.' And the gay community started responding and before we knew it, the club every Friday was packed full of gay, straight, black, white – it was beautiful.

Why is diversity important to you as a musician?

The importance of diversity is huge. I want everybody to go to my party, I want everybody to feel happy, I want everybody to feel loved. And, really, it's all about the music. They're there for the music and to have fun. There could be a straight guy standing next to a drag queen and feel completely safe it should be like, "Oh my God, you're here to have fun, too." That's what I'm mostly trying to do. To change the gay culture musically. Believe me, I love Beyonce (laughs), but I understand when you're at a club, an underground dark sexy club, you want

to hear something that's not mainstream. Something that's not familiar that makes you think and say, 'I don't know what this is but I love it. It's making me dance, it's making me move.'

You're set to release your first EP soon and go on tour. What inspired that?

Just living in Detroit and now understanding what Detroit really is, now that I've learned about electronic music and where it's going, that really inspires me. So, for me, I really feel like I need to just create something that's more a reflection of the underground scene. One of my tracks is called "Latrice." She is actually a party icon in our scene. She's this amazing black woman that just dances all night, gets down and she's always at our parties. That's what I really want to do on my first album. Not my EP, but my first full album, I want to contribute to party people, the club kids. I want to incorporate some type of personal song that maybe not everybody understands even though it's a really good song, but those people will feel more special about it because they're the ones coming to my parties.

How does it feel to perform at Movement for the first time?

This is my first year and that alone is kind of mind-boggling to me. I first started going in 2010 and in 2019 now I'm performing. I don't even have words right now and I'm so thankful for Paxahau for giving me the opportunity. It's an amazing feeling and I can't even believe it's really happening.

TYLR_ will be performing on Saturday, May 25, at the Red Bull Presents Stage. Find out more about him at movement.us.



PROUDLY
PRESENTS

FERNDALE PRIDE



FUNDRAISING



MAIN STAGE



DJ DANCE STAGE



CHILDREN'S AREA



DIAMOND



ELECTRIC



ROCK WALL



SOBER SPACE



ENVIRONMENTAL



BLEACHERS



AUTOMOTIVE



GOLD



MEDIA



WWW.FERNDALEPRIDE.COM



Dr. Paul Benson's



We are committed to provide quality health care and to serve our patients without regard to race, nationality, ethnicity, gender, religion, political preferences, or sexual orientation.

It is our intention not to discriminate, be judgmental, or have bias towards anyone. These are not simply published words, but are practices we strive and train for to do our best each and every day. We must all be respectful and put our commonalities first. Our priority is your good health.

We are here to help you and want each and every one of our patrons to feel comfortable in our patient-centered medical home. It is the essence of equality that defines who we are. Please join us in this endeavor.

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

Primary Care • HIV Rapid initiation of Therapy • PrEP • Hormone Affirming Therapy

Most Experienced and Knowledgeable

Established in 1980 as the first Primary Care Medical Clinic in the Detroit area specializing in our LGBTQ community.

Board Certified in Family Practice & Designated Patient-Centered Medical Home

by Blue Cross Blue Shield as a Center of Excellence.

We're a Recipient of the Peter M. Fox Excellence in HIV Credentialing Award from the American Academy of HIV Medicine. Also, Dr. Benson was one of the first physicians credentialed and has maintained the AAHIV-S specialist designation since.

Certified Clinical Research Professional by the Society of Clinical Research Associates. A Principle Investigator in Clinical Trials since 1989 providing early access to life-saving HIV Medications.

Extensive Network of Sensitive Specialists

with an ongoing relationship to refer as necessary.

There is a difference. We're a patient-friendly Private Practice small enough to individualize care by a staff that knows you and large enough to manage all of your Primary Care Needs.

- HIV Prevention (PrEP), Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), STI testing & treatment
- **Hormone Affirming Therapy** for HIV positive and negative transgender individuals
- Evening Clinic Hours Monday-Thursday, most Saturdays, and Same Day Appointments
- Full-time Patient Navigator/Advocate Social Worker on site
- Most Insurances accepted
- Ryan White Provider
- Medcart Pharmacy on Premises
- Group Medical Appointments (available soon!)
- Tele-Medical Visits (available soon!)

Dr. Benson is an Associate Professor at Michigan State University providing training to our next generation of physicians.

He leads our team of professional and talented Providers:



Dr. Paul Benson, D.O.



Caleb Youngblood, PA-C, AAHIV-S



Mark Rosen, PA-C



Leon Bullough, NP-F



Keyuna Nance, MSW

