

JANET JACKSON INTERVIEW



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Census: More gay couples reported

BY JOSEPH ERBENTRAUT

The statistics on same-sex couples in Illinois from the latest decennial census were unveiled Aug. 4. The count reveals a marked increase in the number of individuals who report that they live with a same-sex partner statewide.

Statewide, the 2010 census estimated that 32,469 gay and lesbian couples live in Illinois, which marks a 42 percent increase over the last decennial estimate in 2000. That increase was led principally by a 53-percent increase in the number of lesbian couple-led households (16,416, compared to 10,732) who now slightly outnumber the number of gay couple-led households who saw only a 32-percent increase (16,053 households, compared to 12,155 in 2010).

The numbers also reveal that a large number of same-sex couples in Illinois have started their own families and are raising children, including 17 percent of self-reporting gay couples (2,723) and 29 percent of self-reporting lesbian couples (4,783). All told, 7,506 same-sex couples in Illinois are estimated to be raising children under the age of 18—making up 23 percent of the total population. The 2010 estimate of the number of same-sex couples raising children is relatively comparable to the 2000.

Gary Gates, a Williams Distinguished Scholar at the Institute on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy at the UCLA law school, specializes in queer demography utilizing census data and said a number of factors are at play in the increased number of self-reporting same-sex couples over the last decade in Illinois, as well as

the other 29 states (plus Puerto Rico) for which data has thus far been rolled out by the U.S. Census Bureau since June.

First, Gates noted, he said coupled, cohabitating gay and lesbian couples are likely more willing to accurately report their relationship status on the census and said it was also possible that broader social acceptance has “created conditions where more gay and lesbian people couple off and perhaps come out.”

That said, he admitted some of the increase also had a lot to do with a heightened grassroots outreach campaign, on the bureau’s part, which encouraged queer couples to accurately report about their lives.

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LGBT PROTECTIONS LACKING

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LAKEVIEW SROs CLOSING

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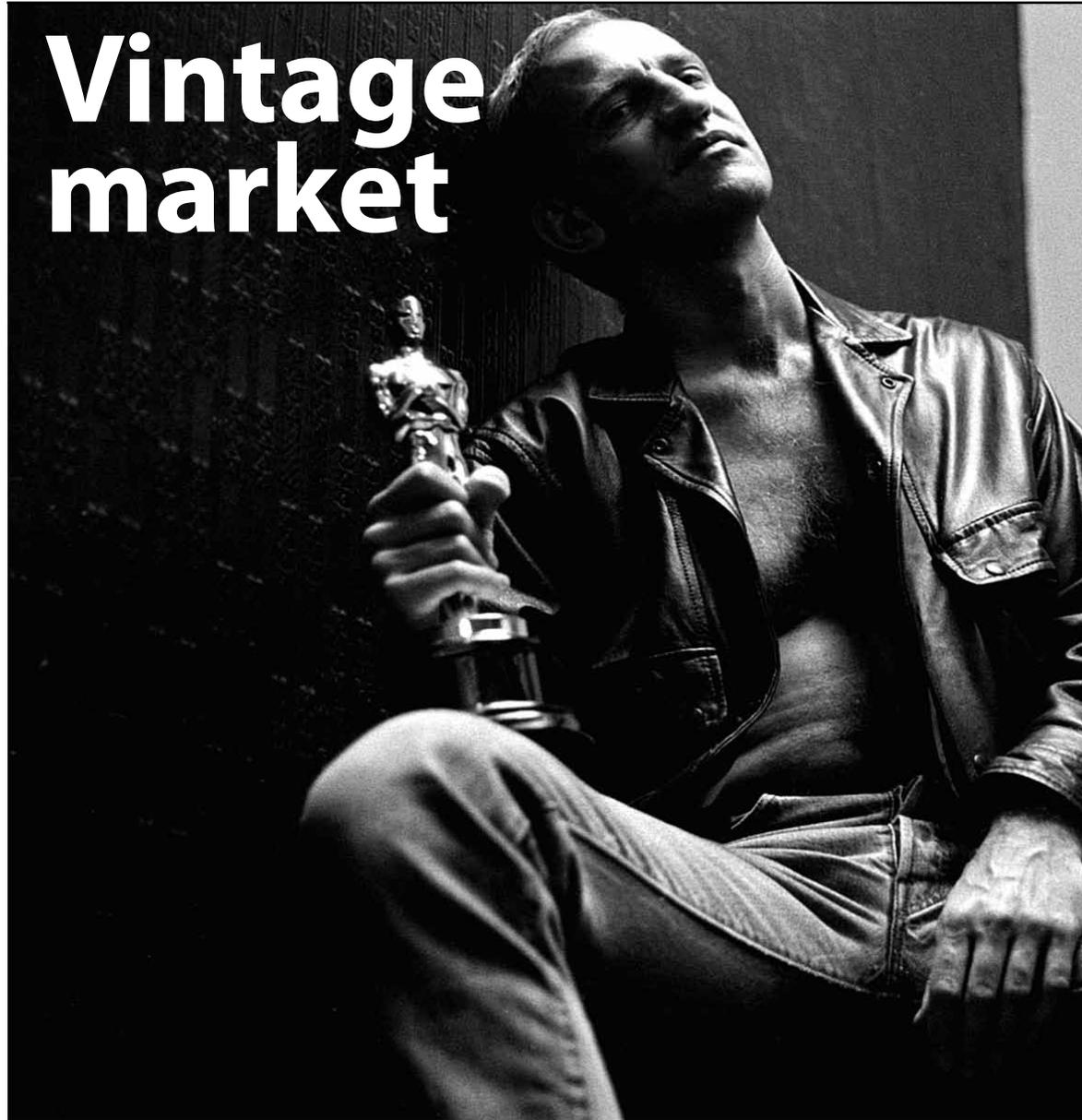
LEANN RIMES TALKS WITH WCT

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ERIC HIMAN AT MARKET DAYS

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Vintage market

Photographer A.J. Epstein talks about his historical photos (like this one of Richard Schmeichen with his Oscar for The Times of Harvey Milk) as well as his book, Queer Culture. See pages 42-43 for more of his handiwork.

Lakeview residents call in the Guardian Angels

BY KATE SOSIN

With anxiety high in Lakeview over a perceived increase in crime, a group of residents is creating a Guardian Angels-Special Boystown Unit (SBU).

Residents met with four of Guardian Angels, the volunteer citizen patrol organization, to iron out plans at Center on Halsted Aug. 4.

Only a handful of people attended the meeting, at which residents opted for joining up with the Angels rather than re-inventing the wheel to create a neighborhood safety patrol.

Residents are searching out a Lakeview headquarters for the Angels as well as volunteers to patrol the neighborhood. The Angels, in turn, will train Lakeview volunteers intensively over the course of three months. While the Angels patrol the entire city, Lakeview volunteers will work in their community.

Lakeview residents have called on the Guardian Angels in the past. In 1991, activist Alyn Toler started the Pink Angels Anti-Violence project, in response to anti-LGBT violence flaring up around the country. The Guardian Angels helped train the Pink Angels. That group, however, disbanded a few years later.

This time around, Lakeview residents will become Guardian Angels themselves, working within the organization’s established hierarchy and codes of conduct.

The Guardian Angels are unique from other street patrols in that they physically intervene in situations. While most images of the Angels have portrayed large muscular men, the group said it also trains women and is open to transgender people.

“It’s all about empowering the members,” said

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Photos on cover (left, from top): Janet Jackson photo by Rocco Laspata; Ikene Mushovic pic from the Movement Advancement Project; photo of The Sheffield by Kate Sosin; LeAnn Rimes photo by Brian Higbee; photo of Eric Himan by Kelly Kerr



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DISC-OVERY

Disc and That looks at recent and upcoming DVDs such as The Lincoln Lawyer (left, with Ryan Phillippe).



Read a review of the coming-of-age movie Heartbeats.

Photo © Mifilifilms Inc



Find out about the Free Sketch Theatre, a local group with lofty goals.

Photo from Brian Richardson

BUGGING OUT

Read about City Clerk Susana Mendoza being engaged in a different kind of battle—with actual pests.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Get breaking news and the latest buzz online.

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

This week's entertainment round-up includes items on Adam Lambert, 'Charlie's Angels' and Kelly Osbourne.

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The Market Days issue!



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Jerry Nunn interviews **Dolly Parton**



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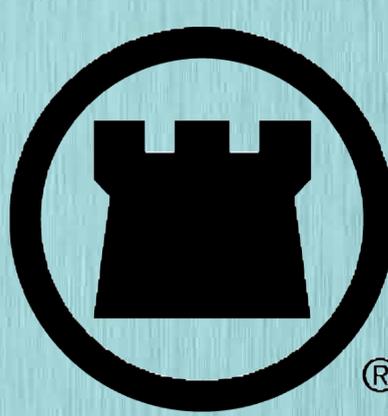
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Report: Half the country without LGBT protections

BY KATE SOSIN

Compiling data from LGBT organizations nationwide, the Movement Advancement Project (MAP) released a comprehensive report that illustrates that more than half the country is still without LGBT protections.

The Colorado-based think tank released its biennial "Momentum Report" Aug. 3.

According to the report, high-profile triumphs for LGBT communities in the past two years have had little impact on policies in 28 states, where protections for LGBT people are almost non-existent.

"You realize how far we have to go," said Ineke Mushovic, executive director of MAP.

The report compiles data from major LGBT organizations nationwide as well as first-hand research by MAP to create a comprehensive picture on progress in the U.S. on mainstream gay issues. Those issues include partnership recognition, adoption laws, employment protections, HIV/AIDS rates, anti-bullying policy, immigration rights, the ability to serve openly in the military, hate-crimes laws and the financial health of LGBT organizations, among other things.

The report chronicles significant victories for gay rights movements over the past few years.

Since 2009, it notes, ten states plus Washington D.C. now offer relationship recognition to same-sex couples, more than half of Americans (56 percent) think that same-sex relationships are morally sound, gay people will soon be able to serve openly in the military and the federal government lifted the travel ban on people with HIV/AIDS.

Such progress, said Mushovic, is both the product of a change in popular opinions about LGBT people and the passage of years-old legislation finally making its way through government process.

"I really think that the amount of progress at this point is remarkable," said Mushovic.

That progress has also slowed since 2009 when democrats held more political power. While the report illustrates growing support from republicans for LGBT rights issues, Mushovic said that LGBT-positive legislation still tends to advance more quickly in democratic political environments.

The report also goes well beyond policy issues. According to findings, the number of lesbian, gay and bisexual characters on primetime television has nearly quadrupled since 2001, with 23



Ineke Mushovic. Photo courtesy of MAP

LGB characters portrayed to date.

"In the past, if you did have an LGB character, it was usually a pretty campy stereotypical portrayal," said Mushovic. Representations of gay people are increasingly more diverse, she said.

None of the characters on prime time, however, were reported to be transgender.

Transgender statistics offered a particularly grim reality, with 90 percent of transgender people reporting employment discrimination (as opposed to an estimated 15-43 percent for LGB people). In many parts of the report, such as advancements for LGB military service people, transgender people were left off altogether because no advancements have been made.

Transgender people enjoyed at least one significant win this year, however. Last June, the federal government stopped requiring transgender people to undergo sexual reassignment surgery in order to change the gender markers on their passports.

One area where LGBT advancement suffered was in the financial health of organizations, which continued to be outspent by anti-gay activists. MAP found that just four percent of LGBT Americans donate the LGBT groups. Part of that, said Mushovic, can be explained by the fact that 2011 is not an election year, but organizations also struggled in the poor economy.

Still the most startling statistic was perhaps that less than half of the nation's states offer any kind of protection to LGBT people whatsoever. According to the report, just 22 states offer some form of protection to LGBT people. In many states, people can still be fired for being gay.

Those numbers are troubling, said Mushovic and not just because LGBT advancements have skipped over major parts of the country.

"I think there's a false believe by well-minded Americans that we're almost done," said Mushovic, adding that the majority of Americans were unaware that in many places, LGBT people can still be systematically denied a myriad of rights.

"We're seeing this two-tiered America," she said, one where LGBT rights are rapidly advancing away from states now left in the dust. "There is a ton to celebrate but don't think that our work here is done."

"If the folks who oppose (the teaching law) have their way, they'll put a referendum on the ballot to overturn allowing real history to be told," he said.

The new law, which also is known as Senate Bill 48, takes effect in January. Current California law requires schools to teach about the history of Native Americans, African Americans, Mexican Americans, Asian Americans, European Americans and members of other ethnic and cultural groups. SB 48 added LGBT people and people with disabilities to the list.

On Aug. 5, Equality California announced it has launched an SB 48 hotline and created "truth squads" to interrupt signature-gathering—both on the LGBT referendum and other, unnamed anti-"progressive" campaigns.

"We need your eyes and ears on the ground today," said EQCA Executive Director Roland Palencia. "If you spot anti-LGBT, anti-progressive signature gatherers, report them immediately by calling the toll-free 'Decline to Sign Hotline' at 1-877-440-9585. We'll immediately dispatch a trained 'truth squad' to make sure potential petition signers know the truth about these initiatives including the referendum on the FAIR Education Act."

Meanwhile, Lambda Legal's legal director, Jon Davidson, said Aug. 1 that if the repeal referendum passes, it might be found unconstitutional.

That's because in 1996, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that laws cannot single out gay people for disfavored treatment. (See tinyurl.com/romer-v.)

"If the referendum qualifies for the ballot, and were it to receive more 'no' than 'yes' votes, not only would SB 48 not become law,

but no measure that is essentially the same as it could be adopted in the future," Davidson said. "In this way, the referendum could be characterized as quite similar to the measure that the U.S. Supreme Court held unconstitutional in *Romer v. Evans*. That measure repealed existing sexual orientation anti-discrimination protections for lesbians, gay men and bisexuals and prevented their passage in the future for that group and that group alone, which is what more no votes than yes on the referendum would do when it comes to having a fair and inclusive curriculum. Moreover, there no doubt would be significant evidence of anti-LGBT sentiment motivating those behind the referendum, which would bolster any challenge to it."

Prop 8

Prop 8, passed by California voters in 2008, amended the state constitution to ban same-sex marriage, which had been legal in California for 4 1/2 months. The amendment was later struck down as unconstitutional by a federal judge but has remained in effect during an ongoing, multifront appeals process.

On Sept. 6, the California Supreme Court will hold a hearing on the question of whether the people who appealed the struckdown had a legal right to appeal. The California Supreme Court was invited to offer an opinion on the matter by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, to help the 9th Circuit decide the question.

The appeal was filed by the people who had put Prop 8 on the ballot. They appealed after California's governor, attorney general and other officials refused to defend Prop 8.

If ballot-measure proponents are found by

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NATIONAL NEWS

—Pawlenty (left) signs anti-gay pledge

—Trevor Project marking 13 years

—Transgender woman running for Houston City Council

Beyondmedia youth summit Aug. 12

Beyondmedia Education's Chain of Change project will present its third annual Youth Media Summit, "Building Safe Communities," Friday, Aug. 12, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Columbia College, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Chain of Change is a youth-led project that uses media to explore the roots of violence and violence-prevention strategies. The daylong event will feature youth-led workshops, panels, film screenings and discussions. The summit will also premiere the Building Safe Communities multimedia installation, created over several months by young people from across Chicago and as far as Brazil and the Kyrgyz Republic. It is free and open to all youth aged 12-25.

RSVP with Rebecca Connie at rebeccac@beyondmedia.org or 773-857-7300.

Groups launch campaign to stop anti-gay Calif. referendum

BY REX WOCKNER

The Courage Campaign announced Aug. 1 that it has teamed up with Equality California and other organizations in an attempt to stop a ballot referendum on the new California law that requires schools to teach LGBT people's history.

Courage said it will run a "decline-to-sign" campaign with EQCA, the California Federation of Teachers, the California Nurses Association, the Gay-Straight Alliance Network, and the University of California Academic Student Employees Union.

The goal is to prevent anti-gay forces from collecting 504,760 signatures from registered California voters by Oct. 12, which would qualify the proposed repeal referendum for next June's statewide ballot.

"First our opponents wanted to ban love, so they invented Prop 8," said Courage Chair Rick Jacobs. "Now, they want to use the same fear tactics to prevent California high school students from learning history. They want to gloss over the fact that important people in history like Walt Whitman, Pyotr Tchaikovsky, Bayard Rustin, Billie Jean King, Leonard Bernstein, James Baldwin, Willa Cather, Harvey Milk and even J. Edgar Hoover were gay."

Jacobs said that as during the Prop 8 campaign, opponents will use "fear and prejudice to scare the voters."

the 9th Circuit to have no right to appeal when their initiatives are struck down, then the lower court's ruling that Prop 8 is unconstitutional will take effect, and same-sex couples will be able to marry again in California.

If the appeal is allowed, the 9th Circuit will proceed to consider whether the federal District Court struckdown was correct. In that scenario, regardless of the outcome, the case likely would advance to the U.S. Supreme Court, which could uphold Prop 8, strike it down in a way that applies only to California, or strike it down in a way that legalizes same-sex marriage nationwide.

Meanwhile, California LGBT leaders are mulling over the possibility of collecting signatures to force California voters to reconsider Prop 8 in the 2012 general election. No consensus has emerged and no decision has been made on whether to ask voters to repeal the amendment.

A side issue also remains unresolved in the court case. The Prop 8 proponents have sought to have the ruling that Prop 8 is unconstitutional thrown out because the federal judge who issued it is gay and in a same-sex relationship. In the proponents' view, now-retired Judge Vaughn Walker could have had a conflict of interest if, when he issued the ruling, he also had a desire to marry his same-sex partner.

Walker's successor as chief judge at the federal District Court in San Francisco, James Ware, rejected that notion on June 14, and the Prop 8 proponents have appealed his decision to the 9th Circuit.

—Assistance: Bill Kelley

LGBT groups mourn transgender victim in New York

BY KATE SOSIN

LGBT activists are condemning the murder of a transgender woman found stabbed to death in her New York apartment.

Camila Guzman, who was identified by her legal name by New York police, was found dead in her East Harlem apartment Aug. 1 at 4:41 p.m. Guzman was 38. No arrests have been made, said police.

LGBT groups denounced the murder and called for more accurate reporting from the media.



Ejeris Dixon, who is with the New York Anti-Violence Project. Photo from Dixon

Sources have used Guzman's birth name and male pronouns, despite the fact that she is reported as having identified as transgender.

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the Audre Lorde Project, the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund and the New York City Anti-Violence Project released a joint news statement Aug. 4 in response to the murder.

"Camila Guzman's murder and the series of violent attacks against transgender women of color in Washington, D.C., highlight the disproportionate impact of severe anti-LGBT violence on transgender people of color," said Ejeris Dixon, a deputy director with the New York Anti-Violence Project, in the news statement. "These murders are a wake-up call for all organizations that work to end hate violence."

Numerous studies suggest that transgender women, particularly transgender women of color, are subjected to violence and discrimination at alarming rates. Activists estimate that on average one to two transgender people are murdered every month in the world. Most are women of color.

Two of those deaths took place in Chicago last year. Sandy Wouldard was found shot to death near the corner of 75th and Halsted, and Selma Diaz drowned in Montrose Harbor. (Diaz's death was initially ruled a suicide but her neighbors alleged foul play.)

Police did not say whether or not the Guzman's murder was being in-

vestigated as a hate crime.

Michael Silverman, executive director at the Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund, said that he remains hopeful. "So far the police have been actually good at investigating," he said.

Local politicians also condemned Guzman's murder. New York City Council Member Melissa

Mark-Viverito said in the news release that she was "truly saddened by the brutal murder."

"It is important that we denounce any act of violence against the transgender community and send the message that such violence will not be tolerated in El Barrio/East Harlem or anywhere in this city," she said.

APA supports marriage equality

BY ERICA DEMAREST

In a move that could have far-reaching impact in the national marriage equality debate, the American Psychological Association's (APA) policymaking body voted unanimously Aug. 3 in support of a resolution backing same-sex marriage.

Citing new studies that show that "many gay men and lesbians, like their heterosexual counterparts, desire to form stable, long-lasting and committed intimate relationships and are successful in doing so," the APA amped up its previous support for LGBT family equality and recommended same-sex marriage become a national policy.

"We don't think there is any justification for discrimination against [LGBT] people," said Clinton Anderson, director of the APA's Office on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns. "Scientific research on marriage suggests that marriage is a very, very positive thing for people, and to deny access to that... is something we oppose."

Considered the largest and most respected psychological organization in the world, the APA has long supported LGBT equality. The group backed same-sex marriage and adoption rights in 2004 and voiced opposition to "ex-gay" or "reparative therapy" in 2009,

arguing it was ineffective and caused more harm than good.

"Psychology is really important in trying to keep the discussion around civil rights at more of a logical level," said Anthony Martinez, executive director of the Civil Rights Agenda (TCRA), "as opposed to getting into the moral implications—which the conservative right loves to try to throw around—and also the emotional implications. Statements like these help to keep it at a very logical, sound level."

Six states (Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont) and the District of Columbia currently allow same-sex marriage, while twelve others offer civil unions, which provide fewer benefits than marriage.

Activists hope the weight of APA approval could help sway political and legal battles in coming years.

"In terms of practical implications, I don't think the average LGBT person is going to see the affect in their everyday lives," Martinez said, "but I think it will be a very significant statement that can be used in the future not only by advocacy groups, but in the courts as well... This hopefully reminds all of us to reframe the debate around relationship recognition as a basic right and a basic need."

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Oldest concentration-camp survivor dies

BY ERICA DEMAREST

Rudolf Brazda, believed to be the oldest known gay survivor of a Nazi concentration camp, died Aug. 3 at the age of 98, according to reports from a leading German LGBT-rights group.

Brazda was one of thousands of gay men deported to concentration camps during World War II. The Nazi regime under Adolf Hitler viewed homosexuality as an aberration and a threat to the Aryan race. More than 50,000 homosexuals were convicted as criminals during the Nazi reign.

In August 1942, Brazda was brought to Buchenwald concentration camp after he admitted being gay. He stayed there until U.S. forces invaded three years later, and Brazda has likened his experiences in the camp to descending into hell.

"But they were never able to destroy me," Brazda said. "I am not ashamed. I have made my peace with the past."

The son of Czech immigrants, Brazda was born in Meuselwitz, Germany, on June 26, 1913. The youngest of eight children, he dreamed of working in a local gentleman's clothing shop, but ultimately trained as a roofer when he was unable to procure an apprenticeship elsewhere.

Although homosexual acts were outlawed in the Weimar Republic, Brazda was able to live as an openly gay man as he came of age in the 1930s. Local culture was relatively tolerant, and Brazda and his boyfriend, Werner, lived together in room they sublet from a Jehovah's Witness landlady.

That all changed when the Nazis came to power. "We gays were hunted like animals," Brazda has said. "Wherever I went with my companion the Nazis were always already there."

After several run-ins with Nazi officials and a handful of detentions, Brazda was brought to Buchenwald in 1942, at the age of 29. It is esti-

mated that anywhere from 10,000 to 15,000 gay men were held in concentration camps during WWII.

Known as "pink triangles" for the emblems they wore denoting their sexual orientation—Jews wore yellow, gypsies black, Jehovah's witnesses purple, etc.—gay men were subject to particularly harsh punishments in the camps. These included extreme beatings, "extermination through labor," castration and invasive medical experimentation intended to make the men "normal."

"The way Nazis treated the 'pink triangles' is unspeakable," Brazda told the French publication *Têtu*. "They had absolutely no mercy."

When the Nazi regime collapsed in 1945 and S.S. guards took most of Buchenwald's prisoners on a "death march," Brazda was saved by a guard who took pity on him. "He put me in a shed with the pigs, made me a bed and I lay there for 14 days until the Americans came," Brazda recalled. "After that, I was a free man."

Brazda settled in Alsace, France, near the French-German border after the war and maintained a relatively low profile. He met his partner Edi in 1950, and the couple remained together until Edi died in 2002.

Brazda came out as a gay survivor in 2008, when a monument dedicated to the thousands of gays persecuted by Nazis was revealed in Berlin. Brazda traveled to the city and met with its mayor Klaus Wowereit, an openly gay man who held a ceremony for Brazda.

"He is an example of how important the work of remembrance is for our future," Wowereit said. "Fewer and fewer people can give information about repression under the Nazi dictatorship authentically and from their own experience."

AAMVA comes out on transgender ID issues

BY KATE SOSIN

In a move that could impact transgender people nationally, the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) is recommending that transgender drivers be allowed to more easily change the gender markers on their driver's licenses.

AAMVA, the non-profit that makes recommendations on driving issues to every state, hosted a webinar on transgender issues and driver's licenses Aug. 3. According to Thomas Manuel, AAMVA's program director of driver fitness, they suggested that transgender drivers be given IDs with their preferred gender marker, so long as a licensed medical provider signs off on it.

"This is a customer service issue as far as we're concerned," said Manuel. "The driver's license has become the de facto form of ID. ... Whatever your gender identity is, that should be on the license."

Overall, Manuel said, he was pleased with response to the webinar. His office logged 52 different phone lines on the call. The presentation prompted 30 minutes of questions, an unusually lengthy discussion for webinar's, said Manuel.

"I think we had a very good response," Manuel said. "There was interest, generally speaking."

The news could mean changes all over the country in the way transgender people navigate not just driver's licenses but daily life.

According to Mara Keisling, the executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE), just a handful of states have policies that her organization considers to be good.

Several states require transgender people to prove they have had irreversible gender reassignment surgery. Such surgeries can cost in the tens of thousands of dollars, are typically not covered by insurance, and are not always wanted by all transgender people.

As such, many government agencies have begun to ease policies to allow transgender people to more easily change their gender markers. Last year, the federal government began issuing gender marker changes on passports to transgender people who furnished a note from a licensed medical provider.

Since, other agencies have started to fall in line.

Illinois is currently in the process of re-writing its policy to more easily allow transgender people to change their birth certificates. Alaska is facing a lawsuit over denying a transgender woman a gender marker change on her driver's license.

The driver's license is fundamental, say experts.

"It's what you show when you get a new job," said Keisling. "It's what you show when you go to the bank. It's what you show when you go to a nightclub."

Keisling presented during the AAMVA webinar alongside Lisa Mottet, the transgender civil-rights project director at the National Gay and Lesbian Taskforce; and Harper Jean Tobin, policy counsel at NCTE.

States that participated in the webinar are not required to change their policies. Rather, presenters made a case for why they should consider doing so.

According to Manuel, updating transgender policies can save DMVs both time and money. Enforcing strict and complicated policies often takes extra resources. Still, he said, it is not certain how many states will adopt the AAMVA recommendations, which Manuel also wrote about in the organization's magazine, *MOVE*.

In time, Manuel said, AAMVA will likely convene experts on transgender issues to draft an official "best practice" recommendation. For now, the organization is simply making DMVs aware of the issue.



Mara Keisling. Photo courtesy of the NCTE

Manuel acknowledged that move was controversial to some. But he said, his organization was following American Medical Association guidelines that suggest transgender people be allowed to live in their preferred gender.

"You don't want to let your personal beliefs or feelings come into this matter," he said. "This particular part of the population needs to have identification."

Overall, the recommendations will have marginal impact in Illinois, where transgender people can already switch gender markers with a medical provider's letter.

Dave Druker, the press secretary for the Illinois secretary of state, said that Illinois "has moved well into the forefront on" the issue. Since the mid 1980s, the state has issued licenses to transgender people without requiring sexual reassignment surgery, a policy that predates many of its kind by more than two decades.

Mottet, however, said that Illinois fell short of the "best" list in the eyes of experts. That is because the state still requires a written letter from a physician, whereas jurisdictions like Washington D.C. offer a standardized form for providers to sign.

The difference, say experts, is that medical letters can cost hundreds of dollars to obtain.

Druker said that in response to the webinar, Illinois is looking into creating a standardized letter. "We do want to pursue this," he said. "We want to be in that upper echelon."

TSA suit prompts transgender sensitivity training

BY KATE SOSIN

A lawsuit against the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has resulted in transgender sensitivity training for Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) managers.

According to Jim Fotenos, a TSA spokesperson, managers are currently undergoing training after a former transgender employee sued for wrongful termination.

According to a press release from the Transgender Law Center which represented Yang, Yang was fired in July 2010. The release alleges that Yang, who was hired after transitioning to female, was told to present as male at work.

"To keep her job Ms. Yang bought a short 'male wig' to hide her long hair, complied with TSA's male dress code, and pretended to be a man at work," the statement said. "Despite her efforts, passengers continued to recognize her as a woman and subjected to her to sexual harassment."

As part of a settlement with Yang, TSA agreed to train its managers at LAX. Fotenos could not say if managers at other airports would be required to undergo similar sensitivity training.

Heroic lesbian couple saves individuals in Norway

In Norway, married lesbian couple Hege Dalen and Toril Hansen helped rescue 40 people during Anders Breivik's recent shooting rampage at a youth camp on Utoya Island, according to LGBTQ Nation.

"We were eating. Then shooting and then the awful screaming. We saw how the young people ran in panic into the lake," Dalen told

the Finnish publication *HS* (Helsingin Sanomat), according to the Guardian.

The couple then immediately pushed the boat into Lake Tyrifjorden. Dalen and Hansen drove the boat to the island, picked up individuals from the water and transported them to the opposite shore to the mainland. Between runs they noticed that bullets had hit the right side of the boat.

The couple made four trips back and forth in their small boat, picking up injured and scared young people. At least 76 people are confirmed dead in the attacks, which included a bomb explosion in Oslo.

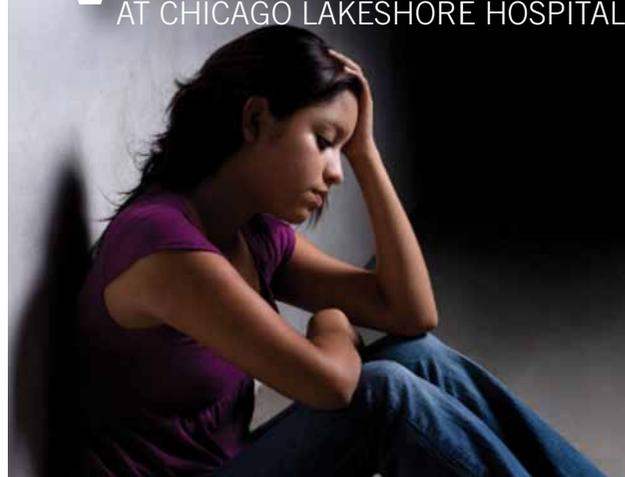
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The bathroom scare: Old tactics aimed anew at trans-equality measures

Second of two parts

BY DANA RUDOLPH
KEEN NEWS SERVICE

Opponents of equal rights for LGBT people have been using "bathroom scare" tactics for some years now to try and stop bills that would prohibit discrimination against transgender people, but fears about who can use public restrooms have a long history in the struggle for civil rights.

Going back to the late 1800s, Jim Crow laws in some states required separate public restrooms for "White people" and "Coloreds." It was not until the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that the United States Congress outlawed segregation in "public accommodations," which include public bathrooms, restaurants, hotels, libraries, and other public spaces.

In the 1970s, during the height of the women's movement's efforts to pass the Equal Rights Amendment to the federal constitution, opponents such as Phyllis Schlafly claimed the law would lead to unisex bathrooms.

More recently, such fears have cropped up in debates about the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" ban on openly gay servicemembers. Supporters of the keeping the ban expressed concerns about gay and straight servicemembers showering together.

Jennifer Levi, director of the Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders' Transgender Rights Project, said that, in Connecticut, the most recent state to add gender identity and gender expression to its non-discrimination laws, opponents of the bill had raised the bathroom issue during hearings and floor debates, but "didn't get any traction."

The Family Institute of Connecticut, the leading group opposing the bill, consistently referred to it as the "Bathroom Bill" there, too, and ran Facebook advertising and robocall campaigns against it.

However, the legislature passed the bill, and Gov. Dannel Malloy (D) signed it July 6.

Bathroom scare tactics were also employed in Nevada last month against three bills prohibiting discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression in public accommodations, housing, and employment. But the tactics failed

there, too. And Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval, a Republican, signed the measure into law July 1.

GLAD's Levi explained that the bathroom arguments failed in Connecticut and Nevada because, "they completely fall apart under any scrutiny." When legislators really focus on the objections raised by our opponents, they realize that the bathroom issues are raised solely to tank the bill, not because they have any independent validity."

She said advocates must take the time, though, to educate legislators, first "on who transgender people are and why we need a law to protect that vulnerable community," and then to "[counter] specious objections raised by ideologues."

Sarah Warbelow, state legislative director for the Human Rights Campaign, added that one of the reasons for the success of the anti-discrimination bills in Connecticut and Nevada was "a willingness from legislators to meet with transgender people and really listen to their stories." She credits advocates in both states for "making sure legislators were constantly hearing from constituents on the importance of the bill."

Levi noted that the Connecticut legislature also defeated several amendments that would have created a "bathroom exclusion" to the law—something no law regarding transgender protections has ever had.

"You can't create an exception for bathrooms and come up with a workable bill," she said.

In Maryland, Democrats supporting a bill to protect transgender people from discrimination took out protections for "public accommodations," which include public restrooms. The measure failed to make it out of committee in April.

Dana Beyer, executive director of Gender Rights Maryland, said the failure of the transgender bill in Maryland was not the result of a right-wing campaign around bathroom fears. It was due, she said, to "internal leadership politics" in the legislature, in the aftermath of a failure to pass a high-profile marriage equality bill a month earlier.

Likewise, opponents of a New York transgender bill tried to scare away votes by warning about bathroom predators. The measure failed in June, said Melissa Sklarz, director of the New

York Transgender Rights Organization, largely because of "internal, institutional" maneuverings in the state Senate and the "endless power struggle" in the capital.

Sklarz said conservatives are using the bathroom fears as leverage to "get something from the Democrats and Governor." Republicans control the state Senate, but Democrats control the Assembly, and Governor Andrew Cuomo is a Democrat.

The New York transgender bill passed the Assembly but failed in the Senate when the Republican conference refused to let it go to the floor for a vote before the end of the session—a session fraught with political deal-making to secure marriage equality and resolve unrelated issues of rent control and property taxes.

In Massachusetts, where the legislature held a hearing June 8 on a proposed bill to prohibit discrimination against transgender people, the outcome remains an open question. A poll conducted in November 2009 by Lake Research Partners found that over three-quarters of voters in Massachusetts—76 percent—had a positive reaction to the idea of protecting transgender people from discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. This included a majority of Republicans (53 percent) as well as Democrats (90 percent), and independents (74 percent).

When asked about an earlier, but identical, version of the Massachusetts bill in 2009, 73 percent said they wanted their legislators to vote in favor of it, versus 18 percent against. Those in favor included 57 percent of Republicans, 83 percent of Democrats, and 71 percent of independents.

Half of voters (51 percent) said they would be more likely to vote for a legislator who voted for the bill, versus 14 percent who would vote against them. The remaining 35 percent said it would make no difference to their vote.

Yet, an anti-gay organization in Massachusetts has employed a radio ad to characterize the legislation as "The Bathroom Bill." The ad also borrows on the California formula used against Proposition 8—children—by suggesting parents soon won't be able to allow their children to go into public restrooms alone.

There is no timetable yet for a committee vote

on the bill in Massachusetts, said Michael Avitzur, counsel for the Joint Judiciary Committee, where the bill now sits. But all committee action for this session must be completed by March 2012.

In the meantime, the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition plans to continue educating legislators about transgender issues and the falsehoods in the "bathroom" ads, said Scott. It is also gearing up to expand its own "I Am: Trans People Speak" public education campaign, a series of videos and written stories from transgender people talking about their lives, which it launched in November 2010. And it is raising money to run related ads in Boston-area transit locations this fall.

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PRIDE LAW to open Aug. 10

PRIDE LAW—Chicago's legal aid clinic and resource center that is focused on the needs of the LGBT community—will officially open its doors Wed., Aug. 10, in Andersonville. Services will include consultation and advice; help with contracts and LGBT-discrimination matters; assistance with forms; and referrals. Clinic appointments will be every Wednesday at 5-8 p.m.

"Our mission is to provide a place where LGBT people can feel safe and secure having their legal interests represented, regardless of their ability to pay," said Tsamis (below) in a statement. "We do not seek to take away from any of the wonderful organizations that represent the legal interests of LGBT people. We simply seek to supplement what is already available and want to provide a legal aid clinic in the Andersonville community, where so many members of the LGBT community live, work, play, and visit."

To RSVP, email PrideLaw@TsamisLaw.com or call 866-703-5509.



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Youth Pride Services launches anti-violence campaign

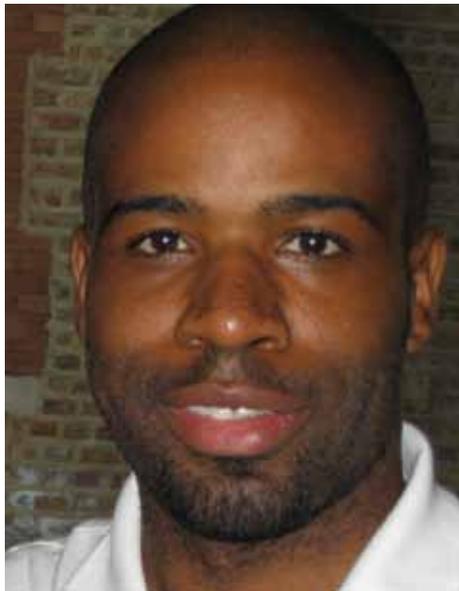
BY ERICA DEMAREST

Youth Pride Services, a Chicago organization that works with Black queer youth, recently launched a "Be Great" campaign. The youth-led initiative works toward ending violence among youth of color through PSAs, conflict resolution workshops and community events.

"The youth are trying to get people involved in a grassroots campaign, trying to be great and stop the violence and other silliness that can go on," said Frank Walker, youth director at Youth Pride Services. "It strives to break down barriers that can prevent you from trying to be great or being better than just hanging out there on Belmont."

With co-sponsors that include the 23rd District Police Department, the Northalsted Business Alliance and Pow Wow, "Be Great" will focus on youth who frequent the Boystown area. The hallmark effort is a PSA campaign in which young adults produce print and video ads encouraging their peers to "Be Great."

Local sponsors—including District Commander Kathleen Boehmer and a representative from Tom Tunney's office—voted in early August for the best print ad. The winning print PSA will be announced Aug. 18 at Ann Sather's on Belmont during a "Be Great" meeting; it will run in local



Frank Walker. Photo by Andrew Davis

publications (including the Windy City Times) and be distributed among youth as a palm card.

Video submissions are still being accepted on the "Be Great" Facebook page, which has more than 160 members, many of whom post daily.

"I've always believed that if they're not a part of the process, then they don't have a vested interest in it," Walker said. "You'll have the same problem over and over and over again every year."

In coming weeks, youth will sponsor and lead conflict-resolution, etiquette and de-escalation workshops throughout the city. Thirty "house" events—15 on the West Side, 15 on the South Side—will allow people to convene in their own neighborhoods, while several members of the Northalsted Business Alliance will donate space for Lakeview events.

"If visitors to the neighborhood feel like they have a little bit more ownership of it, then they're more likely to respect it," said Jay Lyon, executive director of the Northalsted Business Alliance.

Walker said "Be Great" was created as a direct response to community uproar over a series of violent attacks in Boystown this summer—some

of which involved young Black men. Many residents complained visiting youth were to blame for the attacks, and nearly 800 people attended a July 6 CAPS meeting demanding solutions.

"I think [the dialogue there] was getting away from the actual topic, which was: How do you deal with violence? We believe every person should live in a safe neighborhood. We don't believe that it's racist to say that. Being on the South Side, we acknowledge that there are some youth of color who are engaging in activities they shouldn't engage in," Walker said.

"But the CAPS meeting pretty much showed us that there are so many distractions, so many agendas," he continued. "Nobody wanted to hear what the youth had to say, and there's a big difference between what youth are saying and what adults are saying."

Davi Akei, 21, who made a print PSA ad this summer, said the all-youth aspect is what drew

him to "Be Great."

"It feels like less of a duty if your friends and people your own age are doing it," Akei said. "With older people, it feels like more of a dictatorship—we should do this because they're saying we should do it. But if the youth are doing it, it's more like we have a choice and it'll be fun."

CBGMC hosting dinner forum on HIV crisis Aug. 11

The Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus, with support from the University of Chicago and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, will host "Conversations: A Discussion on the National HIV/AIDS Strategy and the impact for Black Gay/Bisexual Men in Chicago" Thursday, Aug. 11 at the Gary Comer Youth Center, 7200 S. Ingleside, 6-9 p.m.

Conversations is free and open to the public, and will address the overwhelming burden of HIV incidence among Black gay and bisexual men (and especially youth) in Chicago and how the National HIV/AIDS Strategy

Walker hopes fun youth meetings will translate to serious results. "It's really just to challenge young people," he said. "We're always quick to show them what they need, but we really want to challenge them to go out and find out what they're potential is. To discover that potential and put it to good use."

and the developing statewide implementation plans will impact and improve local efforts to reduce new HIV infections in the community. RSVP at CBGMCEvents@gmail.com.

ALMA picnic Aug. 28

The Association of Latino Men for Action (ALMA) will hold a picnic Sunday, Aug. 28, 12-5 p.m. at Hollywood Beach.

The beach is just off the Bryn Mawr exit from Lake Shore Drive. A suggested donation of \$10 lets attendees enjoy snacks, desserts and non-alcoholic beverages. Among the scheduled activities are bocci, volleyball, badminton and dancing.

See <http://www.almachicago.org>.

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Cocktail alleges conspiracy in suit

BY KATE SOSIN

Lakeview bar Cocktail is suing its landlord and two former employees for \$10 million over an alleged conspiracy to ruin the bar's good name and put it out of business.

John "Geno" Zaharakis, who owns Cocktail, and general manager Dustin Hoffman filed suit July 29. The suit alleges that the building owner and management company worked with two former employees to tarnish the bar's reputation and oust Cocktail to open a new bar.

The suit names Robert Brumbaugh Jr., who has owned the building on 3359 N. Halsted since June of this year; Brumbaugh's company, 3357 Halsted LLC; David Sikora, Cocktail's former manager; Alexander Stoykov, a former Cocktail go-go dancer; and Key Management and Realty, Inc., the building's management company, which employs Stoykov.

According to the suit, Sikora and Brumbaugh allegedly told Cocktail customers that the bar was going out of business.

The suit claims that "on July 22, 2011, in a face-to-face meeting with Zaharakis and Hoffman, Brumbaugh stated that, unless Zaharakis and Cocktail voluntarily agreed to move out of the Premises and surrender possession of the Premises before the end of August 2011, he, Brumbaugh, intended to destroy Zaharakis financially and put Cocktail out of business so that he and Sikora could open their own bar on the Premises."

Brumbaugh did not respond immediately to a request to comment.

The suit further alleges that Sikora spat on and urinated on the building during peak busi-

ness hours; stole and smashed a blender on the sidewalk in front of the bar; and publicly accused Hoffman of burning down Scarlet, the Halsted bar where Hoffman was a manager when a fire decimated the property in 2009.

Sikora declined to comment on the allegations.

The complaint accuses Stoykov of ruining Cocktail's relationship with its lender of 10 years, Capital Access Network, by telling the company that Cocktail was "a terrible tenant and that Cocktail was going to be evicted."

It also accuses Stoykov of delivering a false "ten days notice" to vacate the property on the 4th of July weekend in front of customers.

Stoykov could not be reached for comment. Key Management and Realty did not respond to requests to comment in time for publication.

Cocktail has lived at the corner of Roscoe and Halsted since 1995, when Zaharakis opened the bar. Brumbaugh is the bar's fourth landlord, said Zaharakis, adding that he had not had problems with landlords in the past.

Zaharakis said that he had wanted to purchase the building himself but that Brumbaugh beat him to it.

"Anything Rob asked of me ... I complied with," Zaharakis told Windy City Times.

Zaharakis alleged that Brumbaugh would not allow him to hang a Pride month banner, as he had done in the past, and that he forced Cocktail to remove a historic sign advertising the bar on the side of the building.

Finally, the complaint accuses Brumbaugh, Stoykov and Sikora of making "false reports to the City of Chicago about untrue or grossly inflated building code violations, all in an attempt

to disrupt Cocktail's business."

Zaharakis estimates that Cocktail has been visited between three to four times by both the Department of Buildings and the Department of Public Health, respectively in recent months. He also said the Fire Department has been to Cocktail at least once.

Riverdale trustee accused of anti-lesbian remarks

BY KATE SOSIN

Riverdale Village Trustee Lawrence Jackson is facing down an accusation that he used anti-lesbian remarks in conversation with Trustee Tiasha Jackson, the Chicago Sun-Times reported.

Echols alleges that Jackson repeatedly used homophobic slurs to describe women on the board who disagreed with him. Echols told Windy City Times the comments were so strong that she felt uncomfortable repeating them to the paper.

"She called her a lesbian term," Echols said of a colleague, and refused to repeated the term.

She said she heard Jackson use anti-gay epithets on two different occasions.

Echols, who has been married to a man for 23 years, said she does not identify as LGBT.

"It's outright disrespectful to me as a woman, as a person and a member of this community," she said. "I'm trying to do the right thing."

Echols sent a letter to Mayor Deyon Dean asking him to look into the matter.

Windy City Times contacted the Village of Riverdale, where a receptionist said the office had no comment on the controversy and abruptly hung up the phone.

Comments about Jackson on one Riverdale forum are mostly positive. One person praises him as "the most outspoken member of the board" while another calls him "an upstanding individual who carries himself with class and dignity."

It remains unclear what, if any, action the village could take against Jackson. Much of what is said in meetings is exempt from slander and defamation rule, although sexual harassment claims might provide an exception. If anything, the village could censor Jackson and request that such alleged comments cease.

Suburban megachurch breaks with ex-gay ministry

BY KATE SOSIN

A northwest suburban megachurch has severed ties with Exodus International, one of the country's largest ministries promoting ex-gay counseling.

Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington quietly split with Exodus in 2009, a move that is just coming to public light now.

Alan Chambers, president of Exodus and an ex-gay himself, said that his ministry was "privately disappointed" when Willow Creek informed them that the church was "changing how they approached recovery ministries."

"Recovery ministries," said Chambers, is a counseling term for ministries that reach out to people on a number of faith-related issues, including unwanted same-sex attraction.

According to Chambers, Willow Creek and Exodus had a decades-old relationship and that Willow Creek had officially been a part of

The suit totals damages at \$2.5 million and asks for an addition \$7.5 million in punitive damages.

"We've lost quite a bit of our regulars," Zaharakis said. "It's been incredibly hard on my family. It's been incredibly hard on my staff."

the Exodus association for approximately five years.

Chambers claimed that Exodus doesn't advocate for ostracizing gay people. He has gay friends and family members, he said.

"Our message is the same as anyone's message who is dealing with conflict with how they want to live," said Chambers, who said he got over his same-sex attractions in the early 1990s. "It's not hateful to tell someone you can live how you want to live."

Exodus currently has a membership of approximately 250 ministries in North America.

Willow Creek Community Church declined to comment.



Alan Chambers. Photo courtesy of Exodus International

i2i presents 'Story of My Pride' Aug. 13

i2i: Asian Pacific Islander Pride of Chicago will present "Story of My Pride," an interactive event for exploring the powerful intersection of LGBTQ and Asian/Pacific Islander identities. Will Tutol & Ryan Vilorio are co-presenting the discussion on Saturday, Aug. 13, at 7 p.m. at Asian Human Services in Uptown, 4753 N. Broadway.

This free special event invites and showcases speakers from the LGBTQ-API community to share. While speakers themselves are restricted to those of LGBTQ-API identity, the event is open to friends, loved ones, and allies.

Food is provided but space is limited; RSVP at rvilor2@gmail.com.

Women's network has 'Shine & Dine' Aug. 18

Step Up Women's Network will launch its first signature event in Chicago, "Shine & Dine," Thursday, Aug. 18, at Galleria Marchetti, 825 W. Erie St., 6-9 p.m.

Valerie Warner, co-host of Chicago's daytime talk show Windy City Live, will serve as honorary chair for the inaugural event. Wave Executive Chef Kristine Subido and ZED451 Executive Chef Patrick Quakenbush will offer guests exclusive tastings. Featured sips will be available from the event's Diamond Sponsor, Ciroc.

Visit <http://www.SUWN.org>.



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Spyner's Pub bartender dies

BY ROSS FORMAN

Ralphj Hannie, a longtime bartender at Spyner's Pub, died Aug. 4, at her home with her longtime partner by her side after a battle with ovarian cancer. She was 51.



Ralphj Hannie. Photo by Sam Hamilton

Hannie had been told earlier in the year that she had a year to live.

"She was a great, giving person. ... I'm still in shock right now," Chicagoan Sam Hamilton said Aug. 4. "She loved her family and did a lot for the community. A lot of people will miss her. She was just fun to be around."

Hannie was born on a reservation in Wisconsin to the Menominee Tribe March 23, 1960. She lived there until the age of 4, and then moved to Chicago with her family. She is the oldest of six girls. Hannie and her partner of 18 years, Janice Kohl, lived in Lincoln Square.

"They are both pillars of the community, donating time and money for many local causes and personal causes for friends and family," Hamilton said earlier this year. "Ralphj is an inspiration to everyone and has a heart of gold. Everyone who has been surrounded by her presence has nothing but good things to say such as, light spirited, a loving and giving heart."

"She was a generous, wonderful woman who cared about everyone and was always there for everyone; she spent her life giving," Edith Nieves, of Chicago, said Thursday. "She knew that she was really loved, that people really cared about her."

Nieves and Hannie were billiards teammates at Spyner's.

"She was really a terrific lady who'd give you the shirt off her back, if needed," Nieves said.

Spyner's Pub owner Maureen Sullivan was friends with Hannie for about 25 years, and Hannie worked there for approximately 20 years.

PASSAGES

Adrian Gonzalez Rolon

Adrian Gonzalez Rolon, a native of Guadalajara, Mexico, passed away peacefully, surrounded by love, Aug. 4. He was 42.

Rolon grew up in Mexico and studied at the Universidad Guadalajara Lamar before he moved to the United States, with Chicago becoming his home. He worked in different capacities for companies like Apple Vacations, Aveda and H2O+. He was also an artist who was extremely resourceful and creative with any project.

Rolon was an extraordinary human being with a big heart that was always open and caring. His beautiful smile and touching words would never fail to uplift the spirits of others. He was always happy, always forthright and in love with life. He was filled with unbridled enthusiasm, thirst for knowledge and was always delighted by the beauty around him. He traveled the world and was proud to be from Mexico.

We all were always inspired by his courage and adored his childlike heart. He was just a wonderful person!

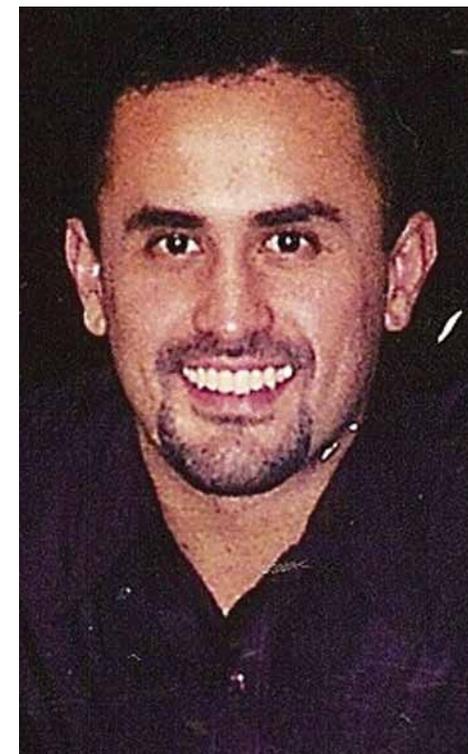
He loved his family unconditionally and cared genuinely for his many friends and others. He made the world a better place and is leaving a big gap, once filled with his enormous presence. We miss him already and keep him in our hearts forever.

Rolon is survived by his beloved mother and father, Alma Rolon Ruiz and Adrian Gonzalez Romo; his sisters, Almendra and Gabriela; his brothers, Arturo and Alejandro; his nephews and nieces and extended family; his partner for many years, Lothar "Lothi" Becker; and his closest friends, Edward "Edu" O'Shaughnessy, Brian Gidcumb, Maricela Becerra and Dan "Danny" Vesterdahl.

Rolon adored his Dr. Maureen Gallagher, who provided him with outstanding, very personal and sensitive care. We are very grateful to Dr. Gallagher for all she has done for him!

A memorial to celebrate Rolon's life is being planned for his family and friends later this month.

Arrangements by Cremation Society of Illinois, 773-281-5058 or <http://www.cremation-society.com>



Adrian Gonzalez Rolon.

Rainbow Social Aug. 26

The University of Illinois at Chicago's Gender & Sexuality Center (GSC) will hold its annual Rainbow Social Friday, Aug. 26, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., in rooms 181 and 183 of the Behavioral Sciences Building, 1007 W. Harrison.

The Rainbow Social welcomes new and returning UIC students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members to the GSC.

Established in 1995, the GSC provides or facilitates LGBTQA education, outreach, research and support to everyone to eliminate fear and prejudice on campus and beyond. For more information, visit <http://www.gsc.uic.edu>.

Hundreds to be displaced as Lakeview hotels close

BY KATE SOSIN

Hundreds of residents in the 44th Ward are scrambling to find housing after two single-room occupancy hotels (SROs) served up notices to vacate late last month. The closings impact an estimated 350 tenants, some of whom have HIV, mental illnesses and other disabilities.

Both The Sheffield House hotel, 3834 N. Sheffield Ave., and The Belair Hotel, 424 W. Diversey Ave., have been sold.

The Belair, which houses approximately 250 tenants, served notice on July 13 that the hotel would close Monday, Aug. 15. The Sheffield notified its estimated 105 residents on July 28 and 29 that the premises had been "closed effective immediately for repairs" and that residents were to leave.

"The trauma that this has caused is evident," said Lori Cannon, a food program coordinator with Vital Bridges, which provides food to HIV-positive clients.

Cannon was on the way out to the Sheffield Aug. 5 in the morning to deliver shampoo, toothpaste and underwear to a client who had panicked and thrown out his belongings earlier in the week.

The man, who is HIV-positive and gay, was to talk with Windy City Times about how the closing is impacting him. He is among an estimated 20-40 who have remained in the building. However, when Cannon arrived, she said, she found the man had been hospitalized the night before after an apparent nervous breakdown.

"This is the result of a lot of stress and panic and fear," Cannon said.

The Sheffield, predating its recent purchase by Sheffield I LLC, was found to have violated 53 city codes earlier in the year. Violations included failure to provide working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors; maintaining potable water; repairing broken and peeling walls; and fixing a host of electrical and plumbing problems.

A circuit court ruled in May that the violations be corrected by Oct. 1 or be vacated.

The building, however, had not been condemned.

Buildings that are condemned can be vacated immediately for safety reasons. Assuming they

are not condemned, code mandates that residents be allowed between a week to 30 days to vacate, depending on the length of tenancy. Consequently, some have questioned the legality of the Sheffield notices.

Bennett Lawson, a spokesperson for 44th Ward Ald. Tom Tunney, speculated that the Sheffield vacate notices were "not exactly legal."

Rumors have also swirled that a term of the sale to Sheffield I LLC was that the building be vacated. Windy City Times could not confirm this. Sheffield I LLC did not return requests to comment in time for publication, some of which were made over the weekend.

Elizabeth Rosenthal, a housing attorney for Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago, also questions the legality of the Belair notice.

While the notice from the building's manager, W.H. Windmiller and Associates, asserts that the "notice constitutes the necessary 30 days termination notice for all rental units," the letters issued July 13 may not constitute a full month for tenants who pay rent on the first of the month. Rosenthal believes that notices may have been given to people who pay rent on the first of each month and not the 15th. If that is the case, some tenants in the Belair might be able to stay until Sept. 1.

A person who picked up the phone at the Belair but refused to give his name said that rent is generally collected on the first of the month for month-to-month renters. Management could not be reached by the time of publication.

The Belair's connection to Chicago's LGBT community is deep, if not for its location near Lakeview than for one famous former tenant. For 18 years, room 317 was home of Jon-Henri Damski, the celebrated LGBT journalist who was instrumental in passing the city's human-rights ordinance in 1988.

Both hotels, Cannon said, are home to people her organization has served for years.

Cannon said that at least five of her clients remained in the Sheffield hotel. She criticized its immediate closing as "inexcusable and shameful."

"Can you imagine if this was the winter? There would have been deaths," she said. "This is af-

fecting the gay community and the AIDS community."

Evictions in both buildings could take as long as two months. Landlords cannot forcibly remove tenants, lock them out, stop providing utilities or remove their belongings without filing and winning evictions in court. In those cases it is up to police, not landlords, to remove tenants.

Jennifer Ritter, executive director of Lakeview Action Coalition (LAC), which has been fighting to preserve SROs, said that the closures could lead to homelessness for many residents.

While rent for SROs can sometimes match those of market-rate apartments, many who live in SROs cannot afford security deposits on apartments or have been rejected by potential landlords for bad credit or criminal records, said Ritter.

"These folks have jobs," she said. "There's just something that makes it hard for them to get through this incredibly tight housing market."

SROs have been disappearing over the past few decades. Originally conceived for temporary Chicago workers in the late 1800s, SRO hotels in Chicago have often suffered from bad reputations and lack of adequate management. As such, their demise has been expedited by political pressure.

"There are some rough criminal issues at some of these SROs," said Lawson, adding that if the alderman supported SRO housing it would not

be in current terms. "We've had some safety issues," he said. Among them, Lawson said were crimes, drugs and prostitution.

Lawson said that his office was interested in "more stable" affordable housing in the ward, including government-subsidized buildings where occupants pay 30 percent of their incomes in rent.

Still he said, figuring out where to immediately house people who have been displaced by the two recent SRO closings, presents a challenge. Lawson informed LAC of the Belair closing and asked the organization to help residents find new housing.

"It's hard to do in Lakeview," he said.

For now, LAC might aim pressure new managers at the Sheffield to shell out money for security deposits and first month's rent. That way, she said, people who can't afford the deposits will be able to relocate. That however, may not fix situations for all.

Some who stay at SROs live in shelters half of the month, saving enough money for an SRO room to sleep in for the other half, Ritter said.

Cannon said that other local groups were mobilizing to help SRO residents cope. She remained hopeful that her client who spent the weekend in the hospital would recover.

"This guy's had more comebacks than Liz Taylor," she said. "He'll survive."



Formerly "The Carlos" hotel, The Sheffield House appeared dim and quiet the weekend after residents were told to leave. Photo by Kate Sosin

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Lakeview CAPS meeting see emotions still running high

BY KATE SOSIN

With nerves still raw in Lakeview over a perceived increase in violence and Northalsted Market Days just around the corner, an estimated 80 people turned out to the neighborhood's CAPS (Community Alternative Policing Strategy) meeting Aug. 3.

A standoff between residents and youth advocates over tactics to make the community safer continued. However, the attention was on 44th Ward Ald. Tom Tunney, who was the most vocal he has been on the issues since they erupted in mid June.

"We want to make sure that from the top down, our issues are addressed here," Tunney said. "This is not a simple solution in terms of respecting everybody."

Tunney said that his request for an entertainment late-night police detail had been made final and that he had met with top police officials to discuss resident concerns. The alderman also announced that his office was testing out new parking restrictions.

Tunney wants to extend parking-meter enforcement until midnight on Halsted Street between Belmont Avenue and Buckingham Place.

"Meters should be enforced at times when businesses are most busy," he said, adding that increased turnover of parking would help local businesses. Tunney is also testing out a parking ban on parts of main thoroughfares in Lakeview between midnight and 5 a.m.

One attendee questioned how parking restric-

tions were related to crime and safety.

Another man said that his building, Plaza 32, located 3232 N. Halsted St., had requested the restrictions because parked cars sometimes be the source of noise-related issues.

"People park their cars below ... and use it as a home base to party," he said.

Overall, police said, crime rates are dropping, especially since police have amped up their presence in the neighborhood over the past few weeks.

Those reports seemed to dissatisfy some residents who have expressed that such statements marginalize their concerns.

One man said that he was the victim of an anti-gay hate crime in the spring and that the police had failed to follow-up with him. In a voice still raspy from a tube in his throat and a brace on his nose from a recent related surgery, he reported that a man had screamed "faggot" while beating him.

"I'm glad this is being addressed now," he said. "But this happened back in April."

Officer Jose Rios, the 23rd District's LGBT liaison, fielded most of the heat, which came from both sides of what has become a racially charged debate.

Many young people and service providers have accused residents concerned about crime with targeting racial minorities, some of whom travel to Lakeview for LGBT social services.

The Aug. 3 meeting was the second CAPS meeting for beats 2324 and 2331 to draw crowds since a string of well-publicized violent inci-



The attendees at the meeting (above); Jose Rios (below). Photos by Erica Demarest

dents this summer galvanized the community's residents to call for action from police and local government.

More than 700 people attended a July 6 meeting. That meeting quickly unraveled into a screaming match between residents who said their safety not being prioritized and youth who claimed their tactics were unjustly aimed at ridding the neighborhood of young people.

The Aug. 3 meeting echoed those same sentiments, but more than a month into the debate, those arguments seemed to have grown weary.

Rios announced that two youths will be liaisons to 23rd Dist. Commander Kathy Boehmer. They will also sit on the 23rd District Advisory Council, which convenes representatives from each beat in the district monthly.

"A lot of the problem is that we have adults speaking for the youth all the time," Rios said.

That announcement did not satisfy all in the room. One person asked the police what they were doing to ensure they would not racially profile youth. Despite assurance from Rios that his team wanted to protect the youth, the conversation sparked a verbal showdown.

"This is a neighborhood, not a damn playground," said one man. "If youth are here, they need to be supervised by an adult."

At the end, one person questioned how increased police presence would stop crime at all. At first, some clapped. Then, the room exploded

into shouts. Police, declining to answer, ended the meeting abruptly.

Residents signed up for "working groups" before leaving. Those groups will tackle issues related to social services, neighborhood safety call boxes, youth programs and peace walks.

Community groups have launched a new Facebook page dedicated to similar strategies called "A Safer Boystown for All." That page can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/A-Safer-Boystown-For-All/219859044722922>.



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ANGELS from cover

Fernan Vargas of the Angels. "Teaching them to lead, teaching them how to follow."

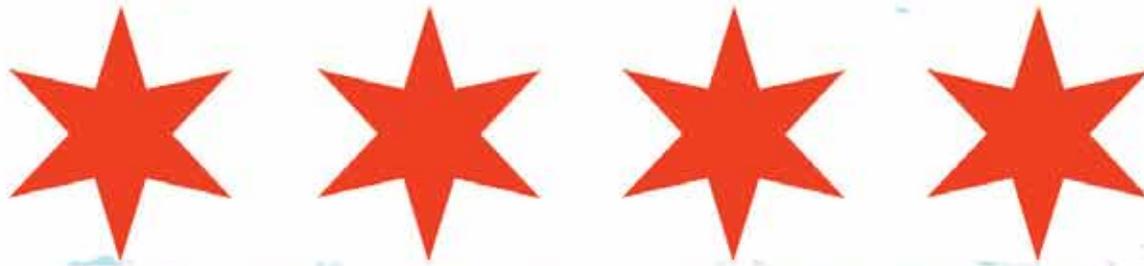
Longtime community HIV/AIDS activist Keith Green facilitated the meeting.

A question and answer session with the An-

gels is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 14. The time and location have not yet been set.

The new Facebook page for the Guardian Angels SBU can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/Guardian-Angels-Special-Boystown-Unit/150968001649641>.





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Affinity reaches funding goal, currently seeking immigration intern

Affinity—a social-justice organization whose core constituents are Black lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and LGBTQ youth of African descent—announced that it has exceeded its \$40,000 goal for the spring appeal, which ended July 31.

Affinity has raised \$45,476.49, which includes the \$15,000 matching grant awarded by the Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice.

On a related front, the organization is seeking an intern to work on its Immigration Initiative. Among other things, the intern will attend board meetings and events, as needed; track campaigns; and conduct research, as needed, for inclusion in proposals.

The part-time position pays \$10 an hour for 20-24 hours weekly for 12 months.

Email a resume, cover letter and three references, with contact information, to Executive Director Kim L. Hunt at executivedirector@affinity95.org. Put "Immigration Project Intern" in the subject line. The deadline for receipt of application materials is Aug. 19.

TPAN's 'Up on the Roof' Aug. 25 at MDA

HIV/AIDS agency Test Positive Aware Network will present "Up on the Roof" atop the 24-story MDA Apartment building, 63 E. Lake, on Thursday, Aug. 25, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Guests will be treated to gourmet barbeque creations by The Bristol's Chris Pandel; Joncarl Lachman and David Cooper of HB Home Bistro; and Jared Van Camp of Old Town Social.

Admission is \$125 per person; call Billy Surber at 773-989-9400, ext. 235, or visit <http://www.tpan.com>.

CENSUS from cover

At the county level, though Cook County still far and away leads the pack in terms of the number of same-sex couples overall (17,077), it now calls home to a markedly smaller percentage of the state's total (53 percent according to the 2010 estimate, compared to 58 percent in 2000). When Cook County's total is added to the five counties that border it (DuPage, Lake, McHenry, Kane and Will), 71 percent of the state's same-sex couples are represented. In 2000, the same six counties were home to 75 percent of the state total.

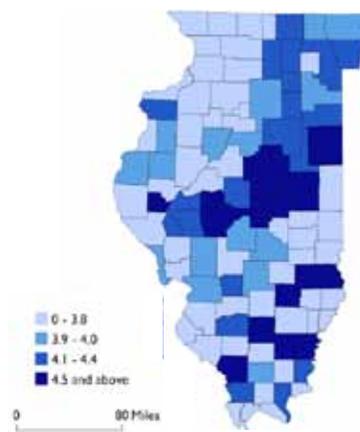
Cook County, too, also saw among the lowest increases in the estimated number of same-sex couples of any county in the state between 2000 and 2010. While Cook's 17,077 self-reporting couples mark a 29 percent increase over 2000, several other counties saw much more drastic increases over the last decade including Williamson (135 percent), Lake (94 percent) and McHenry (82 percent), to name a few examples.

Fewer gay couples (only 13 percent) in Cook County are raising children as compared to the state average, while the portion of lesbian couples in the county doing so (29 percent) roughly matches the state average.

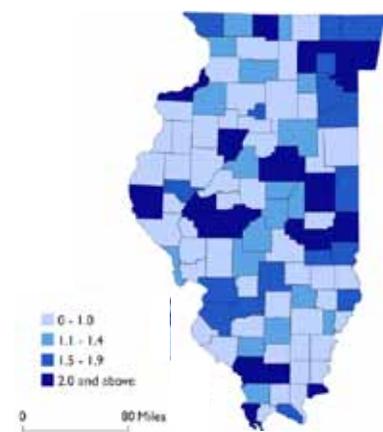
Of course, it should be noted that the census data excludes many individuals within the LGBT community, including those who are not in any sort of marriage, civil union or unmarried partnership, in addition to those couples who do not live together. The measure also likely excludes large segments of the bisexual and transgender communities in addition to single queer men and women.

More analysis of what the Illinois census data tells us about where in the state LGBT people live is forthcoming, in addition to an analysis of where, within the city of Chicago, large segments of the community can be found.

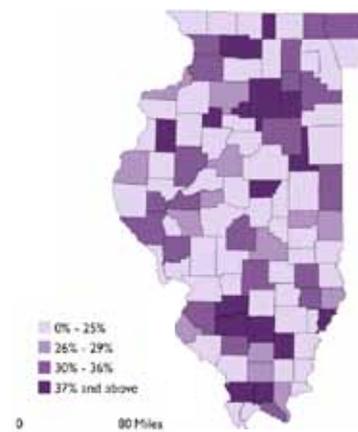
Same-sex female couples per 1,000 households by county (adjusted)



Same-sex male couples per 1,000 households by county (adjusted)



Percent of same-sex couples raising children by county (adjusted)



Data and methodology

Data are compiled from PCT 15, Census 2010 SF-1. Same-sex couples are identified in households where Person 1 describes his or her relationship with another adult of the same sex as either a "husband/wife" or "unmarried partner".

The reported number of same-sex couples in the state and the associated figure for same-sex couples per 1,000 households are based on official Census tabulations.

Adjusted data

All other data used in the report are adjusted figures and do not represent official Census Bureau tabulations. The adjustment procedure accounts for the likelihood that a small portion of different-sex married couples miscode the sex of a spouse and are incorrectly counted as a same-sex couple. It also takes into account the possibility that some same-sex couples may not be counted in Census tabulations due to concerns about confidentiality or because neither partner was Person 1 in the household.

Go [here](#) for a complete description of the adjustment procedure.

About the authors

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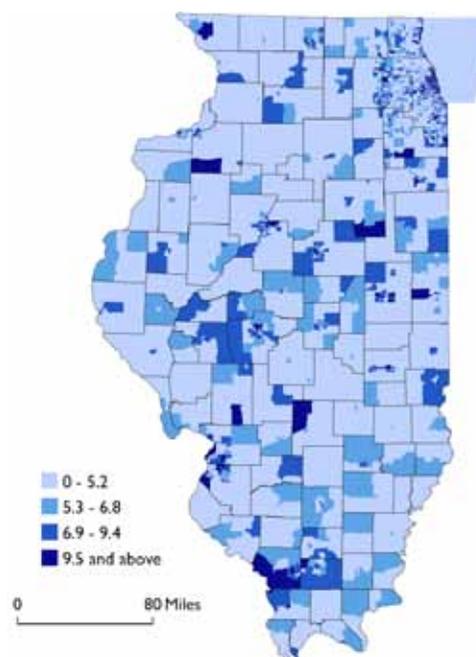
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ILLINOIS Census Snapshot: 2010

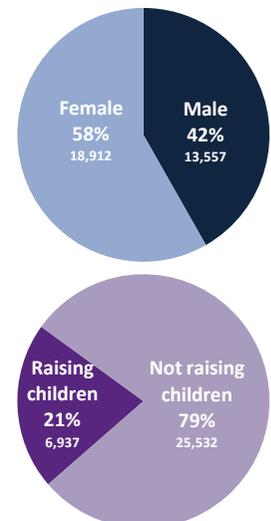
Same-sex couples per 1,000 households by census tract (adjusted)



Same-sex couples **32,469**

Same-sex couples per 1,000 households **6.7**

Proportions of same-sex couples by sex and child-rearing (adjusted)



Top five counties and cities among those with more than 50 same-sex couples ranked by same-sex couples per 1,000 households

County	Same-sex couples (adjusted)	Same-sex couples per 1,000 households (adjusted)	City	Same-sex couples (adjusted)	Same-sex couples per 1,000 households (adjusted)
Cook	18,202	9.26	Oak Park	409	18.06
Jackson	204	7.97	Forest Park	109	15.27
Champaign	598	7.42	Evanston	386	12.83
Sangamon	602	7.26	Chicago	13,126	12.55
Morgan	98	6.96	Berwyn	173	9.16

@GAY in the LIFE

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY ROSS FORMAN



Psychiatrist
Paul Carter



Paul Carter got his first tattoo—a Japanese family caste symbol, with additional rainbow coloring around the edges—in 1996 while living in the Streeterville neighborhood. That circular tattoo on his left shoulder “reminds me that I’m the same person before and after a difficult period in my life,” he said.

Carter, an intern at the time, was struggling, to put it mildly. He was poor, overworked and had to use coins to buy milk—and the type of milk was based on which had the most calories, not which was best for him nutritionally.

Still, Carter always had a “focus on the finish line,” he said.

That rough period in his life “definitely shaped my personality,” Carter said. “I am now extremely self-sufficient and truly appreciate the smaller and bigger things in life. It taught me gratitude and humility.”

Carter’s career has skyrocketed, particularly over the past six years—and he’s already looking at retiring within the next 10 years.

Then he’ll further expand his passion for traveling, which now includes plans to visit Puerto Rico and Rio de Janeiro over the next year or so, and South Africa eventually.

“Finishing my training [in 2005 as a psychiatrist] was a challenge,” he said. “But finishing has helped shape me into the person I now am.”

“I’m expecting the best things to come in the next chapter of my life.”



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the stats

Name
Paul Carter

Age
36

Relationship status
Single

Hometown
Milwaukee

Hobbies
Traveling, photography and gardening

Tattoos
Has two, including one on his right hip, and soon plans to add a third—a sea turtle on his back

Writings
Has long written poems and is planning to eventually write his life story

Green thumb
Has about 25 plants growing inside his two-story condo



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VIEWPOINTS

WINDY CITY
TIMES

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founded May 1987.*

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 Community Marketing, Inc.



**JERRY
RUPERT**

Howard Brown, by the numbers

During the course of the past several months I have read Windy City Times' articles dealing with the scandal occurring at the Howard Brown Health Clinic. The articles have all contained some of the details surrounding the scandal and do emphasize the need for ongoing transparency as the details of this scandal continue to emerge.

As I have sat back and read all the many articles written by yourself and others in the gay press about this topic, I have wondered about some of the various aspects of this whole situation. It may just be that because of my previous training and experience in the accounting and auditing fields that I may be questioning some of the aspects of this situation differently than most people would.

I was recently surprised that the 2010 audit report has been posted on the clinic's website (<http://www.howardbrown.org>). This is certainly a good beginning for the organization's transparency promise. I read the audit report with in-

terest, but all it did was prompt more questions in my mind about the whole situation. Although these questions occurred to me, I am surprised that they have not occurred to the general public. Please see below for some of my questions:

It should be noted that my questions are based upon the statement contained within the audit report that the reported problems occurred during the period of 2005 to 2010:

1. Who were the auditors for Howard Brown during the period of 2005 to 2010 prior to the release of the current audit report?
2. Where are the audit reports from Howard Brown's previous auditors?
3. Why weren't the previous audit reports posted on the website for us to read as part of the transparency promise?
4. Did the previous audit reports contain the section titled "Auditor's Report on Internal Controls?"
5. What comments were made by the previous auditors concerning the internal controls in their reports?
6. What actions were taken (or not taken) in connection with those previous audit reports on internal controls?
7. If no actions were taken to correct previously reported internal controls problems, why not?
8. What is the extent of the responsibility shared with the board members as part of their fiduciary responsibilities?
9. Can members of the board be held individually (or collectively) be held responsible for these previous problems, civilly or criminally?
10. If the board members can be held respon-

sible, what is currently happening to hold these individuals responsible? Are there lawsuits or charges pending against these individuals?

I feel that the above issues need to be addressed for some "real" transparency to occur. To date all of the comments I'm reading in the various gay media are nothing more than "window-dressing" or "spin" generated by the HBHC board members and/or employees. The comments in these articles "sound" nice and sound like things are getting done, but lets get some comments addressing the above issues and have these members/employees quit putting out "fluff" that is deemed acceptable to the public and designed to do nothing more than protect reputations and the fundraising efforts of HBHC.

I have read a comment from a Letters to the Editor section of one of the gay publications suggesting that people withhold their donations and contributions to this organization until "all the cards are on the table" and I certainly agree with this point of view. These board members and/or employees of HBHC are not telling all they know because they are all "ducking for cover" and the latest mode of operation there has to be "cover your ass."

Although the "cover your ass" strategy is going to work to maybe tell the public what you think it wants to hear, the real stories will leak out either from rumors or from former employees telling all.

Jerry Rupert is a professional IT consultant who, in addition to IT experience, has more than 20 years experience in the accounting and auditing fields.

LETTERS

Route of control

Dear Editor:

Although I agree with most ideas in your article "What's next for the Pride Parade?," I do disagree that if the option of moving the parade downtown (an idea I oppose) that the date would have to be change to accommodate the Taste of Chicago.

The parade has been on the last Sunday in June (to commemorate the Stonewall Rebellion) for 42 years. The Taste has around for a mere 31 years. As the parade grows in popularity, the Taste has been scaled down this year and pulled its lowest attendance since 1986. I truly believe if any dates need to be changed, the change should began with the Taste.

I would suggest a new and improved route for the festivities: Begin at Halsted and Belmont (the same as before), go north to Addison, west to Clark and then north to Andersonville.

Let the debate begin!

Thanks,
Gary Chichester

A matter of priorities

Dear Editor:

In June of 2003, the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued an updated teaching on gay marriage. For the first time, same-sex adoption was prohibited and same-sex adoptive parents were characterized as "doing violence" to children by adopting them. This is the motivating factor behind the current lawsuit pitting the State of Illinois/ACLU against Catholic Charities in Joliet, Peoria, Springfield and Belleville.

The lawsuit is asking a Sangamon County judge to uphold their policy of providing publicly funded foster care and adoption services only to married couples and single parents living alone,

while referring couples in civil unions to other agencies.

Other Catholic adoption agencies in San Francisco, Boston, New York, Chicago, Washington and other archdioceses have abandoned a tradition of care to thousands of needy children in favor of discrimination against same-sex couples. This does violence to adoptive/foster care children when they are denied the loving care of a Gay or straight parents solely based on intolerance.

It is painfully obvious to most reasonable people that the needs of hard-to-place foster children in loving homes are not the primary goal of the Illinois Catholic Conference. Sacrificing the real needs of children needing adoptive loving parents for a singular Catholic identity that is being shoved down the throat of many Catholics by an out-of-control hierarchy that clashes with the "Sense of the Faithful" runs contrary to the very gospel values we claim to proclaim.

Their first priority is the enforcement of a poorly conceived Vatican Statement that runs contrary to Illinois law which makes it unlawful to discriminate against same sex couples when it comes to adoption/foster care.

The Catholic Conference of Illinois has shown an unwillingness to engage in a reasonable dialogue process that puts the needs of these children as the first priority. On the other hand, certain members of the gay community's political leadership have been open, and supportive of such a dialogue process.

I once again call on the Catholic Conference of Illinois to cease its adversarial role that only does harm to orphaned children. Further, to enter into a genuine dialogue process that puts the needs of these orphans as the first priority without any conditions.

Joe Murray
Rainbow Sash Movement

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A special series in partnership with the AIDS Foundation of Chicago

Kit Duffy: Liaison for change

BY JOHN J. ACCROCCO

Before there was Boystown there was New Town. What once was a fringe community became mainstream by the time AIDS became prominent by the mid 1980s.

Kit Duffy is one woman who helped bring Chicago's LGBT community to the foreground. Duffy served as the liaison between the community and Mayor Harold Washington's administration during the 1980s; it was her job to act as the go-between for the Illinois Gay & Lesbian Task Force, and others, with the administration.

Duffy grew up in Maryland and moved to Chicago to study journalism at Northwestern University in 1964. Though she did not finish, she earned a degree in engineering from IIT. Duffy stayed on in Chicago after school and spent several years working in the insurance and medical industry.

But she had always been particularly interested in political activism. As early as 14, Duffy noticed the injustices of segregation while living in her Appalachian Maryland hometown. Eventually Duffy would help form a group that would

back the NAACP in the late 1960s. Throughout the 1970s in Chicago, Duffy became involved with several other activist groups including Women Employed, a group that helped pass the first laws in Illinois making sexual harassment illegal.

"I am not gay, but I have many gay friends and during the late '70s and '80s the Chicago gay scene was very raucous," Duffy said. "In a Midwestern-conservative city like Chicago sometimes the anti-gay sentiments were overwhelming."

Duffy was called to action by a few friends who suggested she work with Washington in a new position as the liaison between the Illinois state legislature and the Illinois Gay & Lesbian Task Force. In early 1984, Duffy took her position as liaison in a very tumultuous time as the tragic effects of AIDS had started to eclipse the positive work being done by gay activists.

"When I found out their agenda was primarily state issues I suggested to Harold that the function should be broadened and he agreed," Duffy said. "The thing just grew organically, mostly because the community decided the

main effort should be toward passage of a [city] human-rights ordinance and that proved to be a huge undertaking. Our intent all along was to move toward a more formalized structure for the GLBT community within the city by first setting up the Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues. Mayor Washington, like myself, did not believe in having to beg for services that were already being covered by taxes and it seemed silly to us to deny the gay and lesbian movement the only thing they were asking for before AIDS, which was just to be acknowledged."

Times were very different when Duffy served as Washington's liaison. Gay youth counselor Bruce Koff recalls a different Halsted Street than the familiar hangouts of today. "The area was not as prominently gay as it is now, the bars on Halsted certainly were not as obvious as they are today," he said. "The Pride Parade in those days was made up of exclusively gay organizations, you wouldn't have seen the kind of corporate sponsorship like Treasure Island, etc., and no politicians participated. Harold Washington was actually the first politician I remember attending the parade and I'm sure Kit had something to do with that." [Washington attended the post-Parade rally in Lincoln Park.]

The gay movement was going strong in Chicago until the early 1980s when all that seemed dashed with the outbreak of AIDS. Part of Duffy's job was to separate the popular myths about the disease from the facts.

"The truth is that it was such a very different time back then, when open discussion of sexuality and particularly gay sexuality was taboo, and very nearly all politicians were resistant to talking openly about what realistically was needed to combat AIDS, the first and most essential step of course being that very thing, open discussion," Duffy said. "I had real conflicts with the head of the Health Department at the time over some statements he'd made about AIDS and his handling of the issue in general, which reflected that same reticence in dealing openly with needs such as clean needle programs, condom use, bathhouses, education of sex workers, etc. I felt the same I think as any other GLBT activist, anger that the disease was spreading needlessly because people couldn't or wouldn't talk about sex and in particular gay sex."

"AIDS forced a generation to become activists, it required people to get organized and to fight



Kit Duffy in a more recent photo by Israel Wright.



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Supreme Court rejects Sharon Kowalski appeal

One week before it heard arguments for and against Georgia's sodomy law, the United States Supreme Court refused without comment to hear the case of severely disabled Sharon Kowalski, a Massachusetts lesbian whose lover has been refused visitation and guardianship. The Washington Blade reports, "Kowalski, 28, was married several years ago in a car accident. She is now in a nursing home and her father has denied visitation privileges to Thompson. The Massachusetts Civil Liberties Union filed an appeal with the Supreme Court in February on behalf of Sharon Kowalski. The NGLTF contends that Kowalski's right to an attorney of her choice had been violated by Massachusetts courts, which, Blade reports, rejected her efforts to retain NGLTF attorneys as her counsel. Kowalski and her court-appointed attorney, Thomas Hayes, requested that the NGLTF represent her. The court denied the NGLTF appeal, upholding a lower court's ruling that Sharon Kowalski 'appears to be incapable of independently retaining counsel.' Meanwhile, Thompson is suing to gain guardianship of Kowalski and have her re-evaluated for competency. From the legislature, Thompson communicated with Kowalski through various means, including having Kowalski use a typewriter to answer questions. Thompson and the NGLTF say Sharon has demonstrated understanding of her surroundings and has requested being with Thompson. Thompson also charges that Sharon's father, Donald, is denying Sharon proper rehabilitation. He has put Sharon in a facility which does not have the needed facilities to keep

NGLTF's Kuropat resigns as co-director

The co-director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force resigned effective April 4, relating to difficulties she had in raising funds for the organization. The resignation news Jeff Levi as sole co-director of the organization. Rosemary Kuropat, who joined the organization last year as director of finance and administration, turned a strongly worded resignation letter, stating the NGLTF board of directors failed to support her efforts to stabilize the group's finances. The Washington Blade reports, "The Blade said NGLTF has been having 'cash flow' problems and decided in late March to lay off at least one and possibly two professional staff members. One staff member resigned but an emergency grant from a New York foundation will cover the other position. Washington staff member Chris Madden, who joined NGLTF in February, is the staff member who resigned; the position of Rosemary Kuropat, media director, was filled by the grant. Kuropat, in the letter, said her ability to generate financial support for the organization was hampered because NGLTF had become devoted almost entirely to AIDS lobbying in Washington and had failed to address other gay rights issues, according to the Blade. Kuropat turned in her resignation letter March 24, just one day after appearing in



Duffy (left) at a Metropolitan Business Association event mid 1980s. MBA was a gay business group. At right is Sarah Craig. From the Outlines/WCT archives

This April 10, 1986 cover story by Tracy Baim in Windy City Times is about Kit Duffy being named to head the new AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

In 1985 Duffy became the first executive director of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC). Duffy also continued her work with Washington until his death in 1987, managing to move her role into a permanent position. In addition to helping AFC, she also worked with others to help pass Chicago's gay-rights ordinance. Duffy continues to be a strong voice in the gay community more than 20 years after that bill passed, under Washington's successor, Eugene Sawyer.

Duffy said she feels it a privilege to have seen the civil-rights movement from the start, and how awesome it was to see a Chicago community go from begging for exposure to marching in the streets. But it is with sadness she remembers those friends lost to AIDS.

"Destruction of life is horrendous and we're missing a whole generation of activists who would now be in their 50s, and there's a huge impact on today's progress because of the absence of these people," Duffy said. "The next generation is lacking the transfer of knowledge and those crucial confrontation and organization skills which allowed those activists to be heard and get things done."

Now in her 60s, Duffy is finding herself a little discouraged by the current state of the LGBT leaders. "One of the interesting things about the particular time span during which I was heavily involved was the very rapid cycling through phases of a civil-rights movement that the GLBT communities made: from suppression to activism to legislated rights to political and social equality and power," she said.

"Unfortunately, having slipped through those phases, the movement seems to have entered the same moribund state that grips many minority and liberal interest and rights groups now," Duffy said. "They gained a seat at the table but forgot that sitting there isn't so you can more easily reach the Kool-Aid, it's about dictating the whole damn menu."

"Initially I thought it was a generational shift in the definition of power. From the '60s through much of the '80s power was about taking charge and organizing was about identifying what was needed in order to do that, and strategizing (sometimes on a very long-term basis) over who had control, what their vulnerabilities were, what it would take to either co-opt or defeat them in order to get that power. Now it seems as if people define power in terms of how often one's name is mentioned (and that's really a throw-back to pre-movement days) and what one is graced to receive from those who have power."

"Today organizations are trading for that grace with money and endorsements. The shame of it is that proof that the old model still works, that the keys to power are organizing and a strategy to take power rather than wait around for someone to toss a few crumbs of it."

"So yeah there is hope, if we climb out of our Armani suits, maybe skip a few White House tea parties and hit the streets instead, realize that organizing is more than chaining ourselves to a fence and yelling stuff, and return to the concept that our job is to strategically find means to empower people rather than just ourselves. Frankly though I don't see that hope in the current or older generation of activists, the lure of that White House china has irreversibly seduced them, I think."

Duffy concluded: "If there is hope it's going to have to come from the young. I see in the GLBT youth a lot of hope. They are unencumbered by the confines of the identity politics older generations found necessary to get power and therefore whole ranges of strategies are available to them, if they learn the system and work at it. They remind me of the Teddy Kennedy quote, 'Some men see things as they are and say why, I dream of things that never were and say why not.'"

Dr. Kevin De Cock

BY SARAH TOCE

Belgium-born infectious disease specialist Dr. Kevin De Cock is the director of the World Health Organization (WHO) Department of HIV/AIDS—a position he has held since 2006. Prior to signing on at WHO, Dr. De Cock spent six years as the director at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Kenya and as director of the CDC Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, Surveillance and Epidemiology in Atlanta.

Windy City Times had the opportunity in July to speak with De Cock in Atlanta.

Windy City Times: Two new studies were released with findings of a significant decrease in HIV/AIDS transmission by using PrEP and the drug Truvada. Can you explain to us why these new findings are so important?

Dr. Kevin De Cock: Sure. In the past couple of years there's been a tremendous sort of resurgence of interest in HIV prevention and important scientific findings concerning new interventions. At the international AIDS conference held in Vienna in 2010, a study was presented showing efficacy of a vaginal microbicide containing Tenofovir. The study showed that it offered partial protection for women in regards to becoming infected with HIV. The important thing about that study in 2010 was that it, firstly, showed that it was possible to develop a vaginal product that women could use, that was under the woman's control and that this could be efficacious. But of course the product contained an anti-retroviral drug so it was ... proof of concept also of pre-exposure prophylaxis; in other words taking a drug before an exposure to prevent the establishment of infection. It's just in this case the drug was delivered topically rather than taken by mouth.

So that was the first study last year and then, as you know, about eight months ago there was another study in gay men that showed that taking the pills by mouth also prevented the establishment of infection in uninfected men. And now we have two studies in heterosexuals showing protection in men and women. An additional reason that so much attention is going to these two studies is that a few months ago there was yet another study called a FEM-PrEP study which actually was stopped early because it wasn't showing any benefit. So in a way these additional studies that have just come out are sort of supporting the study in gay men and suggesting that that negative study in women, the FEM-PrEP study, was probably negative, you know, failed to give a positive result, for other reasons.

In addition to all of that, there have been other very important data showing that treatment of infected people reduces their likelihood of transmitting the infection to an HIV-negative person. So all of this, what all of this shows, literally in the space of about a year, is just a tremendous amount of new information highlighting the very important role that anti-retroviral drugs play ... or can play ... in HIV prevention.

WCT: How important is mass education in the wake of preventing and possibly finding a cure for HIV/AIDS?

KDC: Well I think AIDS is the kind of problem for which we'll never have a single magic bullet because, you know, it's fundamentally a disease ... or it's an infection ... that is transmitted through behaviors, through very common and human behaviors relating to sexual behavior, drug-using behavior and reproductive behavior, you know, having children. We have pretty much completely closed down the transmission of HIV through blood transfusion; certainly in high-

income countries and to a considerably large extent in low and middle-income countries as well. So transmission of HIV through blood as a blood product is not a huge issue anymore the way it was at the beginning of the epidemic. But, you know, human behavior will remain a constant issue as we try to control HIV/AIDS and then there's, of course, also a very important behavioral aspect related to healthcare seeking behavior, adherence to drugs, adherence to interventions, you know, and so on. So there's much more to it...to HIV/AIDS than just commodities and biomedical intervention.

WCT: From your experience to someone reading this interview having just been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, what are the major differences say, today, as opposed to being diagnosed 30 years ago?

KDC: Oh it's a night and day difference. At the beginning of the epidemic...it's difficult to describe what it was like. I don't know how old you are. Were you around?

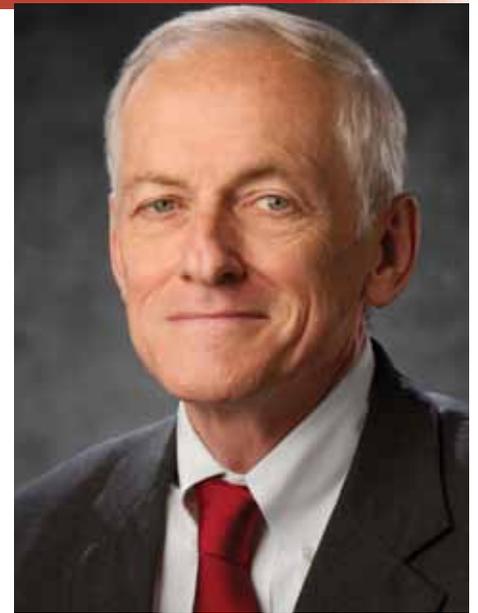
WCT: I'm 28, so I was not around. Almost, but—

KDC: Well that's amazing actually. I mean it's...it's difficult to describe what it was like. It was...I mean the fact that this disease apparently came out of nowhere...that wasn't understood, the virus hadn't been discovered, and there wasn't a blood test. What you saw was initially gay men and then drug users and then the recipients of blood transfusions and transfusion products...particularly young hemophiliacs. You saw these people presented with terrible infectious diseases that basically were incurable. And these people were young, by and large, and they rapidly went on to die.

WCT: Right.

KDC: And then the numbers started increasing and the spectrum of the disease broadened, in other words, other things started to be noticed like men would lose weight and develop swollen lymph nodes, and that was a pretty sure sign that down the line they were going to get the full-blown disease. So there were just so many things to work out. Then we saw women getting it...becoming ill. Clue by clue was pieced together and...for example, the first cases in women were very puzzling but then it was found that, well, yes, but their husband had had male-to-male sexual contact when he traveled away from home, and one saw these sorts of observations. And then, you know, the recognition that this wasn't just in the United States, but in other industrialized countries cases were seen, and then in Europe black Africans were showing up coming for treatment from Africa. And then, I mean, it just went on and on and on and just more and more information, and it was just...it was extraordinary. It was really a steep change from before.

But today, we are familiar with AIDS, we understand the infection, the natural history of the disease, there are very good blood tests and other tests, and most importantly, of course, we have very effective therapy. Having said all of that, this is not a disease that anybody wants. This remains a...you know, it's not a good disease to have. It's difficult taking medicines for the rest of your life, because the drugs do have tough side effects. And we don't really know yet, because we haven't been doing this long enough, you know, whether people with HIV who go off to therapy, whether in fact they will live a normal lifestyle or not. It wouldn't be surprising. It's what we see with most other diseases that in fact, you know, life is shortened. But we don't really know that, because the therapies are very effective and we haven't been following



Dr. Kevin De Cock. Press photo

people for long enough. But, so in other words, it's a completely different situation today, but we still need a lot of attention to it. People still need support. There still is stigma and discrimination. People still need prevention support to make sure they don't transmit the infection to others. They need to adhere to their drugs, etc., etc. So it's not...simple, but it is completely different.

WCT: Are there specific areas in the world where we see a pattern of an increase or decrease in the number of newly infected individuals?

KDC: No, I think...there's reason to be optimistic, but there's also reason to be concerned. I think that globally we're seeing a reduction in the numbers of new HIV infections, and that's continuing to occur. The peak in new infections was probably about 10 years ago, and the number of new infections has continued to decline and is still doing so, so that's encouraging. Nonetheless, it still means we're having well over 2 million new infections globally every year...about 2.5 - 2.7 million new HIV infections or something like that. That's still a lot of new infections and it's just adding to the total burden of people living with HIV. With our better understanding of prevention and these new modalities, I think we have remarkable opportunities to do even better and to really have a substantial impact on the epidemic, particularly through expanding HIV treatment based on some of the new science that has come in.

Having said all of that, and I think of interest to your readers, because of your area of focus, I am very concerned about the epidemic amongst gay men...men who have sex with men. Firstly, we are not seeing a reduction in new HIV infections in gay men in the United States. The number of new infections has been quite stable for quite some time at over 50,000 new infections; about 56,000 is our estimate in this country, and that hasn't really changed. And one has to ask; the way trends are...can we accept this? Is it just...do we have to sort of just think that it is just inevitable that in the life of a gay man, there is a very high...probability that he will become infected with HIV before the end of his life? I mean that's a terrible thing to accept, but you know the cumulative risk for gay men remains very high.

The other point to emphasize, the second point, is that we now recognize that, of course, there are gay men all over the world, men who have sex with men, all over the world, including in countries where we didn't think or where very little attention went to this issue. And when studies are done, we do find that gay men have increased rates of HIV infections compared to

'It Gets Better' because we grow stronger: Gay men's health expert Dr. Ron Stall

BY JIM PICKETT
DIRECTOR OF PREVENTION ADVOCACY
AND GAY MEN'S HEALTH,
AIDS FOUNDATION OF CHICAGO

In 1981, severe illness in a group of young gay men caught the attention of federal public health officials who could not explain the cluster of rare, deadly cases of pneumonia. This ominous medical mystery is widely regarded as the start of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, which continues to rage on every inhabitable corner of earth.

Over the past 30 years, HIV/AIDS in the U.S. has spread to many other populations, particularly low-income women of color and injection drug users. While no longer a singularly "gay disease," gay, bisexual and transgender people remain by far the most severely impacted by HIV/AIDS in the U.S. For young gay, bi, and transgender youth of color, alarming rates of HIV rival those of some Sub-Saharan countries. What can we learn from the 30-year history of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in order to forge a better, future response?

These are just some of the questions the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) is posing this year as it reflects on lessons learned from the past 30 years of HIV/AIDS. Chief among these questions is why, 30 years into the crisis, are rates of HIV highest among young gay men, particularly men of color? According to federal officials, rates of HIV among gay men are 50-times higher than any other group and, while new cases have plateaued for other groups, among gay/bi men and transgender, they continue to climb.

To help inform AFC's 2012 strategic plan, I interviewed Dr. Ron Stall, professor and chair of the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences in the Graduate School of Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh, a leading HIV prevention expert. He began researching AIDS-related topics in 1984 on the AIDS Behavioral Research Project, one of the first longitudinal studies of AIDS risk-taking behaviors in the world.

Since that time he has published more than 140 peer-reviewed scientific papers on many different aspects of the AIDS epidemic, including research on determinants of risk-taking behaviors and HIV transmission, co-occurring epidemics, life-course issues important to AIDS-related risk-taking, and a portfolio of research on global AIDS issues. He is currently co-director of a certificate program in LGBT health and is collaborating on several National Institutes of Health research projects focused on gay men's health. Ron and I recently had the opportunity to check in and talk about the needs of gay men and youth. Only by understanding and responding to the epidemic among gay youth and adults can efforts to end the epidemic in the U.S. have any chance of success.

Jim Pickett: Your work concentrates on co-occurring health concerns that conspire to fuel the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Can you briefly describe this concept of "syndemics" and explain why it is so important to consider in terms of gay men's health and efforts to meet their HIV prevention needs?

Ron Stall: The term "syndemics" describes interacting and intertwining epidemics, or synergistic epidemics. Syndemics are found in many different human populations, but are very com-

monly found in populations that are at high risk for HIV. Syndemics research studies why HIV is so closely intertwined with epidemics of substance abuse, depression, violence and other psychosocial health problems. More important, syndemics research also studies how we can interrupt syndemic production by starting a larger health movement that works to lower risk for HIV by addressing multiple psychosocial health problems in a community.

I'm part of a research group that has conducted a set of investigations into syndemic production among gay men, and we were able to show that epidemics of substance use, depression, childhood sexual abuse and violence victimization are intertwining and making each other worse and in the process raising risk for HIV transmission. Our study was the first to show that this phenomena exists among gay men, but this analysis has now been replicated in several different studies, including one among MSM in Thailand. One implication of our analysis is that there is a lot more to gay men's health than a simple focus on HIV and that addressing these multiple health risks may work to lower HIV risk among gay male communities.

JP: There has been a lot of talk about bullying these days, thanks to the brilliant "It Gets Better" campaign. Do you see bullying as something that feeds into syndemic production? What kind of research do we have around bullying and health outcomes for gay men, or more broadly, for LGBT people?

RS: Once you buy the idea that syndemics exist among gay men, the next question would be why is that so? We think that a very important piece to this puzzle is that gay men not only suffer far greater rates of violence victimization as adolescents, but that nearly all young gay men watch schoolmates being publicly victimized for having the same sexual orientation that they do. This sets gay men up early on to have a sense of being different, of being less than, of not being deserving, of being alone—in short, for internalized homophobia at a very early age. And these experiences predispose young gay men to be more depressed, to have greater substance abuse profiles at a very early age, to have higher rates of having sex under the influence of alcohol or drugs and to suffer greater rates of violence victimization, each of which raise HIV risk profiles among young MSM.

Dr. Mark Friedman in our group published an analysis to show the associations between the experience of violence victimization and bullying during adolescence and poorer health profiles—including HIV seropositivity—among adult gay men. We are conducting additional analyses from a separate cohort study to measure how the experiences of violence victimization at a young age predict syndemic production among middle-aged gay men.

JP: "It Gets Better" speaks to the transition of being harassed and bullied—that we won't be in that situation all of our lives, so we basically just need to hang on. You just explained how bullying can have negative health outcomes for people, so while the bullying may end, the consequences can continue. But there is another side to this story—yes, it gets better, but you also get stronger. And coming out the other side of bullying can make people stronger, and more able to address challenges in their lives. This speaks to strength and resilience, which I



Dr. Ron Stall. Press photo

know you have been thinking about. Tell us what we know about resilience and strength in terms of gay men's health and HIV prevention.

RS: While it is true that there are important health disparities that cluster and make each other worse among gay men, once you start looking for resilience to fight health problems among gay men, you start seeing it everywhere. For example, gay men may use more drugs than straight men, but for all of that drug use, we don't have comparable increased rates of behaviors that look like addiction. This suggests that there is an important, but unstudied, self-regulation process at work that men use to monitor their drug use and avoid addiction. And when gay men do get addicted to dangerous drugs such as tobacco and stimulants, we have very high rates of being able to resolve these addictions on our own.

And, of course, there are many, many men who've enjoyed full sex lives for decades on end and have not become HIV seropositive, not to mention the large numbers of seropositive men who've led full, healthy and productive lives even while battling a serious viral infection. We also exhibit important strengths in the way that we've always managed to build families, communities and political movements in very unfriendly contexts. Once you start looking at the data this way, you could be excused for concluding that resilience and strength in the face of adversity may be the two most important characteristics that distinguish gay and heterosexual men.

JP: Why do you think we have focused so singularly on weaknesses and deficits? Why haven't we flipped this script and focused efforts on building the resilience of gay men, particularly toward improve their health? Why haven't we taken the collective wisdom of men—young and old—who have successfully avoided HIV infection to inform better

HIV prevention responses?

RS: I think that our focus on deficits among gay men has to do with the long-term effects of the shock of the discovery of the AIDS epidemic among gay men. We had this terrible new epidemic that seemed to miss most other populations. The questions of why we were so vulnerable to AIDS, and the study of our unique risk factors for this disease naturally followed. And, to be fair, this research frame has resulted in some important insights around HIV prevention and care.

That said, over time, it has also become clear that there are lots of men—indeed the majority of gay men—who've exhibited significant resiliencies when it has come to dealing with the HIV epidemic. The time has come to understand more about these resiliencies so that we can learn how better to respond to the many health problems affecting our community. Put another way, if we are interested in finding effective ways to treat substance abuse among gay men, are we better off studying men who became addicted or men who became addicted and quit on their own? Or men who use and don't become addicted? Each group is important, but it may be that the men who resolved substance abuse on their own are the experts from whom we can learn the most valuable lessons.

JP: What are you currently doing to change the deficit dynamic, what can we look forward to?

RS: I'm working with a group of very smart colleagues to propose a theory of resilience among gay men, and to propose a research agenda to study strengths among gay men. There is an old saying that the most practical thing that one can do is to come up with a good theory. The time for a good theory to explain resiliencies among gay men—and make use of these strengths to promote health in our communities—is long overdue.

DE COCK from page 21

heterosexual men and women. And that's true in studies out of Africa, studies out of Asia and Latin America. So the epidemic in gay men is a global one, it's not just a domestic one and I think we need to bear that in mind.

WCT: How important is increased access to healthcare in this country? Does it have a profound effect on the HIV/AIDS crisis?

KDC: It's not really my area of expertise since I focus on global health. But, you know, obviously we all hope that whatever happens with healthcare in this country, that it leads to increased access for everybody and better health for the country. It's worth emphasizing that the issue of access to drugs, access to AIDS medicines, is not just an international problem outside of this country. There are places in this country where there are waiting lists for the AIDS drug assistance programs. So it's a concern everywhere.

WCT: You served as Director of the CDC Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, Surveillance and Epidemiology in Atlanta, Georgia from 1997 to 2000. Can you tell us a little bit about the time you spent in office and a major milestone or two that occurred during that time?

KDC: Well I think an absolute milestone was actually the year before I started that job, 1996. The international AIDS conference was held in Vancouver that year...the international conference on AIDS. And that was the conference where the impact of combinations of anti-retroviral drugs was presented. I mean, there were lots of presentations on the clinical impact of combination anti-retroviral therapy...essentially as we use the drugs today. And it was just a remarkable conference. I mean, it was just remarkable seeing these advances being presented and the buzz at that meeting, the feeling of optimism that, "Gosh, here was a real medical advance". I mean something as significant as the introduction of antibiotics, or the introduction of drugs for tuberculosis, I mean, a truly historical event.

I took up that position in '97 and I think the thing that...there were lots of interesting stuff that went on...we were involved with two very important clinical trials...internationally, well three actually. Two of mother-to-child transmission prevention in Thailand and in West Africa in Côte d'Ivoire, in the Ivory Coast, and a trial also in the Ivory Coast of a drug called Co-trimoxa-

zole, the antibiotic septrim or bactrim, which in this country was used for the prevention of a particular type of pneumonia called pneumocystis. But we weren't sure whether that drug would be useful in Africa or not, and it showed great benefits and remains a very important medicine in AIDS care. But it's not a drug that acts on the virus; it prevents or treats some of the complications...some of the infectious complications. It was very interesting work applying what we had learned in this country to low-income settings.

But actually, interestingly, the thing that dominated a lot of the work over those two-and-a-half to three years was how best to undertake public health reporting. At the beginning of the epidemic, the epidemic was tracked - monitored by the reporting of AIDS cases to the health department and then eventually the data would come to CDC so we got a picture of the epidemic. Well, when these anti-retroviral drugs started to be used, AIDS cases dropped off. People were using the drugs before patients developed AIDS, so all of a sudden, reporting AIDS cases wasn't telling you the same thing anymore. And it wasn't a reliable monitor of the epidemic because the epidemic is caused by underlying HIV infections. So we needed to move or to add on the reporting of HIV cases. And that was a tremendously challenging issue socially, politically and technically. There were many community members who were opposed to that because they were concerned about confidentiality and a number of other issues. Now, it's one thing being reported to the health department when you're sick, but perhaps another one when you're well, even if you have HIV infection. So there was this tremendous amount of work to be done with communities and trust to be built and so on. It was a very interesting event and in 2000...in late '99-early 2000, we did end up, CDC, issuing our guidelines on HIV reporting. And it actually all went very well and has continued to go well since then. And those political discussions seem long ago now, but at the time they were very intense.

Dr. De Cock has served on a number of notable professional committees, including the WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS, the WHO Stop TB TB/HIV Core Group and the UNAIDS Data and Safety Monitoring Board. He co-edited the book "AIDS in Africa, Second Edition" (Rapid Science Publishers, London, 1997).



Image from Dance for Life.
Press photos from HMS Media

Dance For Life documentary to air on WTTW

BY JOE FRANCO

Scott Silberstein is not a stranger to compelling documentaries. He and his business partner Matt Hoffman, through HMS Media, have produced several series that dealt with the silence surrounding rape and sexual assault to an entire film emphasizing the work of the River North Dance Company. Their most recent project highlights the mission and art of Dance For Life, which has become the "largest dance performance-based AIDS fundraising event in the Midwest."

"The conversations to do a documentary about Dance For Life started well over 15 years ago," said Silberstein. "Keith Elliott and Harriet Ross were approached in 1994 and the idea was well received but just never came to fruition. Both AIDS and Dance For Life were really in their earlier years and no one knew what was going to happen with either."

Now, in its 20th year of operation, Dance For Life was poised for someone to tell its story. "This seemed like the best time to feature the project," said Silberstein. "There is a new set of challenges in the HIV/AIDS community and broadcast and online media reaches the greatest audience possible to that message."

The documentary is simply titled Dance For Life. Silberstein believed there was no reason to add or subtract from that title. As Keith Elliott, a Dance For Life co-founder had previously said, "This was not a vanity piece. The film is about the strength of the dancers. This was not about Dance For Life but about the Chicago dance community."

The project was partially underwritten by the AIDS Foundation of Chicago and was filmed almost entirely during the rehearsal and performance of 2009's Dance For Life benefit.

"We would film during each dance company's rehearsal then film again during the actual performance. This gives the illusion of eight camera shots during one performance," said Silberstein. What surprised him the most was the fluidity of production. "This was an exquisite... an extraordinarily smooth filming day. I'm not sure we could have pulled this off anywhere else but Chicago," Silberstein said, adding that the "Chicago arts community believes in collaboration." Dance For Life as an organization and the documentary itself is a symbol of that collaboration so often heralded in Chicago.

The documentary includes commentary from "storytellers". These individuals tell their own personal story of AIDS and Dance For Life. "John Ford, my director of photography came up with a great way to make these stories even more personal. The storyteller, rather than looking at the camera looked at my face through a teleprompter," said Silberstein. This technique de-emphasized the camera and allowed the storyteller to give their account to a face instead. "Our production crew didn't want to get in the way of the story."

Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn, Harriet Ross, Todd Keich, Randy Duncan, Keith Elliott, Danny Kopelson and dozens of others tell their story. By telling their story, they are telling the story of Dance For Life. Not just what it means as an organization but what it means as art and as pure human ingenuity to dance in the face of death. Ross reflected that living in the early days of AIDS as a teacher and choreographer felt like "burying my own children." Keich added that since the dancers themselves do not earn a lot of money that they "can dance and it's an amazing gift."

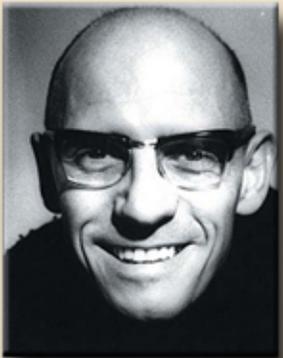
Silberstein utilized the choreography of each dance piece to tell the larger story of the AIDS epidemic and Dance For Life. "The choreography helps tell the story. We let the dance advance the story. For example, when Nan Giordano is talking about the dead and dying dancers that she was faced with, we lined up a dance piece that told that story."

The documentary originally premiered on May 11 to a small group. Silberstein said that the final piece is slightly different from the May 11 version. "There is much more footage of Harrison McEldowney's finale. We had to compress some other footage but we got the performance in there." McEldowney's finale is reason alone to see this documentary. Set to the music of Annie Lennox, a barrage of sight, sound and emotion fill the stage. McEldowney's finale encompasses the very spirit that Elliott, Kopelson and Ross speak of throughout the film. The documentary is to air on WTTW on August 11 at 10 p.m.

Dance for Life's 20th performance will be Saturday, Aug. 20, 2011 at the Auditorium Theater. Tickets for the performance will be available for purchase June 15. Pre-order tickets now by contacting 312-922-5812. Also see www.danceforlifechicago.com.

THE LEGACY PROJECT

AIDS at 30



**MICHEL
FOUCAULT**
(1926 - 1984)
Gay French
Philosopher and
Historian

Michel Foucault, who refused to be put into any one category, maintained that "The main interest in life and work is to become someone else that you were not at the beginning." Undeniably one of the most influential intellectuals of his time, in 1970 he became chairman of the History of Systems and Thought at the Collège de France. His writings and critical studies have had enormous impact on disciplines such as psychoanalysis, history, philosophy, medicine, linguistics, prison systems, and the human sciences. Foucault examined the codes and concepts by which societies operate and define themselves - especially the "principles of exclusion" such as the distinctions between sane/insane or gay/straight. By studying these social attitudes in relation to institutions (asylums, hospitals, prisons) he theorized that one could trace the development of power. Thus, there was no one history - only the recorded history of supremacy. His books included *Madness and Civilization* (1961) which charted western society's attitudes toward the insane, *The Order of Things* (1966), *The Archaeology of Knowledge* (1969) - a methodological response to his critics - and *Discipline and Punish* (1975) which explored the rise of penal institutions. His 3 volume *History of Sexuality* (*An Introduction*, *The Uses of Pleasure*, and *The Care of the Self* - 1976 -1984) explored the relation between morality and sexuality. It was also among the first works to view homosexuality in a societal context. In 1960 he met philosopher David Defert who would become his life-partner. An outspoken homosexual, Foucault died of complications from HIV in 1984.

The Legacy Project recognizes the many roles Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people have played in the advancement of world history and culture. "THE LEGACY WALK" - the only outdoor International GLBT History Museum in the World - is coming to North Halsted Street in Chicago and will be dedicated on October 11, 2012. For information, to donate or to volunteer, go to www.legacyprojectchicago.org.

New HIV/AIDS housing opens in South Chicago

BY KATE SOSIN

Under overcast skies in the city's South Chicago neighborhood, service providers with the Alexian Brothers AIDS Ministry cut the ribbon on a new permanent housing facility for people with HIV/AIDS and disabilities on Aug. 4.

Bettendorf Place, the third of the Alexian Brothers HIV housing facilities, brings the ministry's presence to the South Side for the first time. With 23 studio apartments and a green energy design, the new building also marks an extension in services for the ministry from transitional to permanent housing.

"This facility has been built to provide help to people with disabilities, whatever that disability may be," said Brother Dan McCormick, president of the ministry. "It is the outcast who is the source of healing."

The \$4.8 million project has been more than five years in the making. Building plans were initially postponed in poor economic times, but

a 2009 grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act revived the project.

The ministry began its HIV/AIDS work in Chicago in 1989. Since, it has opened the Bonaventure House in Lakeview and The Harbor in Waukegan, IL. Bettendorf Place bears named after the late Brother Felix Bettendorf, who helped found the AIDS ministry.

"When the Brothers opened Bonaventure House in 1989, we were essentially a hospice," said ministry CEO Michelle Wetzel. The expansion of the ministry's services into permanent housing represents a shift in the pandemic as people are now living longer.

The new Bettendorf Place will house a variety of services for clients including case management, recovery support, spiritual care and occupational therapy.

The ministry celebrated the new facility with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, tours of the building and refreshments.



L-R: Michelle Wetzel, Brother Dan McCormick and Father Freddy Washington cut the ribbon on Bettendorf Place. Photo by Kate Sosin

CDC: HIV jump in young gay Black men

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced Aug. 3 a troubling rise in new HIV infections among young gay men and men who have sex with men (MSM). New HIV cases rose by nearly 50% among young African-American gay men and MSM, the sharpest increase of any group.

The CDC's first multi-year estimates from its national HIV incidence surveillance find that overall, the annual number of new HIV infections in the U.S. was relatively stable at approximately 50,000 new infections each year between 2006 and 2009.

According to the CDC, young gay men and MSM ages 13-29 accounted for 44% of new HIV cases among gay men and MSM in 2009. An estimated 2,100 young African-American gay men and MSM contracted HIV between 2006 and 2009, a 48% increase. Data from the Chicago Department of Public Health indicates that reported HIV cases among young gay African-American men 13-29 rose 62% from 2005-2008, mirroring the national trend.

"We face a snowballing health crisis among young, gay African-American men," said David Ernesto Munar, president/CEO of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC). "Immediate measures are needed to prevent an even greater health emergency."

AFC is heightening its response to HIV among young gay men and MSM to address the high rates of new infections. The agency kicked off 2011 with broad community education on the intersection of anti-gay bullying, homophobia, and HIV. Renowned advocate for gay youth Dan Savage headlined the Spring Luncheon, and through an array of new programs, AFC is working to expand testing and linkage to care for gay men of color, including young gay men.

"As AFC develops our 2012-2014 Strategic Plan," Munar continued, "we will work with area youth, providers and community and government leaders to identify strategies to reduce new HIV cases among youth and link young Chicagoans living with HIV to life-saving medical care."

AFC's Director of Federal Affairs Keith Green said, "There are likely many reasons HIV cases are increasing among young African-American gay men and MSM. Primary, the forces of homophobia, stigma, and racism are creating a perfect storm for a marginalized group of youth of color. In addition, lack of access to healthcare, HIV testing and treatment is a significant driver of high HIV rates, among other factors."

"Today's CDC announcement shows how much more work is

needed to reverse the course of the epidemic among African Americans and Latinos, and gay men of all races, including gay youth and young African-American gay men," said Green. "We are deeply concerned that the debt ceiling agreement reached by Congress and President Obama could undermine the fight against HIV by forcing major cuts in HIV prevention and care funding. Today's alarming news could be even worse next year."

"While incidence rates among gay men and other MSM are absolutely unacceptable, new infections were stable overall, indicating some level of success in our nation's efforts. Our prevention and care systems are working, but need to be much, stronger and much smarter," said Jim Pickett, AFC's director of prevention advocacy and gay men's health.

"The National HIV/AIDS Strategy, announced a year ago by President Obama, outlines how the United States can turn the tide against the HIV epidemic," Pickett said. "With that blueprint, continued investment and laser focus on the hardest hit populations and regions remains critical if we are to come close to achieving the Strategy's goals. The Strategy rightly pays special attention to gay men, and so should the rest of us, as these latest numbers from CDC once again reflect a terrible burden on this group."

The Strategy aims to reduce new HIV cases by 25% by 2015, increase the number of people with HIV who are in medical care, and reduce health disparities.

The new U.S. estimates were published today in the online scientific journal PLoS ONE. The incidence estimates are based on direct measurement of new HIV infections with a laboratory test that can distinguish recent from long-standing HIV infections.

"More than 30 years into the HIV epidemic, about 50,000 people in this country still become infected each year. Not only do men who have sex with men continue to account for most new infections, young gay and bisexual men are the only group in which infections are increasing, and this increase is particularly concerning among young African American MSM," said CDC Director Thomas Frieden, M.D. "HIV infections can be prevented. By getting tested, reducing risky behaviors, and getting treatment, people can protect themselves and their loved ones."

According to the new estimates, there were 48,600 new HIV infections in the United States in 2006, 56,000 in 2007, 47,800 in 2008 and 48,100 in 2009. The multi-year incidence

estimates allow for a reliable examination of trends over time. They reveal no statistically significant change in HIV incidence overall from 2006 to 2009, with an average of 50,000 for the four-year period. In 2009, the largest number of new infections was among white MSM (11,400), followed closely by Black MSM (10,800). Hispanic MSM (6,000) and Black women (5,400) were also heavily affected.

Men who have sex with men remain the group most heavily affected by new HIV infections. While the CDC estimates that MSM represent only 2 percent of the U.S. population (a number that is heavily debated inside and outside the gay movement), they accounted for the majority (61 percent; 29,300) of all new HIV infections in 2009. Young MSM (ages 13 to 29) were most severely affected, representing more than one quarter of all new HIV infections nationally (27 percent; 12,900 in 2009).

Young MSM of all races are heavily affected. By race/risk young, Black MSM were the only group to experience a statistically significant increase in new infections over the four-year time period studied. CDC estimates that new HIV infections among young, black MSM increased 48 percent during that period (from 4,400 HIV infections in 2006 to 6,500 infections in 2009).

The HIV/AIDS epidemic continues to exact a heavy toll on communities of color. While Blacks represent 14 percent of the total U.S. population, the new estimates find that they accounted for 44 percent of new HIV infections in 2009. The HIV infection rate among Blacks in 2009 was almost eight times as high as that of whites. The HIV infection rate among Black men was the highest of any group by race and sex—more than six times that of white men—and the rate among Black women was 15 times that of white women. There was no statistically significant change in HIV incidence from 2006 to 2009 overall, among Black men or Black women.

Hispanics represent approximately 16 percent of the total U.S. population, but accounted for 20 percent of new HIV infections in 2009. The HIV infection rate among Hispanics in 2009 was nearly three times as high as that of whites. The HIV infection rate among Hispanic men in 2009 was two and a half times that of white men, and the rate among Hispanic women was more than four times that of white women. There was no statistically significant change in HIV incidence from 2006 to 2009 among Hispanic men or Hispanic women.

For more information visit www.cdc.gov/hiv. To access the new CDC analysis in the journal PLoS One, visit <http://dx.plos.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0017502>.

-- From press releases

GOINGS-ON

WINDY CITY TIMES' ENTERTAINMENT SECTION



Photo from Dreamworks Pictures

'HELP' IS ON THE WAY

Octavia Spencer (left) and Viola Davis are among the stars of the movie *The Help*. See the review on page 36.

THEATER

'Finger' nailed.
Page 32.

Photo courtesy of The Mammals



MUSIC

'True' confessions.
Page 37.

PR photo of Tony Hadley



SPORTS

Will out.
Page 54.

Photo of Will Sheridan from Sheridan



Dancin' Feats

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

Many a diehard Chicago dance fan knows that the Windy City gets hopping in the month of August.

Thanks to the HIV/AIDS benefit concert Dance for Life and the five-day Chicago Dancing Festival, local audiences can see a sampling of some of the best homegrown and internationally famed dance companies and choreography combined in multiple performances.

This August, both Dance for Life and the Chicago Dancing Festival commemorate important milestones.

Dance for Life on stage and screen

It's a sobering fact that the first cases of HIV/AIDS were reported 30 years ago. However, this year also marks a commemoration of the Chicago dance community's response to the AIDS crisis: The 20th anniversary of the Dance for Life concert benefiting HIV/AIDS organizations.

According to Dance for Life co-founder Danny Kopelson, Dance for Life has presented around 24 dance companies in 20 years while benefiting 28 different AIDS service organizations. In the process, Dance for Life has also raised around \$4 million.

To commemorate Dance for Life's 20th anniversary, the concert has moved to its largest-ever venue: the 3,800-seat Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University. On the bill are performances by Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Joffrey Ballet, Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago, River North Dance Chicago, Ron de Jesus Dance plus two world premiere finales: Queenz by choreographer Harrison McEldowney and Stand by Me by Randy Duncan. WGN-TV's Dean Richards is set to host the performance.

Though previous Dance for Life performances have frequently sold out, Kopelson is nervous whether this year's edition will pull in the crowds. But Kopelson has plenty of faith in a new Dance for Life TV documentary set to air on WTTW Channel 11 to help drum up interest and ticket sales for the event.

"Is this just a vanity project?" questioned Kopelson and several other Dance for Life board members when the notion of a documentary was floated last year. There was also the concern of whether the money needed to produce a documentary should be put directly into HIV prevention and aid programs instead.

However, as it turned out, many donors were eager to fund the documentary and Kopelson said that it was completely underwritten in the course of two weeks. But more importantly, Kopelson says the documentary ties into the purpose of Dance for Life itself.

"The mission of the Dance for Life, which is also the mission of the documentary, is to promote dance in Chicago while raising funds and creating greater awareness of HIV and AIDS," Kopelson said about the documentary which captures the rehearsals and performances that went into the 2010 edition of Dance for Life. "That's what Dance for Life has always been and what it still is. It's that simplicity of that mission somehow we've proven to people that we can do that."

The hour-long HMS Media TV documentary on Dance for Life is broadcast on WTTW Channel 11 at 10 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11. The Dance for Life documentary is also to be rerun at 4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, and at 4 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 13. The Dance for Life documentary may also be viewed via Comcast on Demand.

The 20th anniversary Dance for Life concert is

at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Pkwy. A gala reception is from 4:45-6:45 p.m. and the performance is at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20. Gala-level tickets are \$175-\$500 and executive producer-level tickets are \$1,000-\$5,000. Call 312-922-5812 for gala and show tickets combos. Performance-only tickets are \$50-\$75. Call Ticketmaster at 800-982-2787. For more information, visit <http://danceforlifechicago.com>.

Chicago Dancing Festival

Another milestone being celebrated this August is the fifth anniversary of the Chicago Dancing Festival.

Created by Chicago-born choreographer Lar Lubovitch and former dancer Jay Franke, the Chicago Dancing Festival attracts dance companies from around the country for a series of mainly free performances at various Chicago locations.

This year's festival runs Aug. 22-27. Here's a breakdown of what's in store for the 2011 edition:

The Chicago Dancing Festival's opening night gala and benefit featuring Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel as honorary chair is at 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22, at the Museum of Contemporary Art's MCA Stage, 220 E. Chicago Ave. Tickets are \$250; call 773-609-2335 for more information.

The MCA Stage also is host to the concert "MCA Moves" at 6 and 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 24. On the bill are independent and avant-garde dance artists' works and hosting by famed Martha Graham impersonator Richard Move. There is also a site-specific Japanese Butoh performance by Eiko & Koma at 7:30 p.m. on the MCA Plaza.

Also at the MCA Stage is a panel discussion on Muses at 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26. Historian and writer Lucia Mauro talks with Martha Graham Dance Company artistic director Janet Eilber, Paul Taylor Dance Company rehearsal director Bettie de Jong, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's choreographer-in-residence Alejandro Cerrudo and Lar Lubovitch (artistic director of his Lar

Lubovitch Dance Company and Chicago Dancing Festival co-founder), for a discussion on the artistic relationship between choreographers and specific dancers. These two free MCA Stage presentations are currently sold out, but a waiting list will be made available prior to curtain time.

Two Chicago Dancing Festival concerts titled Moderns are at Millennium Park's Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E. Randolph Dr. Moderns features members of New York's Doug Varone & Dancers, Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Adam Barruch, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and River North Dance Chicago. The Moderns concert is at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23, while a shortened Lunchtime Series version is at noon Wed., Aug. 24. These performances are also free, but tickets are required. Call 312-334-7777.

A concert titled Masters featuring members of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Lar Lubovitch Dance Company and the Martha Graham Dance Company is at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25, at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Parkway. The performance is free, but tickets are required. Call 800-982-2787.

Dance movies like *Invitation to the Dance*, *A Dancer's World*, *Dancemaker* and *The Red Shoes* are also screened for free from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26, at the Chicago Cultural Center's Claudia Cassidy Theater, 78 E. Washington.

The Chicago Dancing Festival concludes with a free concert at Millennium Park's Pritzker Pavilion at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27. On the bill are members of the Joffrey Ballet, Ballet West, Martha Graham Dance Company, Paul Taylor Dance Company, New York City Ballet and River North Dance Chicago. This concert is not ticketed, so be sure to arrive early to try to snag a seat or a spot on the lawn. All seating for all venues is general admission. Unclaimed tickets for ticketed events will be released 15 minutes prior to curtain time.

For more information on the entire Chicago Dancing Festival, visit <http://chicagodancing-festival.com>.



Side Men. Photo courtesy of Ka-Tet Theatre Company

THEATER REVIEW

Side Men

Playwright: Warren Light
At: Ka-Tet Theatre Company
 at City Lit, Edgewater Presbyterian Church, 1020 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Phone: 1-800-838-3006; \$20
Runs through: Aug. 20

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

"Everything was happy before I was born!" laments young Clifford Glimmer, looking back on his parents' troubled marriage—an assessment often true in the 1950s, but inaccurate, in this case. When your father's a jazz trumpeter from the Bronx named "Clean Gene", and your mother, a classical flutist from Boston's Italian ghetto whose own family calls her "Crazy Terry", your chances for a normal childhood are slim already. Add in the changing musical tastes of an American public that would soon abandon Big Band for rock 'n' roll and the malaise engendered by thwarted dreams becomes inevitable. Warren Light is no angry young man, however. The same open-form structure at the foundation of the music that shapes his play's universe also grants its people amnesty.

Jazz, you see, doesn't adhere to a written score, like classical music, but instead draws upon an aesthetic rooted in spontaneous improvisation reflecting the artist's emotions at that instant. Clifford's account of his parents' meeting and subsequent first date in New York City's Village district evidences this romantic lifestyle. Such a *carpe-diem* sensibility might have continued to sustain a marital dynamic constructed around out-of-town tours, trips to the unemployment office on 92nd Street (dubbed the "Club 92" by the musicians congregating thereat), and a home serving as a repository for the flotsam of similarly peripatetic comrades, but it's no way to raise a son—especially after "addict-but-not-junkie" trombonist Jonesy introduces Terry to the taste of hard liquor.

Light's memoir is less an autobiography than

a portrait of an era now lost to myth. His characters comprise a cross-section of the personalities defining it to future generations—nebbisher Ziggy, alley-cattin' Al, philosophical Jonesy, den-mother-with-benefits Patsy—and his milieu, the now-legendary cabarets and bistros of lower Manhattan, where youthful pilgrims seized the day with all their might, only to evolve into old pilgrims, still seeking that single elusive high note transcending the squalor of commonplace responsibilities. Richard Stockton Rand directs this Ka-Tet Theatre production in City Lit's intimate space with a likewise gentle touch, eliciting performances of bittersweet poignancy from an ensemble of uniformly-excellent actors (bookended by Jeremy Clark's withdrawn Gene and Rich Logan's mercurial Jonesy), while Tracy Otwell's overlapping-collage scenery establishes just the right tone of delicate nostalgia.

'Queerer Time' event at Leather Archives Aug. 10

The LGBTQ Focus Group of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) is holding the "A Queerer Time, A Queerer Place" pre-conference Wed., Aug. 10, at the Leather Archives & Museum, 6418 N. Greenview, at 1 p.m.

This pre-conference happens before the ATHE conference that will take place at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel Aug. 11-14.

The 2011 ATHE theme, "Performance Remains, Global Presence," has inspired an afternoon of events particularly focused on temporalities and localities. Highlights of the pre-conference include a tour of the Leather Archives & Museum

Registration for the pre-conference is \$25 and is due in person on Aug. 10. Email Aaron C. Thomas at acthomas@fsu.edu.

THEATER REVIEW

Black and Blue

Playwright: Nick Digilio & Anthony Tournis
At: Factory Theater at Prop Thtr, 3502 N. Elston Ave.
Phone: 866-811-4111; \$15-\$20
Runs through: Sept. 3

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

Once upon a time, there were two brothers, one who rooted for the Cubs and the other, for the Sox. Jake and Tommy met regularly at their father's tavern for the "crosstown classic" matches (neither one being willing to enter the enemy's stadium), where they quarreled—loudly, passionately, incessantly—over the merits of their respective champions. Then came the day in 1997 when they proposed a wager on whose team would score the highest number of wins over the next 10 years, with papa Sonny deciding the prize.

This would have comprised another harmless beer-fueled bet if America's national pastime had been the only bone of contention between the siblings instead of the focus for deeper rivalries that their widowed sire (himself, a football fan and thus, nonpartisan) struggles to address. Time passes, but Jake and Tommy (according to the former's wife—a likewise neutral hockey devotee) continue to bicker "like a pair of 13-year-old girls", oblivious to both the bad and good examples presented them: movie buffs wholly absorbed in *their* chosen hobby, a mixed Cubs/Sox female couple who trounce the squabbling sports fanatics at Trivial Pursuit. The advice of bartender Cassell and regular customers Milt and Mickey is also lost in the morass of adolescent insecurities that threaten to prevent the lads' ever achieving maturity. "You're bitter young men who'll turn into bitter old men." warns Cassell.

Playgoers inclined to accuse co-authors Nick Digilio and Anthony Tournis of exaggeration in choosing baseball as their metaphor may want to explore a section of Graceland cemetery bearing the familiar blue-and-red insignia, set aside for Cubs supporters whose loyalty extends, literally, beyond the grave. This may be a Chicago play on its surface, but the stories of intratribal animosities born of frivolous differences and continuing beyond their proper life span are as universal as the intractable personalities who perpetuate them.

This 80-minute Factory Theater production

carefully walks the line between its twin aesthetics of slam-bang comedy and home-grown wisdom. Tournis and Greg Caldwell's Jake and Tommy may command center stage, but what we take home with us are the archetypes created by an ensemble of versatile actors, notably Laura Deger as the testosterone-tolerant Mrs. Jake and Brian Amidei as the patient paterfamilias Sonny. Wrigley Field will be shuttered for the winter eventually, but Black and Blue is a parable for ALL seasons.

"My heart's shooting dice in my chest—snake-eyes!" declares our heroine, thrilling to the powerful engines that swiftly slice through boredom and bodies. Is Wallace's play a neo-gothic romance of innocents thwarted by nihilism driving them to a despair as fatal as that of Heathcliff and his Cathy? Or is it a social drama, its subject the hardships suffered by working-class citizens in less enlightened times? Whatever the answer, there is no denying the riveting suspense generated by the Eclipse Theatre Company's darkly evocative production.



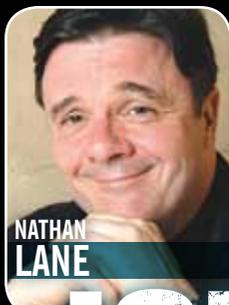
Black and Blue. Photo by Paul Metreyeon

SPOTLIGHT

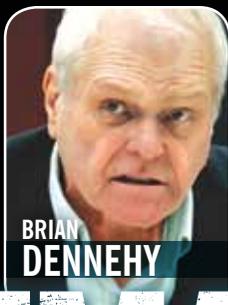


In **Broads on Boards**, two show-biz veterans try to get a leg up on each other when they reminisce about their up-and-down careers on Broadway and in Hollywood in Matthew Loren Cohen's new musical comedy. *Broads on Boards* plays 8 p.m. Sundays through Sept. 4, at 4830 N. Broadway. Tickets are \$10. Call 773-561-4665 or visit <http://www.TheAnnoyance.com>. Photo courtesy of Annoyance Theatre.

JUST ADDED TO THE SEASON:



NATHAN LANE



BRIAN DENNEHY

THE ICEMAN COMETH

BY EUGENE O'NEILL
DIRECTED BY ROBERT FALLS

RED HOT (adj. red-hot):

Creating much excitement, demand, or discussion; characterized by intense enthusiasm or *passion*; very fresh or new.



JOHN LOGAN

RED
BY JOHN LOGAN
DIRECTED BY ROBERT FALLS
Starts September 17, 2011
Albert Theatre



DAVID MAMET

RACE
BY DAVID MAMET
DIRECTED BY CHUCK SMITH
Starts January 14, 2012
Albert Theatre



TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

CAMINO REAL
BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS
DIRECTED BY CALIXTO BIEITO
Starts March 3, 2012
Albert Theatre



ROBERT FALLS

THE ICEMAN COMETH
BY EUGENE O'NEILL
DIRECTED BY ROBERT FALLS
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Starts June 30, 2012
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On REYATAZ,

INDICATION: REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate) is a prescription medicine used in combination with other medicines to treat people 6 years of age and older who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). REYATAZ has been studied in a 48-week trial in patients who have taken anti-HIV medicines and a 96-week trial in patients who have never taken anti-HIV medicines.

REYATAZ does not cure HIV or lower your chance of passing HIV to others. People taking REYATAZ may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

Do not take REYATAZ if you are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients.

Do not take REYATAZ if you are taking the following medicines due to potential for serious, life-threatening side effects or death:

Versed® (midazolam) when taken by mouth, Halcion® (triazolam), ergot medicines (dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylegonovine such as Cafergot®, Migralan®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, Methergine®, and others), Propulsid® (cisapride), or Orap® (pimozide).

Do not take REYATAZ with the following medicines due to potential for serious side effects: Camptosar® (irinotecan), Crixivan® (indinavir), Mevacor® (lovastatin), Zocor® (simvastatin), Uroxatral® (alfuzosin), or Revatio® (sildenafil).

Do not take REYATAZ with the following medicines as they may lower the amount of REYATAZ in your blood, which may lead to increased HIV viral load and resistance to REYATAZ or other anti-HIV medicines: rifampin (also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®), St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)-containing products, or Viramune® (nevirapine).

Serevent Diskus® (salmeterol) and Advair® (salmeterol with fluticasone) are **not recommended with REYATAZ.**

Do not take Vfen® (voriconazole) if you are taking REYATAZ and Norvir® (ritonavir).

The above lists of medicines are not complete. **Taking REYATAZ with some other medicines may require your therapy to be monitored more closely or may require a change in dose or dose schedule of REYATAZ or the other medicine.** Discuss with your healthcare provider all prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamin and herbal supplements, or other health preparations you are taking or plan to take.

Tell your healthcare provider if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. REYATAZ use during pregnancy has not been associated with an increase in birth defects. Pregnant women have experienced serious side effects when taking REYATAZ with other HIV medicines called nucleoside analogues. **After your baby is born,** tell your healthcare provider if your baby's skin or the white part of his/her eyes turns yellow. **You should not breast-feed** if you are HIV-positive.

Also tell your healthcare provider if you have end-stage kidney disease managed with hemodialysis or **severe liver dysfunction.**

Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any side effects, symptoms, or conditions, including the following:

- **Mild rash** (redness and itching) without other symptoms sometimes occurs in patients taking REYATAZ, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started, and usually goes away within 2 weeks with no change in treatment.

- **Severe rash** may develop with other symptoms that could be serious and potentially cause death. **If you develop a rash with any of the following symptoms, stop using REYATAZ and call your healthcare provider right away:**

- Shortness of breath
- General ill-feeling or “flu-like” symptoms
- Fever
- Muscle or joint aches
- Conjunctivitis (red or inflamed eyes, like “pink-eye”)
- Blisters
- Mouth sores
- Swelling of your face

- **Yellowing of the skin and/or eyes** may occur due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver).

- **A change in the way your heart beats** may occur. You may feel dizzy or lightheaded. These could be symptoms of a heart problem.

- **Diabetes and high blood sugar** may occur in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine.

- **If you have liver disease,** including hepatitis B or C, it may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like REYATAZ.

- **Kidney stones** have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ. Signs or symptoms of kidney stones include pain in your side, blood in your urine, and pain when you urinate.

- **Some patients with hemophilia** have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ.

- **Changes in body fat** have been seen in some patients taking anti-HIV medicines. The cause and long-term effects are not known at this time.

- **Immune reconstitution syndrome** has been seen in some patients with advanced HIV infection (AIDS) and a history of opportunistic infection. Signs and symptoms of inflammation from previous infections may occur soon after starting anti-HIV treatment, including REYATAZ.

- **Gallbladder disorders** (including gallstones and gallbladder inflammation) have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ.

Other common side effects of REYATAZ taken with other anti-HIV medicines include: nausea; headache; stomach pain; vomiting; diarrhea; depression; fever; dizziness; trouble sleeping; numbness, tingling, or burning of hands or feet; and muscle pain.

You should take **REYATAZ once daily with food** (a meal or snack). Swallow the capsules whole; **do not open the capsules.** You should take **REYATAZ and your other anti-HIV medicines exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider.**

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Mary's
birthday
party

Thursday
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REYATAZ[®]
(atazanavir sulfate)^{200 mg/300 mg} capsules
Fight HIV your way.

Please see Important Patient Information about REYATAZ on the adjacent pages.

how you spend your time is up to you.



Individual results may vary.

Once-daily REYATAZ can help fight your HIV.

REYATAZ, a protease inhibitor (PI), in HIV combination therapy:

- ◆ Can help lower your viral load and raise your T-cell (CD4+ cell) count
- ◆ Has a low chance of diarrhea (shown in clinical trials)
 - REYATAZ in combination therapy had a 1%-3% rate of moderate-to-severe diarrhea in adults
- ◆ Is taken once a day with a snack or meal

REYATAZ is one of several treatment options your doctor may consider.

Do not take REYATAZ if you are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients.

Ask your healthcare team about REYATAZ www.REYATAZ.com

REYATAZ does not cure HIV and has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others.

People taking REYATAZ may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection.

Find out if you can save on REYATAZ.
Call 1-888-281-8981 or visit
ReyatazSavings.com for details.

Subject to terms and conditions. Restrictions apply.

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REYATAZ® (RAY-ah-taz)
(generic name = **atazanavir sulfate**)
Capsules

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate). Read the section “What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?”

Read the Patient Information that comes with REYATAZ before you start using it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet provides a summary about REYATAZ and does not include everything there is to know about your medicine. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

What is REYATAZ?

REYATAZ is a prescription medicine used with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people 6 years of age and older who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). HIV is the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). REYATAZ is a type of anti-HIV medicine called a protease inhibitor. HIV infection destroys CD4+ (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. The immune system helps fight infection. After a large number of (T) cells are destroyed, AIDS develops. REYATAZ helps to block HIV protease, an enzyme that is needed for the HIV virus to multiply. REYATAZ may lower the amount of HIV in your blood, help your body keep its supply of CD4+ (T) cells, and reduce the risk of death and illness associated with HIV.

Does REYATAZ cure HIV or AIDS?

REYATAZ does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At present there is no cure for HIV infection. People taking REYATAZ may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Opportunistic infections are infections that develop because the immune system is weak. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections. **It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while taking REYATAZ.**

REYATAZ does not lower your chance of passing HIV to other people through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood. For your health and the health of others, it is important to always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom or other barrier to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never use or share dirty needles.

Who should not take REYATAZ?**Do not take REYATAZ if you:**

- **are taking certain medicines.** (See “What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?”) Serious life-threatening side effects or death may happen. Before you take REYATAZ, tell your healthcare provider about all medicines you are taking or planning to take. These include other prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.
- **are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients.** The active ingredient is atazanavir sulfate. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in REYATAZ. Tell your healthcare provider if you think you have had an allergic reaction to any of these ingredients.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before I take REYATAZ?**Tell your healthcare provider:**

- **If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.** REYATAZ use during pregnancy has not been associated with an increase in birth defects. Pregnant women have experienced serious side effects when taking REYATAZ with other HIV medicines called nucleoside analogues. You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if REYATAZ is right for you. If you use REYATAZ while you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
 - **After your baby is born,** tell your healthcare provider if your baby’s skin or the white part of his/her eyes turns yellow.
- **If you are breast-feeding.** You should not breast-feed if you are HIV-positive because of the chance of passing HIV to your baby. Also, it is not known if REYATAZ can pass into your breast milk and if it can harm your baby. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- **If you have liver problems or are infected with the hepatitis B or C virus.** See “What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?”
- **If you have end stage kidney disease** managed with hemodialysis.
- **If you have diabetes.** See “What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?”
- **If you have hemophilia.** See “What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?”

REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate)

- **About all the medicines you take** including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Keep a list of your medicines with you to show your healthcare provider. For more information, see “What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?” and “Who should not take REYATAZ?” Some medicines can cause serious side effects if taken with REYATAZ.

How should I take REYATAZ?

- **Take REYATAZ once every day exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider.** Your healthcare provider will prescribe the amount of REYATAZ that is right for you.
- **Always take REYATAZ with food** (a meal or snack) to help it work better. Swallow the capsules whole. **Do not open the capsules.** Take REYATAZ at the same time each day.
- **If you are taking antacids or didanosine (VIDEX® or VIDEX® EC),** take REYATAZ 2 hours before or 1 hour after these medicines.
- **If you are taking medicines for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AXID® (nizatidine), PEPCID AC® (famotidine), TAGAMET® (cimetidine), ZANTAC® (ranitidine), AcipHex® (rabeprazole), NEXIUM® (esomeprazole), PREVACID® (lansoprazole), PRILLOSEC® (omeprazole), or PROTONIX® (pantoprazole),** talk to your healthcare provider.
- **Do not change your dose or stop taking REYATAZ without first talking with your healthcare provider.** It is important to stay under a healthcare provider’s care while taking REYATAZ.
- **When your supply of REYATAZ starts to run low,** get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of REYATAZ. The amount of HIV in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time.
- **If you miss a dose of REYATAZ,** take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If, however, it is within 6 hours of your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose. **It is important that you do not miss any doses of REYATAZ or your other anti-HIV medicines.**
- **If you take more than the prescribed dose of REYATAZ,** call your healthcare provider or poison control center right away.

What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?

The following list of side effects is **not** complete. Report any new or continuing symptoms to your healthcare provider. If you have questions about side effects, ask your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider may be able to help you manage these side effects.

The following side effects have been reported with REYATAZ:

- **mild rash** (redness and itching) without other symptoms sometimes occurs in patients taking REYATAZ, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started. Rashes usually go away within 2 weeks with no change in treatment. Tell your healthcare provider if rash occurs.
- **severe rash:** Rash may develop in association with other symptoms which could be serious and potentially cause death.

If you develop a rash with any of the following symptoms stop using REYATAZ and call your healthcare provider right away:

- shortness of breath
- general ill feeling or “flu-like” symptoms
- fever
- muscle or joint aches
- conjunctivitis (red or inflamed eyes, like “pink eye”)
- blisters
- mouth sores
- swelling of your face
- **yellowing of the skin or eyes.** These effects may be due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver). Although these effects may not be damaging to your liver, skin, or eyes, call your healthcare provider promptly if your skin or the white part of your eyes turn yellow.
- **a change in the way your heart beats (heart rhythm change).** Call your healthcare provider right away if you get dizzy or lightheaded. These could be symptoms of a heart problem.
- **diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia)** sometimes happen in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ. Some patients had diabetes before taking protease inhibitors while others did not. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine.
- **if you have liver disease** including hepatitis B or C, your liver disease may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like REYATAZ.
- **kidney stones** have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ. If you develop signs or symptoms of kidney stones (pain in your side, blood in your urine, pain when you urinate) tell your healthcare provider promptly.

REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate)

- **some patients with hemophilia** have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitors like REYATAZ.
- **changes in body fat.** These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- **immune reconstitution syndrome.** In some patients with advanced HIV infection (AIDS) and a history of opportunistic infection, signs and symptoms of inflammation from previous infections may occur soon after anti-HIV treatment, including REYATAZ, is started.

Other common side effects of REYATAZ taken with other anti-HIV medicines include nausea; headache; stomach pain; vomiting; diarrhea; depression; fever; dizziness; trouble sleeping; numbness, tingling, or burning of hands or feet; and muscle pain.

Gallbladder disorders (which may include gallstones and gallbladder inflammation) have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ.

What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?

Do not take REYATAZ if you take the following medicines (not all brands may be listed; tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take). REYATAZ may cause serious, life-threatening side effects or death when used with these medicines.

- Ergot medicines: dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylergonovine such as CAFERGOT®, MIGRANAL®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, METHERGINE®, and others (used for migraine headaches).
- ORAP® (pimozide, used for Tourette's disorder).
- PROPULSID® (cisapride, used for certain stomach problems).
- Triazolam, also known as HALCION® (used for insomnia).
- Midazolam, also known as VERSED® (used for sedation), when taken by mouth.

Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because of possible serious side effects:

- CAMPTOSAR® (irinotecan, used for cancer).
- CRIXIVAN® (indinavir, used for HIV infection). Both REYATAZ and CRIXIVAN sometimes cause increased levels of bilirubin in the blood.
- Cholesterol-lowering medicines MEVACOR® (lovastatin) or ZOCOR® (simvastatin).
- UROXATRAL® (alfuzosin, used to treat benign enlargement of the prostate).
- REVATIO® (sildenafil, used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension).

Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because they may lower the amount of REYATAZ in your blood. This may lead to an increased HIV viral load. Resistance to REYATAZ or cross-resistance to other HIV medicines may develop:

- Rifampin (also known as RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®, RIFATER®, or RIFAMATE®, used for tuberculosis).
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort.
- VIRAMUNE® (nevirapine, used for HIV infection).

The following medicines are not recommended with REYATAZ:

- SEREVENT DISKUS® (salmeterol) and ADVAIR® (salmeterol with fluticasone), used to treat asthma, emphysema/chronic obstructive pulmonary disease also known as COPD.

Do not take the following medicine if you are taking REYATAZ and NORVIR® together:

- VFEND® (voriconazole).

The following medicines may require your healthcare provider to monitor your therapy more closely (for some medicines a change in the dose or dose schedule may be needed):

- CIALIS® (tadalafil), LEVITRA® (vardenafil), or VIAGRA® (sildenafil), used to treat erectile dysfunction. REYATAZ may increase the chances of serious side effects that can happen with CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA. Do not use CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA while you are taking REYATAZ unless your healthcare provider tells you it is okay.
- ADCIRCA® (tadalafil) or TRACLEER® (bosentan), used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension.
- LIPITOR® (atorvastatin) or CRESTOR® (rosuvastatin). There is an increased chance of serious side effects if you take REYATAZ with this cholesterol-lowering medicine.
- Medicines for abnormal heart rhythm: CORDARONE® (amiodarone), lidocaine, quinidine (also known as CARDIOQUIN®, QUINIDEX®, and others).
- MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin, an antibiotic used to treat tuberculosis).

REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate)

- BUPRENEX®, SUBUTEX®, SUBOXONE®, (buprenorphine or buprenorphine/naloxone, used to treat pain and addiction to narcotic painkillers).
- VASCOR® (bepridil, used for chest pain).
- COUMADIN® (warfarin).
- Tricyclic antidepressants such as ELAVIL® (amitriptyline), NORPRAMIN® (desipramine), SINEQUAN® (doxepin), SURMONTIL® (trimipramine), TOFRANIL® (imipramine), or VIVACTIL® (protriptyline).
- Medicines to prevent organ transplant rejection: SANDIMMUNE® or NEORAL® (cyclosporin), RAPAMUNE® (sirolimus), or PROGRAF® (tacrolimus).
- The antidepressant trazodone (DESYREL® and others).
- Fluticasone propionate (FLONASE®, FLOVENT®), given by nose or inhaled to treat allergic symptoms or asthma. Your doctor may choose not to keep you on fluticasone, especially if you are also taking NORVIR®.
- Colchicine (COLCRYS®), used to prevent or treat gout or treat familial Mediterranean fever.

The following medicines may require a change in the dose or dose schedule of either REYATAZ or the other medicine:

- INVIRASE® (saquinavir).
- NORVIR® (ritonavir).
- SUSTIVA® (efavirenz).
- Antacids or buffered medicines.
- VIDEX® (didanosine).
- VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate).
- MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin).
- Calcium channel blockers such as CARDIZEM® or TIAZAC® (diltiazem), COVERA-HS® or ISOPTIN SR® (verapamil) and others.
- BIAVIN® (clarithromycin).
- Medicines for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AXID® (nizatidine), PEPICID AC® (famotidine), TAGAMET® (cimetidine), or ZANTAC® (ranitidine).

Talk to your healthcare provider about choosing an effective method of contraception. REYATAZ may affect the safety and effectiveness of hormonal contraceptives such as birth control pills or the contraceptive patch. Hormonal contraceptives do not prevent the spread of HIV to others.

Remember:

1. **Know all the medicines you take.**
2. **Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take.**
3. **Do not start a new medicine without talking to your healthcare provider.**

How should I store REYATAZ?

- Store REYATAZ Capsules at room temperature, 59° to 86° F (15° to 30° C). Do **not** store this medicine in a damp place such as a bathroom medicine cabinet or near the kitchen sink.
- Keep your medicine in a tightly closed container.
- Keep all medicines out of the reach of children and pets at all times. Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Dispose of unused medicines through community take-back disposal programs when available or place REYATAZ in an unrecognizable, closed container in the household trash.

General information about REYATAZ

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use REYATAZ for another condition. Do not give REYATAZ to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them. **Keep REYATAZ and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.**

This summary does not include everything there is to know about REYATAZ. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Remember no written summary can replace careful discussion with your healthcare provider. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider or you can call 1-800-321-1335.

What are the ingredients in REYATAZ?

Active Ingredient: atazanavir sulfate

Inactive Ingredients: Crospovidone, lactose monohydrate (milk sugar), magnesium stearate, gelatin, FD&C Blue #2, and titanium dioxide.

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Rev February 2011



That's Weird, Grandma. Photo by Dean Ponce

THEATER REVIEW

That's Weird, Grandma

Playwright: various authors

At: Barrel of Monkeys at the

Neo-Futurarium, 5153 N. Ashland Ave.

Phone: 312-409-1954; \$10

Runs through: open run

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

Entertainment proclaiming itself "Children's Theater" can take many forms, ranging from plays written and performed by adults for an idealized "youth market," to plays written by adults for performance by children for "family" audiences (i.e., those of the participants). Barrel of Monkeys, however, rejects the nostalgia-fogged epics beloved of parents and grant committees to instead pursue original stories composed by third- through fifth-graders in Chicago Public Schools and geared toward the sensibilities of their peers, which then inspire the scripts in this comedy revue. After all, who knows better what youngsters like than the youngsters themselves?

The differences reveal themselves immediately: What "juvenile fiction" author would dare cast as his or her protagonist a Serial Killer Squirrel? ("I'm gonna getcha!" his theme song warns.) Or propose a hospital exclusively for ninjas, where even the doctors warm up with a few katas before attending to patients? What about a sug-

ary kiddie show focused on pet-feeding habits whose host is put to rout by a pair of piranhas? More teen-friendly premises include a vegetarian vampire, a corporate executive with a fondness for nacho chips, and an innocent citizen harassed by a squad of sinister Ducks-In-Black.

Responsible mentors may protest the absence of educational content in "Vampire, Alien, Superbaby and Bowser" (featuring a quartet of characters named...you get the idea), but many of the scenarios embrace a surprisingly explicit moral lesson. Bullies get their comeuppance in "Stupid." A blissfully spaced-out girl suffers a sorry fate in "Daisy Never Learned," while Avondale 5th-grader José J. argues for and against the automated nannies in "Babysitter Robots." Even the sexuality is kept age-appropriate, as in a Dolly Parton-ish ballad of a couple whose romance is rekindled by a Vegas vacation ("They rode the boat and made out the whole time.")

The Neo-Futurarium's maze-like corridors and playroom-decor lobby (where ensemble members cheerfully mingle with young playgoers) generate anticipatory energy well before the doors open for the hour-long sprint through 16 skits. That's Weird, Grandma has been running year-round for more than a decade, its slate changing over time, but the current show is gleefully directed by Monkey emeritus Molly Brennan of 500 Clown, putting an extra-impish edge on the hi-jinks. Bring your niece or nephew, borrow the neighbors' kids or go by yourself—grown-ups are welcome, too.

THEATER REVIEW

Put My _____ in Your _____ aka Your 15 minutes of Finger

Playwright: Bob Fisher

At: The Mammals at Zoo

Studio, 4001 N. Ravenswood

Phone: 866-593-4614; \$20

Runs through Aug. 27

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

Many theatergoers know the perils new plays where the playwright is also the director. The storytelling often suffers since there isn't an interpreter to challenge or clarify the playwright's intentions.

Bob Fisher's Put My _____ in Your _____ aka Your 15 minutes of Finger, now presented by The Mammals at Zoo Studio, is hindered due to this playwright/director dynamic. Additionally, Fisher is also responsible for the show's lighting and complex video projections, giving an extra sense that the emphasis is more on style instead of substantive storytelling.

Put My _____ appears to be a nonsensical fantasy mash-up of Andy Warhol's 1960s pop art world and pop culture's current-day fascination with the undead. There's potential in this conceit, but the whole enterprise stumbles along due to a muddled storyline and missing historical context.

Put My _____ focuses on two symbolically named orphans named Birdy (Erin Orr as the sister who wants to flee the nest to party) and Turtle (Stacie Hauenstein as the sister who is content to nest at home by worshipping a portrait of their Elvis Presley-loving late mother and watching TV reruns of America's Funniest Home Videos).

Birdy falls in with an undead pop artist filmmaker named Snail (dressed like Andy Warhol) and his shallow art factory followers. Birdy becomes obsessed with Snail's ability to administer hallucinogens to anyone who

touches him, and is soon in danger of losing the vestiges of her family by becoming a full-time follower.

Fisher and his cast and crew go all out to create a weird black-and-white mod world of amusingly more-stylish-than-thou artsy types with a sinister undercurrent. Many cast members go all out in their roles as bitchy gay gatekeepers and willowy mod fashion plates, adding bright spots to the otherwise incongruous plotting.

Put My _____ would have benefited if Fisher had more clearly underlined the characters' dramatic stakes and the vampire-like fantasy rules that govern this trendy subterranean art world. And anyone unfamiliar with Warhol's New York Factory scene (depicted so well in the 1996 film I Shot Andy Warhol) will undoubtedly be at a loss to relate to what Fisher is spoofing.

Hence we really don't care for the fate of the sparring sisters, nor do we understand why so much hinges on Snail's need to find a single ultra-devoted female follower to continue living his altered life after he was shot by a former follower (probably Valerie Jean Solanas).

I guess I should add that Put My _____ proudly advertises itself as BYOB, which might make the proceedings more fun if you're soused. But if you're sober, Put My _____ will only be admirable for its wacky sense of style rather than its sub-par fantasy storytelling.



Put My _____

Photo courtesy of The Mammals

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Woodstock Mozart Festival thru Aug. 14

A diverse season of composers and award-winning artists will take part in the Woodstock Mozart Festival's Silver Anniversary through Aug. 14, at the Woodstock Opera House, 121 Van Buren, Woodstock. There will be three concert programs, a piano recital and two master classes.

Echo Klassik (European Grammy Award) award-winning cellist Peter Hörr and Hungarian conductor Istvan Jaray will be among those participating.

See <http://mozartfest.org>.

Open call for student dancers in 'Nutcracker'

The Moscow Ballet will host auditions in Rosemont Wed., Aug. 31, at 3:30 p.m., at SPACE Peterson, 3433 W. Peterson, for student dancers to perform in the Dec. 11 performance of the Great Russian Nutcracker at Rosemont Theater alongside the Russian, classically trained professionals.

To register and for more audition information, contact Altin Naska 773-463-1220 or anaska@southportarts.com.

CRITICS' PICKS

The Homosexuals, About Face Theatre at the Biograph, through Aug. 14. A decade in the life of a once-naive young gay man, told via two-person flashbacks through friends and lovers. Philip Dawkins's serio-comic world premiere is smart writing, well-acted. JA

The Trestle At Pope Lick Creek, Eclipse Theatre at the Greenhouse, through Sept. 4. Part social drama and part neo-gothic romance, Naomi Wallace's eerie tale of teenagers and parents adrift in America's mining regions during the Great Depression is a haunting caveat on our own troubled times. MSB

West Side Story, Cadillac Palace Theatre, through Aug. 14. This classic 1950s New York update of Romeo and Juliet gets an extra jolt of Spanish in this solid touring version of the 2009 Broadway revival directed by the show's late book writer Arthur Laurents. SCM

The Women, Circle Theatre, through Aug. 14. Clare Boothe Luce's classic and very catty 1936 comedy featuring an all-women cast is essential Gay 101 cultural viewing. Circle Theatre provides a fine opportunity to see the un-sanitized original play. SCM

—By Abarbanel, Barnidge and Morgan

Amigas Latinas gala unmasked



Amigas Latinas held its annual gala and awards ceremony at the National Museum of Mexican Art Aug. 6. Approximately 100 people attended the event and upon arrival they received a mask (for the masquerade theme) and were encouraged to buy raffle tickets for the silent auction.

Partygoers were treated to food provided by Chef Toni and festive music by the group Jarochicano Xicago as they mixed and mingled prior to the awards ceremony. Coya Paz, board secretary of Amigas Latinas, presented the scholarships and awards to the honorees. The four scholarship winners were Viviana Moreno, Jacqueline Carmen Salgado, Alicia Figueroa and Emilia Chico. Two people—Lu Rocha and Tania Unzueta—received the community award. Finally, Paz presented the inaugural Diamante award to Zaida Sanabia. "Affinity is so inspired by the work of Amigas Latinas and looks forward to deepening our relationship through shared space and collaboration," said Kim Hunt, executive director at Affinity Community Services.

Mona Noriega, one of the founders of Amigas Latinas said, "I love this event! It is such a great way to celebrate both our queer and Latino identities 'unapologetically' as stated in the Amigas Latinas mission. It is wonderful that we can celebrate in such a beautiful environment, and the fact that the National Museum of Mexican Art continues to support Amigas Latinas, the queer prom, and other queer events tells you that our communities are overlapping and dynamic." "As co-founder I am proud of and humbled by the ongoing work of the board, staff and volunteers. What I love about the Siempre Latina gala is the diversity of its audience, which shows that Latina queer issues are universal and matter to everyone," said Evette Cardona. For more information on Amigas Latinas visit <http://www.amigaslatinas.org>. Text by Carrie Maxwell; photos by Mel Ferrand

'The Homosexuals' extended through Aug. 14

Due to popular demand, About Face Theatre's (AFT's) world premiere of *The Homosexuals*, written by Philip Dawkins and directed by AFT Artistic Director Bonnie Metzgar, has added three additional weeks of performance—extending through Aug. 14.

The production featured AFT Artistic Associates Patrick Andrews, Scott Bradley and Elizabeth Ledo through July 24 and Benjamin Sprunger with Stephen Cone, Eddie Diaz, John Francisco and Sara R. Seigny from July 25 through Aug. 14.

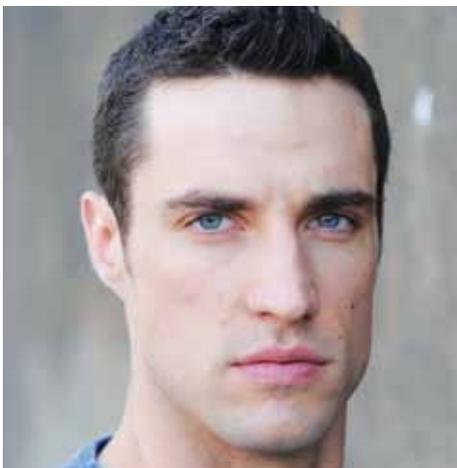
The Homosexuals plays at The Victory Gardens Richard Christiansen Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave. Tickets are available at <http://www.about-facetheatre.com> or 773-871-3000.

Andrew Dits in 'Memoir' Aug. 19 in Indiana

Andrew Dits will star in *Memoir*, a play by Father Harry Cronin, Friday, Aug. 19, at the First United Methodist Church, 333 N. Main St., South Bend, Ind., at 7:30 p.m.

"Memoirs of Jesus" involves Jesus' personal reflections on what it's like to discover that he is both God and man. Dits plays multiple characters in addition to Jesus, including Mary, Judas, Satan and a prostitute.

Lampkin Music Group is producing the show. Tickets are \$10, and are available at the door. Call 574-233-9463.

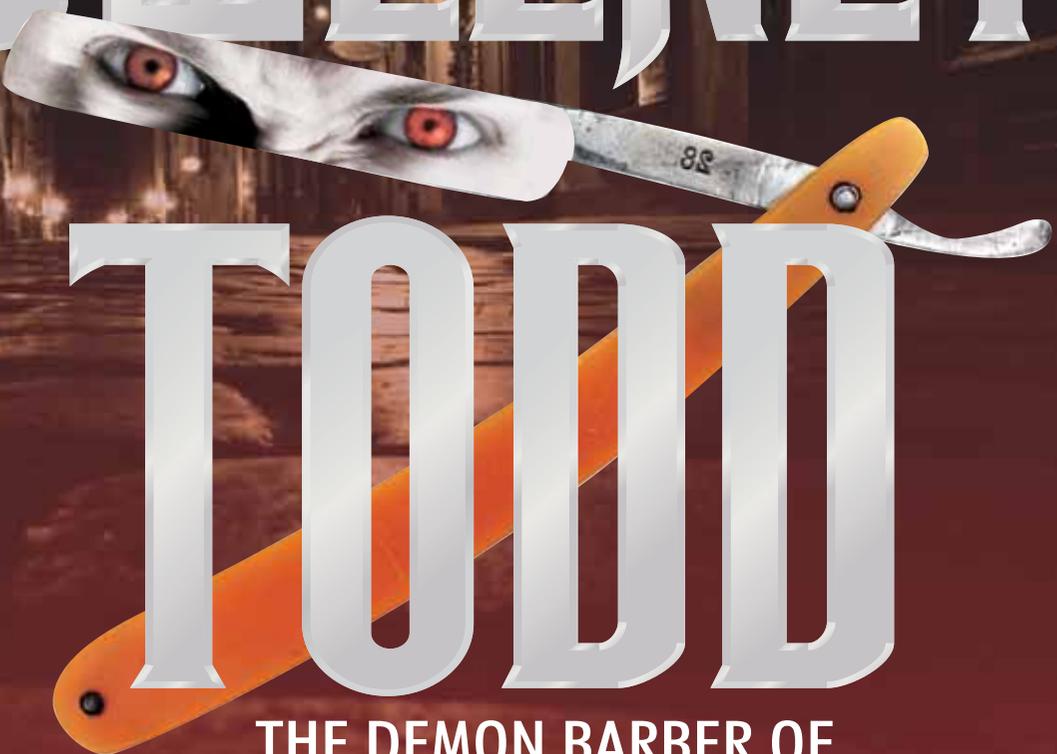


Andrew Dits. Photo courtesy of Lampkin Music Group

"A bloody good musical!" - *The New York Post*

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NUNN ON ONE: MUSIC

Janet Jackson does it for her fans



BY JERRY NUNN

Janet Jackson grew up on television with the family variety show *The Jacksons*, following that with *Good Times* and *Diff'rent Strokes*. She then took "Control" of her music career in the '80s thanks to producers Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis. She went on to become one of the best-selling artists in the industry, with multimillion-dollar contracts and hit song after hit song, including "Rhythm Nation," "Together Again" and "All For You." She brings these number-one singles on tour with her to finish out another stellar year.

Windy City Times: Hi, Janet. Is there a hit that you never get tired of performing?

Janet Jackson: All of them. [Laughs]

WCT: On the current tour are you performing any different or remixed versions on past hits?



Janet Jackson. Photo by Rocco Laspata

JJ: Yes, I have done special arrangements of many of my songs. You will still recognize them but I had to do them differently to get as many songs into the show as possible.

WCT: How long do you train for the dance moves in the show?

JJ: We rehearsed for hours but with this tour we were in dance rehearsal for about two weeks.

WCT: Sounds intense. This is a tour for the fans, correct?

JJ: Yes. I wanted my Number Ones: Up Close and Personal tour to be a thank you for all the fans that have supported me all these years.

WCT: Are you working on new music at the end of the tour?

JJ: I will go back into the studio at some point this year. I am always thinking about new songs, but I am not sure what it will be yet. My music is very personal and I write about what is going on in my life. So I will wait until I am in the studio to decide.

WCT: Is there someone that you would like to duet with but haven't?

JJ: There are so many people I would enjoy signing with; I couldn't give you just one.

WCT: You have influenced so many performers from Beyonce to Rihanna and they have publicly said that so you can take your pick on a duet.

JJ: There have been artists that have come before me that have been a big inspiration. I hope I do the same for others.

WCT: Tell our readers about your book, *True You*.

JJ: *True You* is not an autobiography, but it does have anecdotes from my life. I thought it was important to share what I have gone through. People always look at me and think I grew up with the perfect life. I thought that if people, especially the kids, could see what I have gone through, that they could relate to what I wrote about in "True You." It is a journey to finding and loving yourself. It has been a long road, but I am happy with who I am now.

WCT: What do you recommend for people with body-image issues?

JJ: You need to love and accept yourself for who you are, but you also need to appreciate and respect what God has given you and treat it with respect by trying to stay as healthy as possible.

WCT: Is it still a daily struggle for you?

JJ: Most of us struggle with something. The

most important thing is to recognize when I am dealing with it so I can accept where I am and move on.

WCT: I think the new short hair displays a confidence in you. Is that true?

JJ: It is not the first time I have had short hair. I love it! I was filming a movie, *For Colored Girls*, by Tyler Perry, and I thought the character would have this hairstyle. It has been a lot of fun, though.

WCT: What has been the most challenging part of acting on television or movies?

JJ: Acting was my first passion. It is what I always thought I would do with my life—that or be a horse jockey or lawyer. I have been fortunate to enjoy success in music as well, which makes it hard to accept all the acting roles that I would like and I guess that would be the hardest part. ... I am very fortunate.

WCT: Do you have more movies in the works?

JJ: I will definitely act in other movies. I am excited to have a deal with Lionsgate to produce a movie as well. I am looking forward to that experience.

WCT: What do you think of LaToya being on *Celebrity Apprentice*?

JJ: I'm happy for her.

WCT: Would you ever do a reality show?

JJ: I was on the season finale of *American Idol*, which was fun. I enjoyed getting to see all the talented kids on that show. I don't think my schedule would allow me to be on a show as a regular, though.

WCT: Have you thought about writing a musical? You could do *Velvet Rope*, the Musical!

JJ: I have, actually. We'll see. I have always wanted to be on Broadway. I have a friend who was and he said it is a whole different discipline. I want to experience that someday.

WCT: You have so many fans that will always support you. Any special shout out for your gay fans?

JJ: I want to thank all of my fans for their support over the years. It means a great deal to me. For the gay community, love yourself for who you are! I hope to see all of you in Milwaukee.

Janet brings her Number Ones, Up Close and Personal to the Milwaukee Theatre, 500 W Kilbourn Ave., on Sunday, Aug. 14. Visit <http://www.janetjackson.com> for tickets and details.

Out Christian singer to perform in Skokie

Out gay Florida-based singer/songwriter Shawn Thomas will perform at the Skokie Theatre Sunday, Aug. 28, at 7:30 p.m.

Thomas, an award-winning singer, songwriter, musician and producer, recently released his first recording in two years, a two-disc set called *Covered and Created* that features his own newest work along with covers of work by Mariah Carey, Cher and others.

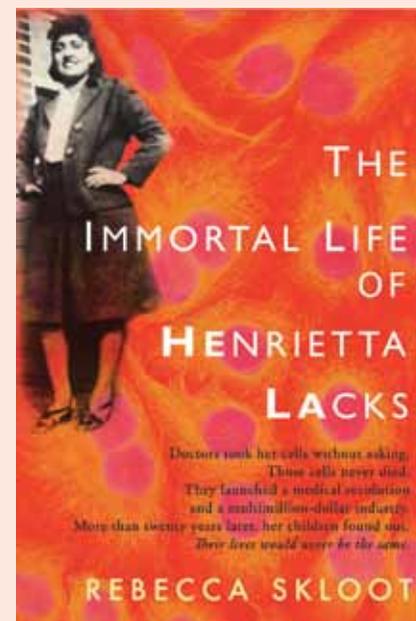
Tickets to the concert are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. For more information, visit <http://www.skokietheatre.com>.

Skloot, Ebert to receive literary honors

The Chicago Public Library and Chicago Public Library Foundation announced that writer Rebecca Skloot and film critic Roger Ebert will be honored at the Carl Sandburg Literary Awards Dinner Thursday, Oct. 20, according to the Chicago Tribune.

Ebert will be given the Carl Sandburg Literary Award, while Skloot will receive the 21st Century Award.

Skloot penned *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, a tale about family and medicine.



Windy City Times' review of the book is at <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=27595>.

The event will take place at The Forum, 725 W. Roosevelt Rd., with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m. and a dinner at 6:45 p.m. Individual tickets are \$1,000 and \$2,500; reservations are strictly limited. For information or to purchase tickets, tables or sponsorships, contact Madeline Long at 312-201-9830, ext. 25, or csla1@cplfoundation.org.

Lollapalooza: Music, merriment and mud

BY JERRY NUNN

Lollapalooza celebrated its 20th year and broke attendance records, with more than 270,000 paying customers. (There were also the bracelet-switchers and fence-jumpers.) Grant Park became "muddypalooza" as the weather changed drastically throughout the weekend. Many volunteers and crew worked through the rain that poured on Sunday several times but did not halt the music.

The Cars cruised along with hits from the '80s; meanwhile, Flogging Molly did an Irish jig on the other side of the park. Groups from the past such as Big Audio Dynamite played on the same stage as heavy-hitters Coldplay and Foo Fighters. Rapper Eminem packed the area, possibly because no other musician with his kind of following competed on an opposite stage. The "Love the Way You Lie" rapper even had Bruno Mars appear for his single "Lights" as watchers followed suit by flicking their Bics. Cee-Lo Green channeled Lady Gaga with spiked shoulder pads and said to the fans, "Don't you dare let this wonderful outfit go to waste!" Arctic Monkeys continued playing through a downpour while Damian Marley summoned the ghost of his legendary father, Bob.

Deadmau5 may have had the biggest fan base, with people tattooed and wearing mouse ears to show their appreciation. Where was the country music? Well, it wasn't here as almost every other musical genre was represented. Without Gaga this year our people were represented by open lesbian Kate from An Horse and gay supporters such as the band Deluka.

Late-nighters attended club after-parties each evening with such acts as Fitz and the Tantrums and Foster the People, with a DJ set by actor Elijah Wood at the W Chicago and Hard Rock.

People may not grasp how the event takes over the city with all the stages and masses of people (of which 40 percent were out-of-towners). This year the area was expanded—and the crowds needed the room to roam from stage to stage.

Perry Ferrell announced at a press conference that he will now be expanding the festival to Brazil after a successful run in Chile. Check <http://www.lollapalooza.com> for more updates. Photos by Jerry Nunn



Scenes from Lollapalooza. Photos by Jerry Nunn



Cee-Lo Green, who will also headline Macy's Glamorama this Friday. Photo by Jerry Nunn

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KNIGHT AT THE MOVIES

BY
RICHARD
KNIGHT, JR.

The Help; film notes

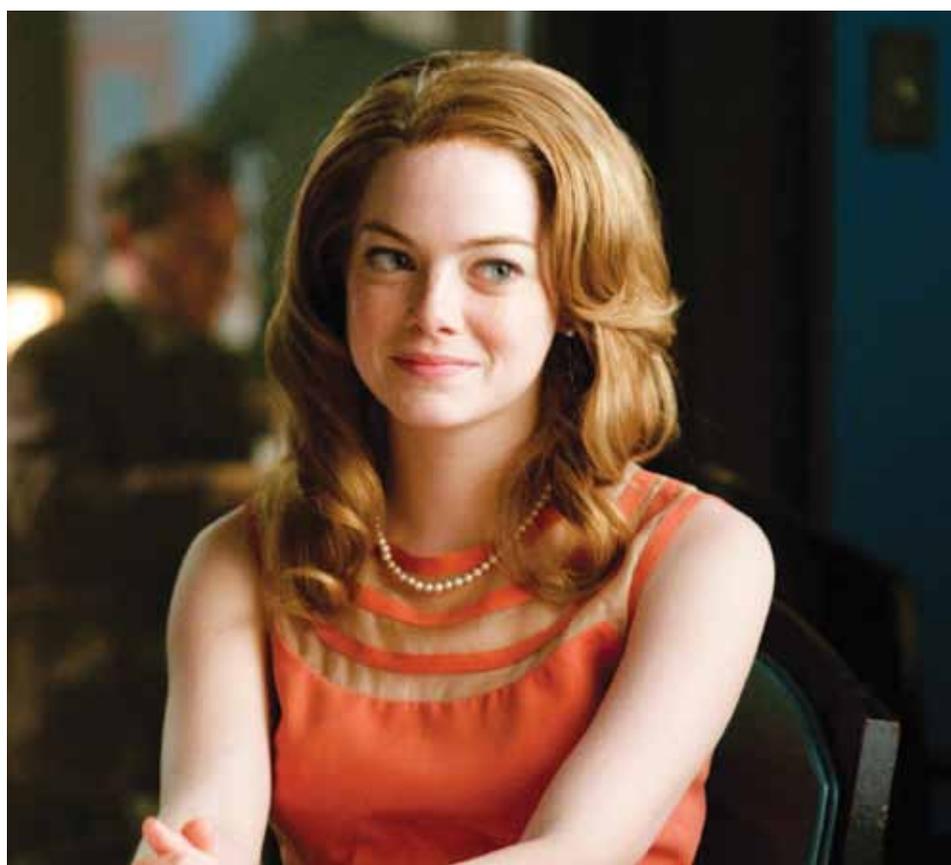
As I sat and watched **The Help**—gay screenwriter/director Tate Taylor's big-screen adaptation of his best friend Kathryn Stockett's best-selling novel—I found myself experiencing something that a lot of avid filmgoers and movie critics will recognize. I call it "movie déjà vu," and it usually happens when the picture I'm watching calls up scenes or visuals from previous movies I've watched. Having seen thousands of movies, this happens to me a lot. On most occasions I find the movie déjà vu quite welcoming but never is it so emotionally satisfying to me (and I suspect kindred audience members) as when I'm smack dab back in the patently false but emotionally compelling world of the "sisterhood" genre, of which **The Help** is the latest example.

It's been about three years since the last one of these Southern-fried chicken, hymn-singin', dappled-sunset, inspirational homilies with emotionally charged sisters-under-the-skin kind of movies held me in its firm but phony grasp. That was 2008's *The Secret Life of Bees* with Queen Latifah, Alicia Keys, Dakota Fanning, Jennifer Hudson, et al which, like **The Help**, was based on a best-seller. We are back in true sisterhood genre territory once again: It's the early '60s, ugly racism is rampant and the nasty, privileged white Southerners are doing awful things to their Black underlings, who are justifiably chomping at the bit as the promise of civil rights is taking hold.

Our story focuses on the simmering divide between the African-American maids (headed by Viola Davis as the quiet, taciturn Abileen and Octavia Spencer as her sassy best friend, Minny) and their white employers, the "polite" upper crust of Mississippi. However, hope for the Black maids, who have spent their lives tending their



Sissy Spacek in **The Help**.



Emma Stone in **The Help**.

white employer's now-grown children, comes in the form of a young spitfire nicknamed Skeeter (the ginger-haired Emma Stone). Skeeter, just out of college, has landed a job as a household-hints columnist after winning over by the newspaper's salty, pint-sized editor (hilariously played by out comedic actor Leslie Jordan). However, she, too, was a child of privilege and hasn't a clue when it comes to hints on polishing silver and the like, so she turns to Abileen for advice.

Skeeter isn't interested in finding a man and settling down. ("Are you having unnatural thoughts about ... girls?" her mother, played by Alison Janney queries.) She wants a big-city career, far beyond the dreary advice column and as she comes to see things through Abileen's and Minny's eyes, an idea slowly takes hold: a book focusing on Abileen's life. At the behest of her publisher she wishes for (played by Mary Steenburgen, glimpsed living it up in the Big City), Skeeter begins to craft a non-fiction book with stories supplied by all the maids, who talk to her anonymously. It's not long before all hell breaks loose—thanks to a defining incident that threatens to rip the fabric off the lid of this "genteel" society.

This incident involves a fed-up Minny feeding her horrid, bigoted employer—the snobbish town ringleader Hilly (Bryce Dallas Howard)—a tempting pie that's actually made with her own excrement. When this becomes an open secret the housewives and maids take sides, but not before screenwriter/director Taylor makes sure that his actresses (including Sissy Spacek as Hilly's dotty mother) repeatedly and delightfully pronounce the word "shit." This anachronism—considering the time, place and culture—is such an example of pandering to the audience that it has the effect of throwing one out of the picture each time it's uttered. The magic embrace of the sisterhood genre was broken for me when Taylor resorted to this all-too-easy gag (and I am told by friends who devoured Stockett's book that the word wasn't used there) and I began to question the too-pat set-up of many of the scenes, the stereotypical situations and the far-from-fresh story itself. (Would it have been so bad if Skeeter had been a lesbian? Also, why can't we for once follow the trajectory of an African-American woman who leaves the provincial South and heads to Gotham, I wondered?).

Then slowly, thanks to expert handling by Davis (whose dripping nose is becoming as much a recognizable acting tic as Meryl Streep's up-turned hand on her forehead), Spencer, Janney,

Spacek and Jessica Chastain as a blonde, ditzzy Marilyn Monroe type in freefall, the movie got back on track and these powerhouse women helped steer **The Help** emotionally home, just as I hoped they would. Inside the darkened theatre as many of the patrons dabbed at their teary eyes with Kleenex, the sun was setting, the crickets were chirping and the chicken was sizzling in the pan. Far off in the distance I knew I



The Batmobile, which will be at Comic Con. Photo courtesy of Jerry Milani

Patrick Stewart, other stars at Comic Con Aug. 11-14

Wizard World Chicago Comic Con returns to Rosemont's Donald E. Stephens Convention Center Aug. 11-14, with celebrity guests Patrick Stewart, Bruce Campbell, Christopher Lloyd, Morena Baccarin, Felicia Day, Academy Award Winner Lou Gossett, Jr., and James Marsters headlining the list of attendees.

Stewart (*X-Men*; *Star Trek: The Next Generation*) will attend Aug. 12-13 only. He is also known to gay fans from his role in the film *Jeffrey*. Marsters is best known as Spike from the TV show *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*; he also guested on a *Torchwood* arc that had him

was being conned—held a passionate prisoner, suckered in once more. However—just like when I watch *Crimes of the Divine Secrets of the Ya Ya Fried Green and Color Purple Steel Magnolia Tomato Beekeeper Sisters* for the 199th time—I didn't give a shit.

Film notes:

—The Film Noir Foundation is once again teaming up with the Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport, for the third edition of **Noir City: Chicago 3**, a one-week film festival (Aug. 12-18) presenting nightly double features of 16 noir classics and rarities—many not available on DVD—all in glorious 35mm black and white, and many of them restored. The lineup includes prominent titles like *The Blue Dahlia* and *The Glass Key* and little-known fare like *Larceny* and *The Story of Molly X*. I'm psyched to see two of my favorite bad-girl noir movies on the big screen: Olivia de Havilland playing good/bad twin sisters in 1946's *The Dark Mirror* (screening the first night of the fest) and Barbara Stanwyck as the rich, spoiled rotten hypochondriac heiress who gets Burt Lancaster—and who finally lives to regret it in 1948's *Sorry Wrong Number*. Film-noir experts and authors Foster Hirsch and Alan K. Rode from the Film Noir Foundation will introduce many of the movies—a big plus. Complete schedule and advance tickets are at <http://www.musicboxtheatre.com>.

—**Glee: The 3D Concert Movie**, a film documenting the summer music tour of all your favorites from the hit TV show (including the Emmy nominated, openly gay Chris Colfer) opens in theatres this week but was not screened in time for WCT deadlines.

Check out my archived reviews at <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com> or <http://www.knightatthemovies.com>. Readers can leave feedback at the latter website.

kissing out actor John Barrowman, who plays the pansexual Capt. Jack Harkness.

Chicago Comic Con is the seventh stop on Wizard World's 2011 North American tour. Hours are Thursday, Aug. 11, 5-9 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 12, 12-8 p.m.; Saturday, Aug. 13, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Sunday, Aug. 14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Tickets are available in advance online at <http://www.wizardworld.com/chicago.html> at a savings over tickets purchased at the door. Advance adult single-day tickets are priced at \$25 (\$35 on site); four-day all-session tickets are \$50 (\$60 on site), and tickets are free for children age 10 and under when accompanied by a paid adult (limit two children per adult). VIP packages with special entry and exclusive items are also available on a limited basis.

NUNN ON ONE: MUSIC

Spandau Ballet's Tony Hadley's 'True' confessions

BY JERRY NUNN

Tony Hadley fronted the pop group Spandau Ballet in the '80s, spawning such hits as "True." The song had a life of its own, being used in such generational movies like *Sixteen Candles* and later sampled by *PM Dawn* in the '90s. Hadley crosses the pond with an appearance at Market Days this week.

Windy City Times: Hi, Tony. You are Skyping from Spain right now?

Tony Hadley: Yes, I am visiting north of Mallorca. It's beautiful but pitch black. It is a quarter moon with the mountains around me. I've got a glass of wine.

WCT: Nice. What part of the country do you live in?

TH: We live in England. My family and I just moved out of London to Buckinghamshire. It is absolutely beautiful and in the country. We just decided we wanted the green fields of cows and sheep. I moved over the weekend then went on holiday the following Monday.

WCT: Taking a break before leaving for the United States soon...

TH: I can't wait. This is the first time for me since Spandau Ballet in 1985. For some reason it has been very difficult to get into the States. An American agent saw us in Europe and wanted to get us over there. It's funny because Spandau Ballet has more of a cult following in America rather than a mainstream band. We want to come over to the States and prove ourselves. We are doing a handful of shows then come back next year and do 20 or 30 shows. We want to build up a reputation of a great live band in

America. There are lots of great musicians there but we have something to offer, too. Our fingers are crossed and I am looking forward to it.

WCT: Thousands of people come to Market Days so it's a big crowd for you, I am sure.

TH: Brilliant! We just did a festival in Scotland with 20,000 people so that was pretty cool. To be honest it doesn't matter to me if it's 300 or 300,000 people. I just like playing live. The Tony Hadley band has been together for a long time. Our newest band member Richie Barrett is our guitarist and been with us 13 years. This is an established band and our first opportunity to play there. My auntie lives in Chicago so I hope she is coming to the show. I must give her a call.

WCT: Are playing songs from your jazz album at this show?

TH: No, I am not. The swing album, *Passing Strangers*, came out a few years ago and tied in quite nicely with when I was performing Billy Flynn in the musical *Chicago* at the West End. For this show it will be straight ahead pop rock so pretty loud. I am not sure of people are expecting a teen '80s band to arrive. It is not like that at all. We usually have percussion but this is a core band of five that are coming over. We will do songs that were hits in America such as "True" and "Gold." There might be one song from the new album a rocker called "Imagination." Just songs that we love to do that hopefully people over there will connect with.

WCT: You have a new album that is coming out this year, right?

TH: No, next year; I am a little behind on it. It will be the first album that written by me. It will be 12 tracks that are classic pop rock. A

few weeks ago I was in Miami for a private show and I was introduced to Barry Gibb from the Bee Gees. We are going to write together so I have to factor that in as well. How bloody brilliant is that? He's a fantastic guy.

WCT: Do you want to perform in more musicals for the future?

TH: You know they offered me a year tour and I could do as little or as much as I wanted. I did three months at the West End. It was great fun and incredibly challenging. I loved it but I have been there and done that. I have been offered other plays and musical theatre gigs but I turned them down. If I were to do it again I would only do it if I were offered Broadway in New York. If they asked me then I would be on the first plane. That would be an amazing opportunity. If you are asking me if I want to be a theatre person the answer is no though. I prefer to appear at different venues around the world. It is fun for me. This thing in Chicago is a big festival, right?

WCT: Yes, it is a huge gay street festival. You are playing right before Gloria Gaynor.

TH: Really? I know Gloria, the old bird. [*Both laugh.*] She's a good lass and a lovely woman.

WCT: What are you wearing? A suit will be really hot!

TH: It's hot in America at the moment?

WCT: Yes. It has been blazing in Chicago.

TH: People ask me if I wear all the '80s get-ups. I say, "No, I bloody well don't!" I adopted a Robert Palmer or Tony Bennett style to my wardrobe. They always look so cool. So I will be wearing a classic suit. I will be absolutely sweaty and horrible by the end of that. But who cares anyway? We are just excited about getting there and playing. We are going to come there, have a good time and entertain people. That is what it is all about.

WCT: I will definitely meet you face to face.

TH: Come have a beer and see you there, mate. Thanks for phoning. Cheers!

For more from Hadley visit <http://www.tonyhadley.com> and see him live and in person Sunday, Aug. 14, 6 p.m. at the Rivers Casino Stage on Halsted Street.



Tony Hadley.

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“WOULD NO DOUBT MAKE MEL BROOKS GIGGLE GIDDILY” —New City

“A CAMPY NEW WHODUNIT” —Chicago Tribune

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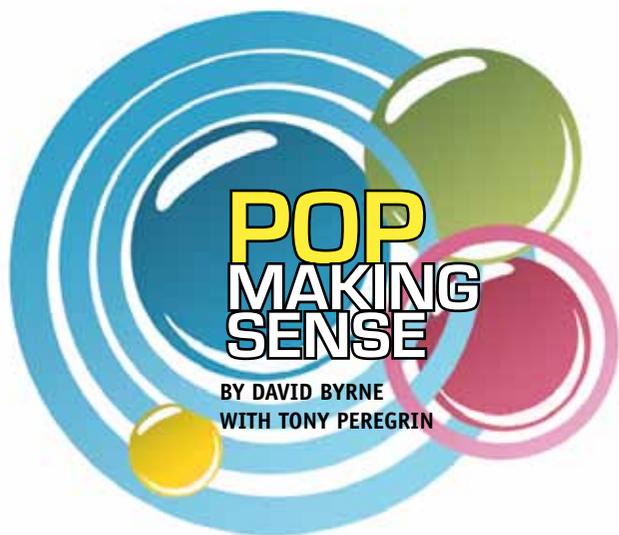
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were hopelessly devoted to Davis during her run on the competition.

When I met Davis at Pridefest last year, I asked her if she felt a connection with the audience and she lit up that magnificent smile. The crowd enjoyed her so much, that she belted out her take on "When Love Takes Over" again as an encore. Davis was on tour with the other contestants from The Voice earlier this summer and is on board to delight attendees at Northalsted Market Days on Sunday, Aug. 14. Davis will be singing at the wedding for Bev McClellan,

a lesbian contestant on The Voice.

Just before **Exposé** performed in Chicago in 2008, I ran into a friend, who asked me if Exposé would be the original singers. I laughed and pointed out that this was a trick question. In 1985 when "Point of No Return" topped the club charts, the three vocalists were not the same singers, who comprised Exposé on its 1987 full-



Frenchie Davis.

length debut, Exposure. Prior to the release of the 1992 self-titled outing, Gioia Bruno temporarily bowed out of the group when she lost her voice. Kelly Money-maker filled Bruno's vacated

spot. Ultimately, the three singers from Exposé's first two albums entertained the masses at the street festival and will be back this year. New mixes of the signature "Point of No Return" are available at <http://www.exposeonline.net>.

Also scheduled to appear is fellow freestyle hitmaker **Lisa Lisa**. The beautiful singer came out as a breast cancer survivor and was romantically linked to Robbie Rob Clivilles of C&C Music Factory, who remixed her dance hit "Let the Beat Hit 'Em." Lisa Lisa's "I Wonder If I Take You Home" has been sampled by many including Kylie Minogue and Black Eyed Peas.

Darren Criss, who plays the gay teen Blaine on Glee, is due to perform at Northalsted Market Days as well. Criss will be featured in the limited run Glee: The 3D Concert Movie, which opens Friday, Aug. 12.

Shiny Toy Guns will be at the street festival too. This goth-pop-electronic band burst onto the scene with We Are Pilots, but turned heads with a cover of "Major Tom (Coming Home)" for Lincoln MKZ commercials.

Other talent lined up for Northalsted Market Days include "Funk Boutique" freestyle vocal trio Cover Girls, out singer-songwriter Eric Himan and disco icon Ms. Gloria Gaynor. For a complete schedule, please visit <http://www.chicagoevents.com>.

Dave DeRosa is the mastermind behind the new electro-pop act **Genius Lovers**. Joined by vocalist Katara, the New York-based band's debut Strange Game shows how Auto-Tune should be done on "Three-Thirty." "Hi-Tech" is fun and funky, worthy of Klymaxx. "Press Play" is a modernization of freestyle straight from the latter half of the '80s. But all of the electronic enhancers are stripped away on the superb showstopper "You Know Why You're Here." Strange Game is out now via Thrill Horizon Records.

Last year the blogosphere went aflutter over **Graffiti6**. The British band's brilliant lead single "Annie You Save Me" transports me back to the late '80s, where soul, pop and modern rock united on hits like When in Rome's "The Promise" and Love & Rockets' "So Alive." Resistance is futile with the well delivered bridge "stars, please shine for me tonight." It doesn't hurt that lead singer Jamie Scott has handsome looks, blending Jason Priestly and Nick Lachey. Don't be fooled, Graffiti6 does not rely on studio magic. You Tube clips feature the group jamming on a stairwell. The EP Annie You Save Me is out now.

Wynter Gordon burst onto the scene with "Dirty Talk," where she tempts her listener by cooing, "I'm no angel." She followed with "Believer," a club ready collaboration with Freemasons. As an accomplished songwriter, she has penned material for the likes of Mary J. Blige and Jennifer Lopez. Gordon's feel good track "Til Death" is a clever play on words as she sings "til death do we party." Her latest EP, With the Music I Die, also features "Buy My Love," which is the most humorous capitalist cut since The Tamerper's "If You Buy This Record (Your Life Will Be Better)." "Still Getting Younger" is airy and melodic, yet it still has a beat. My foot taps impatiently awaiting Gordon's full-length album.

Like Kurt Cobain, Jim Morrison, Jimi Hendryx and Janis Joplin, **Amy Winehouse** is another musician gone at the age of 27. The British soul singer will be remembered for her hit "Rehab," which is her rebellious rant about the disease that cut her life short. In a day when garish outfits and outlandish behavior overshadow the actual music, the five time Grammy winner is better known for her very public battle with addiction that lead to unflattering appearances in tabloids, instead of her well executed tales of heartache like "Back to Black." Attempts to record a proper follow up were unfruitful, but Winehouse guests with Tony Bennett on "Body and Soul" on his upcoming album Duets II.

Looking for other contemporary artists with Winehouse's Billie Holiday-influenced vocal style? Then check out Glovebox and Angela McCluskey.



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MUSIC

'Unknown' no longer: Eric Himan breaks through

BY SHAWN SCHIKORA

After appearing in Chicago for several Market Days concerts and participating in the closing ceremonies for Gay Games VII in 2006 at Wrigley Field, singer/songwriter Eric Himan returns for this year's Market Days.

A longtime LGBT indie music favorite, Himan feels this year's Market Days performance will be his "biggest appearance yet." Accompanied by his new back-up band, Himan seemed psyched during a recent interview, having recently released a well-received new recording, *Supposed Unknown*, his seventh studio CD on his own label, Thumbcrown Records. Considered by many to be a commercial breakthrough, the new CD is also both a continuation of Himan's long-held eclectic musical mix of folk/pop/rock and a return to his acoustic roots after a slight departure for a more pop-oriented approach with his now-disbanded group, *Eric and the Adams*. While well-received, Himan considered the group "a short-lived pop project that I lead. It was fun, but I don't see an [Eric and the Adams] reunion show anytime in the future."

While *Supposed Unknown* is broadening Himan's fan base (the hard-edged single "Dust" was a hit on Midwest rock stations, and the ballad "Save the Afternoon" has received substantial airplay on Sirius XM's Coffeehouse Channel), Himan downplayed any career maneuvering in regard to this new disc. When asked about his intent creating the music, Himan said, "I really didn't have big intentions for the CD. I was just excited to work with my friend and fellow singer/songwriter, Namoli Brennet. We recorded at her house in Tucson, Ariz., and we just clicked.

By the time the session was over, I had about 10-12 songs which made it easy to consider it my next full-length disc."

"Recording the CD was the most relaxed recording session I ever had. There was no looking at the clock to see how much time I had left in the studio or my wallet. It was organic, and Namoli was a great producer to have on the disc."

Himan has steadily built a career on his own terms, without major label backing or a team of agents or publicists. He's also refused to compromise his electric musical style to fit one particular category. "I do feel pressure as an acoustic artist to be softer and quieter in my sound," he said. "I had a run-in with a record label that wanted me to be their quiet singer/songwriter. Suffice it to say, it didn't work out that well. I have no problems singing a ballad, but I do like to get loud a good percentage of the time."

While he embraces a wide variety of styles in his music, and is equally adept at singing a rockabilly song as well as a soulful ballad, when asked which genre he most identifies with, Himan said, "I think blues music is at my core. I can pick up any other style but the minute I hear someone sing the blues, all I want to do is join in."

Although openly gay since the beginning of his career a decade ago, Himan hasn't used his sexuality as direct marketing tool. He admitted, "I've gotten a bit of the 'Use more male pronouns in your songs' speech and 'Why don't you go for a more Lady Gaga appearance style?'" Himan believed he simply does "what comes naturally. It was natural for me to be out from the start of my career, and I have addressed LGBT issues in a



Eric Himan. Photo by Kelly Kerr

few of my songs, namely 'Protest Song.'"

Himan's grassroots approach to building his career has included extensive touring. While this has earned him a loyal fan base (including many in the LGBT community), some might wonder if his extensive touring schedule makes maintaining a romantic relationship difficult. "I have been with my partner for six years and, yes, sometimes it does get hard when I am gone for weeks at a time, but many jobs involve this kind of traveling and distance," Himan explained. "I am lucky to be with my loving, trusting person who has made my life so much easier, and pushes me to be the best musician I can be. If you are with someone supportive, you can do anything."

After 10 years in the business—built during the rise of the Internet, satellite radio and music downloading—Himan feels his fan base "has expanded, but really hasn't changed that much." Himan's eclectic music has long had wide appeal, gaining him a diverse group of fans. "I've played all different types of bars/clubs/events, and find different listeners in each one. I am pretty lucky and blessed that my music has attracted women, men, gay, straight. I'm always trying to reach more people, and I hope with this new disc that it does reach out to more listeners."

Eric Himan performs at Northalsted Market Days Saturday, Aug. 13. For more info on Eric, visit <http://www.erichiman.com>.

AGLO seeks choir director

The Archdiocesan Gay and Lesbian Outreach (AGLO-Chicago)—which has held a weekly welcoming, open, and celebratory GLBTQ Roman Catholic mass on Sunday evenings at 690 W. Belmont for the past 23 years—announces its first open search for the position of AGLO choir director.

The choir director position requires knowledge of the Roman Catholic liturgy, and conducting training and experience. GLBTQ candidates are encouraged.

The director works closely with the music director/organist, director of liturgy and cantors; leads two rehearsals per month in Lakeview on the first and third Sunday evenings, 5:45-6:45 p.m.; and conducts mass following these rehearsals, from 7-8 p.m. The position pays a per mass stipend.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter; resume or curriculum vitae; and references to the search committee at arosenquist@aglochicago.org.

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NUNN ON ONE: MUSIC

LeAnn Rimes on acting and old-school music

BY JERRY NUNN

LeAnn Rimes burst into the spotlight at the young age of 13. Her breakthrough song "Blue" flew off the shelves and led to many honors such as Grammys, Billboard and American Music Awards. She married her Northern Lights co-star Eddie Cibrian this past April. Her new album, *Lady and Gentlemen*, has her "Swingin'" into town and we sat on the porch to talk about it.

Windy City Times: Hi, LeAnn—looking forward to seeing you stay in Chicago for a while.

LeAnn Rimes: Eddie's show, *The Playboy Club*, is filming there so we are basing out of there, splitting our time between there and L.A. Then I am splitting my time between there and the road. I am going to rack up the miles for sure on the airplane. We started last week and it is quite an adjustment. It's temporary. When it rains it pours. All of a sudden my album is coming out Sept. 27. I am going to be doing press and touring with him and the kids so it is a lot.

WCT: With the new album you re-recorded your hit "Blue," correct?

LR: Yes, we did. It was Vince Gill's idea to re-record "Blue." When it comes out it will be 18 years since I recorded the original version. It came out when I was 13 years old but I recorded it when I was 11. I turn 29 at the end of the month. It was kind of surreal doing that. I have always had fans come up and ask me if I would rerecord that song.

It sounds so different than when I was a fetus basically to now. My whole approach and appreciation for the song has changed. I really do love that song. I don't get sick of singing it, especially now. We recorded it with The Time Jumpers, who Vince records with a lot. It swings differently and it is a little more uptempo. It is a thank-you to my fans as a bonus track to the record. It is cool that we don't make it an actual bonus track but part of the CD. It is such a classic that it fits so well within all of these other classic songs.

WCT: What other covers can people listen for on the new album?

LR: "Give" is the new single. "Give" and "Crazy Women" are the bonus tracks with "Give" as the kickoff single on the radio. We had about 75 songs then we narrowed it down to 12. We paid homage to the original but definitely twisted them and made them my own. You can hear with "Swingin'" how we really did make it my own. We took the old John Conlee song "Rose Colored Glasses" and made it a western swing. We sped it up. We did "He Stopped Loving Her Today" and it is very much like the original.

Vince played and sang on the album, so most



LeAnn Rimes. Photo by Brian Higbee

of the guitar stuff is him. He put a Latin flair to it, which was very cool. We did two Merle Haggard songs "The Bottle Let Me Down" and "I Can't Be Myself When I Am With You." What I love about all of these songs is that they are so real. I love the fact that these men were never afraid to write reality and what was going on in their lives, then live it and sing it. They are so honest. I think it is the most authentic album that I have ever done, even though they are not my songs completely.

I have such an appreciation for that kind of music. That kind of country music is dead. No one sings it. I am bringing it to a new generation of people by twisting it and making it my own. I am so excited because Merle had the album in his hand a couple of days ago. His road manager said he is over the moon. To have people that are that iconic and have pleased them in rerecording their music by capturing the essence of their music is important to me. To make "Good

Hearted Woman" from a woman's perspective is interesting. We sang in Spanish on "Wasted Days and Wasted Nights." It is a very diverse record. We even did one of Vince's songs "When I Call Your Name" with a blues sound to it. It gave me a space to find completely new melodies. I am really proud of the album.

WCT: I look forward to hearing it. You are playing with Crystal Bowersox at Joe's on Weed Street.

LR: I have never met her before. I am excited to meet her. She is from Chicago, right?

WCT: Yes; she used to play in train tunnels before she landed *American Idol*.

LR: Very cool.

WCT: You just did some acting on the Lifetime show *Drop Dead Diva*.

LR: Yes, I did. It was really fun. I got to play such a bitch. It was great. I never get to play that kind of role. Every time I walked of the set the creator said I played a bitch so well. I didn't know whether to take that as a compliment or not.

WCT: Are you going to focus on more roles after this album?

LR: Definitely. I just shot a film that will come out in November for CMT where Burt Reynolds plays my dad. It is called *Reel Love*. We just finished that in May. I saw some of it the other day and I am really pleased with it. It is a really cute little film. I am sure I will be doing something on *Playboy Club* soon. I want to do more acting. I am falling in love with it.

WCT: How was playing *Milwaukee Pridefest*?

LR: It was awesome. I had such an amazing time there. My gay fans totally support me and always have. It was very emotional because I sang "What I Cannot Change." I knew I shouldn't have opened my eyes. I sometimes get lost in myself when I sing especially with such an emotional song like that that I wrote. When I opened my eyes not just one person was crying but the whole crowd was crying. I lost it. I totally lost it. It means a lot to people. When you can touch people like that it makes it a special show.

WCT: You were also emotional when singing "The Rose" with The Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles recently.

LR: Yes; I am just a wimp onstage. If I think about what I am really singing about it is difficult sometimes. Since Adele has been sick, she is such a great friend and sweetheart, I wanted to sing something in my show of hers. I have been covering "Someone Like You" and God knows I can barely make it through that song. We play it right after "What I Cannot Change" so the two of those things together kill me.

WCT: You have been hosting the *Colgate Country Showdown* for five years now.

LR: I don't know if I am doing this coming season in January. I did it this year though. I started there in a way because I did those regional competitions in the beginning. It is always fun to see new talent. It is another great avenue to have a platform to show off their talent. This business is so hard. I am a little jaded for doing it so long but to see these kids that are my age—wide-eyed and that is all they want. I remember that time and they come up and ask for advice. It is sweet and a nurturing environment at that talent show.

WCT: [This] seems like your year, with a new marriage and album.

LR: It is a milestone year for me. I have been in this business so long and you ride a roller-coaster. You go down and go up. I have been fortunate enough to maintain a great career and my personal life is on the upswing. Eddie and I are both on that rise. It is nice to have you and your spouse on the upswing together. I will be 30 next year so I think 2012 will be even better!

Join LeAnn and Crystal at Joe's Bar Chicago, 940 W. Weed St., for the first-ever AMC Lifting Lives Benefit Concert Aug. 15. Purchase tickets at <http://www.ticketweb.com>; more information is at <http://www.acmliftinglives.org>.

For more on LeAnn Rimes' world visit <http://www.leannrimesworld.com>.

Goldie Hawn at Lynn Sage gala Sept. 19

Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation (LSCRF) and Presenting Sponsor Carson Pirie Scott will be among the first to kick off October's National Breast Cancer Awareness Month with its 26th Annual Fall Benefit Monday, Sept. 19, beginning at 11 a.m. at the Ritz-Carlton Chicago, 160 E. Pearson, headlined by Academy Award-winning star Goldie Hawn.

Proceeds will go toward breast cancer research, fellowships and education programs at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University.

Event tickets are \$250 per person or \$150 for those under the age of 30, and sponsor-

ships from \$500 to \$20,000 are available by calling 312-926-4274. Tickets can be purchased at <http://www.lynnpage.org>.

'Remix' art fest Sept. 3-4

The inaugural Ravenswood Remix, to be held Sept. 3-4, will showcase an eclectic mix of unique art made from, among other things, recycled and found materials.

This new event's location is on the stretch of Ravenswood Avenue between Addison (3600 North) and Grace Street (3800 North).

Hours are 12-10 p.m. both days. The gate donation (benefiting the neighborhood's Hamilton School's art program) is \$5. Visit <http://www.ravenswoodremix.com> or call 773-433-8084.

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Raymond Hudd: A look back at the milliner of the millennium

BY JOE FRANCO

Raymond Hudd liked to tell a story that the first time he ever made hats they were for his mules, Jack and Fanny. Apparently, they never left the barn without them on. "Raymond did his own thing," said Ivan Huddlestun about his older brother. "He loved art and he loved nature. I'd be hard pressed to come up with a material that wasn't in one of his hats."

Hudd spent his early years on a small farm near Custer, Mich. While his brothers and his father grew potatoes and tended to the orchard, Hudd was busy in a large flower garden that he and his mother had planted. "He never seemed cut out for farm life," said Huddlestun.

Hudd left the fields of his boyhood farm for the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) in 1948. "He was just enthralled with creating one of a kind pieces," said Mary Robak, a friend and Chicago millinery historian. "Chicago became a huge hat city in large part because of Bertha Honore Palmer. She loved bringing milliners to Chicago." Hudd lived in a city where Benjamin Greenfield was the go-to milliner for the majority of well-appointed ladies. "The shop was called Bes Ben after he and his sister Bessie. Raymond just idolized that shop and his work," added Robak.

Hudd opened his own shop in 1950 and ended up at a small street front at 40 Oak St. "I just remember going shopping downtown with my mother and sister," said Nancy Remick, a long time Hudd friend. "They would each wear a Hudd Hat into the shop and then leave wearing a new hat for the year while holding the old hats in Hudd Hatboxes. I'm sure he just loved that." Hudd's creations were one of a kind and all marked on the inside with a number and a small fabric violet he fashioned himself.

"Well, don't you know the significance of the violet?" asked Remick. "The violet was inspired by his mother, who he was very close with. Every year in the middle of spring Raymond and the others longed to go barefoot around their land. So his mother said, 'Okay. The first of you who comes back with the first bouquet of violets for me can go barefoot.'" Hudd used a soft, hand-made violet as his signature label, both as an homage to his mother and to the sheer joy he felt as a young boy going barefoot through flowers.

Hudd's joy for his craft was obvious to even those who did not know him. At each shop he owned he would change his window displays monthly. Sometimes reflecting the season and sometimes reflecting a current event. "He'd put everything in those windows. He had a fascination with space and space travel as did a great many people back then," said Robak. "When his last shop on Clark was closing, people stopped to express how upset they were. Not so much at the loss of hats since most people weren't wearing them, but on the loss of the elegant and funny windows they got to pass every day," said Eia Radosavljevic, a millinery instructor at SAIC.

It was not just inanimate paper and fabric Hudd placed in his windows. Legendary comedian Phyllis Diller, a longtime friend and wearer of Hudd Hats frequently tried on hats while in the window of the shop itself to attract passersby and, of course, to be herself. "She met Raymond since his shop was near Mr. Kelley's Nightclub. She has over five hundred of his hats," said Robak. Diller was not the only celebrity to wear a Hudd creation; Joan Crawford was a frequent customer, as was Ann Landers. "I remember he also did a series of hats to be worn at the Chicago premiere of the movie 'The Birds,'" said Huddlestun.

Certainly, Hudd loved celebrity but most friends described him as exceedingly modest. Hudd was also well known for his sense of humor. "Raymond was very honest with his feel-

ings. Once when we were out he saw a woman in a hat and said to her, 'I love your hat! But you're wearing it ALL wrong,'" said Remick. He proceeded, much to the surprise and chagrin of the poor woman, to fix her hat. "He was happiest when he was creating joy for other people. It was never about the money," said Remick.

In 2001, The Chicago History Museum featured a collection of Hudd's creations. The curator of the collection, Timothy Long, named Hudd the "Milliner of the Millennium." Shortly after that, due to increasing health problems, Hudd closed his landmark Clark Street store and moved to an assisted living facility in Michigan. That did not stop him from creating. "Oh we had a vintage hat show in Muskegon and Raymond just loved that," said Robak. He even worked on several hats for some of the residents. "Ivan (Huddlestun) was sent out to the Hobby Lobby on a number of trips." "I just couldn't seem to get the right color for him!" added Huddlestun.

Aside from the more than 50,000 hats that he created during his lifetime, Hudd's legacy also includes the Raymond Hudd Millinery Award.

Founded by Radosavljevic, this was a way to award three of the school's best and brightest millinery designers and to pay tribute to one of Chicago's legendary hatmakers. "We chose artists rather than milliners to judge the competition. Raymond was an artist so we felt that

fitting," said Radosavljevic.

Memorial services for Raymond Hudd will be held Saturday, Aug. 27, at 1 p.m. at the King Home Huss Gallery in Evanston. For more information, contact Mary Robak at maryrobak@comcast.net.



Raymond Hudd in an undated photo.

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Photo of Chicago Gay Day, circa early 1970s by A.J. Epstein

History revealed: Snapshots with queer photographer A.J. Epstein

BY OWEN KEEHNEN

Artist and photojournalist A.J. (Andrew) Epstein has been taking pictures since the late 1960s. Capturing queer life and events in the post-Stonewall era, he worked in Chicago before relocating to Los Angeles but has worked chronicling gay history nationwide.

Epstein photographed Chicago's Gay Pride Parade in the early 1970s, the Gold Coast bar, gay special events, entertainers of all stripes and various happenings in the Windy City. His photography, art and design have appeared in dozens of periodicals from *Esquire* to *Playboy* and from *Rolling Stone* to *Vogue*. His work has been shown at MOMA in NY, MOMA in SF and numerous galleries nationwide.

Epstein's newest work, *Queer Culture*, began as a showing at ONE, The National Gay and Lesbian Archives in L.A. It soon became a book as well. This diverse and evocative collection of photographs captures the feel and oftentimes the grit of gay history at its vital stages. In addition, Epstein has a second collection due this summer entitled *The Blonde Bomber*, a photo chronicle of the rough and wonderful world of women's roller derby.

Recently, *Windy City Times* had the opportunity to chat with Epstein about his art and was

thrilled by some of the great tales this man has to tell. Epstein has been capturing history for decades and in the process has become an integral part of the unfolding of gay history, queer culture and queer art himself.

Windy City Times: Andrew, congratulations on your new your book. Tell me how *Queer Culture* came about?

A.J. Epstein: I have to give much of the credit to that amazing novelist Ann Bannon, who I met at the Lavender library in Sacramento when I was the art director for the *News & Review*. I had read her books especially *The Beebo Brinker Chronicles*. (My best friend's girlfriend was in a band in the 1980s with singer Michael Callen.) They asked me to design a logo for their CD called *Be Bo Brinker*. I didn't understand the name and Harriet Lyons (one of the original editors of *Ms.* magazine) made me read Ann's books. I loved the sexy '50s campy covers, but the writing inside was something else, just blew me away. When I heard we lived in the same town I wanted to take a picture of her. I've always loved documenting people that are larger than life. Ann is certainly in that category, although she was surprised that I had read all her books.

We hit it off, but when she asked what the shot was for ... I really didn't have a good an-

swer. She asked who I've shot, and all these important names came out, in my case they were just my friends, the crowd I ran with in the old days. Ann was the one that planted the notion that I was shooting a very important part of lost queer history. I went home and started reediting my images, and the box got bigger and bigger. Since I'm still alive and half the people in the book are dead, I felt it was my responsibility to tell their stories.



Novelist Ann Bannon. Photo by A.J. Epstein

Once I did figure out just what I had, and went into my journals and found I had written stories about my friends. I was able to put the images and words together, made a website, and the next day ONE called and offered me a show. I put the book together after I almost died from a botched spinal operation. I was house-bound for over a year, so I printed the images for the show and decided to go the self publishing route.

Funny story, I worked with Bruce Vilanch and then it turned out we both moved to L.A. in the early 1970s, into the same building. I haven't seen him in 30 years, we travel in very different crowds, but one day I had just come from the show and was at the West Hollywood Book Fair. Suddenly Bruce walked past with a very old woman in hand. I had a copy of the book and reintroduced myself, throwing out names of editors we both worked for at the [Chicago] *Tribune* and finally he remembered me. I showed him the book, and he couldn't stop laughing, and he showed the woman the 30-year-old photo of him waiting for a bus. She started laughing. He then introduced me to his friend Carol Channing, and said he loved it.

WCT: You've been documenting queer culture since 1969, including pictures from Chicago's first pride march. What do you see



A.J. Epstein. Photo by Bob McCamant

when you look over these pictures?

AE: What got me was that it was a political statement which they [Pride Parades] sure aren't no more, It's all turned into corporate beer floats. The street drag queens were so strong. Tough dames. They were the most political. The strongest ones are in the book. I wonder what ever became of them. I guess that's what I see or what I think, what happened to them all?

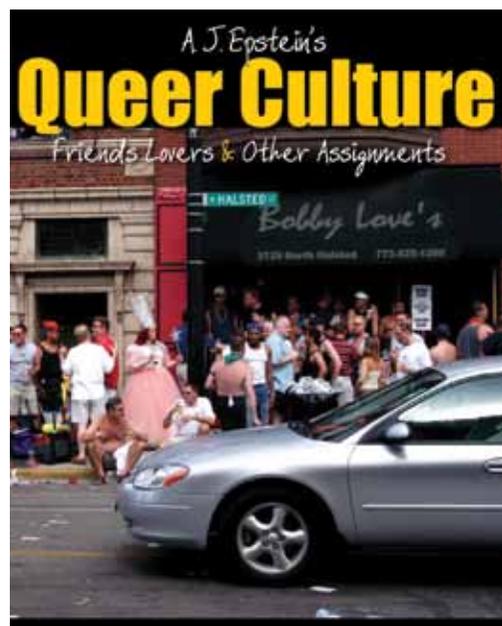
WCT: And what do you hope these photos show the younger generations of queers who weren't around at the time?

AE: That history didn't start with Madonna or Lady Gaga. There is an amazing history that we have had. I remember this cute guy I hired years ago named Josh, and he was going to the Pride Parade but didn't know what Stonewall was, didn't know Harvey Milk, nothing. I made him watch *Before Stonewall* and *Times of Harvey Milk*, who was a friend. The latter film got an Oscar for my partner of many years Richard Schmiechen. It amazes me Richard could be forgotten. Richard made some important films, a great one about Evelyn Hooker, but try and find five queers under 40 that know of her, or Richard's films ... or Tom of Finland, Mapplethorpe, Etienne, Cliff Raven, and let us not forget Chicago's Chuck Renslow. A lot of history has passed in front my lens.

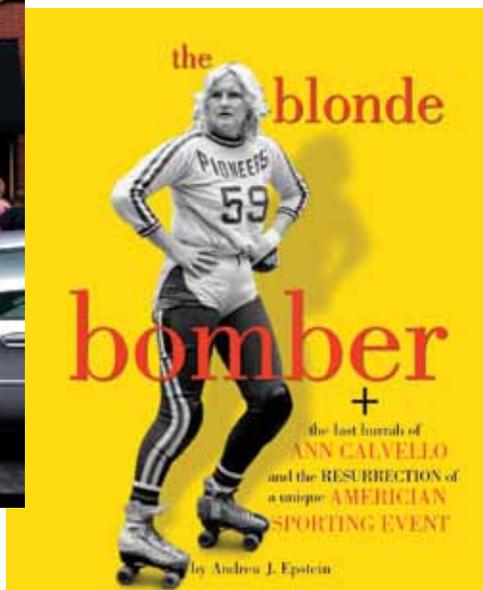
WCT: Your photos provide such a great time capsule—capturing things like the 1976 mock slave auction in West Hollywood that was raided by LA police, the protests surrounding the movie *Cruising*, Chicago's Pride and anti-Anita Bryant rallies and so much more. Did you always feel like you were capturing history?

AE: Yes, always, and much of that came from Richard Schmiechen, he really taught me to see the bigger picture, and always the politics of the times. Richard was much more than the love of my life ... he was a great teacher. I never was an "art" photographer like my buddies Arthur Tress or Duane Michaels, I was more into Margaret Bourke-White, Diane Arbus, or Allen Ginsberg who was a friend. Blake Little (*In the Company of Men*) the photographer called my images snapshots. I took it the wrong way, until I saw the book of Ginsberg's photos—all the snapshots he had laying around his East Village apartment, in books, on the floor, in the kitchen. I took one look at his book *Beat Memories*, and had to admit that I did do snapshots of history. Now I take that as a compliment.

WCT: You also have so many great photo portraits of such a diverse crowd—Bette Midler, Grace Jones, Craig Russell, The Cockettes, Tom of Finland, Ann Landers, Leonard Matlovich, The Pointer Sisters, Edie Sedg-



Covers of Epstein's books *Queer Culture* (left) and *The Blonde Bomber* (right).



wick, etc. What is the key to taking a great portrait shot of someone?

AE: With disco diva Grace Jones, I was hired by Renslow to shoot her show, also IML [International Mr. Leather], and Sally Rand. In Chicago Chuck was always hiring me. I was the guy with a camera. My style has changed a bit. Later it became being honest, friendly and having a conversation before pointing a lens in anyone's face. I'm always shooting my friends. I like to have some sort of symbol of their work in the shot, like Ann holding one of her books, a prop but something she is proud of. Then I get that real smile and look in the eyes, it's always in the eyes. It used to be easy, but now there are a few people I want to shoot very badly, but don't know them or anyone that does, so if anyone knows Rachel Maddow, Lt. Dan Choi, Dan Savage, or Levi Kreis, give them my email.

WCT: In Leatherman: The Legend of Chuck Renslow there are some of your great evocative pictures of the era—photos of the Gold Coast, Etienne, and Cliff Raven etc. What drew you more towards the leather extreme as a photographer?

AE: Well Dom Orejudos (Etienne) seduced me off the Belmont El stop on my way to college in the Loop back in the 1960s, the first leather sex I ever had. He was wonderfully twisted. He introduced me to Cliff Raven [the tattoo artist], and I fell hard for the guy. I chased him for almost a year. Cliff was my first older-guy-artist-lover-teacher. He taught me about art, he got me into printmaking, he took me to museums. He was a very knowledgeable guy about art and life. We remained friends for many years.

When Tom [of Finland] and Dom were having the big show at Stompers Gallery in the East Village in the late 1970s, Louie the owner and Mapplethorpe wanted to include my erotic art, but Tom didn't want another gay artist, their [his and Dom's] work was similar enough. Robert found out that Tom had never seen my artwork, and set up a meeting between us at this crazy party. Tom and I sat in the kitchen most of the night. From that point on I was in the show, and Tom would introduce me as his favorite young gay artist, and he meant it. Dom was shocked that I was the same scared goofy guy from the EL.

What drew me to the kinky side, well being an alcoholic was sure part of it. I was there but at times, not there. I always got the shot somehow. Joe Gage had to remind me a few years ago that I did the photography for his [porn film] classics, Kansas City Trucking Co, El Paso Wrecking Crew, LA Tool and Die, and Closed Set. I even did the poster for Kansas City Trucking. I was so drunk back then working for Fred Halstead. I got sober 34 years ago. God knows running with Mapplethorpe wasn't going to help me get sober. I ran with a crowd that was all crazier than me so no one noticed how I clung to my bottle of Southern Comfort and tab of acid. I loved to shoot under that influence.

WCT: You also are quite renowned as a photographer of the roller-derby world. What about that world drew your interest?

AE: My next book out this summer The Blonde Bomber, and the new resurrected derby, I will be selling and signing it at all the derby games, and possibly a show at Chicago's Aaron Packard Gallery. The Blonde Bomber, Joan Weston, was a close friend and taught me to skate, my grandmother Pearl Kahn worked for Leo Seltzer, the father of roller derby. She managed the concessions for the roller derby for about 20 years, when other kids went to see the Easter Bunny I was at the derby with Pearl. She was a very special grandmother.

WCT: What makes a great photo?

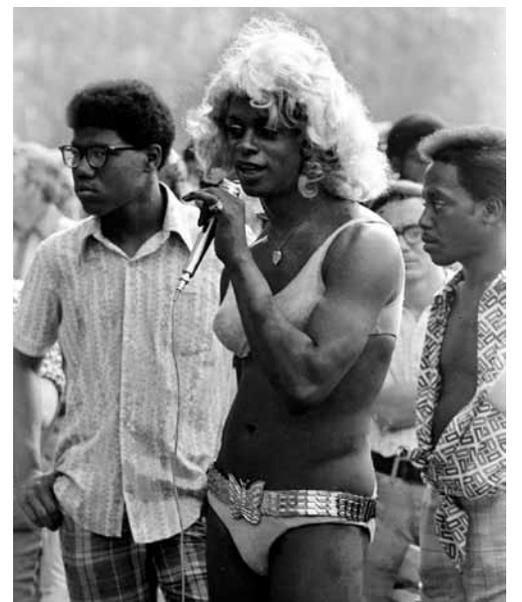
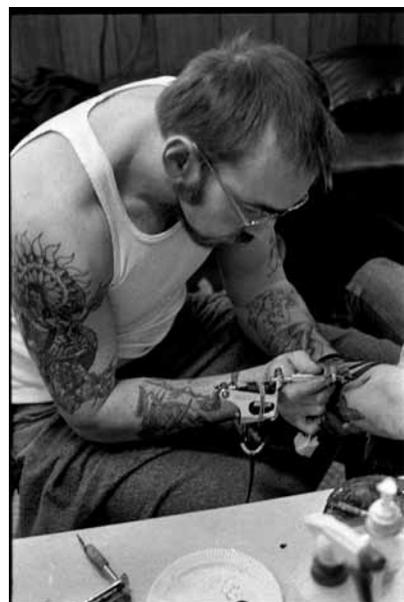
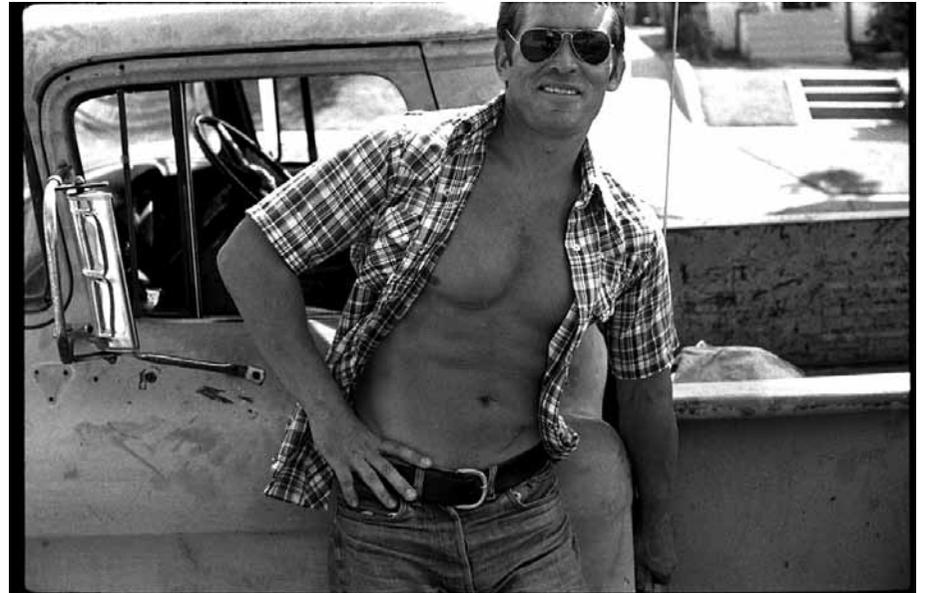
AE: You can have all the equipment, lens, assistants, studio, but if you don't have an eye, it's just toys. As I said earlier, it's always about the eyes.

For more information about the work and life of artist and journalist A.J. Epstein please check out <http://www.ajepstein.com> or <http://www.spaghetibrains.com>.



The Photography of A.J. Epstein

Subjects of A.J. Epstein's photographs include (clockwise from top) Grace Jones; Fred Halsted; Ann Landers; attendees at Chicago Pride Parade, early 1970s; tattoo artist Cliff Raven; a '70s disco; photographer Robert Mapplethorpe; and Tom of Finland.





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Thursday, August 25, 2011

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BOOK REVIEW

No One in the World by E. Lynn Harris and RM Johnson, \$25; Simon & Schuster; 305 pages REVIEW BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

You have 24 hours in a day.

There are more than 1,400 minutes and around 86,000 seconds—and you still can't do everything you need to get done.

Some days, you just want to clone yourself. With two of you, maybe you'd get finished. Double you, and you might actually get ahead.

Cobi Aiden Winslow just found his doppelganger in the last place he'd ever think to look. In the new book No One in the World by E. Lynn Harris and RM Johnson, it might be the last thing he ever does.

Winslow always had whatever he wanted—except for one thing.

From the moment he was adopted, he had maid service in a mansion in the best Chicago neighborhood. He had nice clothes, a law-school education, cars and antiques, but he didn't have his father's acceptance.

Winslow was gay, and his father hated it. However, that acceptance was never going to come. Cobi's parents were killed in a plane crash, but not before telling him that he had a twin brother ... somewhere. Absent a father's love, a new-found brother occupied all of Winslow's thoughts.

Sissy Winslow learned about the family business at her father's elbow. She thought it would be hers someday, so when her parents' will was read and her brother got half the shares, she was stunned. Cobi didn't know a

thing about Winslow Products. He was a lawyer, not a CEO.

Worse yet, the will stipulated that Cobi had to be married to a woman by his 34th birthday, or his share of the stocks would be sold.

A takeover was imminent. Cobi turned 34 in 25 days. There was no woman on the horizon.

Thinking quickly, Sissy Winslow devised a plan to save the business. As she searched for a stylish, smart, society, Winslow-worthy woman who could be bought, Cobi searched for his twin brother.

However, as Cobi was finally reconnecting with a part of him he never knew about, he was also inviting trouble. Although he'd been successful in hiding it thus far, there were suddenly too many people who knew he was gay—and that knowledge was going to cost him.

Author E. Lynn Harris has been gone two years now and, in his preface, co-author RM Johnson says that he and Harris collaborated on this novel before Harris' death. So is this book reminiscent of Harris' other books, or...?

No One in the World is spicier than you might be used to. There's an underlying feeling of threat that's irresistible and though you might think you know what's going to happen, you'd be wrong. There were times, granted, when I thought the story briefly got a little silly but I did like how it unfolded overall, and how there were surprises in the creases.

If you're looking for something quick to take on vacation with you this summer, you can't go wrong with a book like this. No One in the World will grab you in a second. You'll want to read it all day.

Advertisement for ChicagoGoPride.com and 103.5 KISSFM. Includes text: 'The all-new Pride Radio on ChicagoPride.com powered by 103.5 KISSFM', 'GO PRIDE OUT & ABOUT', 'NEWS • REVIEWS • NIGHTLIFE', 'Everything you need to navigate Chicago's LGBT community on the GO!', and a QR code with the text 'Find these great features and more on ChicagoPride.com'.

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the **DISH** WEEKLY DINING GUIDE IN | WINDY CITY TIMES



THE BEST OF BOYSTOWN

BY MEGHAN STREIT

Market Days is almost upon us. Get ready for two hot days of even hotter queer folks crammed into a few blocks on Halsted Street, eating, drinking and otherwise making merry. No street fest beats Market Days in my mind because, to my knowledge, it's the only one in Chicago with a booth selling champagne. While the rest of the city is making do with cheap beer, we wash down our funnel cakes and meat on a stick with bubbles. Leave it to the gays!

To be sure, there's no shortage of delicious, diet-destroying street food available at the fest, and I encourage you to sample it all. However, if you find yourself in need of a balanced meal, an air-conditioned reprieve from the heat or a quiet table for two to woo the cute boy you picked up at the Belmont stage the night before, Boystown has plenty of excellent restaurants where you can take shelter. Here are a few of my favorites.

Do you need some more Sugar & Spice in your life? Follow me on Twitter: @SugarAndSpiceMS—for inside scoop and commentary on Chicago's dining scene.

All photos by Kirk Williamson unless otherwise noted.

Melrose

After the last band has played, after the food vendors have closed their booth, and even after the late-night bars on Halsted have made their last calls, you can keep the party going at Melrose. OK, I wouldn't recommend partying per se, as the less-than-enthusiastic night waitresses will probably kick you out, but you can get some pretty decent diner fare to satisfy your 3 a.m. cravings. Melrose is open 24/7 and serves breakfast all day. Mozzarella sticks, French-dip roast-beef sandwiches, fettuccine Alfredo, pork chops—you name it, and you can probably get it here. I'm not saying the food here will knock your socks off, but it's stumbling distance from the heart of Market Days and it's open all night. Melrose is at 3233 N. Broadway; call 773-327-2060.



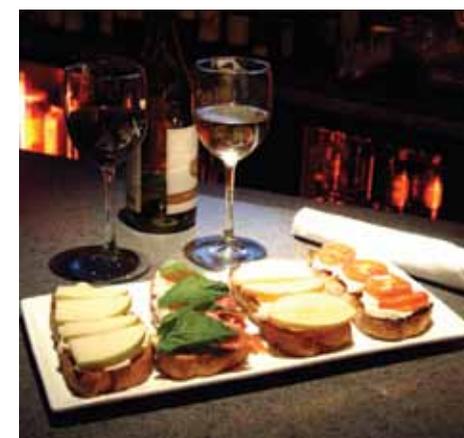
Chicago Diner

Vegetarians and vegans can't help but love this meatless mecca. For once you won't be relegated to ordering a grilled cheese or a side salad. Chicago Diner serves up meat-free (and vegan) versions of diner classics like "meat loaf" and mash potatoes and a Reuben in which remarkably convincing seitan stands in for corned beef. Definitely order the buffalo wings, and if you really want to indulge, the peanut-butter milkshake is to die for. Chicago Diner is at 3411 N. Halsted St.; call 773-935-6696 or visit <http://www.veggiediner.com>.



minibar Ultra Lounge and Café

It's hard to be all things to all people, but minibar actually pulls it off quite successfully. You can cool off with a martini in the lounge or grab a table and order a nice bottle of wine and some interesting nibbles like bruschetta with prosciutto, figs and brie or a "carne asada" pizza topped with cilantro, pine nuts, red onions and, of course, grilled steak. The adorable waiters at minibar will even serve you breakfast. For \$20, you get unlimited mimosas and a buffet of scrambled eggs, French toast, hash browns, bacon and all the other requisite a.m. goodies you need to soak up the damage you did last night. minibar is at 3341 N. Halsted St.; call 773-871-6227 or visit <http://www.minibarchicago.com>.



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Kit Kat Lounge & Supper Club

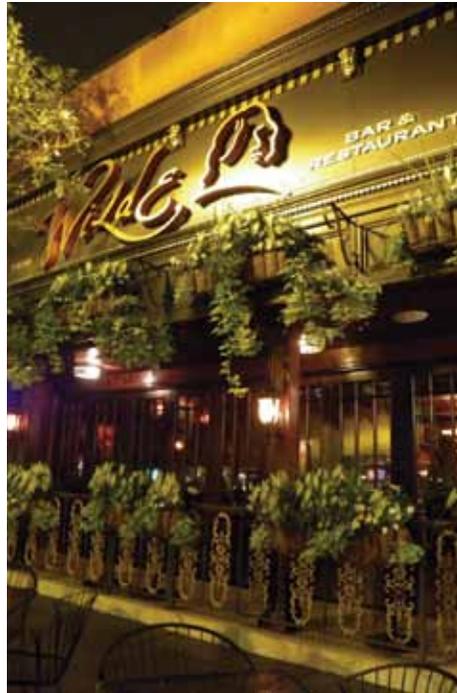
Kit Kat gets most of its acclaim from its killer martinis (with at least 50 different varieties, including Snickerdoodle and Key Lime Pie) and the drag queens who sing tableside throughout the evening. However, I'm here to remind you to put down your martini, take your eyes off of the Madonna look-alike prancing in front of you and order some food. The calamari and the bacon truffle mac and cheese are two stand-out starters. If you want to make a night out of it, try one of the entrees named after iconic females. I recommend the Jayne Mansfield—seared sea scallops atop a crisp truffle polenta cake with spring onions and artichoke puree—or go with a classic like grilled skirt steak with blue cheese and truffle fries, aptly named after the timelessly elegant Audrey Hepburn. Kit Kat Lounge & Supper Club is at 3700 N. Halsted St.; call 773-525-1111 or visit <http://www.kitkatchicago.com>.



Press photo

Wilde Bar & Restaurant

Wilde is one of the most refined Irish pubs you'll ever find. Luxe brown leather booths and a library section in honor the eponymous Oscar Wilde make the space feel special and dignified—and the food matches the atmosphere in which it is served. Feast on pub classis like juicy burgers and crispy fish and chips. Or, sample some Wilde specialties like beer-battered cod served with Irish cheddar on a pretzel roll or the decadent macaroni and cheese: curly macaroni and Irish cheddar sauce baked to creamy goodness with Irish bacon, sliced garlic, diced tomato and caramelized onion. I'm salivating just thinking about it. Wilde also serves a great brunch that you can enjoy on the street side patio. Wilde Bar & Restaurant is at 3130 N. Broadway St.; call 773-244-0404 or visit <http://www.wildechicago.com>.



BOOKS

Doctor Marianne Marchese on women's wellness

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Former Chicagoan Dr. Marianne Marchese is on a mission to transform the way women look at their health with her new book, *8 Weeks to Women's Wellness: The Detoxification Plan for Breast Cancer, Endometriosis, Infertility and Other Women's Health Conditions* (\$16.95; Smart Publications). Dr. Marchese recently talked with Windy City Times about her book and why she decided to go into naturopathic medicine.

Windy City Times: What made you decide to go into naturopathic medicine?

Dr. Marianne Marchese: I decided to become a naturopathic doctor after years of being in the field as an occupational therapist. I was talking with doctors I worked with and said I wanted to be a doctor so I could work with people on their diet and exercise to reverse conditions like diabetes. They said to me, you don't want to be a doctor because you won't have time to do any of that. You will just be prescribing medication and seeing patients every 15 minutes.

I got a little discouraged and then I heard about naturopathic medicine as I was reading a magazine. It was a perfect blend of what I was looking for. I can spend an hour with a new patient and as long as I want with follow up visits. I can work on preventative medicine with my patients. Here in Arizona, I am also a full primary care physician so I can also do minor surgery and prescribe medication.

WCT: You run your own private practice and teach gynecology at the Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine in Tempe, Ariz. Tell me what that is like.

Marchese: [Laughs] Well, I have a lot more wrinkles and gray hair. I'm very busy. I'm in private group practice three days a week. There's six of us and we all have a different focus, mine is women's health, gynecology and environmental medicine. I teach a gynecology lab course at the college one day a week. Then on my fifth day, I sit at home and do a lot of writing for medical journals, magazines and public speaking engagements. I like it because it's a nice blend of patient care plus education and teaching which keeps me up to date on the latest studies and research.

WCT: Has being openly gay affected your work, positively or negatively?

Marchese: It was a neutral issue when I practiced in Portland, Ore., and Berkeley, Calif., and it's been iffy here in Arizona. It's like I've gone back in the closet. You just don't talk about it here but it didn't keep me from thanking my partner in the acknowledgements of my book. I couldn't have written it without her.

WCT: Why did you move to Arizona?

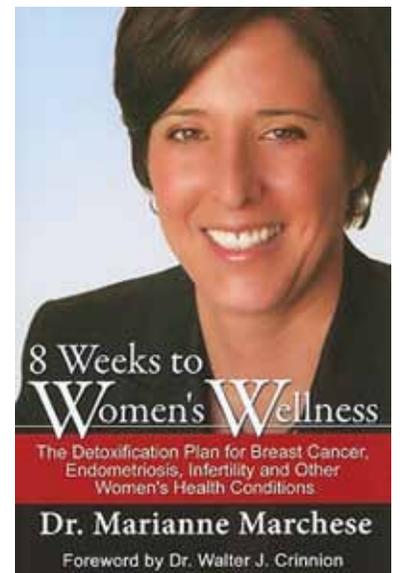
Marchese: Partly for my mother who lives here and my partner's work as well as the cost of living. I had taught at the college in Portland and I missed that when I went to Berkeley so I knew I could come to Arizona and teach here.

WCT: In a nutshell, describe what the readers will find in the book.

Marchese: They are going to be educated about women's exposure to different chemicals through food, cosmetics and cleaning products. I give very detailed information on what to buy and what not to buy, what food, cosmetics and cleaning products to use. Then they will find out the science behind the chemicals we are exposed to as they relate ten different women's health conditions. Then they will learn about a treatment plan to remove these chemicals from the body using detoxification methods.

WCT: You mentioned that these are conditions. What does that mean?

Marchese: Most women's health conditions are due to hormonal changes in a women's body



which are estrogen mimicking and/or hormone disrupting.

WCT: There are many toxins out there but which one are the worst for a woman's body?

Marchese: There are three that women need to be most aware of; bisphenol a (BPAs), phthalates and parabens.

WCT: How do people figure out which products are the safest to buy since there is so much conflicting information out there?

Marchese: Use my book as a guide and go to the Environmental Working Group website here <http://www.ewg.org>. They have a database where you can enter in the brand names of the products you use and they will tell you what chemicals are in them and rate them on a toxicity level.

WCT: What's the coolest development in products in the last few years? What has made you believe that people are getting the message?

Marchese: Due to consumer demand and public awareness companies have had to pull chemicals out of their products. Some states like Missouri and New Mexico are banning BPA in products and other states are taking action and not waiting for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to intervene.

WCT: What is the one thing that you would like all internal medicine, general practice and gynecological doctors to ask their patients that they don't ask?

Marchese: They never ask their patients what their environmental exposure is and never consider that as a factor contributing to their patients health conditions. I'd love for them to learn how to do an environmental exposure history and if they don't have time refer patients to doctors who know how to do this.

WCT: How can patients find naturopathic doctors in their area?

Marchese: If people want to find out where naturopathic doctors are in their area they can go to the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians website <http://www.naturopathic.org>.

WCT: What do you hope happens with medicine as time marches on?

Marchese: I hope that naturopathic medicine becomes licensed in every state because right now it's only limited to 16 states. I want people to see that they have an option in the type of doctor they choose to see.

WCT: Is there anything else you would like to say?

Marchese: As people read the book they shouldn't get overwhelmed. The point of the book is to empower women to make healthy lifestyle changes in order to stay healthy, reverse a health condition or prevent a health condition from occurring.

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BUSINESS

Gay man runs premier dog-walking service

BY ROSS FORMAN

Marc Matlin worked long hours in the finance industry within corporate America in the 1990s, and didn't truly love his work. He had a dog-walker stop by his home twice daily to care for his beloved, furry four-legged friend.

"Dogs are my passion, my absolute passion," said Matlin, who is gay and is the brother of deaf actress Marlee Matlin.

So Matlin traded in his suit and tie for shorts, T-shirts, flip-flops and a baseball hat—his standard business attire nowadays.

Matlin is the founder/owner of the award-winning Chicago Dog Walkers, which he operates from his home in Bucktown, with two full-time office employees and a roster of about 65 dog-walkers. They attend to the needs of pets from Rogers Park down to Streeterville and as far west

as Cicero.

Chicago Dog Walkers was voted the Best Dog Walkers in the 2010 Best of Chicago awards in the Chicago Reader. Chicago Dog Walkers is also a four-time winner of the Best Dog Walking Service, a Readers Choice Award from Chicagoland Tails.

"I am grateful to have gotten through and adjusted to the economic issues that we're all dealing with," said Matlin, 54. "We weathered a bad economy over the past couple years, when people were regularly being laid off, thus, not needing a dog-walker anymore."

Matlin graduated from Maine East High School in 1975 and then Western Illinois University. He was a special education teacher before moving into the finance industry, working behind a desk in a windowless office.

Chicago Dog Walkers was, at first, a word-of-



Marc Matlin.
Photo by
Ross Forman

mouth business, but has since grown into a successful, profitable, elite dog-walking company.

"From my experience as a lifelong dog owner, I knew precisely what other pet owners were looking for and what I could provide: responsible,

affectionate, active companionship," said Matlin, owner of two dogs and two cats—all rescues.

Matlin and his partner of 25 years, Jay Goldstein, a professor, also share their home with dogs Sugar and Gretchen, and cat Gracie. In addition, they have another cat that lives year-round in their heated and cooled garage because he has not wanted to come into their home, despite countless offers.

"It's a fun job," Matlin said. "I loved the [full-time] dog-walking days. My job now is more administrative, though I still work as a substitute walker at times, which I really enjoy."

"It's so wonderful not being familiar with department stores anymore because I don't have to worry about ties or dress shirts or any [traditional business attire]. In fact, for me to wear a pair of shoes now, it's odd."

"I'll admit, I never envisioned doing this, and yet I'm grateful for it. This job allows me to be with pets all the time, which I love."

However, the job isn't always warm, cuddly moments.

Customers have called late at night when they lock their keys in their home, or the time a client realized that a neighbor's home had been burglarized. He's had to drive clients to the vet. He's had to accommodate dogs who want a certain treat, perhaps yogurt or frozen peas. Or the dog who has to be blown dry after every walk. He's endured pooping dogs and so much more.

"Some dogs are just pure joy—others, well, not so much," Matlin said, laughing. "I keep saying that I should write stuff down that goes on here, because no one would believe it."

The walkers of Chicago Dog Walkers are a unique, eclectic mix, and all walkers are employed as full-time staff, not freelance or independent contractors. Walkers are, at heart, artists, writers, musicians and more, but truly dog lovers—and some have worked for Matlin for more than 10 years.

Matlin said that his sister wanted to produce a reality show about his business, but he rejected the idea because "it would be too distracting, would jeopardize the integrity of our service and logistically it just would not work."

Matlin said his sister calls him regularly, and always asks about his pets. After all, she was a dog owner, too.

"She is very supportive of the gay community; she's spoken at numerous AIDS-related benefits and other gay-related events/issues," Marc said of his deaf sister—and he does know sign language. "She's always been very supportive of me. ... In fact, she helped me come out. She's always been encouraging, supporting."

Marlee now lives in Pasadena, and Marc said she's planning to get another dog soon. He also has an older brother, Eric, a lawyer who lives in Winnetka.

For more information about Chicago Dog Walkers, go to <http://www.chicago-dogwalkers.com> or call: 773-394-9961.

Chicago Dog Walkers gives a discount to those clients who have rescued dogs from animal shelters. In addition, Chicago Dog Walkers donates \$100 to a local shelter or organization for every successful referral.

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Convention draws top athletes

BY ROSS FORMAN

Some of the biggest, best, most successful and most well-known athletes ever—as well as one of the most controversial athletes off all time—converged at the 32nd annual National Sports Collectors Convention (“the National”), held Aug. 3-7 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont.

The event attracted more than 10,000 collectors, with about 100 autograph guests representing all four major professional male team sports, as well as professional wrestling. In addition, boxing legend Mike Tyson made his first-ever card show appearance, signing autographs and posing for photos on the final day of the four-day card fest that feature about 600 dealer tables.

In addition to Tyson, other top autograph guests included wrestling legend Ric Flair, former

Chicago Blackhawks goalie Antti Niemi, baseball legends Cal Ripken Jr. and current Chicago Cub infielder Starlin Castro. Also appearing at the show: Joe Montana, Reggie Jackson, Bo Jackson, Bart Starr, Rafael Palmiero and others.

“I was happy with the results of the show. We sold a lot of [trading] cards—by the team and by the player,” said New York-based dealer Lisa Stellato, of Never Enough Cards, Inc.

The National, as the show is known within the industry, is the largest annual sports memorabilia show, featuring millions of trading cards, photos, relics and more, plus tens of thousands of game-used memorabilia items, such as jerseys, hats, skates, gloves, balls and more. The National travels to different cities every summer, and has been held in Chicago more times than any other city. The event will be held in Baltimore in 2012. The 2011 National was not without controversy as the head of a sports

memorabilia company in Minnesota was charged with orchestrating a scheme to sell fraudulent merchandise, including jerseys said to be worn during games by baseball players like Alex Rodriguez, Mark McGwire and Albert Pujols, the Associated Press reported.

Steven Jensen, 40, of Osseo, Minn., was arrested Aug. 4 at the show and was charged in federal court in New York with mail fraud and wire fraud.

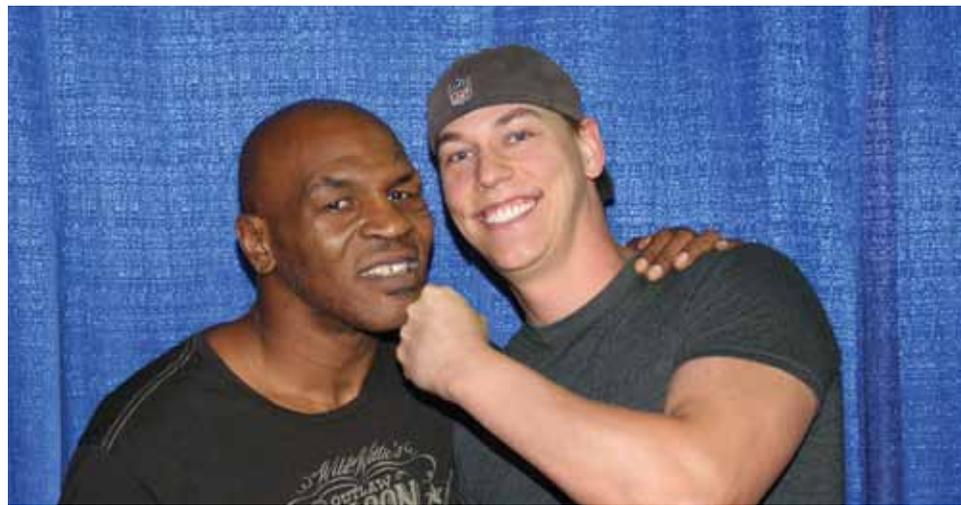
Jensen was escorted out of The National in handcuffs, by U.S. postal inspectors who allege the scheme has been going on for about four or five years, according to the Associated Press.

On The National website, organizers issued the following statement: “[Thursday], the National

Sports Collectors Convention supported the efforts of the U.S. Postal authorities who removed one exhibitor from the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center. The National continues to cooperate with any and all national-local authorities when it comes to protecting the integrity of the sports and entertainment collectibles industry.”

The National was last held in Chicago in 2008 and the event’s co-founder is Mike Berkus—the father of gay interior designer/talk-show host Nate Berkus. Nate has appeared at The National in the past alongside his dad, but never as an autograph guest.

Pro wrestler Tara, who moved to the North Side of Chicago this summer, was the lone female signing autographs at the show.



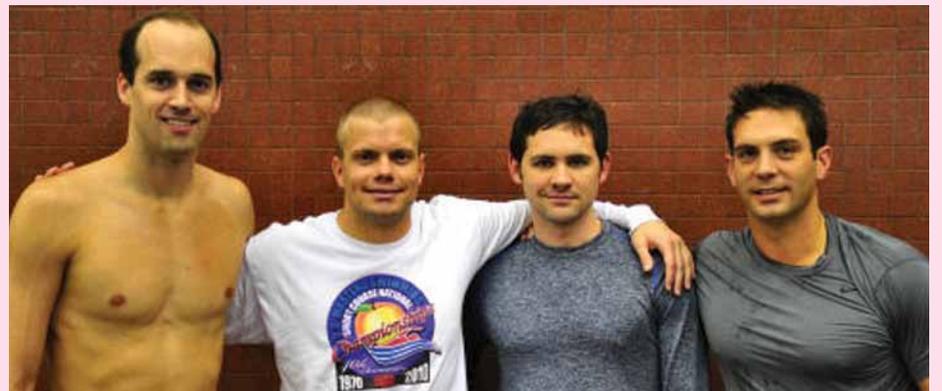
Former pro boxer Mike Tyson (left) with fan. Photo by Ross Forman

World swim records set at Cleveland event

The Illinois Masters swim team—comprising Vince Allegra, Tim Carlson, David Kinsella and Charles Cunnick, who are all from the Chicago area—set world swim records at the SYNERGYFEST, held July 29-31 in Cleveland, Ohio. On July 30, the squad broke the record for the 800-meter freestyle relay; the following day,

it was for the 400-meter freestyle relay.

SYNERGYFEST, described on its website as a “GLBTS multiple sports and cultural event,” marked its second consecutive year. Several hundred individuals competed in areas ranging from tennis to cards to Wii. Photos by Bob Olayas



David Kinsella, Tim Carlson, Charles Cunnick and Vince Allegra (from left). Photo by Bob Olayas

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NEED LEGAL HELP? Pride Law, Andersonville's legal aid clinic for the LGBT community can help. Clinic hours every Wednesday, 5-8:00 p.m. by appointment only. Call 1-866-703-5509 or send us an email at pridelsaw@tsamislaw.com.

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Celebrations

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Zasadil-Simpson civil union



On Sunday, July 24, Ed Zasadil and Larry Simpson were joined in a civil union, performed at the couple's home by the Rev. Jeffrey Carlson, associate pastor of St. Pauls United Church of Christ, Chicago. Guests included Joe JaQuay (partner of Pastor Jeff), Jim Darby and Patrick Bova. Jim and Patrick were the first couple to be united in a civil union in Chicago's public ceremony, held June 2 in Millennium Park.

At Ed and Larry's union ceremony, there was a celebration with flowing champagne and other libations. Later, the couple and their guests went to the nearby Casbah Café for a dinner of Mediterranean cuisine.

After 49 years of friendship, it was a joyous day for Ed and Larry to be legally united as a couple.

Ed and Larry also hosted the social hour following the Sunday morning service at St. Pauls Church, July 31, furnishing several cakes and champagne. Ed's second cousin, Jeanne Zasadil, presided over the cake table, while Ed and Larry poured Sekt, which is a German sparkling wine.

Star by 'Design'

Local interior designer Karl Sponholtz hosts a Monday-night viewing party for the the reality show HGTV's Next Design Star (on the current season of which he is a contestant) at Sofo, 4923 N. Clark St. Watch the show on the large screen TV each Monday at Sofo with Sponholtz and all his friends.

Photos by Kirk Williamson




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Wed., Aug. 10

A Queerer Time, A Queerer Place Association of Theater in Higher Education, 2011 LGBTQ Focus Group Preconference, "A Queerer Time, A Queerer Place: Memory/Archives/Testimony/History," featured events will include a memorial for beloved playwright Doric Wilson, a keynote address by Sharon Bridgforth, and a keynote performance by Brian Eugenio Herrera, \$25 due in person, reserve at acthomas@fsu.edu; 1 p.m.-8 p.m., Leather Archives & Museum, 6418 N. Greenview Ave.

\$1 Drink Night Enjoy \$1 cocktails, and beer drafts and wine all night long! Free entry before 9 p.m., \$7 cover after; 8 p.m., Spin Nightclub, 800 W. Belmont Ave, <http://www.spin-nightclub.com>

You're The Star Karaoke with Honey West Take your place in the spotlight as hostess, Honey West entertains throughout! There's not a bad seat in the house. 10 p.m., 773-281-3355, Roscoe's, 3356 N Halsted St, <http://www.roscoes.com>

Thursday, Aug. 11

Wizard World Chicago Comic Con Patrick Stewart, Bruce Campbell, Christopher Lloyd, Morena Baccarin, Felicia Day, James Marsters among headliners through the weekend. 5 p.m.-9 p.m., Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, <http://www.wizardworld.com>

Conversations: Natl HIV/AIDS Strategy & BMSM Discussion about the Impact of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy on Black Gay/Bisexual Men in Chicago; RSVP: CB-GMEvents@gmail.com; 6 p.m.-9 p.m., Gary Comer Youth Center, 7200 S. Ingleside, <http://on.fb.me/pfacqg>

CHASING AMY Thursday, Aug. 11

Amy Armstrong will celebrate her birthday at Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave.

Photo by John Fenoglio



Amy Armstrong's Birthday Celebration at Mayne Stage Join LGBT community favorite, Amy Armstrong as she celebrates her 40th Birthday in style at the Mayne Stage. Featuring Freddy Allen and a host of special guests. Get your tickets today! 6:30 p.m., Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave., <http://www.amyfreddy.com/music-and-comedy/>

Chicago Sex Worker Film Festival For more info, call SWOP-Chicago; 7 p.m.-11 p.m., 312-252-3880, Everleigh Social Club, 939 W. Randolph St.

The White Party At minibar, the weekend starts on Thursday! It's also the only night of the week where you can see most, if not all, of your favorite minibar men & the lovely Linda Little! 9 p.m., Minibar, 3341 N Halsted

Sinferno Chicago Lesbian Pride Events The Windy City PRIDE PARTY, hosted by MTV's Real World Chicago Star Aneesa; 9 p.m., 708-668-6226, Illuminati 2354 N Clybourn, <http://lafemmeent.com>

Dance for Life documentary A you-are-there portrait of Chicago's dance community over 20 years, featuring the dance companies that participated in the 2010 Dance for Life benefit performance. 10 p.m., WTTW-TV, Channel 11, <http://www.danceforlifechicago.com/documentary.html>

Pyramids Of Pluto Market Days pre-party with Honey Soundsystem. 10 p.m., Berlin Nightclub, 954 W Belmont Ave, <http://www.berlinchicago.com>

Friday, Aug. 12

HRC "Swing" A Women's Golf Outing Golf followed by barbeque at 4:30 p.m., \$150 per golfer; 11am, Sunset Valley Golf Course Highland Park, <http://www.hrcactioncenter.org/site/calendar?view=detail&id=104761&autologin=true>

Beyondmedia 3rd Annual Youth Summit Beyondmedia's Chain of Change, a youth-led project that uses media to explore the roots of violence and violence-prevention strategies, will present "Building Safe Communities" a daylong event featuring youth-led workshops, panels, film screenings and discussions; free and open to all youth aged 12-25. 3:30 p.m., Columbia College, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., <http://www.beyondmedia.org>

Thank GLAAD It's Friday GLAAD presents a national networking event series for young LGBT professionals and straight allies in Chicago, featuring ABSOLUT® Vodka; host committee Trish Bendix, John Blazek, Kevin Boyer, Justin Brunner, Nina Fernandez, Sue Fisher, Jenn Gibson, Byron Hoover, John Libby, Grant McCorkhill, Hadley Rue, Doug Sanborn, Brooke Skinner, Ricardo Torres, Nick Urig; 6 p.m.-8 p.m., TBA, <http://facebook.com/glaad>

Impromptwo - Club for Gay Swingers New, private club for committed, non-monogamous gay couples. Meet like-minded couples in a relaxed, private setting. Pool table, videos, dance floor & private play rooms. 2nd Friday of every month. RSVP required. BYOB; 8 p.m., 847-417-7076, Impromptwo, 1640 W Hubbard St, <http://www.impromptwo-chicago.com>

Lady Bunny Instinct Magazine presents Lady Bunny. Hosted bar 8-10 p.m. featuring Appleton Estate rum cocktails & Peroni drafts. two shows: 11 p.m. and midnight. \$5 in advance; \$10 at the door; \$20 VIP meet and greet. 8 p.m., Spin Nightclub, 800 W. Belmont Ave, <http://www.spin-nightclub.com>

Bi-polar Fridays Come see why they have to close the blinds! Hot male dancers and hostess Regina Upright turn up the heat in Andersonville every Friday night. 10 p.m., 773-784-1100, @mosphere, 5355

N. Clark St., <http://atmospherebar.com>
Cosmix presents Robyn Artist feature showcase set with DJ Greg Haus. 10 p.m., Berlin Nightclub, 954 W. Belmont Ave, <http://www.berlinchicago.com>

Saturday, Aug. 13

A Family of My Own Fertility & Adoption Conference A Family of My Own-Fertility & Adoption Conference is a unique one-day event dedicated to bringing you the most renowned speakers and industry experts who will empower you to make the decisions that will help you build a Family of Your Own the Modern way. www.afamilyofmyown.com; 8 a.m.-4 p.m., 407-694-3674, Wyndham Glenview Suites, <http://www.afamilyofmyown.com>

2011 Northalsted Market Days The 2011 Northalsted Market Days takes place the weekend of Aug. 13-14, when a crowd of more than 100,000 from across the country will converge on Halsted Street to celebrate the annual event. It's the largest two-day street fair in the Midwest and lives up to its reputation as one of the country's finest festivals! 11am-10 p.m., 773-584-6631, Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted St, http://www.northalsted.com/pages/northalsted_market_days_/29.php

Ladies Wet T-shirt contest at D.S. Tequila Let the Market Day's party continue with one hell-of-a Wet T-shirt Contest at D.S. Tequila. First place winner gets \$150. 1 p.m.-2 p.m., D.S. Tequila Company, 3352 N. Halsted St.

Wet Boxer Contest at D.S. Tequila Let the Market Day's mayhem continue with one hell-of-a Wet Boxer Contest at D.S. Tequila, hosted by ChicagoPride.com's Bill Pritchard. First-place winner gets \$150. 4 p.m.-5 p.m., D.S. Tequila Company, 3352 N. Halsted St.

i2i Presents: Story of My Pride 2i: Asian Pacific Islander Pride of Chicago presents STORY OF MY PRIDE, an interactive event for exploring the powerful intersection of LGBTQ and Asian/Pacific Islander identities. Will Tutol & Ryan Voloria are co-presenting the discussion. 7 p.m.-9 p.m., Asian Human Services 4753 N. Broadway, <http://www.chicagoi2i.org/events.html>

Sunday, Aug. 14

Urban Village Church Worship is about coming together as community to make space for God to move in us. It's a place to receive God's grace and love and to give of ourselves, as well. 10:15am-11:30am, Urban Village Church, Spertus Institute, 610 S. Michigan, <http://www.newchicagochurch.com>

Body Heat Next Door Studios presents Body Heat, with special guest appearances by adult film stars Samuel O'Toole, Anthony Romero, James Huntsman and Austin Wilde. \$5 cover. 10 p.m., Spin Nightclub, 800 W. Belmont Ave, <http://www.spin-nightclub.com>

Monday, Aug. 15

United House: A Night of Unity in House Music Join Hydrate Nightclub, ChicagoPride.com, and host Cyon Flare for United House: A Night of Unity in House Music, featuring New Resident House DJ Semaj; 10 p.m., Hydrate, 3458 N. Halsted, <http://www.hydratechicago.com>

Live Band Karaoke with Amy Armstrong Every Monday night at 10 p.m. in the Front Bar, hosted by the one and only Amy Armstrong; 10 p.m., 773-281-3355, Roscoe's, 3356 N Halsted, <http://www.roscoes.com>

Hollis Resnik, an intimate evening of song The First Lady of Chicago Theatre live at the Mette, general admission: \$20 student/senior/ccp member \$15, box office at 847-251-7424; 7:30 p.m., Wilmette theater, 1122 Central Ave. Wilmette, <http://www.hollisresnik.com>



MARSTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

Thurs.-Sun., Aug. 11-14

James Marsters (above) will be one of the stars at Wizard World Comic Con in Rosemont.

PR photo

Tuesday, Aug. 16

PRIDE Up North get-together PRIDE Up North is a social network for GLBT living north of Hollywood; bring your gay and lesbian friends and neighbors, separate checks; 6:30 p.m., Heartland Cafe, 7000 N. Glenwood Ave., <http://www.heartland-cafe.com>

Battle of the Bars: Shower Contest A champion will be crowned at the finale event tonight. The Battle of the Bars proudly supports the 2011 Gay Softball World Series, which will be played in Chicago this August 29 - September 3. 8 p.m.-11 p.m., Spin Nightclub, 800 W. Belmont Ave, <http://www.chicagoseries2011.com>

Drag Race with Frida Lay Chicago's only amateur drag contest, hosted by Frida Lay! A hit at Roscoe's since its premier in 2000. 11 p.m., 773-281-3355, Roscoe's, 3356 N Halsted St, <http://www.roscoes.com>

Wed., Aug. 17

\$1 Drink Night Enjoy \$1 cocktails, and beer drafts and wine all night long! Free entry before 9 p.m., \$7 cover after; 8 p.m., Spin Nightclub, 800 W. Belmont Ave, <http://www.spin-nightclub.com>

You're The Star Karaoke with Honey West Take your place in the spotlight as hostess, Honey West entertains throughout! There's not a bad seat in the house. 10 p.m., 773-281-3355, Roscoe's, 3356 N. Halsted St, <http://www.roscoes.com>

Thursday, Aug. 18

Step Up Women's Network to Launch Shine & Dine The evening will feature philanthropy and seasonal fare from Chicago's hottest restaurants while welcoming 400 local professionals and notables, all to benefit the charitable programs of Step Up Women's Network, a national, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to connecting and advancing women and girls. 6 p.m.-9 p.m., Galleria Marchetti, 825 W. Erie, Chicago, <http://www.suwn.org>

Saturday, Aug. 20

2011 Dance For Life Dance For Life. Benefiting: AIDS Foundation of Chicago and the Dance for Life Fund. Companies Scheduled to Perform: Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, The Joffrey Ballet, River North Chicago Dance Company, and two World Premiere performances by choreographers Harrison McEl-downey and Randy Duncan. Tickets go on sale in June. 6 p.m.-9 p.m., Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University 50 East Congress PKwy., <http://www.danceforlifechicago.com>



MILES OF SMILES

Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 13-14

Thousands will attend Northalsted Market Days this year.

Photo from last year's event by Kat Fitzgerald

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BILLY MASTERS

"Good things don't end unless they end badly."—Ben from The Bachelorette tells Ashley his feelings after being dumped during the season finale. He should be relieved he doesn't have to stand there and watch her endlessly twirl those rosebuds betwixt her fingers. I fingered a rosebud recently, but you're certainly not gonna see that on network TV!

Have I told you how popular I am with the deaf community? I suppose that's no surprise to anyone who's ever seen me live—I'm told my comedy is very "visual." And let's be honest, not having to hear me can only make me more appealing! In my personal life, I'm quite appealing to the blind. In fact, the one person who gave me money after sex was a blind man, but that's probably because I was nice to his dog. Obviously the blind can appreciate a thing of beauty such as moi. But what about paintings? I would think not—it's not a sculpture they can feel, like in that Lionel Richie video. Yet this hasn't stopped Italy from posting most museum signs in Italian, German, French, English and Braille! I'll tell you now, those wacky Italians wouldn't stand for anyone fondling the David...trust me, I know. Because I also saw the sign that says "Do Not Touch"—which is also in Braille!!

I'm not sure exactly what handicap Jeremy Jackson has, and frankly I don't care—he's hot enough for me to overlook his obvious deficiencies. When he was filming Celebrity Rehab, he brought a large water filter with him. Why? Because he believes bottled water causes bisexuality! "The plastic leeches and causes cancer and bisexuality. It's been linked directly." Really? Directly where? I'm not sure drinking bottled water will cause him to crave sex with men, but it very well may cause him to fantasize about the bottle!

There has been much speculation about what Rosie O'Donnell's new OWN show will be like. When it debuts Oct. 10, you can expect much of what you saw on her very successful daytime talk show—prior to the Columbine breakdown, naturally. She plans to keep it light, give away loads of gifts, play games, feature lots of comedy and keep things as entertaining as possible. Given the success of Oprah: Behind the Scenes, Rosie plans to allow viewers access to how the show is put together. Something tells me that will be VERY entertaining!

Another long-awaited return to Broadway is taking place with Patti LuPone and Mandy Patinkin. No, it's not The Prime of Miss Eva Peron, or a musical version of Driving Miss Daisy. Nope—the twosome will be bringing their double act to Broadway's Ethel Barrymore Theatre Nov. 21 for a limited run of 63 performances. "An Evening with Patti LuPone and Mandy Patinkin" will mark the first time the two have appeared on Broadway together since their legendary "Evita" run. Yet, when they first started performing this act, they didn't initially include ANYTHING from "Evita"—to the consternation of the paying public. Now, alongside extended scenes from "Carousel" and "South Pacific," an "Evita" sequence has been included.

Brace yourselves—it's time for another installment of "Fayewatch." The 70-year-old actress may be on a hiatus professionally, but that hasn't kept the darling Miss Dunaway out of the headlines. She's just been named in an eviction lawsuit by her NYC landlord. Oh, you didn't know Faye had a New York *pied-à-terre*? Apparently she's never there and it's usually occupied by her son. The problem is, it's a rent stabilized apartment which is intended for people who make New York their primary residence—and we all know Faye's home is really Los Angeles, where she pays taxes and has voted since the suffragette movement. The litigant claims he could be



Some men were recently all over Scott Herman—and not in a good way. Photo from Jeff Dorta

getting two times the \$1,048.72 rent Faye is currently paying, so he's suing to have her evicted. La Dunaway, not one to take these things lying down, called the New York Times with her side. After calling her accuser a slumlord, she said, "I have not been evicted. I have chosen to leave because of the state of the apartment", adding that "bugs were everywhere." The landlord's lawyer then called the Times and played them three voice mails Faye left the previous day in which she offered to turn in her apartment keys, but added—in that way only Faye can—"I hope you need that money like crazy and you'll give it to poor people. I hope you have a terrible life."

This reminded me of that legendary phone message Faye left for that documentary filmmaker where she complained about the focus on Mommie Dearest, any discussion of her ex-husband Terry O'Neill, and the sensationalistic tone of the piece. Here's what we didn't know at the time—that message, too, was part of a multi-message string. One which certainly is required listening for all fans and can be found on BillyMasters.com.

I haven't mentioned my buddy Scott Herman in a while. You remember Scott—that insanely gorgeous fitness model from "The Real World—Brooklyn" who can be found giving workout tips on ScottHermanFitness.com. Anyhoo, he's been the victim of a gay hate crime—which rarely happens to heterosexual men. But when you look like Scott, most people make the assumption that he plays for our team. (Isn't it funny how that's the image of gay men now?)

He was in his native New Hampshire driving around in his Toyota Scion, which has his image and logo wrapped around it, when three guys in a pick-up truck started taunting him at a red light; entered his car; and began a verbal and physical attack. He got away from the guys, but not before taking down their license number. After reporting the attack, he said, "I take my involvement with the LGBT community on anti-bullying very serious which is why I spoke out." I'm writing about it simply to have an excuse to post a few skin shots of Scott (where you can see pretty much everything) on BillyMasters.com.

When people hate Scott just because he's beautiful, it's definitely time to end yet another column. If I post this article on www.BillyMasters.com, then you'll know I returned to the States in one piece ... and then will take my piece down to Ptown for my annual trip with various glitterati, including the divine Marilyn Maye who will be performing at the Art House Aug. 11-12. If you have a question you want me to tackle, send a note to Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before Faye stops leaving voice mails and starts tweeting! So, until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

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Will Sheridan: Ex-college hoops standout comes out

BY ROSS FORMAN

His official coming-out was two years in the making after Dana O'Neil from ESPN approached him to write his story.

She wanted the scoop and Will Sheridan was ready, but the timing just wasn't right.

"What I neglected to consider was the other people who my coming-out would affect," Sheridan said. "So I made sure my family wouldn't be surprised and other people were very clear of my intentions—and they are to be me, who I am. I can help people who need someone to look to for motivation and inspiration to just be themselves."

Sheridan, now 26 and single, came out this spring, jumping into the sports spotlight as the second former Division I male college basketball player to reveal he is gay. Former NBA player John Amaechi is the other.

Sheridan now lives in Bed-Stuy Brooklyn (N.Y.), and works in the fashion industry, managing at the No. 1 retail store in the world, he said. In addition to performing, song writing for others and himself, Sheridan also organizes and promotes his own events, such as, Eclectic Collective at Fatbaby on the first Tuesday of every month, and WestSide Wednesdays at Rockbar, both in New York City, and he performs at both.

However, it's Sheridan's performance on the hardwood that thrust him into mainstream media headlines, particularly of late.

"This past month has been epic," Sheridan said. "I've received so much love. The response has been positive for me, but people who know me were already on board with my life. My parents were a bit anxious about the coming-out story, but now I think they're in a better place with it. All in all, I'm happy with the story, the response and what it's doing for the community."

The 6-foot-8, 240-pound Sheridan was named Delaware's Prep Player of the Year as both a junior and a senior. He then played at Villanova University, finishing his college career in 2006.

"Villanova was an amazing experience for me because it was small enough to feel safe and nurturing, but large enough to not feel on top of one another," Sheridan said. "With that said, all



Will Sheridan. Photo courtesy of Sheridan

the [homophobic] slander was usually at games from crowds in the heat of things or used as a distraction at the foul line or something. On campus, sometimes people would ask me [about my sexual orientation while] drunk at a party or something like that, but rarely."

Sheridan told his teammates gradually over time. "I earned their respect with my game, so [my sexual orientation] wasn't really an issue. They weren't really interested in my sex life and the feeling was mutual. When I was a senior, some of the younger guys didn't understand me, but they were like I was focused on developing and becoming a part of a great basketball tradition."

Sheridan never flat out told a coach at Villanova until after he graduated. "Over time, our conversations about my social life changed ... they never asked questions that they didn't want [to hear] the answer to, and vice versa. I never gave complete answers that were too revealing," he said.

He said he had a few advocates on campus and they were "amazing throughout my campus life, really supportive."

Since coming out, Sheridan has had endless online love too, so to speak. That's been one of the biggest surprises, he said.

"I have people coming out to me everyday on Facebook, [many] asking me for advice," he said. "More shocking. I'm surprised [by] people [who] flirt with me on Facebook and Twitter. Seriously, they do, and I wasn't prepared for that."

Sheridan's current world, the hip hop industry, isn't as accepting, though.

"Hip-hop is homophobic," he said. "So, when I do gigs, I usually perform like I have a chip on my shoulder—like I need to be way better than the straight acts to be accepted," he said. "For the most part, I've been successful or just flat out better prepared for the gig. I think doing the ESPN story solidified my, 'I don't give a [crap] approach to my sexuality.'"

"I'm here, I'm different and you have to deal with it!

"That's essentially what the foundation of hip-hop music is—the music of minority people telling their story fused with having a good time. And I'm all about that. So being openly gay may or may not have its benefits, but I plan to overshadow all that with charisma, uniqueness, never talent, and people will eventually give up trying not to like me."

Sheridan acknowledges that, by coming out, he immediately returns to the spotlight, perhaps with a brighter glare than when his work clothes included shorts, tank tops and high-top gym shoes.

"I'm now so much to so many people, [many who] I don't even know [me]," he said. "I want to hear those people's concerns and fight for them. I would love to be an ambassador to the world for the [LGBT] community, but I have to get out there and actually do more first. I'm a bit different than any other popular artist right now. I'm not Adam Lambert, Ricky Martin [or] Lady Gaga, respectfully. We have different life experiences and perspectives, so I really think I will add to the spectrum of messages being put out to the masses."

"I came out [to myself] ages before ESPN, so everything in my mind is and was great. I want Absolut Vodka to throw a huge party for me and all the people who are absolutely who they want to be."

Sheridan's next major project is the full LP on Royal Advisor Records that is not yet titled. Thewillsheridan.com will launch and a tour will follow, too. Plus, he plans to continue public speaking.

When asked if the mainstream sports world, particularly the big-four male sports, are ready for an openly gay athlete, Sheridan said the athlete, "better be a beast, though."

Meaning, he has to be better than reigning NBA MVP Derrick Rose of the Chicago Bulls. "Not only does he have to be amazing, I hope he's smart, [too,]" Sheridan said. "John [Amaechi] was smart enough to articulate his experience and, for that, I'm so grateful."

Sheridan said it was not difficult being a Division I player at a good/competitive program, yet quiet about his sexuality.

Hockey tourney details revealed

BY ROSS FORMAN

There are eight teams participating in the inaugural Market Days Classic ice hockey tournament—scheduled for Aug. 12-14 at the Heartland Ice Arena in Lincolnwood—including two teams composed of Chicago Gay Hockey Association (CGHA) members.

Chicago Crew will be in the top-tiered Northside Division and open play on Friday, Aug. 12, at 6 p.m., against Team Ottawa. Chicago Crew will face Team Vancouver on Saturday, Aug. 13, at 9 a.m., and then Team Toronto at 4 p.m.

Chicago 312 will be in the Southside Division and open play on Friday, at 7:10 p.m., against The Zoo. Chicago 312 will battle Team New York on Saturday, at 10:10 a.m., and then Team Boston at 5:10 p.m.

Championship games will be played Sunday, Aug. 14, at 1:40 p.m. (Southside) and 3:10 p.m. (Northside).

For more information about the tournament, visit <http://www.chicagohockey.org>

World Series closer, fair in Boystown

The 35th annual Gay Softball World Series (GSWS), which will take place in Chicago beginning Aug. 29, will wrap-up a week of softball and social events with a closing awards ceremony and street fair in Boystown Saturday, Sept. 3, 4-10 p.m.

The event, which is presented in partnership with the Chicago Metropolitan Sports

"I was institutionalized to be a straight male, so it wasn't hard to 'live a straight life,' but there was a tough struggle internally between what was right for me and what everyone else wanted," he said. "Sports served as a passion that in turn served as a distraction from my personal struggle of loving me. It also threw people off and made them think—no way he's not gay!"

Sheridan said he has had two major relationships. So who's his Mr. Right?

"He's confident, easy on the eyes, different, has a perspective on the world, is not obsessed with me playing basketball; yet not dismissive," Sheridan said. "He has personal power, passions and is in pursuit of all things he deserves and wants. Also, he [should be] tall. For some reason that works better for me. Power is probably the most appealing attribute to me. ... Feel free to ask me what I mean by that in person."

Sheridan has long endured, and heard, homophobic comments—and is not surprised.

"Until the majority agrees that nigger and faggot are equally offensive the world won't change the way they talk or think," Sheridan said. "People who make individual attacks on the gay community fit into a few categories—it's either a reflection of their own insecurities, what people may have projected on them and they are afraid it's true or upset, that they want attention in media or they're so old and irrelevant that they just can't embrace change."

"At the end of the day, I want to be an ambassador for being who you are. My personal journey is my own—by representing me—I am so many things: Black, gay, tall, a former athlete, a musician [and] an artist. One thing I'm not is, [being] afraid anymore. I'm not afraid to be brave for that little boy or little girl with old-school parents. I'm not afraid to be an example for closeted gays and I'm not afraid to rock out for closeted artists who think they can't make it being who they are."

For more about Will Sheridan, his videos of "Welcome to the Jungle" and "302" are available on YouTube. Plus, Ngoma—his first EP featuring WTJ—is on iTunes and is available through Amazon and Beatport.

Association (CMSA), will take place on Waveland Avenue between Halsted and Broadway streets and feature local cover band Final Say and DJ Bill Bennett.

There is a \$5 suggested donation, which will benefit the Ben Cohen "Stand Up" foundation.

See <http://www.chicagoseries2011.com>.

HRC's Swing Aug. 12 in Highland Park

The 2011 Human Rights Campaign women's golf event "Swing" will take place Friday, Aug. 12, at 11 a.m. at the Sunset Valley Golf Course, 1390 Sunset Road, Highland Park. A BBQ follows the golf at 4:30 p.m.

The cost is \$150 for golf (\$25 for only the BBQ). See http://www.hrc.org/get_involved/attend_an_event.htm.

Pride Day at Wrigley to benefit Chicago charities

CHICAGO—Windy City Times will present Pride Day at Wrigley Field Sunday, Sept. 4, at 1:20 p.m., when the Chicago Cubs take on the Pittsburgh Pirates. The sales of tickets for the Labor Day weekend game will benefit six local LGBT and AIDS charities.

Tickets are \$50, and they are all for bleacher seats. The price includes tax, shipping and a portion donated to charity. Deadline for ticket purchase is Aug. 15.

Purchase tickets at <http://www.WindyCity-MediaGroup.com/WrigleyPride>.

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Ray is a legal authority on all of his practice areas, which include probate, trusts, guardianship, estate planning, and elder law, including the litigation of those areas. He is a longtime advocate for and member of the LGBT community, and is involved in several charitable groups, community associations, and professional organizations. Ray is a member of Clark Hill PLC, a full-service law firm consisting of a diverse team of attorneys and professionals committed to our clients and our communities.

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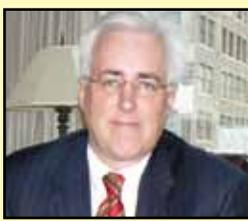


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