

CHICAGO  
RESPONDS  
TO  
SUPREME  
COURT  
MARRIAGE  
RULINGS



PAGE 5

# WINDY CITY TIMES

THE VOICE OF CHICAGO'S GAY, LESBIAN,  
BI AND TRANS COMMUNITY SINCE 1985

JULY 3, 2013

VOL 28, NO. 40



[www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)

## 1 MILLION AT PRIDE



OUT SKY PLAYER  
SHARNEE  
ZOLL-NORMAN  
HITS THE PARADE

PAGE 38



Fresh • Natural • Organic

SERVICE

Queen!

page 24

Photo by Kate Sosin



MARIA PAHL  
WINS WINDY CITY  
GAY IDOL

PAGE 34

## DYKE MARCH

page 29

## PRIDE NORTH

page 30

## MONTROSE ROCKS

page 28



UNITED BLACK  
PRIDE EVENTS  
TAKING PLACE  
THIS WEEK

PAGE 12



Photo by Janean Watkins

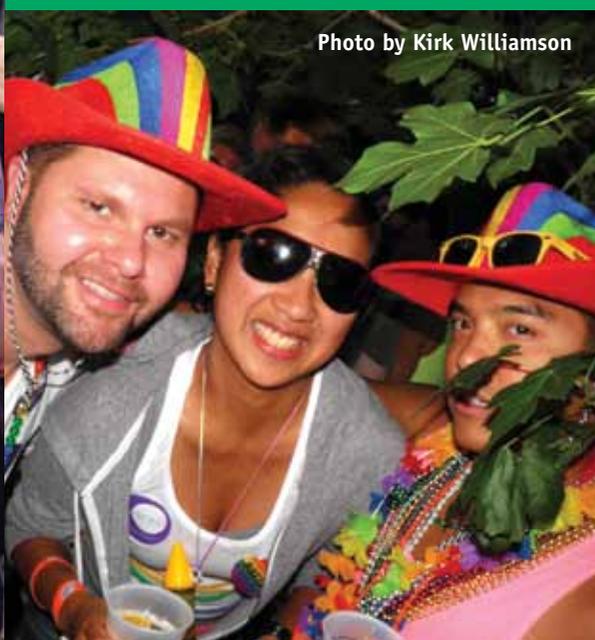


Photo by Kirk Williamson

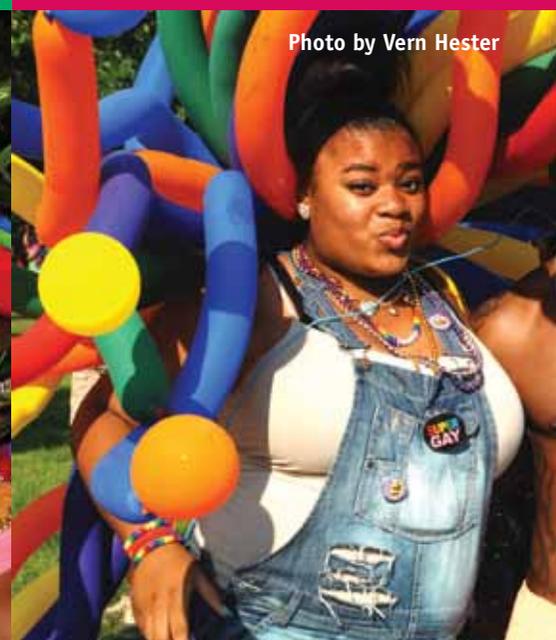


Photo by Vern Hester

NOW PLAYING!  
**BELLEVILLE**

BY **AMY HERZOG**

DIRECTED BY **ANNE KAUFFMAN**

Featuring ensemble members

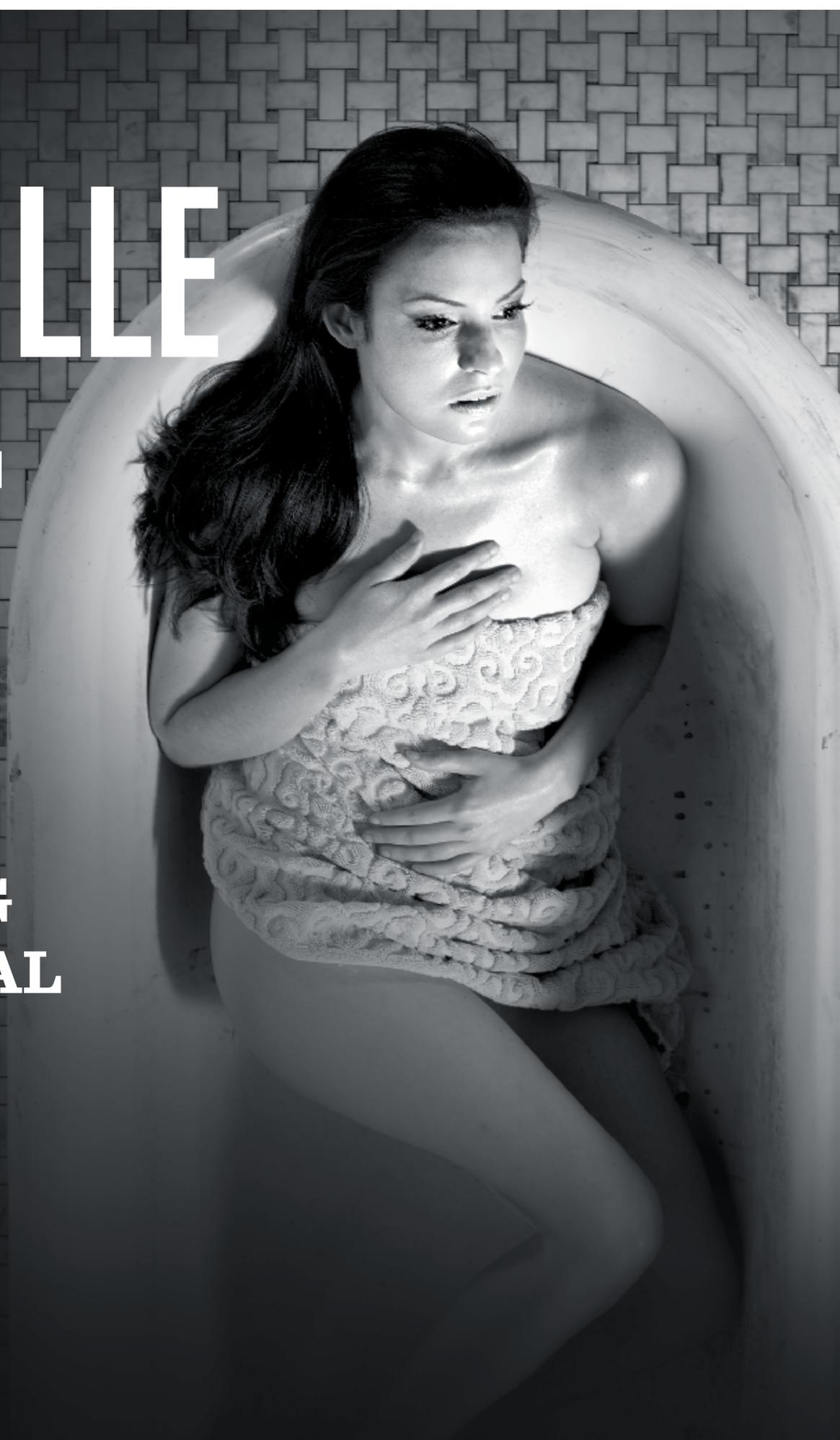
**Alana Arenas** and **Kate Arrington**

with **Chris Boykin** and

**Cliff Chamberlain**

**“NAIL-BITING  
 PSYCHOLOGICAL  
 THRILLER...”**

*—The New York Times*



Production Sponsor  
 optionshouse.△

**steppenwolf**

Grand Benefactors 2012/13

Microsoft

Agility

UNITED

Benefactors 2012/13

Allstate  
 CHICAGO'S OWN  
 GOOD HANDS

BMO Harris Bank

CHASE | J.P.Morgan

ComEd

Northern Trust

TARGET

VINCI  
 RESTAURANT

# this week in WINDY CITY TIMES

<b>NEWS</b>		<b>ENTERTAINMENT/EVENTS</b>	
Column	4	Scottish Play Scott	15
DOMA/Prop 8 march	5	'Miss Gay Black America' film	19
Historic rulings on DOMA, Prop 8	6	Knight: I'm So Excited, Laurence	20
What to do after rulings?	8	'Fosters' Sherri Saum	21
Developments in California	9	Gay Games	22
March in Springfield Oct. 22	10	30 Under 30	23
Gerber/Hart; judges' alliance	11	Pride events	24
Writer on Black churches; event pulled	12	Billy Masters	37
Gay in the Life	13		
VIEWES: Kelley, Gov. Quinn	14	<b>OUTLINES</b>	
		Dish	32
		Classifieds	34
		Calendar Q	36
		Sports: Zoll-Norman	38

Photos on cover (left, from top): Photo of march by Kate Sosin; Sharnae Zoll-Norman photo by NBAE/Getty Images; photo of Maria Pahl by Hal Baim; photo from Black Pride 2012 Party by Vern Hester

**DOWNLOAD THIS!**

Go to [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com) to download complete issues of Windy City Times and Nightspots. Then click on any ad and be taken directly to the advertiser's Web site!

online exclusives at [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)



**WHIRL VIEW**  
On a busy weekend, Whirlpool hosted its second annual Pride celebration with guests Honey LaBronx and the Hearty Boys (left).  
*Photo by Andrew Davis*



Law professor Vincent Samar reflects on the Supreme Court's recent rulings.  
*Photo from Samar*



See photos from Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez's annual Pride Awards.  
*Photo by Carrie Maxwell*

**AFTER THE FALL**  
In her Mombian column, Dana Rudolph says that there's cause for celebration—and caution—after DOMA's fall.

**TAKING NOTES**  
Readers sound off on the Supreme Court rulings and Cardinal George.

**ENTERTAINMENT NEWS**  
Find out the latest about Paula Deen, Channing Tatum and Glee.

plus **DAILY BREAKING NEWS**

**nightspots**

THE PRIDE ISSUE

Find Nightspots on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/nightspots)

**GENDER LOVE**

Television's Hub Network has premiered an animated show about SheZow, a gender-bending superhero.  
*Image from the Hub Network*

**HAPPY PRIDE**  
w/ Amy and Mitchell

Show #527 **queercast**  
queer and now

[www.WindyCityQueercast.com](http://www.WindyCityQueercast.com)

## When A Great Deal Matters, Shop Rob Paddor's... Evanston Subaru in Skokie

**XV Crosstrek**

The most fuel-efficient<sup>®</sup> AWD crossover in America!

**SUBARU**

Fundraiser for the USO at Evanston Subaru  
Saturday, July 20th 11:30a-2:30p  
Helping our Veterans  
Donations will be accepted

Closed July 4th

New 2013 XV Crosstrek 2.0i Premium  
All-Wheel-Drive  
33 MPG<sup>o</sup>  
**\$21,671\***

Chicagoland's ONLY Stellar Care Winner 2012 2013

#9674, #9647 DRA-01  
BLUETOOTH • ABS • TRACTION CONTROL • VEHICLE DYNAMICS CONTROL • FOG LIGHTS • ALL-WHEEL-DRIVE • PREMIUM AUDIO • USB/MP3

**2014 Subaru Forester**  
32 MPG<sup>o</sup>  
NOW IN STOCK  
**29 TO CHOOSE**

**New Subaru Imprezas**  
The best MPG for any AWD vehicle sold in America!

Wednesdays on the GREEN

EVANSTON SUBARU PRESENTS A free weekly event  
ENTERTAINMENT ON THE VILLAGE GREEN IN DOWNTOWN SKOKIE  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 3RD AT 7PM HURRICANE SAXOPHONE QUARTET

**TOP-QUALITY INSPECTED USED CARS & SUV'S**

IMPORTS & DOMESTICS	SUBARU FORESTERS
*10 Lexus RX 350 Navi AWD ..... Premium Sound, Truffle Mica P4289 ..... \$28,995	*12 Forester Ltd. .... Auto., Leather, Sunroof, Heated Seats, 13K, Silver, P4199 ..... \$24,995
*10 Jeep Wrangler Sport 4x4 ..... 6-Speed, Only 8K, Stone White, 9959A ..... \$20,995	*12 Forester Prem. .... Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, Grey, P4299 ..... \$22,995
*11 VW Jetta TDI ..... Manual Trans., Sunroof, ABS, Blue, P4283A ..... \$19,795	*13 Subaru Forester ..... Automatic, Full Power, ABS, Silver, 8014R ..... \$21,995
*10 Toyota Prius II ..... Automatic, Full Power, Blizzard Pearl, P4308 ..... \$18,995	*11 Forester Prem. .... Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, Silver, P4284 ..... \$20,995
*10 Acura MDX w/tech SH-AWD ..... Sunroof, Leather, 6 Cylinder, 2009A ..... \$18,995	*10 Forester Ltd. .... Auto., Leather, Sunroof, Heated Seats, 23K, Black, 9876A ..... \$20,995
*09 Nissan Altima 3.5 SE ..... Auto., Sunroof, Full Power, Blue, P4269A ..... \$15,995	*12 Subaru Forester ..... Automatic, Full Power, ABS, 13K, Red, 9868A ..... \$19,995
*08 Audi A4 Quattro ..... Sunroof, Auto, Alloys, 60K, Deep Blue, 9787A ..... \$15,995	*10 Forester Prem. .... Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, 17K, Red, 2034A ..... \$18,995
*08 Mazda CX-7 AWD ..... Automatic, Sunroof, Turbo, 58K, Red, P3986A ..... \$15,995	*06 Forester Prem. .... Sunroof, Automatic, ABS, 60K, Blue, 9486A ..... \$12,995
*10 Toyota Rav4 SUV ..... Automatic, Full Power, Silver P4303 ..... \$15,995	
*04 Jeep Wrangler X 4x4 ..... 5-Speed, 6 Cylinder, Only 36K, 2054A ..... \$14,995	SUBARU LEGACY / OUTBACKS
*11 Honda Fit ..... Air, 5-Speed, Only 8K, Black P4290 ..... \$14,995	*12 Outback Ltd. .... Moonroof, Leather, Rear Camera, Bluetooth, P4244 ..... \$25,995
*08 Mini Cooper S ..... Automatic, Full Power, British Racing Green, 9987A ..... \$14,995	*13 Outback Prem. .... Bluetooth, All Weather, Automatic, Silver, 9020R ..... \$24,995
*08 Toyota Prius ..... Automatic, Full Power, Barcelona Red, P4305 ..... \$13,995	*11 Outback Ltd. .... Moonroof, Leather, Automatic, Grey, P4276 ..... \$22,995
*09 Buick Lucerne CXL ..... Automatic, 6 Cyl., Leather, 42K, 9921A ..... \$13,995	*11 Legacy Ltd. 3.6R ..... 6 Cylinder, Leather, 22K, Black, 9494A ..... \$22,995
*12 Nissan Versa 1.6 ..... Automatic, Full Power, Silver, P4279 ..... \$12,795	*12 Outback Prem. .... Bluetooth, All Weather, Automatic, Silver, P4213 ..... \$22,995
*10 Nissan Versa 1.6S ..... Automatic, Power Steering, ABS, 34K, P4261 ..... \$11,795	*12 Legacy Ltd. .... Moonroof, Leather, Rear Camera, Bluetooth, Silver, P4266 ..... \$21,995
*07 VW Jetta Wolfsburg Ed. .... Leather, Automatic, ABS, Black, 9858A ..... \$10,995	*11 Outback ..... Automatic, Full Power, ABS, Black, 38987 ..... \$19,995
*10 Nissan Versa 1.6S ..... Super Black Super Clean, 5-Speed, P4278 ..... \$10,995	*10 Legacy Ltd./Navi ..... Moonroof, Leather, Auto., 22K, Grey, 2075A ..... \$18,995
*04 Ford F-150 XLT Super Cab 4x4 ..... Auto., 8 Cylinder, White, 9655B ..... \$10,995	*12 Legacy Prem. .... All Weather, Automatic, Silver, P4269 ..... \$18,995
*09 Toyota Yaris S ..... Automatic, Great Gas Mileage, 47K, Blue, 9835A ..... \$10,795	*11 Legacy ..... Automatic, Full Power, Only 22K, Grey, P4260 ..... \$16,995
*10 Nissan Versa 1.6S ..... Automatic, Power Steering, ABS, P4280 ..... \$10,795	
*07 Honda Element EX ..... Automatic, Sunroof, ABS, Grey, 9849A ..... \$9,995	SUBARU TRIBECA / BAJA
*07 Toyota Corolla CE ..... Automatic, Great MPG, Sand Mica, 9248A ..... \$9,995	*04 Subaru Baja Turbo ..... Sunroof, Automatic, Only 38K, Blue, 2084A ..... \$14,995
*05 Scion iC ..... 5-Speed, Sunroof, Full Power, ABS, P4282 ..... \$9,795	*10 Subaru 3.6R Tribeca Ltd. .... Leather, Sunroof, 34K, Red, P4295 ..... \$24,995
*06 Nissan Xterra SE 4x4 ..... Auto., 6 Cyl., Full Power, ABS, Red, P4259A ..... \$9,795	
*08 Toyota Corolla CE ..... 5-Speed, Great MPG, Black Sand Pearl, P4309 ..... \$8,995	SUBARU IMPREZAS
*08 Hyundai Sonata GLS V6 ..... Automatic, Air, Full Power, P4307 ..... \$7,995	*12 Impreza Prem. .... Sunroof, Automatic, 6-to-choose, P4282 \$19,995 ..... \$18,995
*01 Mercedes E320 4Matic ..... Auto., Leather, 6 Cyl., Black, 9430A ..... \$7,995	*10 Impreza Prem. 5-Door ..... Automatic, MP3, Alloys, Black, P4230 ..... \$16,995
*03 VW Jetta GL ..... Automatic, Full Power, ABS, Black, 9869A ..... \$7,995	*11 Impreza ..... Automatic, Sunroof, Alloys, ABS, Silver, P4261A ..... \$15,995
*01 Ford Excursion Ltd. 4x4 ..... Leather, 10 Cyl., Loaded, Black, 9201B ..... \$7,995	*10 Impreza ..... Automatic, Air, Full Power, ABS, Red, P4238 ..... \$15,995
	*10 Impreza ..... Automatic, Air, Full Power, ABS, 19K, Black, P4231 ..... \$15,995

**Evanston Subaru in Skokie**

A+ RATED CALL TOLL FREE **1-888-231-7432**

3340 OAKTON - SKOKIE • EVANSTONSUBARU.COM

Add tax, title license and \$164.30 doc fee. EPA highway estimate

CARFAX ADVANTAGE DEALER

SUBARU STELLAR CARE AWARE



The family of Harley McMillen will host a reception to honor his legacy.

Saturday, July 13  
Howard Brown Health Center,  
4025 N. Sheridan Rd,  
2-4 p.m.

Harley McMillen photo by Patrick Duvall for Windy City Times. Ad space donated by Windy City Times.

## Marriage Equality in Illinois

**THIS IS  
NOT OVER!**

**THIS IS  
NOT  
OVER**  
GRASSROOTS  
COALITION FOR SB10

The road to Same-Sex Marriage in Illinois has been blocked, but we are still moving! We will pave the way to equal marriage this year. See you in the streets!

## March on Chicago

Saturday, July 13

1:00 p.m.

Michigan Avenue and Congress Parkway,  
Downtown Chicago

For more details: <http://tinyurl.com/marriagemarch>

Co-sponsored by



THE CIVIL RIGHTS AGENDA

To add your organization contact [thisisnotovercoalition@gmail.com](mailto:thisisnotovercoalition@gmail.com)

# VALEO

AT CHICAGO LAKESHORE HOSPITAL

Chicago's Dedicated and Comprehensive LGBT Program

Valeo at Chicago Lakeshore Hospital provides comprehensive psychiatric and addiction-related treatment for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals. The program offers a safe, affirming therapeutic environment for members of the LGBTQ community. The Valeo staff is comprised of well-trained, experienced gay and gay-sensitive behavioral health professionals from a wide variety of disciplines.

4840 N. MARINE DRIVE  
CHICAGO, IL 60640  
1-800-888-0560  
[www.chicagolakeshorehospital.com](http://www.chicagolakeshorehospital.com)

## Open To Thinking

BY NICK PATRICCA



### Gay and Catholic?!: The Contemporary Predicament

Once upon a time, when I was teaching a graduate course in the history of Christian thought and culture, a PhD student in Christian theology challenged me with this question: 'How can you justify homosexual activity?' My gut instinct as a scholar was to take refuge in academic speak, 'It is not for me to justify anything; as investigators and thinkers our job is to describe and understand.' But, in spite of myself, I blurted out: 'The same Gospel Law of Love applies equally to all sexual activity whether gay or straight or

Catholic theological reflection: Christian Scriptures, Teachings of the Church (including theologians and philosophers as well as the magisterium), Experience (personal and communal, Christian and non-Christian), and Scientific and Rational-Empirical investigations. For this noble effort she has been scolded by the Vatican bureaucrats who declared that her work could not be used in Catholic universities.

The reading of Farley's careful work starkly exposes the sad fact that the Roman Catholic Church has foolishly boxed

"... we answer this question daily through our attitudes and actions. Whether easy or difficult, simple or complex, clear or ambiguous, we do make decisions of love in our everyday world."

itself into a dead end by its excessive reliance on the thinking of Roman stoicism, by its un-Christian ignoring of the Gospel, by its un-Humanist refusal to learn from human experience, and by its un-Catholic rejection of scientific and rational-empirical research. This perverse focus on reproduction as the sole criterion for valid sex is a self-inflicted wound, almost mortal in its conse-

quences for the institutional church, and the cause of so much unnecessary suffering to so many faithful Catholics, gay or straight.

And it was all so unnecessary. When John 23 (reigned 1958-1963) became pope he commissioned a task force of lay people and clerics, experts in their respective fields, to re-examine church teachings on human sexuality and to recommend a new framework for thinking about our sexuality. In early 1968 the commission presented its recommendations to Paul 6. In the name of Christian friendship and healthy family life, the majority endorsed the value of some types of birth control and family planning.

Unfortunately, Paul 6 (reigned 1963-1978) chose to ignore the majority report. In July of 1968, he issued an encyclical, *Humanae Vitae*, which essentially repeated the traditional teachings of Roman stoicism: all sex acts must be ordered primarily to conception. However, in his elaboration of this principle, Paul, for the first time, granted papal permission for infertile couples to enter into a valid marriage contract and to enjoy legitimate sex.

This teaching is not a new teaching. It is taught by Thomas Aquinas who states that marriage has two equally primary ends: the procreation and education of children and the promotion of the love of friendship between the two spouses. What is new is that a pope endorsed the principle of *amor amicitiae* as having validity even when the principle of procreation cannot be exercised.

Arabs employ the phrase 'the nose of the camel' to indicate the imminent fall of the household tent: Should a camel get any part of its nose under the smallest flap of the tent, the entire tent shall fall.

The 'love of friendship' is our camel's nose.

Nick Patricca is professor emeritus at Loyola University Chicago, president of Chicago Network and playwright emeritus at Victory Gardens Theater.

# DOMA/Prop 8 march stuns Boystown, Wrigleyville

BY KATE SOSIN

With banners, rainbow flags and homemade signs, an exuberant crowd marched through Chicago's Wrigleyville and Boystown neighborhoods June 26 after favorable decisions on equal marriage came down from the U.S. Supreme Court.

Nearly 500 attended the rally and march, which started and ended at Roscoe and Halsted.

The evening, organized to celebrate the effective end of the Defense of Marriage Act and California's Prop. 8 against equal marriage, was bittersweet for many as the Illinois House adjourned from the spring session in May without voting on equal marriage.

The march was the largest LGBT demonstration in the Chicago area in recent months as Illinois struggles to pass the legislation.

Andy Thayer, co-founder of Gay Liberation Network, called on attendees to show up at future demonstrations for equal marriage in Illinois, most notably a massive march outside the Illinois Capitol Building Oct. 22. Another march downtown is scheduled for July 13 at Michigan Avenue and Congress Parkway.

"We are going to flood Springfield this fall," Thayer shouted.

Thayer took House Speaker Michael Madigan to task for the spring shortfall on the bill, stating that the speaker could have muscled support to pass the bill.

"It's not like we're asking him to do something unpopular or crooked as so many things in this state are," said Thayer.

Rick Garcia, policy director of The Civil Rights Agenda, echoed Thayer's call for LGBTs to apply major pressure to Illinois lawmakers.

"If we want it, we've got to do it," Garcia said. "If you want it, you've got to do it. You've got to hold their feet to the fire. We don't need friends in the General Assembly; we need fighters in the General Assembly."

The March snaked through Boystown and into a stunned Wrigleyville, where business owners and bar patrons ran outside to take photos and cheer.

"Hey Obama, we won't wait, nationwide not state by state!" demonstrators chanted.

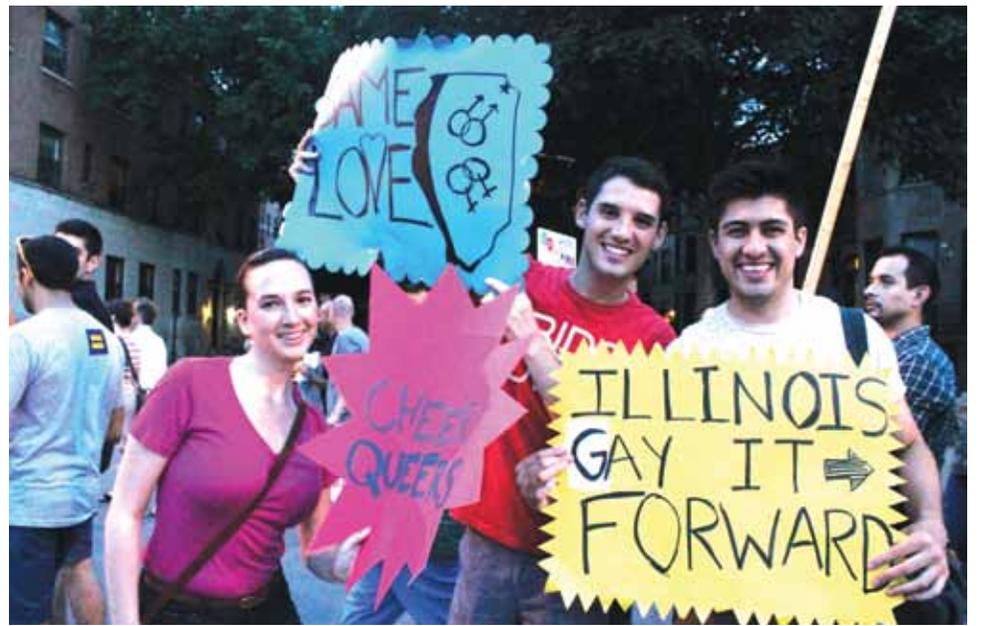
Overwhelmingly, the mood was joyous. Passing cars blared their horns, and Lakeview residents cheered from their windows above. From a window above Roscoe's, one group showered the march in confetti.

The hastily-organized rally attracted LGBT leaders from the Illinois Unites for Marriage Coalition, which is pushing for the equal marriage bill, as well as leaders from the Metropolitan Community Church, scheduled host its general conference in Chicago the first week of July.

A number of Boystown bars chipped in money for a sound and stage setup just hours before the rally. Those businesses included Roscoes, Scarlet, D.S. Tequila, Steamworks and Minibar.

The march concluded without incident.

Many more photos and videos are linked with the online version of this article.



Scenes from the DOMA/Prop 8 march in Lakeview. Photos by Kate Sosin. Many more photos and videos linked with the online version of this article.

New! River North Location. 444 N. Orleans St., Ste. 400, Chicago

## Is Someone You Care About Abusing Alcohol or Drugs?

If you or a loved one is struggling with substance abuse, you are not alone. Gateway can help.

Adult individual, group and family counseling:

- Convenient treatment in **River North**.
- Evening Outpatient Treatment.
- Insurance and self-pay accepted.

Call today to learn about our free and confidential consultation.

**Gateway**  
Foundation  
Alcohol & Drug Treatment

Illinois' Largest Provider of Substance Abuse Treatment

24-Hour Helpline  
773-309-4834  
RecoverGateway.org

# DOMA done, Prop 8 undone

BY LISA KEEN  
KEEN NEWS SERVICE

In a stunning double victory, the U.S. Supreme Court issued decisions that strike down both the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8 on June 26.

The DOMA decision, a 5 to 4 split, was written by Justice Anthony Kennedy and joined by the four liberal justices of the court. It strikes DOMA as unconstitutional because it violates the guarantees of equal protection and due process.

The DOMA dissent, based largely on matters of standing, was led by Chief Justice John Roberts and joined by the court's three other conservatives.

The Proposition 8 opinion, a 5 to 4 vote led by the Chief Justice, vacates a Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals ruling. It says Yes on 8 defenders of the law lacked standing, under federal rules of law, to make the appeal. The decision appears to leave intact the district court decision, a much broader ruling.

The dissent was a surprise: Justice Kennedy led two conservative justices plus liberal Justice Sonia Sotomayor. They said the court should accept the California Supreme Court's determination that Yes on 8 had standing.

Reaction was understandably euphoric from LGBT legal activists and the thousands of supporters of same-sex marriage gathered outside the Supreme Court building and town hall in San Francisco.

"It's nearly perfect. I'm thrilled," said Mary Bonauto, civil-rights project director for Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, the group which launched the first successful lawsuit challenging

DOMA and secured the first right to marry from a state supreme court.

The DOMA decision, said Bonauto, "not only strikes DOMA but makes clear what we've been saying all along—that DOMA is discriminatory and that it is an effort by the federal government to deprive same-sex couples of their rights and to demean them."

"We have won the freedom to marry in California," said Evan Wolfson, head of the national Freedom to Marriage group, on MSNBC right after the decision was released in the Prop 8 case. Wolfson noted that, with the addition of California, at least a third of the nation's population now lives in a state with marriage equality. Prior to today, it was at about 18 percent.

Jon Davidson, legal director for Lambda Legal, called both decisions a "huge victory for married same-sex couples and their families because it will affect almost every facet of life from health care to retirement to taxes."

The two plaintiff couples emerged from the Supreme Court building on the front steps at 10:45 a.m., with Chad Griffin, who organized the Prop 8 lawsuit, and David Boies, one of the two lead attorneys who pressed the challenge. As they did, a chorus sang the national anthem.

In striking DOMA, said Boies, the court ruled "there was no purpose" in denying same-sex couples the right to marry.

In the Prop 8 case, said Boies, the court ruled that the Yes on 8 defenders of the law did not have standing to press the appeal. But he said the court's opinion makes clear that "when" a case involving a similar ban comes before the court on merits, it is clear the majority will find it unconstitutional.



Top: Plaintiffs in Prop 8 case June 26 (from left) Sandy Stier, Kris Perry, and Jeffery Zarrillo and Paul Katimi. Above: (from left) Jeffery Zarrillo, Paul Katimi and attorney Ted Olson June 22. Photos by Patsy Lynch

The opinions in *Hollingsworth v. Perry* (concerning Prop 8) and *U.S. v. Windsor* (concerning DOMA) can be read in their entirety at <http://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/slipopinions.aspx>.

#### DOMA details and reaction

In the majority opinion on the DOMA case, *U.S. v. Windsor*, Justice Kennedy was joined by Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan. The majority affirmed a Second Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals decision that found DOMA to violate the guarantees to equal protection and due process. The majority said DOMA went "far" beyond an attempt at providing uniformity in federal policy affecting married persons and was "directed to a class of persons that the laws of New York, and of 11 other States, have sought to protect." Regulation of marriage licensing, said the majority, "has long been regarded as a virtually exclusive province of the States."

"The Federal Government uses this state-defined class for the opposite purpose—to impose restrictions and disabilities," wrote Kennedy. And by doing so, he said, "DOMA seeks to injure the very class New York seeks to protect" and "violates basic due process and equal protection principles applicable to the Federal Government."

"The Constitution's guarantee of equality 'must at the very least mean that a bare congressional desire to harm a politically unpopular group cannot' justify disparate treatment of that group," wrote Kennedy, quoting a 1973 decision in *USDA v. Moreno*, a decision in which the court said the government couldn't deny food stamps to "hippies" living in communes.

Bonauto, who was reached before she had a chance to finish reading the 26-page majority decision, said it's not clear yet whether or to what extent married same-sex couples living in states that ban recognition of marriage licenses for same-sex couples would be able to obtain federal benefits.

#### Prop 8 details and reaction

Toobin said that, in the Prop 8 case, *Hollingsworth v. Perry*, the court could have said same-sex marriages must be allowed in all 50 states "and it did not say that."

"But it did seem to open the door to same-sex marriages in California and it ... certainly does look like court is moving in the direction of everybody has the right to marry," said Toobin.

Chief Justice Roberts wrote the majority decision in the Prop 8 case, joined by Justices Antonin Scalia, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer and Elena Kagan.

The majority decision vacated the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals decision with instructions to dismiss the appeal pressed by the Yes on 8 coalition that won passage of Prop 8. It said Yes on 8's "only interest in having the District Court order reversed [at the Ninth Circuit] was to vindicate the constitutional validity of a generally applicable California law." Such a "generalized grievance," said the majority, is "insufficient to confer standing."

"A litigant 'raising only a generally available grievance about government—claiming only harm to his and every citizen's interest in proper application of the Constitution and laws, and seeking relief that no more directly and tangibly benefits him than it does the public at large—does not state an Article III case or controversy.'"

Once Prop 8 was approved by the voters, said the majority, "the measure became 'a duly enacted constitutional amendment or statute. Petitioners have no role—special or otherwise—in the enforcement of Prop 8.... They therefore have no 'personal stake' in defending its enforcement that is distinguishable from the general interest of every citizen of California."

"We have never before upheld the standing of a private party to defend the constitutionality of a state statute when state officials have chosen not to. We decline to do so for the first time here," wrote Roberts.

©2013 Keen News Service. All rights reserved.

Read the entire article online at <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/lgbt/DOMA-done-Prop-8-undone/43430.html>.

collaboration + technology + transgender advocacy =

# Trans\*HACK



Bringing together creative individuals who are passionate about utilizing technology with a simple goal: to develop solutions and build web content or mobile products that can create meaningful social change for the trans community.

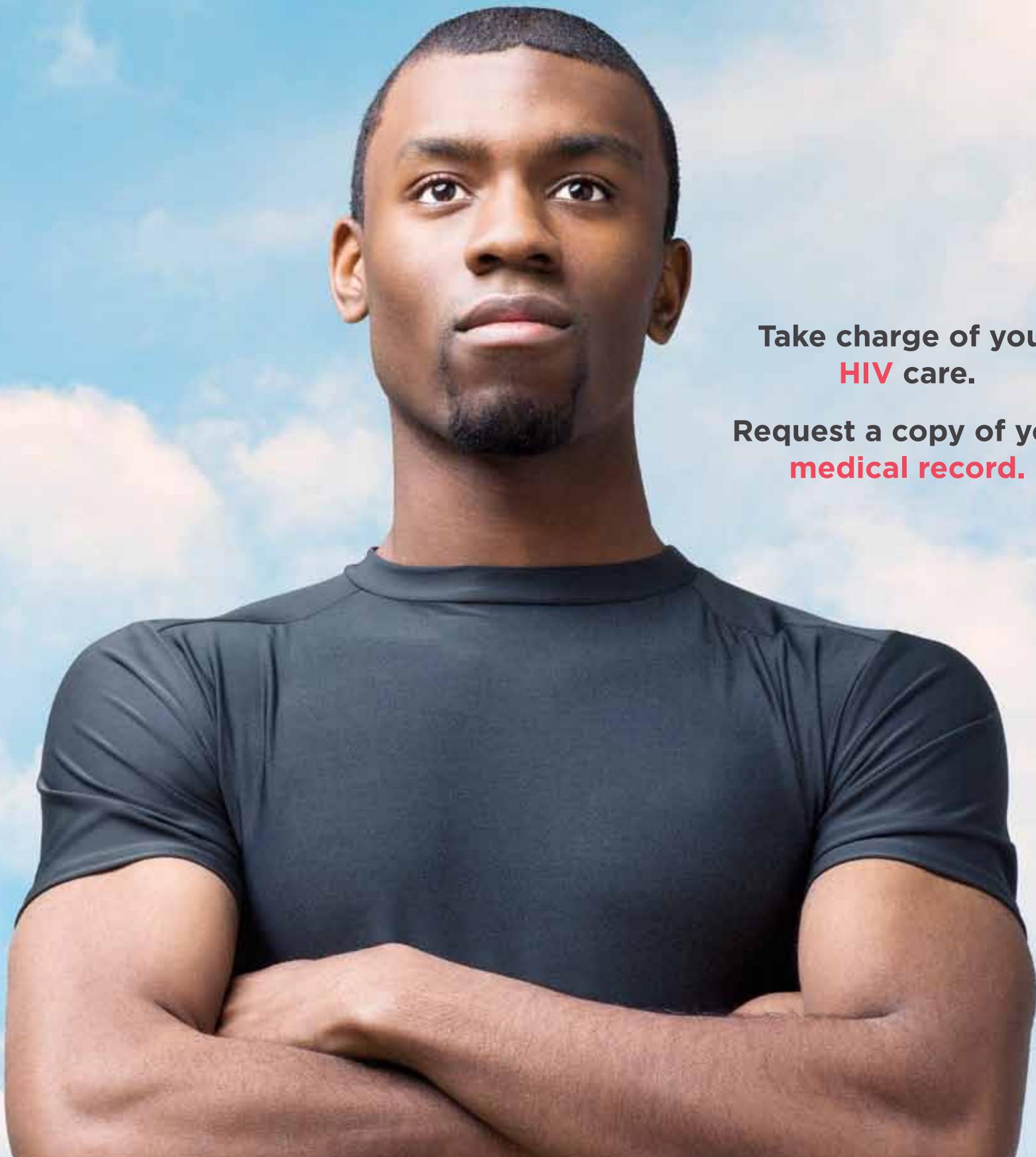
SEPT. 13TH-15TH

OAKLAND

transhack.org



# INFORMATION IS POWERFUL MEDICINE



Take charge of your  
**HIV** care.

Request a copy of your  
**medical record.**

Learn about **HIPAA\*** and your healthcare rights at:  
**[www.AIDS.gov/privacy](http://www.AIDS.gov/privacy)**

\*Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
**OFFICE FOR  
CIVIL RIGHTS**

# Implementing the end of DOMA

BY LISA KEEN  
KEEN NEWS SERVICE

The Obama administration's reaction to the U.S. Supreme Court rulings striking down the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and Proposition 8 provides a stark contrast to that of the predecessor administration.

In 2003, when the Supreme Court struck down laws prohibiting private intimate contact between same-sex partners (in *Lawrence v. Texas*), President George W. Bush had nothing to say, at least not publicly. His press secretary, Ari Fleischer, told reporters that the Bush administration had not filed a brief in the case and that it considered the decision to be "a state matter."

The Bush Administration took no action to determine to what extent the Lawrence ruling might apply to various federal programs, such as the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law banning openly gay servicemembers. It continued enforcing the ban and, though statistics showed the Bush administration reduced the number of discharges under the policy, it did so before Lawrence was issued and at a time when the demand for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan was intensifying.

In the year following Lawrence, Bush endorsed a Congressional bill seeking a federal constitutional amendment to ban marriage for gay couples nationally.

Ten years later, the Obama Administration's response has been dramatically different. President Obama issued an immediate statement in support of the Supreme Court rulings in *U.S. v. Windsor* and *Hollingsworth v. Perry*. Windsor struck down the key provision of the DOMA, and Perry dismissed an appeal, effectively upholding a district court decision that struck down California's ban on marriage for same-sex couples, Prop 8.

"The laws of our land," said Obama, "are catching up to the fundamental truth that millions of Americans hold in our hearts: when all Americans are treated as equal, no matter who they are or whom they love, we are all more free." He said he had already "directed the Attorney General to work with other members of my Cabinet to review all relevant federal statutes to ensure this decision, including its implications for Federal benefits and obligations, is implemented swiftly and smoothly."

Obama, traveling on Air Force One to the start of a multi-nation tour in Africa, also telephoned the plaintiffs in both cases, expressing his support of the ruling and thanking them for their efforts.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder issued a statement of support for the Supreme Court rul-

ings and another statement June 28, saying the federal government would, through the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), "now be able to extend benefits to Federal employees and annuitants who have legally married a spouse of the same sex." The statement added that DOJ would "continue to coordinate with other federal agencies to implement this ruling as swiftly and smoothly as possible."

Elaine Kaplan, the openly gay acting director of OPM, sent a message to all federal department heads offering some preliminary details of how the administration would go about complying with the DOMA ruling. She said federal employees married to same-sex partners would have until Aug. 26 to make "immediate changes" to their federal health plans, adding that they would be able to do so again later in the year, during the federal government's annual "open season" period for making changes to federal health coverage plans. Under these same deadlines, she said, federal employees could also opt in their same-sex spouses and families for coverage under federal dental, long-term care, and life insurance plans. Retired federal employees who are married to same-sex spouses will have two years to notify the federal government that they are married and qualify for retirement benefits. She said same-sex spouses would now be eligible for survivor annuities.

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel issued a statement after the DOMA ruling was released.

"The department will immediately begin the process of implementing the Supreme Court's decision in consultation with the Department of Justice and other executive branch agencies," said Hagel. "The Department of Defense intends to make the same benefits available to all military spouses—regardless of sexual orientation—as soon as possible."

At a press conference later in the day, Hagel was even more firm, saying, "Make no mistake: It will be a decision implemented in every way, as it should be."

Joining him at the press conference, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Martin Dempsey, reiterated the point: "The Joint Chiefs have been very clear that we'll follow the law of the land, and the law of the land has just changed, and we will now, as quickly as possible, assess what that means. I'm sure there will be some cost, but we'll figure it out, because we'll follow the law of the land."

Other department heads, including Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and Secretary of State John Kerry, also issued statements in support of the DOMA ruling. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said HHS would "work with the Department of Jus-



Top: Lambda Legal's Jenny Pizer. Above: U.S. Rep. Jerrold Nadler

tice to review all relevant federal statutes and ensure this decision is implemented swiftly and smoothly."

Making the transition between no recognition to equal recognition go smoothly may require Congressional action in some instances. Toward that end, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein reintroduced the Respect for Marriage Act in the Senate within hours of the Windsor ruling. Although Feinstein's office did not get back to this reporter by deadline, the text of last year's bill essentially repeals both sections of DOMA—both the "no recognition" provision and the section that allows one state to ignore the valid marriage license issued by another state. The Senate bill introduced Friday had 40 sponsors, including openly lesbian Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisc.) and Sens. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow (Democrats of Michigan), and Elizabeth Warren and William Cowan (Democrats of Massachusetts).

Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) introduced the bill into the House with 160 sponsors.

Feinstein said the Respect for Marriage Act is still "necessary because inequities in the administration of more than 1,100 federal laws affected by DOMA—including Social Security and veterans benefits—will still need to be fixed."

Nadler said the Act would also provides a uniform rule for recognizing couples under federal law ... no matter where they live."

There will be many questions to be answered to about the existing definitions relating to marriage and spouses in various federal programs.

Some federal programs recognize a marriage license regardless of where the couple lives; others are tied to the state of residence. And given that 37 states still ban recognition of same-sex marriages, many same-sex couples—including those with marriage licenses—could have trouble accessing certain federal benefits.

For instance, under DOMA, a person who received health insurance coverage under their same-sex spouse's health plan had to pay income taxes on the value of that coverage. Now, they don't. And under DOMA, if the spouse lost his or her job, he or she could continue their health coverage under the federal COBRA plan, but the same-sex spouse could not. Now, they can.

On the other hand, the Internal Revenue Service is expected to allow duly married same-sex couples to start using the designation "married," whether filing jointly or separately. But the IRS's current practice relies on whether the state in which one resides considers one married.

Under the Social Security statute, says Mary Bonauto, civil rights project director for Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), the government looks at the state of domicile of the decedent for survivor benefits, and looks at the state of domicile at the time of application for spousal benefits. That could be a complication for same-sex couples with marriage licenses who are living in one of the 37 non-marriage equality states.

"This will likely be an evolving area of law and you should consult with a qualified tax expert about your circumstances," advises an "After DOMA" guide prepared by GLAD, Lambda Legal, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, the ACLU and other national groups.

"There's a lot of intensive legal research still being done, including by lawyers within the Administration and the various agencies that administer federal programs," said Jenny Pizer of Lambda Legal.

And there are other complications, too. For example, in some instances, couples that have a civil union or domestic partnership relationship may be able to tap into some federal benefits.

According to Pizer, the Social Security statute "can allow eligibility for those entitled to inherit per the state's intestate inheritance law."

"That's unusual, though," cautioned Pizer. "For the most part, a recognized marriage is required. And that fact puts a bright light on the discriminatory effect of a state's choice to offer a lesser status instead of marriage where there's no constitutional barrier."

"For the most part," said Pizer, "the many important federal benefits and protections that turn on one's marital status do require marriage. That's why the many tens of thousands of couples who have been in civil unions and domestic partnerships for years haven't been able to access federal benefits. And that's why litigation for federal benefits began after couples began marrying in Massachusetts, not when they began entering civil unions in Vermont."

©Copyright 2013 by Keen News Service. All rights reserved.

## VALEO

Chicago's Dedicated and Comprehensive LGBT Program

AT CHICAGO LAKESHORE HOSPITAL



Valeo at Chicago Lakeshore Hospital provides comprehensive psychiatric and addiction-related treatment for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) individuals. The program offers a safe, affirming therapeutic environment for members of the LGBTQ community. The Valeo staff is comprised of well-trained, experienced gay and gay-sensitive behavioral health professionals from a wide variety of disciplines.

4840 N. MARINE DRIVE  
CHICAGO, IL 60640  
1-800-888-0560  
www.chicagolakeshorehospital.com

## size does matter

Chicago's Largest Apartment Finding Service!



Proud Sponsor of the:  
**2013 Pride Parade**

30 yrs of experience

Open 7 days a week

Largest selection of  
apts and condos

Over 100 licensed  
agents

We drive



Lakeview | River North | Evanston  
773.248.8800 | apartmentpeople.com




# Calif. celebrates SCOTUS ruling

BY DAVID-ELIJAH NAHMOD

SAN FRANCISCO—Nearly a decade after Gavin Newsom, then-mayor of San Francisco, took the law into his own hands and began issuing marriage licenses to same sex couples, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Newsom had, for all intents and purposes, done the right thing. On June 26, the Court declared DOMA, the Defense of Marriage Act, to be unconstitutional. The court further declined to rule on Proposition 8, the California ban on gay marriages approved by voters in 2008. Proposition 8 was then returned to the California court that had already ruled it unconstitutional.

[Editor's note: On June 28, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit lifted its

stay of the Federal District Court decision that found Proposition 8 unconstitutional.]

For Rev. Victor Floyd, pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, the SCOTUS rulings were a validation for what he had been doing for years. "MCC has been performing same sex marriages for 45 years," he said to WCT. "It turns out we were right all along. Today same sex marriage has come one step closer to normal."

Rabbi Camille Angel—a lesbian and the leader of San Francisco's Congregation Shaar Zahav, an LGBT Temple—echoed Floyd's sentiments. "Today is a day for blessing," she said. "I'm very proud to be part of the Jewish people. Eighty percent of Jewish voters voted in favor of marriage equality. I wish my parents could be alive

to see this. I wish that so many people who worked for this day and died never imagining that it would happen could see it."

On Castro Street, San Francisco's self-described "gayborhood," thousands converged to celebrate the court rulings. Gay men and lesbians danced together. Gay seniors wept openly after living entire lives as second class citizens. Same sex couples partied with their children. Transgender people waved rainbow flags and cheered.

There were a few speakers. Longtime activist Cleve Jones called upon the revelers to pay a moment of silent respect to former South African President Nelson Mandela, who, at last report, was in critical condition in a hospital. The crowd applauded when Jones pointed out that South Africa is currently the only nation that

recognizes LGBT people as equals in their federal constitution.

Stuart Milk, the openly gay nephew of the late gay leader Harvey Milk, joined the party and offered a message of hope to those who live in states where LGBT marriages are not yet recognized.

"Right now people in Florida, Idaho and Illinois are celebrating even though this does not impact them," Milk said to Windy City Times. "But there is hope. You can feel it and taste it. People now have hope."

In the 1970s, Harvey Milk gave a famous speech that included the words "You gotta give them hope."

"We have a lot more work to do," said Angel.



Celebration in San Francisco. Photo by Danny Buskirk

## Calif. marriage challenge fails

On June 30, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy turned down a request to stop same-sex marriages from occurring in California, according to SCOTUSBlog.com.

The previous day, lawyers for groups opposed to marriage equality petitioned to reverse the June 28 ruling from the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which lifted its stay of the Federal District Court decision that found Proposition 8 unconstitutional, CNN.com reported.

Attorneys applied June 29 to the U.S. Supreme Court for "an immediate order vacating" the June 28 decision, according to copies of the document from ProtectMarriage.com and the Alliance Defending Freedom.

With marriage equality restored in California, the plaintiffs who successfully challenged California's Proposition 8 in *Hollingsworth v. Perry* were married June 28.

Plaintiffs Kris Perry and Sandy Stier of Berkeley, Calif., were married at City Hall in San Francisco, according to a press release from the American Foundation for Equal Rights (AFER). They were the first same-sex couple to be married in California post-Prop 8. Also, plaintiffs Paul Katami and Jeff Zarrillo of Burbank, Calif., married at City Hall in Los Angeles; Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa officiated.

In the statement Perry said, "We look forward to spending the rest of our lives together. Yet we will never forget this day—the day the freedom to marry was restored to our home state."

California's Supreme Court struck down the state's ban on same-sex marriage in May 2008. However, months later, 52 percent of voters backed Prop 8 to once again restrict marriages to opposite-sex couples.

Paint Your Home with Light

# 50% OFF

MFG Retail Prices

## June 29th - July 13th

Restrictions Apply

Traditional to Contemporary...

### Over 100 Brands to Choose From!

Access • Casablanca • Dale Tiffany • Eurofase • ET2 • Eurofase • Holtkotter  
George Kovacs • Hinkley • Kichler • LBL • Murray Feiss • Schonbek • Tech

*Lighting* by Fox

**STORE HOURS:**  
Tues -Wed: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Thu: 10:00 am - 8:00 pm  
Fri - Sat: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Sun: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Mon: CLOSED

[www.lightingbyfox.com](http://www.lightingbyfox.com)

**3524 N. Halsted • Chicago • 773-549-8533**

**megabus.com**

Sweet Summer Deals

Even more low fares available for Chicago summer travel on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays to 29 cities.

**megabus.com**  
stay connected

Book your tickets today!

**WiFi**  
ZONE

**POWER**  
OUTLETS

follow us

# 'March on Springfield' to take place Oct. 22

A day after more than 1 million people gathered to celebrate Pride in Chicago at a parade dominated by calls for equal marriage, marriage advocates in Illinois have announced further details for the March on Springfield for Marriage Equality on Tuesday, Oct. 22, according to a press release.

The march will be organized by a group of co-chairs drawn from a diverse cross-section of Illinois' lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer communities. Among the 13 statewide co-chairs announced today are six women and seven men with diverse ethnic, racial, religious, and professional backgrounds. The March on Springfield, set for the first scheduled day of the legislature's fall veto session, will operate separately and alongside efforts by Illinois Unites, the broad coalition of more than 50 organizations working to pass equal marriage in Illinois, as well as with grassroots activist groups.

"Marriage equality is supported by a majority of Illinoisans and has new urgency given actions by the U.S. Supreme Court last week," the new group of co-chairs said in a joint statement. "When the Supreme Court struck down DOMA, married couples in 13 states and the District of Columbia gained benefits that are denied to people in Illinois. On Oct. 22, we call on Illinoisans from every walk of life and from every district to come to Springfield and demand full equality for everyone in our State."

The group also announced early details on how corporations, small businesses, and volunteers can get involved in the effort to get people to Springfield. These include crowd sourced funding through an IndieGogo campaign to be launched next week, specially priced bus rentals, and a business partnership campaign to facilitate broad-based participation by companies and their employees in the March. Full details, including full co-chair biographies, are posted on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MarchOnSpringfieldForMarriageEquality>.

March on Springfield co-chairs include:

—Solomon Arnold: College student, media personality, and HIV/AIDS educator in the African American house ball community.

—Tracy Baim: Journalist, filmmaker, author, Co-vice chair of the Chicago Gay Games and publisher is publisher of Windy City Times newspaper.

—Kevin Boyer: Marketing professional, community organizer, former Co-vice chair of the Chicago Gay Games, and co-chair of GLAAD Chicago's Leadership Council.

—Buff Carmichael: Longtime media professional, former publisher of the Prairie Flame, and activist in Springfield.

—Brandy Donaldson: Rock Island-based media professional and activist within the African-American lesbian community.

—Emmanuel Garcia: Latino youth activist working with Association of Latino Men for Action, Crossroads Fund, Chicago's largest queer youth prom and Cicero's LGBT community.

—Brent Holman-Gomez: Activist working within the welcoming church movement, immigration equality, and international LGBTQI organizations.

—Kim Hunt: Executive Director of Affinity, an African-American LBT women's group, who was also an organizer of the Chicago Gay Games.

—Naomi Lahiri: Queer feminist with expertise in Asian issues, outreach for trans\* people of Asian descent, immigrant issues, and domestic violence outreach.

—Alexis Martinez: Transgender activist working on cross-generation work, the Dyke March plus Latino, living wage, education and health-care issues.

—Chris Mullins: Activist and LGBT rights advocate and Chair of Lambda Legal's Chicago Leadership Council

—Edith Nieves: Long-time activist on union,

lesbian, sports and Latina issues; runs Sisters 4LGBTQ Community, a lesbian social network.

—Max Smith: Activist for four decades especially focused on African-American men and religious issues, and as a member of Adodi, an African-American men's organization.

For more information, contact Tracy Baim at 773-387-2394 or [publisher@windycitymedia-group.com](mailto:publisher@windycitymedia-group.com).

## About the March

The March on Springfield for Marriage Equality will take place on Oct. 22, 2013, the scheduled first day of the fall veto session of the Illinois state legislature. The "March on Springfield" is part of a broad grassroots strategy to secure final passage of Senate Bill 10, the "Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act," already approved by the Illinois Senate. Once adopted, Illinois will become the 14th state plus the District of Columbia, to treat all of its citizens equally under state marriage laws. More details are available on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MarchOnSpringfieldForMarriageEquality> and on Twitter at @IllinoisMarches.

## Biographies

**Solomon Arnold**, Olive-Harvey College 2013 Valedictorian, is pursuing a bachelor's degree in communications at Chicago State University maintaining a 4.0 GPA. At CAN-TV, Arnold hosts the Russ Meek Speaks Show promoting social justice

community advocate, Arnold cultivates college and career readiness and is active with the Gay Liberation Network, This Is Not Over and the Coalition for Justice & Respect.

**Tracy Baim** is publisher and executive editor at Windy City Media Group, which produces Windy City Times, Nightspots, and other gay media in Chicago. She co-founded Windy City Times in 1985. She has won numerous gay community and journalism honors, including the Community Media Workshop's Studs Terkel Award. Baim is the editor and co-author of several books on gay history, gay media and politics. Baim served as co-vice chair of the Chicago Gay Games board. Baim was executive producer of two feature films, was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in 1994, and was named a Crain's Chicago Business 40 Under 40 leader in 1995.

**Kevin Boyer** is a marketing & communications professional who has made Chicago his home for the past 25 years. A longtime activist, he was the co-founder of the Chicagoland Area Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, co-founded October as LGBT History Month, served 2 years as Board Chair of the Gerber/Hart Library, and was the Co-VP and CMO of the 2006 Gay Games in Chicago. An inductee into Chicago's Gay & Lesbian Hall of Fame, he currently serves as the Co-Chair of the GLAAD Chicago Leadership Council.

**Buff Carmichael** is a native Texan who has lived in downstate Illinois since 1992. He is retired from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and, for eleven years, published Prairie Flame, a newspaper serving LGBT people and allies throughout downstate Illinois. He lives with his partner, Jerry Bowman, in Springfield, Illinois.

**Brandy Donaldson**, 30, resides in Rock Island, Ill., where she moved in 2007, from Arkansas, to further her journalism career. She spent 5 years as the political beat reporter for the Rock Island

Davenport, Iowa. Brandy co-founded and is vice-president of A.L.P.H.A.S. (African-American Lesbian Professionals Having A Say), a not-for-profit LGBT advocacy group started in April 2012.

**Emmanuel Garcia** is a journalist and community organizer. For the past four years he has been the lead organizer for Chicago's largest queer youth prom. He is the co-founder of the Association of Latino Men for Action (ALMA) Scholarship; a scholarship that is awarded annually to two Latino gay, bi youth. Currently he is leading a social marketing campaign in Cicero, IL that addresses the issues of homophobia, transphobia, and HIV/AIDS stigma within the Latino community. Garcia currently sits on the board of directors at Crossroads Fund and Elevarte Community Studio.

**Brent Holman-Gomez** strengthens church advocacy for LGBTQI persons through his work on the Planning Team of the 60 congregation Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches. His work with Gay Liberation Network has developed international solidarity of LGBTQIs particularly from Iran, Russia, Honduras, and Nigeria, while calling attention to scapegoated individuals and those that would deny us our existence. A proponent of the organization Immigration Equality, Brent finances senior housing and healthcare properties for a living. He and his husband of 12 years speak Spanish at home in Chicago.

**Kim Hunt** is the executive director of Affinity Community Services. Her long history of community and coalition work includes service on the board of Gay Games VII in Chicago. Hunt is co-founder and managing partner of O-H Community Partners, Ltd. (OHcp), a management consulting firm that provides capacity building and technical assistance services to nonprofits, foundations, and government agencies. Prior to starting OHcp, Ms. Hunt was a senior planner with the Chicago Transit Authority where she designed and managed special projects, participated in public outreach initiatives, and obtained alternative sources of funding for nontraditional services. Hunt has Master's degrees in public policy and urban planning from the University of Chicago's Harris School for Public Policy Studies and the University of Illinois at Chicago, respectively. Hunt is a published author and has written research papers on women's issues in transportation, planning and policy, and environmental justice.

**Naomi Lahiri**, 24, describes herself as a queer, feminist diasporic desi. She is on the board of and helps run Trikone-Chicago, a queer South Asian non-profit in Chicago. Through Trikone, Naomi has helped start a support group for the family and friends of queer South Asians, as well as a support group for trans\* people of Asian descent. Naomi is a licensed social worker. She works as a shelter advocate and case manager at Apna Ghar Inc., a domestic violence agency that was founded to address domestic violence in the South Asian community. Naomi is also on the programming committee of A Long Walk Home Inc., a non-profit that uses the arts to address violence against women and girls.

**Alexis Martinez** is a transgender activist working on cross-generation work, the Dyke March, Latino and multiple other issues. She was among the Trans 100 in 2013, a national list of activists. She describes herself as Evangelical Christian, Mexican, Apache and lesbian. She is an activist for living-wage employment, housing, education and quality healthcare.

**Chris Mullins**, 33, raised in Orland Park he has lived in the north side of Chicago for over a decade. Chris has been a gay-rights advocate for years in Chicago and, for the past two years, has served as Chair for Lambda Legal's Chicago Leadership Council. Chris is passionate about marriage equality and particularly enjoys helping create events that are inclusive and fun, while simultaneously raising awareness and visibility for LGBT issues.

**Edith Nieves** is a longtime activist and entrepreneur who is also active with the Chicago Teachers Union as a middle school teacher. She has extensive connections with the sports community, as well as Latina and lesbian organizations.

**Max Smith** came out into activism in 1972 with Michigan State's Gay Liberation Council. A Chicago citizen since 1976, he has served since 1996 with Adodi: focused on bringing more progressive and liberal affirmation of same-gender-loving people within African-American religious congregations.

From a press release.



March on  
Springfield for  
Marriage  
Equality  
Co-Chairs

and equality with a decade of experience facilitating HIV prevention programs and has produced dozens of multifaceted outreach events centered on health education, performing, and visual arts within the "ballroom community" via his own In Demand Entertainment group affiliated with the Icon House of Infiniti as "overall mother." As a

Argus/Moline Dispatch newspapers. In 2013, she left journalism to become the customer communications manager at MidAmerican Energy Company. Brandy has a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's in communications management. She also teaches English composition and public speaking courses part-time at Kaplan University in



Brad Tucker. Photo by Tracy Baim

## Gerber/Hart Library hosts open house

While the space is still not open on a regular schedule, the Gerber/Hart Library and Archives hosted an open house after Chicago's Pride Parade June 30. Their new space is located at 6500 N. Clark St.

Gerber/Hart Board President Brad Tucker gave a tour of the library and common space areas of the facility, but Tucker could not show the archives area to Windy City Times because he does not have the security code—he said only two other board members have the code, including Karen Sendziak. The status of the archives has been the biggest concern of community members who have been speaking up for the past 16 months against the library's decision-making process.

Tucker said that the city of Chicago Buildings Department told them they could have the open house and other events in the space, even though the building itself has no occupancy permit. No other tenants have signed leases to rent in the building—the library takes up the back portion of the second of two floors.

The library portion has books on the shelves and is nearly complete. "The collected has been weeded significantly from the Granville location," which had 14,000 books, Tucker said, but the remaining books are ready for lending as soon as the space opens—which could be in a few weeks.

Tucker also said that the board, which now has five members, has authorized a new maximum of 16 members. They have voted in seven new members and may add another four soon. Those seven new members will be announced after a mid-July board meeting.



Books at the new library. Photo by Tracy Baim



From left: Judge Patricia Logue, William B. Kelley, Jill M. Metz and Judge Nancy J. Katz. Photo by Chen K. Ooi

## Judges' group honors gay, lesbian pioneers

The Alliance of Illinois Judges held its annual awards June 26 at the Chicago Bar Association. Cook County Circuit Court Associate Judge Patricia M. Logue, attorneys William B. Kelley and Jill M. Metz, and Cook County Circuit Court Associate Judge Nancy J. Katz were presented with "Legal Legends from Stonewall to Lawrence" awards.

Chief Judge Timothy C. Evans swore in new officers and directors of the Alliance of Illinois Judges (AIJ): Associate Judge Stuart P. Katz, AIJ president; Judge Mary S. Trew, vice president; Judge John H. Ehrlich, treasurer; Judge Colleen Sheehan, director; retired Judge James A. Shapiro, director; Presiding Judge Sebastian T. Patti, secretary; Associate Judge Patricia M. Logue, director; and Associate Judge James E. Snyder, director, all from the Cook County Circuit Court.

Note: Kelley's acceptance speech is on page 14.

## Honored to be recognized for client satisfaction



RBC Wealth Management ranked "Highest in Investor Satisfaction With Full Service Brokerage Firms" in J.D. Power & Associates 2013 Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study<sup>SM</sup>.

We welcome the opportunity to earn your trust. Contact us today to learn about how we can help plan for your financial future.



**JAMES E. ELVORD, AWM**  
 First Vice President - Financial Advisor  
 500 West Madison Street, Suite 2500  
 Chicago, IL 60661  
 (312) 559-1738 • (800) 683-3246  
 james.elvord@rbc.com



**RBC Wealth Management**

There's Wealth in Our Approach.™

RBC Wealth Management received the highest numerical score among full service brokerage firms in the proprietary J.D. Power & Associates 2013 Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study<sup>SM</sup>. Study based on responses from 4,759 investors measuring 15 investment firms and measures opinions of investors who used full-service investment institutions. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed in January-February 2013. Your experiences may vary. Visit [jdpower.com](http://jdpower.com).

© 2013 RBC Wealth Management, a division of RBC Capital Markets, LLC, Member NYSE/FINRA/SIPC.



# SANKOFA

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

We're here to work for you and to support you in achieving your goals. Specializing in work with the LGBT community, HIV impacted individuals, adoption and blending families, and substance use and abuse

---

**Sankofa Psychological Services include treatment for:**

- Depression
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder
- Anxiety
- Bipolar Disorder
- Post-traumatic Stress Disorder
- Specialization in ADHD evaluation
- Alcohol and Drug Addiction

333 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 711 • 30 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1002  
 Additional offices in Rogers Park  
 312-344-1081  
[www.SankofaPsychology.com](http://www.SankofaPsychology.com)



# Writer discusses the Black church and anti-gay sentiment

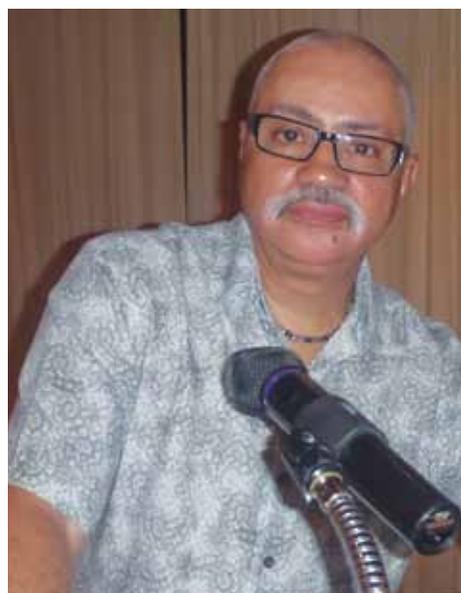
BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Homophobia in the Black church was the theme of a talk by author and journalist Anthony Stanford June 29 at the Carter Woodson Regional Library.

Stanford is a Chicago-based freelance writer and journalist. His previous works include perspectives on politics, race and religion for the Chicago Tribune such as *Race as a Burning Issue* and *On a Day of Rebirth, Grieving a Loss of Faith*.

After an introduction from Carter Woodson librarian Robert Graziano, Stanford spoke to a crowd of about 30 people about his book, *Homophobia in the Black Church: How Faith, Politics, and Fear Divide the Black Community*.

Stanford explained that he was drawn to this topic because he wanted to understand why some in the African-American community, especially some churches, have been and continue



Anthony Stanford. Photo by Carrie Maxwell

to be resistant to and/or hostile towards the LGBT community. The book focuses on exposing megachurch preachers and the emergence of faith-based initiatives during President George

Bush's two terms in office.

Bush's faith-based initiatives gave funding to churches and as African-American mega-churches accepted the funding - often for personal and political advancement - their anti-LGBT rhetoric ratcheted up, noted Stanford. As a result of African-American religious leaders homophobic comments, African-American Christian LGBT individuals have denied their sexuality resulting in the breakdown of African-American families and the rise in HIV/AIDS in the African-American community, said Stanford.

"Many of the most dedicated individuals who attend African-American churches are members of the LGBT community and they are often the most mistreated by the people who stand at the pulpit every Sunday," said Stanford.

Stanford also praised the Supreme Court decisions that struck down section three of DOMA and invalidated Prop 8; however, he explained that until the African-American community does away with its homophobic mindset, things won't change.

"In 1970, Huey P. Newton, the co-founder of the most powerful and the most feared African-American group in America, the Black Panthers said, 'We must relate to the homosexual movement because it is a real thing and I know through reading, life experience and observations that homosexuals are not given freedom and liberty by anyone in society. They might be the most oppressed people in our society. We should be careful about using terms that might turn off our [LGBT] friends. Homosexuals are not the enemies of the people,'" said Stanford.

See [www.abc-clio.com/product.aspx?isbn=9780313398681](http://www.abc-clio.com/product.aspx?isbn=9780313398681) for more information.

## United Black Pride lists this week's events

United Black Pride has unveiled the events that will take place during the annual Black Pride week (July 1-7 this year).

In April, it was announced that a merger of Chicago Black pride organizations is combining Chicago Windy City Black Pride and Windy City Black Pride into United Black Pride.

Among the Pride Week events are:

—Thursday, July 4: United Black Pride welcome reception at Inn of Chicago hotel, 6-9 p.m.

—Saturday, July 6: The 7th Annual PrideIndex.com Esteem Awards at Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted St., 2-6 p.m. ([www.TheEsteemAwards.com](http://www.TheEsteemAwards.com))

—Sunday, July 7: Party at Rainbow Beach, 3111 E. 77th St., 12-6 p.m.

For more info, see <http://ubpride.com/pride-2013/>.

## Corvino/Gallagher event canceled due to alleged threats

BY KATE SOSIN

Efforts to host a conversation between anti-gay activist Maggie Gallagher and pro-gay moralist/professor John Corvino have been abandoned after a number of alleged threats.

The Marin Foundation, which was to host the event July 23 at Roscoe's, previously announced a cancellation of the event after backlash. But the foundation had hoped to reschedule.

According to a statement put out by the foundation, however, the event will not continue after all.

"There were multiple threats to destroy the property of the planned venues, as well as threats of significant disruptions to Corvino and Gallagher during the event. Each of these threats were (sic) taken very seriously by all parties, including the Chicago Police Department."

Those threats, said the foundation, led to the cancellation of the event.

In an email statement, Corvino said he understood the community's anger in light of the recent failure to pass equal marriage leg-

islation in Illinois, but that he thought the discussion could have served as a powerful statement on "civility in the midst of deep divides."

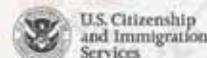
"So yes, of course: Maggie Gallagher has worked to deny us our rights, and I have argued forcefully and repeatedly that she's wrong for doing so," said Corvino. "But she's also a fellow human being, and her views are shared by nearly half the country—including people who are our family members, co-workers, neighbors and so on. That's why I think it's important to keep the conversation going."

The discussion would not have been the first time Gallagher, who founded the anti-gay National Organization for Marriage, and Corvino, a gay philosophy professor at Wayne State University, would have debated same-sex marriage. The two co-authored a point/counterpoint book titled *Debating Same-Sex Marriage*.

"It is regrettable that the climate instigated by a few will hinder dialogue concerning building bridges between opposing worldviews—specifically surrounding gay marriage, family, friendship and love," said the Marin Foundation, in the statement. "We look forward to the opportunity to host this needed event in the future."

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN U.S. HISTORY A MARRIAGE BASED GREEN CARD PETITION FILED BY A GAY COUPLE HAS BEEN

**APPROVED**



FLORIDA COUPLE RECEIVED NOTICE JUST 2 DAYS AFTER THE SUPREME COURT RULING ON DOMA

## Same-sex couples eligible for green cards

Following the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark ruling striking down a core provision of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), lesbian and gay Americans will now be eligible to apply for green cards on behalf of their foreign national spouses, the organization Immigration Equality announced.

The court ruled June 26, in *United States v. Windsor*, that Section 3 of DOMA, which prohibited the federal government from conferring benefits to married same-sex couples, is unconstitutional. That provision of the law made it impossible for lesbian and gay couples to receive immigration benefits, includ-

ing green cards.

In a statement, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano said, "This discriminatory law denied thousands of legally married same-sex couples many important federal benefits, including immigration benefits," the Wall Street Journal reported. "Working with our federal partners, including the Department of Justice, we will implement today's decision so that all married couples will be treated equally and fairly in the administration of our immigration laws."

## LGBT groups slam court's Voting Act ruling

On June 25, the U.S. Supreme Court, by a vote of five to four, struck down a key part of the Voting Rights Act of 1965—the map that determines which states must get federal permission before they change their voting laws, according to NBC News.

"Our country has changed, and while any racial discrimination in voting is too much, Congress must ensure that the legislation it passes to remedy that problem speaks to current conditions," Chief Justice John Roberts wrote for the court.

Under the law, nine mostly Southern states (as well as 12 cities and 57 counties elsewhere) must get permission from the Justice Department or a special panel of three federal judges before they make changes.

LGBT organizations were among those criticizing the court's ruling. A coalition of groups that included Human Rights Campaign, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Lambda Legal and others issued a statement that read, "We, America's leading LGBT advocacy organizations, join civil rights organizations—and indeed, all Americans whom this law has served to protect—in expressing acute dismay at today's ruling."

**July 10-Aug. 14**  
**1 p.m.**  
**Young Authors' Club**

**Friday, July 12**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Sarah Bruni**  
**The Night**  
**Gwen Stacy Died**



5233 N. Clark  
(773) 769-9299

wcfbooks@aol.com  
womenandchildrenfirst.com  
Parking Available  
Wheelchair Accessible

## Celebrate a Life Well Lived! Together Forever!

Memorials, Catering, Flowers, Memory Books and Videos  
Tradition and Creative Funeral and Cremation and Memorial Services  
Cemetery, Mausoleum, Niches and Scattering



**Let Me Help You**  
Contact me today for special pricing!  
**Beth Kamhi • 847-323-8410**  
**BethKamhi@gmail.com**

**GAY** *in the* **LIFE**  
**Jen Thompson**  
 TEXT BY ROSS FORMAN

**Age**  
42

**Relationship status**  
Sam Powell, partners for 20 years

**Neighborhood**  
West Loop

**Hobbies**  
"I love watching sports and athletics of all kinds, movies, and other visually creative things."

**Pets**  
Her dog, Afis, and she often takes Afis to the dog beach

**FYI**  
"AFIS stands for the Automated Fingerprint Identification System, in case you were wondering," Thompson said.

**Reading**  
"I love to read, [and] usually have five books going at any one time. I like to juxtapose topics and tend to read a lot more nonfiction than fiction."

**Force fun**  
"I love some of the marketing I've done with the Force because I'm relatively new to Photoshop, so I'm enjoying the challenge of learning how to design in it."

Jen Thompson and Sam Powell, partners for 20 years, were Chicago Force fans years ago. She even were in the stands, cheering in 2008 when the Force played in the national championship game.

Thompson also played one season for the Force, in 2011. She has now moved upstairs on game day, into the press box, where she constantly updates the team's social media outlets, and more. She is the Force marketing director.

"In a way, the management of the team is a reflection of the athletics and vice versa, meaning, every day we try to get better as individuals in our roles and as teammates," Thompson said. "My role [now] just happens to be off the field."

"The biggest challenge is the lack of time, meaning we have to squeeze in the Force work around the rest of our lives."

"One of the perks of my role is I do the bulk of the social media updates, so I get to watch the games, which others don't, although the pressure is considerably higher. I also get to provide a service I would totally want to benefit from if I couldn't be at the game."

Thompson said she is hooked on football and her Force family for multiple reasons, including the pure physicality of the athletics and the team work that's required to be successful.

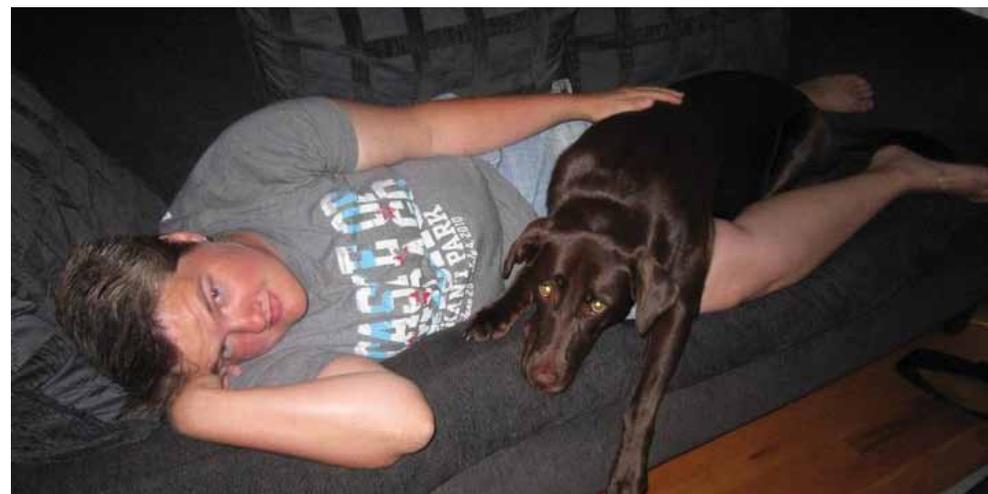
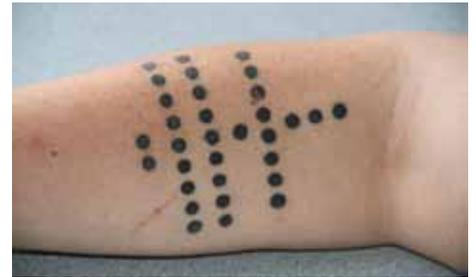
Football is Thompson's favorite sport, without question, especially since women's [tackle] football has long been considered "the final frontier," she said.

Thompson said learning the finer points of the game have been a challenge, but one she enjoys.

"I own a small property management company so my 'day job' is running that business," she said. "I'm also involved in the Chicago chapter of the Women's Council of Realtors."

But it's her job as the Chicago Force marketing director that she truly cherishes.

The Chicago Force next playoff game is Saturday, July 13, against Atlanta. Game time is 6 p.m., at Lazier Field on the campus of Evanston Township High School.



**ORBITZ**  
 Visit [GayOrbitz.com](http://GayOrbitz.com)

*You download,  
 Orbitz donates!*

Download the FREE Orbitz app now and Orbitz will give up to \$10 to an LGBT charity\* you choose at:

[Orbitz.com/LGBTcharity](http://Orbitz.com/LGBTcharity)



\*No purchase required. Donation in cash and/or flight barter. \$10/download (first 5K), \$5/download (additional 10K), then \$3/download (additional 20K). Max. \$160K donation. Charities include the Human Rights Campaign, PFLAG National, The Trevor Project, and more!

## VIEWPOINTS

WINDY CITY  
TIMES

VOL. 28, No. 40, July 3, 2013

*The combined forces of Windy City Times,  
founded Sept. 1985, and Outlines newspaper,  
founded May 1987.*PUBLISHER & EXECUTIVE EDITOR  
Tracy Baim

ASSISTANT PUBLISHER Terri Klinsky  
 MANAGING EDITOR Andrew Davis  
 BUSINESS MANAGER Ripley Caine  
 DIRECTOR OF NEW MEDIA Jean Albright  
 ART DIRECTOR Kirk Williamson  
 ASSISTANT EDITOR Kate Sosin  
 SENIOR ACCOUNT MANAGERS: Terri Klinsky, Amy Matheny, Kirk Williamson, Chris Chevront  
 PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT Scott Duff  
 NATIONAL SALES Rivendell Media, 212-242-6863  
 SENIOR WRITERS Bob Roehr, Rex Wockner, Marie J. Kuda, David Byrne, Tony Peregrin, Lisa Keen, Yasmin Nair, Erica Demarest, Matt Simonette  
 THEATER EDITOR Scott C. Morgan  
 CINEMA WRITER Richard Knight, Jr.  
 BOOKS WRITER Yasmin Nair  
 SPORTS WRITER Ross Forman  
 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT WRITERS  
 Mary Shen Barnidge, Steve Warren, Lawrence Ferber, Mel Ferrand, Jerry Nunn, Jonathan Abarbanel  
 COLUMNISTS/WRITERS: Yvonne Zipter, Jorjet Harper, Meghan Streit, Charlsie Dewey, Carrie Maxwell, Billy Masters, Sarah Toce, Dana Rudolph, Sally Parsons, Melissa Wasserman, Jamie Anne Royce, Matthew C. Clark, Joe Franco  
 SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHERS Mel Ferrand, Hal Baim, Emmanuel Garcia, Tim Carroll, Ed Negron, Susan Mattes

## CIRCULATION

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR Jean Albright  
 DISTRIBUTION: Ashina, Allan, Dan, John, Renee, Sue and Victor  
 WEB HOSTING: LoveYourWebsite.com (lead programmer: Martie Marro)

Copyright 2013 Lambda Publications Inc./Windy City Media Group; All rights reserved. Reprint by permission only. Back issues (if available) for \$5 per issue (postage included). Return postage must accompany all manuscripts, drawings, and photographs submitted if they are to be returned, and no responsibility may be assumed for unsolicited materials. All rights to letters, art and photographs sent to *Windy City Times* will be treated as unconditionally assigned for publication purposes and as such, subject to editing and comment. The opinions expressed by the columnists, cartoonists, letter writers, and commentators are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of *Windy City Times*. Publication of the name, photograph, or likeness of a person or organization in articles or advertising in *Windy City Times* is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such person or organization. While we encourage readers to support the advertisers who make this newspaper possible, *Windy City Times* cannot accept responsibility for advertising claims.

(773) 871-7610 FAX (773) 871-7609  
 e-mail: [editor@windycitymediagroup.com](mailto:editor@windycitymediagroup.com) or  
[Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com](mailto:Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com)

[www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)  
 podcast: [WindyCityQueercast.com](http://WindyCityQueercast.com)

WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP,  
 5315 N. Clark St. #192, Chicago, Illinois 60640  
 U.S.A.  
 (MAILING ADDRESS ONLY)

*Windy City Times* Deadline every Wednesday.  
*Nightspots* Deadline Wednesday prior to street date.  
 OUT! Resource Guide ONLINE  
[www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)  
[www.WindyCityQueercast.com](http://www.WindyCityQueercast.com)

"Windy City Media Group generated enormous interest among their readers in this year's LGBT Consumer Index Survey. Out of approximately 100 print and online media partners who participated in the survey, Windy City was the best performing regional media in the U.S. Only survey partners with a nationwide footprint were able to generate a greater number of responses." —David Marshall, Research Director, Community Marketing, Inc.

 Community Marketing, Inc.



WILLIAM  
KELLEY

## 'What a difference a lifespan makes'

*Cook County Circuit Court Associate Judge Patricia M. Logue, attorneys William B. Kelley and Jill M. Metz, and Cook County Circuit Court Associate Judge Nancy J. Katz were presented with "Legal Legends from Stonewall to Lawrence" awards at an Alliance for Illinois Judges reception. Below is Kelley's speech:*

It's an honor not just to get an award but to be in the company of so many members of the bench, gathered under the aegis of an association that might not have been dreamt of 50 years ago. It's made all the more special by the presence of my old and admired friend, Chief Judge Timothy Evans, whose support for gay rights as a politician goes back at least 40 years. And, of course, being here on the same day as today's Supreme Court's marriage rulings makes it all the more poignant, and delightful.

It was suggested I say something about lawyers in the pre-Stonewall days. Even though I wasn't a lawyer then, I do have some recollections to share. The first one is that we couldn't get those Supreme Court rulings as fast as we did today.

And I don't see Stonewall as the sharp dividing line some do. Efforts and achievements were being made before Stonewall that resembled those after, and problems persisted after Stonewall that we had been addressing earlier.

One recollection, and though there were a number of reasons I didn't go to law school until 1987, is that I do remember being concerned during a certain period in the '60s and '70s about how my gayness and my history of activism would fare in the eyes of the Character and Fitness Committee. This was true even though Illinois had already repealed its law making me a criminal, and it was all the more true for would-

be lawyers in states that hadn't yet taken that step.

For example, I remember a bright, personable young activist lawyer in Columbus, Ohio, whom I knew from our involvement in a gay rights roundtable group of the early '70s called the National Committee for Sexual Civil Liberties. His name was Craig Patton, and he had to fight vigorously to be admitted to the Ohio bar. After word reached the Ohio Supreme Court that he was gay, the court refused to accept his character and fitness certification from the Columbus bar association and convened an unprecedented committee of about two dozen lawyers to take testimony on his fitness. After testimony, the committee voted 12-11 to certify him. And there were others, for instance, the New York case of Kimball in 1973, another Florida case in 1981, and then Kimball's Florida case in 1982.

Of course, gay applicants weren't alone in facing injustice. Until 1979, when the Virginia Supreme Court reversed the policy, women applicants in Virginia could be denied admission on the ground that they were cohabiting with a man out of wedlock. We can imagine what the policy might have been for lesbians.

Quite a difference from this year, when a group of openly LGBT lawyers were admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court bar. I wasn't with them, but a couple of months later I did the same thing as part of a law-school-sponsored trip.

In 1965, when I got involved with the new Mattachine Midwest organization, there were just three lawyers in Chicago who were widely known for having gay or lesbian clientele. One of them was non-gay; the other two weren't out professionally, although all three of them helped out the gay organizations of the day. One was the late Pearl Hart. One was the late Paul Goldman. The third was the still-alive-and-kicking Ralla Klepak. In fact, I worked in Ralla's and her father's office from 1967 to 1976, and that was a help in being an activist. Contrast that situation with what you find when you Google "gay lawyer" today.

Soon after I got involved, in the latter part of the '60s, a new lawyer came on the scene, the late Renee Hanover. In later years, she said she was the first openly lesbian lawyer in the United States, and I've never come across a competing claim. Though she was a good student and won

Just four years ago, nobody thought civil unions would be possible here. But, we pushed and pushed and together, we got it done.

At the 2011 Pride Parade, we celebrated the historic passage of civil unions, which I was honored to fight for and sign into law.

Since then, more than 5,200 couples across 94 counties in Illinois have joined together in a civil union. Those individuals have the right, under state law, to love and live freely with many of the same benefits as their friends and loved ones in heterosexual marriages.

But not all.

This monumental ruling by the Supreme Court opens the door for Illinois to provide all couples—regardless of whom they love—with every single one of those 1,100 rights and benefits.

Illinois is ready to take the next step. Since I signed civil unions into law, seven more states, including our nation's capitol, have embraced full marriage equality.

On Valentine's Day, the Illinois Senate voted to make it happen. But the Illinois House of Representatives never took that vote to put our state on the right side of history.

That's why now, more than ever, we must redouble our efforts to make marriage equality the law in Illinois.

We are a nation of justice for all. Illinois is home to mothers, fathers, children and families who deserve to be treated the same as their neighbors. Nobody should have to wait for equal rights.

But democracy cannot succeed without you.

a constitutional law prize, Renee almost didn't make it through law school, because, as she told it, she was expelled for being a lesbian until Pearl Hart intervened. Pearl was widely respected at the school and got Renee reinstated. Later, Renee officed with Pearl for a few years.

Renee and I became good friends for the rest of her life, not least because she went to law school late in her own life after a career of activist politics, the same as I did 20 years later. In fact, she kept pushing me to go to law school, and I finally did when I was able.

One thing I remember from those early '70s days was helping Renee with a case involving the Chicago ordinance against wearing clothes not belonging to one's sex. She got Judge Jack Sperling to declare the ordinance unconstitutional. The judge was a former City Council colleague of Chief Judge Evans. Renee loved to quote a newspaper account about the case that dryly mentioned how Ms. Hanover wore a pantsuit and the judge wore a robe.

Another thing I remember is an effort by Renee and me to get a gay law students association organized here in the early '70s. A friend of mine in California, Tom Coleman, had organized the nation's first one in 1972. After getting out as much publicity as we could and setting up a meeting place, we attracted at most one person, and I'm not even sure how accurate that memory is. The group never got off the ground. Another contrast with today.

Well, I could go on, but let me just say what a difference a lifespan makes. We have an association of LGBT judges. I actually became friends with a transwoman judge, now gone. Anti-gay criminal laws have disappeared nationwide. Nondiscrimination laws are in force in much of the country—including judicial ethics rules. The ABA is more pro-gay than ever. Official military discrimination has been abolished. Gay immigrants can now enter the country legally—if they can get in at all, that is. Marriage rights are in the offing.

But there's still so much to do, on the marriage, immigration, and military fronts, as well as others. Having a group such as the AIJ can only help us along. And being recognized for my contributions is gratifying. Thank you very much for that.

We need you to urge members of the Illinois House to confirm Illinois as a welcoming state, and ensure full equality for generations to come.

We need you to keep fighting to put this legislation on my desk.

It is time we stand up to the status quo and send a very clear message to the nation: nobody is left out in the Land of Lincoln.

Contact your state representative. Let them know the 1,100 new reasons why they should take this vote—as soon as possible.

As Dr. King once said, 'The time is always right to do what is right.'

Send letters and viewpoints to [Andrew@WindyCityMediaGroup.com](mailto:Andrew@WindyCityMediaGroup.com). Items may be edited for length or clarity.



GOV. PAT  
QUINN

## On marriage equality

I still remember the first time I marched in the Chicago Pride Parade. It was 1991—some 90,000 people lined the streets. I've marched nearly every year since and have seen the crowds increase steadily, almost tenfold.

As the crowds have grown, so has our progress towards achieving equality and justice for everyone in Illinois.

When the Supreme Court justices issued the landmark decision to provide same-sex couples equal access to more than 1,100 federal rights and benefits, they gave the Illinois House of Representatives 1,100 more reasons to make marriage equality the law of the land in Illinois.

By overturning this legislation, the Supreme Court has sent a clear message to the nation and the people of Illinois.

It is time we send a message back.

Now is the time for all to put differences aside, band together and redouble our efforts to make it happen.

## GOINGS-ON

WINDY CITY TIMES' ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

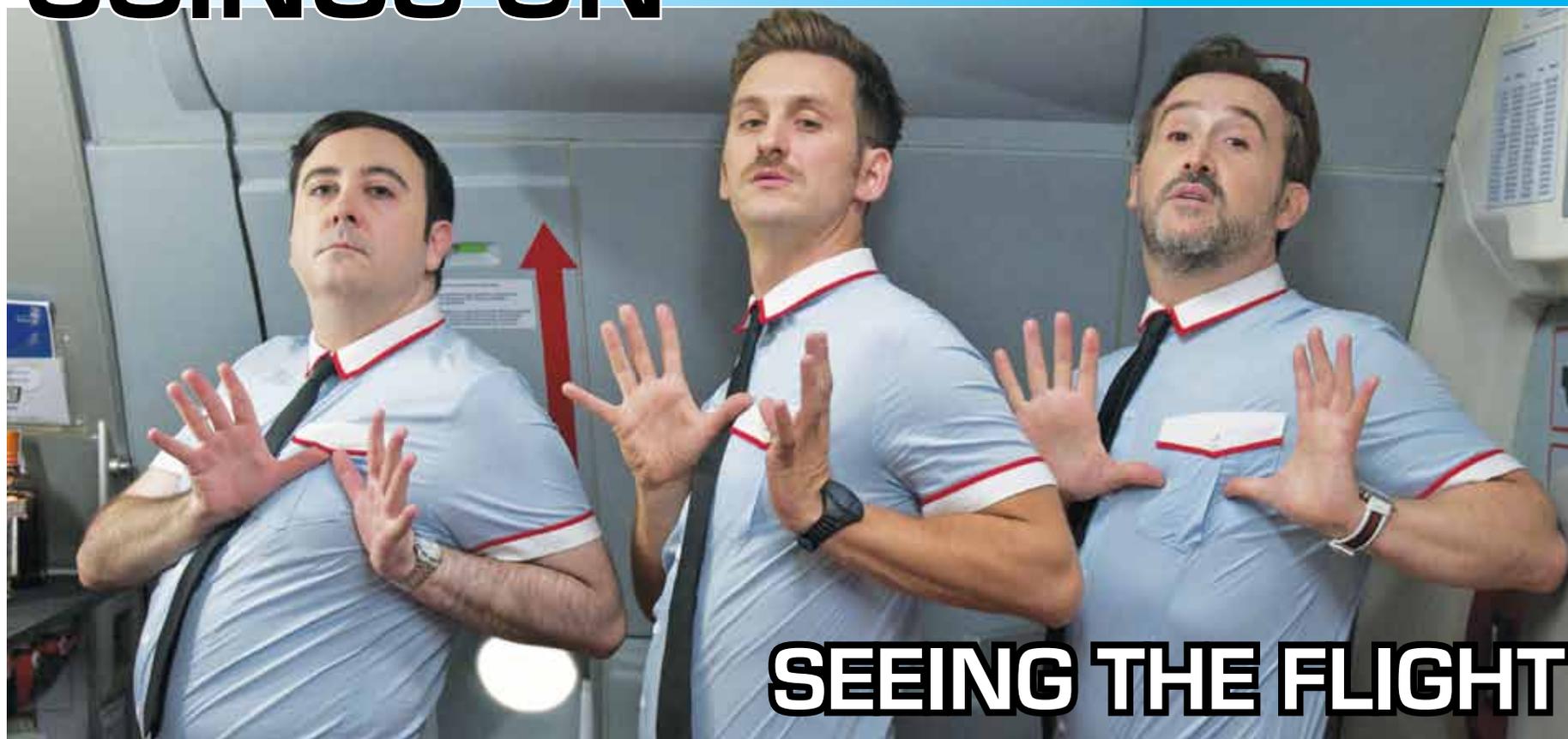


Photo from Sony Pictures Classics

## SEEING THE FLIGHT

Windy City Times reviews the airplane-themed (and very gay) Pedro Almodovar movie *I'm So Excited*. See page 20.

## DISH

Eggs-actly!  
Page 32Photo of dish at Tavernita's Pride Brunch  
by Andrew Davis

## THEATER

Oh, 'Brothers.'  
Page 16Photo from *The Half-Brothers Mendelssohn*  
by Emily Schwartz

## SPORTS

True Sky.  
Page 38Photo of Sharnae Zoll-Norman  
from NBAE/Getty Images

## SCOTTISH PLAY SCOTT

Doug Peck helps  
'Jungle Book' swing

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

Evanston native and out musician Doug Peck is probably working on his highest-profile gig to date. He's music director to *The Jungle Book* at the Goodman Theatre, a much-anticipated stage musical directed by Tony Award-winning director Mary Zimmerman (*Metamorphoses*, *Argonautica*) based upon the classic 1967 Disney animated film version of Rudyard Kipling's famous tales.

Zimmerman was given access to the Disney screenplay and film songs by Richard M. and the late Robert B. Sherman (a.k.a. "The Sherman Brothers"). And no doubt that Disney Theatrical Productions is keenly eyeing Zimmerman's work at the Goodman to see if they might have a potential hit on their hands.

By now, most of Chicago's theater critics will have passed judgment on the show, opining whether or not *The Jungle Book* should have a future life. Of course Broadway would be a dream come true for Peck, but he's practical when he points out that New York isn't always the ultimate goal for certain properties.

Either way, Peck is with *The Jungle Book* in Chicago through Sunday, Aug. 11, and then onto the Huntington Theatre Company for a Boston run Sept. 7-Oct. 6.

Zimmerman invited Peck to come aboard *The Jungle Book* practically from the outset, thanks to their time collaborating on the Goodman Theatre's 2010 production of the Leonard Bernstein musical *Candide*.

"We just really absolutely hit it off during *Candide*," Peck said in an interview following a *Jungle Book* preview. Since that same produc-

tion of *Candide* also played in Washington, D.C., and in Boston, Peck said, "It felt like we did three shows together."

Now Peck, a five-time Jeff Award winner for music direction, had to alter his working style to suit Zimmerman's workshop creation method of improvising with the cast and constructing the show script on a nearly daily basis.

"It's been a great challenge for me because I come from a classical background and I'm used to being the kind of person who prepares everything in advance," said Peck. "My skills as an improviser in the moment have grown so much. This involves writing a lot of underscoring, a lot of transition music and it's been a great process for me to do this."

Peck's many *Jungle Book* duties have been to function as the show's orchestrator, arranger, music adaptor and piano conductor. Peck has also had to study and learn a great deal about classical Indian music and instrumentation, since Zimmerman "wanted to take Indian forms of representation seriously—costume, music and dance—and her challenge to me was to make the music a fusion of Indian and jazz."

That learning process included trips to India for Peck and Zimmerman and hiring expert Indian musicians from around the country who could work at creating fusion music by means of Western notation and jazzy improvisation.

One notable aspect of Zimmerman's *Jungle Book* staging is how often the pit musicians end up prominently onstage. It's an outgrowth of the two collaborative *Jungle Book* workshops.

"Mary and all the designers and I saw the musicians playing in the room. We all thought that



Composer Richard M. Sherman (left) and Music Director Doug Peck. Photo by Liz Lauren

ence members will see for the first time how the tablas are played, the sitar or the vina. They're doing their instruments and culture such a service to show them off."

Peck's work has already garnered praise from one tough-to-please critic: original songwriter Richard M. Sherman.

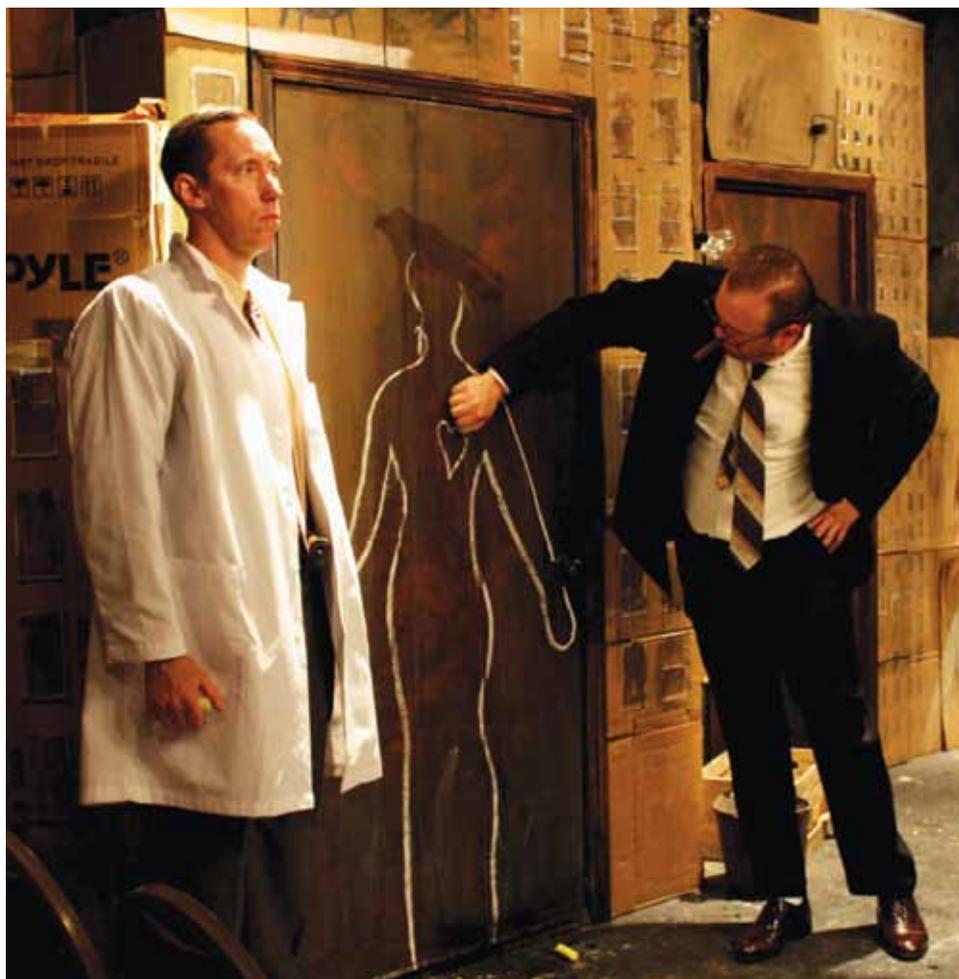
"Everything I've seen sparkles—the music is extraordinary," said Sherman about attending Goodman workshop rehearsals for *The Jungle Book*. "It's special and original and different and Doug Peck is the genius."

Whether or not a trip to the Great White Way with *The Jungle Book* is up in the air for Peck. What isn't is his upcoming gigs this season, which include 42nd Street at the Paramount Theatre in Aurora and reteaming with Court Theatre artistic director Charles Newell for a new staging of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel* next summer at the Glimmerglass Festival in Cooperstown, N.Y.

"I would just love if this show could have a future life past Boston," Peck said about *The Jungle Book*. "There's international possibilities, there's regional possibilities and there's licensing possibilities. (A cast album) is something Richard (Sherman) and I have talked about in preserving these arrangements and this amazing cast and these amazing musicians. Obviously it's expensive to make a cast album, but there's high hopes that we will at some point."

*The Jungle Book* continues through Sunday, Aug. 11, at the Goodman Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn St. Tickets are \$30-\$125 (prices subject to change). Call 312-443-3800 or visit [www.goodmantheatre.org](http://www.goodmantheatre.org) for more information.

it would be such a shame to have them all buried in the pit," Peck said. "And because there's so much improvisation, we wanted to feature the Indian instruments as part of the action... I keep telling the musicians thousands of audi-



Waiting for Lefty. Photo by Eleanor Kahn

## THEATER REVIEW

### Waiting for Lefty

**Playwright:** Clifford Odets  
**At:** Oracle Theatre, 3809 N. Broadway  
**Tickets:** 252-220-0269;  
**www.publicaccesstheatre.org;** free  
**Runs through:** July 27

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

We're in a meeting of New York City taxi drivers who are contemplating strike. While their boss, Harry Fatt, attempts to dissuade them from this plan and the cabbies wait for union-leader Lefty to arrive so they can vote on their course of action, we see into the minds of the working men as they recall the experiences spurring them to action—hungry children, dissatisfied wives, courting couples too poor to marry, scientists forced to manufacture biological weapons and spy on their colleagues, charity patients dying in hospitals where doctors are hired on the basis of their political connections rather than their medical expertise. By the time we learn the reason for Lefty's delayed appearance, we are not shocked.

Dramatically, Clifford Odets' *Waiting for Lefty* is as irrevocably tied to its historical period as William Pratt's *Ten Nights in a Bar-Room*, but while the social crimes ascribed to alcohol addiction in 1868 meet with skepticism today, pro-union sentiments as they existed in 1935 have lost none of their allure for audiences in 2013 ever-ready to denounce capitalism and its stereotypical representations. Given that this unabashedly propagandistic view doesn't leave much room for argument, a certain similarity is inevitable in productions of this American classic.

Oracle Theatre director Matt Foss solves the problem by recounting his fable predominantly through visual imagery. In the room where we are seated amid the drivers, musclemen (and maybe a lone communist infiltrator or government informer), each scene is announced by having its name scratched onto the dispatcher's chalkboard. Later, a young swain traces his girl friend's silhouette on another wall—graffiti that will subsequently be transformed into the victim of a botched surgical operation.

This doesn't mean that the story is told entirely in silence. Jeremy Clark chews cigars and scenery with ursine relish as the corrupt Fatt. John

Arthur Lewis projects a different kind of menace as his icy "enforcer" and an almost-invisible lab tech quietly dropping toy soldiers into a jar of ominous-looking fluid. Against such formidable villains, Dylan Stuckey, Stephanie Polt and a chorale-singing ensemble struggle mightily to ascertain that virtue triumphs—a victory that Justin Snyder's spectacular special effects render far from final—but at a running time of 55 minutes with no admission fee, Oracle Theatre's fresh and vibrant take on an old sermon emerges as one of those hidden gems so often found on the storefront circuit.

## CRITICS' PICKS

**Blood and Gifts**, TimeLine Theatre, through July 28. We got into the Afghani hell of Islamic politics and blood revenge by doing to the USSR in the 1980s what they did to us in Vietnam: backing their enemy, who became the Taliban. A sad story is written and acted with passion. JA

**Shakespeare's Cymbeline: A Folk Tale with Music**, First Folio Theatre, Oak Brook, through July 21. The Bard meets bluegrass music in this fun folk tale adaptation by David Rice and Michael Keefe that smartly resets one of Shakespeare's lesser-known comic dramas to 1863 West Virginia. SCM

**Smokey Joe's Café**, Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre at Royal George Theatre, extended through Aug. 4. This is your last chance to hear the Leiber & Stoller songs ensuring in the 1950s and '60s that rock 'n' roll was here to stay, delivered with fresh energy by an exuberant young ensemble. MSB

**Uncle Bob**, Mary-Arrchie Theatre Company at Angel Island, through July 21. A grumpy old man and a likewise grumpy young one deliberately court suicide in order to rage against the injustice of their death sentence, but Richard Cotovsky and Rudy Galvan make their existential dilemma almost bromantic. MSB

—By Abarbanel, Barnidge and Morgan

## THEATER REVIEW

### The Half-Brothers Mendelssohn

**Playwright:** Elizabeth Bagby  
**At:** The Strange Tree Group at Signal Ensemble Theatre, 1802 W. Berenice Ave.  
**Tickets:** [www.strangetree.org](http://www.strangetree.org);  
**\$25; \$15 students**  
**Runs through:** July 20

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

The Strange Tree Group is a company known for its eccentrically whimsical productions—both in off-kilter storytelling and historically influenced production design styles.

Strange Tree Group's world premiere of Elizabeth Bagby's *The Half-Brothers Mendelssohn* at Signal Ensemble Theatre certainly maintains the company's high visual hallmarks. But the storytelling is lagging, which makes *The Half-Brothers Mendelssohn* a letdown since it doesn't live up to its plotting potential.

Bagby's script toys with paradoxical questions of time travel. Namely if you went back in time, what would happen to you and the people you love if you slightly altered the course of history?

That's the dilemma facing Theo Mendelssohn (Stuart Ritter), a space and time-machine inventor mourning the loss of his father, Joseph (Joseph Stearns), in 1929. Theo believes that if he could prevent his mother, Alice (Kate Nawrocki), from abandoning his family back in 1908, his father would still be alive and his life would be happier.

But if Theo succeeds in his plans to keep his father from marrying his second wife, Henrietta (Jennifer Henry Starewich), then Theo's reli-

giously minded half-brother, Nicholas (Brandon Ruiter), will essentially be killed off.

As expected, Herbert gets wind of Theo's plans tries to thwart him. And things don't go according to plan as the two half-brothers and their dim-witted gardener, Angelus (Andy Hager), get transported back in time. The fact that Theo and Herbert are both pursuing the love of Margaret (Audrey Flegel), the daughter of clergyman Herbert (Cory Aiello), also provides extra stakes for the sparring siblings.

Unfortunately, Bagby's script doesn't emphasize the characters emotional needs and wants strongly or early enough to make you truly care about their paradoxical outcomes. Instead, Bagby's script zips through her characters' sticky time-traveling situations that aren't as craftily or comically complex as they could be.

Director Thrisa Hodits' casting is sometimes questionable in *The Half-Brothers Mendelssohn*. For instance, Hager betrays too much intelligence to honestly portray the not-so-bright Angelus (though the weak comic material he has to work with is tough to pull off). There also isn't much of a brotherly connection between Ruiter as Nicholas and Ritter's Theo—even at the bittersweet conclusion.

If the script isn't much to boast about, at least the look of *The Half-Brothers Mendelssohn* is quirky and fun, particularly the elaborate time machine concocted by set designer Kate Nawrocki (and a plethora of contributors) and audibly characterized by a fine sound design by Michael Huey. (Sci-fi fans of the time-traveling series *Doctor Who* will be able to pick out a TARDIS sample in the mix.)

Once again Strange Tree Group produces a fine visual example of whimsy with *The Half-Brothers Mendelssohn*. Too bad the story side of things sags this time out.

## THEATER REVIEW

### Tartuffe

**Playwright:** Molière  
**(Richard Wilbur translation)**  
**At:** Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Ave.  
**Tickets:** 773-753-4472;  
**www.courttheatre.org;** \$45-\$65  
**Runs through:** July 21

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

Resetting classic texts in modern-day surroundings is nothing new. Neither is shaking up expectations of race and class by applying colorblind or heritage casting to works that don't explicitly call for it.

Yet when done well, these directorial approaches to standard theatrical works can make centuries-old scripts feel fresh, vibrant and new. And that's certainly the case with director Charles Newell's take on *Tartuffe* (The Imposter), Molière's classic 1664 French critique of religious hucksterism and misplaced faith.

*Tartuffe* completes Newell's Center for Classic Theatre Molière Festival at Court Theatre, which included an earlier production of *The Misanthrope* featuring largely the same cast of actors. Since I missed *The Misanthrope*, I can't say which production is better. But I'm more than happy to throw my support behind Newell's smart and very entertaining take on *Tartuffe*.

Newell resets his *Tartuffe* in the upscale home of a wealthy African-American family in Chicago's Hyde Park/Kenwood neighborhood, featuring a gorgeous sunken-lounge living room by set designer John Culbert (complete with grand swiveling doors that are perfect for sneaky eavesdropping).

And though Richard Wilbur's ever-clever English adaptation of rhyming couplets is used, Newell and his cast largely resist the temptation to throw in any hip-hop styling into their line deliveries and play the text (and drama) seriously straight.

True, costume designer Jacqueline Firkins does provide often outrageously trendy out-



Tartuffe.  
 Photo by Michael Brosilow

fits for the majority of the play's upscale characters, but that's a sign of how forward-thinking and skeptical they are in contrast to the conservatively dressed and easily deceived Orgon (A.C. Smith) and his mother, Madame Pernelle (Allen Gilmore as a religiously severe version of Tyler Perry's Madea). Elizabeth Ledo is a hilarious spitfire as the maid Dorine, who can't resist speaking her mind, while Patrese D. McClain makes for a gorgeous Elmire, the slinky wife of Orgon who tries to skillfully negotiate her vivaciousness to aid in her quest of bringing down the disliked holy man installed in her home.

This leads to perhaps the one questionable note of Newell's *Tartuffe*: the title character. I'm not so sure that Philip Earl Johnson's aging hippie holy man could truly have complete sway over A.C. Smith's tough executive take on Orgon. But then again the complete incongruity only shows Orgon's blind trust in *Tartuffe* and his unwillingness to listen to reason from everyone else around him.

In addition to the sumptuous production design, Newell skillfully peppers his *Tartuffe* production with great physical gags involving pillows, wigs and other surprises that build up to the desperate climax (which should get the audience as panicked as the characters onstage). This is a *Tartuffe* to treasure, and Court Theatre had made Molière's time-worthy truths speak refreshingly anew.

# WINDY CITY TIMES THEATRE SERIES 2013-2014

## A RAISIN IN THE SUN\*

**TIMELINE THEATRE**

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2013

7:30pm

By Lorraine Hansberry

Directed by Ron OJ Parsons

This award-winning classic from lesbian playwright Hansberry "changed American theater forever". – *New York Times*

## THE NORMAL HEART

**TIMELINE THEATRE**

at **STAGE 773**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2013

7:30pm

By Larry Kramer, Directed by Nick Bowling

A searing drama about the personal and private indifference to the AIDS plague in the 80's and one man's fight to awaken the world to the crisis.

## THE LITTLE PRINCE

**LOOKINGGLASS THEATRE**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2013

7:30pm

By Rick Cummins and John Scoullar

Directed by David Catlin

Based on the book by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

A visually arresting, fully immersive theatre interpretation of the beloved French novella from the creators of *Lookingglass Alice*.

## GYPSY\*

**CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014

7:30pm

Book by Arthur Laurents, Music by Jule Styne

Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Directed by Gary Griffin

From the award-winning director of *FOLLIES* comes the musical of famed stripper Gypsy Rose Lee and her larger-than-life stage mother.

## BOOTYCANDY\*

**CHICAGO PREMIERE**

**BAILIWICK THEATRE**

FRIDAY, MARCH 7th, 2014

8pm

By Robert O'Hara, Directed by Lili-Anne Brown

"Funny, smutty and enticingly subversive... a toxically satiric portrait of American life, as it is experienced by someone black and gay."

– *Washington Post*

## THE WAY WEST\*

**CHICAGO PREMIERE**

**STEPPEWOLF THEATRE**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2014

7:30pm

By Mona Mansour, Directed by Amy Morton

A hilarious and heartbreaking play about a family's frontier spirit fueled by both self-delusion and survival.

**85% SOLD  
BUY NOW!**

## APPLAUSE\*

**BAILIWICK THEATRE**

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2014

8pm

Book by Betty Comden & Adolph Green,

Music by Charles Strouse

Lyrics by Lee Adams, Directed by Chris Pazdernik

Based on the Oscar-winning film *ALL ABOUT EVE*, this seldom-produced musical won the Tony Award for Best Musical.

## DAYS LIKE TODAY\*

**WORLD PREMIERE**

**WRITERS' THEATRE**

TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2014

7:30pm

Inspired by the plays of Charles L. Mee

Music & Lyrics by Alan Schmuckler

Book by Laura Eason

Directed by Michael Halberstam

A thrilling new musical about how to sustain a relationship in a world where love sometimes seems impossible.

**SUBSCRIBE  
NOW!**

**ONLY \$280**

\***ENJOY RECEPTIONS BEFORE THESE SHOWS!**

Shows, dates, locations, times subject to change  
Requests for alternate dates will not be guaranteed.

**EMAIL:**

**AMY@WINDYCITYMEDIAGROUP.COM**

**FOR AN ORDER FORM**

# SPOTLIGHT



National Pastime Theatre heats up again in summer with the return of its **Naked July: Art Stripped Down** festival that features shows dabbling in burlesque, performance art, the visual arts and interactive experiences. Some of the featured flesh-bearing shows include: the Toulouse-Lautrec-inspired *Le Chat Noir*, *Pride Films and Plays' Kill Your Boyfriends*, Vaudezilla's (above) *Urban Jungle*, and the return of *The Living Canvas*. The shows of *Naked July: Art Stripped Down* continue through Saturday, July 27, at the National Pastime Theatre at the Preston Bradley Center, 941 W. Lawrence Ave. (fourth floor). Tickets are \$20 for each live performance and \$10 for film screenings. Discounted festival passes are available by calling 773-327-7077 or visiting [www.nakedjuly.com](http://www.nakedjuly.com). Photo courtesy of National Pastime Theatre.

## 'Little Dog Laughed' through July 7

Kid Brooklyn Productions will present Douglas Carter Beane's *The Little Dog Laughed*—which looks at a gay movie star and his agent—at The Den Theatre (Studio 2B), 1333

N. Milwaukee Ave., through July 7.

The cast will include Julia Daubert, Carl Lindberg, Michael Manocchio and Stephanie Monday. Evan F. Caccioppoli will direct.

Tickets are available at [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/243867](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/243867).

# CULTURE CLUB

**"Savor...every assiduously manicured joke!"**  
— *Washington Post*

**THE LIAR**  
BY DAVID IVES  
ADAPTED FROM THE COMEDY BY PIERRE CORNEILLE  
DIRECTED BY WILLIAM BROWN

Now playing at 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe

PURCHASE EARLY FOR BEST PRICES | 847-242-6000 | WRITERSTHEATRE.ORG

2012/13 Season Sponsor  
BMO Harris Bank

Corporate Sponsor Partner  
NES Rentals

WT WRITERS' THEATRE

lifeline THEATRE 30 YEARS Big stories. Up close.

Based on the novel by Alexandre Dumas  
**THE THREE MUSKETEERS**  
May 31st through July 21st

Call 773-761-4477 or visit [www.lifelinetheatre.com](http://www.lifelinetheatre.com)

## THEATER REVIEW

### Mahal

Playwright: Danny Bernardo  
At: Bailiwick Chicago Theatre at Stage 773, 1225 W. Belmont Ave  
Tickets: 773-327-5252;  
[www.stage773.com](http://www.stage773.com); \$35  
Runs through: Aug. 2

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

At the start of the play, Roberto Reyes and his children have returned to Chicago from the Philippines after the funeral of his wife—all except gay son Mikey, who remained stateside, trawling for companionship via Smartphone apps, his search eventually leading to a match-up with Asian Studies scholar Tim. The widower, in the meantime, looks to make a few changes in the apartment he shared with his late spouse, only to find himself quickly embroiled in a May-December affair with his decorator. Oh, and while overseas, older son Roberto Jr.—"Jun" (rhymes with "loon") to his siblings—has fallen in love with a Filipino girl, whom he wants to bring to the U.S., in defiance of his sister Mari's suspicions. When the mysterious woman arrives, everything is suddenly thrown into turmoil.

"Mahal," we are told, is a Tagalog word that can mean both "love" and "expensive" (as we might speak of something precious being "dear"). The tensions within the Reyes clan may begin in the familiar universe of romantic comedy, but quickly expand to encompass dif-

fering opinions regarding what is most precious to those with individual personalities shaped by the cultural dissonance characteristic of assimilated immigrants. More immediate is the question of whether any of them can hope to achieve a trusting relationship while still crippled by secrets and *sabi-sabi* (once defined as "things that everybody knows, but nobody talks about").

The divisions in Danny Bernardo's cliché-free play are not only racial (two of the characters are anglo) and generational (Roberto's paramour is discovered to have been Mikey's high school classmate), but linguistic as well (white-boy Tim, ironically, is fluent in Tagalog, and thus privy to family discussions utterly unintelligible to its youngest member). Ultimately, however, the argument focuses on the idea of taking responsibility for one's past actions, and when the perpetrator of the deed refuses to face the consequences, who, then, pays the price?

Playwright Bernardo's close connection to his material makes for a more complex journey to reconciliation than typically encountered in plays of this genre. Director Erica Weiss forges smooth transitions to integrate dialogue ranging in tone from Norman Lear (exacerbated by Stephen H. Carmody's pop-up book scenic design) to Arthur Miller. Finally, Joseph Anthony Foronda conjures sympathy for the arguably undeserving Roberto Sr. to anchor an actors' ensemble delivering articulate portrayals devoid of stereotype, rendering this a fable of redemption stretching beyond its superficial ethnic boundaries.



Patrick Byrnes and Kevin Matthew Reyes in *Mahal*. Photo by Michael Brosilow

## 'Hedwig' at Haven July 5-Aug. 11

Haven Theatre Chicago is presenting the company's inaugural production, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, July 5-Aug. 11, at Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont Ave.

The production is about Hedwig, an East German rock 'n' roll goddess who is the victim of a botched sex-change operation that has left her with "an angry inch."

John Cameron Mitchell wrote "*Hedwig*." The performance schedule is Fridays and Saturdays at 10:30 p.m., and Sundays at 6 p.m.

Preview performance tickets are \$20 and the all other tickets prices are \$32; visit [www.theaterwit.org](http://www.theaterwit.org) or call 773-975-8150.

## Silk Road's 'Invasion!' starts July 30

Silk Road Rising co-founders, Artistic Director Jamil Khoury and Executive Director Malik Gillani, will present the Midwest premiere of Jonas Hassen Khemiri's *Invasion!* July 30-Sept. 3.

According to a press release, "this deeply subversive play deconstructs a threatening identity—the Arabic male—and forces us to confront our own cultural identity."

All performances will be presented in the company's venue in Pierce Hall at the Chicago Temple, 77 W. Washington St.

Tickets are \$25 (previews)-\$35; visit [www.silkroadrising.org](http://www.silkroadrising.org), or call 312-857-1234, ext. 201.

# 'Miss Gay Black America' doc debunks myths

BY SARAH TOCE

Outside of RuPaul's Drag Race and various Pride celebrations, how many people truly understand drag—not just the hair and makeup part, but the true inner workings of what it means to present in drag? A new documentary seeks to highlight a part of LGBT history that is so often ignored, sometimes chided, misguided, or overlooked.

According to Indiegogo.com, Miss Gay Black America "will explore the popularity of female impersonation in African-American communities and the discussion that this topic lends itself to around the ideals of femininity and masculinity."

The documentary film will highlight "stories of their careers and relationships, of loved ones lost to the AIDS epidemic, and of the kindness and insurmountable talent of performer Terri Livingston," the website continues. "Through these interviews as well as through reimagined scenes from Terri's adolescence, Miss Gay Black America will tell the story of a man whose sheer brilliance and incredible heart touched the lives of everyone around him, underscored by the history and evolution of the world that he found to call home."

"The goal is to raise at least \$25,000 by Aug. 1, if not more. This amount represents a very small portion of the budget that is almost half a million dollars," said director Mary Morten. "We have to do a lot of travel for this production, so road trips and cheap airfares here we come!"

Scrappy travel expenses will all aid in ensuring that future generations understand their LGBT history. Think these firsthand accounts are in books you'll read in high school? Think again.

"Storytelling is important. We learn so much by reflecting on our history," added Morten. "Unfortunately, it is clear that most of us do not have access to materials that provide personal accounts [of] what it was like in the late '70s, '80s and '90s in the gay community. What was it like to be a Black gay man who performed as a woman and did so with unbelievable style and class? Terri honored the art form and treated it with a great deal of reverence. I think my role as an activist has moved to that of a documentarian. I want these stories preserved."

Preserving also means understanding ... and that leads to teaching, and the circle goes round and round.

"Female impersonation, or drag, is a very important cultural phenomenon. We will definitely highlight the split about what is or what is not drag. We have every kind of image available to us from RuPaul to Tyler Perry to Flip Wilson, etc. Are men who have transitioned to living as women full-time still considered to be drag queens? It's a spectrum and we are certainly exploring it in this film," said Morten.

Morten's first feature film, *Woke Up Black*, was cause for discussion post-screening. It followed five Black youth for two straight years—during which time filmmakers (and the audience) witnessed interactions with family members, educational institutions and the legal and judicial system. *Miss Gay Black America* will also be released with a discussion guide. It's a necessary step, said Morten.

"I'm looking forward to these discussions after audiences see the film and as with my first feature film—*Woke Up Black*. We'll produce a discussion guide since I think there will be lot to talk about."

Audiences have so far responded positively to Morten's work in progress.

"It has been surprising to find a very robust drag performance community in some of the most conservative cities in the country," Morten said. "We have been to Indianapolis four times starting last fall since this is where my brother was living when he died. People have been so kind and generous to us. I cannot do my work as a director without research and thanks to the Chris Gonzales Library and Archives and places like Talbott's and Indy Pride in Indianapolis, I have been given unfettered access.

"We were the beneficiaries of a fundraiser in Indianapolis about four weeks ago during their Pride festival activities. The Bag Ladies are men—and a few women/drag kings—willing to dress in high heels and wear outrageous costumes to entertain and raise money for the Indianapolis LGBT community and beyond. They have been around for more than 30 years and started raising money at the very beginning of the AIDS epidemic. I will be forever grateful for their inaugural support."

In fact, one of the performers followed in the documentary was filmed during the Indianapolis fundraiser. Morten said, "About three weeks ago, while in Indianapolis, we followed a performer, Asia Labouche, who still lives as a man full-



time. We filmed him all day from beginning to end as he went about his day and then transformed into this 6'5" drag queen. It was unbelievable!"

Morten's Chicago roots run deep as well. "In Chicago, my brother worked at the Baton for many years," she said. "Jim Flint, the owner, who is in the film as well as several of the current performers, remember my brother. I have not met one person who knew Terri who will not talk to me about him. That's pretty amazing!"

Chicagoans got a first sneak peek of the trailer for *Miss Gay Black America* at the Black Alphabet Film Festival July 2-3 during Black Pride events. Support the documentary and Morten's work by donating to their Indiegogo fund here: <http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/miss-gay-black-america/x/417173?c=home>.

Sherri Payne in *Miss Gay Black America*. Image courtesy of Mary Morten

## LAVENDER UNIVERSITY

A NEW LECTURE SERIES PRESENTED BY

WINDY CITY TIMES & CENTER ON HALSTED

Lavender University is a 9-month lecture series featuring top academic and activist LGBTQs working on a wide range of research and interests. It is sponsored by Windy City Times and Center on Halsted.

**SAT., SEPT. 7, 2013, 11AM-1PM**  
**JOHN D'EMILIO**  
**No Race-Baiting, Red-Baiting, or Queer-Baiting: The Marine Cooks and Stewards Union from Depression to Cold War**  
John D'Emilio teaches at the University of Illinois Chicago. A pioneer in the field of the history of sexuality, he has written or edited more than half a dozen books, including a history of pre-Stonewall activism and a biography of Bayard Rustin. A former Board chair of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, he was the founding director of its Policy Institute. In the 1930s, the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union became a multi-racial, left-wing, and queer-friendly labor union. How was this possible? What happened to the union? And why has this history not come down to us? Based on the research of Allan Berube, who was working on a history of the MCSU when he passed away unexpectedly in 2007, this talk with visuals will attempt to recreate this little known and inspiring episode in radical queer history.

**SAT., OCT 12, 2013, 11AM-1PM**  
**E. PATRICK JOHNSON**  
**Gathering Honey: Oral Histories of Black Southern Women Who Love Women**  
E. Patrick Johnson is the Carlos Montezuma Professor in the Department of Performance Studies and African American Studies, Northwestern University. As a follow-up to *Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South—An Oral History*, E. Patrick Johnson has begun working on a new oral history on black lesbians of the South, tentatively entitled, *Honey: Black Southern Women Who Love Women—An Oral History*. In his presentation, Johnson will discuss the challenges to conducting oral histories of black same-gender-loving women based not only on gender differences between his subjects and himself, but also the content of their stories. In addition, Johnson will share some of the women's stories through performance.

**SUN., NOV. 3, 2013, 1PM-3PM**  
**GOLDIE GOLDBLOOM**  
**Working For Queer Acceptance: Finding Love Amongst the Religious Right**  
Goldie Goldbloom is a writer, a professor, a mother of 8, a trans mentor and a queer activist. Goldbloom's award winning fiction has been published internationally. Her novel, *The Paperbark Shoe*, won the AWP Novel Award and was the Independent Publishers Literary Novel of the Year. She is a professor of creative writing at Northwestern University, and the mother of eight children. Goldie was a contributor to the groundbreaking anthology *Keep Your Wives Away From Them: Orthodox Women, Unorthodox Desires*, and continues to work as an activist in the Orthodox Jewish community for queer inclusion. She is a mentor for transgender youth.

**SAT., DEC. 7, 2013, 11AM-1PM**  
**OWEN DANIEL-MCCARTER**  
**Constitutional Law as it Applies to Transgender Prisoners**  
Owen Daniel-McCarter is a transgender activist and attorney. He is co-founder and collective member of the Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois which provides free, holistic, and gender-affirming legal advocacy to criminalized transgender and gender non-conforming people in Chicago and throughout Illinois prisons.

**SAT., JAN. 4, 2014, 11AM-1PM**  
**HYACINTH PIEL**  
**Ethical Problems in Gender Identity Construction**  
Hyacinth Piel is a graduate student in philosophy at UIC. Ze lives in Edgewater with hir corgi, Poggibonsi. This lecture begins with the idea that as people who seek to lead good and authentic lives, we are repeatedly confronted with profound and difficult questions about how best to develop, identify, and express our genders. Although our genders are uniquely our own existential projects, they are never only that: the way we live our genders is bound to affect others too, and since our existing gender templates are deeply influenced by the oppressive gender hierarchy from which they are drawn, it looks like the building blocks we must use to develop genders in which we can be free may also tend to threaten the freedom and well-being of those around us.

**SAT., FEB. 1, 2014, 11AM-1PM**  
**BETH RICHIE**  
**Arrested Justice: Black Women, Violence and America's Prison Nation**  
Beth E. Richie, PhD is an anti-violence activist and author working in several social justice movements. She is a Professor and Director of the Institute For Research on Race and Public Policy at UIC. This lecture will focus on the ways that the prison industrial complex has served to exacerbate violence against Black women. The emphasis will be on intimate partner abuse as well as systematic violence and the role that race, class, gender, sexuality and other markers of social disadvantage put people in the path of the punishment industry. It will include the redemptive possibility of prison abolition as philosophical and practical solution.

**SAT., MARCH 1, 2014, 11AM-1PM**  
**LOURDES TORRES**  
**Making Familia from Scratch: Towards a History of Latina Lesbian Organizing in Chicago**  
Lourdes Torres is Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies at DePaul University. Since the scholarship that exists on lesbian organizing in the Midwest neglects to engage with the history of Latina lesbian organizing, this project constitutes an effort to name Latina lesbians as agents of change and active subjects of a multiracial history of grassroots organizing. Torres writes: "I explore the history of two organizations in Chicago—Amigas Latinas and LLENA. I discuss the efforts of the organizations to create Latina lesbian visibility in both the 'Latino' and 'lesbian' social and political cultures of Chicago, and their successful and unsuccessful efforts to negotiate divergent national and ethnic histories, class and linguistic differences, and the diverse political stances of their membership."

**SAT., APRIL 5, 2014, 11AM-1PM**  
**ANNE BALAY**  
**Steel Closets: Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Steelworkers**  
Anne Balay is a scholar who has published work on fantasy fiction, children's time travel, and queer pedagogy. She lives in Gary, Indiana. Balay will summarize and discuss her new book, *Steel Closets*, which explores how sexuality and gender overlap in the sprawling steel mills of Northwest Indiana. Drawing from extensive, detailed oral histories taken of a previously silent and invisible population, it investigates how gay, lesbian, and transgender steelworkers interact with their co-workers, communities and families in the context of their physically demanding, risky work. It explains how and why basic steel mills are inhospitable, even dangerous to queers, and demonstrate that we can't understand what it means to be GLBT without including working-class, blue-collar voices and stories.

**SAT., MAY 3, 2014, 11AM-1PM**  
**TIMOTHY STEWART-WINTER**  
**From Civil Rights to Gay Rights in Chicago**  
Timothy Stewart-Winter is an Assistant Professor of History at Rutgers University in Newark, New Jersey. This talk is based on Stewart-Winter's forthcoming book on the rise of gay politics in Chicago since the 1950s. The talk will examine trace how black insurgency paved the way for Midwestern gay activists to challenge police brutality and job discrimination, and how the gay movement's priorities shifted during a long struggle for a political voice in one of the nation's most segregated big cities.

**\$25 PER LECTURE** Tickets available in advance and at the door on space-available basis. Discounts available for multiple series purchases. Limited number of scholarship slots available.

All lectures at Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St., Chicago. For tickets, see <https://community.centeronhalsted.org/lavenderuniversity>  
For more information, please email: [editor@windycitymediagroup.com](mailto:editor@windycitymediagroup.com) or [Ikarcic@centeronhalsted.org](mailto:Ikarcic@centeronhalsted.org)

# KNIGHT AT THE MOVIES

BY  
RICHARD  
KNIGHT, JR.

## I'm So Excited; Laurence Anyways; film notes

It's a stellar week at the Cineplex for gay-themed movies from two tremendously talented foreign-born queer auteurs. Pedro Almodovar, the master, represented by *I'm So Excited*, his first comedy in 25 years. Also, there's Xavier Dolan, the young French-Canadian whose third film, the nearly three-hour transgender relationship drama *Laurence Anyways*, is yet another impressive addition to his output.

Any new movie from Spain's premiere film auteur, the openly gay writer-director Almodovar, is cause for celebration. And to read Almodovar dub *I'm So Excited* as his "gayest movie" since his frothy sex comedies of the 1980s that established his reputation is further cause for rejoicing. (Boy, is it.) *I'm So Excited* is perfect summer fare—as light and breezy and fizzy as



*I'm So Excited*. Photo from Sony Pictures Classics

one of Sidetrack's specialty concoctions. There's no better way to keep the spirit of Gay Pride alive, methinks, than to trek down to the Landmark Century, 2828 N. Clark St., where this pop-colored campfest is having its exclusive Chicago run beginning Friday, July 5, and take off with this delightfully raunchy cinematic soufflé.

Onboard a jet flight from Spain to Mexico, the trio of gay male first-class flight attendants are up to their usual tricks—sneaking drinks, checking out the hefty package tenting up the pants of a sleeping hunk destined for his honeymoon, putting up with the usual histrionics of a blonde diva, prepping to do another of their choreographed songs (hence the title, a reference to the '80s Pointer Sisters hit) and kvetching about

their own gay relationships. Joserra (the hilarious Javier Camara)—the plumpish lead attendant whose boyfriend is the handsome, quietly bisexual married pilot of the aircraft—seems at first to be the most level-headed.

But when trouble with the landing gear develops and the aircraft is forced to endlessly circle while a solution is sorted out, things go deliciously to hell and Joserra starts tipping big-time. As the attendants and first-class passengers consume copious amounts of drinks and drugs (those in coach are fast asleep, thanks to a dose of Xanax the attendants administered), the raucous high jinks, sexual couplings and pie-eyed confessions become more outrageous by the moment.

There's bound to be a fair amount of critical backlash lobbed at the movie—Almodovar's comedies (with the exception of *Women on the Edge of a Nervous Breakdown*) never having attained the hosannas his psychologically deep melodramas have. But as thin and fluffy as *I'm So Excited* undeniably is, the entertainment factor it delivers is as high and pixedated as it's whacked-out, crazy characters. Further, some of the backlash, in all honesty, might have to do with mainstream (read: straight) audiences not being exactly comfortable with Almodovar's blatant, unapologetic gay humor. It's one thing for mainstream audiences to laugh at dick jokes and gay innuendos that straight male characters spout but quite another for those same jokes and sight gags to come from their gay counterparts.

With *Laurence Anyways*—the two-hour-45-minute new film from Xavier Dolan—the discomfort is right there on the screen. When Laurence (the compelling Melvin Poupaud, who was so memorable in Ozon's *Time to Leave*) announces to longtime girlfriend Frederique (the luminous Suzanne Clement) that he has always felt trapped in his male body and wants to transition to female, her reaction is instant and palpable.

Shocked, angered, bereft, supportive, frustrated, confused—Frederique goes through a range of conflicting emotions in the ensuing days, months and, finally, years that are so raw and convincing that it's hard to know where the character and actress separate. Clement gives one of those legendary, no-holds-barred performances that announces the arrival of a sensational new screen presence. Dolan again shows his strength with drawing the best from his actresses. (Anne Dorval who played his mother in his debut, *I Killed My Mother*, was no less tremendous.)

Poupaud holds his own as the quietly determined Laurence, who is torn between his helpless love for his "Fred" and his overwhelming need to transition. The always welcome Nathalie Baye—as Laurence's flinty, unsentimental, ar-

tistically inclined mother—adds notable support. Dolan's script, epically scaled from 1989 through the mid-'90s (the soundtrack and fashions are spot on), really gets at the heart of the emotional challenges facing both the person desperately needing to transition and the conflicts faced by their loved ones. Heartfelt, messy and filled with genuine emotional insight, Dolan's movie is a marvel.

In the Chicagoland area, *Laurence Anyways* is playing exclusively at the AMC South Barrington theatres, 175 South Studio Dr., South Barrington). A DVD release is scheduled for the fall from Breaking Glass Pictures, distributor of the film. <http://bgpics.com/>

### Film notes:

**Games**—the 1967 psychological thriller starring Simone Signoret, Katharine Ross and James Caan—is having a rare theatrical screening Wed., July 3, at 7 p.m. at the Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave. Signoret plays a mysterious cosmetics saleswoman who enters the rarefied world of a wealthy, bored Manhattan couple and, to say the least, shakes up their existence when she introduces some rather daring new "games" into their lives. Although the film didn't do well at the box office, its twists and turns, atmospheric setting—the modern-art stuffed townhouse of the couple—and excellent performances from its leads have helped elevate its reputation.

The movie was helmed by gay director Curtis Harrington, whose career had its beginnings with the experimental queer avant-garde filmmaker Kenneth Anger. Harrington went on to direct the horror-tinged *What's the Matter with Helen?* and *Who Slew Auntie Roo?* His posthumous autobiography, *Nice Guys Don't Work in Hollywood*, has recently been published by Chicago's Drag City, which is co-sponsoring the screening along with The Northwest Chicago Film Society. <http://www.northwestchicagofilm-society.org>

**Great news for queer film fans:** This fall the Chicago International Film Festival is pumping up its selection of LGBT films, giving this segment of the festival a new moniker, OUT-Look. The fest will further highlight these movies—narratives, documentaries and shorts—with its own competitive award, to be called the Q Hugo. [www.chicagofilmfestival.com](http://www.chicagofilmfestival.com)



*Laurence Anyways*. Image from Breaking Glass Pictures

NUNN ON ONE: TV

# Sherri Saum: 'Foster' mom on new show and Adam Lambert

BY JERRY NUNN

ABC Family's original series *The Fosters* premiered this month and it's keeping it in our family with the story of two lesbian moms and their children.

Executive Producer Jennifer Lopez has brought the show to life. Teri Polo and Sherri Saum play the mothers meeting the challenges of one biological son, two adopted kids and a brand-new foster child. Saum plays the part of Lena, a school principal who agrees to take in Callie, as a foster child.

Saum landed her first lead role in Aaron Spelling's *Sunset Beach* while still attending school in Ohio. She was nominated for a Daytime Emmy for Outstanding Younger Actress.

She went on to more parts with *Revenge*, *Army Wives* and *Charmed*, then was a regular for two years of Denis Leary's *Rescue Me*.

Windy City Times talked with Saum about the show—which has sparked controversy—before its debut.

**Windy City Times: Hi, Sherri. So *The Fosters* is about to premiere. Are you excited?**

Sherri Saum: I am so excited! This is probably my favorite project I have worked on my whole career.

**WCT: I was reading up about you and it seemed you were in school then fell into the acting career. Is that what happened?**

SS: Yeah, I was following in my sister's footsteps. She was so academically gifted. I wanted to do the right things in school so I went to college. I was there in body and that was about it. I was studying psychology and things that I was interested in. I was just marking until my real destiny happened.

**WCT: You got the role on *Sunset Beach*.**

SS: Yes, I was in college when I got that show. I then moved out to L.A. from New York.

**WCT: Now you go back and forth to live?**

SS: I have a place in New York and we sublet it. We float around from one place to another according to where work is happening.

**WCT: You will have to pop into Chicago on your way over.**

SS: [Laughs] I have to say I am always desperately avoiding any layovers in Chicago, especially if it is wintertime.

**WCT: Let's talk about your character on *The Fosters*.**

SS: Her name is Lena Adams and she is a vice principal at a charter school.

**WCT: Does your character fall in love with one of the kids and want to foster them?**

SS: Well, I first fall in love with my partner, Stef Foster, who has a biological child. We decide to expand our family and help out some kids in need at the same time.

**WCT: Does *The Fosters* refer to the last name or fostering children?**

SS: Both.

**WCT: Does the show break down lesbian stereotypes for American audiences?**

SS: It is definitely going to be groundbreaking in the landscape of television as we know it right now. Yes we see gaty characters on TV but it is usually not in a realistic way. We are not perpetuating stereotypes or playing it for laughs. It is showing a depiction of a slice of life of a family that just happens to be headed by two moms. We are not trying to push messages in people's faces per se but we are saying, "Hey, this is a family and check it out!"

**WCT: Do you think this is the perfect time for a show like this?**

SS: It really is. I think we are actually catching up to the reality. Television is finally portraying what is everywhere in society. It is very timely. There are high-profile people coming out. It is

very topical right now coincidentally.

**WCT: What did Jennifer Lopez bring to the table with producing the show?**

SS: As actors we are not privy to all of the inner workings of that aspect. She is the most recognizable name on the producer list. She came to the set a few times and we met her.

This whole thing didn't happen because she is a figurehead. It is very near and dear to her heart. She has an aunt who is gay and always wondered if she could have a family. She was fascinated by that and wanted to explore it. She was asked if she would do a cameo on the show and her response was that it stands on its own. It doesn't need a boost from a celebrity to make it fly.

She really believes in the show. I'm really honored by that.

**WCT: That is good to hear. How is your co-star?**

SS: Teri is bananas. My abs hurt after working with her all day because we laugh the whole time. I love watching her and I learn a lot from her. She is a pro. If people could know what goes on between "cut" and "action" they would never believe it! It is so much fun.

**WCT: You just went to the GLAAD Media Awards?**

SS: I went to the one here in L.A. and the one in San Francisco. I'm just proud to be a part of this whole new world. It is a really exciting time. We meet a lot of interesting people. I really hope people embrace the show. I hope the gay community get on board with what we are doing and they like what we do because we don't want to emulate or misrepresent anyone. We want to have a truthful portrayal and an honest one.

**WCT: I saw on Twitter you met Adam Lambert at the awards.**

SS: I did. He's a doll and the nicest guy! He's so sweet and open. My mom, of course, had to ask for an autograph and I wanted to crawl under my seat and die. It was the one in San Francisco and we shared a car on the way to the airport.

**WCT: By the way, you have the most amazing hair.**

SS: Thank you. I have worked on many shows



Sherri Saum. Publicity photo

where they try to wrestle it into submission and put it into a style. It really needs to do its own thing. True to this show's vibe they let my hair be. I'm thrilled for that because we are not burning it off with irons and not wrangling it. I am blessed that people are happy with it!

**The Fosters is new every Monday at 8 p.m. Central on ABC Family.**



RIVEREDGE  
PARK

# IDINA MENZEL

from Broadway's *WICKED*  
& the hit TV show *GLEE*

## JULY 19

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE  
WITH A 55-PIECE ORCHESTRA

LIMITED RESERVED SEATING  
TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

SPONSORED BY  
**DUNHAM  
FUND**



630.896.6666 or [RIVEREDGEAURORA.COM](http://RIVEREDGEAURORA.COM)






# Gay Games 9 plans solidify, Gay Games Chicago marks anniversary

BY ROSS FORMAN

With about one year to go before Gay Game 9 opens in Cleveland, the event is shaping up to be "one of the most exciting and enjoyable Gay Games ever," said Rob Smitherman, the events & operations director who also has worked on-site at the past two Games and is a Chicago native.

Smitherman, 53, was the sports manager in Chicago for the 2006 Games, organizing eight sports, obtaining sanctions for all sanctioned sports, assisting in winding down the sports and events after Games Chicago. He also was the sports manager at the 2010 Games in Cologne, organizing sports, assisting in registration, venues, events, and more.

Athletes, artists, volunteers, friends and family are expected to attend the unveiling of a permanent legacy to the 2006 Gay Games (which took place in Chicago seven years ago this month) at the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St., on Saturday, July 13, 1-4 p.m.

Former participants and volunteers are encouraged to wear their Gay Games Chicago uniforms, T-shirts, medals, pins and more to the free event. There will be special giveaways of GGVII merchandise.

Representatives of Cleveland+Akron 2014, the site of the 9th Gay Games, will be on hand to answer questions about that event, scheduled for Aug. 9-14, 2014. Those who register at the event will save money on their fees.

The special display to be unveiled at the Center on Halsted was designed by David Woody, Director of Design & Development at Chicago's Museum of Science & Industry and a member of the Chicago 2006 Board, with support from Tracy Baim, publisher of Windy City Times and co-vice chair of Chicago 2006. The display contains photos and artifacts from the event.

Gay Games 9, presented by the Cleveland Foundation, runs Aug. 9-16, 2014, with 38 sports and cultural events, plus opening and closing ceremonies. There also will be a Festival Village and other LGBT events throughout the week, which is expected to draw 10,000 participants from 65 countries.

"The enthusiasm and excitement of the people in Cleveland and Akron have me so optimistic that the week will be fantastic," Smitherman said. "Most people I meet in both cities are al-



Rob Smitherman. Photo from Smitherman

ready aware of the Gay Games and the support from both communities is overwhelming."

Smitherman said that organizers have almost all the venues set, and the planning for the events and ceremonies is moving forward.

"Registration is on track, approximately where it has been budgeted. The large majority of registrations occur within the last year before the Games," he said.

To date, there are registered Gay Game 9 participants ranging in age from 22 to 79, with 19 countries represented from five continents. From the United States, there already are registered participants from 36 states. The largest numbers are from Ohio, Illinois and California.

So far, the most popular sports are marathon/half marathon, swimming, tennis, and track & field.

No sport is close to being closed at this point, Smitherman said, "but we have limited space in sailing and golf, and they will probably be the first sports that close."

Plus, no sports at this point will, potentially, be canceled due to lack of registration, he said.

"The 2014 Gay Games are in a good place financially at this point. We are on track to meet our budget, both in fundraising and in other support," Smitherman said. "The [host] cities and the region have embraced the 2014 Gay Games in an overwhelming manner. The entire state is becoming excited to be part of the only Gay Games that will occur in the United States this decade."

The city of Akron will host several events, including softball, track & field, soccer and martial arts. The marathon/half marathon is going to be run through the streets of Akron, and the 10K road race will occur in the Akron area, too.

"The arts and culture in the Cleveland area are amazing; the culinary scene is one of the best in the country; Cleveland has been named one of the best beer cities in the United States, and the city is ringed with parks, including the Cuyahoga National Park," Smitherman said. "The band and choral events [that are part of the Games] are going to be amazing because we are going to have a great venue, which we are soon to announce. The Festival Village will have events every day. We are coordinating outside cultural events that will be part of the themes of the Gay Games: Participation, Inclusion and Personal Best."



Part of the 2006 Gay Games closing ceremony. Photo by Amy Moseley

Other Gay Games 9 highlights:

—Cleveland is opening its new convention center this summer, and it will play host to volleyball and badminton, plus festival village will be on the renovated mall just outside.

—Swimmers and divers will compete in the same natatorium where Greg Louganis and the U.S. Olympic swim and dive teams trained for the Olympics in 1980 and 1984.

—Sailing participants will be competing in new boats built specially for the Gay Games by Tartan Yachts, which will auction the boats post-Games for charity.

—After the 2014 Games, the Cleveland Foundation will create an LGBT field-of-interest fund to support LGBT-related projects, programs and organizations. (Other field-of-interest funds cover broad topics such as education, economy, health care, etc.)

Smitherman has played in the annual Coady Roundball Classic annually since 1998, missing only one. He also has played tennis, beach volleyball and indoor volleyball through the Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association.

His sporting highlight came when he played in his first Gay Games in Amsterdam, "that two important parts of my life, sports and being gay, had finally come together," he said.

Smitherman also has participated in the Games in Sydney, Chicago and Cologne. His basketball team, SOS, won the silver medal in the Men's B Division in Cologne, his first Games medal.

"I will be pretty busy working in Cleveland, but I hope I can play a few games with my team," he said. "I have had so many [memorable] Gay Games moments, but when you work for an event it becomes really special. I was honored to be able to represent the Chicago Gay Games at Wrigley Field when we passed the Gay Games flag to representatives from Cologne, and again in Cologne when we passed the flag to Cleveland/Akron. Those memories are really special."

Smitherman moved to Chicago from Virginia in 2006, and then moved to Cleveland to work for the 2014 Games in 2012. He lived in Chicago for about six years.

**"AN EXULTANT FARCE!"**  
-Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

EL DESEO PRESENTS  
**I'M SO EXCITED!**  
A FILM BY ALMODÓVAR

RESTRICTED  
**R** WWW.SONYCLASSICS.COM  
SONY PICTURES CLASSICS™  
©2013 SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT INC.

**EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENTS START FRIDAY, JULY 5**

Chicago  
LANDMARK'S CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA  
(773) 509-4949

Evanston  
CENTURY 12 EVANSTON / CINÉARTS 6 & XD  
(800) FANDANGO #942

**WWW.IMSOEXCITEDMOVIE.COM**

## Team USA overwhelms Sweden 84-0

In Vantaa, Finland, Team USA—the reigning world-champion women's tackle football team—began its title defense by crushing Sweden 84-0 in the 2013 Women's World Championship June 30.

It was the largest margin of victory in tournament history and featured contributions from various Chicago Force players. Chicago Force quarterback Sami Grisafe completed 12 of 16 attempts for 220 yards with 3 TD (touchdown) passes and added a rushing TD. Among other players who scored were Cassey Brick (three touchdowns); Odessa Jenkins (two); and Adrienne Smith, Jeanette Gray, Ashley Berggren, Brandy Hatcher and Katie Sowers (one each).

Team USA plays again on Thursday July 4 against Germany. A win would guarantee a place in the gold-medal game.

Team USA won the inaugural tournament in Stockholm, Sweden, in 2010.

## Ride for AIDS Chicago July 13-14

Ride for AIDS Chicago—a two-day, 200-mile, bicycling event produced by Test Positive Aware Network (TPAN) and designed to raise needed monies for TPAN and Community Partners—will take place July 13-14.

The ride starts in the morning (4:30 a.m.) and goes into Wisconsin, along the shores of Lake Geneva and then into our camp on Green Lake, part of the Lauderdale lakes chain.

Riders are required to raise a minimum of \$1,000; crew members are encouraged to raise \$500, but are not required.

For more info, visit <http://rideforaids.kintera.org/faf/home/default.asp?event=1033952>.

# 30 Under 30 Awards held

The 14th annual Windy City Times 30 Under 30 Awards were held June 27 at the Center on Halsted. Individuals from all parts of the LGBTQIA communities were honored at the event.

The Windy City Times receives community nominations for the awards each spring, and WCT staff select the best in LGBTQIA activism, business, culture, non-profit work and more. The awards are co-sponsored by the Center on Halsted, AIDS Foundation of Chicago and Chicago House.

Jeff Marshall, a top 23 finalist for the Windy City Times Windy City Gay Idol 2013, started the show with a rendition of "The Impossible Dream."

Windy City Queercast host Amy Matheny and Nightspots Managing Editor Kirk Williamson hosted the awards, which are coordinated each year by Managing Editor Andrew Davis, with support from Associate Editor Kate Sosin and Publisher Tracy Baim.

Photos by Hal Baim

For full list of this year's honorees, see: <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/lgbt/Windy-City-Times-to-present-30-Under-30-awards-/43433.html>.



# One million flock to 44th Annual Pride Parade

BY KATE SOSIN

Chicago's 44th Annual Pride Parade kicked off June 30 under sunny skies and mild temperatures, with a heavy focus on bringing marriage equality to Illinois.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel led the parade, with Gov. Pat Quinn following later in the parade.

Serving as grand marshal was former NFL player Wade Davis, who was followed by Members of the NFL Players Association.

Hundreds of thousands lined the route in Uptown and Lakeview, in what appeared to be a relatively safe event.

According to Chicago Police News Affairs Officer Daniel O'Brien, more than one million attended the parade.

Pfeiffer said that overall, he felt the parade was a success.

"I think it went very well," said Pfeiffer. "It was a balance of the social and political."

Spirits were high just days after the U.S. Supreme Court effectively struck down the Defense of Marriage Act and California's ban on same-sex marriage. But many contingents focused on equal marriage in Illinois, where the Illinois House failed to vote the issue in May.

The marriage shortfall sparked backlash against out gay representatives and other sponsors and prompted a petition calling for their removal from the parade.

Rep. Greg Harris, chief sponsor of the legislation, gathered a large contingent of politicians and marched without incident. Accompanied by hundreds of marchers, the group sported shirts that read, "I'm a yes for marriage equality."

Elected officials in that group included Reps. Deb Mell, Kelly Cassidy, Lou Lang and Sara Feigenholtz. State Sens. Daniel Biss and Mike Frerichs were also present.

They marched in close proximity to Illinois Unites for Marriage, the coalition of groups organizing for equal marriage. Coalition organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois, Lambda Legal, Equality Illinois and The Civil Rights Agenda were also represented, in a massive show of support for equal marriage.

But many of those not working on marriage also displayed Illinois Unites for Marriage signs throughout the parade.

Religious representation was also high in the parade, with dozens of churches and faiths represented in a contingent that stretch over two blocks in lengths.

Other favorite entries included Asians & Friends of Chicago, whose "Gayflower" boat was topped by a person dressed entirely in popcorn; a large race car-themed float by Sidetrack; Windy City Cowboys; a shiny silver and pink float by The Baton Show Lounge; a huge and colorful entry by Balloons by Tommy; and the American Veterans for Equal Rights large American flag, among others.

Anti-gay protesters appeared to be small in numbers, and spectators largely drowned them out with cheers for the parade.

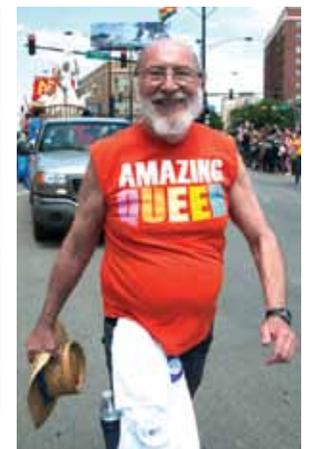
Pfeiffer said that major incidents had not been reported. Ambulances were called for people suffering alcohol poisoning and heat exhaustion along the route. At least one fight broke out at Oakdale and Broadway. Crowd control was required at Clark and Halsted.

According to police, the day saw 52 arrests, with 50 misdemeanors and two felonies. Details on the felonies were not immediately available.

Elected officials included Ill. Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon, Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka; Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, State's Attorney Anita Alvarez, Treasurer Maria Pappas, Commissioners Jesus Garcia and Jeff Tobolski, Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown; U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin; U.S. Reps. Mike Quigley, Robin Kelly and Jan Schakowsky; Alds. Tom Tunney, James Cappelman, Bob Fioretti, Scott Waguespack, John Arena, Danny Solis, Joe Moreno; the Alliance of Illinois Judges, lesbian and gay judges including Judge Nancy Katz. Chicago Police Supt. Garry McCarthy also participated, rising in front of the Gay Officers Action League contingent. A spokesperson for Attorney General Lisa Madigan said that she also marched.



Photos on these two pages by Tracy Baim, Tim Carroll, Ed Negrón, and Kate Sosin. Many more photos from the parade and other Pride weekend events online at [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)





Photos on these two pages by Tracy Baim, Tim Carroll, Ed Negrón, and Kate Sosin. Many more photos from the parade and other Pride weekend events online at [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)



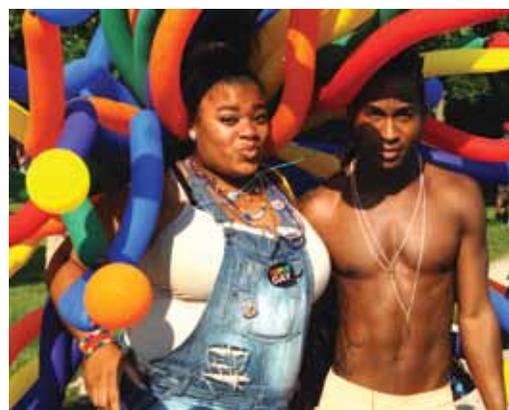


# Montrose Rocks kicks off Black Pride

As is tradition, Chicago's first Black Pride Festival of the summer took place at Montrose Harbor simultaneously with the annual LGBT Pride Parade nearby. After a week of indifferent if not schizophrenic weather, Sunday turned out to be the first beautiful day from beginning to end in a long while. With Otis Mack, Mike Conners, Trina Truelove and Ruff 'n Stuff as hosts the entertainment segment of the festival was jammed packed with everything from female impersonators, queer rappers, dance groups, and a high school color guard.

Windy City Black Pride will take place this week at venues across town. See details at <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/lgbt/PRIDE-United-Black-Pride-lists-July-1-7-events/43422.html>.

Text and photos by Vern Hester.



# Proud to Run breaks participant record—again

The 32nd annual Proud to Run race, which includes both 5K and 10K races, took place June 29 at Montrose Avenue near Lake Shore Drive. About 1,600 participants—an event record—gathered in foggy, windy and chilly weather to participate in the run/walk to benefit the Links Pride Youth Program, The Night Ministries and TPAN.

"I've been involved with Proud to Run for the last three years and in those three years it's grown so much and become more inclusive of not only the entire LGBT community but also straight allies. This is a great event and a great way to celebrate pride especially during this week when the Supreme Court decided that DOMA is unconstitutional," said Proud to Run co-director Tim Henney. Henney also noted that more than 100 volunteers assisted the organizers during the morning of the race.

Fitness Formula Club Lakeview led participants in warm-up exercises before the race. Members of the Windy City Cycling Club were the lead bicyclists during the race and kept the pace as the runners/walkers navigated the course.

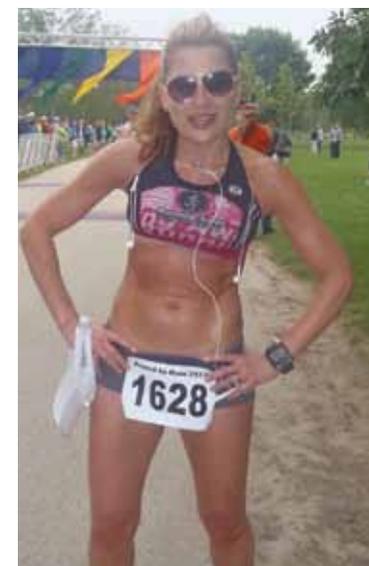
Tim Hite of Gay Chic Magazine was the DJ for the event; following the race, the Chicago Spirit Brigade provided the entertainment. Then, the awards were handed out to the top finishers of both the 5K and 10K races as well as the winners of various age groupings.

In the 5K race Samantha Kirkham finished first in the women's category and Matthew Frey finished first in the men's category. In the 10K race, Nicole Perez finished first in the women's category and Kevin Garcia finished first in the men's category.

The sponsors for this year's event were CNA, Crew, Evian, Fitness Formula Clubs, Jamie Franz, J.P. Morgan Chase, PepsiCo, Sidetrack, The Sofo Tap, Svedka Vodka, Universal Sole, Urban Pooch and Whole Foods.

See [www.proudtorun.org](http://www.proudtorun.org) for more information.

Text and photos by Carrie Maxwell.



# Dyke March draws big numbers in Uptown

BY KATE SOSIN

Carrying signs, banners and bullhorns, more than 1,000 people filled the streets of Uptown June 29 for the city's annual Dyke March parade and rally.

Attendance and spirits were high despite overcast skies and chilly weather early in the march.

The march was the second held in Uptown, as the event travels to a new neighborhood every two years.

The march stepped off from Margate Park and moved west on Argyle, turning south onto Sheridan and then west onto Lawrence. It looped back on Broadway and concluded along Argyle, home to dozens of East Asian businesses.

Restaurant and shop owners greeted the march with waves and cheers from the sidewalk, and families lined the route, taking photos.

Marchers shouted, drummed and danced, chanting, "The gender system must be broken! I am not your fucking token!" and, "My junk is not for you to see! Remove the sex on all ID!"

Dyke March is typically held on the Saturday before Sunday's Annual Pride Parade. The march, seen as an alternative to a corporate-heavy parade, tends to highlight queer and trans-identified people as well as others not always seen in mainstream gay organizing.

In recent years, the march has toured various neighborhoods in an effort to bring visibility throughout the city and connect with different communities. The 2011 South Shore march prompted concerns that a lack of engagement with residents betrayed the spirit of the march.

But the 2012 and 2013 march saw large crowds in Uptown as well as positive response from business owners and residents.

Juana Peralta, an organizer of the march, said that organizers worked hard to create an inclusive event, holding community forums and partnering with community organizations. Peralta said that the group especially worked to create safe spaces for queer and transgender people of color.

"So, this year feels really great," Peralta said. "We took to the streets. The police didn't get involved. It was the best case scenario, really."

The march wrapped up without incident. A rally in Margate Park followed. Performers included Mika, KRCC Drummers, Rex Manning Day, Legendary House of Ninja, LockJaw Nancy, Lyrical Genius, Queer Quior and Po'Chop.



Photos by Tim Carroll, Kate Sosin, Janean Watkins, and Sandi Woods.



# Back Lot Bash celebrates a decade

Back Lot Bash, now in its 10th year, has grown into a four-day event starting with a Thursday night comedy program and a Friday night acoustic evening and concluding with a two-day outdoor women's music festival in Chicago's Andersonville neighborhood.

Thousands of women raised their glasses high this weekend at the festive outdoor event celebrating unity, inclusiveness and pride. Geared mainly toward lesbians, the event featured local and regional musicians as well as LGBT celebrities such as Gwen La Roka, Courtney Jackson, and Whitney Mixer and Sara Bettencourt.

Christina Wiesmore, who co-founded the event in 2004, said this is the biggest turnout yet, with over 2,000 tickets sold in the first two days alone. This time around, headliners included Melissa Ferrick, Dot Dot Dot, The Gina Glocksen Band and Uh Huh Her, each of which were preceded by two or three artists.

Rolling off the recent court defeat of DOMA, spirits were high at this community-based event. Human Rights Campaign was one of several sponsors and sold their merchandise in the lot. Other sponsors included Miller Lite, Hamburger Mary's, Swake and The L Stop.

"There's nowhere else you can find this many lesbians in one place," said Caitlin Bonhom, who attended the bash for the third time on Saturday. "It's so exciting I can hardly handle it."

The bash is sponsored by Miller Lite, Hamburger Mary's, Sidecar Bar, Walgreens, SwakeGroup Real Estate (of Dream Town Realty), Kiki Calumet of A and N Mortgage, Cheetah Gym, The L Stop, Human Rights Campaign and tellofilms.com.

**Text by Samantha Caiola. Photos by Caiola, Tim Carroll, and Mel Ferrand.**



# Pride North attracts large crowds

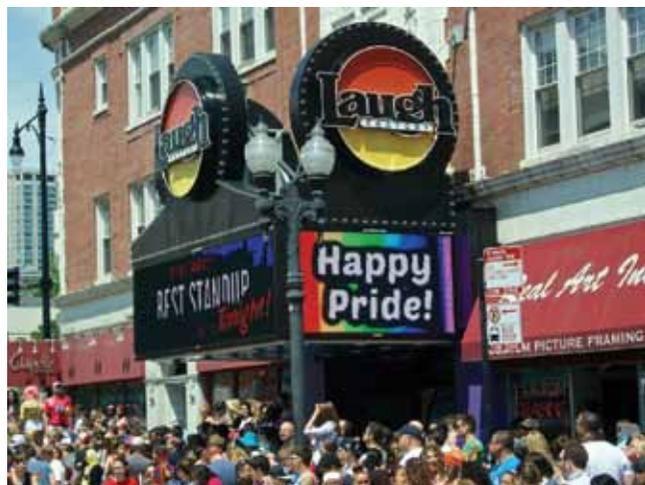
The Pride North festival, held between Lunt and Farwell on Glenwood Ave., drew many to Rogers Park after the parade on Sun., June 30. Now in its third year, this street fest, sponsored by Rogers Park gay bars The Glenwood and Sidecar Bar; and the restaurant MorseL, treated proud attendees to DJ sets by Foxfox, Voxbox, The Byrne Twins and Herrbear; as well as festival staples Sixteen Candles and local gay singer/songwriter Mark Ortega.

**Text and photos by Kirk Williamson.**



# More from the 44th Annual PRIDE PARADE

Photos on this page by Tracy Baim, Tim Carroll, Ed Negron, and Kate Sosin. Many more photos from the parade and other Pride weekend events online at [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)



SEE VIDEOS OF PRIDE WEEKEND EVENTS AT

You  /WindyCityTimes

Plus, see hundreds more Pride weekend photos online:

[www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)

# Pride Brunch at Tavernita; Plum Market

BY ANDREW DAVIS

**Tavernita**, 151 W. Erie St., and guest hosts Kevin Aeh, Jeff Conway, Joe Cutaia, and Benjamin Newby recently hosted a Pride Month party supporting GLAAD. Themed "I Want Candy," the brunch (11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.) featured a complimentary Gummi Bear Bar in addition to options such as Belgian waffles with fried egg, candied bacon and maple syrup.

See <http://tavernita.com> for more about this restaurant and future events.

In other food news, Old Town grocer **Plum Market** officially opened at 1233 N. Wells St. June 26. The grand opening ceremony included a celebratory toast and an official ribbon-cutting by Ald. Michelle Smith of Chicago's 43rd Ward, and brothers Matt and Marc Jonna, the store's co-founders. Visit [www.plummarket.com](http://www.plummarket.com).



Photos of the Pride Brunch at Tavernita by Andrew Davis.



20 years of weddings, commitment ceremonies, showers, rehearsal dinners, & romantic dining in the heart of historic Bucktown

1653-55 West Cortland Avenue Bucktown 60622  
773-862-5263  
[www.janesrestaurant.com](http://www.janesrestaurant.com)  
[www.facebook.com/pages/Janes-Restaurant](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Janes-Restaurant)

Stop by to see our gorgeous party room done in shades of cream & espresso with capiz & crystal chandeliers, & a 15 foot white, Italian marble bar...Perfect for your occasion!  
Comfortably seats up to 60 guests

**“A Neighborhood Place”**  
Same owner/Same location since 1973  
2827 N. Broadway 773-248-2445

**NEW BANQUET ROOM AVAILABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS!**

Renaldi's Banquet room is available for ALL occasions, including:

- Rehearsal Dinners
- Wedding Celebrations
- Business Meetings
- Bachelor Parties
- Birthday Parties
- Holiday Parties
- You name it!

Room can handle up to 80 guests and we can prepare whatever you'd like from our vast menu. Parking is available across the street. This is a great venue for your upcoming wedding celebrations and wedding receptions.

**Call us today to discuss how we can turn your into event into the time of your life.**

**Four Courses  
Two Lovers  
One Great Price**

**\$55<sup>99</sup>** PER COUPLE

Four Courses for just \$55  
Take time for date night, without blowing up the bank. Enjoy your choice of cheese fondue, any featured salad, our signature Land and Sea Entree, and any chocolate fondue!

RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED • (312) 573-0011  
609 N. DEARBORN, CHICAGO, IL 60654 • MELTINGPOT.COM  
Valid through July 4th. Not useable with any other promotion.

Welcome to the FONDUE EFFECT  
The Melting Pot  
a fondue restaurant

SHOW UP...

...ONE DAY

...FOR THE REST OF  
YOUR LIFE



  
**MARCHONSPRINGFIELD**  
**FORMARRIAGEEQUALITY**

 design by t. tatsui

  
**@ILLINOISMARCHES**

# Overcoming stigma to win Windy City Gay Idol

BY ROSS FORMAN

For Maria Pahl, her aha moment came as a sophomore at the University of Michigan

She had been working diligently for months to lose weight and the final week of that stretch—when she had been running mile upon mile upon mile, and eating not much more than lettuce and soup broth—she realized the weight was not disappearing, despite her rigorous efforts.

She was exhausted, hungry and ill.

"I finally just thought to myself, 'This isn't healthy; this isn't good. Why do people do this to themselves? Why does society tell us that we have to do this to ourselves?'" Pahl said. "That was a turning point for me and I just said, screw this; I'm going to be who I am, look how I look; I'm going to live my life as I see fit. My health is between me and my doctor, and if anyone else feels like they have the right to say something just because of how I look, they're an idiot quite frankly and they should go get a life and go do their own thing, stop worrying so much about how I look."

She loved herself then, and still today.

And now it seems everyone loves the admitted big girl—she is the 2013 Windy City Gay Idol champion, a title she claimed June 26. Windy City Times has sponsored a Gay Idol contest for 11 seasons.

"If I can do anything to help other people, know that you don't have to kill yourself because of what you think you should look like, or what society thinks you should look like; be happy for you," Pahl said. "I'm really, really



Windy City Gay Idol 2103 Maria Pahl performs during the finals at Mayne Stage. Photo by Hal Baim

happy to represent the big girls. Body positivity is a huge thing for me. If there's anything I can do with any sort of platform that I have, I want to tell everyone that your body is OK, you're OK, you look beautiful, no matter what society might tell you, no matter if your family or friends may try to shame you. You can be gorgeous, no matter how big you are. You deserve respect, regardless if you're super healthy or if you're eating Doritos every day.

"I've been a big girl my whole life. I've always been a chubby girl. I've always been bigger than all of my other friends. I've run the gamut of

diets [that I've tried], including [excessive] running and starving myself. But no matter what I did [to lose weight], I still was considered fat by society's standards.

"People kill themselves to try to look thinner. And even if you're too thin people pass judgments on you. I think it's a real negative thing that we just need to accept everyone, no matter what they look like—and that you are so much more than your body, and that you are so much more than just how you look."

Pahl, 26, who lives in Lincoln Park, is originally from Midland, Mich., moving to Chicago about

three years ago. She graduated from law school in May and is now studying for the bar exam at the end of July. Pahl is queer and has mostly dated women, "but I try to keep an open mind," about potential dates.

Her singing shined at the finals, held at Mayne Stage, capturing the annual honor.

"If they aren't going to listen to you just because of how you look, then they are the ones missing out," Pahl said. "I think owning yourself, owning who you are is a huge thing. I say that I'm fat because it's a physical description. It should not be, or have, a negative connotation. People often reply, 'You're pretty,' to which I reply, 'Why can't I be pretty and fat?'"

"You have to own yourself, own your identity. 'Someone once told me that you should live your life like you're cast in a movie, and don't ever spend screen time or hire actors who are going to add negativity to your life's movie. Cut those scenes.

"You can do whatever you want, whatever you put your mind to."

Pahl said she was "blown away" to win Windy City Gay Idol. "It's been incredible, a whirlwind these past couple of days." She's received hundreds of messages from friends and family, many wondering why she went to law school and not just directly into performance. "It's been a mind-blowing experience, pretty crazy," she said.

Pahl said she received a post-Idol message from a college friend, who said her singing made her cry.

Turn to page 35

## CLASSIFIEDS

### ARTISTS

**CALL FOR ARTISTS: SKOKIE ART GUILD'S 52nd ANNUAL ART FAIR. July 13th & 14th, 2013.** Fine art. Prizes and awards. Held on the Village Green, 5211 W. Oakton St., downtown Skokie, IL. APPLY NOW. For applications or information: [skokieart@aol.com](mailto:skokieart@aol.com) or 847-677-8163. [www.skokieartguild.org](http://www.skokieartguild.org) (7/3/13)

### BEAUTY SPA SERVICES

**MEN SPA SERVICES** - Mens Custom Facial \* Mens Waxing \* Costume and Camouflage Make-Up \* Body Wraps \* Detoxing \* Teeth Whitening. [www.RitzzyBlueSpa.com](http://www.RitzzyBlueSpa.com), 312-985-7142. **40% off All Services Discount Code: GLBC (10/16/13-26)**

### CLEANING SERVICES

**CHESTNUT CLEANING SERVICES:** We're a house cleaning service for homes, small businesses and small buildings. We also have fabulous organizational skills (a separate function at a separate cost that utilizes your assistance) for what hasn't been cleaned in many months or years due to long-term illness, depression, physical/mental challenges, for the elderly, if you have downsized and more. Depressed about going home to chaos? We can organize your chaos, straighten out your chaos, help you make sense of your chaos and finally clean what is no longer chaos. Can we help you? Bonded and insured. **Chestnut Cleaning Service: 312-332-5575. [www.ChestnutCleaning.com](http://www.ChestnutCleaning.com) (11/20/13-52)**

**DOROTHY WILL CLEAN YOUR HOME!** I have 15 years experience in the community. Responsible, professional, honest, discrete. References available, Cleaning, laundry, elder care, etc... **Please call 773-488-1559 for Dorothy! (9/11/13-13)**

### COUNSELING

**LIVING WELL MINISTRIES**

**LOVE FROM THE CENTER OF WHO YOU ARE**

Life Coaching • Ceremonies  
Office & Phone Appointments

**Rev. Jacki Belile, CEC**  
Nurturing Pride & Faith for 20 Years  
773-655-4357  
[www.livingwellministries.net](http://www.livingwellministries.net)

**COUNSELING AND CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY:** Providing help to individuals and couples in our community since 1987. I specialize in relationship issues, spiritual issues, childhood trauma, and recurrent patterns that inhibit potential. **Starla R. Sholl, LCSW, PC, 773.878.5809, [www.starlasholl.com](http://www.starlasholl.com) (8/21/13-26)**

### DECK CARE

**EXTERIOR PAINTING AND DECK STAINING. LATEX AND OILS.** House painting, complete prep work and power washing, re sealing loose cracks, and re finish with acrylic latex. Protect your DECK. Keep your wood hard. Water blast, sand, and seal with PENETRATING OIL stains. **Free Estimates. 847-444-1482. (7/3/13)**

### HELP WANTED

**\*\*\*SAFE DRIVERS WANTED ASAP\*\*\*DAILY TAKE HOME PAY\*\*\* WE ARE HIRING 30 DRIVERS TO START IMMEDIATELY!!** Do you enjoy helping others? Do you like having the freedom to work on your own? Is your safety and the safety of others a priority for you? Is earning a paycheck important to you? If you answered "YES" to each question please read on. We are hiring SAFE BUS DRIVERS to work in the City of Chicago and surrounding communities. This is year 'round work. We pay \$12.50/hour, \$13.00/hour for weekends. We offer medical, dental and vision insurance, a 401k plan, a free \$5,000 life insurance policy and PAID VACATION AND PAID HOLIDAYS! WE HAVE FULL TIME WORK AVAILABLE FOR DRIVERS! Must have a class "C" CDL or be able to obtain one with passenger endorsement. We provide CDL training. TRAINING STARTS IMMEDIATELY... COME IN AND APPLY TODAY TO START EARNING A PAY CHECK! We are easily accessible from the PACE 290 bus and the CTA 85A bus! MV Transportation, Inc. 6230 W. Gross Point Road Niles, IL 60714 773-467-2455 [www.mvtransit.com](http://www.mvtransit.com) Must pass a drug test and have a clean driving record and clean criminal background. **EOE (7/17/13-8)**

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

**Basement get flooded?** We can help put it back together again! We also do Painting, carpentry, tiling and Deck Repairs. "A" rating with Angie's List, "A+" with BBB. Licensed-Bonded-Insured, One year Warranty. Free Estimates! **Andy OnCall 773-244-9961. 847-328-3100 [www.getandy.com](http://www.getandy.com) (8/1/13-52)**

### LEGAL SERVICES

**The Law Office of Alexander Weaver**  
312-588-5005  
email: [violaw@rcn.com](mailto:violaw@rcn.com)

**A Full Service Law Firm for the Community since 1988**

410 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 628, Chicago

### MASSAGE

**FIRST-CLASS ASIAN MALE MASSEUR.** London-trained and qualified. Over 25 years of worldwide experience and 100% attuned to your needs. Satisfaction assured. **Please call Dennis at 773-248-9407 (7/3/13-26)**

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

**STOP YOUR FORCLOSURE NOW!** WILLIAM H. RANSOM, Attorney at Law, CALL NOW (312) 953-9120 or [whrlaw@aol.com](mailto:whrlaw@aol.com) - 19 years Litigation Experience - **Credit Cards Accepted - Payment Plans Available (9/25/13-26)**

### SPIRITUALITY

*Reviving  
The Spirit...  
Renewing  
The Life...*

**Atonement Episcopal Church**  
5749 N. Kenmore  
[www.ChurchOfTheAtonement.Org](http://www.ChurchOfTheAtonement.Org)  
Sundays at 11 A.M.

### SPIRITUALITY cont.

**You Are Loved,  
You Are Welcome,  
You Are Celebrated!**

**Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches**

*60+ ministries celebrating  
LGBTQ lives*

[www.chicagowelcomingchurches.org](http://www.chicagowelcomingchurches.org)

### WINDOW TREATMENTS

**WONDERING WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE WINDOWS?:** Call me! I take care of it all from design through installation, customizing to your needs. **JOSEPH RICE Interiors, Inc.** Full Decorating Services with a specialty in window treatments for over 25 years. **773-271-2361. [www.JosephRiceInteriors.com](http://www.JosephRiceInteriors.com) (8/29/13-26)**

## REAL ESTATE

### LEGAL SERVICES

**REAL ESTATE ISSUES?** Buying - Selling - Leasing - Landlord/Tenant - Building/Remodeling. Contact The Law Office of David G. Frueh, 3843 North Broadway Street. (312) 492-4261. [David@FruehLaw.com](mailto:David@FruehLaw.com). [www.FruehLaw.com](http://www.FruehLaw.com) (4/16/14-52)

### ROOMMATE WANTED

**"Bear" couple offering a furnished (antiques) bedroom.** We're chill, quiet, respectful, non-partiers. Tell us about yourself and include a pic in reply. Big plus for another bear! **Email: [rec1973@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rec1973@sbcglobal.net). (7/10/13-3)**

### THREE BEDROOM APT FOR RENT

**BEAUTIFUL VINTAGE 3 BEDROOM APARTMENT IN ANDERSONVILLE 2 FLAT.** 1500 square feet, hardwood floors throughout, with dining room and back sun porch. Great vintage details - stained/etched glass windows, decorative fireplace, built in hutch, and clawfoot bathtub. Central air, laundry in basement. 2 blocks from Clark st. \$1800 a month. Tenant pays utilities. **Available September 1st. 773-351-9177**



# Windy City Gay Idol 2013 finals at Mayne Stage

Above left: (L-R) First runner-up Timmy Willy, winner Maria Pahl, second runner-up Jonathan Smallwood. Above right: Singer Levi Kreis. All photos on this page by Hal Baim.

## PAHL from page 34

"I was really honored to just share the stage with all of the other amazing competitors," she said. "The thing I really love about Gay Idol is that all of the competitors are really positive, supportive of one another. Everyone wants everyone else to do well; there's no negativity [among competitors]. All of the other competitors were fun, talented. It was just a privilege to perform with them, and have the whole backstage experience with them."

Pahl shared her winning moment with her parents, Liz and Tom, who came to town from Michigan.

"Both were really proud and really excited to have been there. That was very special," said Pahl, who has five siblings. "Overall, it was just a big outpouring of positive energy, and congratulations—from family and friends."

Pahl competed in Gay Idol in 2012 and said the difference this year was her song selection and the competition.

"This year, I stuck with songs that were more my forte; that might have played into [my victory]," she said.

Pahl said Adele is her current favorite singer and The Gossip is her favorite band.

"I still don't know if winning has hit me yet. It's still kind of weird," she said. "When they called my name [as the winner], it was just like this relief that washed over me. It was like an out-of-body experience, kind of crazy. To have had so many people—family, friends and other competitors—hugging me on stage was a crazy emotional high. I'm still not sure [the win] has been fully processed, yet. I'm in the process of processing it."

Windy City Gay Idol 2nd place winner in the audience-judged competition was Timmy Willy and 3rd place was Jonathan Smallwood. The two men are also partners. The finals of the competition were held at Mayne Stage in Rogers Park, for the first time. Creaoke did is music magic, and special guest singers were De'Borah, Levi Kreis and JDA. Hosts were Amy Matheny and Sofia Saffire. Promotions director Scott Duff coordinated the events at all of the LGBT bars and the Mayne Stage finals.

The concert, in its 11th season, is sponsored by Windy City Media Group (Windy City Times, Nightspots), with Smirnoff, Kettle One Vodka, Don Julio, Tangueray, Tourism Toronto, Ravinia, Broadway in Chicago, Creaoke, Mini of Chicago (great Mini Cooper was outside the show), Speedpro Imaging, and American Airlines.

Also see videos of the finals at <http://www.youtube.com/windycitytimes>.



(L-R) Singer De'Borah, Windy City Gay Idol 2012 Robert Hughes, singer JDA.

THANKS TO ALL THE VENUES FOR GIVING US SUCH TALENT!



WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS FOR HELPING TO MAKE THIS YEAR'S WINDY CITY GAY IDOL THE FIERCEST ROUND TO DATE:



# calendar

Brought to you by the combined efforts of

WINDY CITY  
TIMES

nightspots

CHICAGO  
PRIDE.COM

## Wed., July 3

**Pride Pizza Donation Week** Big G's Pizza is proud to support the LGBT community. In recognition of Chicago Pride Week, we have unveiled our new dishes. 12pm, 773-281-2444, 3716 N. Clark St., <http://www.big-gspizza.com>

**Jill Sobule and Julia Sweeney** Blending laughs with music. Doors 6pm. 8pm, City Winery, 1200 W Randolph St., <http://www.citywinery.com>

**PUMPed minibar** Hump Day has never been better with PUMPed at minibar. Featuring DJ's, models, and bottles. 10pm, 323.377.0406, Minibar, 3341 N Halsted, <http://pumpedminibar.eventbrite.com>

**The Black Alphabet Film Festival** at the Inn of Chicago Hotel, 162 E. Ohio St., 6:30-9 p.m. (<http://blackalphabet.org/>)

## Thursday, July 4

**Free BYOB Comedy: Congrats on Your Success** Entertainment from diverse, literate performers in a free, byob comedy show at Uncharted Books in Logan Square every 1st Thursday of the month. 7pm-9pm, 312-508-8006, Uncharted Book, 2630 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, <https://www.facebook.com/events/242309519242879/>

**Congrats On Your Success, Free BYOB** Comedy Diverse, literate performers every first Thursday of the month. Fourth of July Freedom Round. 7pm-9pm, Uncharted Books, 2630 N Milwaukee Ave., <http://facebook.com/congratonyoursuccess-comedy>

## BUILDING BRIDGES Tuesday, July 9

Cathy Richardson will perform at Fitzgeralds in Berwyn.

PR photo



**Thursday Night Party GboyNightCLUB** Chicagoland's largest playground for Gboys/Men/Bisexual males; 8pm, 15th Ave Bookstore, Melrose Park, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gboynightclub>

## Friday, July 5

**Equality Illinois First Friday Networking Social** Join Equality Illinois PAC for the super-popular monthly First Friday Networking Social. A big crowd always comes out for First Friday, so please stop by for the fun, cocktails, and prize drawings. For a \$10 donation to the Equality Illinois PAC, you receive two drink tickets and a ticket for a door prize drawing. 6pm-8pm, Sidetrack, 3349 N Halsted St, Chicago, <http://eqil.org/events.html>

**Susan Werner's HAYSEED Project** Chicago-based songwriter, vocalist and multi-instrumentalist will perform an all-new repertoire of funny, tender, sweet and outrageous songs that celebrate the language, livelihood, characters and concerns of American farmers. Her CD supports fam-

ily size farms, organic agriculture and sustainable crops for the climate of the future. \$40/30/20. 8pm, City Winery, 1200 W. Randolph St., <http://www.citywinery.com>; Tickets: <http://goprider.com/z834>

**Vaudeville on tour supporting OURS** With support acts 'Vaudeville' & Luna Arcade. \$16; 8:30pm, Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave., <http://www.facebook.com/events/398614033569499/?ref=ts&fref=ts>

**Official Wavefront after party** Genesis at Sanctuary Nightclub. Three levels of pulse pounding House Music with Jessie Saunders, the originator of that House Music sound from the Chi. 10pm, Sanctuary Nightclub, the Castle, 632 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, <http://www.facebook.com/events/163953443772579/>

**Wavefront Music Festival** Diplo, Danny Tenaglia, Fatboy Slim, Erick Morillo, Teri Bristol, Frankie Knuckles, Laura Jones, Mark Farina and Jamie Principle are among the acts slated to perform at the Wavefront Music Festival, which will take place at Montrose Beach July 5-7. Festival times are Friday, July 5, 12 p.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday, July 6, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday, July 7, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. See [www.WavefrontMusicFestival.com](http://www.WavefrontMusicFestival.com).

**Melissa Ferrick** Showcasing her new release "the truth is." 10pm, 708-788-2118, Fitzgeralds, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn, <http://www.fitzgeraldsnightclub.com>

## Saturday, July 6

**Nettelhorst French Market** Enjoy the freshest flowers, vegetables, fruits, breads, meats, and crafts from local farmers, at this weekly farmers market in the heart of Boystown. 8am-2pm, Chicago Nettelhorst French Market, 3252 N Broadway, <http://www.bensidounusa.com>

**Saturday Brunch at Taverna 750** Not everyone can Sunday-Funday, so by popular demand Taverna 750's Martini Brunch is available on Saturdays too. 11am-2pm, Taverna 750, 750 W. Cornelia Ave., <http://www.taverna750.com>

**7th Annual Esteem Awards** Salute individuals and organizations such as Jane M. Saks, Tim'm West, transgender activist Dr. Kortney Ryan Ziegler, Center on Halsted, filmmaker Coquie Hughes, Wade Davis of the Hetrick-Martin institute, TPAN's Positively Aware, and many more. 2pm-4pm, Sidetrack, 3349 N Halsted St, <http://www.theesteemawards.com>; Tickets: <http://prideindex.com>

**DILF's 1st Anniversary** DILF just got a little DILF-ier with the first anniversary of the party for men over 35 and the men who want them. DJ Moose. \$4 Stella Artois, \$4 Fireball shots, \$4 Absolut skinny lemonades. 9pm, The Sofo Tap, 4923 N Clark St.,

<http://www.thesofotap.com>

**"Burlesque is More"** Burlesque Is More is Annoyance's steamy-hot burlesque/improv show featuring acts by seven stimulating ladies. \$15. 10pm, Annoyance Theatre, 4830 N Broadway, <http://www.theannoyance.com>; Tickets: <https://annoyancetheatre.thundertext.com/events>

## Sunday, July 7

**Northalsted Sunday Funday** North Halsted comes alive with Sunday-Funday festivities and activity. See what all of Chicago Land is enjoying. Come straight to Halsted! 11am-11pm, Halsted/Belmont to Halsted/Waveland, <http://www.northalsted.com>

**United Black Pride Party in the Park** DJs spinning old/new school hip hop, R&B and more. Bring BBQ grills, pitch a tent and party. 12pm-8pm, Rainbow Beach 79th and South Shore Dr., <http://www.ubpride.com>

**Scarlet's Liquid Brunch** Liquid Brunch, Chicago's post brunch party, hosted by Scarlet. Featuring \$12 bottles of champagne, complimentary cereal, cartoons on the screens, and DJ DOLO on the decks. 1pm-6pm, Scarlet Bar, 3320 N Halsted, St., <http://www.scarletbarchicago.com>

**Soul Gravitation** Soul Gravitation presents songstress Billie Jewell with special guest appearance by Peven Everett. With resident DJ Formation and guest DJ Physical Heat & LaPaula Nelson-Cobb. \$10. cover. 6pm-11pm, 773/398-3310, Seven Ultra Lounge, 1270 N. Milwaukee Ave., <http://facebook.com/soulgravitation>

## Monday, July 8

**Live Band Karaoke with Amy Armstrong** Every Monday night at 10pm in the Front Bar, hosted by the one and only Diva, Amy Armstrong ([www.AmyFreddy.com](http://www.AmyFreddy.com)); 9pm, Roscoe's, 3356 N Halsted St., <http://www.roscoes.com>

## Tuesday, July 9

**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. 10am, Roscoe's, 3356 N Halsted St, Chicago, <http://www.roscoes.com>

**Cathy Richardson** With Voice Box at SideBar Music Room. Stories Inspired By Songs Inspired By Stories. \$8. 7:30pm, Fitzgeralds, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn, <http://www.fitzgeraldsnightclub.com>

## Wed., July 10

**Young Authors' Club with Kathie Bergquist** Kids ages 9 to 11 are invited to explore their creativity, improve writing skills, and have fun in this kids-only writing workshop. Session fee is \$275. Wednesdays through Aug. 14. For information or to reserve a spot, email Kathie Bergquist, [kathiebergquist@gmail.com](mailto:kathiebergquist@gmail.com). 1pm-3pm, Women & Children First Books, 5233 N. Clark St., <http://www.womenandchildren-first.com/>

**Taste of Chicago concert** Opens with indie rock band Delta Spirit, the first rock band to receive nominations in all "Big Four" categories, winning Best New Artist and Song of the Year for "We Are Young."; 5:30pm, Petrillo Music Shell, <http://www.tasteofchicago.us>

**CAPS meeting** Community Alternative Policing Strategy meeting, 2nd Wednesday of the month. Subject to change. 7pm, Clarendon Park Field House, 4501 N Clarendon Ave., <http://www.lakeviewcitizens.org/caps.asp>

## Thursday, July 11

**Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation's 4th Annual Summer Cocktail Party** This year's Summer Cocktail Party is co-chaired by Allison Zisook Goldstein, Bradley Jarol, Bari Anixter Mlodinoff and Liza Sweitzer. Benefits breast cancer research programs at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer



## FRANKIE PANKY Fri.-Sun., July 5-7

Legendary DJ Frankie Knuckles (above) is among those who will be at the Wavefront Music Festival.

PR photo

Center of Northwestern University. \$75 advance, \$80 at door. 6:30pm-9:30pm, 312-926-7133, Studio Paris, 59 W. Hubbard St., Chicago, <http://lynnsage.org/sponsor-our-events/> more information

**Readings by Samantha Hoffman, Randy Richardson and Renee James** Coming Out Can Be Murder by James is about a Chicago hairdresser whose world shakes when a transgender friend is brutally murdered. What More Could You Wish For by Hoffman is about a woman who has everything including an arrangement with a steady partner. Until her 50th birthday. Randy Richardson's Cheeseland is about two Chicago high school seniors on the road after a friend's suicide. 6:30pm, City Lit Books, 2523 N. Kedzie Blvd.

## Saturday, July 13

**2013 Ride for AIDS Chicago** 2013 Ride for AIDS Chicago to benefit Chicago House programs and services. Ride for AIDS Chicago is a 200-mile, two-day bicycling event that leaves from Chicago and journeys into Wisconsin and back. 9am-9pm, [http://www.chicagohouse.org/event\\_aids\\_ride.html](http://www.chicagohouse.org/event_aids_ride.html)

**Flowing with Your Heart-A Women's Yoga Workshop** Brought to You by Center On Halsted and Sapphic Adventures. This session will focus on breath movements, asana movements designed to detox the body and mind and incorporate heart openers to increase openness, happiness and compassion. Cost: \$10/person will be donated to support Center On Halsted women programs. Register online. 10am-1pm, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted, <http://www.sapphicadventures.org>

**Gay Games Chicago 7th Anniversary Celebration** Gay Games Chicago Board hosts athletes, artists, volunteers, friends and family for unveiling of a permanent tribute to that event at the Center on Halsted. Wear your Gay Games Chicago uniforms, t-shirts, medals, pins and more. Reps of Cleveland+Akron 2014 will be on hand. Register early and save. Third floor. Free. 1pm-4pm, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted, <https://www.facebook.com/events/603786152966739/>

**Executive Sweet Reunion Party** Legendary party divas Pat McCombs and Vera Washington will host. Executive Sweet was the oldest and largest of all women's parties in Chicago. Suggested attire is sexy white. Music by DH Doris. Contact Washington at [verawashington@aol.com](mailto:verawashington@aol.com) or 773-531-7356 or McCombs at 773-203-1664 for more information. 9pm, Society Art Gallery, 2140 W. Fulton St.



## ESTEEMED COLLEAGUES

### Saturday, July 6

The 7th Annual PrideIndex.com Esteem Awards (part of Black Pride Week) will take place at Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted St.

Photo from last year's event by Kate Sosin

# BILLY MASTERS

"Now that I'm a mom, I'm so grateful for *The Trevor Project* to support the LGBT youth so they have someone there for them. Because I'm praying I have a gay little boy one day."—Snooki shares her support for the gay community at the recent TrevorLIVE event in NYC. The Trevor Project runs the only nationwide 24/7 365-day-a-year LGBT suicide hotline and can be found online at [TheTrevorProject.org](http://TheTrevorProject.org).

I was recently riveted to a story on ABC's 20/20. Normally, I'm content to just gaze at David Muir—he of the wide stance who favors leaning to the left. And I'm always happy on weeks when Elizabeth Vargas isn't bumped for yet another special report from Barbara Walters or Diane Sawyer. The story that touched me was about two transgender teens who are now dating—and they were brought together by their moms! The kids looked so cute and happy that I tried to dismiss the unlikely chance that a couple who begins dating in their teens will be together in 10 or 20 years ... or weeks. As they laughed about how they each wanted the other's "parts," I found myself hoping these two will make it after all. I'll post the segment for you to watch on [BillyMasters.com](http://BillyMasters.com).

The big news came from the Supreme Court. I eschew using the acronym SCOTUS because what I see is scrotum—the last thing I want to see are the words "scrotum" and Ruth Bader Ginsburg so close together. The decision on Prop 8 was predictable—instead of ruling on its constitutionality, they "declined" to consider reinstating it on a technicality: "We have never before upheld the standing of a private party to defend the constitutionality of a state statute when state officials have chosen not to. We decline to do so for the first time here."

Far more important was the ruling on the Defense of Marriage Act. It was deemed unconstitutional. In a strongly worded decision, Justice Kennedy said that DOMA's "principal purpose is to impose inequality." The change in this law opens up more than 1,100 federal benefits for same-sex couples. The first true sign of change came minutes after the ruling was handed down. A judge in NYC stopped the deportation of a Colombian man married to a U.S. citizen—talk about swift justice. Two days later, a gay couple in Florida received notification that their application for a green card had been approved. (The U.S. citizen married a Bulgarian in NYC.) You know what this means? I could come back from my summer in Italy with a husband and not just an STD!

Reporters often ask the ageless George Clooney if he's had any cosmetic surgery. He told Italy's *Max* magazine, "I never fixed my eyes, but I spent more money to stretch the skin of my testicles." I know a guy in NYC who will do that for you at an affordable hourly rate, and he's not the only one. The Beauty Park Spa in Santa Monica has a non-surgical treatment that uses lasers to "erase wrinkles and correct discoloration on the scrotum"—and once again I have visions of Ruth Bader Ginsburg! Nurse Jamie at the spa told the *Daily Mail* that she's getting "inundated with requests and now many are gearing up for the Emmys this September." Am I missing something? I go to the Emmys every year and not once has anyone asked to look at my testicles. Now, it's a whole other story at the Golden Globes!

If you think testicle ironing is strange, that's just the beginning. A British company commissioned a fur coat made entirely out of chest hair—presumably male chest hair. The company commissioned the coat as a protest against the "manning-down" of the Brits—in other words, the widespread popularity of trimmed or clean-shaven chests. Next thing you know they'll be up in arms over dental hygiene.

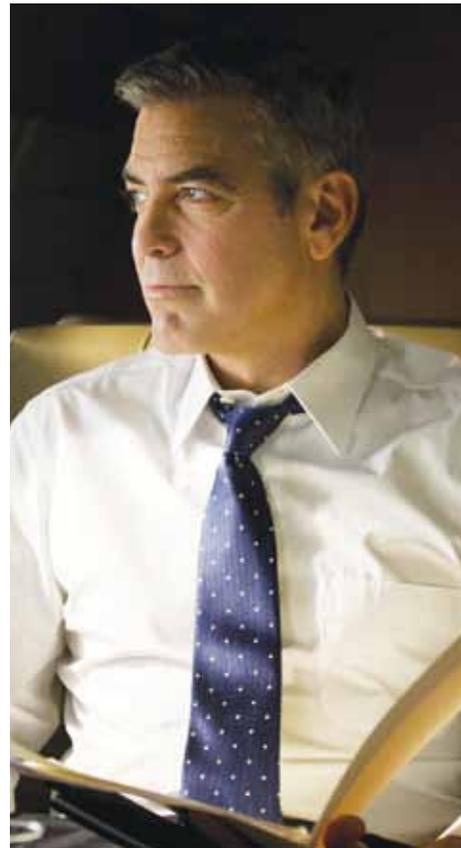
It's rare when we have stories about two actors who played the same role—albeit on different sides of the pond. Most of you will remember Randy Harrison as Justin on *Queer as Folk*. If

you'd like to see him in person, he's appearing in the off-Broadway play *Harbor*. It runs at the Primary Stages through Sept. 8.

The role on *Queer as Folk* was originated in the British version by Charlie Hunnam (in the UK, the character was called Nathan). Charlie turns up in the big screen flick *Pacific Rim*, sporting an impressive physique that bares little resemblance to his former twink days. You can see exactly how much he's changed on [BillyMasters.com](http://BillyMasters.com).

This leads right into our "Ask Billy" question. Roger in Chicago asks, "Why have you never said anything about Alfie Allen, the gorgeous blond who plays Greyjoy on *Game of Thrones*? I love him."

How quickly they forget. I actually did write about Alfie back when he replaced Daniel Radcliffe in the UK tour of *Equus*. Not only was he



George Clooney is having a ball, Billy says. Photo by Saeed Adyani

nude onstage, he's been nude in *Game of Thrones*. Did you miss it? No matter—the footage can be found on [BillyMasters.com](http://BillyMasters.com) (and, trust me, it's well worth looking at—repeatedly). Alas, I don't know much else about him. His older sister is singer Lily Allen. They both had small roles in the film *Elizabeth*, where Cate Blanchett played Queen Elizabeth I. (Their mother was a producer.) And he's straight. Sorry.

When our footage of Alfie proves there are no small parts, it's definitely time to end yet another column. The changes in California also affected one straight couple. Kristin Bell and Dax Shepard had previously stated that they would not get married until their gay friends had the same right. Moments after the Supreme Court ruling was announced, Bell Tweeted "@daxshepard1 will you marry me? Xo #marriageequality #loveislove". It took Dax about 90 minutes, but then he responded "@IMKristinBell Fuck Yes!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" Of course, you won't have to wait 90 minutes to get the latest news over at [www.BillyMasters.com](http://www.BillyMasters.com), the site that always puts out. If you have a question—or perhaps a proposal of marriage (one that you really mean, to those of you who have asked before)—send them to [Billy@BillyMasters.com](mailto:Billy@BillyMasters.com) and I promise to get back to you before Justice Ginsburg is seen at a Teabag Party rally! Until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

## Holiday Weekends are Sidetrack Weekends!

Join us Independence Day EVE...  
Wednesday, July 3rd for  
DUDES Wednesday featuring  
testosterone-laced  
music & video.  
No cover.

Join us Friday, July 5th  
The Stars Come Out for  
"Friday 5 'til 9 Show Tunes".  
Then it's the Holiday Weekend  
Energy Mix 9pm-2am.  
No cover.

Open

THURSDAY, JULY 4TH  
at 1pm!

Playing weekend  
music video favorites  
'til 2am. No cover.



SVEDKA

Have you tried the new  
Sidetrack Frozen: Svedka  
Raspberry Pink Lemonade

3349 N. HALSTED  
[SidetrackChicago.com](http://SidetrackChicago.com)

# SIDETRACK

SATURDAY, JULY 6TH • 2-6PM  
THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PRIDEINDEX.COM  
*Esteem Awards 2013*  
PROUDLY HONORING COMMUNITY ALLIES & SUPPORTERS  
No Cover. For details, visit [www.TheEsteemAwards.com](http://www.TheEsteemAwards.com)

SQUIRT  
.org  
Hot 'n horny hookups.

LAPTOP  
OR  
MOBILE  
WE'RE  
VERSATILE



Join for FREE  
Get 5 Days  
Unlimited  
access

# Lesbian Chicago Sky player attends first Pride Parade

BY ROSS FORMAN

Sharnee Zoll-Norman had an amazing, memorable and humbling experience in her first-ever pride parade—truly, her coming-out.

"Obviously, being a lesbian woman, Pride is something that you take pride in, no pun intended; you get excited to go to something like this, to be surrounded by people who are proud to be like you," she said. "You go there and don't have to feel uncomfortable; you don't feel like you're being judged. To go and represent myself, my family and the [Chicago] Sky is an amazing opportunity."

Zoll-Norman, a rookie with the Sky in her second season playing in the WNBA, rode on the top level of the KPMG double-decker bus in the annual Chicago Pride Parade on Sunday, June 30, along with her wife, Serita Norman.

The parade drew an estimated 1 million spectators.

"It was beyond crazy. It was an amazing experience to say the least," Zoll-Norman said. "To me, it was such a humbling experience because I got to see who, by being who I am and talking about my sexual orientation, it can affect so many other people. It's not about me; it's way bigger than me, than the [Chicago] Sky, than my family. There are a group of people, and that's how they live. And for one day, or one weekend, to see who they are and not have to worry about being judged or hated, it was amazing for me. It was great to see so many people just look so happy.

"I'd pass some people and they would say thank you to me, but I'd [in turn] say thank you to them."

Zoll-Norman has previously attended pride parades in New York City and Washington, D.C., but only as a spectator. Never on a float, never in the parade.

"The sea of humanity was amazing," Zoll-Norman said. "I still remember that Shell gas station [at Addison and Halsted Streets.] There were people as far and wide as the eye could see. And to see people be so proud of who they are, that was the highlight of my day.

"[The parade] was a memorable moment for both of us, an amazing moment we always will be able to share with one another."

Zoll-Norman snapped hundreds of photos on Sunday, and was asked to be in countless others. She had rainbow flags and admitted she was "waving and screaming" all day. She also distributed Chicago Sky wristbands.

"I don't think I've ever seen that many people in one place at any one time," she said. "The parade lasted about three hours, and every second of it I was amazed, in awe, to say the least."

After the parade, she walked around in Lakeview, stopping at Roscoe's, where she saw "some amazing dancer," she said. Zoll-Norman also dined at the Chicago Diner.

## The couple

Sharnee and Serita have been together for almost five years, and been married for almost four.

"I think we instantly had a connection," Zoll-Norman said. "I don't want to say it necessarily was love at first sight because it took us a while, but once we met each other and went out on our first date, we have talked every day since—be it on the phone, via Skype, via text. Every day since August 25, 2008.

"We've had rough patches, but I think that's what makes relationships work. If everything's perfect, you don't know that you can get through the adversity. When you get through adversity with somebody, then you can really see what they're made of, what you're really made of and if you're meant to be together. Our adversity [has] included being away from each other for [parts of] our first three years when I was overseas playing [basketball] and she was working in New Jersey. That distance [apart] helped us see where we stood in each other's lives, how committed we were to each other, how we were going to grow individually and as a couple."

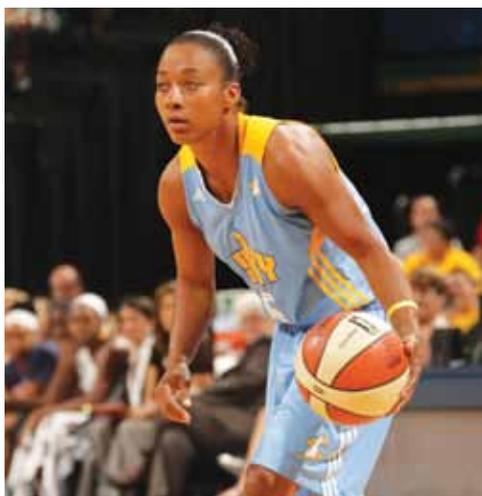
The two met at a party hosted by Serita's cousin, which Sharnee admits was "fate" that they even met.

"I wasn't supposed to be there, but had gotten cut from a WNBA team and actually was home over the summer for the first time since, oh, I was about 10 years-old. She was there just by accident," Zoll-Norman said.

Their first date was at a restaurant in Philadelphia. Serita had emailed an invite to Sharnee, which she said was "really sweet."

A Philadelphia native, Zoll-Norman played at the University of Virginia from 2004-08 and then was the 29th overall pick in the 2008 WNBA Draft, nabbed by the Los Angeles Sparks. She was ultimately waived by the Sparks before playing a regular-season game for the team, then signed by the Minnesota Lynx. Zoll-Norman played six games for Minnesota in 2008, and then took her game overseas, playing professionally in Romania, Turkey and Poland.

Zoll-Norman has appeared in all nine games this season for the Sky (6-3), coming off the bench in each. She played about seven



Sharnee Zoll-Norman. Photo from NBAE/Getty Images

minutes on Wednesday, June 26, in Chicago's 87-74 win over the New York Liberty—the same day DOMA was defeated.

"It's amazing," she said of the ending of DOMA. "I don't feel like we're any different than a man and a woman being married. I don't think I should have different rights because I'm in love with a woman. I'm really glad and happy to see that America has voted this way. I really feel it's an equality issue. It's not a same-sex issue, or a heterosexual issue. We're all people and we all should be equal in those terms, equal to love whoever we want."

Zoll-Norman said her family and friends have long known she is a lesbian, and her college coaches, too.

"Game day is now so much easier for me," she said. "Before, I used to get really nervous and would be thinking so, so much about the game that it would hinder me in terms of playing. I would worry about this and worry about that. Now I know, no matter what, I know that I'm playing for a higher power; I'm playing for God.

"My absence from the WNBA [following the] 2008 season to now, a lot of that had to do with my growth as a person, growth in my spirituality, and a lot of that had to do with my wife. Growing with her, and her teaching me things and us learning from each other has been incredible. She taught me a lot about patience, which I never really had. [Instead], I've wanted things to come to me quickly, and most of the time in my life, things have. But she's given me a different perspective on life. We grew up differently and she's shown me that, just because you work hard, sometimes in life that's not enough. She believes [in the theory] that, what you put out, you will get back. Before, I was a little bit negative. For instance, if something didn't go my way, I would kind of hang my head and pout about it—and that was on and off the court. She kind of toughened me up a little in terms of, if things don't go your way, you try a different way. You don't pout and put negativity in the universe because it will come back to you. And, if you want something, you have to work for it, you also have to do the other things around you, not just in that aspect of your life."

Zoll-Norman said the two have talked about kids, "and it's possible, but I'm not sure."

They now live together in suburban Chicago.

"I love Chicago, other than the rain," she said. "I love it as a sports city. I love that the [Chicago] Blackhawks just won [the Stanley Cup.] I absolutely love Navy Pier. I have been to several beaches in Chicago and the suburbs, and getting to see the Chicago skyline from the beach is amazing."

She had not been to any Chicago gay bar—until Pride Sunday.

"The one misconception I had about being gay was that I had to dress in baggy clothes, wear my hair a certain way, walk a certain way, talk a certain way. But that's not necessarily the case. Gay comes in all shapes and sizes, all races and religions," she said.

They include athletes such as Zoll-Norman; or Brittney Griner, the number-one pick in the 2013 WNBA Draft who now plays for the Phoenix Mercury; or Jason Collins, a 13-year NBA player; or Robbie Rogers, an accomplished professional soccer player.

"You should never be ashamed of how you feel inside or out, or who you love," she said. "I think it's amazing that [Collins and Rogers] came out. It takes so much courage to come out, especially Jason as a Black professional athlete. I think we have kind of a stigma in our community, that if you're gay you're less masculine. So I really applaud him. Throughout his NBA career, no one has questioned his masculinity, his toughness. So Jason really puts a different face to what some people see as gay. Same for Robbie Rogers, who plays soccer, one of the toughest sports to play—and I'm sure no one has questioned his [masculinity]."

"The message that they're getting out there, that just because they're gay they are not any less masculine, is incredible."

licensed psychotherapist



**Working Together**  
to foster meaningful change in your life.

**JEFF ZACHARIAS**

LCSW, CAADC, BRI-I, CSAT Candidate

4770 N. Lincoln Ave., Ste 211, Chicago, IL 60625  
[www.jeffzacharias.com](http://www.jeffzacharias.com)



**Susan O'Dell, PhD**

*Down to earth, change oriented therapy*

I see individuals, couples, children & families for crisis and ongoing work.

I also offer wellness support for persons living with chronic illness, including cancer and HIV-AIDS, their partners and families.

773.262.7010

1422 W. THOME AVENUE, CHICAGO IL 60660

## Drug or Alcohol Problem?

We Offer LGBTQI Specific Treatment Programs



**NEW HOPE**  
RECOVERY CENTER

*New Hope With Pride*

2835 N. Sheffield, Suite 304 | 888.707.HOPE  
[New-Hope-Recovery.com](http://New-Hope-Recovery.com)

**Deborah A. Murphy**  
CPA

Accounting

Tax Services

Financial Consulting

**773-404-8401**

Business Planning

**2155 W. Roscoe**  
**1 South**

[www.debmurphy.com](http://www.debmurphy.com)

# CONNEXIONS

MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

## Ray J. Koenig III and Clark Hill PLC



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.

Tel: 312.985.5938 | Fax: 312.985.5985  
rkoenig@clarkhill.com | clarkhill.com



CLARK HILL

ARIZONA ILLINOIS MICHIGAN WASHINGTON DC

## TRANSGENDER LAWYER Joanie Rae Wimmer



- EMPLOYMENT LAW •
- POLICE MISCONDUCT •
- DIVORCE •
- NAME CHANGE •

*"Joanie obtained the first award in favor of a transgender person under the Illinois Human Rights Act."*

—The award in favor of cab driver Venessa Fitzsimmons totaled \$104,711.00—Fitzsimmons v. Universal Taxi Dispatch, Inc., ALS No. 09-0661

(630) 810-0005 or (630) 880-5005  
www.joanieraewimmer.com

## Abbie Buhr Photo & Design



Weddings, Portraits & Events in Chicago

abbiebuhr.com 773.904.7713

It's Your Home.  
Let Us Help You Stay There.



Call today to request your free information kit on home care services.  
(773) 340-3932 | www.cmsschicago.org



The Most Extensive Senior Services Network on Chicago's North Side

## Mr. Porch™

"If it's not a Mr. Porch, it's just another porch."

Call today for a **FREE on-site inspection!**

Call Mr. Porch at 877-677-6724 or email us at info@mrporch.com

**100% GUARANTEE**  
SATISFACTION

Scan QR Code with smart phone to view more samples of our previous work!

For more information please visit: www.MrPorch.com

Building Porches and Decks in the Chicago Area for Over 15 Years

## Dr. Edward J. Fajardo

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

4633 N. Western Ave., Suite 203  
Chicago, IL 60625  
(312) 623-0502  
EJFajardo@aol.com

Specializing in  
Gay-Affirmative Psychotherapy

# ilolo

## CUSTOM FRAMING

Framing Chicago's art since 1991.  
**25% off Custom Framing!**  
1478 W. Berwyn - 773.784.3962

## The Law Offices of Roger V. McCaffrey-Boss & Associates



When experience counts...  
In service to the community  
for over 30 years.

- Bankruptcy
- Wills, Trusts & Probate
- Real Estate Closings
- Civil Unions

19 S. LaSalle, Suite 1500, Chicago, IL 60603  
312-263-8800 RVMLAWYER@AOL.COM

We are a debt relief agency.  
We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the bankruptcy code.

# Mulryan & York

Attorneys At Law

4001 N. Wolcott  
Chicago, IL 60613  
(773) 248-8887

## Discounts as big as a house. Or condo. Or apartment.

Linda Kuczka, Agent  
954 W Webster  
Chicago, IL 60614  
Bus: 773-975-9111  
www.lindakuczka.com

See just how big your savings could be. Your savings could add up to hundreds of dollars when you put all your policies together under our State Farm® roof.

**GET TO A BETTER STATE.™**  
CALL AN AGENT OR VISIT US ONLINE TODAY.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company,  
State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL

## NOW OPEN DOWNTOWN!

CALL NOW FOR  
30% OFF YOUR  
FIRST MASSAGE  
(312) 880-7527

## MILLENNIUM PARK MASSAGE

visit www.millenniumparkmassage.com

## JOSEPH RICE INTERIORS, INC.

CHICAGO  
(773) 271-2361  
www.josephriceinteriors.com

Specializing in Drapery Treatments

# I'm a 'Yes' for Marriage Equality



**PAT QUINN**  
Governor of Illinois



**LISA MADIGAN**  
Attorney General of Illinois



**JOHN J. CULLERTON**  
Senate President of Illinois  
6<sup>th</sup> Senate District



**GREG HARRIS**  
State Representative  
13<sup>th</sup> District



**HEATHER STEANS**  
State Senator  
7<sup>th</sup> District



**ANN M. WILLIAMS**  
State Representative  
11<sup>th</sup> District



**SARA FEIGENHOLTZ**  
State Representative  
12<sup>th</sup> District



**KELLY CASSIDY**  
State Representative  
14<sup>th</sup> District



**DEB MELL**  
State Representative  
40<sup>th</sup> District



**BRIDGET GAINER**  
Cook County Commissioner  
10<sup>th</sup> District



**JAMES CAPPLEMAN**  
Alderman  
46<sup>th</sup> Ward



**JOE MOORE**  
Alderman  
49<sup>th</sup> Ward



**MICHELE SMITH**  
Alderman  
43<sup>rd</sup> Ward



**AMEYA PAWAR**  
Alderman  
47<sup>th</sup> Ward



**SCOTT WAGUESPACK**  
Alderman  
32<sup>nd</sup> Ward



**TOM TUNNEY**  
Alderman  
44<sup>th</sup> Ward



**MICHAEL FRERICHS**  
State Senator  
52<sup>nd</sup> District



**BILL FOSTER**  
Congressman  
11<sup>th</sup> District



**JOHN FRITCHEY**  
Commissioner  
12<sup>th</sup> District



**MIKE QUIGLEY**  
Congressman  
5<sup>th</sup> District



**JAN SCHAKOWSKY**  
Congresswoman  
9<sup>th</sup> District



**PROCO JOE MORENO**  
Alderman  
1<sup>st</sup> Ward



**LOU LANG**  
State Representative  
16<sup>th</sup> District



**MICHAEL CABONARGI**  
Commissioner  
Board of Review

Proud supporters of the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicago Pride Parade!