

MICHIGAN'S LGBTQ NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993



Fabulous Ferndale Kicks Off Pride Month

PRIDESOURCE.COM

Trump Admin
Seeks to Roll Back
Trans Health Care
Protections

PAGE 16

Summer of Pride
Kicks Off

PAGE 42



Allan Gilmour to Be
Honored

PAGE 14

MAY 30, 2019

VOL. 2722 | FREE

BTL photo: Andrew Cohen



HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING

Returning Affirmations ED Dave Garcia Forecasts
Expansion of Programs, Volunteers, Advocacy



**SATURDAY
JUNE 15**

ELTON

||| KENNY METCALF as |||

and
**THE EARLY YEARS
Band**

**18+ / \$25 in advance / \$30 at the door
TheEmeraldTheatre.com / Doors at 7pm
31 N. Walnut, Mount Clemens, MI / (586) 630-0120**



GRACE JONES



JULY 1
MASONIC TEMPLE THEATRE
PURCHASE TICKETS AT AXS.COM OR THE MASONIC TEMPLE BOX OFFICE

El Ciel AEG
PRESENTS



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

VOL. 2722 • MAY 30, 2019 • ISSUE 1113

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

News & Feature Editor

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"



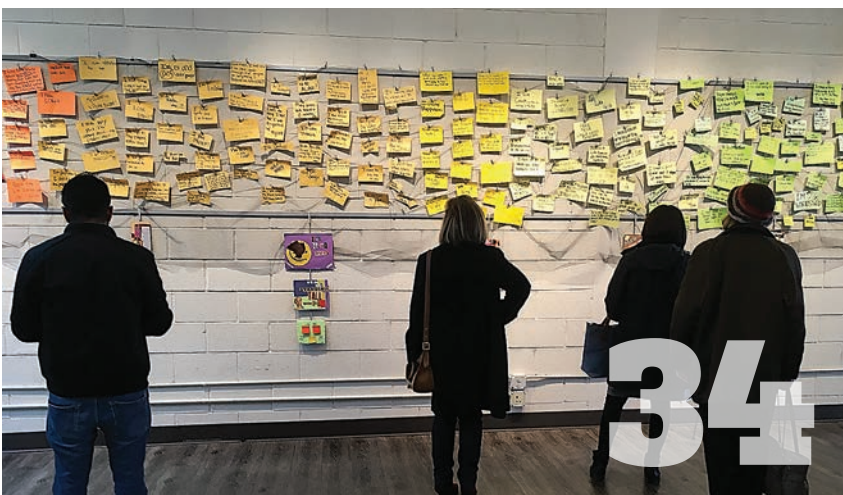
Follow us @YourBTL



Email your op-eds to
editor@pridesource.com



Sign up online to receive our E-Digest



NEWS

- 8 Hitting the Ground Running
- 12 Mayor Dave Coulter: Reflections on 9 Years of Service
- 12 We're With You Charles
- 14 Allan Gilmour Talks Charitable Giving and Community Awareness in Advance of LGBT Chamber Honor
- 16 Trump Admin Seeks to Roll Back Trans Health Care Protections in Obamacare
- 22 Affirmations Elects 5 New Board Members, Announces New Campaign

OPINION

- 18 Parting Glances
- 18 Mombian: Transgender and Gender-Creative Children Star in New Picture Books
- 19 Creep of the Week: Trump Administration

LIFE

- 26 Barbara Peyton Backs Rock Legend
- 31 An Antidote for a 'Sickening' Era
- 44 Carly Rae Jepsen Bops to Her Own Beat
- 54 Deep Inside Hollywood
- 48 Happenings
- 51 Puzzle & Crossword

PRIDE

- 6 June 1 Shows, Sponsors and Spirituality: Ferndale Pride 2019 Has Something for Everyone
- 34 Ferndale Pride Schedule Highlights
- 34 High School Students 'Post Secrets' About Their Identities at Affirmations Gallery
- 36 Ferndale Pride Drag Queen Story Hour
- 38 Kalamazoo Pride June 7 Through 8
- 40 3rd Annual Ypsi Prie June 7
- 42 Summer of Pride Calendar
- 52 6 Loud and Proud Pride Accessories to Pride Up Your Pride Lewk



COVER:

8 Hitting the Ground Running

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



June 1 Shows, Sponsors and Spirituality: Ferndale Pride 2019 Has Something for Everyone

Find schedule highlights for Ferndale Pride on p. 34

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

Metro Detroit's official Pride season kicks off this week with Ferndale Pride presented by the Candle Wick Shoppe, which takes place Saturday, June 1, in downtown Ferndale. More than 25,000 LGBTQ folk and their friends and allies are expected to attend.

Ferndale Pride officially kicked off earlier in the week with Wednesday's Ferndale Pride Interfaith Service. The service was titled The Spirituality of Stonewall by the Rev. Roland Stringfellow, who helped plan the service with the Rev. Angela Lippard.

Before the Main Event

"The riots at Stonewall were pivotal from a secular viewpoint, but Rev. Stringfellow recognizes the events at Stonewall as spiritual as well," Lippard said. "For many, our faith/spirituality/connectedness feeds our strength to seek equality in a revolutionary way. At the 2019 Ferndale Pride Interfaith Service, we reflected on the revolution that started 50 years ago at Stonewall."

Also, Saturday morning features the Rainbow Run, which is sponsored as always by the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce. All participants in the 5K received a pair of Michigan-made Ferndale rainbow socks. The event is family friendly and runners are

encouraged to come out in creative costumes. Sabin will be the run's official hostess and is sure to keep the crowd laughing before and after the run.

The main event, though, takes place Saturday afternoon and Pride Chair Julia Music said planning this year came together early.

"Due to the success of this growing event, we sold out of booth spaces with more than a month to go," Music said. "We also exceeded our past sponsorship, which allowed us to add another organization to those we will donate to post Pride."

New Additions

New this year will be weddings in the Rust Belt Market, which is billed as Ferndale's premier wedding venue.

"Working with Rust Belt we are able to ensure that couples are able to have their wedding in front of a choice of backdrops, enjoy a cash bar and desserts before joining the after party of the year," Music said.

However, Music said that if the idea of getting married during Ferndale Pride is an appealing one, she advises that plans are made as soon as possible for next year. This year's wedding event is booked solid.

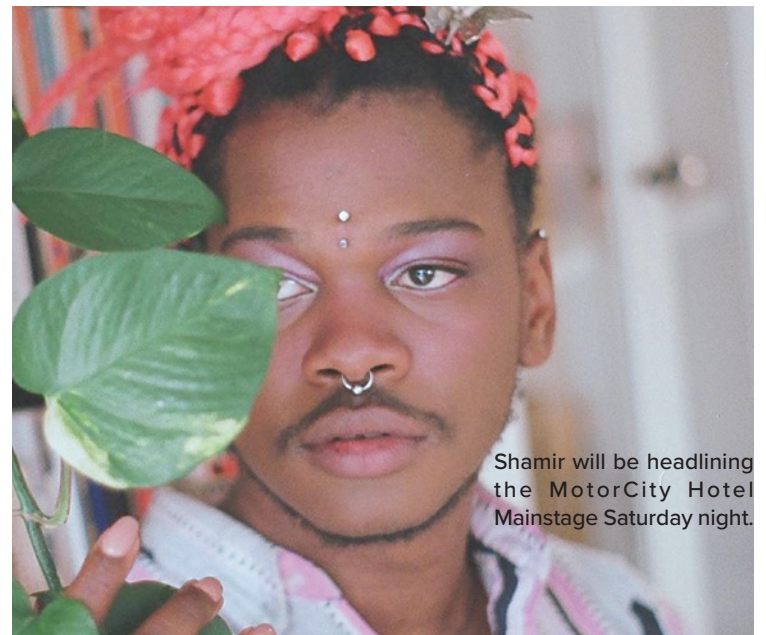
Also new, Mark McMillian from the Center for Relationship and Sexual Health is sponsoring the sober space area. He is planning a day of activities for the area, giving options

to adults who are looking for more activities outside of the bars. There's also going to be a food truck section near the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Children's Area. Drag Queen Story Time will also, for the first time, take place at Affirmations.

But perhaps the newest and undoubtedly least unwelcome addition to Pride this year is a large decrease in available parking near the event. To combat this, Ferndale Pride has partnered with SMART bus.

"Parking is always a challenge but with the groundbreaking of the DOT project in Ferndale it got even more tricky this year," Music said. "Our friends at SMART bus came through for us. From the hours of 1 p.m. to 10 p.m., event-goers can park and just hop on a shuttle."

The shuttle route will include Ferndale High School, located at 881 Pinecrest Drive;



Shamir will be headlining the MotorCity Hotel Mainstage Saturday night.

Renaissance Vineyard Church, located at 1841 Pinecrest Drive; or Gerry Kulick Community Center, located at 1201 Livernois Ave.. The SMART shuttles are scheduled to arrive every five to 10 minutes and will drop Pride attendees off and pick them up from the Livernois entrance of Pride.

See Ferndale Pride, continued on p. 24



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% OFF HOTEL 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.



HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING

Returning Affirmations ED Dave Garcia Forecasts Expansion of Programs, Volunteers, Advocacy

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Programmatic expansion, fund and staff development, political advocacy and more are all either current or future projects at Ferndale's Affirmations LGBTQ community center. From the outside, that list might seem like an average set of goals for such an organization, but many in Southeast Michigan's LGBTQ community who have been following the center's trajectory will know that they are made more impressive when accounting for the fact that the Center was on the verge of shuttering its doors last December.

Ask newly reappointed Executive Director Dave Garcia about this seeming 180-degree shift and he'll attribute it to the efforts of the Center's dedicated volunteers and board of directors, coupled with his own gained experience working at the Los Angeles LGBT Center — the largest community center of its kind in the nation. He said that despite the organization's rocky past, its presence is a vital and lasting one in the local community, one that deserves recognition.

"The last five years have been difficult for the organization, but I think people need to also take a step a back and remember that we're 30 years old this year and a lot of LGBT organizations can't say that," Garcia said. "And while there have been a lot of ups and downs throughout the organization's history, we still exist and we're still here and that's a lot to be proud of."

Political Planning

Garcia's LGBTQ advocacy career began in 2000 after he was fired from his role as community services coordinator of Swartz Creek Community Schools for attempting to start a Gay-Straight Alliance. Subsequently, he went on to become the executive director of the Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, now known as OutFront Kalamazoo, Affirmations in 2011 and the political director of the Los Angeles LGBT Center. When asked why he made the decision to return to Michigan after securing a role across the country, Garcia said he felt pulled to come home.

"I was quite happy in Los Angeles and they

were quite happy with me, but as I was looking here at what was happening in my home state of Michigan I was excited to see Gov. Whitmer be elected and our Attorney General Dana Nessel be elected — those were all positive signs. And the reality is, a community center has a role to play in registering our community to vote, for example, and getting out the vote efforts. And the state of California, while extremely important, we all know where that's going to go in 2020," he said with a laugh. "And Michigan is a purple state and we have a responsibility to our community ... to do everything we can in terms of political advocacy within the law of what we can do as nonprofit to make sure that people who are elected in 2020 are fair-minded individuals who respect our community and will protect our community."

Affirmations is a nonprofit, listed as a 501(c)(3) in the tax code, and therefore tax exempt so long as its earnings do not fund a private shareholder or individual like a politician. For that reason, Garcia, who has been vocal about the importance of community centers like this one taking political action has been criticized, but he said that politics and the LGBTQ community are inextricably linked.

"I think what made my policy team unique and so effective in Los Angeles was precisely because we were embedded within the community center. Because everyone that walked through those doors are clients of ours and if they are facing a problem, legislatively or otherwise, in the medical arena or name it, we have a responsibility to help them," Garcia said. "And, for example, I personally think that the religious exemption, what we are seeing across the state of Michigan and in the country [with] these laws that are passed and making it legal for folks to discriminate against us as long as religion is their weapon, I believe the religious exemption is the biggest threat to our community since HIV. The community center has a role to play in fighting back and educating the community about what the religious exemption is and why it's so important."

He went on to say that in Los Angeles he and his team developed a resistance squad roughly 200 volunteers strong that worked on issues of political advocacy affecting the community nationally and locally. He said that that kind



Newly reappointed Executive Director Dave Garcia. BTL photos: Andrew Cohen

of local involvement from an impassioned community is something that he's eager to see in Ferndale and that it will serve to benefit the Center in the long run, too.

"Those community members that want to get involved in political advocacy, those are volunteers who someday can become donors or donors who someday can become board members," he said. "Whatever we do here, it should be engaging the community and many people want to get involved in political advocacy. Now look, we're a nonprofit and we were in Los Angeles. All that means is that we can't give money to political candidates and we can't endorse political candidates, everything else we can do. So, I certainly learned in Los Angeles the importance of the community center's role in political advocacy and education."

Coming Home

Now that Garcia is starting to settle into his old role since his appointment earlier this spring, he's debuting a way to get started on gaining a stronger volunteer base to not only help politically but within the center's physical space, too.

"One thing that I'm excited about is that we're

developing right now, as we speak, a campaign to of course raise money but also more than double our volunteer base," he said. "So, we're calling it the Coming Home Campaign with the idea that I came home from California and I'd like all of the donors who have ever given to Affirmations from the time the organization was founded in our 30th anniversary year, to also come home and come back to the community center."

The tagline for this project will be "There's no place like home" and will provide volunteers three ways to volunteer their time and efforts.

- Aff-Advocates

The political side of volunteerism at the Center, this portion of volunteers will tackle issues facing Southeast Michigan's LGBTQ community including everything from conversion therapy, religious exemptions, adoption issues, expansion of Elliott-Larsen and more.

- Aff-All-Stars

This portion will focus on the entertainment aspects that Garcia said will make Affirmations a fun and vibrant community hub.

"And when I say entertainment, I mean things that all folks would be interested in coming into

“I believe the religious exemption is the biggest threat to our community since HIV. The community center has a role to play in fighting back and educating the community about what the religious exemption is and why it’s so important.”

- Dave Garcia

the building for. So, for example, we have the community room that many people are familiar with, the giant glass room, I believe that we can do a lot more black box theater in that room for example,” he said. “We have two pianos, well it’d be fun to have an evening of dueling pianos. We have a beautiful sky deck, we’d have to do more fun events up there like wine parties and more concerts in the building.”

• Aff-Allies

“And then, the third committee to volunteer, is going to be an Aff Ally program and that’s the basic needs we have from the community as far as volunteering for things like Spring Bash and Fall Fling at the front desk,” Garcia said.

With this developed volunteer program, Garcia said that the center can focus on fulfilling center needs that for too long have suffered neglect because of the emergency measures taken to preserve the organization. One priority, Garcia said, is the front desk.

“We as soon as possible need to expand our front desk hours. I understand that’s a frustration with the community right now, I share that frustration,” he said. “But until we can bolster up our volunteer base there’s not much I can do about that immediately.”

In the long-term, Garcia is dedicated to expanding on current successful programs that Affirmations regulars already attend to increase the appeal of the center to both regulars and new attendees alike.

“So, as soon as we have some more volunteers and I have some more ideas about going to our groups that meet here at Affirmations, many have been well-established for years. For example, the Brownbaggers and Senior Coffee Klatch and the Motor City Bears and asking if they would be interested in possibly adopting a day at the desk as a group would help us a great deal. With a little bit of training, but more importantly a good attitude,” he said with a laugh, “folks will just smile and welcome people when they come into the building. As soon as we can get more volunteers engaged, we’ll be able to expand our hours back to what I hope to be at least 10 in the morning until nine at night Monday through Saturday.”

Future Goals

It’s evident that Garcia’s efforts have so far dramatically changed the Center’s outlook, but he stressed that his progress would not have been possible had he not had the help

of Affirmations’ board and volunteers, in particular, because the organization is only just beginning to recover from near-bankruptcy. He said that their continued help and the appointment of five new board members (see page 22) will aid Affirmations’ day-to-day operations until a larger staff can be secured.

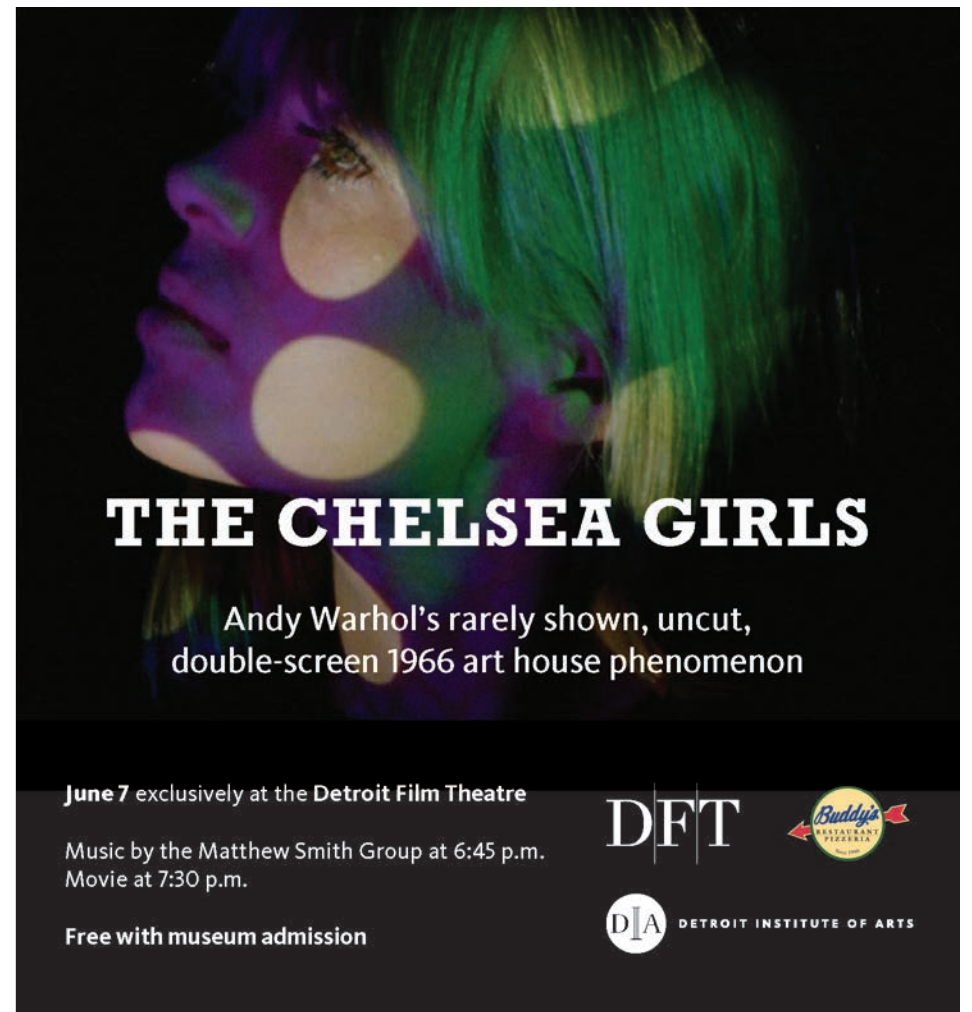
“We don’t have the monies right now for me to go out and hire a bunch of staff. If I was going to make a staff hire it would be a development person because I need help raising money, without money you can’t open the doors for programs,” he said. “So, as soon as I’m able to get my head around some of the numbers here and get more of a kind of cash flow forecast for the end of the year and get more grants for the organization, then, hopefully soon, I’ll be in a position to start making new hires and start to build up the staff again.”

As of right now, Garcia is putting his focus toward developing his own relationship with both newly appointed and existing board members via a board retreat to be lead by Terry Stone of CenterLink — the national community organization for LGBT centers.

“You will see significant changes that improve this at the board level. That is not to say that the current board isn’t doing a good job, the current board has worked very hard, but even they would say that they need more board members, more qualified board members and we need more development and that’s what we’re going to do and are already doing,” Garcia said.

Garcia himself was involved with CenterLink for five years and has maintained a relationship with the organization. He said he hopes to leverage that partnership in the future to aid Affirmations and, subsequently, the community. He said his work with them so far has only proven to him that LGBTQ centers like Affirmations are needed now more than ever.

“Those community centers around the country, some of the larger community centers, we’ve only seen numbers grow — that’s true for Chicago, New York, Los Angeles,” he said. “I see Affirmations as no different than those other LGBT organizations and if we can have some stability and some leadership from the board to the executive director to the staff, we will start to see our numbers climb and, I think, climb dramatically here at the center — both for fun events and for political events, political advocacy and services to seniors and youth.”



THE CHELSEA GIRLS

Andy Warhol’s rarely shown, uncut, double-screen 1966 art house phenomenon

June 7 exclusively at the Detroit Film Theatre

Music by the Matthew Smith Group at 6:45 p.m.
Movie at 7:30 p.m.

Free with museum admission

DFT

Buddy’s RESTAURANT & BAR

DIA DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS



JOHNSTONE & JOHNSTONE
REALTORS

82 KERCHEVAL, GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MI 48236
313 - 884 - 0600

Ready for your fresh start?

ENJOY THE PRIDE OF HOME OWNERSHIP

BE SURE TO STOP BY OUR MOTOR CITY BOOTH FOR FREE PRIDE SWAG AND A CHANCE TO WIN...

LOCATION: RIVER FRONT PATIO
WWW.JOHNSTONEANDJOHNSTONE.COM

IMPORTANT FACTS FOR BIKTARVY®

This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and your treatment.

(bik-TAR-vee)

MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- ▶ **Worsening of Hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you have both HIV-1 and HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking BIKTARVY. Do not stop taking BIKTARVY without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months.

ABOUT BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults. It can either be used in people who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before, or people who are replacing their current HIV-1 medicines and whose healthcare provider determines they meet certain requirements.

BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS.

Do NOT take BIKTARVY if you also take a medicine that contains:

- ▶ dofetilide
- ▶ rifampin
- ▶ any other medicines to treat HIV-1

BEFORE TAKING BIKTARVY

Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- ▶ Have or have had any kidney or liver problems, including hepatitis infection.
- ▶ Have any other health problems.
- ▶ Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if BIKTARVY can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- ▶ Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, antacids, laxatives, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.
- ▶ BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF BIKTARVY

BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:

- ▶ Those in the “Most Important Information About BIKTARVY” section.
- ▶ **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ▶ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ▶ **The most common side effects of BIKTARVY** in clinical studies were diarrhea (6%), nausea (6%), and headache (5%).

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

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

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

HOW TO TAKE BIKTARVY

Take BIKTARVY 1 time each day with or without food.

GET MORE INFORMATION

- ▶ This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more.
- ▶ Go to BIKTARVY.com or call 1-800-GILEAD-5.
- ▶ If you need help paying for your medicine, visit BIKTARVY.com for program information.



Get HIV support by downloading a free app at
MyDailyCharge.com

BIKTARVY, the BIKTARVY Logo, DAILY CHARGE, the DAILY CHARGE Logo, KEEP PUSHING, LOVE WHAT'S INSIDE, GILEAD, and the GILEAD Logo are trademarks of Gilead Sciences, Inc., or its related companies. Version date: December 2018 © 2019 Gilead Sciences, Inc. All rights reserved. BVYC0103 02/19



BIKTARVY®

bictegravir 50mg/emtricitabine 200mg/
tenofovir alafenamide 25mg tablets

**LOVE
WHAT'S
INSIDE®**

KEEP PUSHING.

Because HIV doesn't change who you are.

BIKTARVY® is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in certain adults. **BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.**

Ask your healthcare provider if BIKTARVY is right for you. To learn more, visit [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.gilead.com/medicines/hiv/biktarvy).

Please see Important Facts about BIKTARVY, including important warnings, on the previous page and visit [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.gilead.com/medicines/hiv/biktarvy).

 **GILEAD**

Mayor Dave Coulter: Reflections on 9 Years of Service

BY ELLEN SHANNA KNOPPOW



We're With You Charles

Our beloved writer, friend and confidant Charles Alexander suffered a stroke Monday and is currently recuperating at Detroit Receiving Hospital. Charles has written for the paper since its inception in 1993, completing nearly 1,000 of his weekly "Parting Glances" columns. He is well known for his deep knowledge of Detroit's history, his humor, whimsy and staunch support of the LGBTQ community. He is also one of the area's best known artists and is a board member of the prestigious Scarab Club. His art can be seen in dozens of homes and businesses throughout the Detroit area.

All of us at BTL send Charles our love, support and wishes for a complete and speedy recovery.

Stand With Trans Support Group in Washtenaw County

Stand With Trans is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping youth navigate their transition via providing non-judgmental, inclusive and safe spaces. It was started by Roz Keith soon after she learned that her son was transgender in 2013. Since that time, the organization has grown and is serving people across the Metro Detroit area and beyond.

In Ann Arbor, Stand With Trans hosts a support group that meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at Journey of Faith Christian Church. The group's parent support group facilitator is Yma Johnson as well as Joy Cavanaugh.

Reach out to ymaj1968@gmail.com, call 734-780-4092; or email joylaurallee@gmail.com or call 313-303-7322. Info on a gender-expansive children's play group targeting children aged 5 to 11, contact [Lindsey Spitz @ lindsey.r.spitz@gmail.com](mailto:Lindsey.Spitz@lindsey.r.spitz@gmail.com).

Thank You, Ferndale

"I am forever thankful that my political career was here in Ferndale, because I'm not sure it could have happened somewhere else," said Mayor Dave Coulter, who announced in April at the state of the city address that he will call it quits after four two-year terms – which end in January. He said that he doesn't think he's done with public service, as public service, government and politics are lifelong passions.

"I'm leaving this job, but I don't expect to entirely leave what I love to do," he said.

Coulter reflected on the past nine years as mayor of the city he's chosen to call home since 1994.

"I found Ferndale, like a lot of LGBTQ people did," Coulter said.

Years before, when he came out in his 20s, Coulter said he didn't think he'd ever get to be a candidate for elective office, "because there were no examples of people like me as a candidate," so he remained involved in politics but deferred his dream.

"Had I not found this amazing community my political career certainly would have been much different," he said.

2002 marked Coulter's first foray into elective office, in the race for Oakland County Commissioner. Facing an incumbent from Hazel Park, Coulter said, "I won because of the support that I got from Ferndale."

With that narrow win—just 86 votes – Coulter realized he had made history: he was the highest-ranking openly gay elected official in Michigan. And even when he lost a bid for state Senate in 2010, following four terms as commissioner, Coulter could boast that he won Ferndale. Further, in the two most recent mayoral elections, Coulter ran unopposed.

"I like to say this community has supported me in every election I've ever run in, and I can't repay them enough for allowing me to do what I love," he said.

Righting the Ship

As mayor, Coulter has seen Ferndale through many changes — and that includes weathering some darker times. The city's financial health was his main priority upon taking office, and navigating Ferndale out of the Great Recession is where Coulter's leadership of the city began. He said that's the achievement of which he's most proud.

"I quickly had to work not on the more sexy and interesting projects that I would like to have, and instead had to do a lot of work around righting our financial ship," Coulter said.



By implementing a tool he learned in Oakland County government, the council adopted a two-year budget. That enabled them to anticipate economic challenges sooner and was an important first step.

"I'm proud of the fact that today, Ferndale has a three-year balanced budget, an improved bond rating and a solid financial foundation that we could then use to build on the progress we've been able to make," he said.

Coulter said he's also proud of the improvements to city parks over the past nine years, made possible by way of money added to an infrastructure bond. Because of the upgrades, he said parks have seen much more use and have become an important aspect of the community.

Lessons Learned

Being mayor of Ferndale didn't come with a handbook, and Coulter detailed a number of things he's learned along the way. Number one, he said, was that although he had years of government experience, "what was surprising to me was how much more visible and personal it was being mayor," whereas many people don't know their county commissioners or state-level elected officials. He said that, "The involvement with people and the immediacy of it was different. And I wasn't expecting that."

Maybe that's why many people don't realize that being mayor of Ferndale is not Coulter's full-time job. Currently, the program officer for the Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation, that's typically where one will find him during regular business hours.

Of issues large and small, perhaps the most indispensable bit of wisdom gleaned that Coulter would share with future mayors boils

down to this:

"Trust the residents. They will help guide you as to what's best for the community." He described this as refining one's radar for how the residents view things.

When Coulter forewarned, "always trust the will of the residents who sent you there," he provided the example of feedback surrounding the expansion of parking downtown. Presently, the Development on Troy (known as "The dot") is underway: a mixed-use project expected to triple available parking that will include retail and office space, among other features. An earlier idea proposed by city council, the "360 Project" (three 60,000-square-foot parking structures) did not prove popular among residents.

"I still have bruises from 360!" Coulter said, with a laugh. "We all learned a very valuable lesson from that."

Coulter added, however, that the experience was also a lesson in not being afraid to make mistakes – something he advises council members, and would tell future leaders of the city.

"The first thing I think you have to do as mayor is give people permission to fail occasionally – and some things have," he said. "But by and large, I think it's why we have a reputation of being an innovative and progressive government, because we have a reputation of being willing to push the envelope."

Learning lessons through shared experience, as one governing body, is a key to what Coulter said has made Ferndale city government high-functioning. That entails collaboration. And collaboration requires respect.

"I see lots of city councils with factions: this group who's trying to oust that group, and all kinds of internal dissension, and we've never had that because we've always treated each other with respect and honesty, and we debate our differences honestly, and we've all put the good of the city ahead of our own," Coulter said. "I'm proud that our council works very collaboratively together and it doesn't just happen by accident. A big part of the mayor's job is to make sure that the mayor has a sense of where the council is at, and continues to listen and ask questions of them to try to move the group together."

Changes in the City, Changes in the Mayor

Since Coulter took office in 2011, Ferndale's growth as a city is unmistakable, but Coulter

See **Dave Coulter**, continued on p. 20



#TIMETOKNOWDETROIT

(888) 226-6366 | TIMETOKNOWDETROIT.ORG



Allan Gilmour Talks Charitable Giving and Community Awareness in Advance of LGBT Chamber Honor

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Though now seeing a corporate presence at a pride parade or hearing about an openly gay sports star is becoming more commonplace, it's important to note that those two worlds have not historically been beacons of LGBTQ-friendliness. In fact, that's what makes it so notable that this year both fields will be represented via openly gay speakers at the Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner co-hosted by Ford GLOBE on Thursday, June 6, at The Dearborn Inn. This is the first in what will become an annual awards dinner presented by the Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce. In attendance will be former NFL star Wade Davis and former Ford Vice Chairman Allan Gilmour who will both speak about their experiences of being LGBTQ in their chosen fields. Ford GLOBE is the automaker's LGBTQ employee resource group, designed a quarter of a century ago to serve as a resource for its workers and to advocate for their full equality.

Gilmour will be honored for his decades of contributions to the LGBTQ community in the realms of both business and philanthropy when he receives the inaugural Allan D. Gilmour Award for Outstanding Leadership in Inclusion, presented by The Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce.



Allan Gilmour with his husband, Eric Jirgens in their Birmingham home. BTL Photo: Eve Kucharski

On Inclusion in Business

In advance of the event, Between The Lines met with Gilmour in his Birmingham home to

SAVE THE DATE

Detroit Regional LGBT Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner June 6

Co-Hosted by Ford GLOBE
on its 25th Anniversary

Honoring Allan D. Gilmour, former Vice
Chairman of the Ford Motor Company

with special guest and former
NFL Star, Wade Davis

June 6, 6:30 p.m.

The Dearborn Inn

20301 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn

Tickets start at \$50 and available at
www.detroitlgbtchamber.com/Ford25

discuss the significance of the award, how the world of philanthropy has changed since he entered it and his hopes for the event. When asked how he felt about receiving the honor, he was modest.

"I'm surprised. I can think of many people who deserve it more and I hope they're at the event," he said with a laugh. "I'm grateful of course for this and it's an opportunity to celebrate success. Not of me, but of Ford GLOBE, of the [LGBT] chamber [of commerce], of Between The Lines going back now 26 years, and a bunch of organizations."

Beyond that, he said he's thrilled that this event will celebrate those who have worked to secure civil rights for the LGBTQ community in the corporate world and beyond.

"And that's what we're looking for, to be protected so we can't be thrown out of the house in the middle of the night or not let in the first place," Gilmour said. "But [also for the] opportunity to do what, what we'll call for the moment, 'the mainstream' does."

However, he added, it's not enough for an organization simply to seek out a diversified staff or clients, it must have "the values of diversity" as well.

"Because unless we bring the diverse people in — and we're all diverse in some sense — so

that we're all participating, we won't get the full value of the so-called diversified people and the so-called non-diversified people," Gilmour said, citing that he sees progress in this aspect, even regarding the buzzwords that companies and organizations have used since diversity has become a focus in the corporate sphere.

"The real word these days is 'inclusion.' So, Henry Grix and Howard Israel had been to OutGiving in Florida and came back with two new words: 'respect' and 'dignity.' And I think that is so true: any of us in an organization want those sorts of things," he said. "We want to be respected, we want to be recognized with dignity, but I think those are useful words to think about and I think we're moving along."

He added that as more and more businesses are provided incentives via skilled employees and growing customer bases to remain inclusive, he predicts this trend will continue for the foreseeable future.

"It's the usual: good employees come in all funny shapes and I've got to get my unfair share of good employees. And customers come in all kinds of shapes, the particular shape that can pay for what I'm selling and some of those prove to be gay and lesbian and some of them are Muslim and some are Chinese and some are African-American and some

are Episcopalians and I want them all as long as they can pay," Gilmour said. "And this is somewhat contradictory, I think in the business world, some say, 'Well, don't I have enough to worry about already?' But at the same time, unless I worry about these things and do something about it, I won't be as successful as I could be or should be."

Charitable Giving

Philanthropically, Gilmour has been involved with the boards of dozens of organizations since he retired from his Ford position in the '90s, dedicated to a variety of causes. Perhaps most notably The Gilmour-Jirgens Fund and The HOPE Fund which targets LGBTQ equality via projects, grant-making and technical assistance. Both funds are housed at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. When asked how the realm has changed since he first broke into it, he cited that despite fundraising still being a very difficult aspect still, he's noticed a positive shift in large companies and nonprofit organizations wanting to dedicate time and effort into supporting inclusive causes of all kinds. He also emphasized how vital of a

See **Allan Gilmour**, continued on p. 25



248-858-5416
oakgov.com/HIV

AT RISK FOR HIV?

Once a day PrEP
can reduce your risk.



@PUBLICHEALTHOC

The Oakland County Health Division will not deny participation in its programs based on race, sex, religion, national origin, age or disability. State and federal eligibility requirements apply for certain programs.

Trump Admin Seeks to Roll Back Trans Health Care Protections in Obamacare

BY CHRIS JOHNSON

In a surreptitious move on the Friday before Memorial Day — when much of Washington has already vacated town for the weekend — the Trump administration announced a proposed rule to undermine an Obama-era regulation ensuring non-discrimination in health care for transgender people and women who have had abortions.

The proposed rule that the Department of Health & Human Services would eliminate asserts discrimination is prohibited under Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, which bars sex discrimination in health care.

In a statement announcing the proposed rule change, HHS is oblique in describing what it would accomplish and strikes a positive note, asserting it would “maintain vigorous civil rights enforcement on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age and sex” and save U.S. taxpayers \$3.6 billion over the course of five years.

“We are committed to full enforcement of civil rights laws before, during and after any rulemaking,” Roger Severino, director of the HHS Office of Civil Rights, said in a statement. “We are also committed to the elimination of regulations that contradict law or raise the costs of healthcare without achieving intended results.”

But the devil’s in the details. A look at the language of the 204-page proposed regulation reveals it would eliminate “gender identity” the definition of sex under Section 1557 of Obamacare, and incorporate laws allowing health care providers to decline to perform abortion into the non-discrimination regulation. The regulation also seeks to roll back protections for individuals seeking health care with limited English proficiency.

“The current rule’s provisions were not justified by need, were overly burdensome compared to the benefit provided, and created inconsistent requirements for HHS funded health programs or activities as compared to HHS funded human services programs or activities,” the rule says.

Under the interpretation of the law as proposed by the rule, health care providers and health insurance would be able to deny to transgender people transition-related care, including gender reassignment surgery. Transgender people and women who have had abortions could also be subjected to denial of general health care.

Laura Durso, vice president of LGBT research and communications at the Center for American Progress, said in a conference call with reporters the rule would have devastating effects on both women and LGBT people.

“Through this rule, the Trump administration is working to undermine part of the Affordable Care Act that bans discrimination in health care and insurance coverage,” Durso said. “It has proposed a rule that will weaken enforcement of the Health Care Rights Law ... particularly



The Trump administration plans to undo a transgender health care rule. Washington Blade file photo by Michael Key

when it comes to protecting women, LGBTQ patients and people with limited English proficiency. Eliminating the strong, clear rules prohibiting discrimination will lead to confusion, unequal access, and potential rollbacks of landmark progress.”

The proposed rule was made public weeks after the Trump administration unveiled a different “conscience clause” for health care workers to decline to perform procedures, such as gender reassignment surgery or abortions, out of religious objections. A coalition of states with Democratic attorneys general have filed a federal lawsuit in New York City challenging the legitimacy of the rule.

Jocelyn Samuels, executive director of the Williams Institute at the University of California, Los Angeles, said in a conference report the “conscience” rule was more geared toward specific procedures, but the latest roll back was more general.

“The conscience rule released a couple of weeks ago was focused on implementation of specific statutes that are very narrowly drawn to authorize religious objections to certain services when they’re offered by certain providers who get certain funding streams,” Samuels said.

“And, of course,” Samuels continued, “One of the concerns about that rule was that it expanded authorizations for these denials beyond what was authorized in those very specific statutes, but this rule seems to intend an even broader application of religious exemptions and suggests that religiously affiliated health care providers would be able to opt out of providing any service to any individual that in any way conflicted with their asserted religious beliefs. That, obviously, could

result in a huge loophole for application of non-discrimination protections in the world of health care services.”

More generally, the Trump administration for some time has steadily rolled back non-discrimination protections for transgender people in federal regulations. Just this week, the Department of Housing & Urban Development announced a rule gutting a different Obama-era rule ensuring homeless shelters receiving federal funds can’t turn away transgender people.

It should be noted the regulation the Trump administration seeks to rescind with respect to Section 1557 of Obamacare was already moot. U.S. District Judge Reed O’Connor had enjoined the U.S. government from enforcing the Obama-era rule as a result of a lawsuit filed by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. The Trump administration under former U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions declined to appeal the decision.

But the move from the Trump administration to roll back the underlying rule under its own volition has been expected for some time. For years, transgender advocates have sounded the alarm over reported plans the HHS would rescind the regulation, with Severino in charge of the HHS Office of Civil Rights. As a scholar at the Heritage Foundation, Severino was hostile to transgender rights and supported North Carolina’s anti-trans House Bill 2.

The proposed regulation denies discrimination against transgender people is unlawful despite decades of case law interpreting laws barring sex discrimination to apply to cases of anti-trans discrimination. Over nearly two decades, eight federal appeals

courts and 35 federal district courts have affirmed anti-transgender discrimination is sex discrimination and unlawful, according to the National Center for Transgender Equality.

However, that could change soon. The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to take up the case of Harris Funeral Homes v. EEOC involving a transgender worker who was terminated after declaring she’d transition on the job. The case will determine once and for all whether Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars sex discrimination in employment, applies to cases for transgender workplace protection.

The ruling would apply to all federal laws barring sex discrimination, not just employment civil rights laws. The Supreme Court could either affirm decades of case law protecting transgender people, or throw them out with a single ruling.

Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center of Transgender Equality, said the upcoming final decision from the Supreme Court heightens the absurdity of the new HHS proposed regulation.

“Part of the ... cruelty, the dumbness of doing this rule right now, particularly around the transgender issues is that it may be rendered moot by a Supreme Court decision, which we expect to have ... certainly in the coming year, but maybe in the coming months,” Keisling said. “So it doesn’t make sense that they did this with the Harris case getting cert to the Supreme Court.”

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



**This is Christ's church.
There is a place for you here.**

Worship With Pride!

Worship with **PRIDE** at these Lutheran churches - churches that have made a public affirmation of welcome to YOU - members, family and friends of the LGBTQIA+ community.

• **Ann Arbor**

**Lutheran Campus Ministry
Lord of Light Lutheran Church**
801 S. Forest Ave.
www.lordoflight.org

• **King of Kings Lutheran Church**

2685 Packard Rd.
www.kingofkingslutheran.org

• **Trinity Lutheran Church**

1400 Stadium Blvd.
www.trintyyaa.org

• **Zion Lutheran Church**

1501 W. Liberty St.
<https://zlc-aa.org>

• **Battle Creek**

Trinity Lutheran Church
2055 Columbia Ave. E.
www.tlcbattlecreek.org

• **Burton**

Our Risen Lord Lutheran Church
4040 Lapeer Rd.
www.ourrisenlordelca.com

• **East Lansing**

University Lutheran Church
1020 S. Harrison Rd.
www.ulcel.org

• **Farmington Hills**

Antioch Lutheran Church
33360 West Thirteen Mile Rd.
www.antiochelca.org

• **Hope Lutheran Church**

39200 West Twelve Mile Rd.
www.hope-lutheran-church.com

• **Ferndale**

Zion Lutheran Church
143 Albany St.
www.zionlutheranmi.org

• **Grand Rapids**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
250 Commerce Ave. SW
www.bethlehemchurchgr.org

• **Kalamazoo**

Lutheran Church of the Savior
3616 East G Avenue
www.lcoskzoo.com

• **Kentwood**

Ascension Lutheran Church
4252 Breton Rd. SE
www.twochurches.org

• **Livonia**

Timothy Lutheran Church
8820 Wayne Rd.
www.timothylutheranchurch.com

• **Mount Pleasant**

Immanuel Lutheran Church
320 South Bradley St.
www.immanuelmp.com

• **Muskegon**

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1132 Southern Ave.
www.oslcmuske

• **Okemos**

Faith Lutheran Church
4515 Dobie Rd.
www.faithlutheranokemos.org

• **Port Huron**

St. Martin Lutheran Church
805 Chestnut St.
phone: 810.982.9261

• **Rochester Hills**

**Abiding Presence
Lutheran Church**
1550 Walton Rd.
www.AbidingPresence.org

• **Saline**

Holy Faith Church
6299 Saline-Ann Arbor Rd.
www.holy-faith-church.org

• **Trenton**

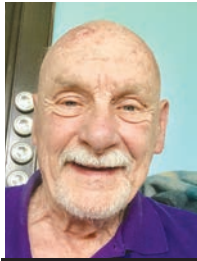
St. Philip Lutheran Church
1790 Fort St.
www.stphilipelca.com

• **Toledo, Ohio**

St. Lucas Lutheran Church
745 Walbridge Ave.
www.stlucastoledo.org

• **Waterford**

Christ Lutheran Church
5987 Williams Lake Rd.
www.christwaterford.org



Parting Glances

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

A Magic Moment Recalled!

About a dozen days ago tomorrow, or the day after tomorrow — at my age how can I be sure? — I was gifted with a pair of John Lennon enchantment glasses.

Gold-rimmed. Sunset orange. Autumn-tinted. Pre-Donald Trump, to be sure. No Mike Pence trifocal fog-up. (You got it, Mary!)

Reflected in my hand-held vanity, two-way mirror, these magic spectacles make me look and feel younger. (To be honest, not an easy thing to do at my gravity-compromised, sag-along-with-me age.)

The two-circle Lennon spectacles come rainbow-wrapped. Gay, tasteful in a box filled with “magic sequins and let’s pretend glitter.” Oh, yes! With a note.

And, surprise of surprises! A note written in cursive writing — thanks to the Republicans, of late rapidly becoming a lost art form — one word: “Imagine!”

Underneath the sequins and glitter is a folded patchouli-scented parchment. A map. Headline: “Things Once Happened at Downtown Detroit’s gay intersection. Midnight’s the bewitching moment. Follow! (In or out of high heels or leather.)”

And, in small lavender hand lettering, “Count the years backward. Say the magic word. Put on these glasses. For a minute or two, be glad you were gay way back then ... 1960 Detroit!”

Let me be honest. I’m a born skeptic. I arrive 15 minutes early — promptness is the courtesy of kings (or queens, in my case) as the old saying goes — and I discover, to my chagrin, two empty, dimly lighted downtown city blocks. Farmer & Bates.

Come on, MoTownners, you’ve got to be kidding! Where are the 1011, the Silver Dollar, La Rosa’s, gay bars, the Hub Grill greasy spoon teenager gay, lesbian hangout? Where are the nearby Barrel Bar, Foster’s, the Checker Bar. The City Hall? The 1st Precinct Police Station!

I stop counting backward at number 60, which it turns out, is just a few seconds before midnight. Looking about for safety’s sake, seeing I’m not in harm’s way, I — with just a touch of coming out nervousness — put on my Lennon specs, and ... oh, my stars. Mary, I can’t believe it!

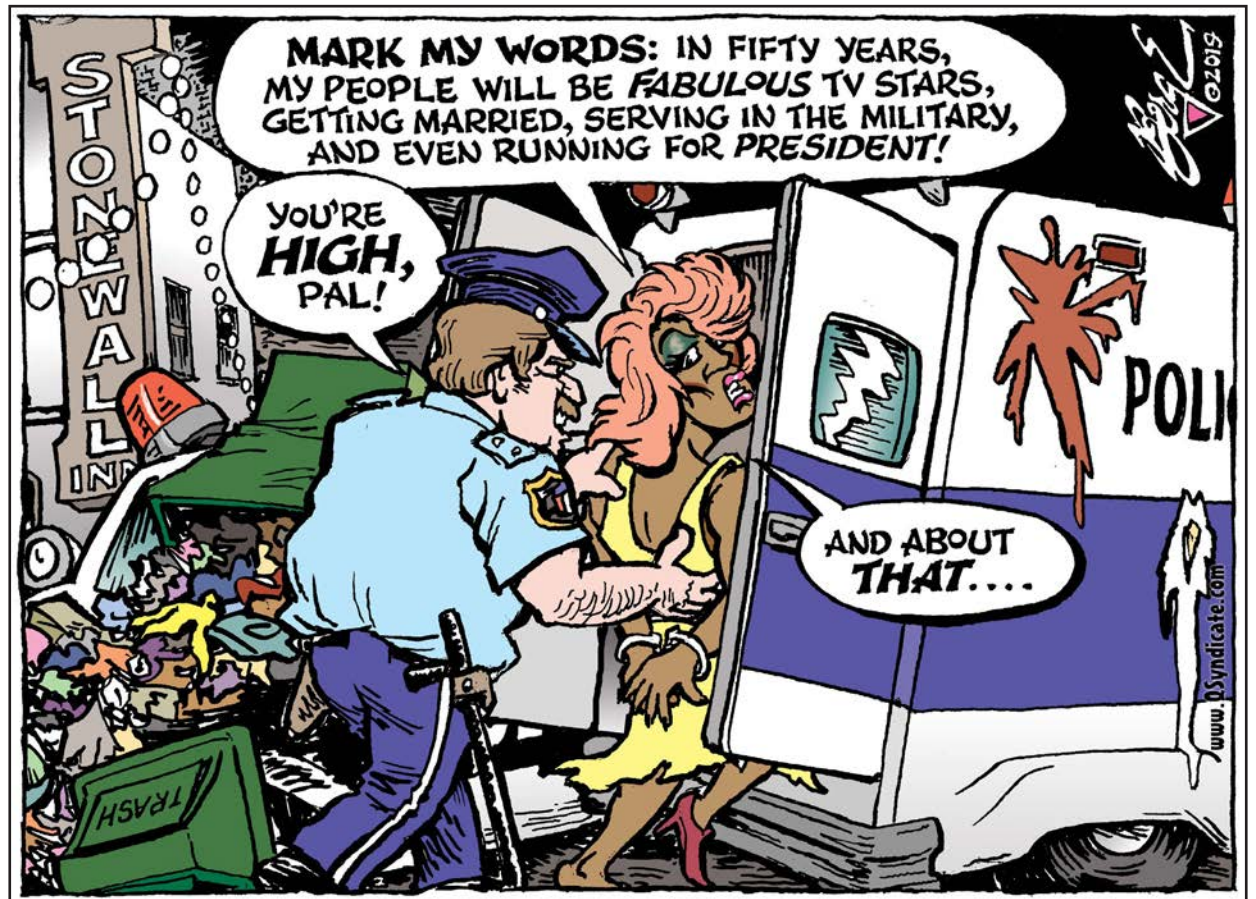
Farmer & Bates is suddenly alive with hundreds of tourists eagerly watching from behind street-lined wooden barricades. There are shouts of approval. Loud applause, as one by one, gaudy costume by glorious costume, drag queens by drama queens arrive, turn, bow, pause regally for yet another take of in-your-face grandeur.

“You like what you see folks? You bet your sweet, straight bippies you do!” chants Lola Lola, pausing grandly before the entrance of one of the intersecting streets of several gay clubs. “This year’s trade, next year’s competition!”

She blows a kiss to the crowd as imaginary light bulbs flash. And out of nowhere, blue side of the moon perhaps, a recorded band lip-syncs “Hello, Dolly!”

Even in this imaginary, make-believe world of once-a-year royalty on parade, there’s got to be a star. Just to be sure it’s all for real, I push my Lennon glasses back on my nose. Oh, my. Yes! Of course, it’s Hazel Hobbs arriving by top-down,

See next page



June 28, 1969: Marking the 50th anniversary of Stonewall.



BY DR DANA RUDOLPH

Mombian

Transgender and Gender-Creative Children Star in New Picture Books

“When Aiden Became a Brother,” written by Kyle Lukoff and illustrated by Kaylani Juanita (Lee & Low), is a sweet and joyous tale about a biracial (black and South Asian) transgender boy awaiting the birth of his new sibling. The book starts by explaining that everyone thought Aiden was a girl when he was born, but he later realized he was a boy. While “it took everyone some time to adjust,” his family was supportive and “learned a lot from other families with transgender kids like him” (a nice nod to the importance of community). The heart of the story, though, is not about Aiden’s transition, but rather about how he prepares to be a big brother, “an important job for a boy like him.”

What sets this book apart from many others about transgender or gender-creative children is that rather than Aiden’s gender identity offering only challenges to be overcome, it is instead a source of strength and wisdom. Aiden’s interest in being a big brother stems from his desire “to make sure this baby would feel understood right away.” He recalls, too, “that it had been hard for his parents to let go of the name they gave him,” so he looks for names for his new sibling that would fit “no matter who they grew up to be.” Aiden also worries that his sibling won’t like the clothes and colors he picked out,

but then reviews his own baby pictures, when he “looked so different.” He reflects that he “liked the boy he was growing into,” and that even if things aren’t perfect for his sibling at first, “maybe that was OK.” He’s experienced changes himself and knows it is possible to get through them.

Lukoff, who is transgender himself, deserves much praise for this lovely and empowering story. Juanita’s illustrations capture the emotions of Aiden and his family and add vibrant textures to the tale. This is a must-read book that should be on every LGBTQ-inclusive bookshelf.

“Jacob’s Room to Choose,” by Sarah and Ian Hoffman, illustrated by Chris Case (Magination Press), takes another approach and clearly addresses an issue of concern for gender non-conforming children and their families. The book is a sequel of sorts to the duo’s 2014 book, “Jacob’s New Dress,” about a gender-creative boy who wants to wear a dress to school — a reflection of the Hoffman’s own gender non-conforming child. In the latest book, Jacob, who is white and wearing a dress, wants to use the boys’ restroom at school. His friend Sophie, who is black and wearing khaki pants and

See next page

Please join me on Monday, June 3, for #LGBTQFamiliesDay, my 14th annual day of storytelling and sharing to celebrate and support LGBTQ families. Just use the hashtag #LGBTQFamiliesDay on any social media channel!

► Mombian

Continued from p. 14

by other students. When their teacher learns of this, she initiates a discussion of gender expression with the whole class. When it comes to bathroom use, she prompts the children, “I wonder if there is another way?”

The children themselves come up with a solution, deciding that anyone should be able to use any bathroom, and making a variety of signs to indicate this. The story ends with Jacob and Sophie happily using the relabeled facilities.

This is a more issue-oriented book than *Aiden*, but it's an issue for many gender-creative and transgender children, so the thoughtful treatment should be welcome by many families. The unfortunate reality, though, is that not all schools will be as quick to make a change as Jacob and Sophie's — but perhaps this little book with its cheerful illustrations and creative kids will offer a model for some schools, at least, to follow.

“It Feels Good to Be Yourself: A Book About Gender Identity,” by Theresa Thorn and illustrated by Noah Grigni (Henry Holt/Macmillan), goes even further in the direction of pedagogy. “This is Ruthie,” it begins. “She’s a transgender girl.” The book explains that “everyone thought she was a boy” until she grew old enough to tell them that “she’s actually a girl.” Thorn, the real-life mother of a gender non-conforming child, then introduces us to other children who are

cisgender, non-binary and whose gender identities are changing. The last few pages address the reader directly with advice such as, “Your feelings about your gender are real. Listen to your heart.”

Although the children in the book are fictional, this is less a story and more a straightforward discussion of gender identity. That’s not a criticism; the book is well-suited as a way for parents and teachers to introduce the variations of gender identity and conveys a lot of warmth despite its pedagogical slant.

Vanessa Ford, an educator and advocate for transgender equality and parent of a transgender child, has told me, “When a child is able to see themselves in a book, it changes the way they interact with the world. They feel seen. When children see others who are different from them in a book, it helps build empathy and understanding. Both of these things are critical to our trans youth as they navigate the world.”

Transgender and gender-creative children, their families and friends should appreciate having such a range of new books as their compasses.

Please join me on Monday, June 3, for #LGBTQFamiliesDay, my 14th annual day of storytelling and sharing to celebrate and support LGBTQ families. Just use the hashtag #LGBTQFamiliesDay on any social media channel!

Dana Rudolph is the founder and publisher of Mombian (mombian.com), a GLAAD Media Award-winning blog and resource directory for LGBTQ parents.

► Parting Glances

Continued from p. 18

1960-something red convertible.

Her gown, a year in sewing. Sequin by sequin. She radiates class! And chic. Her muscular Prince Charming companion holds up a sign. QUEEN OF FARMER & BATES! The crowd — straight and gay — roars its once-a-year awe-struck, Halloween Night approval.

I look at my self-winding watch. How quickly time runs down when you're having last-minute fun. Or so it seems tonight. Just as I reluctantly turn to go, an old-familiar parade passes by.

Somehow gathered for my imagined benefit. I'm gently touched. Perhaps one final farewell with feeling for me. They wave in galaxy passing ... I nod nostalgically. ...

Big Red, Jean, Eve, Rusty, The Empress, Miss Bruce, Tall Dick, Virgil, Tabu, Rita Hayworth, Fran, Flo, Uncle Jimmy, Little Mama, Mack, Drano, Sky, Eve Taylor, Che Che, Fran & Wally, Bookie, Fat Jack, Bessie, Billie Hill. Rosie Bonham, Andy, Sam, Chunga, Bobby Johns, Billy & Maurice, Ruthie Ellis ... Hugs! Godspeed!

Gay today. Gone tomorrow ... Thanks for being an out and proud part of my life. Thanks for making the past a prelude to change here in the Motor City!

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.

Creep Of The Week

Trump Administration

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

The Trump Administration has declared war on transgender people. This isn't a new revelation, but they have succeeded in dismantling every protection the Obama Administration had put in place for transgender people.

You might not have even noticed the most recent rollback unless you follow this subject closely. After all, these past two years it has been all anti-trans all the time. Not to mention the daily barrage of news about Trump and the no good, horrible, very bad people he has working for him throwing norms in the trash and pissing on the rule of law. It's dizzying.

But it's important that we all, trans or not, pay attention to the systematic dehumanization of transgender people under Trump. Because it's truly horrifying.

Transgender people are one of the most vulnerable populations in the U.S., so the relentless focus of this administration on harming them says a lot about what kind of people we currently have running this country. The protections afforded to trans people by the Obama Administration sought to address remedy or at least address the glaring inequities in how trans folks are treated, but a few rule changes were never going to be enough to change societal attitudes about gender identity. The changes simply weren't in place long enough to create a lasting shift, which is why the protections were so easy for Trump and his ilk to undo.

In addition to banning transgender troops, banning anyone at the Center for Disease Control from using the word “transgender,” scraping civil rights protections for transgender students, turning transgender people away from homeless shelters, now the Health and Human Services Department is seeking to declare that “gender identity” is not protected under federal laws regarding discrimination in health care.

This is another big step toward dehumanizing transgender people. Republicans already think that health care is a privilege, not a right. So, you can imagine how they feel about health care for a group of people they don't even see as fully human. Actually, you don't have to imagine. They're telling you very openly how they feel.

Charlotte Clymer, an Army veteran and transgender woman, doesn't mince words on Twitter:

“Trump and Pence don't just want to erase us. They want to see us die. That is not hyperbole. They are trying to dehumanize us and normalize our deaths.”

And what better way to do that than to slice away at the health care safety net so that

Republicans already think that health care is a privilege, not a right. So, you can imagine how they feel about health care for a group of people they don't even see as fully human.

transgender folks can just slip right through?

It's important to point out there is no good reason for making it harder for trans folks to get care. The basis for this proposal is “little more than prejudice” according to Mara Keisling, Executive Director for the National Center for Transgender Equality.

“This proposal will abandon 2 million Americans who already face significant barriers to accessing adequate and life-saving health care,” Keisling said in a statement. “This is not about free health care or special treatment. It's about the right of every American to be treated with dignity when they walk into an emergency room, meet a new doctor or find the right insurance plan.”

Of course, under Trump, Republicans have shown that they are all too willing to strip health care from Americans regardless of their gender identity. As a two-time cancer survivor myself, these past two years have felt like relentless psychological abuse, and I'm a cisgender woman. The strain on transgender people is much greater than what I have faced. We must fight back.

What can you do? Well, for starters, you can vote for Democrats in every election, local state and federal. It really does matter whether or not the people in power see transgender people as human. Republicans do not deserve your vote. Not only are Democrats the only people who support transgender civil rights, but I also noticed today that Elizabeth Warren, Kamala Harris, Pete Buttigieg, Kirsten Gillibrand and Joe Biden all have transgender pride merch for sale on their campaign sites. We have a lot of great choices for 2020. Full disclosure: I'm with Warren all the way, but no matter who gets the presidential nomination, we must come together and vote blue. America might not survive 4 more years under Trump. And many transgender people definitely won't.

Also, the rule change is in the public comment period, so visit protecttranshealth.org and submit a comment to the Department of Health and Human Services expressing your opposition to scrapping protections for transgender Americans. Will your comment change their minds? No, probably not. But each comment in support of transgender people weakens the Trump Administration's attempt to erase them.

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




WORK THE WAY YOU WANT

- Open Coworking
- Private Offices
- Conference Rooms
- Permanent Spaces
- Special Event Hosting

FIND OUT MORE

PatchWorkCollective.net • 248-850-2525
22007 Woodward Ave. • Ferndale, MI 48220

► **Dave Coulter**

Continued from p. 12



himself appears much the same. However, there has been a marked shift in how he views his role as a city leader. That occurred in the aftermath of the 2016 presidential election.

“I found myself in a position where people wanted to hear from leaders and reassure them that Donald Trump was not going

to change who we are as a country,” Coulter said.

Up to that point, he said he concentrated mainly on ensuring that city services were delivered “excellently,” that the parks were mowed and the snow was plowed. He would sometimes tell residents, “well, I’m not your state Senator or Congressman, I’m focused on city issues,” when state or national concerns arose.

“But I realized, after Trump, that was too narrow,” Coulter said. “And so I spoke out on immigration and women’s rights, LGBT rights, on resistance to the administration in general. ... I’ve come to realize it’s an important part of what people want and need from their city leader at this point in time. And so it’s become an important part of what I do. So for me, rallies like last night — although that wasn’t directly a city issue — I’ve learned that it directly affects the residents of Ferndale and their well-being,” he said, in reference to a pro-choice rally held in the parking lot of city hall on May 21.

Coulter remarked on the evolution of Ferndale: lately, population is growing for the first time in 40 years. And as more people move to the city, it’s a desirable location for developers.

“It’s a very popular destination,” Coulter said. “And that growth comes with certain growing pains. There’s more of a debate going on now certainly than nine years ago about how we grow, and, more importantly, how we keep that growth from changing the character of our town.”

Coulter’s perspective comes from the eyes of someone who moved to the city in 1994, when he remembers downtown as “very empty” and “desolate.” Not only that, the city council was politically conservative. Over time, he’s not only seen Ferndale’s downtown grow and flourish, but also the adoption of a non-discrimination ordinance, the blossoming of a once-modest LGBTQ community center and the birth of the city’s own Pride festival, whose inaugural year was also Coulter’s first year as mayor.

“Cities aren’t static,” Coulter pointed out. “They’re dynamic, changing and growing, living things, and the key to all of that — and what has been my experience for my 25 years here — [is] that although the outward appearance of town or even what kind of people are living here has changed, what hasn’t changed is the welcoming, inclusive, friendly, tight-knit community it is. There’s just a spirit about Ferndale that has existed since I’ve been here and has kept me here all these years.

“And so the structure of the city changes somewhat, the demographics change a little bit, and will again, but the key for us is to try to make sure we’re always paying attention to that secret sauce of what makes Ferndale special, which is our friendly, inclusive, progressive attitude toward each other. And that has not changed,” he continued, adding that that attitude hasn’t changed within himself, either.




Linda Helps People Make Good Decisions.

Come find out why Linda Lombardini was voted Washtenaw County’s Favorite Realtor.

Thrice.

734-302-3600
www.LindaLom.com

323 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor
Linda@LindaLom.com

TRILLIUM
REAL ESTATE



Community means everything.

Joan M Warner Ins Agency Inc
Joan Warner, Agent
joan@warneragency.com
Bus: 248-474-8020

That’s why I’m proud to be here to help life go right™ and to support Ferndale Pride.

If there’s anything you need, call me.



1601483 State Farm, Bloomington, IL

Let Tyrrell Electric
Power Your Pride

- Generator Systems
- Lighting and Service Upgrades
- Remodels and Dedicated Circuits



248-767-5238 – jttyrrell@yahoo.com. – www.tyrrellelectric.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) 650-4626

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
LABOR DONATED-PRINTED IN HOUSE

power to grow



Graduate work is both exciting and intense. You will need guidance. You will need support. And you will need an environment where rigorous study and substantive training opportunities go hand-in-hand.

You will find all that and more at MSP. Offering an MA and PsyD in Clinical Psychology and a certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis, MSP believes in exploring and cultivating the potential of every student.

www.msp.edu

Experience the MSP difference for yourself



michigan school
of psychology

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.

 **MCC
Detroit**
Include. Inspire. Influence

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

ANNOUNCING

Gian Clair

MEDICAL SPA

AT PARTRIDGE CREEK OBGYN

Love
without
discomfort

Laugh
without fear of
embarrassment

Live
reclaim your
body with vaginal
rejuvenation



FemTouch™

**Now offering Vaginal
rejuvenation treatments.**

Fast, efficient and safe vaginal laser
procedure for women's health.
Call today and schedule your treatment.

586-247-8609



Center: Rhonda L. Kobold, DO, FACOG

Left: Teresa C. Kuz, MSN, WHNP-BC

Marcie S. Mullins, MSN, CNM

Angela V. Viviano, MSN, FNP-BC

Right: Tanya M. Vaughn, DNP, CNM, FNP-BC

Beth K. Mutch, MSN, FNP-BC

Corinne Sakyi, MSN, CNM, WHNP-BC

(Not pictured: Hina Javaid, MD)

partridgecreekobgyn.com

19991 Hall Road, Suite 105
Macomb, MI 48044



Affirmations Elects 5 New Board Members, Announces New Campaign

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

The board of directors of Affirmations added five new members to their ranks at their May 22 meeting. Those new board members are Angela Gabridge, Donnie Johnson, Kathrine Lorenz, Kennedy Shannon and Cass Varner.

“These candidates are an exceptional group of individuals,” said Affirmations Board President Mike Flores. “These candidates exemplify exactly what our current board expects from each other: love for the community, commitment to the vision and mission, willingness to share your talents and a focus on continuous improvement.”

While each new member came with an extensive resume, Varner’s name was perhaps most familiar. She previously worked at the center for 12 years, first as youth services coordinator and then later as director of communications.

In addition to the new members, board member Karl De Nazareth’s term was renewed for another three years and an executive committee was voted on that included once again Flores as president as well as Cheryl Czack as vice president, Nancy Cummins as treasurer and John Stanaszek and Anthony Sherman as members at large. The position



Affirmations Board President Mike Flores (center) speaks at the center’s May 22nd board meeting while Executive Director Dave Garcia (left) and Board Vice President Cheryl Czack (right) look on. (BTL photo: Jason A. Michael)

of secretary remains open.

With the addition of the newest members, the total number of directors is now at 16, making it the largest board in several years.

“We are lucky to have such an impressive group of individuals to serve their community on the board,” said Dave Garcia, the center’s returning executive director who has been back on the job just about three weeks. “I am

looking forward to working with the board to continue strengthening the center.”

Garcia also announced a new campaign that the center plans to launch sometime next month. The campaign will be called Coming Home.

“We’re calling it that not only from a personal perspective of my coming home from Los Angeles, but we want to go back to all the

donors who have ever given to Affirmations in the last 30 years for our 30th anniversary and encourage everybody to come home,” Garcia said. “Come back home to your community center.

“With this campaign, we also are going to have an opportunity to increase volunteerism,” Garcia continued. “We’re going to at least double if not triple our volunteer base.”

The campaign will be looking for volunteers to serve in the areas of advocacy, entertainment planning and general center volunteers. Each committee will have one volunteer co-chair and one staff co-chair.

“The success of this campaign is imperative to the future of the organization,” Garcia said. “We’ve got to get more folks involved from donors and, perhaps even more importantly, volunteers.”

Garcia also announced that he had formed a grants committee and was actively looking at the center’s contractors and cost-cutting where possible. As examples, he cited the fact that he had cut the center’s \$650 monthly copy machine bill nearly in half and canceled a contract for an outside document shredding company.

“Every contract that we have I’m talking with those folks and renegotiating,” Garcia said.

**Have you found yourself saying
I haven't been to church because...**

- I don't like feeling judged?
- I'm not sure what I believe?
- My transgender family member doesn't feel accepted?
- I'm afraid my child with disabilities will make too much noise?

Then You Haven't Been to Everybody's Church!
Sundays 8:30 and 10:00 AM
www.everybodyschurch.org

Everybody's Church
First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

Michigan's Definitive LGBTQ-Friendly Resource

MiLGBTWedding.com

**When Tying the Knot:
Our Stories**

**The Ultimate LGBTQ
Wedding Expo**

**Planning Tools & Resources
for Your Special Day**

A PROJECT OF
Between the Lines™

To learn more contact donelle@pridesource.com
Call 734-293-7200



**HEP A
NO WAY!**



OAKLAND
COUNTY MICHIGAN
HEALTH DIVISION
OAKGov.COM/HEALTH

GET VACCINATED TODAY.
800-848-5533



@PUBLICHEALTHOC

The Oakland County Health Division will not deny participation in its programs based on race, sex, religion, national origin, age or disability. State and federal eligibility requirements apply for certain programs.



Don Chisholm, REALTOR®
 (248) 425-4366
 DChisholm@RealEstateOne.com
 www.DonChisholmRealtor.com



Your Personal Advocate



- Friendly, Professional Service
- Empowering You Through Education
- Serving the Woodward Corridor and Beyond!

(248) 425-4366

DonChisholmRealtor@gmail.com
 www.DonChisholmRealtor.com

Real Estate One
 26236 Woodward Ave.
 Royal Oak, MI 48067



Michigan's Largest Real Estate Company

► Ferndale Pride

Continued from p. 6

Performers

Headlining The MotorCity Casino Hotel Mainstage will be Shamir. The 24-year-old androgynous voiced singer/songwriter, who identifies as non-binary but is comfortable with masculine pronouns, hails from Las Vegas.

Shamir said the indie music scene was “near non-existent and not that diverse when I was growing up there. All the bands were older and only played 21-plus venues and all the ‘all-ages’ shows were pop, punk and metal shows.”

Shamir, who now calls Philadelphia home, has been open about battling bipolar disorder. He has, to date, released five albums, the latest of which is this year’s “Be the Yee, Here Comes the Haw.” Shamir has also dabbled in acting, notably playing AJ on the Netflix series “Dear White People.”

Also on the MotorCity Casino Hotel Mainstage Saturday night will be Siena Liggins who made a splash last year with the single “Naked” and the #LetsGetNaked campaign, geared toward helping women achieve body confidence and featuring fellow female artists such as Flint Eastwood, Tiny Jag, Erin McConnell and others.

“The campaign is a way to sum up the lead up to the song, but I live these conversations all the time,” Liggins told Between The Lines in an

interview last year. “I’m always thinking about these things, especially I think because I make my music for women — and I love women. I think I grew up in a household and setting where women have always been the foundation of my confidence and my empowerment. And I am always trying to do things to uplift them because that uplifts me and that makes me feel better about myself and it affirmed me in a way.”

Over on the Genisys Credit Union DJ/Dance stage, Joe Gauthreaux is headlining. Gauthreaux has played almost every major circuit event all over the world, including Winter Party Festival, Black Party New York, White Party Miami, Song Kran Bangkok, New Year’s Rio at The Week, Atlantis Cruises and others. His production career has included official remixes of major dance artists like Steven Redant, Leo Blanco, Tony Moran and Kristine W. — not to mention mainstream top 40 artists like Adele, Rita Ora, Blondie, Troye Sivan, Justin Bieber and Brian Justin Crum. Most recently, his big room progressive-tribal remix of Diana Ross’ classic anthem “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough,” with Brazilian producer DJ Leanh, has taken the circuit by storm.

Gauthreaux will also be spinning at an official Ferndale Pride after party at the Grasshopper Underground, which is located at 22757 Woodward Ave. Titled “Thots & Prayers presents Joe Gauthreaux: After Pride,” the show will also feature DJ Jace and Bentley James.

For more information on Ferndale Pride visit ferndalepride.com.

MEN ON THE MOVE

(734) 729-6683 michiganmovers.com

2017
Angies list
SUPER SERVICE AWARD

★ METRO TIMES ★
DETROIT APPROVED WINNER

AFFILIATE MEMBER
GMAR
Greater Metropolitan Association of REALTORS®

THANK YOU FOR VOTING US BEST MOVING COMPANY

- ♥ Professional Service
- ♥ NO Minimums
- ♥ Local & Long Distance
- ♥ Senior Discounts

- ♥ Licensed & Insured
- ♥ Indoor Storage
- ♥ 7 Day Service
- ♥ Veteran Owned

MEN ON THE MOVE
 WARE COUNTY: 729-6683 | CALHOUN COUNTY: 354-2525
 www.michiganmovers.com

1991 25 YEARS 2016

Your Moving Industry Experts

MPSC # L25824 USDOT #623941

THE FOOD TRUCKS ARE BACK!

-2019-

SPECTACULAR EATS! THRILLING TREATS! DETROIT FLEAT!

EAT. DRINK. MINGLE.

DETROIT FLEAT

Food Trucks. Cocktails. Patio Perfection.

Hours:
 Tues-Thurs 11am-12am
 Fri-Sat 11am-1am
 Sunday 11am-10pm

1820 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale
 248-607-7611
 www.detroitfleat.com

► Allan Gilmour

Continued from p. 14



“ We do have to understand that all of us, everyone in this room in some way needs inclusion and it may be at home, it may be religious

organizations, it may be political organizations, who knows what, but please, keep your minds open and see what you can do to make this a better community. ”

- Allan Gilmour

role good fundraising can play in social movements citing an old adage, ‘No money, no mission.’

“[It’s] very important. Now, does that mean that the people who can give the most money should have the loudest voice? No. It should be in general of course that the staff of an organization is the leadership,” Gilmour said. “It’s hard at smaller organizations when there’s sometimes not a very good board and not very good leadership to figure out who should be doing what, but I think in the well-organized ones it’s got to be the staff that does most of the heavy lifting. Now, some of the people who contribute more than others are loud and should we listen? Yes, but that does not necessarily mean agree. Just as those that don’t have money [should be listened to].”

However, despite the progress he’s experienced in the process of raising funds from large entities and organizations, Gilmour said that individual giving is currently at some of the lowest he’s seen. He attributed that partly to a lack of general knowledge of the importance of issues like LGBTQ equality.

“It hasn’t become easier with the run-of-the-mill population and I think that is awareness with all those prejudices mixed in and we try our best to talk with people about that,” he said.

That is also why he said he hopes that the upcoming event will motivate people to become aware of the needs of communities outside of their own like the LGBTQ population.

“I urge the people that are there to please do pay attention to these kinds of issues that this community faces,” he said. “And it’s up to us to pay attention to our own community, because charity starts at home and we need that, but we need to reach out to the greater community. ... We do have to understand that all of us, everyone in this room in some way needs inclusion and it may be at home, it may be religious organizations, it may be political organizations, who knows what, but please, keep your minds open and see what you can do to make this a better community.”



A Study on the Experiences of LGBTQ People with Cancer

Join Us

Join us in a group to help us learn about the cancer care experiences of LGBTQ cancer survivors.

Process

- Share your thoughts in a one-time focus group discussion lasting 2 hours.
- A free meal will be provided at the meeting

To Participate, You Must

- Be at least 21 years old
- Identify as LGBTQ
- Have been diagnosed with cancer (any type)
- Self-identify as African American or White

As a thank you for your time you will receive a \$50 gift card

If you would like to participate in this study, please

Visit: www.LGBTQcancerstudy.org

Call: (313)288-8122

E-mail: info@LGBTQcancerstudy.org

Confidentiality:

All of your personal information will be kept confidential. Your name will never appear in written reports from this study. Study Conducted by Dr. Hayley Thompson, PhD from Wayne State University in partnership with LGBT Detroit and Michigan State University.

This project is funded by a Eugene Washington Community Engagement Award from the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute

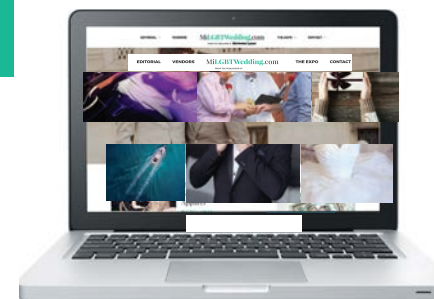


Michigan's Definitive LGBTQ-Friendly Wedding & Anniversary Guide

MiLGBTWedding.com

A PROJECT OF **Between THE Lines**

To learn more contact donelle@pridesource.com
Call 734-293-7200



Save The Date
Sunday, October 13 • Noon - 4 pm.

BTL 9th Annual LGBTQ Wedding & Anniversary Expo @
The Henry in Dearborn

Local Favorite Backs Rock Legend on Farewell Tour

Barbara Payton Joins Bob Seger for 6 DTE Energy Theater Dates This Month

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

A known commodity in Metro Detroit, Barbara Payton has been rocking stages and Pride festivals in the area for 25 years. Despite all that local clout, many might not realize that she has a pretty snazzy side gig, too. Since 2006, she has been joining Detroit rock legend Bob Seger as a supporting vocalist when he tours.

"Singing for Seger is one of the most rewarding experiences of my musical career," Payton told *Between The Lines*. "He is a joy to work for and his attention to detail and level of professionalism is inspiring. By watching him I have learned how to be a better musician, a better performer and have taken away things that I can apply to conducting my own rehearsals with my band."

Currently, Payton is on the road with Seger and the Silver Bullet Band for the "Roll Me Away" tour. The show rolls into DTE Energy Music Theatre in Clarkson for a few select dates next month from June 6 through 21.

"This is his farewell tour," Payton said. "It's exciting and I will savor every moment. He is a consummate professional and whenever he takes the stage, he always brings his best to every show. He is fully present and clearly, to this day, enjoys what he does. From my perspective, it differs from previous tours in the sense that I am taking in every moment on a deeper level. I have always felt that it's a privilege and an honor to step onto his stage



and I have loved every tour. However, this is bittersweet."

Having fronted her own band for so long, one has to wonder how Payton feels about singing backing vocals.

"It's been my experience that backing vocals differ from lead because of the precision it takes to blend with the other singers," she explained. "Oh, and we have one hell of a blend if I do say so myself. I have learned so much from Laura Creamer and Shaun Murphy over the years.

They have been Bob's longtime background singers and when you hear them it obvious as to why.

"As far as my being a lead singer, I take more liberties and am well aware that because of that and the fact that I'm rather animated at times on my stage that I am not always as precise," Payton continued. "I don't prefer one over the other. They are different animals, so to speak, and I love them equally."

With Seger's tour winding up this summer,

Payton, who proudly boasts she will turn 56 in August, must consider the future herself.

"What's next for me is the big question," she said. "I purchased a Victorian-style home in my hometown of Port Huron and have plenty of work ahead of me while I ponder my next move. I will say that I'm excited to get back to collaborating with my dear friend Nolan Mendenhall. We've written some songs together and have recorded several of them already. I would love to go out on another tour and am already putting some feelers out there. We'll see. Bob Seger is a hard act to follow. I love Bob, my bandmates, the crew and everyone else that makes this tour possible and will miss them terribly."

But the show, or life as it's sometimes called, must go on.

"I do still have my own band, or at least I think I do," Payton said with a laugh. "I say that jokingly because all of my band members have their own projects or continue to stay in high demand within the Detroit music community. I feel very blessed to work with such talented musicians. I am very much looking forward to reaching out to them when the tour wraps up and booking gigs. I will say that I have missed playing to our LGBTQ community and want to focus on booking gigs within the community as soon as we're all able to."

For more about Barbara Payton, visit barbarapayton.com



Electrolysis Clinic of Birmingham

Permanent Hair Removal | Laser Hair Removal
Registered Electrologist, Regina Jaye, R. E.
31815 Southfield Road, Suite #28,
Beverly Hills, MI 48025
(248) 642-7850
www.electrolysisclinicofbirmingham.net

Over 30 Years of Hair Removal Experience
for Men and Women

Divine Peace
Metropolitan Community Church

6650 Elizabeth Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48327
Phone: 248.332.1186
www.dpmcc.net
Sunday Worship time is 9:30 A.M.

FERNLEE KENNELS

BOARDING, GROOMING & DAYCARE
for dogs, cats, and other small animals.

Fernlee Kennels has offered quality boarding and professional grooming services to the tri-county area for over 45 years. Our goal is to make each dog's stay as enjoyable as possible while maintaining a clean, healthful environment for all.

4507 Fernlee Avenue • Royal Oak, MI 48073
Phone: 248.549.5182 • Fax: 248.549.9443
www.fernleekennels.com

Saturday & Sunday
June 8 & 9, 2019
Hart Plaza, Detroit

REMEMBER
STONEWALL 50 YEARS



PRESENTED BY
 **DELTA**

FESTIVAL & PARADE

  #MOTORCITYPRIDE

VISIT MOTORCITYPRIDE.ORG TO LEARN MORE!

PRIDE Stage

SATURDAY

- 1:00pm Out Loud Music Chorus
- 2:00pm Jharid
- 3:00pm Remembrance for LGBTQ+ Victims
- 3:30pm Sabin's Drag Revue with Special Guest RuPaul's Ongina
- 5:00pm Joey Suarez
- 6:00pm **Greyson Chance**
- 7:30pm Alise King
- 8:30pm DJ Nader
- 9:00pm Stage Closes

SUNDAY

- 1:00pm SingOut Detroit
- 2:00pm Accoustic Ash
- 3:00pm Boy Radio
- 4:00pm The Killer Flamingos
- 5:00pm **Tunde Olaniran**
- 6:30pm DJ Kevin Bailey
- 7:00pm Stage Closes

FESTIVAL Stage

SATURDAY

- 1:30pm Namoli Brennet
- 2:30pm I'm With Molly
- 3:30pm LVRS
- 4:30pm Lipstick Jodi
- 5:30pm Mae James and The Fort St. Union
- 6:30pm The Band Mint
- 7:30pm The Sympathy Orchestra
- 8:30pm Stage Closes

SUNDAY

- 1:30pm The Idiot Kids
- 2:30pm Crayfish Hunters
- 3:30pm Delia Kolanowski
- 4:30pm Laura Rain & The Caesars
- 5:30pm The Doables
- 6:30pm Stage Closes

REMEMBER
STONEWALL 50
YEARS

Schedules are subject to change. Check the website

OUR MOTOR CITY PRIDE 2019
SPONSORS



GENERAL MOTORS



ally DO IT RIGHT.

Quick
Loan

PYRAMID Stage

SATURDAY

1:00pm Phresh Syndicate
 2:00pm Solar Disco Forno
 3:00pm Holmes and Act Natural
 4:00pm Furrilostar
 5:00pm Paytra
 6:00pm Alexyn Wonderland
 7:00pm Stage Closes

SUNDAY

1:00pm Lela XO and her band
 2:00pm Sam Tolson
 3:00pm Remington Taylor
 4:00pm J. Santino
 5:00pm Harding's Production Drag Show
 6:00pm Stage Closes



UNDERGROUND Stage

SATURDAY

1:00pm Detroit Deep Sessions-DJ DiscDetroit
 2:30pm TYLR
 4:00pm DJ DigiMark
 5:00pm DJ Knowledge
 6:00pm Jason Ricketts
 7:30pm DJ Jace
 9:00pm Stage Closes

SUNDAY

1:00pm DJ Tone
 2:30pm Nader
 3:30pm DJ Kevin Bailey
 4:30pm DJ Holographic
 5:30pm Haute 2 Death
 7:00pm Stage Closes



SATURDAY

Welcome Gates Open at 1:00pm

Festival Events 1:00pm - 8:30pm

**Four Stages of Entertainment
Featuring over 50 Artists!**

Over 120 Sponsors, Vendors, Non-Profits & Food Booths, plus thousands of LGBTQ+ people coming together for Equality!

1PM-5PM Family Area with youth activities and games See Page 28

3PM Remembrance for victims of LGBTQ+ violence

8PM Festival Entrances Close (No Admittance or Re-Admittance after 8:00pm)

9PM Festival Closes

f #MOTORCITYPRIDE \$5 for everyone over 12 years of age.
 VISIT MOTORCITYPRIDE.ORG TO LEARN MORE!

SUNDAY

Welcome Gates Open at Noon!

Festival Events Noon - 7:00pm

**Four Stages of Entertainment
Featuring over 50 Artists!**

Over 120 Sponsors, Vendors, Non-Profits & Food Booths, plus thousands of LGBTQ+ people coming together for Equality!

Noon 2019 Motor City Pride Parade Sponsored by Fiat See Page 28

1PM-5PM Family Area with youth activities and games See Page 28

6PM Festival Entrances Close (No Admittance or Re-Admittance after 6:00pm)

7PM Festival Closes

f #MOTORCITYPRIDE \$5 for everyone over 12 years of age.
 VISIT MOTORCITYPRIDE.ORG TO LEARN MORE!

PARADE

Presented by FIAT

SUNDAY, JUNE 10TH

Starts at Noon

Starts at the corner of Fort & Griswold



www.motorcitypride.org for any last minute updates.



PARADE MAP SUNDAY AT NOON!



Saturday,
June 8th
1:00PM - 5:00PM
Sunday,
June 9th
1:00PM - 5:00PM

Join other families as they participate in face painting, arts & crafts and much more!

Let's show the world together!



An Antidote for a 'Sickening' Era

Scott Thompson as Buddy Cole. Photo: Bruce Smith

Scott Thompson Brings Buddy Cole to Ferndale's Magic Bag June 1

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

A scot, impeccable suit and devastating wit are just three of the ingredients in the recipe that is Buddy Cole, the effeminate LGBTQ comedy icon created by openly gay comedian Scott Thompson. Fans of the Cole persona will likely know of his origins in the hit '90s sketch comedy show "The Kids in the Hall," produced by a "Saturday Night Live" legend Lorne Michaels. Though Cole was not Thompson's only character, he is arguably the most well-known and the one whose unapologetic take on the world and its problems is just what the doctor ordered in an age of self-righteousness, cancel culture and social media-fueled outrage — at least, according to Thompson.

Now in the middle of his current international "Après le Deluge: The Buddy Cole Monologues" tour, BTL caught him on the phone in advance of his upcoming stop at

The Magic Bag on Saturday, June 1, just in time for Ferndale Pride. Thompson talked about the necessity of Cole in today's world, how his character has changed over the last quarter century and how modern audiences react to his brand of comedy.

As an American with no knowledge of the French language, here's my take on what the title of your show "Après le Deluge" means: After I'm gone it won't matter. Is that right?

Um ... no. (laughs) OK, in French, it means, "After me will come the flood." Which basically means, "You may think that after me you have solved your problems by killing the tyrants and bringing the democracy, but someone else will come and take that place because that's human nature. That even when you cut off the head of the snake it will grow another head." So, basically, it's kind of a cynical way of saying power will corrupt no matter what. And it's referencing "The Kids in the Hall." This show was the monologue that's happening after the end of "The Kids in the Hall." So, it's the death of "Kids in the Hall" and Buddy Cole on his own.

And who better than Buddy Cole to present that kind of a cynical take?

Yes, but he's not jaded or angry about it, he's much more just philosophical. Like, this is humans, this is who we are, we will keep muddling and moving forward very slowly

and things will get better but very, very slowly and we'll always step back but you'll have to be aware that there's someone in the margins who is going to take advantage of this and that you have to be very careful about who you think is on your side. And that the world is filled with people that are wolves in sheep's clothing in a way.

Many who have commented on your show consider Buddy to be something of an antidote to an era that seems especially focused on calling out public figures, brands, organizations etc. online. Is that why you revived Buddy?

That's exactly it. And that's exactly why I revived it for now. I thought, "This era is sickening to me" (laughs). And I'm so sickened by people who think they've got it all figured out and all this piousness and outrage and sanctimony. And the whole idea that comedy can't address certain issues now is, to me, absurd. And there are certain things I can't say, and right now we're in a very censorious time, but Buddy can. Buddy takes nothing personally. He is a philosopher and he's kind of above it all in many ways. It's cynical, but also, it's not cynicism that comes from [anything] ugly, it's loving. I think it's empathetic.

How have things changed since you first started Buddy's act in the comedy world?

When I first started doing Buddy Cole, that

kind of an effeminate gay male, people didn't consider that kind of a character to have any real weight and they dismissed them constantly, the "queen." And in many ways, that's where a lot of truth comes from, it's in the margins, it's in-between, in the gray area, and that's where Buddy Cole lives. And so, I took advantage of that, the whole idea that people dismissed this lisping gay man and it allowed me in a weird way, to kind of Trojan horse my truth in. And then I think people listened and said, "That character's not silly!" And that's kind of subversive, because I think you can say all you like about it, but the world really does not like effeminate men and that's really true and that has not changed.

You've mentioned in other interviews that when you started you saw people laughing at Buddy more than they laughed with him because they felt superior to him somehow. Do you still see that now?

Absolutely, and even with gay men.

Really?

It's less, definitely, but absolutely it's true. You look at the gray area, it makes people uncomfortable. When a man doesn't act like what you think a man should act like or a woman doesn't act the way a woman should act like, that makes people uncomfortable in

See **Scott Thompson**, continued on p. 32

► **Scott Thompson**

Continued from p. 31

a deep, kind of subconscious animal way and Buddy owns himself. I think people, what they like about him, he doesn't care and he's comfortable in his skin and that's, I think, powerful to go, "Wow, that guy's comfortable in his skin and I'm not."

Have you changed Buddy's views on any topic in particular since you started performing as him?

Never, not a bit.

Really?

No! Well, Hmm. Well, one of the things that I've discovered is that over the last 10 years I've started doing a lot of stand-up the better I got at stand-up and I think some of that skill went into Buddy Cole. And when I do Buddy Cole I don't sit in a stool, I move, I talk, you know, Buddy Cole can handle a microphone now which he never would have been able to do before, so I'm much more physical. And what I'll always do is go on YouTube and look back on an old Buddy monologue I did 25 years ago and I'll go, "I gotta remember to keep that." Like last night it was Buddy's show and I could tell that it was a good show, but I knew that there was too much of me, you know what I mean? Like, I went, "Buddy wouldn't be this physical or this

confrontational." A lot of comedians now my age are looking back at their past and going, "Oh, I wouldn't do that today!" And I'm like, "Well, I would" (laughs).

One thing that's stayed the same absolutely seems to be Buddy's delivery. He's very well-spoken.

Yes, he is. And he prides himself on his language. You know, I'm a bit of snob myself in terms of language. I love writing, I love books, I love people that can speak well and I totally believe vulgarity has an absolute place in communication, but if you have a large vocabulary, why would you use a word that's not perfect? And there might come a day where Buddy Cole might swear and if that day comes, I would say watch out (laughs) because something terrible might be coming. That show would be called "Autre Fuck le Deluge."

Do you think that there will come a time where Buddy's commentary will no longer be necessary?

No. There won't be (laughs) not in my lifetime. You know, I think he's definitely taken differently [by different audiences]. Sometimes, with some of the younger people that watch me and don't really know who I am they look at him and they're confused. Like, "Why is this is guy acting like that? Is this a straight man?" And you can feel their

outrage building because it's always building. But then, as the show goes along, I can feel them relaxing and see that, "Oh, this isn't a hateful thing, this is just a character." And the show is built in a way that there are 11 monologues and none of them have ever been seen on television. It goes from 1995 until today so it's 25 years of monologues. So, the world changes but he does not and they get progressively more and more challenging. But by the end, the audience is so softened up that I can say pretty much anything and they're gonna laugh and that's interesting. That's kind of a power that I have to take pretty seriously because I go, "Oh, I could go bad, just go sour! I could go Cersei Lannister."

That's certainly powerful.

Yes, it is. But, for example, the last piece in the show is called "Woke Me When It's Over." And it's basically a takedown of woke culture from Buddy and it's challenging, and it triggers a lot of people, I push a lot of buttons and it's like getting onto an elevator and I push every floor (laughs).

Speaking of woke culture, what are your thoughts on cancel culture? That's when the internet decides collectively to stop engaging or listening to a specific person, brand, etc. for something that they've done.

That's what the last monologue is about, it's all about cancel culture, that's exactly it. So,

you can imagine what my take is: I think it's appalling. This whole thing where no one has any empathy and this whole thing where what, you're judging people? And cancel culture? What does that even mean? Like, some 18-year-old keyboard warrior is going to cancel you because of something that you said 25 years ago? What a ludicrous situation that is. I reject it.

What do you think about cases of cancel culture that are more serious, like concerning sexual assault or something along those lines?

I mean, each case is different, but I definitely think we're in an era of overreaction. The truth is, I like to leave those questions and answers to Buddy. Because the last 20 minutes of the show are Buddy Cole taking on things like gay marriage, #MeToo and woke culture. So, the last 20 minutes are really very exciting. Here's the thing, I can see how we get things so wrong and I can see the arc of history a little bit more now that I'm older and I go, "Oh, we're just repeating what happened 25 years ago! That's all." Like this era of PC right now, this was exactly the way it was in the late '80s and early '90s when "The Kids in the Hall" were in our heyday. But the difference is that today that social media has in many ways accelerated it.

PREMIER PET SUPPLY

**SAVE THE DATE! CUSTOMER APPRECIATION EVENT: JULY 26-28
20% OFF EVERYTHING IN THE STORE!**

In one visit, see what makes **PREMIER**, premier! From the **PREMIER SERVICE** of our dedicated staff, to our **PREMIER SELECTION** of holistic and natural pet foods and products, to the **PREMIER SAVINGS** we offer everyday on everything we carry.

OUR GOAL IS...

to be the **PREMIER CHOICE** for pets and YOU - the ones who love them.

Mike



MIKE PALMER, OWNER

Premier Pet Supply. The place pets LOVE!

Voted 'Best Pet Supply Store' in all of Metro Detroit!



SPEND \$25
And Receive \$4
in Dog/Cat Toys,
Treats & Accessories!
Your choice!

FREE

*Cannot be combined with any other coupons, promotions, Loyalty Points, DIY Dog Wash Promo. Exp. 7/15/19.

SPEND \$50
And Receive \$8
in Dog/Cat Toys,
Treats & Accessories!
Your choice!

FREE

*Cannot be combined with any other coupons, promotions, Loyalty Points, DIY Dog Wash Promo. Exp. 7/15/19.

20% OFF
WILD BIRD SEED!

*Cannot be combined with any other coupons, promotions, Loyalty Points, DIY Dog Wash Promo. Exp. 7/15/19.

\$5 OFF (Reg. price \$14.99)
DIY DOG WASH SPECIAL!

*Cannot be combined with any other coupons, promotions, Loyalty Points, DIY Dog Wash Promos. Exp. 7/15/19.

BEVERLY HILLS
31215 SOUTHFIELD RD.
248-647-4310

CANTON NEW OPEN
1777 N. CANTON CENTER RD.
734-738-6117

LIVONIA
15399 MERRIMAN RD.
734-855-4505

NOVI
47810 GRAND RIVER AVE.
248-773-8592

ROCHESTER HILLS
63 W. AUBURN RD.
248-606-4615

WEST BLOOMFIELD NEW OPEN
6399 ORCHARD LAKE RD.
(IN ORCHARD MALL)
248-325-9692

HOURS: MON - SAT: 8:30AM - 9PM, SUN: 10AM - 6PM | PremierPetSupply.com

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



**Ferndale Pride 2019
Schedule Highlights**

See Overview Story, p. 6

Saturday, June 1

Rainbow Run 2019
8:30 a.m. to noon

Western Market Pride
Celebration at Western Fruit
& Meat Market
1 to 9 p.m.

Ferndale Pride Beer Garden
to Benefit FernCare
1 to 9 p.m.

Free Hugs - Ferndale Pride
Sponsored by Jim Shaffer &
Associates
Noon to 10 p.m.

Pride Yoga with
Rusty LeBlanc
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Ferndale Pride 2019
1 to 10 p.m.

Thots & Prayers Presents: Joe
Gauthreaux | After Ferndale
Pride
9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

For more information on Ferndale Pride
visit ferndalepride.com.



High School Students 'Post Secrets' About Their Identities at Affirmations Gallery

BY JASON A. MICHAEL

It's a take on the ongoing community mail art project "Post Secret" by Frank Warren. In the fall, in the days leading up to National Coming Out Day, the newly created LGBTQ+ Alliance at Renaissance High School in Detroit invited the student body to submit anonymous secret posts to a box. The contents was later displayed along a hallway in the school and eventually on the walls of the Affirmations LGBTQ community center in Ferndale where there will be an official opening night on May 30.

"Students modified the 'Post Secret' project by Frank Warren, recognizing that all people have something to 'come out about,' not only related to sexuality and gender identity," said Kyle Goodall, the alliance's sponsor and a teacher at the school. "The idea was that if students could see the spectrum of experiences in the school, there would be more empathy in the hallways. Students disclosed experiences from sexuality to mental health issues, from trouble at home to normal growing pains. Of a 1,203 student body, 225 posts were submitted; 91 students were distressed and 29 came out as LGBTQ."

Shortly after the wall went up at the high school, more students began submitting posts.

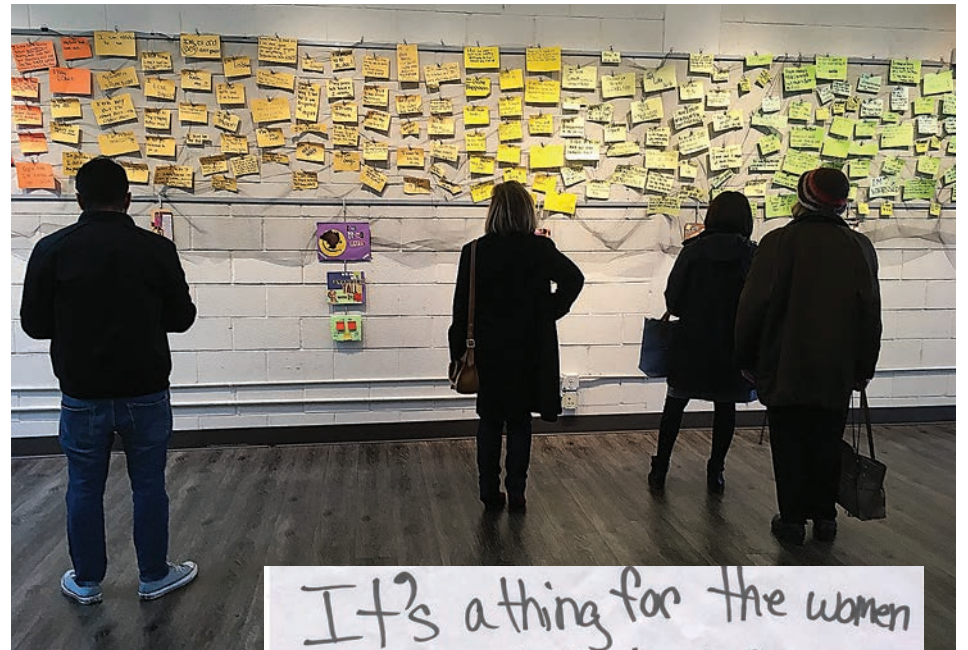
"After just three hours of being up, 50 more students had submitted posts, and 10 students came out as LGB," Goodall said. "Over 100 more posts were then added to the submission box. In addition to anonymous secret posts, students wrote on other posts in solidarity with the original writers."

But the school's administration had concerns about the wall's contents and did not originally allow them to be added to the display.

"The administration expressed concern about posts related to sex, drugs and suicide," Goodall said. "Those were the 'taboo' topics on the wall and required immediate removal. Our principal stood up for the Coming Out Wall, however, even when faced with pressure from colleagues to remove the wall entirely."

The wall, thanks to the urging of the students who had participated in it, was allowed to stay up for the entire month of October.

"Students furthermore suggested an alternative to the original wall: an empathy and student response wall," Goodall said. "The original wall felt incomplete. Students wanted to respond. In lieu of the many individual anonymous posts, student responses to individual posts would replace the Coming Out Wall. Letters read, 'Dear I'm too fat to be noticed,' 'Dear I want to Die,' 'Dear I'm afraid I won't get into college' and 'Dear I'm Lesbian.' This was a visual display of the empathy our student group hoped to foster."

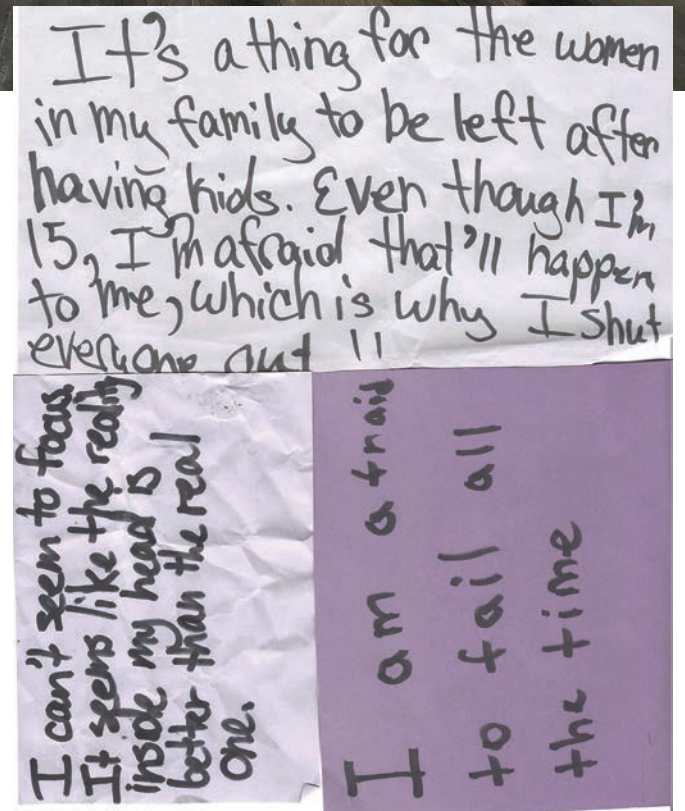


Still, to Goodall, the Coming Out Wall project was still incomplete.

"Even though our hallway was adorned with heartfelt letters from students to one another, the original Coming Out Wall was missing posts related to real student experiences about suicide and drug use," Goodall said. "Furthermore, the 65 student letters [responding to the original posts] were separate from the anonymous student posts. There needed to be unification of both walls and inclusion of the voices removed. I suggested to students we try an installation at Affirmations because the organization has the space for such an exhibit, because it is a very public space and because Affirmations offers several youth programs. It seemed the organization would be youth-allied and interested to support the project."

Affirmations was.

"The wall can be experienced as is, taken in as a collection of youth grievances, regrets, insecurities, or concerns," Goodall said. "But it's more aptly read as a conversation between and among students. These are the very



conversations students would have among one another, and it's important that these secrets be heard as such. While students are 'coming out' anonymously with hurt, suffering, forming identities and other normal adolescent experiences, youth are, indeed, communicating with one another about their experiences. If it isn't a conversation they've had with a friend already, it is a conversation they've wanted to start."

The opening night reception May 30 is free and open to the public. It will last from 6:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, visit goaffirmations.org.

YPSI
PRIDE
JUNE 7 2019
5-10PM
 CELEBRATING WASHTENAW
 COUNTY'S VIBRANT
 QUEER COMMUNITY
 WASHINGTON ST. DOWNTOWN YPSI
 YPSIPRIDE.COM

A2SF 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

NATIONAL HIV LONG TERM SURVIVORS DAY IS JUNE 5TH

The Open Arms Support Group is an uplifting community space dedicated to supporting, educating and nourishing all who have been infected or affected by HIV.

Join us.
You are not alone.



OPEN ARMS MEETS MONTHLY ON THE 1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAY | 7-9PM | 429 LIVERNOIS, FERNDAL, MI 48220 | INFO (248) 545-1435 x. 112

Affirmations Hosts its Own Ferndale Pride Drag Queen Story Hour

BY BTL STAFF

As LGBTQ people and their allies make their way to Ferndale Pride this Saturday, June 1, they can look forward to not only adult-specific events but family oriented ones as well. Perhaps most notably, this year, the Affirmations LGBTQ community center is hosting a Drag Queen Story Hour from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Geared toward encouraging youth to read and be themselves, the event was the idea of wives Sonny Stewart and Adira Elham who have put on similar ones in their former home of Florida.

“We saw an ad on Facebook for a Drag Queen Story Hour that had started somewhere else, so we decided to reach out to the gentleman that started it all. We asked him did he have a chapter in St. Petersburg, in Tampa or in Florida period or if he had one in Michigan. He said he didn’t, so we asked him if we could be a part of it,” Stewart said. “He gave us some information on how he normally screens his drag queens as far as their background checks, training and the basic management of the children in terms of the activities and things of that nature. And with us being teachers we said, ‘OK, we can

take the ball and run with it.”

Stewart said that at the Florida events, turnout was great and the selected queens would read stories like “Julián Is a Mermaid”



book was over like coloring. The upcoming June 1 event will include a rock wall for kids to climb after reading.

Stewart said that if this event goes well she hopes that there will be the possibility of making it a monthly occurrence at the center.

“It’s a great idea and great concept and, honestly, I think with Drag Queen Story Hour it allows the children to see that, ‘Hey, I can be me. I don’t have to live in a bubble or in a world all in my head. There are other people out here [like me],” Stewart said. “That was the biggest thing we were trying to get across and the reason that we even looked into it even further was because we had several students in Florida who were in that transitional period where they’re trying to find themselves — and it’s not like we’re talking middle school or high school, we’re talking elementary school kids here. So, we figured it would also be a way to help the kids feel more included and not feel that they have to hide who they are.”

To find out more about the event go to the event’s Facebook page at gaybe.am/AB.

by Jessica Love — the book scheduled for the Affirmations event — to the children. To fill up the entire story time hour, each event was equipped with children’s activities after the

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

Sears Lift-Master The Professional Line Garage Door Openers Clopay Garage Doors GENIE PRO

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

NO Extra Service Charge For Evenings & Weekends

We Fix Broken Springs FAST 24 Hr Emergency Service

✓ Check Our Prices On Broken Spring Replacement

SNAPPED CABLE HIT DOOR BROKEN SPRING BROKEN OPERATORS TRANSMITTERS

TOWN & COUNTRY DOOR LLC

Over 450 Five Star Reviews

MasterCard VISA DISCOVER

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

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

All Work Warranted In Writing

248-600-4683

WWW.TOWNANDCOUNTRYDOOR.NET

We Service All Makes & Models



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



19 Branches Statewide

From Grand Rapids to
Metro Detroit, MSUFCU
has you covered.

See why over 270,000
members call MSUFCU
their Credit Union.

Open your account today!
msufcu.org or 517-333-2424



Federally insured by NCUA



NEED HELP WITH HIV SERVICES?

LINK-UP OAKLAND CAN HELP 248.858.5416



OakGov.com/Health | @PUBLICHEALTHOC

The Oakland County Health Division will not deny participation
in its programs based on race, sex, religion, national origin,
age or disability. State and federal eligibility requirements
apply for certain programs.



Detroit

Center for
Spiritual Living™

Fully Inclusive
Spiritually Progressive

Detroit CSL Spiritual Director: Rev. Noreen Keller
4500 Marseilles St. Detroit, MI
info@detroitcsl.org

An Open and Affirming Center for All

Join us Sundays
Meditation @ 11:00
Service @ 11:20

Creating a World that Works for Everyone



Kalamazoo Pride June 7 Through 8

BY BTL STAFF

The West Michigan LGBTQ community and its allies have a scheduled weekend of fun starting Friday, June 7, and lasting through Saturday, June 8. This event will, among its other aspects, serve to commemorate all the successes in the fight for equality as well as to raise money for important causes.

“Kalamazoo Pride is not only an amazing and fun event, it is also the largest fundraiser for OutFront Kalamazoo, a 501(c)(3) that serves the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied community of southwest Michigan,” wrote event organizers.

This year’s lineup features DJ Disobedience, Alise King and the Miss(ter) Kalamazoo pride contest, among other performances. Pride attendees are also encouraged to attend the Do-Dah Parade held on Saturday, June 8, from 9 a.m. to noon which will draw attention to OutFront Kalamazoo.

“Saturday’s popular vendor alley features affirming and inclusive organizations and businesses, as well as tantalizing food and beverage vendors from all over Southwest Michigan,” organizers said. “There will also be family friendly activities planned throughout the day in the Family and Youth tent.”

In a statement about the event, Denise Miller, executive director of OutFront Kalamazoo, summed up the value in hosting an inclusive event like this one.

“It is only thanks to the generous support of the greater Kalamazoo community that we can continue our work to create a just, inclusive and supportive environment in Southwest Michigan for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities and expression,” Miller said.

To find out more information about the event visit pride.outfrontkzoo.org.



Crown Pharmacy

Specializing in providing world class HIV
pharmaceutical care



866-575-3784 (toll free)
www.crownpharmacy.com

24401 Plymouth Rd., Redford, MI 48239
313-532-DRUG (3784) 313-532-3718 (fax)
crownpharmacy1@aol.com

OWNER: Val Randall

HOURS: M-F 10 am - 6 pm Weds 10am-5pm
Closed Weekends and Holidays



Low Cost Pet Prescriptions

Journey
to the
past.

ANASTASIA

THE NEW BROADWAY MUSICAL

Fisher Theatre • June 11–23

BroadwayInDetroit.com, ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 & box office 313-872-1000
Groups (12+): Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com or 313-871-1132 • **OC** 6:30PM June 16

Answers from Spirit



Psychic Readings
Channeled Messages
Group Readings

Rosalie
Readings in person,
video, or phone



(248) 717-1995

www.LeadInLight.com



A Boutique Art Fair featuring 75 juried and emerging artists.

BUY ART IN DETROIT

June 1 • 2, 2019 | Saturday 10 AM - 7 PM • Sunday 11 AM - 5 PM

Food Trucks, Art Activities, Louisiana Artist Market, Acoustic Music, Beer Tent

NEW to the festival - Author Tent

(includes many talented writers sharing their books)



www.PalmerParkArtFair.com



Giving your trip the personal attention it deserves

Amy Shapiro, CTA

Personal Travel Coordinator
Wave Goodbye Vacations, LLC

Amy@WaveGoodbyeVacations.com

248.794.0477

Call/text at your convenience



3rd Annual Ypsi Pride June 7

BY BTL STAFF

As pride month kicks off, Ypsilanti residents can gear up to celebrate the LGBTQ inclusivity in the city via the third annual Ypsi Pride happening on Friday, June 7, from 5 to 10 p.m. And, as organizer's put it, "Y'all aren't ready for what we have put together."

"We are so excited [so] come celebrate with us and the community," wrote organizers. "This year we're bringing an amazing lineup of Entertainment for the 3rd Annual Ypsi Pride."

Occurring on Washington Street in the city's downtown, attendees can expect a robust schedule of speakers and performers including a speech by Mayor Beth Bashert, Kate Peterson, Flex & Flow, Child Sleep, Kitty Delicious Queer Burlesque (KDQB), Abigail Stauffer, Pearl Street Drag Review, fire performers, Furrillostar, DJ FreshMyint, OutLoud Chorus and Soultry.

In addition to that lineup and more, First Friday Ypsilanti is a self-guided monthly art walk that is hosted throughout Ypsi's downtown in which participating venues offer free art activities involving local artists and musicians. This attributes to 2019 Ypsi Pride, too.

"Every June, First Fridays Ypsilanti celebrates Ypsi's vibrant LGBTQ+ community," event organizers wrote. "We do this by



providing the tools and leadership to a group of volunteers that organize one of Ypsilanti's biggest and unique events, Ypsi Pride. We also encourage our venues to highlight lgbtq+ artists, musicians, businesses, and themes. This year we have 16 lgbtq related events out of 41 total events."

Scattered across the city will be events of all kind ranging from the Washington Street block party; a free game of flat-track roller derby with Ann Arbor Roller Derby; a photography exhibit by Dan Plummer; live music, DJ and dancing at 734 Brewing Company; an exclusive pride bar at Bona Sera Restaurant and more. A full list of events can be found online at the First Fridays Ypsilanti Facebook page.

Alexander Zachary
Realtor

313-502-2284 cell
248-626-2100 office
azachary@kw.com
https://alexander.kwrealty.com

Keller Williams West Bloomfield
30500 Northwestern Hwy., Suite 300
Farmington hills, MI 48334




UNTIED ON WOODWARD

A Men's Fashion Collective in
Downtown Birmingham
(next to Birmingham 8 Theater)

Stay In The Loop
on Sales, Events & More

Scan Me!




@UnTiedOnWoodward

Your Home Buying Team



NATALIE SIAGKRIS-SEYMOUR
Johnstone & Johnstone Realtors
248-506-6046
NSiagkris@jjrealtors.com
82 Kercheval Ave.
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
ASL Fluent

JULI SIAGKRIS-SEYMOUR
Myrina Mortgage LLC
Broker, Owner
248-980-3604
Juli@Myrinamortgage.com
www.myrinamortgage.com
Royal Oak, MI

Keeping It "Family"



BTL Between Lines



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!



Marrying the love of your life shouldn't leave you stressing about having two mortgages.

RENT IT OUT!

GROSSE POINTE APARTMENTS & Property Management



Anna Bartolotta, Owner, Broker
313-505-0456 GrossePointeApartments.com
17728 Mack Ave. Grosse Pointe, MI 48230

A woman owned and operated business since 2006.



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.

EVERYDAY!

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.

We're Smiling for Pride!

RON T. WILLIAMSON DDS

Dedicated to make our community brighter

One Smile At A Time

248-399-4455

Nitrous Oxide (relaxing air)

Proud participants in the Ryan White Program

No charges for emergency examinations and consultations.

Uninsured? No problem. Significant savings with our in-office club.

Care Credit



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

www.rontwilliamsondds.com

Find us on facebook

SUMMMER OF PRIDE

June 1

Ferndale Pride

Since 2011, Ferndale has kicked off summer with its annual Pride festival. Ferndale Pride holds a full week of events leading up to Pride's premiere event — the daylong street fair on June 1 in 2019.

facebook.com/ferndalepride

June 7

Ypsilanti Pride

It's the third annual event and organizers are excited. "Reaffirming our visibility and culture one step at a time."

facebook.com/YpsiPride

June 7-8

Kalamazoo Pride

The 2019 theme is "Love Who You Are." Now in its 12th year, the two-day event will take place at Arcadia Creek Festival Place.

facebook.com/KalamazooPride

June 8

Lake Effect Pride

Pride is hosted by The OutCenter (Benton Harbor). The 2019 event will be located at Four Winds Casino in New Buffalo, Michigan.

gaybe.am/Qd

June 15

Michigan Pride

On its website the organization states it "provides education, outreach, support and events to enhance the lives of lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender people and builds quality relationships with all Michigan residents." It holds events throughout the year in the greater Lansing area and produces the June Pride event on the steps of the capitol followed by a festival in Old Town.

facebook.com/MichiganPride

June 8-9

Motor City Pride

An all-volunteer-run event celebrating the lives of Michigan's LGBTQ citizens. MCP moved down to Hart Plaza in Detroit back in 2011 for a fun-filled two day festival of food, entertainment and community organizations showcasing their work on the Detroit Riverfront.

facebook.com/motorcitypride

June 12

Royal Oak Family Pride Day

A new event in 2019, the day is sponsored by the city of Royal Oak.

gaybe.am/V5

June 15

Picnic in the Park

produced by Lapeer Pride

This event is held in Rowden Park and encourages attendees to bring both friends and a dish to pass around. At the event will be games, activities and more.

facebook.com/lapeerpride

June 17-23

Up North Pride

The sixth annual Up North Pride Week takes place in Traverse City June 17-23, featuring free special events every night of the week celebrating the LGBTQ+ community.

Up North Pride Week is hosted by Up North Pride/Loud and Proud - visit www.upnorthpride.com.

facebook.com/upnorthpride

June 15

Grand Rapids Pride

Grand Rapids Pride is a West Michigan mainstay that has been recurring since 1988. The event, as all Prides do, brings LGBTQ people together in a celebration dedicated to the acceptance of everyone's identities.

facebook.com/grandrapidspridecenter

family pride



Royal Oak

hosted by the
Royal Oak Farmers Market
June Food Truck Rally

Wed June 12
5pm to 9pm

drag queen story time
Sing Out Detroit
dog fashion show
face painting
bounce house
& much more

Please support our generous sponsors





















Hotter Than July will take place July 23 - July 28. Follow facebook.com/DetroitHTJ

June 21-22

Holland Pride

Sponsored by the Out On The Lake Shore LGBTQ community center, Holland Pride is an event that invites all LGBTQ people and allies to celebrate. There will be events in the Park Theater on Friday night with a community celebration in Centennial Park on Sat., June 22. facebook.com/HollandPride

June 22

Flint Pride

Pride events are a positive stance against discrimination and violence toward the LGBTQ community, and Flint Pride aims to do that. Entertainment will be included in the event.

facebook.com/FLINTGAYPRIDE

June 22

Sault Ste. Marie Pride

This event invites all LGBTQ people and allies to enjoy a day of affirmations, fun and entertainment.

facebook.com/Sault.Pride/

June 22

Grosse Pointe Pride

Grosse Pointe Pride will feature a Family Friendly March in support of the LGBTQ community at the Grosse Pointe South High School for face painting and a rally, and then lead into a step-off at Maire Elementary for a community picnic with vendors and more.

facebook.com/gppride/

June 29

Great Lakes Bay Pride

This event will be held at Wenonah Park in Bay City and will include retail, LGBTQ resources, food, vendors and activities.

facebook.com/greatlakesbaypride

At least 18 cities will hold Pride celebrations across the state. Below is the Grosse Pointe Pride gathering in 2018. Courtesy of Grosse Pointe Pride.



Motor City Pride will take place June 8 & 9 at Hart Plaza in Detroit. Photo Tih Penfil

July 18-21

Battle Creek Pride

This event pledges to provide a safe and supportive space for all members of the LGBTQ community and will include entertainment, a parade, a talent show, a candlelight vigil and more.

battlecreekpride.org

July 23-28

Hotter Than July

This event is the world's second oldest black pride celebration and has evolved into a social justice rally that emphasizes culture, spirituality and education.

facebook.com/DetroitHTJ

August 3-4

Ann Arbor Pride

Formerly known as OutFest, the event is a full weekend of entertainment, activities and more. Proceeds benefit the Jim Toy Community Center.

annarborpride.com

August 10

Transgender Pride

in the Park

This event serves to both empower and provide support for the Michigan transgender community.

transgendermichigan.org



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

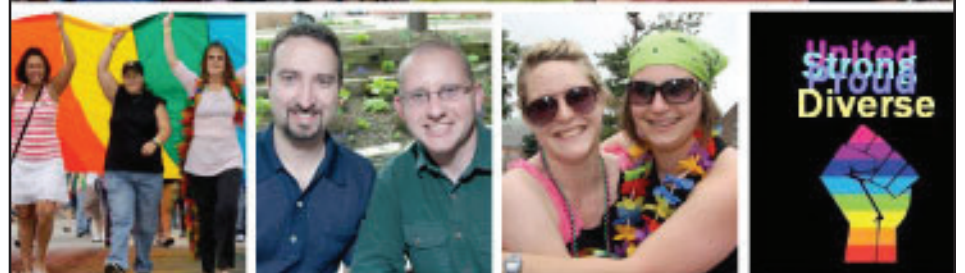




Photo: Markus & Koala

The Beloved Pop Underdog Talks ‘Gift’ of Having LGBTQ Fans, Gay Magic & Mullet Power

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

It's certainly not Carly Rae Jepsen's fault that the English language is, at least when she needs it most, a total let-down. It offers her scant synonyms for describing what, exactly, she's checking off on her color-coded poster boards when making an album: "I'm always embarrassed to say, but emotions."

She giggles, the winsome sound of the greatest pop song not yet written. To hear her floaty laugh is to experience a little miracle, a bit of magic in a time when the world's lost some of its own – in other words, hearing Carly Rae Jepsen giggle, or say anything, quite honestly, is a lot like hearing her 2015 glitterstorm of pop greatness, "E•MO•TION": sweet, bubbly,

infectious. A daydream.

Content occupying her own queer wonderland (shh, she's *still* our best kept secret), Jepsen's post-"Call Me Maybe" trajectory into gay darlinghood is a strange, beautiful thing considering how truly delicious her escapist bops are: framed around prismatic beats that lean into the retro pop sounds of the '80s and '90s, her lyrics speaking to the human condition, the fickleness of love her trademark. Broadening her e•mo•tion board (sex!), "Dedicated," Jepsen's fourth, more-exposed album, is an exciting next step in the 33-year-old industry outsider's free-spirited career. Recently, Jepsen kept it real while talking about how the LGBTQ community's wholehearted embrace of her is "a beautiful gift in my life,"

being more open to showing the public who she is, and almost getting eaten alive by gays (because of course!) during a recent shopping trip.

I saw you play with The Toronto Symphony Orchestra in 2017 and that was gay heaven. So many gays. I kept thinking, with you around, who needs Grindr? Go to a Carly show, find your husband. Or your husband for a night.

(Giggles) I mean, that's all I'm trying to do, man, is set up new love lives.

Are you feeling that gay love when you're on stage no matter where you are?

I would say one of the gifts of this whole experience, from "E•MO•TION" on, has been

a swell of being accepted and embraced by a community that I have loved since I began, basically. And I don't think I've ever had more fun than when I play a Pride festival; there's nothing more joyful, and the rooms and the fields are so full of an energy that you don't get anywhere else, and what a cool thing to be involved in.

Does the queer fandom for you on social media translate to everyday life? Like, are LGBTQ fans openly expressing their enthusiastic love for you on your way to Starbucks or at gay brunch?

(Giggles) All of my fans and my gay fans, too, are the coolest, most realest people I've ever met, so it's never been the type of fandom where you feel like you have to run away;

it's more like you're meeting new friends everywhere you go and I love that about it.

I just wonder if, at this point in your career, you can go into a gay bar as yourself and not be gay-mobbed.

I mean, I was in New York recently with my boyfriend and we were shopping and we found what was gonna be a store for everything glitter, based on, like, drag, and I was like, "I better go and see if I can find some sparkly gloves for the Cyndi Lauper event" (on April 29, Jepsen performed alongside Lauper at Carnegie Hall for the New York Pops' "36th Birthday Gala, Hall Full of Stars: The Songs of Cyndi Lauper" concert). I walked in and he just grabbed my hand and slowly walked me out, and he was like, "I love you, love, but you're gonna get eaten in there," because we got noticed by, like, six different people on the way in. I was like, "But I want the gloves!" So yeah, sometimes it's a little bit more crazy.

And did you get the gloves?

I got gloves elsewhere; I was really bummed about it!

I'm sorry that the gays got in your way.

(Giggles) No, no! Normally it's something I love, but there's sometimes when, yeah, it's gonna be a bigger deal.

Why do you think gay audiences have embraced you as much as they have?

I have been asked that question a couple of times and both times I was perplexed because I don't know that I have the exact, proper answer. It's a beautiful gift in my life. I think that, maybe, when I'm writing I'm thinking about not being shy of what I'm actually feeling and really getting to the heart of all of the insecurities and concerns and wishes and desires I have, all combined at once. I think maybe authenticity and that realness is something that connects. I'm hoping that's the reason, but I wouldn't know for sure.

Perhaps, more so than in straight adult culture, there's a willingness to indulge and unabashedly celebrate extraneous and even kitschiness.

Perhaps! I definitely have not been shy about the playfulness and the joy that I find in writing music. If that connects, then I feel wonderful. I think that's the whole purpose for why I write: to connect to like-minded people.

We also love someone who's an underdog, and someone who we can claim as our own. I wonder if you think your outsidership in the pop world has been part of your queer appeal, because I think it has been.

There's a part of me that thinks that I sort of exist on an island, but it's how I like it. (Giggles) I don't think I totally belong in the L.A. world of pop music, but it's been a really big learning curve for me that's wonderful and I get to celebrate the world that we've created in some way. And it's a much more

INFO

Carly Rae Jepsen

7 p.m. July 13

The Fillmore

2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit

thefillmoredetroit.com

comfortable one for me than one – I don't know, you feel like you lose your identity in the other one, I think. In this one, I feel like identities get to be celebrated for how weird and wacky they become.

You recently told The Guardian you're "more confident in your weirdness," and I think that's something a lot of queer people feel or hope to feel.

It's funny reading articles back about things that you've said, and sometimes in the past I've shied away from ever reading anything that someone has printed about me because it's always felt so false. Lately, with this round, I read things back – and there are mistakes here and there – but, in general, I'm terrified by how real and exposing it all is. It's like, "Yeah, OK! I made a decision to be really honest and this is how it unfolds."

Because you're being more yourself at this point in your career?

I don't think I could do this anymore if I wasn't allowing myself to be real. And it wasn't that I was fake before; I just was scared of showing all of me. I think even with this album there was a real decision to go to the places, even the melancholy ones, because those are feelings that I experienced too, that I needed to explore, and I'm hoping that it's the right move. It's a scary thing, always, to expose yourself, but I think even if it's embraced or not embraced it's still gonna feel better than playing the safe game.

Who are your gay icons?

My friend Brandon Hamilton. He was the first man in my life who really taught me about the challenges he was overcoming, and he's been such a beautiful support in my life and such an inspiration. He would be my number one.

I love that you chose a friend. How about musician-wise?

I'm a huge Cyndi Lauper fan. I was really gifted, because two days ago I got to talk to her on the phone for an hour while she interviewed me (for Interview magazine), which I'm still coming to terms with (giggles). I was freaking out. My cheeks were hurting from grinning the whole time. To me, her whole career and the way she embraces the community, and also is just comfortably, at this point in her life, killing it and looking for ways to give back and doing gracious things like getting on the phone with me, that's like, if I could be anything when I get

See **Carly**, continued on p. 46

celebrate pride MONTH
at TOAST

TRUE COLOURS
CAVA
HALF OFF
ALL MONTH
LONG

TOAST
A NEIGHBORHOOD JOINT

EATATTOAST.COM
23144 WOODWARD AVE FERNDALE
MON-FRI 7AM-3PM SAT-SUN 8AM-4PM

A FUN CONVERSATION WITH JANE FONDA & LILY TOMLIN

Come hear the stars of 'Grace and Frankie' share their insights on life, politics, feminism, the planet and the secrets to their long lasting friendship. A moderated evening filled with wit, humor and lots of fun.

OCT. 30



313PRESENTS.COM





St. John's
Episcopal Church, Royal Oak
(11 Mile and Woodward)
26998 Woodward Avenue,
Royal Oak, MI 48067
Phone: 248 546-1255
www.stjohnro.org

Here is our invitation to you: regardless of your cultural background, ethnicity, gender, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or heterosexual identity, economic status, physical or cognitive ability – you will not be labeled, singled out or excluded here. You will be welcomed, affirmed, embraced and celebrated! We will be better because you are here.

Believe 
OUTLOUD
Episcopal Congregations

Everyone is welcome! Everyone belongs!
St. John's service times are:

Sunday mornings 8:00am - Holy Eucharist
Sunday mornings 10:15am - Holy Eucharist with Music



Have you ever felt marginalized by traditional churches or beliefs?

Are you unsure about what or who God is?

Are you looking for an authentic community that doesn't tell you what you should believe but invites you to explore and discover answers for yourself?

Do you believe in the power of Love to transform lives?

Do you believe that there is more than one name for "God" and more than one path to the Divine Presence?

If your answer to any of these questions is yes, you will find that you are celebrated and welcomed at Unity of Royal Oak which is #MoreThanAChurch. Unity is a Positive Path for Spiritual Living.

Rev. Ric Beattie
2500 Crooks Road
Royal Oak, MI 48073
248.288.3550
info@unityroyaloak.org


unity
of Royal Oak

► Carly

Continued from p. 45

older, I would love to be someone who follows that footpath.

Oh, I already see it.

Aww, thank you. I hope so! And I hope I still have as much fun with my hair! It's purple right now! (Giggles)

What was your first reaction when you saw Mark Kanemura snatching his wigs to your song "Cut to the Feeling" in his viral video?

(Giggles) Honestly? I was like, we should've just had this guy do the video. It's a thousand times better than anything we could've made, oh my god. And then the second thought was, how do I meet him? So it was wonderful: We reached out and just invited him to a festival show and said, "We'd love to invite you (onstage) for 'Cut to the Feeling'; you can do whatever you want to do; the stage is yours," and when we arrived that day he was super chill and super calm and acted, in the best way, too cool for school. I was like, "You don't even know, but this is amazing," and I was like, "I don't need to know what you're gonna do but come on out and do whatever you want." He blew my mind away, because he came out, and you thought the Instagram video was amazing, the live show was, like, even 10 times better. I had a hard time continuing to sing because I just wanted to laugh out loud and party with him!

Did you figure out where those wigs he tossed went when he threw them up and they disappeared?

(Giggles) I asked him about it!

Ha!

No, seriously! (Giggles) That was, like, the first question I asked him: Who helped with the wigs? Was there someone catching them? Was it CGI? I have so many questions! And he's like, "No, it's just the way the camera happens, that when I threw them, they kind of disappeared." I mean, what can I say, it was a little bit of gay magic right there.

"Now That I Found You" was used in the season three trailer for "Queer Eye." Was that a big deal for you?

Yes! I love that show! And I love those men! And I love the whole concept of just what the show is doing. I think right now it's such a wonderful time for people to be making creative projects that are uplifting and inspirational and make you feel good at the end of your day, and whenever I watched it I always felt like (she affects a fairy-like accent; it's magical), maybe the world is a wonderful place! And being a part of that in any way, I was so thrilled.

You've been giving us gay content since the gay twist at the end of the "Call Me Maybe" video, with "Boy Problems" and "Party of One" being

very LGBTQ-inclusive. Not to mention, your lesbian aesthetic in the former. That mullet! You're not queer, so where does your queer sensibility come from? Basically, how are these videos so gay?

(Giggles) That's an amazing question. I grew up in Canada, and this is gonna sound maybe strange, but the idea of the struggles and the confusion – and even different, fucked-up opinions – didn't really come into my consciousness until later, when I kind of got to see the world. And I was outraged. And it blew my mind, because it just seemed so normalized to me to not be thinking about any person who loved whoever they loved as anything other than normal. So I think part of that is a bit of the reason why I fight the good fight: to try to make people see it the way I've been seeing it my whole life.

That is definitely conveyed in these videos. Are you consciously saying, "We should get a trans woman for this video," or "I'm gonna rock a mullet for this video," or "I'm gonna cast a real gay person like Mark to be in the 'Party of One' video"?

Inclusiveness is always something that just comes naturally to me, but also, the mullet, I just had broken up with my boyfriend and felt empowered to rock whatever fucking hairstyle I wanted and I felt powerful when I had it, so that was not a decision to look any certain way but just to look myself.

After "E-MO-TION," an album that's essentially become a gay classic, what kind of pressure was on you when recording "Dedicated" as its follow up?

I wasn't intending for myself to feel pressure, but I feel like there's always pressure when you love what you do and you want it to connect. I think it's mostly pressure I put on myself versus feeling pressure from the outside world. I wanted to make something very different, I wanted to honor the fact that I was going through a breakup, and some melancholy.

There was some expectation of me to always maybe write the feel-good songs – and I felt good – but I also wanted to indulge the feeling of sad too, which is probably more on the second half of the album. I think I went there. But I feel like honesty is always the best move; being authentic, you can never really go wrong. I'm hoping that by at least being real that will connect on some level to the people who need it.

What was the vibe when you wrote and recorded what I'm already calling the Song of the Summer, "Want You in My Room," with Jack Antonoff?

The beginning lyric of that song, the lighthouse line about how the idea that when somebody you're obsessed with, it's like that light beam comes back to your mind every couple of seconds and they go away and they come right

See Carly, continued on p. 53



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.



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.

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



Pride & Joy

'Pride & Joy: The Marvin Gaye Musical' at Fisher Theatre

"Pride & Joy: The Marvin Gaye Musical" is the story of the Motown legend who, among his other accolades, earned 18 pop Top 10 hits and was eventually inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Find out more about this show that honors his legacy online at broadwayindetroit.com.



OUTINGS

Saturday, June 1

Lgbt social meet up group Wed Fed 27 6thirty pm 6:30 p.m. Lgbt social meet up group is a group for all LGBTQ people who want to meet have lighthearted discussions and social activities some activities, all welcomed. Hazel Park Community Center, 620 West Woodward Heights, Hazel Park. 248-632-8274. redbellysenegal90@gmail.com.

Monday, June 3

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. 248-632-8274.

redbellysenegal90@gmail.com.

Tuesday, June 4

Stand with Trans 2018 Support Groups – Lake Orion / Oakland County 7 p.m. For parents of transgender kids, free. Parent Support Group Facilitated by Lisa Goyette, ally, activist. St. Mary's In The Hills Episcopal Church, 2512 Joslyn Court, Lake Orion. 248-391-0663. stmarysinthehills.org.

Wednesday, June 5

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. goaffirmations.org.

Thursday, June 6

Ford GLOBE 25th Anniversary Dinner 6 a.m. Celebration of The Ford Motor Company's Employee Resource Group on 25 years. Honoring former Ford Vice Chair Allan D. Gilmour, with keynote speaker and former NFL star, Wade Davis The Dearborn Inn, 20301 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. 313-673-3001. info@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. Enjoy live entertainment, strolling Pewabic Pottery, 10125 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit. 313-626-2000. 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. 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. pewabic.org.

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. 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. dso.org.

Monday, June 10

Stand with Trans 2018 Support Groups – Macomb County 6:30 p.m. All youth welcome to attend this support group. Dakota High School, 21051 21 Mile Road, Macomb. 586-723-2700. chippewavalley.schools.org.

Thursday, June 13

Stand with Trans 2018 Support Groups – Farmington Hills – Oakland County 7 p.m. All youth are welcome to attend this free group. Oakland United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington. 248-626-3620. oaklandumc.org. standwithtrans.org.

Toastmasters International SpeakOUT! LGBTQ Meeting 7 p.m. Professional & personal communication skills development. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Court, Ann Arbor. 734-995-9867. lawrencemoeb@gmail.com. speakout.toastmastersclubs.org.

MUSIC & MORE

Tony Segura June 1, 8 p.m. Tony Segura brings his Take It Down tour to the fabulous Fox Theatre in downtown Detroit Saturday, June 1. Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313-471-6611. 313presents.com.

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

Makoto Ozone Trio June 5, 7 p.m. Japanese pianist Makoto Ozone is a unique force in both jazz and classical music, blending sound worlds and a host of influences into his performances. Join us for a one-night-only set with Ozone's jazz trio. The Cube, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. dso.org.

Pride Performance by PRISM Gay Men and Allies Chorus June 15, 3 p.m. 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 St., Royal Oak. 248-399-2980. royaloakmusictheatre.com.

Stand with Trans Parent Support Group – Lansing- Ingham County June 17, 6

Editor's Pick

Bad Habit Bingo Pride Edition

On June 2 all LGBTQ-affirming Detroiters are invited to join the Motor City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence for Bad Habit Bingo Pride Edition. This monthly fundraising game raises funds for local causes and this year hopes to get \$1,000 for the Affirmations LGBTQ community center in Ferndale. Six games of bingo will be played and attendees can expect prizes, performances and naughty nuns from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Hayloft Saloon located at 8070 Greenfield Road in Detroit. Find out more on the event's Facebook page.



Editor's Pick

Pride Yoga With Rusty LeBlanc

Ferndale Pride attendees are invited to join the Affirmations LGBTQ community center on the Sky Deck during Ferndale Pride 2019 for a morning of Pride Yoga with longtime Center Volunteer Rusty LeBlanc. The event starts on Saturday, June 1, at 11:30 a.m. and lasts until 12:30 p.m. For questions regarding Yoga, please contact Heather Aymer at haymer@goaffirmations.org.



p.m. Free to all, Parent Support Group meets the 3rd Monday of each month @ Salus Center. Facilitator Nicole Ellefson – ellefson@msu.edu or 517-449-3341 Salus Center, 624 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-580-4593 saluscenter.org. standwithtrans.org.

Coordinating a Community Response to the Opioid Epidemic June 25, 7:30 p.m. Molly Welch Marahar, MPP; WHI Opioid Project Coordinator; and Carrie Rheingans, MSW, MPH; WHI Project Manager, Center for Healthcare Research & Transformation will be joined by a panel to discuss coordinating a community response to the opioid epidemic. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center Auditorium, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti. 734-485-8725. dawnfarm.org.

ART 'N' AROUND

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 St., Detroit. 313-686-3433. hiddengategallery.com.

THEATER

Detroit Repertory Theatre Presents "Williston" June 1, 3 p.m. 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. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 313-868-1347. DetRepTh@aol.com. detroitreptheatre.com.

Stagecrafters Baldwin Theatre Presents "Oklahoma!" June 1, 8 p.m. Oklahoma! is classic Broadway at its best. The story opens in the Oklahoma territory just after

the turn of the century, when cowboys and farmers eked out a living on the Western frontier. Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. 248-541-8027. stagecrafters.org.

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Presents "Curtains" June 6, 7:30 p.m. 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. 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 St., Ann Arbor. 734-647-3327 info@a2sf.org. info@a2sf.org.

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

From the Publishers of **Between!Lines**

- SAFE SPACES**
Michigan's LGBTQ Community Centers
- HEALTH BOOM**
Growing LGBTQ Health Resources
- STONEWALL 50**
Organizations Then & Now

OVER 1,000 LGBTQ-Friendly Businesses & Organizations

OUT AT PRIDE EVENTS JUNE 1
128 PAGES OF MICHIGAN LGBTQ RESOURCES
ALSO AVAILABLE DIGITALLY @ PRIDESOURCE.COM

Trans
LUCENT

A WEEKEND ON THRIVING AS A TRANS* FAMILY
feat. The Rev. Kate Malin & Emmie Smith

JUNE 8 **JUNE 9**

AFFIRMATIONS, FERNDALE
2 – 3:30 pm

CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK, BLOOMFIELD HILLS
11:30 am – 1 pm

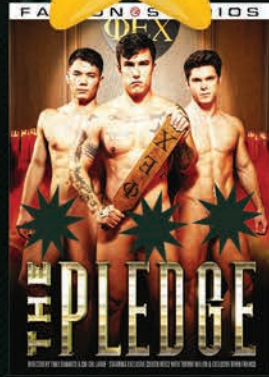
 **CHRIST CHURCH CRANBROOK**
WWW.CHRISTCHURCHCRANBROOK.ORG
(248) 644-5210

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!



UPTOWN SALE

20% OFF

ALL REGULAR PRICED NOVELTIES,
TOYS & LOTIONS
MAY 16-19, 2019

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

UPTOWN
BOOKSTORES
ADULT VIDEO

2 LOCATIONS

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



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

TUESDAYS: College Night
FREE LOCKERS
for Members 18-25

LEATHER Night
Sat. June 15

\$5 Lockers for members in
Chaps/Harness

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

Pride Special!
\$5 Lockers 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.
June 1, 8 & 9

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

*Just Mention this BTLAd

*Room upgrades charged and normal rates

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



// Let's talk about it
- take control and
care about yourself!
Knowing my status
is important to me,
so I get tested. Do
it today, get tested
for HIV. //

- Ka'Juan Hill, YouTube
personality and HIV activist

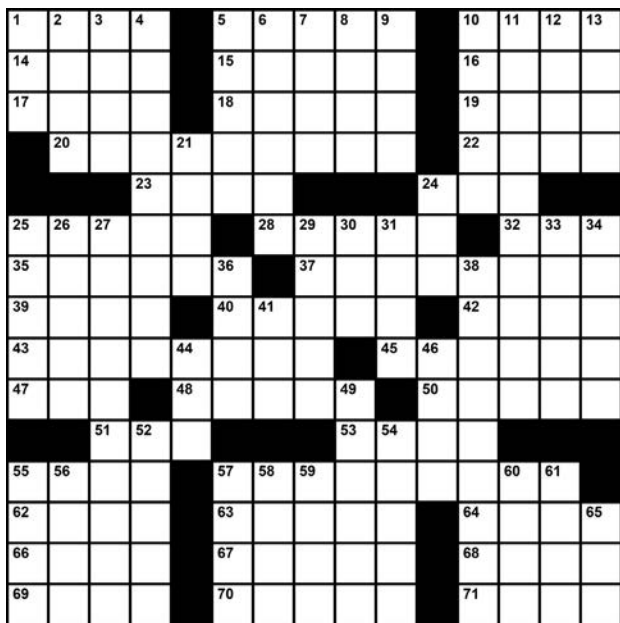
**I'M
DOING
IT**

Testing for HIV

#DoingIt

Testing is Fast, Free, and Confidential | cdc.gov/DoingIt





- 40 Witherspoon, who played Elle
 42 Comparison phrase
 43 Series with Asia Kate Dillon
 45 Castro, in San Francisco
 47 Air quality watchdog org.
 48 Lorca's shore
 50 Boneheads
 51 Last in a series
 53 New York gay magazine, once
 55 Series with Ser Anzoategui
 57 Series with Izzy Stannard
 62 Bad day for Caesar
 63 Part of UHF
 64 "The Music Man" setting
 66 Employment extra
 67 Beat at chess
 68 "Three Tall Women," for one
 69 Abuse orally
 70 Precipitates material for balls
 71 Satisfy fully
- 12 Big cheese in Amsterdam
 13 Drag queen ___ Pool
 21 Sup in style
 24 Georgia once, but not O'Keeffe
 25 Reader computer program
 26 Bulb from Holland
 27 New ___ (many Connecticut Sun fans)
 29 That is, to Caligula
 30 " ___ Mis"
 31 Misrepresented stats, perhaps
 33 First name in makeup
 34 Stonewall disturbances
 36 Switch suffix
 38 Places for Amelia Earhart to land
 41 Print measures
 44 I, to Rilke
 46 Jodie Foster's " ___ Driver"
 49 Writer Tobias
 52 Blow job and and other jobs
 54 "Great balls of fire!"
 55 W.H. Auden and k.d. lang
 56 Nonheterosexual conception
 57 Eats without one's dentures
 58 "The Good Earth" heroine
 59 Palindromic fellow
 60 Marlene's "Blue Angel" role
 61 Hit flies
 65 Always, to Shakespeare

Down

- 1 G-man employer
 2 HRC's equal sign, e.g.
 3 At once, to queens of old
 4 "Myra Breckinridge" author
 5 One way to get to second base
 6 "Now that you mention it..."
 7 Diva's piece
 8 Not straight
 9 Nintendo rival
 10 About to blow
 11 The National LGBT Chamber of Commerce promotes them

Non-binary

Across

- 1 Rainbow banner
 5 Mops a pirate ship deck
 10 Panhandler's confession?
 14 Gay activist Chaz
 15 Eagle on a par five
 16 Lacking manners
 17 "Firebird" composer Stravinsky
 18 Enjoying a hottie from afar
 19 Healthy ___ ox

QPuzzle


- 20 With 22-Across, series with Sheridan Pierce
 22 See 20-Across
 23 Beneath contempt
 24 D. Feinstein's title
 25 Had dinner at home
 28 Nancy Botwin's older son
 32 Always, to Emily Dickinson
 35 Port in Scotland
 37 Series with Yael Baron
 39 Russian gymnast Korbut

PrEP Clinic

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


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

UNIFIED
his health and beyond
 LIFE CONTINUES. LIVE HEALTHY.
 In partnership with
 Sinai Grace Hospital


 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

DID YOU KNOW?
 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.

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

WWW.MIUNIFIED.ORG

Find solution on page 52 and at www.pridesource.com

#TIME2KNOW GET TESTED

NOW OFFERING INTEGRATED TESTING



- Rapid HIV
- Rapid Hep C
- Gonorrhea
- Chlamydia
- Syphilis

CONVENIENT METRO DETROIT LOCATIONS

Matrix MAC Health in Ferndale & MidTown Detroit • Affirmations in Ferndale

ALSO TESTING IN BARS, CLUBS AND OTHER METRO AREA LOCATIONS

MONDAY

Matrix MAC Health
FERNDALE
 9AM-4:30PM
 By Appointment

TUESDAY

Matrix MAC Health
FERNDALE
 9AM-7:30PM
 Walk-In

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

Mpowerment Detroit
MIDTOWN
 3rd Saturday of each month
 11AM-2PM
 Walk-In

NO
 SUNDAY
 TESTING

Call 1.888.226.6366 to make an appointment or for information.

1 (888) A CONDOM



MATRIX MAC HEALTH IS A PROGRAM OF MATRIX HUMAN SERVICES. LEARN MORE. GIVE. VOLUNTEER. DISCOVER MATRIX AT MatrixHumanServices.org

6 Loud and Proud Pride Accessories to Pride Up Your Pride Lewk

The Frivolist

BY MIKEY ROX

If you're not dripping in head-to-toe rainbow this Pride season, are you even Priding? Lock down your lewks with these somewhere-over-the accessories that'll make a haus begin to pitch.

Toms Unity Collection

Toms Unity Collection canvas classics for men and women have a rainbow connection in a multicolor text style that features uplifting words and phrases like "love," "shine" and "one4one" in a handwritten print plus an inverse version save for a ROYGBIV triangle on top and Pride flag on the heel. Perfect for stomping out hate and homophobia all year round. \$60, toms.com/pride-collection

Echo x WorldPride 2019

In June, WorldPride lands in the center of the universe to celebrate inclusivity and diversity around the globe and commemorate the 50th anniversary of NYC's Stonewall riots. Cause your own chaos decked out in Echo x WorldPride 2019 accessories, including headbands, bandanas, travel wraps and more featuring the month-long celebration's official logo. \$12-\$29, echodesign.com



Pride-themed bags, mini-bags, not-so-traditional traditional backpacks, and fanny packs (or "fag bags" as people called them in the '90s – so yeah, appropriate) is a comfortable option to stow all your Pride-festival swag, sunscreen, makeup, costume changes, and maybe even your feelings if you start to catch 'em for that fucc boi over there. \$17-\$42, jansport.com

kaleidoscopic jock straps to hang on his hotel doorknob. Through June, 2(X)IST will donate \$1 per sale from the collection to The Audre Lorde Project, TGI Justice Project and Montana Two Spirit Society. \$24-\$75, 2xist.com

Stephen McDermott enamel pins

Insta influencer and wearable goods designer Stephen McDermott wants you to stick it to prudes and bullies with his extensive line of provocative enamel pins that includes Disney



Princess-inspired jock straps, reimagined Zodiac signs of nude men and a wrestler performing the controversial "butt drag" on his opponent. A whole new collection will debut at RuPaul's DragCon LA (and subsequently for sale online), celebrating Tom of Finland, glitter unicorns and something called Camp Cockalot, which, we'll take the versatile bunk, please. \$9-\$17, stephen-mcdermott.com

Mikey Rox is an award-winning journalist and LGBT lifestyle expert whose work has been published in more than 100 outlets across the world. He spends his time writing from the beach with his dog Jaxon. Connect with Mikey on Instagram @mikeyrox.

Tipsy Elves Pride Line

Keep your Pride essentials at your fingertips with Tipsy Elves' super-camp (because who needs the Met Gala?) Pot of Gold fanny pack with suspenders or suit up in a selection of other rainbow fashion statements like its Love Is Love leggings or hooded horizontal-stripe onesie that'll only enhance your assets. 10% of all Pride sales benefit the Trevor Project. \$12-\$80, tipsyelves.com

JanSport backpacks

As LGBTQ people, it sometimes feels like we carry the weight of the world on our shoulders, but JanSport can help with that. It's line of

2(X)IST

Is it even Pride if 2(X)IST doesn't have something with which to barely cover you? This year's collection is a gay leprechaun's wet dream with rainbow cropped joggers, shorts, swim briefs and trunks, and when you get down to the nitty-gritty, a couple





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



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

2324 Division Ave S, Grand Rapids, Mi 616-452-3754 PRIVATE GAY HEALTH CLUB

FLAG	SWABS	IBEG
BONO	THREE	RUDE
IGOR	EYING	ASAN
ONEDAY	ATA	TIME
VILE	SEN	
ATEIN	SILAS	EER
DUNDEE	DEGRASSI	
OLGA	REESE	ISTO
BILLIONS	STREET	
EPA	COSTA	ASSES
NTH	NEXT	
VIDA	GOODGIRLS	
IDES	ULTRA	IOWA
PERK	MATED	PLAY
SASS	SNOWS	SATE

Solution to puzzle on page 51

► Carly

Continued from p. 46

back again – it's obsessive. And Jack is always so playful and fun to write with. He was shouting, "I want you in my room!" We were both dancing and I was just shouting, "On the bed! On the floor!" And we were laughing (giggles) and it was like, "Let's just go there."

And when I write songs, I always put a word theme afterwards about, "What is this about?" so that the album is made up of lots of different – (giggles) I'm always embarrassed to say, but emotions. And when I put that song on the billboard of my little list of stuff I was like, "SEX." "This. Song. Is. About. Sex." And it was really fun because I haven't had something as simple as that.

Sonically, it's a real throwback to the '80s. Artist-wise, did you have anyone in mind when recording it?

I think at that moment in time probably embracing a little bit of Squeeze, a little bit of Cyndi, and a little bit of getting to shout-sing in a way, because it isn't coy. There's a big part of my personality that's shy, but there's also a real part of me that goes to that place when I'm private, so it was really fun to be, unabashedly, "Let's just go there."

You've said you find inspiration from your friends and their love lives, as well as your own. What kind of conversations had you been having with your LGBTQ friends about love and sex that might've found their way into some of these songs?

You know, my friend Brandon and his boyfriend came down to stay with me and listen to some of the first songs as I was working on selecting them, and they were mostly supportive. (Giggles) They were like, "I like this one!" "I don't like this one!" That kind of stuff. I was like, "Cool cool cool."

We gay men are good at having opinions.

Which is why I love any friend who's not afraid to tell me, like, "Please don't leave the house in that." Or, "I'm really not a big fan of this." At the same time, when they say something complimentary, it means 10 times more. But I think in the writing of this album, because it took me so long and there were some experiments along the way, there was a real feeling that it was like little snapshots of my life, sort of processing my life as it was happening, so it was very personal. It's probably my most personal album in a lot of ways. But, at the same time, with everything that I ever write I'm always looking to connect on a bigger level with people who are hopefully feeling similar things, and for that I think I strive to feel less lonely in it.

That feeling of "you are not alone" is something I felt at your show in Toronto.

I can remember the first show that I did in New York at Irving Plaza, or maybe it was the second show. It was a big deal, this night to me, because I was blown away by the size of it – and that they were there for us, and we were headlining. I know I had played stadium shows before, but this one felt way more important in all the good ways, and I remember walking out on the stage beforehand, 30 seconds beforehand, and thinking, "I'm terrified. What if I blow it?" And then hearing the crowd and going out there and feeling like, wait, this is the safest place. This room is so full of love. I felt like I could fall flat on my face and everyone would cheer and be like, "Stand back up again!" And I felt so grateful in that moment, that somehow in this world the reality that we had created together was one of love and safety and acceptance. I still, to this day, don't know how that happened. It's the luckiest gift of my life. I've never really been nervous in the same way since. I've just felt really accepted.



REACH REALTY GROUP



Alicia Bostick
REALTOR

Cell (313) 918-2604
Office (248) 395-6885
Fax (248) 395-6889
Email alicia@reachrealtygroup.com
17200 W. 10 Mile Rd. Ste 201
Southfield Mi, 48075



Amber Steciuk
Contact Me!
ambersteciuk.exprealty.com
Check me out on Facebook at
Amber Steciuk - Realtor


As part of an experienced Real Estate team in South East Michigan, I am excited to utilize my passion for relationships, community, and Metro Detroit to help you on one of the biggest adventures of your life!

License # 416343


P: 248-561-8245 E: AMBER.STECIUK@DEIGHTONGROUP.COM

It's our differences that make us great.

No matter what you value, I'm here to help protect it with respect and professionalism.
Here to help life go right.®
CALL ME TODAY.



Eric Martin, Agent
1700 W Big Beaver Road, Suite 240
Troy, MI 48084
Bus: 248-712-6555
eric@ericmartinsf.com



1801077 State Farm, Bloomington, IL

HIV Positive?
Wellness Can Help.

get in care.
stay in care.
live well.



Wellness Services
get more info at
wellnessaids.org

call or visit
810.232.0888
311 E. Court St.

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+



Deep Inside Hollywood

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

Jessica Chastain has Tammy Faye's 'Eyes'

In 2000, Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato directed "The Eyes of Tammy Faye," a documentary about the strange life of singer/televangelist Tammy Faye Baker. It was a sympathetic portrayal of a woman who was reviled in the 1980s for being part of her husband Jim Bakker's corrupt religious empire, then beloved in the years that followed, in no small part due to her contrition, her candor, her kindness, and in a very unusual turn for the world of conservative Evangelical Christianity, her support of LGBTQ people. Now comes the Hollywood version, with the same title, and Jessica Chastain playing Tammy Faye, Queen of All Makeup Products. Michael Showalter ("The Big Sick") will direct, Chastain is a producer, and Andrew Garfield will play Jim - who, to this day, true to form, is on TV talking about Jesus and getting money for it. And now for an Extremely Important Question: who's going to play Jim J. Bullock, Tammy Faye's co-host of the beautifully weird ABC '90s daytime talk show, "Jim J & Tammy Faye"? We have to know.

Titus Burgess meets 'Dolemite'

The 1970s were a wild time at the movies for black filmmakers and audiences. A renaissance of low-budget genre movies like "Shaft," "Superfly" and "Foxy Brown" blew up box offices nationwide, and one of the most enduring characters was Dolemite, in a film of the same name, played by actor Rudy Ray Moore. And now Eddie Murphy will portray Moore in "Dolemite is My Name," a biopic of the legendary cinema cult figure. The cast is a who's who: Chris Rock, Wesley Snipes, Keegan-Michael Key, Craig Robinson, T.I., Mike Epps, and hilariously eccentric "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt" star Titus Burgess. Burgess will play a supporting role as Theodore Toney, a producer on the film "Dolemite" as well as Moore's late '70s curiosity, "Disco Godfather." We don't know if the real-life person in question was gay or if Burgess will be playing it straight; we really don't care. We're happy there's openly queer representation happening anywhere we find it.

Remember the Oprah-starring 'Terms of Endearment'? We do.

When films are remade, we tend to favor those that take the material and adapt it in a new way, which is why the news that Lee Daniels has plans for a classic from the 1980s seems really promising, and also potentially frustrating. See, the "Precious" director set his sights on "Terms of Endearment," the 1983 film adaptation of Larry McMurtry's novel, about the strained relationship



Titus Burgess. Photo: Debby Wong

between a mother and her dying daughter that starred Shirley MacLaine and Debra Winger. And Daniels cast Oprah Winfrey as the mother half of the estranged pair. And now here's an update that isn't really an update: this happened well over a year ago. And that's Hollywood. Everything takes a long time and a lot of projects take even longer. So now we just wait impatiently until the drawn-out development process delivers what we want, which is another Oscar nomination for Oprah, a woman whose resume of work in solidly dramatic films is impressive and quite often underappreciated. Somebody with some Hollywood power please get on this.

Rosie acting again in 'I Know This Much Is True'

Rosie O'Donnell is acting again! This pleases us very much, frankly. People forget that the embattled former co-host of "The View" was once a much more regularly delightful presence in films like "A League of Their Own," the very weird BDSM-themed detective comedy "Exit To Eden," "The Flintstones," "Sleepless in Seattle," and "Harriet The Spy." But now she's back in "I Know This Much Is True," a limited series from director Derek Cianfrance ("The Place Beyond the Pines") and screenwriter Gina Prince-Bythewood ("Beyond The Lights"), based on the novel by Wally Lamb. It's about a middle-aged man trying to get his mentally ill twin brother released from an institution, and it stars Mark Ruffalo in a dual role, Juliette Lewis, Kathryn Hahn, Melissa Leo and "The Good Wife"'s Archie Panjabi. We don't know what role Rosie has here, but we assume it's a serious one, and that there will be no place in this drama for the Betty Rubble giggle, but we can dream. And we do.

Romeo San Vicente has written some pretty steamy Fred and Barney erotic fan fiction.



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

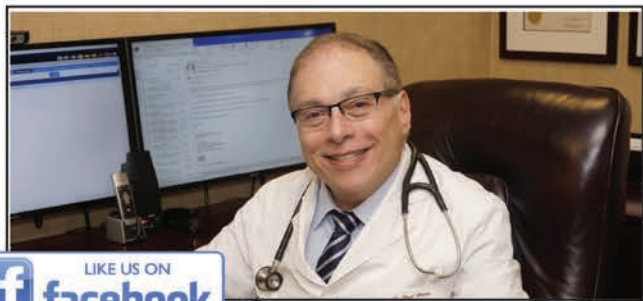
with an ongoing relationship to refer as necessary.

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





Diversity makes for a better cocktail party.

* TitosVodka.com * Crafted to be savored responsibly. DISTILLED & BOTTLED BY FIFTH GENERATION INC. 40% ALC./VOL. © 2019 TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA.