COMEDYFEST ENTERTAINERS SOUND OFF

LOCAL TEEN FIGHTS ‘BULLY’ FILM’S ‘R’ RATING

FLINT 19TH CITY TO PASS NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

ORAL ROBERTS’ GAY GRANDSON TO VISIT ANN ARBOR

A COMPLICATED LIFE

RANDY ROBERTS POTTS SPEAKS OUT

PRIDESOURCE.COM
ON SALE NOW!

DAMN YANKEES
THE HOME-RUN BROADWAY MUSICAL

Sunday, March 25, 2012
7:30 p.m.

Celebrate Spring and the return of baseball with the Home-Run Broadway Musical that reminds us, “You Gotta Have Heart.” Home runs, fly balls and devilishly good fun all meet in this 7 time Tony Award winning Broadway Musical, sponsored by WCCCD’s Downtown Campus.

Tickets $45 and $40

Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center 734-374-3200 • www.wcccd.edu

ROYAL CARIBBEAN AND AZAMARA CLUB CRUISES
DISCOVER THE WORLD CRUISE NIGHT!

Ready for a vacation that offers both leisure and new discoveries? Then it’s time for you to come and learn about the amazing Royal Caribbean and Azamara Club Cruises on Tuesday, March 20th at 6:30 p.m. at the Livonia VisTaTech Center at 18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia, MI 48152-2696. Guest speaker Marianne Hessler, from Royal Caribbean International, owner of Azamara Club Cruises. Why Royal Caribbean Cruises? They have the most innovative ships, including 5 of the largest in the world, with itineraries that will take you around the globe. They have incredible dining selections, unparalleled programs for kids of all ages, fantastic excursions and onboard activities. Still not convinced? Royal Caribbean Cruises have won Conde’ Nast Traveler magazine awards for Best Nightlife/entertainment, Best value for money, Best child-friendliness and more. Impressive isn’t it?

What’s just as impressive is Azamara Club Cruises. In today’s competitive market of cruising, they stand above the rest with their unique style of sophistication and relaxation. They are focused on providing their customers with intimate, unique boutique hotel travel experiences, while offering a wide variety of destinations, including Northern and Western Europe, as well as the Mediterranean, Asia, the West Indies and South America. New destinations include Antarctic Sound, Carnival Festival in Rio and special golf-lovers packages to the world’s most exotic courses.

While on board you can sample local cuisines and wines from around the world. While on land, experienced travel guides will introduce you to local flavors and history to fulfill your education experiences along the way. Cruise tourists are also available to add before/after your cruising experience. These multi-day excursions are an exceptional way to enrich your overall travel vacation. Both cruise lines offer differing itineraries, small or large ship travel with special promotional offers throughout the year. Some even offer single occupancy rates for those traveling alone.

Royal Caribbean encourages customers to book through travel agents. Why? You get the best price, full service, amenities, someone to answer all your questions. Best of all don’t forget to ask your travel agent about how to travel for free!

Wake’s Travel, owned by Laura Wake and Jay Armstrong are promoting 10 and 14 day European and Asian cruise packages, with optional pre and post cruise stays to enhance your vacation. This Discover the World Cruise Night presentation will focus on European and Asian itineraries and will be followed by a question and answer session, light refreshments and prizes. Special coupons and shipboard credits will be given to those who book that night.

Call 734-464-0866 to reserve your spot by March 17th. The event to be held at Schoolcraft College’s VisTaTech Center at 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI 48152-2696

WAKE’S TRAVEL INVITES YOU TO A CRUISE NIGHT

Come join us for a fun and informative presentation. Learn about how Royal Caribbean International* and Azamara Club Cruises* can take you to dream destinations, like Europe and Asia!

Guest Speaker: Royal Caribbean’s Marianne Hessler
Enjoy refreshments, giveaways and exclusive offers from the world’s most innovative cruise line!

Schoolcraft College VisTaTech Center, Room VTI60
18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, MI 48152
Tuesday, March 20, 2012 | 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
RSVP by Saturday, March 17, 2012
Wake’s Travel: 734-464-0866

©2012 Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. Ships registry: The Bahamas. Brilliance of the Seas® is operated by RCL (UK) Ltd. Subsidiary of Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. 12037966 • 3/5/2012

RESERVE YOUR ROYAL CARIBBEAN VACATION WITH US TODAY!
Cover Story

6 | A grandson speaks out on complicated legacy
Growing up on the Oral Roberts compound focus of upcoming talk. Photo: Ange Fitzgerald.

News

4 | Seeking PG-13 for ‘Bully’
Anti-bullying activist sets out to create change

5 | Flint passes non-discrimination ordinance

5 | East Lansing celebrates nation’s oldest LGBT nondiscrimination law

7 | Troy Mayor recall effort moves forward
November election possible

9 | Dynamic new board will work to move Holland forward

9 | ACLU Lansing Branch to host ‘Rights at Risk in Michigan’ panel

12 | Harvard group seeks degrees for gays expelled

13 | House sponsor stands by ‘Don’t Say Gay’ bill

14 | Teacher planning same-sex wedding is fired

14 | Rutgers student says he was ‘uncomfortable’ with roommate

14 | NJ same-sex marriage support at new high

Opinions

8 | Viewpoint
Run for office

10 | Heard On Facebook
Rush Limbaugh apologizes, do you think it’s too little too late?

10 | S/he Said
Girl Scouts of America and ‘Homohate’

11 | Parting Glances
Pages past tense #2

Life

17 | LOL!
Foursome sounds off on Santorum, careers and their lives before stand-up

18 | True beginners
Uptown Film Festival short tells father’s coming out story

20 | Miller time
Rising star talks playing Tilda Swinton’s psycho son

21 | Cool Cities: Ferndale

24 | Book Marks
Eminent Outlaws’ looks at revolutionary gay writers

25 | Dating Diet
Williams-So-No-Oh-Ma

27 | Seein’ plenty of green at the Fisher
“Shrek The Musical” reviewed

28 | Happenings
Featured: George Takei to narrate for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra

Rear View

30 | Puzzle

31 | Horoscopes

32 | Classifieds

34 | Cocktail Chatter
Teen fights film’s ‘R’ rating
Local anti-bullying activist petitions for change

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

ANN ARBOR – When Katy Butler was in seventh grade, she was bullied for being a lesbian. She would cry in the mornings because she didn’t want to go to school. Each day was as she remembers them – “horrible.”

Butler endured the brutal ridicule hoping it wouldn’t get worse, but one day it did.

“A few guys came up behind me while putting books in my locker. They called me names and asked me why I even bothered to show my face at school because no one liked me. I ignored them because I was scared of what else they might say and who else they might tell if I stood up to them. When I shut my locker, they pushed me against the wall. Then they slammed my locker door shut on my hand, breaking my fourth finger. I held back tears while I watched them run away laughing. I didn’t know what to do so I stood there, alone and afraid,” said Butler.

She looked around and noticed about fifteen classmates that stood there watching. No one, including school staff, came to her rescue. Butler went home that day and lied to her parents about what happened for fear that their involve-

Butler has motivated almost 200,000 people to sign her online petition (http://www.change.org/petitions/mpaa-dont-let-the-bullies-win-give-bully-a-pg-13-instead-of-an-r-rating), which will allow people like her 13-year-old sister Kelly to see the film. The petition reads: “MPAA: Don’t let the bullies win! Give “Bully” a PG-13 instead of an R rating. Dear MPAA, Your decision, by one vote, to issue an R rating for the film “Bully” is wrong. It will prevent millions of teenagers from seeing a film that documents the epidemic of bullying in American schools. This film has the potential to change the world and change the culture of violence in many schools. But your decision to give this movie an R means that the people who need to see this movie the most — teenagers who are either bullying their peers or suffering from violence and torment at the hands of bullies — won’t get to see this film. Nor will this film be allowed to be shown at middle schools and high schools in this country. Please reconsider your decision to give Bully an R and give it a PG-13 instead. Thank you.”

In a Feb. 28 blog Joan Graves, the MPAA Head of Classification and Ratings Administration, responded that bullying is a serious issue and is a subject parents should discuss with their children. “The MPAA agrees with the Weinstein Company that “Bully” can serve as a vehicle for such important discussions. Unfortunately, there is a misconception about the R rating of this film limiting the audience to adults. This is not true…As with any movie, parents will decide if they want their children to see “Bully.” School districts, similarly, handle the determination of showing movies on a case-by-case basis and have their own guidelines for parental approval.”

“It think they’re creating a cover for not wanting to show this film,” said Butler. “It’s a harsh reality, but there is nothing negative to be taken away from the film. It will show young people the affect bullying has on others, but also that things get better.”

Butler said she has felt an overwhelming amount of support since late 2011 when she and her friend Carson Borbely launched a different petition on Change.org urging the Michigan state legislature to stop the state’s “License to Bully” bill that would have created religious and moral exemptions from bullying. She collected more than 50,000 signatures and the legislature passed a modified bill that removed those exemptions.

“It’s amazing. The director of the film called me to thank me for doing this,” said Butler, who is well on her way to establishing a career in political activism as she was recently invited to speak at the Western Regional Conference 2012: Lead the Movement, Be the Change in California.

“This really has meant a lot to a lot of people. She is so brave in coming forward and people power change and it’s quite inspiring,” said Change.org Campaign Manager Mark Anthony Dingbaum. “It’s only a matter of time before the MPAA responds.”
Flint passes non-discrimination ordinance

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMAIRE

FLINT – As of March 1, Flint became the 19th city in Michigan to adopt a Human Rights Ordinance that prevents discrimination based on sexual orientation. In addition to protecting gays and lesbians, the ordinance includes protections for sexual orientation, gender expression, and HIV status in housing and public accommodations.

The ordinance was passed by Flint’s City Council, whose power has been usurped by an Emergency Financial Manager appointed by Gov. Snyder in November 2011. Emergency Financial Manager Michael Brown approved the ordinance change, which is now posted on the City’s official website.

This ordinance is the culmination of a nearly two-year effort by a coalition of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender residents and allies. Local advocates have been supported by the Flint AIDS Wellness Center led by Stevi Atkins, council member Dale Weighill, long time Flint supporter Art Reyes, the Unity Michigan Coalition, and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, which held a leadership training Power Summit in Flint this past fall.

Councilperson Joshua Freeman credits Councilperson Dale Weighill with doing “much of the work on this before introducing it to Council,” and adding “It seemed like a no brainer to me. Why wouldn’t you want everyone to have equal access and be treated fairly? Historically, the City has been on the forefront of fair housing being the first in the Country to pass a fair-housing Ordinance.”

Nayyirah Shariff, one of the organizers for the ordinance, said “It’s about time. This builds on our civil rights legacy as a city. Flint residents will no longer be denied housing just for being who they are.”

“I am delighted to see the City of Flint joining the 18 other Michigan cities in successfully adopting and implementing nondiscrimination laws,” said Atkins, CEO of Wellness AIDS Services, which hosts Safe Space, a community center for gay and transgender people. “All citizens of our community should be equally protected. We are one step closer to stabilizing housing for many of our gay and transgender clients.”

While the ordinance is a victory for equal rights supporters, it could also be short-lived if state-level legislators move forward with HB 5039.

The bill, introduced by Rep. Tom McMillin (R-Rochester Hills), would amend the state’s 1976 Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act to limit protected classes to those outlined in that law. HB 5039 states, “A state agency or unit of local government shall not adopt any ordinance, rule, regulation or policy that includes as a protected class, any classification not specifically included as a protected class under this act.” Any existing ordinance, rule, regulation, or policy that includes, as a protected class, any classification not specifically included as a protected class under this act is voided.

The amendment goes on to state this would apply to any state agency or unit of local government including school districts and cities.

The bill was introduced Oct. 5, 2011 and was sent to the House Judiciary Committee. On Nov. 28, 2011 the committee discussed the bill but no vote was taken. It is currently still in the committee process. McMillin has answered questions about his proposed bill at town hall meetings in his district, saying that laws that include protections for sexual orientation can be used to discriminate against Christians.

“Because of that kind of law, Catholic Social Services in Massachusetts no longer does adoptions, because of an ordinance like that. There’s a photographer who didn’t want to photograph a homosexual wedding and he was fined $8,000,” McMillin says in a Rochester Citizen-released You Tube video.

McMillin was likely referring to a 2008 case where a New Mexico lesbian couple tried to hire a photographer for their commitment ceremony, but was turned down. In Willock vs. Elaine Photography (http://volokh.com/files/willockopinion.pdf), the New Mexico Human Rights Commission ruled in favor of the woman who was denied service, and though the woman refused to accept any claims of damages, the court did require the photographer to pay $6,637.94 in court costs and attorneys’ fees.

McMillin also said the issue “should be dealt with at a state level.”

In Flint the ordinance only addresses discrimination in housing and accommodations, though several cities have protections in housing, employment and contractor requirements.

East Lansing celebrates, honors nation’s oldest LGBT nondiscrimination law

BY TODD HEYWOOD

While some in the Michigan legislature are working to push through legislation that would roll back local nondiscrimination laws, the city of East Lansing recognized the 40th anniversary of the nation’s first-of-its kind nondiscrimination law that protected people from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation March 6.

East Lansing City Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Nathan Tripplett sponsored a resolution to honor the anniversary at the council’s Tuesday meeting.

“Outside of East Lansing and the 18 cities that have passed similar ordinances in Michigan, it’s still legal in our state to fire someone for being gay,” Tripplett told Between The Lines. “That’s entirely unacceptable. It’s also ironic and tragic that at the very moment we are celebrating the 40th anniversary of our groundbreaking policy, there is a bill pending in the state legislature that would void our human relations ordinance and in effect legalize discrimination against LGBT people in East Lansing.”

On March 7, 1972, at the urging of the Gay Liberation Movement student group at Michigan State University, the city adopted a law prohibiting the firing or discrimination of a person based on “sex or homosexuality.” City Council passed that first law, which applied only to city hiring practices, by a 4 to 1 vote.

Gay Liberation Movement was the forerunner to MSU’s current Alliance of Queer and Ally Students, the main campus LGBT student group.

The passage was not without controversy, however. An article in The Advocate, dated May 10, 1972, reported that the original provision allowed city officials to fire any employee for homosexual solicitation. That amendment initially passed on a 3 to 2 vote but was rescinded at the following council meeting on a 3 to 2 vote. In addition to the solicitation clause, that same article cites opposition from Mayor Wilbur Brookover, “He said he had once done a study for the U.S. Navy which indicated that ‘no person is a homosexual by nature. Their pattern of behavior is to try and get recruits by telling people homosexuality is natural. I don’t feel the employees of this city should be open to that possibility.’”

Even though Brookover was opposed to the move, East Lansing’s law laid the groundwork for the ordi

Outside of East Lansing and the 18 cities that have passed similar ordinances in Michigan, it’s still legal in our state to fire someone for being gay.”

East Lansing City Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem Nathan Tripplett is sponsoring the resolution
A grandson speaks out on complicated legacy

Growing up on the Oral Roberts compound focus of upcoming talk

“I felt like ‘well, I don’t have a family to lose anymore and my grandparents are gone and I don’t have to worry about hurting their feelings, so I can write freely.’”

- Randy Roberts Potts, grandson of televangelist Oral Roberts

BY ANDREA POTTEET

In more than five decades as one of the country’s best-known preachers, famed televangelist Oral Roberts spread his trademark message: “something good is going to happen to you.”

But for his grandson, Randy Roberts Potts, the road to that happiness took years of depression, family estrangement and finally self acceptance.

“It was very difficult at first for several years,” Potts, 37, says in his whisper-soft voice. “But things eventually evened out and life these days is really good.”

Coming out is rarely a pain-free process, but for Potts, who was raised on a compound in Oklahoma with Roberts and other family members, it meant identifying himself as part of a group his grandfather had openly shunned.

“I knew I was attracted to other boys instead of girls at age 7 or so,” Potts said, “but I learned early on from my family and my church that it was horrible. It was a long, long process and I didn’t actually come out until I was 31, after I was married for 11 years and had children.”

Roberts’ legacy is a complicated issue for Potts, who sees positive and negative aspects of his grandfather’s message and who left organized religion at age 18. Though homophobia was never the cornerstone of Roberts’ sermons, which also included aspects of faith healing and which culminated in the building of Oral Roberts University in 1963, it was certainly present in and outside of the church, Potts says. One of Roberts’ sons, Ronald, committed suicide after being court-ordered into a drug rehab center following his coming out.

“A lot of people have told me that their parents took their anti-gay attitude from him,” Potts said. “In that sense his legacy has not been the greatest. In other ways he was very positive, he tried to focus people on love, he wanted their lives to be good. He had a very positive aspect to his ministry and I think it did help a lot of people.”

His coming-out process led to estrangement from many of his family members and a custody battle for his two children, which he won. Though battling with his family was hard, he said it gave him the freedom he needed to write publicly about his complicated relationship with his grandfather, after hashing it out in diary entries for ten years.

“I think when my grandfather passed (in 2009) and my grandmother passed (after a fall in 2005) and my family came out very strongly against me being gay, it sort of gave me permission to consider publishing some of that,” Potts, a former English teacher, said. “I felt like ‘well, I don’t have a family to lose anymore and my grandparents are gone and I don’t have to worry about hurting their feelings, so I can write freely.’”

Now, Potts shares his story in articles for The Washington Post and This Land Press, in the book version of Dan Savage’s video collection “It Gets Better,” and in speaking events throughout the country, primarily in churches in conservative areas. He is set to visit First United Methodist Church in Ann Arbor March 10, for a chat sponsored by Rainbow Crossing.

“I really would like to encourage especially LGBT youth, that even though it is difficult to come out, things can get better, they can have a good life and they can live any life they want to,” Potts said. “I want there to be in place what there wasn’t for me, or say my uncle, the possibility of hoping for a better world.”

He also strives to do that through activism, like his current project, the Gay Agenda, which sets a local gay couple in a conservative town in a vacant storefront to live their daily lives—from morning cereal to evening television—in front of passersby. The exhibit, designed to give conservatives a visual of how nonthreatening gay couples really are, has already kicked off in Oklahoma City and is scheduled for stops across the country.

“When you look inside, it will be very boring to watch,” Potts says. “If you watch people hanging out at home, it’s not very interesting.”

Potts said the reaction so far has been positive, though planned protests from religious groups were thwarted by 17-degree weather. He said he wants to eventually work his way into smaller conservative cities, but has fears about the participants’ safety.

At each stop, though, Potts reaches out to area pastors in a letter asking to meet them and discuss the project.

“So far, he has had no responses. ‘It seems to me, pastors of churches who are not gay friendly, they really don’t know what to do with me,” Potts says. “It’s not an angry response, just none. I’ll keep sending them and see what happens.”

Randy Roberts Potts
Saturday, March 10
5 p.m.
First United Methodist Church of Ann Arbor, 120 South State Street, Ann Arbor, Randy Roberts Potts 5 p.m., dinner 6:15 p.m. (additional charge)* MUSE Cincinnati’s Women’s Choir 7:30 p.m.
Co-sponsored by FUMC Music & Liturgical Arts Ministries and Rainbow Crossing
*Dinner tickets should be purchased ahead of time. Regular tickets $15, Seniors $10, children 12 and under $8

Sunday, March 11
Mr. Potts will also speak on Sunday at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. at the Church.
Church phone number: 734-662-4536

“I really would like to encourage especially LGBT youth, that even though it is difficult to come out, things can get better, they can have a good life and they can live any life they want to.”

- Randy Roberts Potts
Troy Mayor recall effort moves forward
November election possible

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

TROY – The public should soon see a petition on the city’s streets to recall Troy Mayor Janice Daniels from office. On March 1 the Oakland County Commission deemed clear one of two submissions from the Recall Janice Daniels group during a clarity hearing attended by more than 30 people. The meeting ran for about an hour and a half at the Oakland County Probate Court in Pontiac.

The commission, which includes Chief Probate Judge Linda Hallmark, Oakland County Treasurer Andy Meisner, and Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds Bill Bullard Jr., unanimously approved the language of the first petition, which targets Mayor Daniels “for voting to reject a $8,485,212 Federal investment grant to the City of Troy on December 19, 2011.”

“We are very pleased. We can now move forward with the recall. We have plans to start collecting signatures in the middle of March. Volunteers are coming out of the woodwork every day,” said Troy resident and petition sponsor Matthew Binkowski. The grass-roots group filed its committee paperwork on Feb. 13 with the Oakland County Clerk’s Office.

Former Troy Mayor Louise Schilling, who served the city for 7 1/2 years said she thought the recall effort was justified for all the reasons cited on the recalljanicedaniels.com website.

“Janice Daniels exhibits her incompetence repeatedly in words and deeds. The wording approved (for the petition) will be only one of the reasons voters in Troy will sign the recall petition. I also believe Janice Daniels was fraudulent in her campaign with printed materials and deliberately misleading comments to voters. From what I have been constantly hearing from residents and businesses in Troy, they want her gone from the position of Mayor as quickly as possible,” said Schilling.

According to Michigan’s Recall Procedures, each reason for the recall must be based upon the officer’s conduct during his or her current term in office. That’s why Hallmark and Bullard Jr. voted to reject the second petition.

The language in the second petition targets Mayor Daniels “for refusing to swear to support the Troy City Charter in taking the oath of office and later referring to the Charter as a “whimsical document”; for failing to support a Federal investment in the City of Troy of over $8.4 million dollars, by voting against the Troy Transit Center project on two occasions, December 19, 2011 and January 17, 2012; for violating the City Council’s procedural rules on January 9, 2012, by exceeding the limitations on a council member’s speaking time by reading a position paper which publicly denigrated city employees; and for embarrassing the citizens of the City of Troy on January 9, 2012, by telling high school students planning an anti-bullying program that “the homosexual lifestyle is dangerous.”

Hallmark said she has “concerns” about whether the oath of office incident occurred during or prior to the time that Mayor Daniels was actually sworn in to office.

In advance of the hearing, Mayor Daniels

See TROY MAYOR, page 9
When policy makers, at any level of government, have an openly gay colleague, it is that much harder for them to pass anti-gay policies or stunt progress for equality.

Our voices and leadership are essential to the success and health of the gay community. A tangible anti-gay sentiment is, right now, not only present but also dangerous and looming over our attempts to provide for our partners and families in even the most basic ways. Many Michiganders have resigned themselves to the conclusion that no progress for equality has a chance until these extremists are kicked out of office. I cannot justify anyone checking out of the movement until November 2012, but it is absolutely correct that without new elected leaders this anti-gay rampage is granted a clear path to continue.

The gay and transgender community, like so many targeted communities, discounted the power of its vote in 2010, and helped to leave all of Michigan with the state government we fear today. We must vote and mobilize others to vote because it is everyone’s duty and the public is on our side. The vast majority of Michigan residents are in favor of equality in employment, housing, and access to health benefits. Our charge today, is to give voters pro-equality and openly gay candidates to vote for.

There is support available, and a wealth of resources for candidates to tap into. The Equality Michigan Action Network and the Equality Michigan Pride PAC are looking for potential candidates to step forward to announce their intention to take office this November. Success for new candidates is only possible if your campaign work starts immediately. Daunted pro-equality candidates with tough primaries need to step forward and ask for help in the approaching couple of weeks. Change happens now and through your concerns, talents, demands, and participation in the political process.

I have no qualms with your complaints. Complaints make advocates and leaders better, keep us working harder, and challenge us to question our work, I insist that you are also responsible for contributing to its success. Take your complaints, turn them into a plan to help move us forward, work with me from the inside – get off that chair and file for candidacy right now.

Emily Dievendorf is the policy director at Equality Michigan and the political director of Equality Michigan Pride PAC.
Dynamic new board will work to move Holland forward

HOLLAND - Holland is Ready has selected a 14-member board of directors that will work to move the community forward to achieving the safety, rights and inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in the area.

The new board, which met for the first time on Feb. 27, includes people of a variety of ages, professions, faiths, races, backgrounds and gender, including:

Jen Adams, 43, currently the rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Holland and one of the founding members of Holland is Ready; Charletta V. Berry, 45, works in Hope College’s Office of Financial Aid and is an Army veteran; Charley Renee Bowers, Ph.D., 74, is retired from the agricultural division of The Upjohn Company. She currently works part-time as a sales associate at jcpenney; Mary De Ridder, 67, retired from First United Methodist Church of Holland as outreach director. She now helps coordinate as a volunteer for Justice for our Neighbors, a faith-based outreach to immigrants, and the Holland area chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Gays and Lesbians.; Andres “Andy” Fierro is pastor of Crossroad Chapel and a part-time chaplain at Holland Hospital. He is married and the father of two sons; Karis Granberg-Michaelson, 28, is a Hope College graduate, serves the local community through AmeriCorps and serves on the Board of Directors of Room for All, advocating for the full participation of LGBT people in the life and ministry of the Reformed Church in America; David Hockstra, 58, is a self-employed woodworker/cabinet maker. A 36-year resident of Holland, David is in his third term on the Holland City Council; Jim Larkin, 58, a journalist who retired from The Flint Journal after serving as a suburban editor and columnist. He is a former Holland Human Relations Commission member; Donald Martin, 33, teaches English at Grand Rapids Community College; Katie Polik, 15, a sophomore at Holland High School, is vice president of the Gay-Straight Alliance at Holland High School and runs cross country and is an active member of the theatre and forensics teams at her school; Magdalena Rivera, 46, is City of Holland Human Relations Commission chairperson and a Holland Public Schools Board of Education Trustee; Joanne Stewart, 51, a chemistry professor at Hope College and a parent of two Holland High School students; Carla Black Vissers, 48, teaches English at Hope College and formerly served on the Holland City Council, Holland Human Relations Commission, and Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance; Lindsay TerHaar, 23, a Hope College graduate, works as a volunteer coordinator for Habitat for Humanity.

“We are grateful for the wonderful response from the community and the commitment of talented board members as we move forward in our work for the safety, rights and inclusion of GLBT people on the lakeshore,” Adams said.

ACLU Lansing Branch to host ‘Rights at Risk in Michigan’ panel

BY BENJAMIN JENKINS

EAST LANSING – The Lansing branch of the American Civil Liberties Union will host “Rights at Risk in Michigan,” a panel discussion to address threats to civil liberties in the state and what can be done to oppose them, during the branch’s annual meeting on April 5 at the East Lansing Public Library.

The panel consists of Brandon Jessup, chairman and chief executive Office of Michigan Forward; Karla Swift, president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO); and Jay Kaplan, staff attorney for the ACLU of Michigan’s LGBT Project.

According to Paulette Hatchett, acting chair of the branch’s Education and Outreach Committee, the panel’s three facilitating experts intend to inform the public about recent legislative actions and objectives threatening their civil liberties, such as the Emergency Manager Act and the rescission and prohibition of domestic partner benefits.

“We’re hoping anyone interested in learning more about these issues and what they can do to assist in defending, furthering and supporting the maintenance of the democratic process, bargaining rights and LGBT rights will attend,” said Hatchett.

Jessup will discuss the petition drive and efforts of Michigan Forward to repeal the Public Act 4, legislation imposing a state appointed Emergency Manager over local governments. Michigan Forward is a non-profit organization specializing in creating progressive public policy initiatives for state and local governments.

Swift will discuss how “Right to Work” laws threaten workers and middle class families and the rules and social impacts on collective bargaining rights are spreading nationwide.

Kaplan will address the recent legislative actions eliminating domestic partner benefits of public employees and the provision of such benefits for LGBT workers. Kaplan will also discuss other legislation that could have potential negative impacts on LGBT citizens in Michigan.

The program begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the East Lansing Library, 950 N. Abbot Road, East Lansing. The public is welcome to participate and refreshments will be served.

The ACLU Lansing Branch also has begun scheduling presentations of its “School-To-Prison Pipeline Project,” an attempt to address issues related to the expulsion of students from public schools.

More information on the Rights At Risk in Michigan panel discussion and the School-To-Prison Pipeline Project is available at mi.aclu.org.

► Troy mayor

Continued from p. 7

prepared written comments to rebut the accusations made against her in the petitions, although she did not have the opportunity to read them aloud. It reads, in part: “The majority of these accusations are refutable conclusions drawn by the complainant. They are not facts...In conclusion, if this honorable board would watch the Troy City Council meetings I believe that they would agree that as a newly elected government official I am making a valiant effort to Chair these meetings with dignity and respect to all persons who come before the board, with an honest effort to follow protocol and with an expressed love for our city and our citizens.”

As many of Mayor Daniels’ support-
S/he Said

Girl Scouts of America and ‘Homohate’

Compiled by Howard Israel

Bob Morris

“I did a small amount of web-based research... abundant evidence proves that the agenda of Planned Parenthood includes sexualizing young girls through the Girl Scouts, a tactical arm of Planned Parenthood. Many parents are abandoning the Girl Scouts because they promote homosexual lifestyles. Of the fifty role models listed, only three have a briefly-mentioned religious background – all the rest are feminists, lesbians, or Communists. Boys who decide to claim a ‘transgender’ or cross-dressing life-style are permitted to become a member of a Girl Scout troop, performing crafts with the girls and participate in overnight and camping activities – just like any real girl. The fact that the Honorary President of Girl Scouts of America is Michelle Obama, and the Obama’s are radically pro-abortion and vigorously support the agenda of Planned Parenthood, should give each of us reason to pause before our individual or collective endorsement of the organization. As members of the Indiana House of Representatives, we must be wise before we extend legitimacy to a radicalized organization.”


Leonard Pitts Jr.

“Thus does social conservatism skid through the last barriers of basic intellect, simple decency and common sense, hurtling breakneck off the cliff. Next stop: utter incoherence. There is, in a sense, nothing new here. Fear has long been the sine qua non of social conservatism, the fundament of an us-against-them ethos that simultaneously binds social conservatives together in common cause and separates them from the rest of the world. Logic is where social conservatism fears to tread. It is a worldview driven by fear of the world beyond its racial, gender, religious, cultural and intellectual borders. Historically, it always has been. Fear the Japanese, they said. They are collaborating with our enemies. Fear the communists, they said. They are hiding behind every bush. Fear the gays, they say. They want to recruit our children to their lifestyle. And now? Fear the Girl Scouts. They are trying to conquer America one cookie at a time.”


Oh, yeah, I’m sure he really meant the apology. He just doesn’t want to lose any more sponsors.

–Lynda Schrecengost

Birth control equals no more people like him!

–Paula Hopkins

I think that windbag crossed the “too little too late” line a long time ago.

–Scott McClure

Way too little. It wasn’t a real apology to Sandra Fluke. It was an apology for his choice of words. Doesn’t count. He is just desperately trying to hang on to advertisers after crossing a line which was too hateful, even for Rush.

–Keith Orr

Comments may be edited for grammar and length.

Join the conversation ...

Search: “Between The Lines Newspaper”
Parting Glances

Pages past tense #2

BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

5 right; 25 left; 15 right. Click! After 60-plus years I can still recall my locker combination at Harry Burns Hutchins Intermediate, located on Detroit’s west side.

I can also rattle off 30 names of my Homeroom 223 classmates... Lenore Abramowitz, Roland Anderson, Judith Berkowitz, Lois Carmichael, Thomas Diamond, Henry Gonte (forever combing his blond hair), Kenny Lenski (my persistent - and most welcome - gym wrestling buddy), Ella Maxwell, the Wassermans, Melvin and Saul...

Most classmates were Jewish; a few, black. Hutchins was located near three synagogues, and when the high holidays fell, only a few “goyim” were left. Of course, we gentiles looked forward to these celebrations, wishing our Jewish buddies mitzvahs.

Hutchins wasn’t my neighborhood school, so my mother got Board of Education permission for me to attend. (She said nearby Jefferson Intermediate was too rough.) Each morning for three years, 15 cents plus bus card, I rode two miles to Woodrow Wilson and Blaine.

Coming from a poor family, I found prototype Hutchins palatial. Up-to-date library, wood and print shops, two gyms, two swimming pools, a string orchestra, a school song, a “Hutchins Handbook,” with rules of conduct to be loyally - and strictly - followed. Or else.

In addition to academic subjects I learned to type, balance business ledgers, play cello, write for the Hutchins Star (contest editor), speak some Spanish, shoot basketballs, do woodwork and soldering, practice public speaking and acting, explore art with two gifted teachers.

My homeroom teacher, who also taught math, was Miss Harriet B. Gaston. (I can still forge her hall pass initials.) “What’s under the crust of a cherry pie?” “Who’s buried in Grant’s tomb?” she’d ask when I was on the verge of answering the obvious during remedial sessions.

I got A’s in gym, not because of any sports prowess, but because I printed well and wrote out attendance slips for two classes. I had swimming once a week. (We swam naked, and were shyly curious in the shower to see who had pubic hair status. I was a wash out on that score.)

My most embarrassing moment: the day the girl’s gym teacher caught me whistling as they passed carefree by an open window. My punishment (concocted with HBG’s approval) was to spend one full gym period in my pristine white gym shorts among the girl’s gym class.

“Girls, Mr. Alexander, who was impolite enough to ogle you, is our embarrassed visitor today,” said Miss Rene Swope. “I suggest you politely ignore him.” And ignore me they did, ’til a fire alarm sounded, and I had to march out onto the sports field, where staff, students, God and Orthodox Detroit, bore amused witness to my offense. (That’s why I’m gay.)

My last day at Hutchins was sweetly sad. I had made so many close friends, gotten exceptional groundwork in place for high school and college, and took initial and confident steps in exploring my writing, music, and artist creativity.

As we crossed the stage to receive our diplomas to say a three-year goodbye, I tried vainly to hold back tears. 35. 25. 15 ...

Charles@pridesource.com
Creep of the Week

Kirk Cameron

BY DANNE WITKOWSKI

On March 2 Kirk Cameron was on CNN’s Piers Morgan Tonight for some reason. To many viewers it must have come as quite a shock that he was still alive (that was Corey Haim, folks). But if you want to get people talking about you again, your best bet is to go on TV and say something crazy. And that’s just what Cameron did.

Now, Cameron’s extreme right beliefs are no secret. He’s a pin-up boy for zealous Christianity these days. But usually the stuff that comes out of his mouth has a limited audience. Not so this time.

During the interview, Morgan asked Cameron about gay marriage. Cameron responded, “I believe that marriage was defined by God a long time ago. Marriage is almost as old as dirt and it was defined in the garden between Adam and Eve, one man one woman for life, ‘til death do you part. So I would never attempt to redefine marriage and I don’t think anyone else should either. So do I support the idea of gay marriage? No, I don’t.”

Now, someone who believed in evolution obviously wouldn’t be making the argument that marriage was older than dirt. Certainly if we turn to science we would find otherwise. But facts are for the goddess. I also think it’s important to point out that the Bible says a lot of stuff about marriage, and it isn’t all “one man one woman for life.” Some crazy shit happens in the Bible, people.

Morgan then asks if homophobia is a sin.

“I think that it’s unnatural,” Cameron says. “I think that it’s detrimental and ultimately destructive to so many of the foundations of our civilization.”

How does Cameron know what will “ultimately” be “destructive to so many of the foundations of our civilization,” you ask? Because he’s seen the future. He starred in the low budget movie based on Tim LaHaye’s Left Behind series, a zany Armageddon-Rapture rom-com. He’s no doubt read the whole series. He knows the Truth.

But what if one of Cameron’s six kids ended up gay?

“I’d sit down and I’d have a heart to heart with them,” Cameron says. “Just like you would with your kids.”

Morgan interrupts: “But it one of my sons said that I’d say, ‘That’s great son, as long as you’re happy.’ What would you say?”

“Well, I wouldn’t say that’s great son as long as you’re happy.”

Here’s hoping that none of the Cameron kids are gay. And here’s hoping that if they are they’re strong enough to break away from Daddy’s homophobic stronghold and misguided sense of morality.

Cameron responds, “I’m gonna say there’s all sorts of issues that we need to wrestle through in our life and just because you feel one way doesn’t mean we should act on everything that we feel.”

Hoo boy. Here’s hoping that none of the Cameron kids are gay. And here’s hoping that if they are they’re strong enough to break away from Daddy’s homophobic stronghold and misguided sense of morality.

Cameron’s comments caused quite a stir, needless to say. Morgan even said that Cameron was “brave” for saying these things. I don’t think “brave” is the right word. “Tone deaf” and “ignorant” feel more accurate to me. And that’s the Truth.

Harvard group seeks degrees for gays expelled

BY DENISE LAVOIE

BOSTON (AP) – Students and faculty at Harvard University are calling on the school to award posthumous degrees to seven students expelled nearly a century ago for being gay or perceived as gay, and they timed a rally for their cause to coincide with a visit by Lady Gaga.

But Harvard says it doesn’t award posthumous degrees, except in rare cases where students complete academic requirements but die before degrees have been conferred.

The university apologized a decade ago, after a student reporter found a file marked “secret court” in the university archives and wrote about the expulsions.

“In 2002, the University expressed its deep regret for the way the situation was handled as well as for the anguish experienced by the students and their families almost a century ago.” Harvard spokesman John Longbrake said in a statement.

Activists say the apology isn’t enough and it’s important for Harvard to confer honorary degrees.

“It’s not reparations, it’s more of a gesture to the present LGBT community that this university has cemented its values on the right side of history and it’s willing to address - not just put in the past - the aberrations of the 1920s,” said Jonas Wang, a 21-year-old transgender student. “You can say that the people of the court were the victims of their own culture, but this is something we are addressing in the present.

A group of students and faculty members planned a rally during a campus visit by Lady Gaga, who visited Harvard on Wednesday to launch her Born This Way anti-bullying foundation. The singer has been a strong activist for the gay community.

The group wants Harvard to formally abolish the secret court, a tribunal of administrators that investigated charges of homosexual activity among students at the Ivy League school in 1920. The tribunal remained a secret for decades and only became public in 2002 after the report in the Harvard Crimson magazine.

More than 2,700 people have signed a petition on Change.org urging Harvard to confer the honorary degrees, and organizers delivered the petition to Harvard President Drew Faust’s office after the rally.

Lady Gaga’s new foundation, named after her 2011 hit song and album, will address issues such as self-confidence, well-being and antibullying through research, education and advocacy. The singer was joined by Oprah Winfrey, spiritual leader Deepak Chopra and U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius during Wednesday’s kickoff event.

“Given the Born This Way Foundation’s commitment to this mission and their choice to launch their foundation at Harvard, we felt like this was an opportunity to ask for their support and would hope they would join us in asking Harvard to do the right thing here and help seek justice for these students,” said Kaia Stern, a visiting faculty mem-
House sponsor stands by ‘Don’t Say Gay’ bill

BY LUCAS L. JOHNSON II

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) – The Republican sponsor of a proposal to ban the teaching of gay issues to elementary and middle school students said Feb. 28 that he’s not backing off the legislation despite concerns from GOP leaders.

The proposal was scheduled to be heard in the House Education Committee. But Rep. Joey Hensley of Hohenwald told The Associated Press he plans to delay the measure for up to three weeks to work out its language.

The legislation, known as the “Don’t Say Gay” bill, would limit all sexually related instruction to “natural human reproduction science” in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Supporters of the proposal say they’ve heard reports of some teachers discussing “alternative lifestyles,” such as homosexuality, and they want to prevent that.

State education officials say such instruction is already banned from the current curriculum, but proponents of the bill feel it’s necessary in case the state Board of Education decides to change the curriculum.

“We don’t want students to be exposed to alternate lifestyles,” Hensley said. “If their parents want them to know about that, they can teach them at home.”

Hensley acknowledged the proposal’s language needs more work to avoid any unintended consequences.

“We don’t want to introduce sex education to K-8 students because they are not supposed to be teaching sex education in K-8 now,” he said.

One amendment being considered won’t prohibit “any school counselor, nurse or other authorized employee ... from appropriately responding to a student whose circumstances present issues involving human sexuality.”

Hensley said the proposal is being tweaked because there’s some concern about allowing the school districts to develop their own policies.

Opponents of the measure say it’s too broad and fear it would prevent teachers and others from speaking out against the bullying of gay teens.

Republican House Speaker Beth Harwell has called for further review of the overall bill, and Republican Gov. Bill Haslam has said he would prefer for it to be dropped.

“I think there’s better things to be doing,” Haslam said.

Hensley, however, said he’s adamant about passing the legislation this session. He said his office has received hundreds of calls in support of the bill.

“It’s certainly not off the table,” Hensley said. “We’re moving forward with it.”

When Wilcox’s brother, George, informed the acting dean of the college, Chester Greeneough, of Cyril’s suicide, he passed on letters that left no doubt that Cyril was part of a group of gay men at Harvard.

After consulting with Harvard President A. Lawrence Lowell, Greenough convened a group of administrators to gather evidence.

The expelled students, including the son of former U.S. Rep. Ernest William Roberts, were told to leave the Harvard campus – and Cambridge - immediately.

One student, Eugene Cummings, 23, committed suicide at Harvard’s infirmary after he was questioned by the tribunal.

A student movement called “Their Day in the Yard” was founded in 2010 to urge the university to grant the honorary degrees to the students expelled in 1920.
Teacher planning same-sex wedding is fired

NORMANDY, Mo. (AP) — An openly gay music teacher at a Catholic school in suburban St. Louis has been fired after church officials learned he was planning to marry his partner of 20 years.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that Al Fischer’s Feb. 17 firing from St. Ann Catholic School follows a Jan. 11 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that religious employees of a church cannot sue for employment discrimination.

Fischer, who had worked at the north St. Louis County school for four years, declined to discuss the firing other than to confirm it. He referred to a letter emailed to parents in which he encouraged parents to talk to their children “about whether or not justice was served.”

The letter continued: “I do not want the lesson from this for the kids to be, ‘Keep your mouth shut, hide who you are or what you think if it will get you in trouble.’”

Fischer’s partner, Charlie Robin, executive director of Washington University’s Edison Theatre, told the Post-Dispatch that the couple’s relationship was in no way a secret at St. Ann. He said he attended staff parties and showed up at school concerts.

But Robin said that shortly after a representative of the St. Louis Archdiocese overheard Fischer talking to co-workers about his wedding plans, Fischer was told he would be fired March 9. That’s the couple’s 20th anniversary and the day of their planned nuptials in New York, where same-sex marriage is legal.

Robin said the timing of the firing was moved up after he wrote about it on Facebook on Feb. 16.

The Rev. Bill Kempf, St. Ann’s pastor, said in an emailed statement that the parish was “recently informed by one of its teachers of his plan to unite in marriage with an individual of the same sex. With full respect of this individual’s basic human dignity, this same-sex union opposes Roman Catholic teaching as it cannot realize the full potential of a marital relationship is meant to express.”

The St. Louis Archdiocese said in statement that it supports the school’s action “as it is in full compliance with the Christian Witness Statement signed by every educator in the Catholic school system.” Among other things, the statement requires that educators “not take a public position contrary to the Catholic Church” and “demonstrate a public life consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church.”

Although the Roman Catholic Church does not condemn homosexuals who remain “chaste,” it opposes same-sex marriage and homosexual acts.

Robin, who is a practicing Catholic, said he hopes to see the church change how it treats gays.

“Everyone involved in this process I know is committed to good,” he said. “The problem is blindly following the doctrine isn’t committed to good.”

Rutgers student says he was ‘uncomfortable’ with roommate

BY GEOFF MULVIHILL

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (AP) — Jurors in the trial of a student accused of using a webcam to spy on his roommate kissing another man can’t hear about an email passage in which the alleged victim referred to the defendant’s behavior as “wildly inappropriate,” a judge decided Wednesday.

But the jury can hear about another part of the email in which Tyler Clementi said he believed his privacy had been violated, the judge ruled. The email said Clementi was “extremely uncomfortable sharing a room with someone who would act in this manner.”

Clementi killed himself shortly afterward.

Ravi, 20, is on trial on charges including invasion of privacy and bias intimidation over allegations that he secretly watched Clementi’s encounter with another man in their dorm room in September 2010.

Student Lokesh Ohja testified Wednesday that he helped Ravi adjust the webcam to get a better view of Clementi’s bed on Sept. 22. Authorities say Ravi’s attempt to spy on his roommate that day - the day before Clementi’s suicide - was thwarted when his computer was unplugged.

The other man allegedly viewed on webcam, who has been identified only as M.B., could testify soon, possibly Thursday. He has been mentioned often in the first three days of testimony in the trial.

LITTLE is known about M.B. from court filings, but witnesses have described him as a “sketchy” man around 30 years old. His identity has been kept secret, and it remained unclear Wednesday how tightly M.B.’s identity would be shielded during his testimony.

When the man takes the stand, it could mark the highest-profile testimony in the case, which has drawn national attention as an example of the societal challenges facing young gays and lesbians.

In earlier testimony, former Rutgers student Molly Wei said Ravi showed her a live web stream of Clementi, 18, kissing a man in the dorm room the young men shared.

Wei was initially charged too, but she entered a pretrial intervention program last year that can keep her record clean. One condition of the program is truthful testimony in Ravi’s criminal case.

Wei said she invited Ravi, whom she had known since middle school, to her dorm room for a snack a few minutes after 9 p.m. on Sept. 19, 2010. When Ravi tried to go back, she said, Clementi told him that he wanted the cramped dorm room to himself for a few hours. So Ravi returned.

Within a few minutes, she said, he used her computer to view live images from his webcam. It was then, she said, that she saw about two seconds of Clementi and an older man kissing.

Even though she said they initially agreed not to talk about what they had seen, she asked Ravi to tell a friend about it during an online chat that began at 9:20 p.m. And within minutes, word got around the dorm.

She said she agreed to turn the webcam back on at the request of a woman who was among a group dropped by her room.

“It was the exact same image, except that they had taken their tops off,” she said. “As soon as they saw it, I turned it off.”

One student who testified got a chuckle from jurors when she described M.B. as “not obscenely old,” though another said his age was considered “scandalous.”

She said she called Rutgers police a few days later after learning about a Twitter message Ravi posted on Sept. 21, when Clementi requested privacy in the room again.

“Anyone with iChat,” he posted, “I dare you to videochat me between the hours of 9:30 and 12. Yes, it’s happening again.”

NJ same-sex marriage support at new high

NEW JERSEY — A Quinnipiac University poll released March 1 and taken immediately after Gov. Chris Christie’s veto of same-sex marriage legislation, shows that a supermajority of New Jersey voters - 57 percent - support the freedom to marry for gay and lesbian couples.

New Jersey voters know that gay and lesbian couples’ exclusion from marriage harms families and helps no one. They’ve seen through their neighbors in New York that extending the freedom to marry boosts the state economy, enhances the quality of life for gay and lesbian couples and their families, and provides them with a critical safety-net of protections. And they know that civil unions are a failed experiment in New Jersey. Freedom to Marry will continue working with Garden State Equality to ensure that legislators whose understanding is still evolving hear from their constituents, join us on the side of fairness and equality for all Garden State families, and override Governor Christie’s veto of the marriage legislation,” said Marc Solomon, national campaign director at Freedom to Marry.

Gov. Christie has called for a referendum on marriage and this poll showed that voters are split 48 - 47 percent on whether Gov. Christie did the right thing in vetoing same-sex marriage legislation last month.

Steven Goldstein, Chairman and CEO of Garden State Equality said, “First, you don’t put the civil rights of a minority up to a vote of the majority. The last time New Jersey did that was in 1915, when a statewide referendum was held to determine whether women should have the right to vote. 58 percent voted no, and 42 percent voted yes.”

The poll indicated that voters support 67 - 28 percent, Gov. Christie’s proposal to let them decide the same-sex marriage issue by placing it on the ballot for a November referendum.
Multi Grammy-winner Sharon Isbin performs an intimate solo evening featuring Albeniz’ gypsy-inspired Asturias, Granados’ Spanish Dance No. 5 & more.

“Classical guitar’s reigning diva.”
-Dallas Morning Star

SHARON ISBIN
Sunday, March 18 at 7pm

CANADA’S ROYAL WINNIPEG BALLET
Don’t miss this high-kicking dance extravaganza, complete with a passionate story of love and ambition at Paris’ legendary Moulin Rouge.

Moulin Rouge
The Ballet
Wednesday, March 14 at 7:30pm

WINNER!
2010 TONY AWARD
BEST MUSICAL

MEMPHIS
THE MUSICAL

MARCH 27 - APRIL 1
MSU’s WHARTON CENTER
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
WHARTONCENTER.COM
1-800-WHARTON

Generously sponsored by McLellan Law Offices PLLC; MSU Department of Radiology; and White, Schneider, Young & Chiodini P.C.
Furniture • Accessories • Art and More
Baker, Herndon, Dunbar, McGuire, Knoll, Saporiti, Waterford, Baccarat and more

32801 Woodward, Royal Oak
(248) 439-6040
Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 11am-7pm

Charitable Donations ALWAYS Welcome
Visit our other council resale locations for Clothing and Accessories

1221 E. Lincoln, Royal Oak, MI
(248) 542-2600
9:00am-5:00pm (Mon-Sat)

3297 W. 12 Mile Rd, Berkley, MI
(248) 548-6664
11:00am-7:00pm (Mon-Sat)
Noon-4:00pm (Sun)

www.ncjwgds.org/councilresale

Proceeds benefit community service projects of National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit Section
Need a laugh? Meet this year’s Michigan LGBT ComedyFest bunch: Chantal Carrere, Erin Foley, Chris Doucette and Diane Amos (the Pine-Sol Lady!), all performing as part of the 16th annual event at 8 p.m. March 10 at Dearborn’s Ford Community & Performing Arts Center.

Chris Doucette

Baby, were you born this way?
Totes. After I was born, I got a tattoo that said, “I’m never doing that again.” I’ve never taken the scenic route since.

What do you find funny?
So much! The fact that people who run half-marathons brag twice as much as people who run full-marathons. Calvin and Hobbes. Elizabeth Smart got married and her honeymoon was in an “undisclosed location.” You’d think she’d be sick of that place. And the YouTube video of that guy screaming at his cats? It kills me every time. “I will end you!” LOL.

Santorum. What’s the first thing that comes to mind?
Sanitorium. You can’t spell it without Santorum. (I might be a Words With Friends geek.) I feel like Santorum’s campaign is the “Custer’s Last Stand” of the white Christian population before the power finally shifts to our Chinese and Mexican overlords. Who, by the way, get half off at all my shows. Love you guys!

What’s unique about your coming out story?
I came out in college and my dad threatened to stop paying my tuition. I had to remind him that I was paying for everything with student loans. He said, “OK, well, at least I can say that I tried something.”

What was your life like before you became a comedian?
I worked for 10 years for a variety of nonprofit organizations in Washington, D.C., until, one day, I realized that I get no actual fulfillment from helping people. It’s pretty scary when your
True beginners

Birmingham’s Uptown Film Festival short tells father’s coming out story

BY KATE OPALEWSKI

In her non-fictional directorial debut, Sophia Kruz tells a story about personal triumph, love and self-acceptance. Through her documentary film “Time Dances On,” Kruz incorporates video production and still photography to follow the story of her father, Jim Kruz. Like a real-life “Beginners,” she captures his life from childhood through his stint as a swing-dance teacher in Ann Arbor, his marriage to Kruz’s mother Deb, and his ultimate acceptance of who he truly is – a confident gay man.

The film, nominated in three short-film categories at this year’s Michigan Film Awards, will screen at 12:30 p.m. March 10 at the Birmingham 8 Theatre during the second annual Uptown Film Festival in Birmingham. It won Best Documentary Feature at the 2011 Made in Michigan Film Festival and was also nominated for Best Gay/Lesbian Film at the 2011 Great Lakes International Film Festival.

“Time Dances On” served as Kruz’s senior thesis, earning her a Bachelor’s degree in Screen Arts and Cultures from the University of Michigan in 2011.

“I am overwhelmingly happy with the film,” says the 22-year-old, who owns and operates Ann Arbor-based Sophia Kruz Productions (www.sophiakruzproductions.com), founded in 2009. “This is certainly more than I could have ever asked for. The film speaks to a broader audience and is getting attention for that. Being nominated is a really great surprise.”

With just her laptop and her camera, Kruz has humanized her father in a way nobody else can. She researched her family’s history and Michigan gay history for the film, which includes interviews with her parents and their friends, archival photos and news clips. Born into a devout Catholic home in 1950s Detroit, Jim was the third in a family of four straight boys. He discovered his attraction to other boys when he was around the age of 13, but never acted on it.

While attending the University of Michigan, he made new friends, but still wasn’t comfortable being himself. Being gay then wasn’t an option. “He met my mom teaching swing dance,” Kruz says. “They hit it off and for the first time he felt like it could work with a woman, that he could have a wife and kids and lead a straight life. I truly believe they were in love.

“My mom wanted to be with someone who was attracted to her. She initiated their divorce, but they stayed very good friends. My dad told her about his attraction to men. The transparency and honesty in their relationship is so special. They continue to raise me from separate homes, but all major decisions about me are made together.”

Kruz was inspired by her personal history, but hopes to raise awareness about gay parenting as well. “The film shows an example of a successful gay parenting story. I love him a lot and he did a great job,” Kruz says. “He’s been so supportive every step of the way. He’s been open and honest with the questions I’ve asked and shared stories from well before I was born. My parents are both private people, and although my mom hesitated at first, she gave me the go-ahead to create the film. I’m not sure what my next personal project is, but I am still young and would like to continue doing documentary films.”
**FREE FOR ALL.**

Admission is free for everyone **this Sunday** at the Detroit Institute of Arts, thanks to Ford Free Sundays. Enjoy live music, art-making, artist demos & more.

---

**SELECT TIGRESSA® SOFTSTYLE CARPET**

**BUY 1 SQUARE FOOT**

**GET 1 SQUARE FOOT FREE**

**SALE STARTS March 1**

**HURRY - SALE ENDS APRIL 15!**

**36 MONTH SPECIAL FINANCING TIGRESSA PRODUCTS ONLY**

**BONUS SAVINGS!**

**50% SELECT HARD SURFACE PRODUCTS**

---

**San Francisco Symphony:**

**American Mavericks**

Michael Tilson Thomas conductor

Featuring: Paul Jacobs organ | Jeremy Denk piano

Mason Bates electronica | Jessye Norman soprano

Joan LaBarbara & Meredith Monk vocalists

St. Lawrence String Quartet | Emanuel Ax piano

Kiera Duffy soprano | U-M Chamber Choir Jerry Blackstone director

**Thursday-Sunday / March 22-25**

Hill Auditorium & Rackham Auditorium | Ann Arbor

As part of its centennial season, Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony will present the second American Mavericks Festival, which will tour in its entirety to only two US venues: Hill Auditorium and Carnegie Hall. The 2012 festival celebrates the creative pioneering spirit and the composers who created a new American musical voice for the 20th century and beyond. Complete program details available at www.ums.org.

Presented with major support from the Creative Ventures Leadership Fund.

Funded in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Art Works.

Media Partners: Michigan Radio 91.7 FM, Between the Lines, WDET 101.9 FM, and Ann Arbor’s 107one.
Ezra Miller talks playing Tilda Swinton’s psycho son

BY LAWRENCE FERBER

Ezra Miller plays a bad, bad boy in “We Need to Talk About Kevin,” director Lynne Ramsay’s adaptation of Lionel Shriver’s chilling novel about Kevin, a sociopathic teen, and his tormented mother, Eva.

As Kevin, Miller exudes undiluted malice — with assist from his exotic, sculpted features — while Swinton, who helped develop the project with Ramsay (and is credited as an executive producer), turns in another devastating, awards-worthy performance.

Miller’s own mother was moved to tears when she saw “Kevin” with him at its Cannes Film Festival world premiere last May. “I never heard her cry this particular way before,” Miller recalls, “and it was the first testament to the possibility that the performance and film had been a success.”

Mind you, the 18-year-old Miller has played his share of provocative young characters whose antics would inspire premature grey hairs in most parents, including a prep school kid with a taste for violent Internet porn in 2008’s “Afterschool,” chubby-chasing horndog in 2009’s “City Island” and gay teen in 2010’s “Every Day.”

Via telephone, the New Jersey-born actor, who also plays drums in band Sons of An Illustrious Father (which recently released their second album, “One Body”), dished about how Swinton measures up as a mom, his June 2011 bust for marijuana possession, and being gay (again) in the upcoming “The Perks of Being a Wallflower”… as well as off-screen.

You make poor Tilda’s life a misery in “Kevin.” What would it be like to actually have Tilda as your mother?

It would be amazing. Honestly, having Tilda as a mother would be a beautiful, lovely, wonderful experience. She has two children and they’re absolute angels, really wonderful people, and it seems like they’re being raised so right. They stay away from technology, they have vivid imaginations, they play all the time. It would be very dreamy and quite the polar opposite from the relationship our characters had in the film.

Have you had any bad seed moments in real life?

I remember I put chewing gum in my friend Devon’s hair when I was in, I don’t know, second grade. I did it for no reason. It was one of those things where you’re holding chewing gum in your hand and see the hair and do it. I remember my parents were very horrified. Kids, naturally, in the exploration of life and your own capacity as a human being, discover how to lie and hurt and deceive and manipulate and have to do it (to) flex their muscles.

I read in an interview with Lynne that you were underage and lied about it when cast in the film.

That is a bold-faced lie! They made a mistake. They just assumed I was of age. There was a sheet in the casting director’s office that said, “write down your birthday if you’re under 18,” and I wrote down my birthday. I admitted it. They’ve been trying to blame me for it since. You can’t believe everything Lynne Ramsay tells you.

Was that a big problem?

I think they did have to make some accommodations and get a general verbal

---

Rising star talks playing Tilda Swinton’s psycho son

BY LAWRENCE FERBER

Ezra Miller plays a bad, bad boy in “We Need to Talk About Kevin,” director Lynne Ramsay’s adaptation of Lionel Shriver’s chilling novel about Kevin, a sociopathic teen, and his tormented mother, Eva.

As Kevin, Miller exudes undiluted malice — with assist from his exotic, sculpted features — while Swinton, who helped develop the project with Ramsay (and is credited as an executive producer), turns in another devastating, awards-worthy performance.

Miller’s own mother was moved to tears when she saw “Kevin” with him at its Cannes Film Festival world premiere last May. “I never heard her cry this particular way before,” Miller recalls, “and it was the first testament to the possibility that the performance and film had been a success.”

Mind you, the 18-year-old Miller has played his share of provocative young characters whose antics would inspire premature grey hairs in most parents, including a prep school kid with a taste for violent Internet porn in 2008’s “Afterschool,” chubby-chasing horndog in 2009’s “City Island” and gay teen in 2010’s “Every Day.”

Via telephone, the New Jersey-born actor, who also plays drums in band Sons of An Illustrious Father (which recently released their second album, “One Body”), dished about how Swinton measures up as a mom, his June 2011 bust for marijuana possession, and being gay (again) in the upcoming “The Perks of Being a Wallflower”… as well as off-screen.

You make poor Tilda’s life a misery in “Kevin.” What would it be like to actually have Tilda as your mother?

It would be amazing. Honestly, having Tilda as a mother would be a beautiful, lovely, wonderful experience. She has two children and they’re absolute angels, really wonderful people, and it seems like they’re being raised so right. They stay away from technology, they have vivid imaginations, they play all the time. It would be very dreamy and quite the polar opposite from the relationship our characters had in the film.

Have you had any bad seed moments in real life?

I remember I put chewing gum in my friend Devon’s hair when I was in, I don’t know, second grade. I did it for no reason. It was one of those things where you’re holding chewing gum in your hand and see the hair and do it. I remember my parents were very horrified. Kids, naturally, in the exploration of life and your own capacity as a human being, discover how to lie and hurt and deceive and manipulate and have to do it (to) flex their muscles.

I read in an interview with Lynne that you were underage and lied about it when cast in the film.

That is a bold-faced lie! They made a mistake. They just assumed I was of age. There was a sheet in the casting director’s office that said, “write down your birthday if you’re under 18,” and I wrote down my birthday. I admitted it. They’ve been trying to blame me for it since. You can’t believe everything Lynne Ramsay tells you.

Was that a big problem?

I think they did have to make some accommodations and get a general verbal

---

Rising star talks playing Tilda Swinton’s psycho son

BY LAWRENCE FERBER

Ezra Miller plays a bad, bad boy in “We Need to Talk About Kevin,” director Lynne Ramsay’s adaptation of Lionel Shriver’s chilling novel about Kevin, a sociopathic teen, and his tormented mother, Eva.

As Kevin, Miller exudes undiluted malice — with assist from his exotic, sculpted features — while Swinton, who helped develop the project with Ramsay (and is credited as an executive producer), turns in another devastating, awards-worthy performance.

Miller’s own mother was moved to tears when she saw “Kevin” with him at its Cannes Film Festival world premiere last May. “I never heard her cry this particular way before,” Miller recalls, “and it was the first testament to the possibility that the performance and film had been a success.”

Mind you, the 18-year-old Miller has played his share of provocative young characters whose antics would inspire premature grey hairs in most parents, including a prep school kid with a taste for violent Internet porn in 2008’s “Afterschool,” chubby-chasing horndog in 2009’s “City Island” and gay teen in 2010’s “Every Day.”

Via telephone, the New Jersey-born actor, who also plays drums in band Sons of An Illustrious Father (which recently released their second album, “One Body”), dished about how Swinton measures up as a mom, his June 2011 bust for marijuana possession, and being gay (again) in the upcoming “The Perks of Being a Wallflower”… as well as off-screen.

You make poor Tilda’s life a misery in “Kevin.” What would it be like to actually have Tilda as your mother?

It would be amazing. Honestly, having Tilda as a mother would be a beautiful, lovely, wonderful experience. She has two children and they’re absolute angels, really wonderful people, and it seems like they’re being raised so right. They stay away from technology, they have vivid imaginations, they play all the time. It would be very dreamy and quite the polar opposite from the relationship our characters had in the film.

Have you had any bad seed moments in real life?

I remember I put chewing gum in my friend Devon’s hair when I was in, I don’t know, second grade. I did it for no reason. It was one of those things where you’re holding chewing gum in your hand and see the hair and do it. I remember my parents were very horrified. Kids, naturally, in the exploration of life and your own capacity as a human being, discover how to lie and hurt and deceive and manipulate and have to do it (to) flex their muscles.

I read in an interview with Lynne that you were underage and lied about it when cast in the film.

That is a bold-faced lie! They made a mistake. They just assumed I was of age. There was a sheet in the casting director’s office that said, “write down your birthday if you’re under 18,” and I wrote down my birthday. I admitted it. They’ve been trying to blame me for it since. You can’t believe everything Lynne Ramsay tells you.

Was that a big problem?

I think they did have to make some accommodations and get a general verbal
“This gay neighborhood eatery has it all... Check out the patio!”

“...Great food, atmosphere (that’s so New York) and moderate everyday prices!”

The Broadway Café
1225 Woodward Heights @ Hilton In Ferndale
248-544-4215 - petesbroadwaycafe.com
twitter.com/broadwaycafe - facebook.com/broadwaycafe

Knowledge = Power

Know Yourself - get tested

Free HIV testing in a compassionate and supportive setting
Treatment and services available across Detroit and Southeastern Michigan

Take Control. Take the Test. Call Now.
(800) 872-2437

HIV/AIDS Programs
Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment & Recovery (800) 447-2452
Herman Kiefer Health Complex
1811 Taylor, Detroit 48202
Who wants a lesbian with a hangnail? Well, it’s not an ideal way to start out as a lesbian. I’m what’s unique. That, and I had a hangnail. It’s only a wistful whisper, but if there’s an emotion threaded through Bram’s clear-eyed gaze at gay writers and writing from the 1950s to the current decade, it’s this: those were the days, my friend. The author himself of nine fine novels (among them, his 1987 debut, “Surprising Myself,” and “Father of Frankenstein,” basis for the Academy Award-winning film “Gods and Monsters”), Bram discusses several dozen gay writers, but has wisely chosen to focus primarily on a few – Ginsberg and Vidal, Capote and Williams, Isherwood and Baldwin, Crowley and Albee and Kushner, Kramer and Holleran, Maupin and White, seminal figures all in the post-WWII emergence of an assertive and self-affirming queer literature. In a meaty book that is both a celebration and a lament, both a critical study and a fount of literary gossip, Bram’s assessment that “the gay experience ... energized American literature” can’t be faulted. (And do read through the source notes at the back of the book, chockfull of insightful, anecdotal tidbits.)

The satire is broad and the broads are buxom – large “boobs” are a recurring image – in this rowdy follow-up to SanGiovanni’s first laugh-a-lot novel about the rambunctious Santora family, “Greetings from Jamaica, Wish You Were Queer.” The three Santora siblings have inherited immense wealth from a dead aunt, and something silly ensues – headstrong dyke Lisa’s plan to buy a dilapidated summer camp, enlisting her lesbian younger sister, Maria, and their hopelessly straight brother, Vince. As for their love lives: Lisa hits on every woman she sees, Maria has broken off her affair with a cloaked Hollywood actress, and Vince is heartbroken because the woman he loves – Erica, a contractor for whom Lisa once worked, and for whom she has feelings – has ended their relationship. Maria and Vince, despite their doubts, see Lisa’s project as a place to lick their emotional wounds – until Erica is hired by Lisa to renovate ramshackle cabins, to the soul-shaking astonishment of sister and brother. It’s not great art, but this slapstick novel earns its giggles.

Poetry in paragraphs. For readers for whom poetry is an occasional delicacy rather than a literary staple, the form can be confounding – no line breaks suggesting where it’s OK to take a breath, certainly nothing as reader-friendly as rhyme or as familiarly formal as a sonnet, a haiku, even a sestina. With Shurin’s eleventh book (including a short memoir and a collection of ruminations on AIDS), he returns to the genre-straddling prose poem almost 30 years after publishing “The Graces.” These new, 60-plus, mostly one-page entries are bursts of lyric intensity and sensual imagery with at times hints of personal passions and sexual moments – “...A pulley system raising chin or ass – yanked in – grommet eyes – your grin flushed out as your hand clutches...” Each of the solid texts is saturated with words, a rush and a tumble of exciting and excitable but at all times controlled excess. This is writing that is volatile and nuanced, vivid and innovative, vital and inviting.

What’s unique about your coming out story?

Perhaps it’s unique because my mother asked me to mind? Toe tapping. In an Amtrak bathroom stall somewhere in middle America. That’s my prediction anyway. It’s always the most outspoken men in politics that are the gayest. Except we don’t want him. We, of course, meaning the entire gay population. I speak for the entire gay population once a week.

What’s unique about your coming out story?

Perhaps it’s unique because my mother asked me if I was gay at 7:30 a.m. over breakfast. Specifically, Rice Chex. You remember the small details during traumatic events. 7:30 a.m. She knows I’m not a morning person so I was ripe for an ambush. After some roundabouts, I said I was gay and she said she was devastated. Then about an hour later she gave me an article from her AARP magazine about creativity as if our conversation never happened. We never spoke about it again. I never had a conversation with my dad. About a month later I asked them if I could bring my girlfriend home for Thanksgiving. They welcomed her as they would every woman I’ve dated. My parents are the loveliest, funniest, most adorable non-communicative people on the planet. Oh, Irish Catholics!

For tickets to Equality Michigan’s ComedyFest, visit www.comedyfest.org.
My friend Josh has a dilemma. Single for two years, he’s graduated from making love to kitchen utensils. It won’t do anymore. It’s Black Friday. His love is on clearance, but there are no buyers and he won’t settle. Sex with closet cases who hate flamboyant gay men isn’t enough. He wants a nice guy who won’t be embarrassed to be seen with him at the grocery store.

“Then go stand in the organic fruit aisle and cry vegan,” I say. “You’ll have a man in no time.”

“It’s no joke,” he states. “I hate waking up without a boyfriend. You know, my ex, the woodpecker. His penis was my alarm clock. His drill, the promise of a new day.”

I roll my eyes. “Can you be more dramatic?”

“It’s true.” Frowning, he kicks at the floor. “How am I supposed to find someone? Where do I meet new people? I’m done with searching for a man on a phone app.”

“What’s the problem?” I ask. “You have a referral source. What about getting set up by a friend?”


“No.”

“Why?”

I recall a drunk text, where Josh confessed to having an intimate experience with a spatula. I’m not sure what he did, but he had a hard time wiping his ass that week. All he’d say is that his bad behavior would make a rolling pin blush. “I know too much about your kitchen tools,” I explain.

“That was one night,” he defends. “One lonely night.”

“You wouldn’t like my friends,” I state. “They’re too superficial for you. You want a traditional guy.”

His lips curl with the thought. “Right. A traditional guy.”

The next day he takes to his cell phone, making the rounds. He calls seven of his friends but no one is willing to hook him up. They all make excuses, stating their friends are coupled or too critical. Only one friend, Seth, is able to provide a lead. “His name is Rudy,” Seth says. “But you have to go slow. He was just in a relationship. He’s sensitive. Don’t try sleeping with him. He’s better than that.”

Josh agrees, leaping at the chance to meet a guy who wants more than sex. The good news: the date is a success, filled with academic conversation, romance and hints of intrigue. The bad news: Rudy reveals that he used to date Seth, and Seth has a jealous streak. You see, even though Seth introduced the two, he isn’t willing to give up what he had.

Is that common for gay men? Are we territorial even if we have no rights? For Seth, it makes no difference that he’s merely Rudy’s friend; he still owns the property. Rudy is on lease. So what if he wants to join Josh and Rudy on dates? Between boyfriends, Seth doesn’t like being alone.

“Dude, you can’t come out with us every night,” Josh tells him.


“Huh?”

“I introduced you to Rudy. Remember?”

“Yeah, and we’re dating now. So we need space to get to know each other.”

Seth smiles in agreement but doesn’t take the idea well. This new relationship is cutting into his “friend” time. So he begins texting Rudy to win him back. Soon, the texts take a sexual turn, entering the realm of “what if.” Do you think we still have something? I miss you in my arms. But Seth doesn’t want Rudy. He just wants to know Rudy’s there.

On his birthday, Josh breaks it off when Rudy delays their plans for a beach day with Seth. “So much for meeting a man through friends,” Josh says, calling me. “I’m back to ground zero.”

I like to think I’m not like that, that I draw a clear, visible line when it comes to friendship. So we eat dinner and I give Josh time to spend alone. As a friend, I know he’ll need it to go shopping. For his birthday, I got him a Williams Sonoma gift card. Friend or not, I have no intention of asking what he buys with it.
agreement from me that I would be willing to work any and all hours to make this film possible. I think the initial concern was trying to accommodate the hours (since minors have limited working hours on a low-budget shoot). But I voiced great determination to be part of this film and think that commitment comforted them enough.

You play gay in "Wallflower" as Patrick, older brother to Emma Watson's character and friend to the protagonist, Charlie. What can you tell us about that character?

I can tell you he’s an outstanding, charismatic, prideful young lad who has a beautiful ability to transform his circumstance into one of levity. He can make light of any situation, which I came to admire. He almost has this internal mechanism to bring the light out of any given situation.

Does Patrick have a boyfriend?

Yes! He has a boyfriend whom he keeps secret, because the boyfriend’s closeted and ashamed. He’s the high school quarterback. One of those.

It was nice to see you play a well-adjusted, kind, straight-edge gay kid in “Every Day.”

Right! He was a good, friendly character. People keep telling me I’m always playing one character. There’s a range.

When asked about whether he had gay sexual experiences, Tom Hardy famously said, “Of course, I’m an actor for fuck’s sake.” Have you ever had a gay moment in real life?

Of course! Many! I’ve had many, you know, “happy ending sleepovers” in my early youth. My period of exploration. I think that’s essential. Anyone who hasn’t had a gay moment is probably trying to avoid some confrontation with a reality in their life.

Do you have some gay moments still to come? Is there any hope for the guys crushing on you?

I’m not sure. Perhaps. I keep my options open. My spectrum remains broad. I’ve been in love with a lot of girls lately but that doesn’t necessarily suggest anything definite about the future.

In June you were arrested for marijuana possession, about 20 grams of it, and ultimately let off. I was shocked to read about the arrest – mostly because I keep forgetting they actually prosecute people for marijuana possession. Right? They shouldn’t. It’s a ridiculous law based on ridiculous things. But I think people are coming around. Medicalization of marijuana is happening in more and more states. Of course, there is one sweeping issue, which is nonviolent drug convictions constitute a lot of what puts people in jail in this country and the prison industrial complex is one of our last booming industries. Pot also stands to take a lot of money away from the pharmaceutical industry. It’s a painkiller and dopamine inhibitor. It serves all of these functions that all these harmful, extreme drugs prescribed serve. So there’s money to be made in the continued illegality of that plant. But I feel no shame. It’s a plant. Everybody knows what pot is. And I don’t care.

There’s a website dedicated to hotties’ mugshots, Hot and Busted (hotandbusted.tumblr.com), so perhaps we can at least make sure yours gets up there.

Yeah, I hope so. I hope I make that cut.
Seein’ plenty of green at the Fisher

BY DONALD V. CALAMIA

When smart theater executives plan their seasons, they do so knowing full well not every show will be a sell-out — and so they plan their budgets accordingly. If a show meets or surpasses its budget and makes money, that’s cause for celebration. If it doesn’t, it’s probably time for prayer, hoping the next will sell like crazy to make up for it.

I suspect that’s true at Detroit’s best-known venue for Broadway tours, the Fisher Theatre. While some shows pack customers to the rafters — “Jersey Boys” comes to mind — a handful of others (mostly dramas, I’d guess) seem to draw only a hardy few. One genre that seems to go either way, however, is the family-friendly musical — often based on a movie cartoon or a popular children’s book. One such show is currently in town, and if the excellent opening night performance of “Shrek The Musical” is any indication, there should be plenty of green to go around — both on stage and in the Fisher’s bank account!

Based on a book and characters created by William Steig and the first “Shrek” movie by DreamWorks Animation, “Shrek The Musical” tells the story of two 7-year-olds, an ogre and a princess, whose parents send them out into the cold, cruel world – the ogre to fend for himself, and the princess to fulfill her destiny locked in a tower. Little did either know their paths were fated to cross 8,423 days later when Shrek (the ogre) is tasked by the diminutive Lord Farquaad to go to the tower and fetch his prospective bride. (His reward? The deed to the swamp he calls home, which is overrun by storybook characters Farquaad exiled from his territory.)

But things don’t go smoothly for the grumpy ogre, who finds himself accompanied on his journey by a smart-mouthed donkey. Plus, the princess he encounters turns out to be far more than just the object of a business deal he struck with a conniving politician. (Is there any other kind?)

The NETworks production now at the Fisher is a slick and thoroughly entertaining production that accomplished the near impossible on opening night: It held the attention of the very young seated all around me from start to finish. That’s a feat any thespian with experience in theater for young audiences will tell you can be quite difficult to achieve — especially for more than two hours (plus intermission).

And why that happened is easy to explain.

Lukas Poost as Shrek, Andre Jordan as Donkey and Liz Shivener as Princess Fiona in “Shrek The Musical” at Detroit’s Fisher Theatre. Photo: Joan Marcus

(My knees ached for him throughout the show, however; see the show to find out why.)

But of equal importance are the many other colorful characters who bring the story to life — aided and abetted by the superb storybook costumes by Tim Hatley. While all costumes are impressive, Luke Yellin’s Pinocchio — who is sheer fun to watch, by the way — is by far one of the most unique, yet functional designs I’ve seen in ages. So too is the dazzling outfit worn by Susan Leilani Gearou as the Witch. (I couldn’t keep my eyes off her.) Even the cross-dressing Big Bad Wolf played by Michigan native Adam Steiner is memorably attired.

Also memorably garbed is the stage, with a set designed by Hatley and adapted by James Kronzer. While animated films have the luxury of going any place and any time without blowing up the budget, the entire design team for “Shrek The Musical” (including lights by Paul Miller, sound by Shannon Slaton, make-up by Naomi Donne and puppets by Hatley) has matched the films by creating a gorgeous and amazingly functional fairy tale world in three dimensions.

Granted, I’m not the intended market for “Shrek The Musical.” But my visit to the fantasy world of ogres and princesses couldn’t have been more enjoyable — and I imagine it’s even more so if you have a child with you. So find a youngster or two and introduce them to the magic and wonderment of live theater. I can think of no better show with which to begin a lifelong love affair with the performing arts!
Editors' Picks

Outings

Gay “Star Trek” and “Heroes” actor and LGBT rights proponent George Takei narrates the newest installment in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra’s Pops Concert Series, “Sci-Fi Spectacular,” this weekend at the Max M. Fisher Music Center in Detroit.

George Takei is best known for his role as Hikaru Sulu on the USS Enterprise in the television series “Star Trek.” Takei, a Tony Award winner, has been a leader in the LGBT community and has co-founded the Human Rights Campaign.

This weekend’s concert features a screening of the 1979 film “Star Trek: The Motion Picture,” followed by a live orchestra performance of the movie’s score and a Q&A with Takei. The concert will also feature performances of other classic sci-fi movies, including “Alien,” “Blade Runner,” and “The Empire Strikes Back.”

The afternoon concert is at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 12, and the evening concert is at 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 12, at the Fisher Center. Tickets are $35-$45. For more information, go to DSO.org.

The Detroit Actors Theater Company will present “Cabin Fever” by Stephen Sondheim, a musical set in a New England cabin overlooking a lake.

The show is set in the 19th century, and the cast includes a baker, a butcher, a druggist, and a innkeeper. The show runs from March 9 to March 19 at the Fisher Center. Tickets are $25-$30. For more information, go to DATC.org.

The Detroit Opera House will present the world premiere of “The Ride of the Valkyries” by Richard Wagner, a symphonic poem inspired by the German legend of the Valkyries.

The performance features the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and conductor Edward Price. The show runs from March 10 to March 12 at the Fisher Center. Tickets are $20-$35. For more information, go to DSO.org.

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra will present a concert featuring the music of Leonard Bernstein and Aaron Copland. The performance includes the premiere of Bernstein’s “Ode” and Copland’s “Lincoln Portrait.”

The orchestra will be led by conductor Andrew Manze. The performance runs from March 11 to March 13 at the Fisher Center. Tickets are $20-$40. For more information, go to DSO.org.

The Detroit Opera House will present “La Traviata” by Giuseppe Verdi, a classic opera that tells the story of a爱上 the doomed love between a courtesan and a young man.

The production features the Michigan Opera Theatre and is directed by Christopher Alden. The show runs from March 10 to March 19 at the Fisher Center. Tickets are $20-$35. For more information, go to MOT.org.

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra will present the world premiere of “The Eyes of Young America” by作曲家Elliott Carter, a symphonic poem inspired by the life of writer Leopoldo Torres Balbo.

The performance features the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and conductor Karina Canellakis. The show runs from March 11 to March 13 at the Fisher Center. Tickets are $20-$40. For more information, go to DSO.org.

The Detroit Opera House will present the world premiere of “The Secret Garden” by composer Matthew Wilder, a musical based on the beloved children’s book.

The show features a cast of young performers and is directed by Michael Greif. The performance runs from March 11 to March 19 at the Fisher Center. Tickets are $20-$35. For more information, go to MOT.org.

The Detroit Opera House will present the world premiere of “The Tale of Despereaux” by composer Andrew Lloyd Webber, a musical based on the children’s book.

The show features a cast of young performers and is directed by Michael Greif. The performance runs from March 11 to March 19 at the Fisher Center. Tickets are $20-$35. For more information, go to MOT.org.

The Detroit Opera House will present the world premiere of “The Sound of Music” by composer Richard Rodgers, a musical based on the popular novel by Maria von Trapp.

The show features a cast of young performers and is directed by Michael Greif. The performance runs from March 11 to March 19 at the Fisher Center. Tickets are $20-$35. For more information, go to MOT.org.

Passion Play A staged reading. $7. Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 E. Kearsley St., Flint. 6 p.m. March 11. 810-237-1530. wwwFLICTheat.org


Arbor March 15 - 17. 734-764-2538. www.umich.edu

The Comedy of Errors $15-35. Miller Auditorium at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. 7:30 p.m. March 13. 269-387-2312. www.millerauditorium.com

The Comedy of Errors The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple Rd., West Bloomfield. 8 p.m. March 20. 248-661-1900. www.theberman.org

Julius Caesar The Berman Center for the Performing Arts, 6600 W. Maple Rd., West Bloomfield. 8 p.m. March 19. 248-661-1900. www.theberman.org


Mythbusters: Behind the Myths $25-$55. Wharton Center, 1 Wharton Center Dr., East Lansing. 3 p.m. March 17. 517-432-2000. www.whartoncenter.com

Haron Mirza’s “The national apathy of then and now” on exhibit at the University of Michigan Museum of Art, March 17 to July 22.

Cranbrook Art Museum

No Object is an Island: New Dialogues with the Cranbrook Collection" created by renowned Finnish architect Eliel Saarinen, the exhibition will pair the work of 50 leading contemporary artists and designers with an equal number of objects from the Cranbrook’s permanent collection. Cranbrook Art Museum, 392-71 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Nov. 12-25 March 27. 877-462-7262. Cranbrook.edu

Kerrytown Concert House “Sara Innes. Paintings and Tapestries Takahara, Printmaker” Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor.


University of Michigan Museum of Art “Haron Mirza” Haron Mirza is a noted visual artist who wants us to listen, to train our ears on the incidental sounds that surround us, and to connect sound to the objects that create it. In his work, Mirza explores and attempts to restore the relationships humans have with sound that occur through objects, acoustics, and forces. Paintings and drawings largely screened behind the black boxes of electronic music keyboards, digital music players, TV monitors, and the bits of information they play. University of Michigan Museum of Art, 511 S. State St., Ann Arbor. March 4-July 22. 734-647-0524. Umma.umich.edu


The show closed WHEN?
I should have gone to

ENCORE MICHIGAN!
If it’s about Michigan theaters, it’s here.

For expanded listings & to add a listing, visit our website www.PrideSource.com
Pet of the Week

Say hello to Tabitha!

This 4-month-old Shepherd/Pit Bull terrier mix weighs just 18 pounds, but definitely has some growing to do! Friendly and playful, Tabitha gets along with other dogs and should transition easily into her new home with her brand new forever family. The adoption fee includes sterilization, age-appropriate vaccinations, and so much more! For more information, please visit or call the Michigan Humane Society’s Detroit Center for Animal Care at (313) 872-3400 and provide the pet ID number, 710756. Photo courtesy Michigan Humane Society.

Across
1 Chain with fruit syrups
5 Guy who cheats on his boyfriend, e.g.
8 Billy Budd, for one
14 Loose cannon
16 Cause of chaotic weather
17 Oz city shades
18 Some housewarming gifts
19 Start of a line from a Whitney Houston song
21 Bears org.
22 Worship service, for Malcolm Boyd
23 Says a word to Mary
27 Lover that you can’t get over
29 Have fun with the Kneelers
32 Out, at the library
34 Title for French ladies
38 More of the line
40 Tolerate homophobe Robertson?
41 Gracefully slender
42 Little bit
43 Copies of a feminist mag.
45 That is, to Cicero
46 Site of a Lara Croft raid
49 Was out in front
51 End of the line
57 Stew slowly
58 Service later in the day
60 Bore that isn’t penetrating
61 Corsage favorite
62 Be too single-minded
63 It’s over your head
64 Hoarse sound

Down
1 Land of writer E. Donoghue
2 Prefix with sphere
3 R.E.M.’s “The ___ Love”
4 Roz portrayer on “Frasier”
5 Ariz. neighbor
6 Crackhead, e.g.
7 Ball lover
8 Old photo color
9 Fashion designer Perry
10 Lover of Henry and June
11 Skimpy skirt
12 “No” voter
13 “I have a headache” and “Not tonight, honey”
15 Challenged
16 Get up
18 Some housewarming gifts
19 Start of a line from a Whitney Houston song
23 Out, at the library
24 Antigay crusader Bryant
25 Story of Greeks that busted some Trojans
26 Pork purchase
28 Doesn’t use
29 Word from Tom Bianchi, perhaps
30 Salmon that has spawned
31 Place to stop when cruising
33 Tuck’s partner
35 Liza, to Lorna
36 Stockholder’s bonus
37 Blown away
39 Shakespeare’s feet
44 Eastern European language
46 Wrap it around your package
47 Sites for dates
48 Powers portrayer
50 Sondheim’s “___ Day a Little Death”
51 Mubarak, for one
52 Actor Jude and family
53 Staying power, in “Variety”
54 Belgian river
55 Sometime Capote associate Chaplin
56 United, to Vivien
57 “Liquor not provided” letters
59 Noticeable opening, with The

Solution on page 32
ARIES (March 20 – April 19): Is cooperation more trouble than it’s worth? Your colleagues may feel the same way about you. Focus on improving your technical and interpersonal skills. Things will improve soon. Build a track record you can be proud of.

TAURUS (April 20 – May 20): Venus coming home to Taurus opens you up to new dreams, ideas and romances. Stay within your budget, but let all other limits and constraints fly to the wind. Sharing your ideals and dreams will boost your allure.

GEMINI (May 21- June 20): Wild impulsive ideas can lead to true love or add some juice to an existing relationship. Confess your wildest hopes and some will be fulfilled. Think ahead, though! Life gets crazy next week. Pay attention to details.

CANCER (June 21- July 22): Be helpful, kind and supportive, but bending over backwards for others will just get you a sore back. Open-mindedness is good, but study basic premises before adopting entire philosophies. You will be heard, so think before speaking!

LEO (July 23 – August 22): You’re too sexy for your shoes, too sexy for your lover, too sexy for your job. Tone down the charm and charisma at least a little bit. Others can easily make it out to be more than you intended, arousing jealousy and harassment suits.

VIRGO (August 23 – September 22): Your naughty mouth can get you into trouble, delicious or otherwise. Tell the one you love what you’d really like to do when you’re alone together. It could do wonders for your relationship.

LIBRA (September 23 – October 22): A flirtation with a co-worker or an exercise buddy could turn into something serious, unless you take it too seriously. Let it be fun and light. You both need some fresh air and fun, and if that’s all it is, that’s OK, too.

SCORPIO (October 23 – November 21): As you get over being cranky and critical of your friends, how many do you have left? Getting rid of annoying twits may improve your life, but you probably still have some fences to mend. Make time for the folks who really matter.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 – December 20): Family ties or work in your community can strengthen a foundation for your career. Thing seem to be backsliding now. Recalculate your direction. That will take a few weeks yet. Don’t fret over immediate results. Keep your eye on the long run.

CAPRICORN (December 21 – January 19): Why do siblings or neighbors drive you crazy? It’s not about you. Work to understand and be sympathetic to their problems. On a power surge right now, you can afford to be generous.

AQUARIUS (January 20 – February 18): Try not to take yourself, your ideas or your sex life too seriously. Dissatisfaction drives the search for improvement, an open mind, some humility and a sense of humor will help you succeed. The comforts of home help you keep balanced.

PISCES (February 19 – March 19): “Brilliant” financial ideas will soon prove to need correcting. You probably have a good start to a plan, though it needs time and work. Don’t act prematurely! Listen to your partner’s suggestions politely, but your friends really have the better insights.

Mercury is slowing down in Aries to turn retrograde while aspecting Venus and conjoining Uranus. Enjoy flirtations, but don’t count on them to last. Any “inspirational notions” this week will blow up next week, but could lead to true genius by late April.

BY JACK FERTIG

Jack Fertig, a professional astrologer since 1977, is available for personal and business consultations in person in San Francisco, or online everywhere. He can be reached at 415-864-8302, through his website at www.starjack.com, and by email at QScopes@qsyndicate.com.
Classifieds

101-ANNOUNCEMENTS
LGBT AA MEETINGS

Ann Arbor-Friday
7:30 p.m., St. Andrews Episcopal Church Gay AA, 306 N. Division St. Closed/Discussion.

Bloomfield Hills-
Thursday
7:00 p.m., Sobriety in The Hills Gay AA, Kirk in The Hills Church, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd. Closed/Discussion.

Detroit-Tuesday / Friday
8:00 p.m., Downtown Gay AA, Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 West Fort St. Closed/Discussion (Open 1st Friday of every month).

Farmington Hills-
Monday
8:00 pm, Suburban West Gay AA, Universalist Unitarian Church, 25301 Holstead (Between 10 & 11 Mile Roads) Closed / Discussion.

Ferndale-
Monday / Wednesday / Friday

Ferndale-
Wednesday
8 p.m., Diversity Wednesday Gay AA, St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 640 W. Livinston @ Livernois. Closed/Discussion.

Ferndale-
Saturday
1 p.m., Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.

Livonia-Friday
8 p.m., West Side Story’s Gay AA, Providence Medical Center, 7 Mile & Newburgh. Closed/Discussion.

Pontiac-Tuesday / Thursday / Sunday
8 p.m., Pontiac Gay AA, Shrine of St. Joseph, 400 West South Blvd. Closed/Discussion.

Warren-
Monday

320 EMPLOYMENT - WANTED

Male Models Needed
Male Models 18-50 needed for video productions no experience necessary contact Mastodon Production mastodon@rock.com serious replies only

409 PROF. SERVICES - FINANCIAL

Get all the tax credit you deserve
Tax Preparation $50 for a tax return David Rosenberg massage4@aol.com 734-662-6282

428 PROF. SERVICES - MASSAGE

GROUP MASSAGE - For Gay and Bisexual Men. Learn some massage techniques and meet others in a safe and caring environment. Tuesdays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Thursdays at 2 p.m. $10 per session. 209 West Kingsley in downtown Ann Arbor. (734) 662-6282 or email Massage4@aol.com. http://www.trymassage.com

604 TRAVEL - GENERAL

LGBT Getaways
Click on the banner for LGBT Getaways at www.LivingIsCruising.com or call 855-655-1359

To place a classified ad with us, visit PRIDESOURCE.COM/classifieds or call us at 888.615.7003 ext. 22

Solution to puzzle from page 30

March 12, 2012

Health & Wellness

ONLY ONE WEEK UNTIL THE BTL SPRING HEALTH & WELLNESS ISSUE

DON’T MISS OUT!

CHECK OUT OUR GREAT ADVERTISING DEALS!

More info at PRIDESOURCE.COM or call 734-293-7200 ex. 15
BY ED SIKOV

It was with a toxic mix of boredom, curiosity, invigoration and the pathetic devilishness particular to the elderly that I called Kyle and asked him what he was doing Friday night. “The usual,” he said, as though I’d stalked him and knew his routine. (OK, there was a brief period when I had stalked him, but let’s leave that aside.)

“What’s that?” I asked. “Get home around 7, shower, change, meet Robbie for drinks and dinner, and then see what develops. Wanna join us?” In more ways than one, I thought lecherously, but answered, “Sure.” Dan was in Duluth—in February!—at an Alzheimer’s conference. “Don’t forget to come home!” I cried after he shut the door on the way out, knowing he wouldn’t deign to unlock the door to reprimand me for my bad taste.

I was in the mood to hang out with youth because I’d picked up a copy of GQ and was shocked to find that I’d heard of none of the people whose handsome faces and superb bodies graced its pages; I knew nothing of the products being touted and advertised; and the recommended hot spots in New York City were as foreign to me as the best places to get grilled yak in Ulan Bator. Where once were my favorite blocks of sleazy sex clubs now stand the showrooms of Stella McCartney and Alexander McQueen. (That particular neighborhood’s name, the Meatpacking District, has remained relevant, however. First it was Manhattan’s slaughterhouse neighborhood, then a place where men inserted themselves into other men, and now it’s where oversized rich women go to squeeze into clothes one size too small.)

Kyle told me to meet him at Naval, a relatively new bar in the far west Hell’s Kitchen. I remembered the block as a wasteland of bus parking lots; now it’s ablaze with soaring rental apartment buildings, thriving restaurants and showy bars, including Naval, with its double theme of sailors and treasure trails, all depicted in giant close-up murals on the walls. By the time Robbie got there it was almost 9 p.m. I was yawning.

“Here,” said Kyle. “Drink this.” He handed me something he’d gotten from the bartender. I looked at the can. “What’s a Blue Ox?” “It’s an energy drink,” Robbie shouted. I took a mouthful and—because it tasted like artificially sweetened crankcase oil pretending to be cola—promptly spat it out on the floor, much to the consternation of the idiot next to me who was wearing shorts and flip flops on a frigid February night and ended up with spat-out Blue Ox all over his shins and feet. “Asshole!” he squealed. I tend to get belligerent when I’m not drunk, so I shoved his shoulders back with both hands and said, “No, you’re the asshole for dressing like you’re in Barbados when in fact you’re in New Friggin’ York in February. Now go poof or I’ll beat the crap out of you, you asinine little twink.” He spun around and ran away.


The Salty Dog
3 oz. grapefruit juice
3 oz. Absolut vodka
Cut lemon
Salt
Ice, cubes or crushed

Rub the cut edge of the lemon on the rim of a glass, then dip the glass in a plate full of flaked salt. Put the ice in the glass, then add the juice and vodka and stir gently, so as not to disturb the salt on the rim. If the drink is too strong for you, cut it with more grapefruit juice.
Advertiser Index

ACCOUNTING / TAX SERVICES
Ameritax Plus .................................. 31
Co-Op Tax & Accounting .................. 11
Kuderik and Associates ...................... 11
QJM Advisors .................................. 21
Rosenberg, David ............................ 11

AIDS/HIV ORGANIZATIONS
AIDS Partnership Michigan .................. 34
Detroit Department of Health & Wellness .. 21

ATHLETICS/RECREATION
Metro Detroit Softball League ............. 11

ATTORNEYS
Attorney Pierce ................................ 34
Gittleman, Steven ............................. 31
Rasor Law Firm ................................ 35

AUTO/COLLISION
Automatic Body Shops .......................... 23

AUTO/DEALER
Fairlane Ford .................................... 18
Hodges Imported Cars ......................... 21
Suburban Buick GMC .......................... 22

BAKTERIES
Avalon International Breads ............ 16

BAR/CLUBS/DISCOS
On Bar ......................................... 32

BARBER SHOP
Steven B’s Barber Shop ....................... 23

CARPET CLEANERS
Hagopian Cleaning Services ............... 20

CHIROPRACTORS
Ferndale Chiropractic Center ............ 23

CHOCOLATES
AG Chocolates .................................. 35

COUNCILING
Cantrell, Christine, Ph.D., LLC ............ 20
Joe Kort and Associates ...................... 20
Jozwiak, Rosemary, MA, LPC, CCBT, DVCe .... 31

DENTISTS
Williamson, Ron T. DDS .................... 3

EXOTICA
Blue Moon Video/DVD ....................... 32
Intimate Ideas ................................ 33
Just 4 Us ..................................... 26

EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS
Affiliations Community Center ............ 25, 36

FLOORING
Modern Floors Carpet One .................. 19

GARDEN CENTER
Green Thumb Garden Center .............. 22

HEAD SHOP
3 Doors Down Head Shop .................. 35

INSURANCE
Insurance Exchange ......................... 11

INTRODUCTION SERVICES
Mega Mates ................................... 32

JEWELERS
Miner’s Den ................................... 16

MUSEUM
The Detroit Institute of Arts ............... 19

MUSIC CONCERT SERIES
University Musical Society .................. 19

PET SERVICES – VETERINARIAN
Patterson Dog & Cat Hospital ............. 11

PHARMACY
Direct Rx ..................................... 3
MedCart ....................................... 22

PHYSICIANS
Partridge Creek OB Gym ................... 13

RETAIL
Button’s Rent-It ................................ 21

RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL
Central United Methodist Church .......... 27
Metropolitan Community Church of Detroit .. 23
Whoever Ministry ......................... 31

RENTAL
Button’s Rent-It ................................ 21

RESALE/CONSIGNMENT
National Council of Jewish Women ........ 16

RESTAURANTS
Ardmore Park Place ......................... 35
Pete’s Place Cafe ............................. 21
The French Laundry ......................... 18

SLEEP CENTER
Patterson Dog & Cat Hospital ............. 11

SPORTS
Metro Detroit Softball League .......... 11

SUNDRIES
Avalon International Breads ............ 16

TAX SERVICES
Ameritax Plus .................................. 31

TELEPHONE SERVICES
Wakes Wave Goodbye ....................... 2

WE’RE NOT JUST OUT...
WE’RE OUTSTANDING!
Bankruptcy | Criminal Defense
Auto Accident and All Personal Injury
Divorce/Family Law
Employment Discrimination
Police Misconduct | Commercial Litigation
Business Formation | Workers Comp
Social Security Disability
Unemployment Benefits
Driver’s License Restoration

AGGRESSIVE * SHARP * RESPONSIVE
RasorLawFirm.com
888-Rasor-Law
FREE ONLINE CHAT AND CASE REVIEW
Tickets:
$200 - General Admission
$300 - VIP
VIP admission includes
- Free valet parking
- Admission to an exclusive VIP reception in the Deigo Rivera Court
- Name recognition in the Spring Bash Program Guide

Hotel:
The Inn on Ferry Street is offering a reduced rate of $135 per night based on double occupancy, for guests attending Spring Bash. Parking and shuttle service available within a five mile radius. Call (313) 871-6000 for reservations.

Limo Service:
Satisfaction Limousines is offering a 13% discount to Spring Bash goers on the evening of the event. Check out the hot pink H2 Hummer stretch or red hot Chrysler 300!
Call (586) 725-7799 for more info.

For more information about Spring Bash 2012, contact Events & Sponsorship Manager, Mark McMillan at (248) 398-7105 or MMcMillan@GoAffirmations.org

Get Your Tickets at www.GoAffirmations.org!

The Art of Recreation
A Black Tie Affair

Buffalo Wild Wings | Genasis Credit Union | Henry Ford Health Service | Plante & Moran

Detroit Institute of Arts