

WINDY CITY TIMES

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

VOL 30, NO. 39 JUNE 24, 2015

www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com



Windy City Times' 16th annual

30 UNDER 30

HONORING THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST INDIVIDUALS IN CHICAGO'S LGBTQIA+ YOUTH COMMUNITY

page 43



'MYSTERY' LADY
Debra Messing talks about starring in The Mysteries of Laura and being on Will & Grace 36
Photo from NBC



Legal activists poised to fight back as states look for new hurdles

BY LISA KEEN

The Supreme Court of the United States will rule any day now on whether it is a violation of the federal constitution for states to bar same-sex couples from marrying. But for weeks now, in apparent anticipation that the court will strike down such bans, states that still have or want to keep their bans have been passing legislation aimed at trying to circumvent such a ruling.

North Carolina's legislature this month overrode its governor's veto and enacted legislation that permits public mag-

istrates and registrars to refuse to process marriage license applications for any couple by claiming to have a "sincerely held religious objection" to the marriage.

Indiana passed a law to allow any person, organization or business being sued for discrimination to claim he or it is exercising religious beliefs as a defense in any proceeding against him or it. The aim of the measure was to enable businesses, including restaurants, bakers, and florists, to deny service to same-sex couples. There was such a backlash nationally against the law, the legislature amended it, within days, to state that the law did not mean businesses could refuse service based on sexual orientation.

Texas legislators, who missed a deadline to introduce a bill this year, will no doubt try again next year to prohibit the use of state funds to process and issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. And the Alabama Supreme Court ordered state clerks to defy a federal court ruling to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

Turn to page 4

HAPPY PRIDE, CHICAGO!



UNITED AIRLINES
Talking with two LGBT pilots for United. Photos from United Airlines 17



PRIDE FEST
13th annual event takes over Boystown. Photo by Gretchen Rachel Hammond 54



BARBARA GITTINGS
New book profiles the late activist. Photo by Kay Tobin Lahusen. Copyright Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library 40

closer than you think



Dining. Shopping. Endless Fun.

Just minutes from O'Hare and close to downtown, Rosemont has it all. From free summer concerts to eclectic bars & restaurants to savings at Fashion Outlets of Chicago, dining, shopping and entertainment is all wrapped up in one exciting mini metropolis!

ROSEMONT.COM


ROSEMONT
It's All Here



FREE shuttle to fun everyday from the Rosemont CTA blue line stop.

 ILLINOIS
MILE AFTER MAGNIFICENT MILE[®]

WINDY CITY TIMES

INDEX

NEWS

Legal activists; column Roger Goodman dies; Kelley memorial 4

7

Call for vaccinations 10

LGBT members of City Council 12

Lavender Law confab coming 14

Nightspots editor talks merger 16

HBHC CEO speaks at Reunion Project 19

Mombian; Lee Lynch 24

ENTERTAINMENT/EVENTS

Scottish Play Scott 25

Choreographer Jerry Mitchell 28

Knight: Pride movies 32

Talking with CeCe Peniston 34

Debra Messing and her 'Mystery' 36

30 Under 30 photos 43

Pride Fest pics 54

OUTLINES

Classifieds; Dish (Lockwood) 56

Calendar 58

Billy Masters 59

DOWNLOAD THIS ISSUE

AND BROWSE THE ARCHIVES AT WWW.WINDYCITYTIMES.COM



online exclusives at www.WindyCityTimes.com



PEZ-ITIVE REINFORCEMENT
Chicagoan Brian Roddy (left) talks about his unique fascination: Pez dispensers.
Photo by Ross Forman

FUN IN THE SUN



WCT points out the hotspots in the Mexican paradise known as Puerto Vallarta.
Photo by Gustavo Rivas-Solis

OF NOTE



Bent Nights looks at the Chicago Blues Festival as well as shows by Imagine Dragons and Mumford & Sons.
Photo of Shemekia Copeland by Vern Hester

GEM DANDY
Louis Johnson talks about being creative director of jewelry company Currency.

ROCK OF SAGES
The video game Seven Sages of the Bamboo Groves incorporates elements of the LGBTQIA community.

THAT'S SHOW BIZ
Find out the latest about Dallas Buyers Club, George Michael and Laura Benanti.

plus **DAILY BREAKING NEWS**

nightspots

THE FINAL PRIDE ISSUE

[f /nightspots](https://www.facebook.com/nightspots)

[nightspotschicago](https://www.instagram.com/nightspotschicago)

WINDY CITY QUEERCAST
QUEER AND NOW

THE QUEERCAST FAREWELL: PART ONE Show #631

www.WindyCityQueercast.com

When A Great Deal Matters, Shop Rob Paddor's...
Evanston Subaru in Skokie
Truly Exceptional Customer Service **TRUE LOVE**

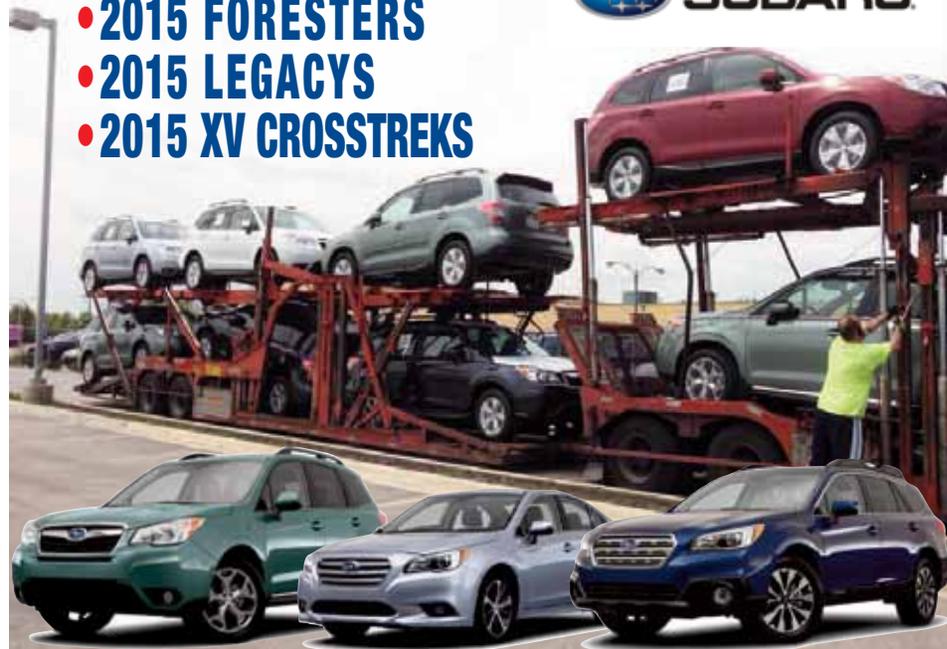
PROUD SUPPORTER FOR NEARLY 2 DECADES!



This weekend!!
Look for our Subarus in the Pride Parade

WE HAVE CARS!

- 2015 OUTBACKS
- 2015 FORESTERS
- 2015 LEGACYS
- 2015 XV CROSSTREKS



ALL THE HARD-TO-FIND MODELS - ARE HERE!

0.9% **Forester**
ON EVERY NEW 2015 SUBARU FORESTER



TOP-QUALITY INSPECTED USED CARS & SUV's

IMPORTS & DOMESTICS	SUBARU FORESTERS
'08 Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution AWD Turbo, 31K, Red, 12618A \$22,995	'15 Forester Prem.Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, Silver, P4826\$23,995
'09 Nissan Armada LE 4x4/Navl. . . Sunroof, Leather Silver, 12572A\$19,995	'14 Forester Prem.Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, Green, P4909\$22,995
'13 Mini Cooper S Automatic, Hardtop, 11K, Blue, P4895A\$19,995	'12 Forester Prem.Auto., Sunroof, Heated Seats, Silver, 12329A\$20,995
'09 Toyota Venza V6 AWD Auto., Full Power, Red, 12415A\$17,995	SUBARU LEGACYS / OUTBACKS
'06 Lexus IS 250 AWD Auto. Full Power, 69K, Tungsten 12376A\$13,995	'14 Outback Prem.Bluetooth, All Weather, Automatic, Silver, P4846\$24,995
'12 Honda Civic LXAutomatic, Full Power, Silver, P4942\$12,995	'14 Legacy Ltd.Automatic, Moonroof, Leather, Red, P4912\$24,995
'10 Toyota Corolla LE Automatic, Full Power, 30K, Black, P4943\$11,995	'14 Legacy Prem. Alloys, All Weather, Automatic, Silver, P4900\$20,995
'08 Scion xDAutomatic, Full Power, 31K, Red, P4940\$10,995	'11 Outback Ltd.Automatic, Moonroof, Leather, Grey 12639A\$19,995
'12 Mazda3 i Sport Manual, Full Power, Black, P4906\$10,995	'12 LegacyAutomatic, Full Power, Grey, 12583A\$16,995
'08 Honda Fit Automatic, Full Power, Silver, P4925BA\$8,995	'09 Outback SEAutomatic, heated Seats, Brown, P4925A\$12,995
'08 Chevy Malibu Hybrid Automatic, Full Power, Golden, 12156B\$7,995	SUBARU IMPREZAS / CROSSTREK
'04 Mazda3 s Automatic, 1-Owner, 66K, Grey, 12320A\$7,995	'13 Crosstrek Ltd. Auto., Leather, Sunroof, Silver, P4959\$23,995
'10 Nissan Versa 1.8SAutomatic, Full Power, Black, 12548A\$7,995	'14 Crosstrek Prem. Auto., All Weather, Bluetooth, 8 to Choose, P4819\$21,995
'02 Lexus RX 300 AWD Auto. 1-Owner, All Weather, Silver, 12266A\$7,795	'14 Impreza Prem. Automatic, Bluetooth, Grey, P4934\$18,995
'07 Nissan Sentra 2.0Auto., Full Power, 1-Owner, White, P4905\$7,795	'11 Impreza Prem. Automatic, Heated Seats, Alloys, Red, P4956\$14,995
'04 Toyota Corolla CE Manual Transmission, Mist, 12409A\$5,995	SUBARU TRIBECA
'06 Honda Pilot EXL 4x4Auto., Leather, Sunroof, Red, 12357A\$5,995	'11 Tribeca 3.6R Ltd.7 Passenger, Loaded, Black, 3727A\$21,995
'01 Toyota Camry CE Automatic, Great on Gas, Beige, 12403B\$2,995	

Evanston Subaru in Skokie

CALL TOLL FREE **847-869-5700**

3340 OAKTON - SKOKIE • EVANSTONSUBARU.COM

CARFAX ADVANTAGE DEALER

BBB A+ RATED

* Add tax, title license and \$168.43 doc fee. **Finance on approved credit score Subject to vehicle insurance and availability. Offers in 3 days, unless noted

LEGAL from cover

While some of these specific tactics are novel, efforts to avoid complying with a court order to provide equal protection to same-sex couples were tried in 2003 in Massachusetts when the state Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) ruled, in *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health*, that the state constitution requires equal treatment of same-sex couples in marriage licensing.

The SJC gave Massachusetts 180 days to comply with its order, but the legislature instead held a special session to vote on proposals to amend the state constitution to ban same-sex couples from marrying and to offer them only civil unions. One proposal passed its first vote but was killed the following year. There were also four different lawsuits (three in state court, one in federal court) to challenge whether the SJC had jurisdiction to decide the marriage issue. None succeeded.

Then-Gov. Mitt Romney pushed for a stay of the SJC decision. That failed, too. But for a few years, Romney did succeed in blocking the state from issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples from other states who might travel there seeking a license. He did this by reviving an obscure law passed in 1913 to block interracial couples from marrying in Massachusetts.

And there were rumors that Romney might order town clerks to defy the court's ruling and refuse to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Although the governor did not issue such an order, Mary Bonauto, the attorney who argued *Goodridge* and also argued the current appeal at the U.S. Supreme Court, recalled that some marriage clerks in Massachusetts were reluctant to comply with the SJC ruling and "a few resigned."

But despite its initial vigorous resistance, Massachusetts did ultimately comply with the decision, the legislature repealed the 1913 law, and though opponents still exist, the fighting in Massachusetts has long been over. The U.S. Supreme Court decision this month—if it does strike down state bans—will only reinforce the SJC's landmark decision.

As for the states who are now trying to resist compliance preemptively with a possible Supreme Court decision striking down their bans on marriage for same-sex couples: LGBT legal activists are clearly ready.

"If we win at the Supreme Court and state or local authorities refuse to comply, they should expect to be sued," said Jon Davidson, national legal director for Lambda Legal. "Public officials will need to keep in mind that the right of same-sex couples to marry will have been



Lambda Legal's Jenny Pizer.
Photo from Lambda Legal

clearly established at that point, and any interference with that right likely would subject government officials to personal liability for damages and attorneys' fees.

"In addition, refusal to comply with court orders that will control them in some jurisdictions may lead to them being held in contempt of court and the imposition of sanctions," said Davidson. "I think there will be less resistance than some are predicting, but we are ready to hold officials responsible for failure to comply with the law—indeed, we're looking forward to it."

Lambda Senior Attorney Jenny Pizer said it's possible "obnoxious—even outrageous—measures will be proposed."

"Bills seeking to expand religious exemptions in inappropriate ways are likely to continue to be among the most pernicious," said Pizer. "I hope we'll continue to be able to stop most of them if not all ... [or] of those that pass, at least to narrow them substantially."

Pizer said it may be "essential" that the LGBT community and friends "be prepared to help from all corners of the country, much more than we've done up to this point."

But legal activists also expect that resistance will follow the same course it did in Massachusetts.

"If we win," said Bonauto, "...I think it is fair to expect that there will be a few last ditch efforts to block marriages. They will fizzle."

©2015 Keen News Service. All rights reserved.

Affinity, Access Living host town hall on disabilities

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Affinity Community Services and Access Living hosted a town hall discussion, "I'm Proud Too! Disability Within the POC & LGBTQ Community," June 17 at Access Living.

Performer, teacher and visual artist NIC Kay—who also co-founded 3rd Language, a queer arts collective—facilitated the event.

Event coordinators included Access Living's Women & Girls Community Organizer and The Empowered Fe Fes Lead Organizer Folani Thrasher, Affinity Community Services Executive Director Kim Hunt and Access Living's Mentoring Coordinator Carrie Kaufman. (The Empowered Fe Fes is a support and action group of young women with disabilities ages 13 to 24.)

Thrasher and Hunt spoke about how their organizations connected and the origins of this event ahead of the roundtable discussion.

Participants introduced themselves and indicated what they expected out of the evening's discussion.

Kay asked everyone to note how they saw themselves in relation to their sexual orienta-



Kim Hunt, Folani Thrasher, Carrie Kaufman and Nic Kay.
Photo by Carrie Maxwell

tion, gender identity, race, ethnicity as well as other characteristics. They were also asked to explain what their idea of a safe and perfect world would be as well as if they feel that there is room for intersectionality within their specific communities.

Affinity and Access Living's next monthly support group meeting will take place July 21 at Access Living. The time has not yet been announced.

See www.affinity95.org/accontent and www.accessliving.org for more information.

Writing For Justice

BY CAROLINE SIEDE



What cats and dogs reveal about intersectionality

Imagine you're playing a flashcard game with a preschooler.

The point of the game is to match words with their opposites. Some of these are easy: Tall is the opposite of short, fast is the opposite of slow, and clean is the opposite of dirty. But then you pull a card with the picture of a dog. You might instinctively know that "cat" is the correct response, but how do you explain that to the preschooler? Why is a cat the opposite of a dog? Why isn't the answer a bird or a hamster or a lizard? Why have we selected these two random pets to be the opposite of one another?

The reason we intuitively feel cats and dogs are opposing forces is because our society loves binaries. Putting two things in opposition allows us to reduce complexities into simple terms: Chocolate and vanilla. Salt and pepper. Water and fire.

We do it with people too: Are you a boy or a girl? Black or white? Gay or straight?

Leaving aside for a moment the fact that the world isn't nearly as clear-cut as these binaries suggest (as those who are

ing the country on the fact that women earn just 77-cents for every dollar a man earns. But that simple binary statistic ignores the fact that Black women earn 64 cents and Hispanic women only 54 cents for every dollar a white man earns. The reality of the wage gap isn't a simple binary, and by ignoring the role race plays in gender inequality, mainstream feminism is failing women of color.

And similarly when we hear the term "person of color," we might first think of a straight man of color who stands in clear opposition to our default straight white man. But that means women of color and LGBTQ people of color are often erased from struggles for racial justice. For instance, while we celebrate the legacies of 1960s civil-rights activists like Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and Jesse Jackson, female activist Ella Baker and gay activist Bayard Rustin have been pushed to relative obscurity. While the Black Lives Matter movement has rightfully lifted up the names of Michael Brown and Tamir Rice, it hasn't given the same attention to Rekia Boyd and Aiyana

Stanley-Jones, two female victims of police brutality.

In social justice terms, this idea of dealing with multiple forms of oppression at once is called "intersectionality." And it's a term we need to start using more. Because in the real world people cannot divide their identities the way we do on paper. A Black

"In social justice terms, this idea of dealing with multiple forms of oppression at once is called 'intersectionality.' And it's a term we need to start using more. Because in the real world people cannot divide their identities the way we do on paper."

genderqueer, mixed-race, and bisexual prove), there's another hidden danger in this kind of binary view. By thinking solely in opposites, we erase the fact that many people identify with more than one label. Binary thinking doesn't encourage people to embrace multiple descriptors, it asks them to think of each label in isolation and in opposition to our "default" sense of normal: a straight white man.

Of course a straight white man shouldn't be the "default" example of a human being, but thousands of years of history has taught us to think this way. And while we don't necessarily do it consciously, when we hear the term "woman" we are trained to think of someone who is the opposite of this default straight white dude—namely a straight white woman. Unfortunately that means mainstream feminism can often unintentionally overlook the specific needs of women of color or LGBTQ women.

For instance, the feminist movement has done a wonderful job of educat-

ing the country on the fact that women earn just 77-cents for every dollar a man earns. But that simple binary statistic ignores the fact that Black women earn 64 cents and Hispanic women only 54 cents for every dollar a white man earns. The reality of the wage gap isn't a simple binary, and by ignoring the role race plays in gender inequality, mainstream feminism is failing women of color.

We might fear that making our movements more inclusive will water down the message—that fighting for racial justice on top of LGBTQ rights might confuse people. But that's only true if we accept the lie that our world must be understood in simple binaries. If we instead embrace complexity and find overlaps between feminism, racial justice, and LGBTQ activism, we can strengthen all three movements.

Trying to unlearn the binaries that have been ingrained in us since childhood is no easy task. But just as we once learned to accept the false truth that dogs and cats are opposites, we can relearn ourselves that, in fact, the world isn't quite so black and white.

Caroline Siede is a freelance writer living in Chicago where the cold never bothers her anyway. You can also find her work on *The A.V. Club* and *Boing Boing*.

pride + joy

Macy's Celebrates Family + Friends + Love + Life + Equality + Respect



**MACY'S ON STATE STREET
MEN'S DEPARTMENT, 2ND FLOOR
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24TH at 5:30PM**

Join TV personality and best selling author Ross Mathews as he hosts our #pride inspired fashion show! Then after the show, stick around for a Q&A session and snap a pic with Ross!

Plus, enjoy fun treats from Wicker Park's BAKE°, creative "mocktails" from Progress Bar, and more. Don't miss a special performance by the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus on the Lower Level at noon as they pay tribute to the legendary Stephen Sondheim!

JOIN THE CELEBRATION AND LEARN MORE
at MACYS.COM/CELEBRATE



PROGRESSBAR

BAKE°



Event subject to change or cancellation.

LGBTs, agencies respond to Charleston murders

In the wake of 21-year-old Dylann Storm Roof shooting nine people to death at Charleston, South Carolina's, Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, several LGBT organizations released statements about the incident.

The National LGBTQ Task Force Executive Director Rea Carey said, "It is with a heavy heart that we join in mourning those killed in [the] tragic shooting at a Charleston historically Black church. ... While many would like to think that our nation has eliminated racism and discrimination, this appalling act of hate shows that we have not."

In a separate statement, National Center for Lesbian Rights Executive Director Kate Kendall said, "There are moments when a headline is too much to comprehend. This is such a moment. The nightmare shooting and murder in Charleston of nine African-American parishioners in a hate fueled racially motivated attack



The Rev. Clementa Pickney, one of the shooting victims.

Photo from Emanuel AME Church website

leaves us bereft and sick. There are really no words."

Lambda Legal Executive Director Kevin Cathcart said, "Crimes like this, especially when they occur as this one did in a place of worship and in a historically African-American church, have scarred our nation and are a tragic reminder of how much work remains. Senseless violence motivated by hate has no place in a just society and everyone one of us has an obligation to stand up, speak out and work to end such violence."

President Obama also made his thoughts known. "Michelle and I know several members of Emanuel AME Church," he said, in part. "There is something particularly heartbreaking

about the death happening in a place in which we seek solace and we seek peace, in a place of worship.

"Mother Emanuel is, in fact, more than a church. This is a place of worship that was founded by African-Americans seeking liberty."

Victims included The Honorable Rev. Clementa Pinckney, 41; Tywanza Sanders, a 26-year-old who recently graduated from Allen University; Rev. Sharonda Singleton, 45, a speech coach and a track coach at Goose Creek High School; librarian Cynthia Hurd, 54; Rev. DePayne Middleton-Doctor; city worker Ethel Lance; Susie Jackson, 87; Myra Thompson, 59; and Rev. Daniel Simmons Sr., 74. Simmons survived the initial shooting, but died while in the hospital during surgery.

Freedom Indiana responds to Pence move

Freedom Indiana—the grassroots organization that is pushing for statewide anti-discrimination protections for LGBT Hoosiers—issued a statement in response to Gov. Mike Pence's comments at the Indiana Republican Party Spring Dinner regarding the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA).

Pence formally announced he is running for re-election in 2016, adding that he is open to continuing the conversation about updating state laws to prohibit discrimination based on orientation and gender identity, according to Freedom Indiana's press release. However, media outlets (such as WISHTV.com) described Pence's stance regarding RFRA as "defiant."

Freedom Indiana campaign manager Katie Blair said, "It's encouraging that Governor Pence is willing to have a continued conversation about this issue and the fallout from RFRA, but it's clear that a majority of Hoosiers already support updating our laws to protect Hoosiers from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity."

Trans teen murdered in Alabama

In Alabama, an investigation into a murder of transgender teen Mercedes Williamson, 17, began when the suspect—a convicted felon and longtime member of the Latin Kings street gang—told his father he had killed someone, SunHerald.com reported.

Williamson was born with the name Christopher Wilkins.

Josh Brandon Vallum, 28, told his father, Bobby James Vallum, June 1 that Williamson could be found in a field behind his dad's house in the community of Rocky Creek.

Since her death, a Facebook page, entitled "RIP Mercedes Williamson," was started for those who knew and loved her.

The original article is at www.sunherald.com/2015/06/18/6283387_alabama-teen-identified-as-victim.html?rh=1#storylink=cpy.

AMA: No medical reason for trans military ban

The American Medical Association (AMA) passed a historic resolution declaring that "there is no medically valid reason to exclude transgender individuals" from U.S. military service.

The voting delegates of the 222,000-member AMA urged that transgender service members be provided with necessary medical care "according to the same medical standards that apply to non-transgender personnel."

The AMA resolution, which concluded that the military's medical rules governing transgender service are "out of date with respect to medical consensus about gender iden-

Media reports revealed June 20 that Roof was behind a website featuring a racist manifesto that mentions Charleston as the "historic" target of an attack. Near the end of a 2,000-word manifesto, Roof wrote, "I have no choice. I am not in the position to, alone, go into the ghetto and fight. I chose Charleston because it is most historic city in my state, and at one time had the highest ratio of blacks to Whites in the country."

The church reopened June 21. It was filled to capacity, and several hundred more individuals stood outside throughout the service. Also, thousands of people gathered in Mount Pleasant to journey across the Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge leading to Charleston for a "Bridge to Peace" walk.

tity," was passed by a unanimous vote at the group's annual meeting in Chicago.

Prior to the vote, three former and one current U.S. surgeons general—Dr. Joycelyn Elders, Dr. David Satcher, Dr. Regina Benjamin and Dr. Kenneth Moritsugu (acting)—issued a statement of support.

"With the American Medical Association weighing in, the pressure continues to build for Secretary Carter to take action and implement a fair and uniform standard across the branches—one that lifts the ban on open and honest service by transgender troops," said American Military Partner Association President Ashley Broadway-Mack said in a statement.

"We urge Secretary Carter to order a comprehensive review and implementation of the important and necessary changes to the outdated regulations that continue to harm our brave transgender service members and their families. The time for this unjust ban to end is now."

National LGBT 50th-anniv. event in Philly July 2-5

Organizers of the National LGBT 50th Anniversary Celebration, July 2-5 in Philadelphia, have announced the events to honor 50 years of LGBT activism and progress. The National LGBT 50th Anniversary Celebration is being promoted as the first national event after the upcoming U.S. Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality.

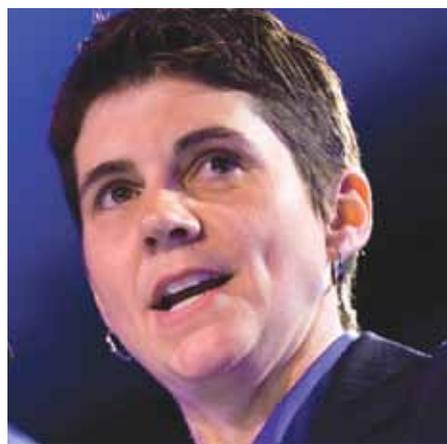
The organized LGBT civil-rights movement was galvanized when activists from New York, Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia staged demonstrations at Independence Hall for equality each Fourth of July from 1965 to 1969. When 40 activists picketed in front of Independence Hall in 1965, it was the largest demonstration for gay equality in world history.

Organized in part by Frank Kameny and Barbara Gittings, the father and mother of the LGBT civil-rights movement, these "Annual Reminders" laid the groundwork for the Stonewall riot in 1969. After Stonewall, the gay pioneers suspended the Annual Reminders and turned their energies to help organize the 1970 march from Greenwich Village to Central Park marking the first anniversary of Stonewall.

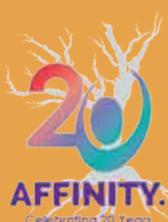
Among the slated events are: a wreath-laying at the Gay Pioneers Historical Marker at Independence Mall; a national interfaith service with sermon by Bishop Gene Robinson at Historic Christ Church; a Live Nation 50th-anniversary concert at Festival Pier at Penn's Landing; the "50th Anniversary VIP Lunch: Honoring Edie Windsor and Judy Shepard" at Independence Visitor Center; Windy City Times Publisher Tracy Baim signing copies of Barbara Gittings: Gay Pioneer at Giovanni's Room; LGBT history exhibits; and parties throughout the gayborhood.

There is no registration fee and most programs are free.

For more information, visit www.lgbt50th.org and www.gaypioneers.com.



National LGBTQ Task Force Executive Director Rea Carey.



Twenty years ago, a group of interested community members came together to discuss how to bring visibility and services to Chicago's Southside for the Black lesbian and bisexual women's community.

Today that organization is **Affinity Community Services.**

Join us at **JAZZnJuly** as we celebrate our accomplishments and recommit to the work ahead!

JAZZnJuly

July 18, 2015
VIP Reception 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to midnight

Gallery Guichard
463 E. 47th St | Chicago

VIP TICKET \$125 | INDV. TICKET \$85
COUPLES' TICKETS (2) \$150 | DOOR TICKET \$100

For tickets and more information, visit:
www.JazznJuly.com




AffinityCommunityServices @AffinityCS

EVENT SPONSORS











Sidetrack

J&L Catering

Olivia Travel

Morten Group, LLC

Windy City Media Group

International Institute of Humor and Healing Arts

Activist Goodman passes away

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Activist/musician/educator Roger Goodman passed away June 19, after a long battle with AIDS-related illnesses, according to his partner, Jerry Scholle. He was 68.

Goodman was a founder of Bonaventure House, a facility for people living with AIDS, and in recent years, attempted to produce a documentary about the disease's early impact on the gay community. He was also a founder of the Chicago chapter of Gay Liberation Front.

The first person to come out publicly at Oberlin University, Goodman was also present when the Stonewall uprising began.

"We went out and found ourselves in the middle of a rebellion," Goodman told Windy City Times in an April interview. "...Beer bottles were being thrown. Bricks were being thrown. Police were barricaded in the bar—they couldn't get out."

He was active in Gay Liberation Front when the group set about to wrest control of gay bars from the mob.

"There were no gay-owned gay bars," Goodman noted. "They were dark caves with watered-down, super-expensive drinks. You could talk, but you couldn't touch anyone. ...We started to boycott the bars until they really began losing money, and we were told that we had hits put out on us by the mafia, which I don't doubt, because we were taking away all that business from them."

Goodman did graduate work in music at Northwestern University. He both taught music and performed the harpsichord. He retired from DePaul University in 2010.

"My music became my politics," he said.



Roger Goodman.
Photo by Matt Simonette

"The music world is very homophobic, and [it was] rabidly homophobic back then. But I performed as a gay man, and it was very clear that I was performing as a gay man."

Goodman was public about his struggles with addiction, and credited his recovery programs, spirituality, and especially Scholle, for his happiness in his later years: "I feel really blessed. My life has always been blessed. But during these last years of recovery, I've really been blessed. My life has been so rich with relationships and career."

Memorial for activist Bill Kelley on Aug. 1

A memorial will be held for longtime Chicago-based gay activist and attorney William B. Kelley on Saturday, Aug. 1. A reception will start at 10 a.m., and the program at 11 a.m. The memorial will be at the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St.

Kelley, 72, who in 2015 was marking 50 years as a gay activist, passed away peacefully in his sleep the morning of May 17, according to Chen K. Ooi, his partner since 1979.

There were very few LGBT Chicago activists who stayed as consistently engaged in community activism as Kelley. He was part of the Mattachine Midwest chapter and wrote for and edited its newsletter. He helped organize the first national gay and lesbian conference in 1966—the North American Conference of Homophile Organizations, co-founded the Chicago Gay Crusader newspaper, and attended the first White House gay-rights meeting, in 1977, under the Carter administration.

In Chicago, he was a critical player in numerous organizations as a founder, member and sometimes leader. He chaired the Cook County Commission on Human Relations for its first 10 years. He co-chaired Illinois Gays for Legislative Action in the early 1970s, the Illinois Gay Rights Task Force in the late 1970s, and was inducted into the first class of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame, in 1991.

This summer, he was planning to attend the 50th anniversary of the Philadelphia Reminder Days for gay rights—he had marched there during the 1960s.

More info about Kelley is at <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/lgbt/PASSAGES-Longtime-gay-activist-William-B-Kelley-dies/51482.html>.



Peter Buttigieg.
Photo by Deidre Schoo

South Bend, Ind., mayor comes out

Peter Buttigieg, the 33-year-old mayor of South Bend, Indiana, publicly came out as gay in an op-ed in The South Bend Tribune.

He wrote that while "I'm not used to viewing this as anyone else's business ... it's clear to me that at a moment like this, being more open about it could do some good."

Buttigieg went on to criticize the state's recently passed Religious Freedom Restoration Act, noting that it remains legal in Indiana (although not in South Bend) to fire someone for being gay.

In part, he added, "I hope that when my children are old enough to understand politics, they will be puzzled that someone like me revealing he is gay was ever considered to be newsworthy. ... But the true compass that will have guided us there will be the basic regard and concern that we have for one another as fellow human beings—based not on categories of politics, orientation, background, status or creed, but on our shared knowledge that the greatest thing any of us has to offer is love."

In his first re-election bid, Buttigieg fended off a Democratic primary challenge from council member Henry Davis Jr., taking 78 percent of the vote May 5. In 2011, he was elected at age 29 with 74 percent of the vote to become the youngest mayor of a city with more than 100,000 residents in the United States.



Parade with
Pride



With every New car purchase
ToyotaCare 24 month/25,000 miles
free maintenance from Toyota -
**the next 2yr/20,000
miles is on us!**[^]

\$300 Off
any accessories available
On new purchase[†]

5625 N. Broadway, Chicago | 866-725-9900 | ChicagoToyota.com



[^]\$300 value. [†]Cannot be combined with internet quotes. ^{**}Limit 1-exchange per customer. Vehicle must be exchanged within 48 hours of purchase, for a vehicle not less than 90% of the vehicle's purchase price. If financed, customer must qualify for replacement vehicle. Vehicle must be in same condition as purchase, with not more than 200 additional miles. See dealer or blautogroup.com for details. ⁺Limited power train warranty 2-years or 100K miles whichever comes first. Available on qualified vehicles only. Work must be performed at Northside Toyota, see dealer for details. Offers expire 6/30/15.

BOB LOQUERCIO AUTOGROUP



AIDS Healthcare Foundation's Michael Weinstein.
Photo by Matt Simonette

PrEP advocates respond to AHF ads

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Officials from local HIV/AIDS organizations and other advocates spoke out against an anti-PrEP (pre-exposure prophylaxis) advertisement, paid for by Los Angeles-based AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), that ran in gay media outlets, including Windy City Times, the week of June 15.

The ad, headlined *The War Against Prevention*, is an "advertorial" penned by AHF head Michael Weinstein that suggests that the PrEP intervention, largely available as the pill Truvada, is a failure: "[Truvada] was first recommended by an FDA committee three years ago this month. Three years of promotion later, Truvada has not caught on with medical providers or patients."

AHF opened a Chicago facility in January.

Implementation of Truvada has indeed been slow-going; advocates admit that myriad stumbling blocks have impeded its use, among them high drug costs, insurance complications and

low awareness amongst both the public and medical professionals. But they nevertheless characterized Weinstein's remarks as unfair.

David Munar, president and CEO of Howard Brown Health Center, said the ads "delegitimized choices of responsible adults. [HBHC] has patients who made that choice and decided what's right for them. We need to take these ads with a grain of salt—they are just adding confusion to what is really an artificial argument. PrEP works for some people, and other people have decided it doesn't work for them. At the heart of our work is matching up people with an intervention that [works]."

AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) largely concurred in a statement it released June 16: "AIDS Healthcare Foundation has released a highly inaccurate advertorial about PrEP once again. They continue to use faulty science and fear mongering to oppose PrEP, refusing to accept extensive research and CDC recommendations that indicate PrEP works, and works quite well, to prevent HIV. The AIDS Foundation of

Chicago fully endorses PrEP and calls on AIDS Healthcare Foundation to halt their dangerous and disingenuous PrEP denialism and to stop spreading misinformation in Chicago and beyond."

In the ad, Weinstein specifically mentions a speech by Damon L. Jacobs, a New York City-based therapist in private practice who has been a visible advocate for increased access to Truvada. Weinstein writes, "No matter how irrational it seems, when Gilead Sciences first sought approval for PrEP, the company contended that Truvada would be exclusively used with condoms. That message has been thrown out the window with PrEP advocates such as Damon L. Jacobs, the creator of the PrEP Facts website, who brazenly asserts [that] 'people want to experience the maximal pleasure with minimal consequences. They want to have more connections, with fewer barriers. They want to feel heightened physical sensations, with lowered medical risks.' Public health be damned."

Jacobs said that the quote quite accurately summed up his own perspective. "I stand by that," he said. "I'm very proud of that. I'm pretty pleased that got highlighted. In my 20-plus years of working in this field as an educator, an activist and a therapist, this is pretty much the synopsis of what it comes down to for many people in terms of how they choose to practice any kind of prevention strategy for HIV—this is not just gay men and people with HIV. This is pretty much 'human beings,' [all of whom] want to experience maximal pleasure with minimal consequences."

Jacobs said that the ad was nevertheless filled with "distortions and lies, consistent with his history of going against PrEP, and with his history of going against HIV vaccine trials—anything to do with prevention, other than the condoms-only approach."

Windy City Times reached out to AHF for comment and Weinstein responded with an email message. He said he cited Jacobs because "his quote epitomizes the counter-position be-

tween sexual freedom and public health that PrEP activists have been espousing."

Weinstein also noted that the advertorial framed PrEP implementation efforts as a "war on prevention" since "the rhetoric of those promoting PrEP is saying that gay men are not [using], and will not use, condoms, and the frenzy about PrEP has squeezed out discussion about reducing the 60 percent of HIV-positive people in this country who are not being treated at all."

Despite Weinstein's rhetoric, AHF facilities do prescribe the PrEP intervention and the ad indeed states that it is right for some patients. AHF's Chicago clinic is listed as a PrEP provider in listings maintained by AFC. Windy City Times asked why the organization would then place such an oppositional ad. Weinstein responded: "As we have said consistently, and repeat in the article, the data from the studies does not support PrEP as a mass public health intervention."

Munar said, however, that health providers and advocates need to keep focused on what works best for the patient. "The real question is, do individuals know about tools at their disposal? Can they make informed choices? That's the 'debate' here—how best to educate people and allow them to make their own decisions for prevention."

[Note: After this article's initial publication online, AHF spokesman Christopher Johnson contacted Windy City Times to say that the organization, after reports of researchers creating subdermal implants to treat or prevent HIV infection, had voiced support for an HIV vaccine or potential implant technology. According to a May 1 AHF statement Johnson forwarded, "While patient studies, federal approval, and information on pricing and availability is still needed at this early stage, the news that scientists have created the first implant to deliver HIV medications for prevention or treatment is a potential medical breakthrough that AHF wholeheartedly welcomes."]



PROUD TO BE YOUR PARTNER FOR QUALITY HEALTHCARE

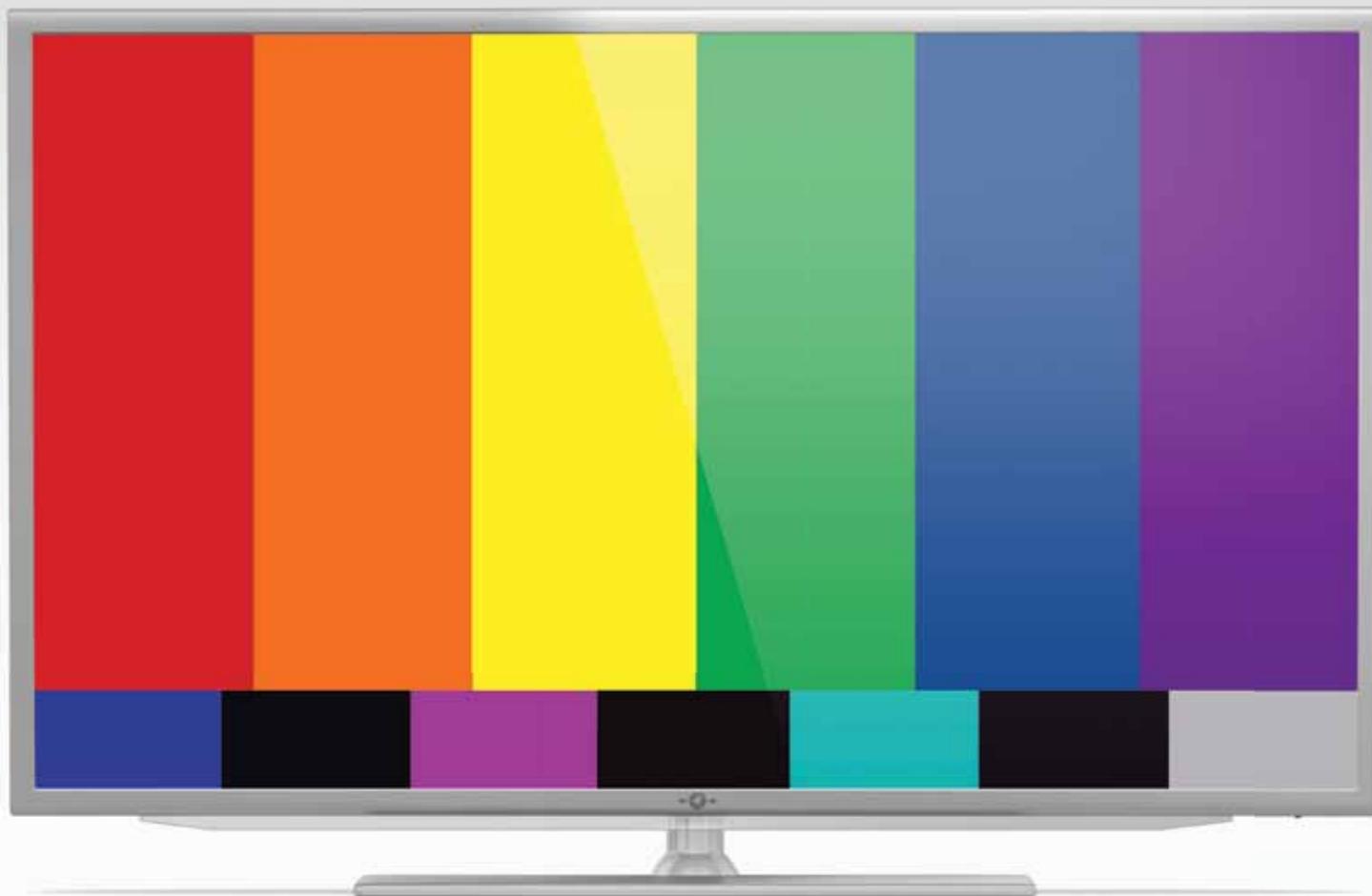
Our array of medical services include:

- Family Practice
- Sleep Clinic
- Cancer Care
- 24/7 Emergency Room
- Allergy Treatment
- Cardiology
- Radiology
- General Surgery
- Multi-lingual Staff

Contact us today at **773-525-6780** to schedule an appointment at the main Lakeview campus or one of our five area clinics.

 **Thorek**
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
We Specialize in You

850 W. IRVING PARK ROAD, CHICAGO, IL 60613
773-525-6780 • THOREK.ORG



xfinity.com/lgbt

XFINITY® is perfect for people with diverse taste.
 Enjoy an exclusive collection of films from Frameline.
 Available at xfinity.com/lgbt. No subscription necessary.

<p>XFINITY® Triple Play \$79⁹⁹ <small>a month for 12 months with 2-year agreement</small></p>	<p>Offer includes</p> 	<p>Upgrade to 105 Mbps of speed FREE for 12 months</p>
--	--	---

Call **1-800-XFINITY** today.



Offer ends 7/12/15. Limited to new residential customers. Not available in all areas. Requires subscription to Starter XF Triple Play with Digital Starter TV, Performance Internet and XFINITY Voice Unlimited®. Early termination fee applies. Equipment, taxes and fees, including regulatory recovery fees, Broadcast TV Fee (up to \$3.50/mo.), Regional Sports Fee (up to \$1.00/mo.) and other applicable charges extra, and subject to change during and after the promo. After 12 months, regular monthly charge applies to Blast!® Internet service. After promotional period, or if any service is cancelled or downgraded, regular rates apply. Comcast's current monthly service charge for Starter XF Triple Play is \$136.99-\$141.99 and for Blast!® Internet is \$12 (pricing subject to change). TV and Internet service limited to a single outlet. May not be combined with other offers. **TV:** Limited Basic service subscription required to receive other levels of service. **Internet:** Actual speeds vary and are not guaranteed. WiFi claim based on November 2014 study by Allion Test Labs, Inc. Reliability claim based on 2014 FCC Measuring Broadband America report. Prepaid card mailed to Comcast account holder within 18 weeks of activation of all required services and expires in 90 days. Cards issued by Citibank, N.A., pursuant to a license from Visa® U.S.A. Inc. and managed by Citi Prepaid Services. Cards will not have cash access and can be used everywhere Visa® debit cards are accepted. Call for restrictions and complete details. © 2015 Comcast. All rights reserved. NED00440

CDPH expands meningitis vaccination recommendations

BY MATT SIMONETTE

The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH), on June 18, revised its recommendation for vaccination for meningococcal disease to include all men who have sex with men (MSM).

Six persons in the area—five in Chicago and one in suburban DuPage County—have been reported as having meningococcal disease, which can lead to meningitis or bloodstream infections, among other conditions. One of those six infections was fatal.

As the city's LGBT community prepares for Pride celebrations, health officials are encouraging all gay men to get the vaccinations, said CDPH Commissioner Julie Morita at a June 19 press conference at Howard Brown Health Center.

"From a public health perspective we are concerned about Pride and Pride activities," Morita said. "We know that people get together in close proximity and are in close contact with each other, so that's why there is an element of urgency in getting this message out and getting people vaccinated."

Officials have said that Black MSM are disproportionately affected by the outbreak, but are nevertheless urging all MSM—as well as transgender women, persons who are HIV-positive and women who have had sex with gay or bisexual men—to receive the vaccination, which is available at a number of locations citywide. CDPH previously recommended the vaccination mainly for MSM who have anonymous sex and/or use hook-up apps or websites.

"In general, we make a recommendation for vaccinations based on the data we have available, and the information that we had come in about the cases suggested that it wasn't limited to a small group ... so we broadened the recommendation to all men who have sex with men," Morita said.

"Err on the side of caution," added Ald. Tom Tunney (44th Ward), who received his vaccination at the press conference. "Let's get this vaccination [project] done. ...The sooner you get inoculated, the safer our city will be for everyone."

HBHC Chief Medical Officer Magda Houlberg said, "I'm very concerned about this outbreak, and I want to urge men who have sex with men

to get vaccinated as soon as possible. It's very important that people understand how serious this disease is, and that it can be deadly—and it's completely preventable. Especially as we go into the summer months, with the Pride parade coming and other opportunities where people congregate, it's important that people act now to access vaccine."

CDPH is investigating a potential seventh case. Officials have not yet determined whether that patient, who has meningitis, was initially infected by the same meningococcal strain that had infected the other six people.

Morita noted that the vaccine takes about 10-14 days to take effect.

"The vaccine is highly effective," she said. "Not only does it prevent people from getting sick, but it eliminates [the possibility of]

people carrying the bacteria and spreading it to others."

"The theme of the parade [is going to be] 'respect.' We've unfortunately got additional notice to be respectful of each other, and have respect for our health," added Tunney.

Morita told Windy City Times that about 6,000 vaccinations have been distributed, and that 16,000 total have been made available to them so far.

"The costs of that are much less than if this were to get to be a widespread outbreak," she said. "This is an illness that puts you in intensive care. You can lose limbs or you can lose your eyesight. The costs can be huge."

Vaccination locations can be found by visiting bit.ly/1Jr8C9M online or phoning 311.



Julie Morita, Ald. Tom Tunney and Magda Houlberg at press conference.
Photo by Matt Simonette

New club to open at busy Boystown intersection

BY ROSS FORMAN

The final piece of the former Spin Nightclub puzzle is SEVEN Dance Club, set to open at the end of June at 3206 N. Halsted St., Windy City Times has learned.

SEVEN will feature an array of live entertainment and what it is promoting as Chicago's best DJs seven days a week.

SEVEN is the third and final establishment housed in the now-closed Spin, and the space has reportedly been completely gutted and rebuilt with top-of-the-line sound and visuals. Manhole is back, open yet again, along with newcomer The Den Cocktail Bar, a 1920s men's social-club lounge with cocktails curated by Elixir's Vlad Novikov, and recipes from the Old Waldorf Astoria Bar Book. Manhole, which caters to the leather and fetish crowd, complete with a dress code—or lack thereof, some may say, in reference to clothing—also features offerings for sale from Full Kit Gear.

Spin, of course, was a longtime Boystown landmark, certainly known for the gigantic

rainbow flag that hung from the building during Pride—and it closed in May 2014. Spin owner David Gassman sold the venue to new owners, both straight, who opened Chloe's and Whiskey Trust.

However, both clubs failed; despite signage, they are long gone, now just part Boystown lore.

LKH Management now runs Manhole, The Den and SEVEN as well as Hydrate, Replay Beer & Bourbon, Halsted's and Elixir—all in Boystown.

"Sean Kotwa has been leading the effort to create what is going to be the newest, most exciting destination on Halsted Street, and we really look forward to introducing more [about SEVEN] very, very shortly," Mark Liberson, president of LKH Management, said June 20 while working at Pride Fest.

Liberson would not expand on why it is being called SEVEN. A 30-second promotional video for SEVEN says nothing of Chicago or the space but, rather, teases things associated with seven, such as days, chakras, seas, wonders and sins.

LKH also is opening a new Elixir and Replay in Andersonville, and both are expected to open in late July or early August, Liberson said.

Visit www.whatisseven.com.

Attorney General
Lisa Madigan

Proudly salutes

Chicago's LGBT
Community



Facebook.com/LisaMadigan
@LisaMadigan

www.lisamadigan.org
Paid for by Citizens for Lisa Madigan

eat.
drink.
read.
local.
the book cellar.

4736-38 n. lincoln ave., chicago, il 60625.
words@bookcellarinc.com • 773-293-2665.
follow us: @bookcellar.



Dr. Yates, MD

The Hair Loss Medical Doctor

HAIR LOSS?
We Have the
ANSWER.

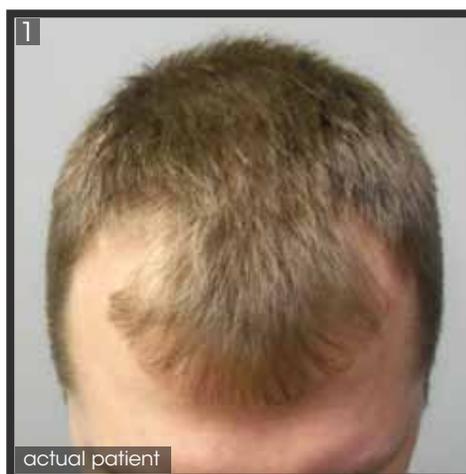


After 8 hours of Expert Hair Restoration work with Dr. Yates, you can look like this in 6 months!

NO SCARS. NO PAIN. NO STITCHES.

We only offer New Technology with the ARTAS Robotic Hair Transplant System and FUE (Follicular Unit Extraction), PRP (Platelet Rich Plasma) and Stem Cell Therapy

STAY THICK



before



after

LGBT council members promise citywide focus

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Members of the newly formed LGBT caucus of the Chicago City Council gathered June 17 shortly after the council's monthly meeting to discuss their upcoming work and laud the fact that a diverse swath of constituents would be represented by the caucus' five members.

Among those present were all five openly LGBT Chicago councilmembers: Aids. Raymond Lopez (15th), Deb Mell (33rd), Carlos Ramirez-Rosa (35th), Tom Tunney (44th) and James Cappleman (46th).

Ramirez-Rosa said, "One is the loneliest number. Five is not as lonely. This is definitely historic for the city of Chicago. There's been a lot of work done by trailblazers, but there's a lot of work to be done ... to craft ordinances and solutions that will uplift LGBT people of all backgrounds, from all places in the city, that will serve our city as a whole."

Lopez said that LGBT rights were "no longer just a North Side issue. We finally have testimony and recognition—and can bring the message that— [they are] a citywide issue. ... The South Side now lends itself to those causes."

Mell joked that many North Siders sometimes forgot there was a city past Ashland Avenue.

"It's really still amazing to me how far we've come in such a short time," Mell said. "We're ready to get to work for our own constituencies and the community."

Tunney said that the role of the caucus is to "represent the true solidarity and importance of the community for our city," adding that the group "represents the diversity of thought on the council."

Ald. Leslie Hairston peaked in at one point

and jokingly offered to represent African-Americans, given the caucus' lack of that element of diversity.

"One thing that we have in common is that we all were active in LGBT causes before we were ever elected," Cappleman said. "When I moved to Chicago, I lived in Lake View, because I was in the LGBT community and that's where we were safe. This was a time when all of my friends had experienced some kind of discrimination. Most of my friends had been threatened with violence—I am among those people. We have made huge strides. The fact that there are five aldermen spread throughout the city of Chicago? I am just immensely pleased by that."

Tunney noted that caucus members, in their capacities as either politicians or activists, had individually been working on bullying, public education, transgender rights and HIV issues, among others. But he added, "I think having more of our colleagues spread all over the city will help us with a more inclusive agenda."

The caucus would will work closely together particularly during the next budget process, which is likely to be especially difficult.

"That's the set of priorities for our city—we want to make sure not only that our wards are serviced properly, but our constituencies and our LGBT communities are at the table," Tunney said.

Cappleman addressed the issue of homelessness amongst LGBT youth. "I continue, and I know all of us continue, to work with Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Public Health and the Mayor's Office to be advocates. We want to make sure that we do a better job of coordinating those



From left: Aids. Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, James Cappleman, Deb Mell, Tom Tunney and Raymond Lopez.

Photo courtesy of Mell

services. Because of the all the cuts that are occurring ... It's time for us to act very efficiently. You have to be focused on clear outcome measures so that we can be the best advocates we can."

Ramirez-Rosa emphasized that the caucus would address issues pertinent to the transgender community. "We're going to stand up for issues of trans justice and we're going to make sure that we're working with all 50 City Council members to make sure that we bring about protections for that community."

Tunney also discussed this year's Pride Parade, the outcome of which will be closely scrutinized by city officials and Lake View residents. Many people have complained of bad behavior by celebrants during and after the parade, and have said that police and city services were overwhelmed by the event. Earlier in the spring, parade officials announced additional security and bag-search points.

"This parade is for every Chicagoan, and seems to be a suburban and Midwest attrac-

tion, but it is highly congested in a very residential and a great tourist area," Tunney said. "We want to keep it safe. ... The most important about Pride is about respect, and that goes for not only how we treat each other but how we treat communities."

"We're in some ways at a tipping point. The parade has gone, in the 13 years that I've been alderman, from being a quarter of a million [spectators] to now close to a million. ... Logistically, we can handle the parade. It's really the [other times] over the weekend. We certainly have gotten support from the police, in terms of resources. We want to make sure that we can get our neighborhood back to some semblance of order sooner than what we've been doing it in the past."

"Ald. Tunney and I are working with organizers and police to address those growing pains," Cappleman added. "We want to celebrate. ... But it has to be safe as well."



*Honor Your Commitment
To Love*

Let Marshall Pierce & Company assist in selecting
the perfect rings for your special day.



MARSHALL PIERCE & COMPANY
CHICAGO

29 East Madison Street, Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60602 | 312.372.2415

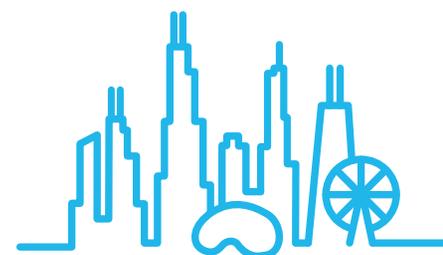
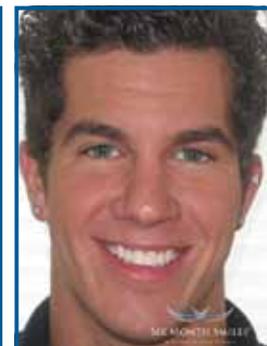
MARSHALLPIERCE.COM

CHICAGO PRIDE:
\$500 OFF ALL CLEAR BRACES
Chicago Six Month Braces is an effective, safe
and affordable way to get straight teeth in an
average of 6 months. **FREE EVALUATION!**

BEFORE

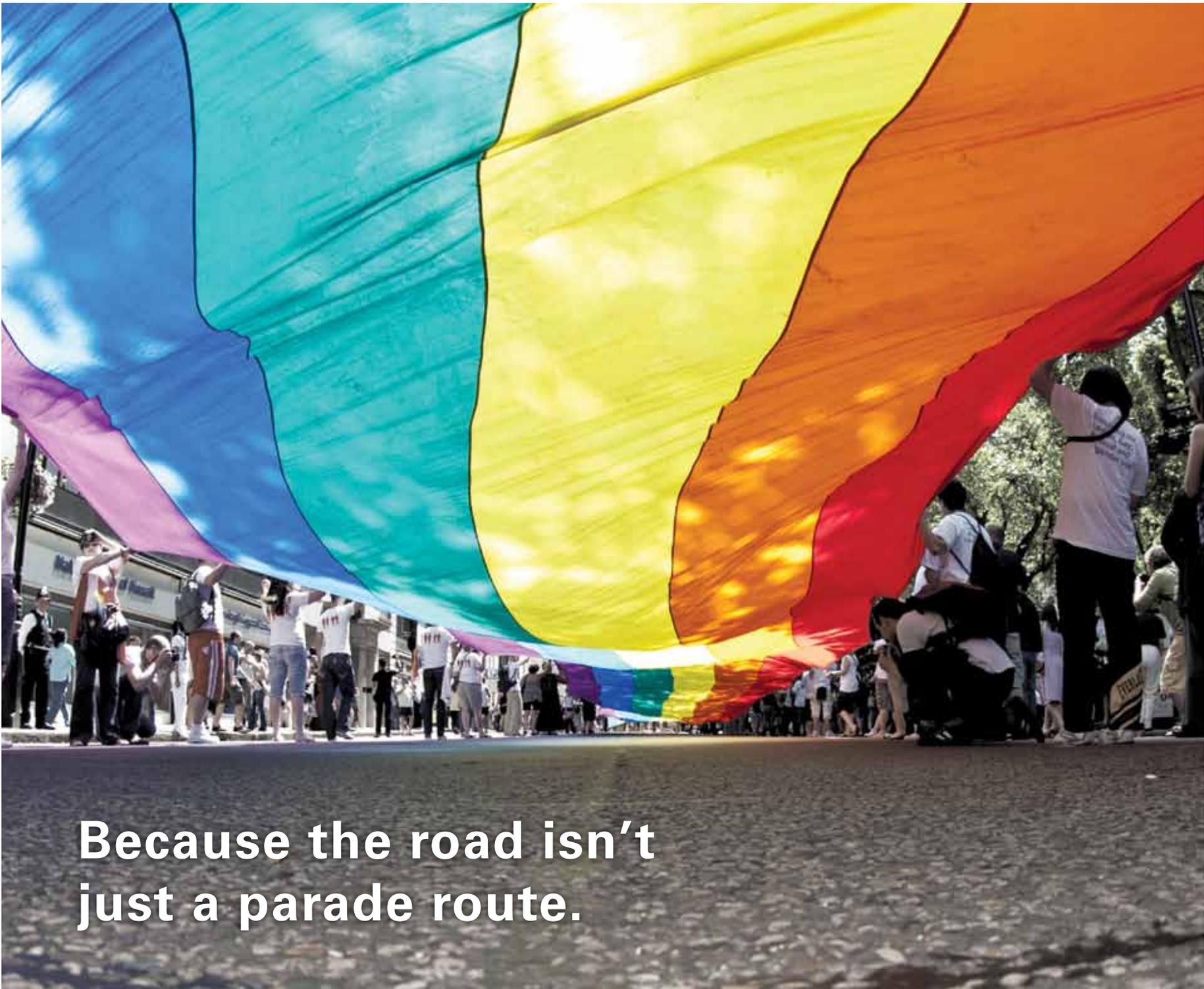


AFTER



CHICAGO 6 MONTH BRACES

CALL FOR YOUR FREE EVALUATION
773-878-7467
5503 N. Clark Street, Chicago
www.chicago6monthbraces.com



**Because the road isn't
just a parade route.**

When you work for acceptance and equality, the steps take effort and perseverance.
So while the parade is a celebration of all that has been achieved, the journey continues.
We know, because we help thousands of individuals on the journey called life.
At MB Financial Bank, we know why you work.

MB Financial Bank



Commercial and Business Banking ■ Capital Markets ■ Wealth Management ■ Personal Banking

Lavender Law conference, career fair return in August

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

The National LGBT Bar Association's will be returning to Chicago after a seven year absence for its annual Lavender Law Conference and Career Fair Aug. 5-8 at the Chicago Marriot Downtown Magnificent Mile. This is the third time that Lavender Law will take place in Chicago.

Mary Bonauto, the Civil Rights Project director at Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, who argued for marriage equality before the Supreme Court in the recent landmark case *Obergefell v. Hodges*, will be among those speaking at the morning plenary Aug. 5. A welcome reception will take place that evening at the Navy Pier Rooftop Terrace featuring opening remarks by Maura Healey, the nation's first openly gay elected state attorney general.

Calpernia Addams, an actress and transgender-rights activist who has emceed previous Lavender Law conferences, will be returning as the mistress of ceremonies. Addams' life story is the basis of the film *Soldier's Girl* and she has also starred in numerous television and film projects, including the reality series *Transamerican Love Story*. Addams also co-runs a production company called Deep Stealth Productions and has previously worked with the National LGBT Bar Association on dismantling the discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" military policy.

The National LGBT Bar Association is, according to its website, "a national association of lawyers, judges and other legal professionals, law students, activists and affiliated LGBT legal organizations. The LGBT Bar promotes justice in and through the legal profession for the LGBT community in all its diversity."

The seeds of the organization were planted at the Second National March on Washington for Gay & Lesbian Rights in 1987, when a handful of lawyers came together and shared resources, especially concerning issues surrounding the AIDS crisis.

"We originally started in Illinois and the late Bill Kelley was the one who incorporated us," said D'Arcy Kemnitz, executive director of the National LGBT Bar Association. "The association, which is the membership portion, is an Illinois corporation and the foundation, which runs the conference, is a Minnesota corporation. It was originally called the National Lesbian & Gay Law Association because we didn't want to be called the Gay Bar back then."

The first Lavender Law conference took place in 1988, one year before the National LGBT Bar

Association's founding in 1989. For the past 13 years, the conference has also had a career-fair component, to be held Aug. 7 this year.

In 1992, the association became an official affiliate of the American Bar Association (ABA), which is headquartered in Chicago. The ABA currently has 26 official affiliates.

"The ABA is much more of a welcoming place now and they also have their own Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity," said Kemnitz.

Last year's conference and career fair, which took place in New York City, had 1,650 attendees. Representatives from some of the nation's largest corporations—including BMW of North America, Liberty Mutual and Walmart—were in attendance last year and plan to recruit and/or exhibit at this year's conference.

This year's conference will feature more than 40 workshops and panel discussions, seven of which will deal with trans issues. Other workshops will deal with family law, HIV/AIDS and intersex issues. There will also be three general attendance sessions and a number of receptions. Attendees will be able to earn a total of 12 Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits at the conference.

The career fair will feature about 200 entities including governmental agencies, businesses, banks, non-profit organizations and the nation's top law firms recruiting for LGBT diversity.

Kemnitz noted that she hopes attendees make connections first and foremost, as well as have fun because this conference is a family reunion of sorts for LGBT lawyers.

"I'm encouraging everyone to come to Lavender Law even if they aren't lawyers so they can find out what's next regarding LGBT issues," said Kemnitz. "We need smart people working on these issues because when the Supreme Court rules on marriage equality that won't be the end of the LGBT civil rights movement. We also want to make sure that Chicago is going to outperform NYC in terms of attendance because we don't think Chicago is the Second City we think it's our city."

"We need a lot of volunteers because lawyers have a tendency to move really fast," said Kemnitz. "We have to make sure that everyone gets scanned into and out of the CLE sessions so attendees will get their CLE credits."

To volunteer for the conference email Kemnitz at info@lgbtbar.org.

See www.lgbtbar.org/annual for more information and to register for the conference.



Calpernia Addams will be part of the Lavender Law festivities.

Photo by Krista Benson



Henry Gerber.

Gerber House named national landmark

In recognition of LGBT Pride month, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell announced that the Henry Gerber House in Chicago has been designated a national historic landmark, becoming the nation's second LGBT related property to achieve such recognition.

Once the residence of noted gay-rights activist Henry Gerber, the home was where the nation's first chartered LGBT-rights organization, the Society for Human Rights, was formed in 1924.

The Gerber House now becomes one of more than 2,500 noteworthy archaeological and

historic properties recognized by the National Historic Landmarks Program. The Stone-wall Inn in New York City's Greenwich Village is the only other National Historic Landmark listed primarily for its association with LGBT history and heritage.

Supreme Court events in 50+ cities

On the day that the U.S. Supreme Court announces its decision on marriage rights for same-sex couples, Chicagoans will join a coalition of more than 50 cities responding to the ruling.

In Chicago, the response will be at 7 p.m. with an LGBT community speak-out in front of the Center on Halsted at 3656 N. Halsted St.

The Gay Liberation Network and Marriage Equality USA are co-sponsoring Chicago's event. For more information, email LGBTliberation@aol.com or 773-209-1187. A full listing of the national coalition's events on that day can be found at uniteformarriage.org.

Besen show to debut July 20

Chicago's Progressive Talk radio announced it is launching "The Wayne Besen Show," which will focus on local and national political issues.

The new daily program is tentatively set to debut Monday, July 20, and will air 2-5 p.m. on WCPT AM 820 and WCPT FM 92.5. It replaces Jeff Santos, a nationally syndicated talk show.

The Wayne Besen Show can be heard nationally at ChicagosProgressiveTalk.com.

Besen is the founding executive director of Truth Wins Out, a non-profit organization that battles for LGBT equality (Truthwinsout.org).

Ehrlich Dental

General & Cosmetic Dentistry

"I have never felt more at ease in a dentist's office."

- Licensed Sedation Dentistry
- Check Out Our Reviews Online

3118 N. Sheffield Ave.
Chicago, IL
(773) 935-0300

www.EhrlichDental.com

Serving Lakeview & Beyond!



Joshua H. Ehrlich, DMD

Apartments
Fit for a QUEEN!



Apartment
People

BBB Ethics Award Winner

Equal Housing Opportunity

Proud sponsor of the
2015 Pride Festival

Over 30 Years of Experience

Open 7 Days a Week

Largest Selection of Apartments

Over 100 Agents

We Drive to the Apartments

Lakeview | River North | Evanston
773.248.8800 apartmentpeople.com

Lambda Legal reaches \$2M fundraising goal

BY MATT SIMONETTE

The national LGBT-rights organization Lambda Legal, on June 18, reached its goal of raising \$1 million for a \$1 million matching grant.

The funds were raised after the organization launched its #IDo initiative this spring. Lambda board co-chair Karen K. Dixon, along with her wife Nan Schaffer, former Chicagoans who now reside in Washington, D.C., issued the challenge at the organization's Bon Foster fundraiser in Chicago April 22.

"We issued this challenge in April because we knew that the entire LGBT community and our allies were riveted by the possibility of nationwide marriage equality and we didn't want this 'marriage moment' to be mistaken for 'mission accomplished,'" said Dixon in a June 19 statement. "Indeed, as exciting as a victory in the Supreme Court would be, it won't change the fact that 40 percent of Americans still do not support our right to marry the person we love. Sadly, the people who still stand against us could be our neighbors, our co-workers, our doctors, or our children's teachers at school—people we see every day, who help us make serious life decisions and who influence the beliefs of our nation's youth."

The money raised is intended to help ensure the organization's relevancy even after the United States Supreme Court issues its expected decision on marriage equality, said James Bennett, Lambda Legal's Midwest regional director, noting that about \$180,000 came from donors in the Midwest.

"The focus here is a lot of work beyond marriage," Bennett added. "What happened in Indiana was kind of a touch point, and now we

are seeing battles like that in other parts of the country. There are still places where it is legal to marry someone of the same sex, but it's not illegal to be fired after your boss has seen the wedding announcement in the paper. Then there's Michigan, where the governor and legislature have cited junk science to pass adoption laws that are both harmful to same-sex couples and not in the best interest of children."

Lambda Legal will continue to work on employment protections for LGBT persons, as well as protections for transgender individuals, among other areas.

"I was, frankly, nervous," Bennett said of Dixon and Schaffer's challenge, which only took about two months to reach. "We never have had that big a challenge before."

Note: Nan Schaffer is a minority shareholder in Windy City Times.



From left: Nan Schaffer and Karen Dixon. Photo by Tracy Baim



Linda S. Levi, LCPC
Serving the LGBTQ community for 15+ years

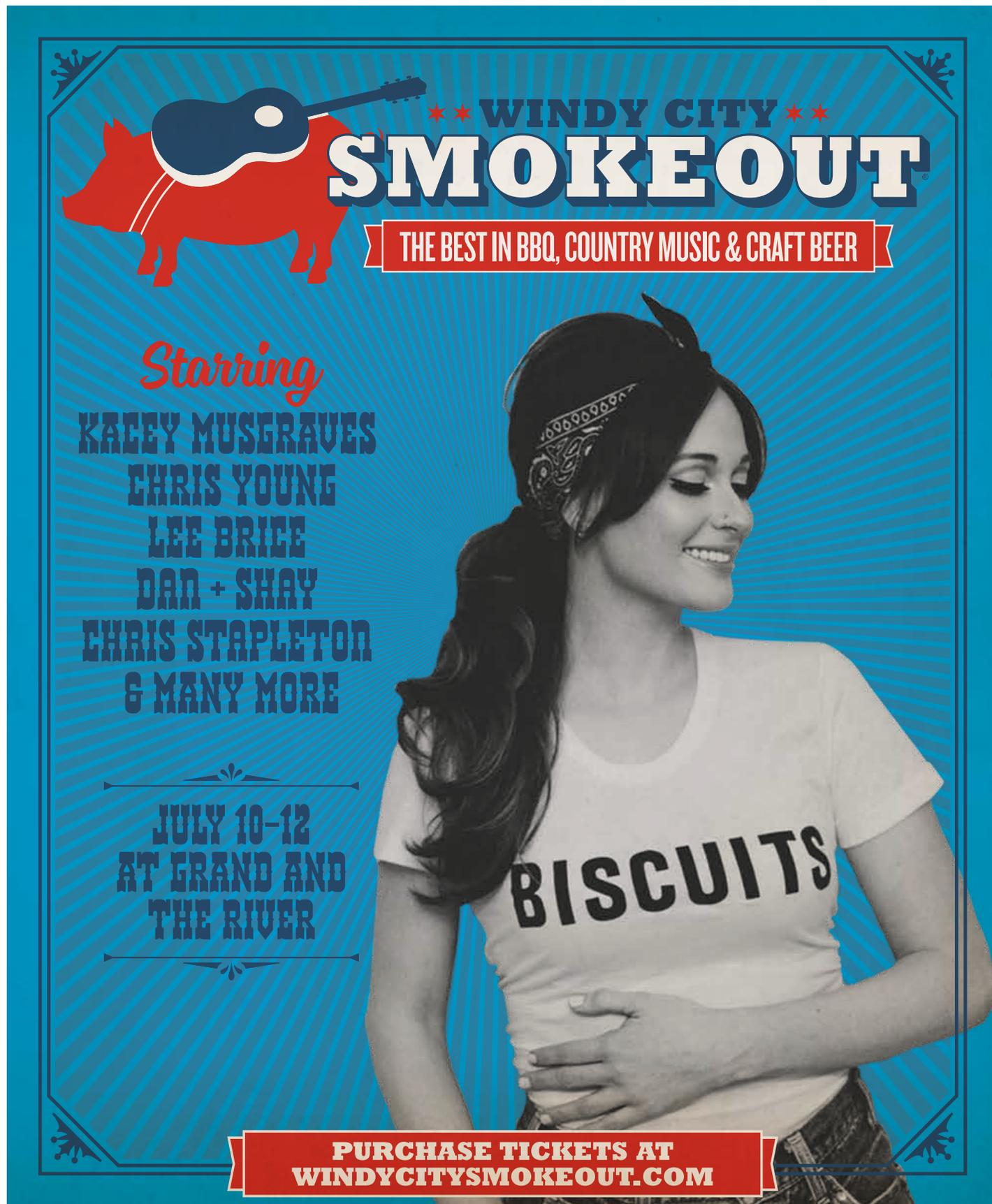
Offering psychodynamic counseling to individuals, couples, and family; Experienced clinician, just added clinical hours to new Ravenswood location, with an emphasis in:

**LGBTQ Concerns
Couples & Family
Transgender Community**

Chicago & NW Suburb Locations
847-207-2595 • lindaslevi.com/LGBTQ



@windycitytimes1



WINDY CITY SMOKEOUT
THE BEST IN BBQ, COUNTRY MUSIC & CRAFT BEER

Starring
KACEY MUSGRAVES
CHRIS YOUNG
LEE BRICE
DAN + SHAY
CHRIS STAPLETON
& MANY MORE

JULY 10-12
AT GRAND AND
THE RIVER

**PURCHASE TICKETS AT
WINDYCITYSMOKEOUT.COM**

Nightspots editor on merger with Windy City Times

BY ROSS FORMAN

The final drink is being poured for Nightspots—the glitzy, full-color, biweekly, picture-heavy nightlife guide, produced by Windy City Media Group, starring Chicago's LGBT community, and doing so with sass, swagger and a stiff shot.

After 1,147 issues over 25 years—including the first 11 years as Nightlines, the printing press is shutting down. Nightspots will be merged into the weekly Windy City Times starting in mid-July. Now it's weekly color photos of late-night antics and more—in Windy City Times—rather than just twice a month in Nightspots.

Nightspots managing editor and art director Kirk Williamson will continue as the leader of the new-look Nightspots, which will offer the same breadth of coverage while adding new features, new splashes—especially on the social media front. Nightspots will be expanding its presence on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

"It's a complex ball of emotions," Williamson said. "We are continuing to be a force in nightlife coverage in Windy City Times and online, but I'm going to miss the hell out of the magazine itself. I'll miss the relative autonomy. I'll miss the gut-wrenching thrill of meeting a late night Sunday deadline against all odds. Well, maybe I won't miss that so much."

But now Nightspots will carry "the same breadth of coverage, but presented differently," he said.

That certainly means social media will be a focus. And, "fuck, yes," Williamson said, it will be a slightly toned-down Nightspots, language-wise. "It'll be a delicate balance between assimilating to the standards of Windy City Times, while maintaining the edge and punk-rock nature of the magazine. I'm sure I'll have to polish up a sentence or two, but I refuse to lose the underlying snark," he said.

Williamson, 40, who lives in Rogers Park—which doubles as his office, too—was born in Gary, Indiana; grew up in West Chicago and Wheaton; went to college in southern Wisconsin; and has lived in the city for 16 years. He has worked for Windy City Media Group for 14 years, although admittedly first looked at the job as a resume-builder for a year or so.

He has been the managing editor of Nightspots for the past 11-and-a-half years.

Williamson had been assistant editor for two

years when St. Sukie de la Croix, the former editor, left the company—"and I had greatness thrust upon me," he said.

"Anything worth doing is a challenge, and Nightspots has been incredibly worth it, in that sense," Williamson said. "I'm the type of person who works best on a deadline, so that's kept me going. The biggest challenges for me have been personal ones, dealing with social anxiety and having to force myself to go out and take photos and be 'on.' It can be excruciating at times. A big part of my job as editor is just being there and the older I get, the more I just want to be on my couch with the cats. But you do what you gotta do. And the end result always makes it worth it in retrospect."

Yes, it's been a job, a struggle, a fight and certainly frustrating at times. But always fun.

"Publisher Tracy Baim, in her infinite wisdom, has always been very hands-off in how I ran [Nightspots]," Williamson said. "Occasionally, a gut feeling will tell me I'm crossing a line and I'll clear something with her, but other than that I've been able to do what I want."

Maybe that's what led to "aborted covers," which were cover he would have liked to run, "but there was no way it would be appropriate," he admitted.

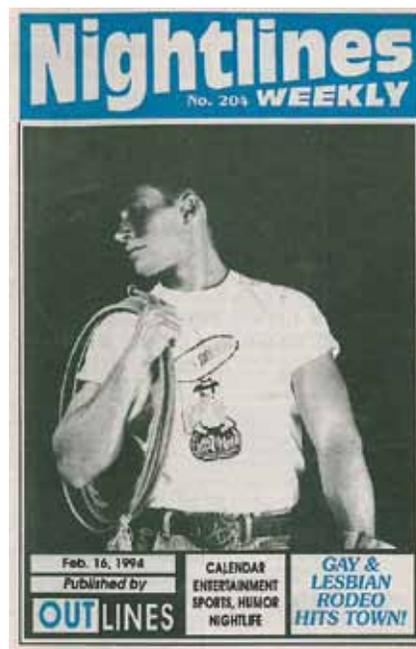
Still, those photos often landed on, say, page 30. "You'd be surprised what you can get away with back on page 30," he said.

The cover of Nightspots has always been about Chicago, starring Chicagoans. Williamson has been very firm that the magazine is a local, by-us-for-us venture. "I can't tell you how many pleas I have gotten from national PR folks, [asking] to put stars on the cover; I have turned them all down. Nightspots has always been about featuring local talents and faces. I'm very proud that that vision was never compromised, in light of all the exterior efforts to the contrary."

Williamson said he had been flooded with memories, knowing it's almost last-call for Nightspots, and it's fitting that the Pride issue will be the last—they are always the best ones, he said.

In 2006, for instance, Williamson inserted into one photo from each bar one cast member from The Facts of Life. "Mrs. Garrett's shocked expression at a half-naked dancer from Madrigal's was inspired," he said. "People still talk about that issue."

This year's Pride issue, which is the final



Above: An early cover of Nightlines from Feb. 16, 1994. Right: Cover of Nightspots from Nov. 9, 2011, featuring Williamson.



standalone issue of Nightspots, is yearbook-themed. "It gives me the opportunity to focus on all the great memories, as well as the concept of graduation or transition," he said.

Nightspots has always been about photos of folks out and about, about listings of upcoming events, about the bar listings—but also about reviews of the latest and greatest porn DVD, or a former wacky feature known as Nightspots MAFIA, where the main cast of characters, the moniker for the regular contributing staff, would just answer silly questions each week.

And, of course, Nightspots offers The Devil in the Details, revealing, well, who knows what might linger in a seemingly innocent photo. There recently was one 'Devil' that featured labels on multi-colored hankies at Leather 64TEN. It was wildly inappropriate, Williamson admitted.

"Once, I took a photo of a small doll or something protruding from someone's zipper and I tried to think of a way that I could present it," Williamson said. "So I set it next to a photo of Bea Arthur, with the caption, 'Alright, everybody. It's time to play everybody's favorite guessing game, Crotch or Bea Arthur!' The idea was that you were supposed to guess which one was which. Well, that took off and it soon became a regular feature. People wanted me to photograph their junk just so they could be a part of it. All the lesbians in the office tried to convince that it was not a good idea, but I persisted and I don't regret that one bit."

Then there was the published photo of Frida Lay, with high heel in hand about to stab a bitch, with the caption, "What do you mean, you've never heard of Nightspots?!"

"I can see somebody out at a bar and they'll tell me about a photo I took of them in 2008 and I can pull it up and email it to them the second I get home," said Williamson, who also serves as the art director for the company, which encompasses layout, graphic design and more. Plus, he is a senior account manager, so

ad sales are the base of what he does.

In addition, Williamson is a part-time trivia host (as KWizmaster Kirk Williamson) every Thursday night at The Glenwood. He also is an avid amateur genealogist and admittedly trying to break into the vintage resale business.

"One of my favorite stories of all time was the time that Sukie and I judged a contest at a Latino gay bar, which was held entirely in Spanish, which neither of us speak," Williamson said. "[There are] so many other little stories; it's hard to pull out any that are my favorites, but in a general sense, I've had a lifetime's worth of wacky adventures."

And he's never failed to produce the publication, no matter how much interference Mother Nature caused. The magazine was once delivered just before a massive blizzard and some copies got thrown away with snow removal, "prompting a certain cokehead former manager of a certain former bar to go on a week-long tirade, making my life hell and spoiling what was otherwise a very nice vacation in Austin, Texas," Williamson said. "We never didn't print, [and] in this business, you miss one deadline and it's over."

Williamson's column has changed slightly over the years, mainly in title—and even led to an interesting Scruff hook up.

"The name of my column was initially, 'What Have I Done?!', which was a double entendre illustrating mock regret along with an accurate retelling of my exploits in putting together each particular issue," Williamson said. "As time went on, everywhere I went—from the grocery store to walking down the street to airports in other cities—people would always shout out, 'Hey, you're that guy from the magazine!' That became the title of my column, which was eventually shortened to 'That Guy.'"

"Recently, I hooked up with a guy from Scruff who was nervous to have me over, because I was 'that guy from the magazine.' I was flattered that he thought I was that important."

Queer AAPI conference to honor Hsiao, Thomson

The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA), Chicago i2i, and Trikone-Chicago are co-hosting the national conference with the theme of "Thriving Together: Queer APIs Building Community, Solidarity & Movement."

The conference will take place at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Aug. 6-9.

The goals of this conference are to network, organize, agitate, educate and build capacity of the nation's LGBTQ Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community.

A special highlight of the conference is

the Community Catalyst Awards Celebration on Friday, Aug. 7, at Cai Restaurant, 2100 S. Archer Ave. This year's awardees will be longtime activist I Li Hsiao; educator/photographer/organizer Liz Thomson; Marsha and Tad Aizumi, the parents of a trans son from Los Angeles; and Madison, Wisconsin-based group Freedom Inc., which works to end violence against people of color. Actor Maulik Pancholy (30 Rock) will be the guest emcee.

Tickets to the celebration are \$50 each; visit https://org2.salsalabs.com/o/7100/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=76631.

For more about the conference, visit https://org2.salsalabs.com/o/7100/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=74136.

who says you're too old for summer camp?

america's premier summer camp for GLBT adults

August 23-30

campcamp.com
facebook.com/BestTimeEver

Use discount code **WINDCITY** & get discounted rate of \$1525 (\$200 off!)
Not valid on previously submitted registrations or in combination with any other discounts or promotions.

Gay United Airlines pilots on their careers, life outside of work

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Chicago-based United Airlines has had an LGBT-inclusive workplace for many years, earning a perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign's (HRC's) Corporate Equality Index for four consecutive years, and that extends to its internal and external initiatives including the company's various Pride Month activities this year at five of the airline's hub markets—Chicago, Denver, Houston, New York City and San Francisco.

"I'm honored to join my co-workers here in Chicago and worldwide in celebration of Pride Month, and proud of all the diverse and talented employees who make United such a great place to work," said Gavin Molloy, president of United's LGBT business-resource group, EQUAL. "At United, we are committed to reflecting the diverse customers we serve, and have long supported programs and activities that promote LGBT awareness and equality. We are proud of our inclusive culture—one where every employee is accepted, valued, respected and treated fairly."

Among United's out employees are gay B757/767 Captain Marc Champion, based out of Denver, and lesbian Airbus First Officer Kathy Dulson, based out of Los Angeles. Both are members of EQUAL.

Champion has also participated in United's Denver Pride events over the years and has spoken to other employee groups about being gay in the workplace, while Dulson is a long-time member of the National Gay Pilots Association. She has also been a member of Women in Aviation for many years.

"I'm discovering that there are many more LGBT pilots out there than one might assume. I've never been one to offer much about my personal life at work, but after being pressed by others a few times, I came to realize that any fears I had about being ostracized were unfounded and over time I became more comfortable with answering person questions," said Champion. "Unfortunately, we seldom spend more than a few days with any one pilot in the cockpit and you often don't get a chance to discuss much more than the business of flying the airplane. As a manager with United, I believe that my being gay sometimes gives

others a sense of trust in me they may not have had otherwise."

"I try to be myself at work," said Dulson. "I find the vast majority of pilots are comfortable talking to me about myself and my family. If not, at least I'm making others aware that there are LGBT pilots and hopefully the more of us they meet, the more comfortable they will get and every time I come out to a co-worker, I hope to gain growing acceptance for our community."

Both Champion and Dulson's fascination with and love of airplanes began at an early age. Champion noted that he traveled in and between Europe and the United States from the time he was a baby. When Champion was five or six he saw an airline pilot standing in the aisle in his uniform for the first time and at that moment he knew this would be his career. Dulson explained that she spent her summer days on the softball field watching planes fly overhead in and out of O'Hare. When she was 12, she took her first flight from Midway Airport to Akron, Ohio; from then on, she knew she wanted to spend her career in the sky.

Whereas Dulson stayed rooted in the Chicago area for most of her life—including her early years in the suburb of Winfield and 10 years on Chicago's North Side—Champion spent his early life on the move. He was born in New Jersey and spent most of his early years in Brussels, Belgium, before moving to Colorado when he was 12. Champion has a degree in aviation technology from Denver's Metropolitan State University while Dulson has a degree in aviation management from Southern Illinois University.

Champion began his career as a flight instructor and moved on to a small commuter airline followed by a three year period flying small corporate jets. Since the age of 23, he has worked at United in both cockpit and management positions.

"I have a unique job at the moment. I spend half the year as a line pilot on the Boeing 757/767 and alternating months as a Check Airman in our flight simulators at the United Flight Training Center in Denver," said Champion. "There, I teach and evaluate other United pilots as they come through recurrent training every year. It's a great mix of work that allows



United Airlines' Marc Champion and Kathy Dulson. Photos courtesy of United Airlines

me to do the flying I love most and spend time sharing the benefit of my experience with other pilots."

Champion lives with Patrick, his partner of 27 years, in Colorado and they recently bought a townhome in Palm Springs, California.

"We enjoy tinkering with our homes," said Champion. "Most of all, we enjoy the company of our friends whether dining, hiking, skiing or traveling." Champion also spends part of his free time at a Crossfit gym.

Dulson has been working in the airline industry for 26 years, starting as a customer service and operations agent at O'Hare. While at O'Hare, Dulson started taking flying lessons and became a flight instructor at DuPage Airport. Her first airline pilot job was flying a Saab 340—a small turboprop aircraft—for a regional airline out of Midway to several small cities around the Midwest. She also worked for a regional carrier as a pilot flying a Bombardier Canadian Regional Jet. Just over a year ago, Dulson was hired by United. She flies all over the United States, Canada and Mexico, and is looking forward to flying a wide body aircraft in the future so she can fly all over the world.

"Since I'm relatively new at United, I don't have as much seniority as far as choosing my schedule," said Dulson. "I have a reserve schedule which means I have 12 set days off during the month and the other days I'm on call. I usually know my schedule the day prior to when I'm on call which works out well. It

can be fun not knowing what city you may be visiting within the next 24 hours. My trip assignments are usually one to four days in length and I may fly up to three flights each day."

Dulson left Chicago seven years ago for California after meeting her wife of two years, Leslie, on a cruise. They have a dog named Kia and spend their free time traveling, stand-up paddling, camping, biking, hiking and doing other outdoor activities.

"I still have family and friends in Chicago and love visiting whenever I can," said Dulson.

"The airlines of the world need a lot of new pilots in the next 20 years and airline cockpits are becoming more and more culturally diverse," said Champion. "If you want to fly airplanes for a living, being LGBT isn't a hurdle for you, especially at an airline like United. If you just simply fly United as a customer, I say thank you for enabling me to do what I love."

"The LGBT community has come a long way, but we still have a ways to go," said Dulson. "When I first started flying, I was not out at work. Now I feel comfortable being myself. As a society we have progressed. The world is changing. I feel if we are true to ourselves, others will be respectful and treat us equally as well."

See www.united.com/web/en-US/content/company/globalcitizenship/diversity-initiatives.aspx for more information.

Representing you with PRIDE!

The Chicago LGBT Caucus

**Alderman
Carlos
Rosa**

**Alderman
James Cappleman**

**Alderman
Deb Mell**

**Alderman
Tom Tunney**

**Alderman
Raymond
Lopez**

Paid for by: Citizens for Tunney, Citizens for Deb Mell, Citizens for Cappleman, Carlos for Chicago and Friends of Raymond A. Lopez

New law follows Berwyn mirror controversy

BY MATT SIMONETTE

A comedian well known in the LGBT community made a bizarre discovery at a gig in suburban Berwyn—a two-way mirror in the women's washroom—and that has led to a change in local ordinances. It is now illegal to utilize two-way mirrors or similar surveillance devices in private spaces in Berwyn.

The Berwyn City Council unanimously passed the ordinance June 9.

Chicago performer Tamale Rocks (also known as Tamale Sepp) was, in April, performing at Cigars and Stripes BBQ and Lounge, 6715 W. Ogden Ave. in Berwyn. When using the washroom, she was unsettled by the mirror, which was attached to a door with a utility closet on the opposite side, from which someone could conceivably watch a patron using the toilet. She filmed a video about the mirror and posted it to YouTube the next day. The video went viral and has had more than 3.4 million views.

In an email sent to Windy City Times, Rocks said that she was grateful for the new ordinance.

"To have other people respond and take actions that resulted in broader awareness and an actual shift in the law is both vindicating and inspirational," Rocks said. "The next step is to have this legislation adopted by the state, both updating antiquated privacy laws and reflecting a commitment to respecting privacy."

The bar's owner, Ronnie Lottz, said that the mirror was well known to his patrons and, at first, refused to take it down. Berwyn police, investigating the situation, concluded that there was no evident wrongdoing.



Tamale Sepp.
Photos from Sarah Terez Rosenblum

"When the police examined the mirror and did nothing, the heat toward making a change intensified," Rocks said. "The police said no laws had been broken. This response infuriated people and they began taking action to change the law. I worked in concert with them to support their efforts."

On June 1, Lottz posted a video to YouTube that said he was taking the mirror down. But that only came after heated words for Rocks in the media.

Rocks said of Lottz's response to her complaint, "More than once, he expressed glee at the free press. Admittedly, the attention was widespread. It was, in fact, worldwide press that illuminated him, his establishment and the city of Berwyn, with their initial lackluster response, in a less than favorable light. That

free press was, in the end, quite costly.

"I discovered I was not the first woman to be upset about this mirror, yet it remained," she added. "The owner has openly bragged about it being in place since 2001. ... The only reason anything changed was because, once that video went viral, there was no ignoring it. You could see through the actual mirror and it became a shared experience that resulted in a change in the law."

Rocks gave credit to Alds. Marge Paul and Bob Fejt, as well as ethnographer Kelly Paul, for helping get the bill drafted and pushed through, adding, "I'd also like to acknowledge the women and men of Berwyn, and outside Berwyn, who stood up against this. Without their online and verbal support, there is no way we would have gotten this passed."

Hull-House Museum tours in June

Jane Addams Hull-House Museum, 800 S. Halsted St., is hosting "Queerest House in Chicago? A Gender and Sexuality Tour" every Wednesday at 3-4 p.m.

Among the issues that will be discussed are Chicago's LGBT history and if Addams herself was a lesbian.

There is a suggested \$5 donation. Call 312-413-5353 or visit www.hullhousemuseum.org.

PRIDE Day at local zoo on June 25

On June 25, Brookfield Zoo will join Chicago's PRIDE celebration with PRIDE Day.

Families will be able connect to wildlife and nature by enjoying the zoo's many exhibits and attractions like Great Bear Wilderness,

Stingray Bay, Butterflies!, Hamill Family Play Zoo and its summer-long Festival of Flight free bird show. At 2 p.m., guests can have an up-close experience with some of the zoo's animal ambassadors, including a variety of birds and reptiles. A PRIDE expo on the North Mall will feature PRIDE-friendly business.

For further information, visit www.CZS.org/events or call 708-688-8667.

Survey on Black lesbian history

Longtime Chicago lesbian activist and historian Melvyna Gaynor is seeking survey respondents for her new history project.

She would like people to answer the questions below to help us compile data essential to producing a video documentary on the Black LGBT community in Chicago from 1970 until today.

Email awareone7@yahoo.com for more information.

LEARN TO PLAY TENNIS IN NO TIME[®] in the parks

6 LESSONS \$55 STARTS JULY 11

In partnership with the Chicago Park District, Midtown Athletic Club's Tennis in No Time[®] will turn you into a player in just 3 weeks.

CONVENIENT PARK LOCATIONS

OZ PARK TENNIS COURTS

2021 N. Burling St.
Chicago, Illinois 60614

HAROLD WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARK TENNIS COURTS

5200 S. Hyde Park Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60615

For more information and to register, call Midtown Athletic Club at 773.235.2300 or visit midtown.com/chicago.

MIDTOWN
ATHLETIC CLUB[®]

2020 W. Fullerton Ave Chicago

A Primary Healthcare Facility You Can Trust



Open Door offers primary care as well as specialized services to eliminate disparities for patients who:

- are living with HIV/AIDS
- are concerned about sexually-transmitted infections
- identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender

Your most important and honest relationship should be with your healthcare provider.

Open Door offers primary medical care, behavioral health, substance abuse services with staff sensitive to your needs. We are conveniently located in the western suburbs.

Visit us today!

opendoor
www.opendoorclinic.org

Aurora Health Center - 157 S. Lincoln Ave., Ste. K, Aurora 630.264.1819
Elgin Health Center - 1665 Larkin Ave., Elgin 847.695.1093

Study examines drinking among lesbians and bisexual women

BY MARGO ANDERSON

On June 1, the American Sociological Association released a study examining hazardous drinking among women who identified as lesbian or bisexual. The study is one of the first to investigate how apparent contradictions between a woman's sexual identity and her sexual behavior and attraction can lead to hazardous alcohol use.

Dr. Amelia Talley, co-author of this study and assistant professor of experimental psychology at Texas Tech University, told Windy City Times, "Traditionally, people's sexual orientation is believed to be comprised of at least three major facets—self-identification, attraction and behavior. ... Only recently have researchers begun to compare alcohol outcomes based on

more opposite-sex sexual behavior than would be expected based on their sexual identity reported higher levels of hazardous drinking at that same wave.

Measures of race and ethnicity did not make a difference for this pattern of findings. But there was some evidence that discordance among identities, attraction, and behavior may be more likely to lead to hazardous drinking in older women than in younger women.

Talley told Windy City Times, "For a long time, sexual orientation was presumed to be a stable, largely-fixed, inherent aspect of oneself. It was a big step [in the right direction] for scientists to come out and acknowledge that it is not uncommon for a person to revisit aspects of their sexual orientation from time to time. Older women who have always



Dr. Amelia Talley.
Photo from Texas Tech University

each of the three sexual orientation facets. ... My collaborators and I realized that inconsistencies among these facets were not uncommon, especially considering Lisa Diamond's work suggesting that humans express varying patterns of sexual fluidity throughout their lifetime. We wanted to look at some of the consequences of apparently contradictory facets of sexual orientation for alcohol use behaviors."

For guidance on the possible effects of these apparent contradictions, Talley turned to the work of Leon Festinger. Festinger's cognitive-dissonance theory states that humans are uncomfortable when two aspects of themselves, such as their beliefs and actions, are inconsistent with each other.

"In psychology, it is commonly believed that humans have a basic need for consistency" said Talley. "We argued that alcohol might be used, in some instances, by sexual minority women to distract themselves from addressing apparent contradictions with regard to their sexual orientation, due to recent identity or relationship transitions."

The data for the study was taken from a longitudinal survey of adult women who constitute sexual minorities. Participants were interviewed at each of three waves over the course of 10 years. They were asked to define their sexual identity, sexual attraction and sexual behavior at each survey, using three distinct five-point scales. Participants were also asked about hazardous drinking including heavy episodic drinking, intoxication, alcohol-related negative consequences and symptoms of alcohol dependence.

The researchers found that women whose pattern of opposite-sex sexual behavior differed from that of their self-ascribed sexual minority identity were more likely to engage in hazardous drinking subsequently. And, in the last wave of the study, women who engaged in

viewed their sexual identity one way, yet begin to acknowledge attractions toward both genders later in life, may have more to grapple with given that they may have been living with an established identity for some period of time and fulfilling corresponding expectancies [for that identity]."

When asked what she wants readers to take away from the study, Talley said "I want readers to, first and foremost, know that sexual fluidity is common and becoming increasingly so. In my opinion, embracing sexual fluidity and feeling comfortable with fluctuating aspects of one's sexual orientation may help alleviate the discomfort that may fuel hazardous drinking behaviors among sexual minority women. By affirming that such fluctuations and apparent inconsistencies are relatively common, even in the face of societal messages that can be hurtful and constraining to sexual minority persons, a person may begin feel more comfortable exploring and integrating aspects of their sexual orientation into their view of themselves."

As far as the future, Talley said she hopes that others will continue researching these issues. "I think this area of research could benefit from additional theoretical work that attempts to better understand exactly why sexual minority women may be at greater risk for hazardous alcohol use during periods of relative discordance with regard to their sexual orientation," she said. "In some instances, sexual-minority women may be using alcohol during periods of relative discordance as a means to cope with negative affect, as opposed to other potentially more adaptive strategies to manage their emotions."

The full study appears in the American Sociological Association's June issue of the Journal of Health and Social Behavior. It was supported with funding from the National Institutes of Health.

Because Every Dog Is A Champion.
Especially Yours.



**URBAN
POOCH™**
Training & Fitness Center

where every dog is a champion™

Welcome to the ALL-NEW Urban Pooch Training & Fitness Center!

Unique to Chicago, our spectacular, state-of-the-art 10,000-s.f. facility offers training, fitness and agility—with many classes you won't find anywhere else.

We're proud to provide the city's largest team of differentiated, award-winning trainers, who can solve any behavior issue.

And we're thrilled to introduce the world's first **FitBark** Dog Activity Monitor program, awarding weekly prizes to top performers.

- Puppy Preschool & Kindergarten
- Agility classes taught by professional competitors
- Workshops, personal training & group classes
- FitPaws classes with certified Master Trainers
- K9 Nose Work
- Tricks Class with Noodles the Wonder Dog

Register at UrbanPoochTraining.com
and receive a Special Offer!

Come see how strengthening the bond between you and your pooch—and helping your dog achieve their personal best—is what we're all about.

5400 N. Damen Avenue | 773.961.8880
www.UrbanPoochTraining.com

David Munar at The Reunion Project.
Photo by Vern Hester

HBHC CEO among speakers at The Reunion Project

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

David Munar, president and CEO of Howard Brown Health Center, was one of the featured speakers at Test Positive Aware Network (TPAN) and Positively Aware's day-long summit for long-term survivors of HIV/AIDS, "The Reunion Project: Chicago," June 19 at the Center on Halsted.

Munar spoke to the approximately 100 people in attendance about public policy issues as they relate to long term survivors of HIV. He noted that long term survivors of HIV have a sense of perseverance not only physically but also emotionally and socially.

"In Chicago, right now we're facing an outbreak of meningitis and today the health department just announced a seventh case when just three weeks ago there were three cases of meningitis," said Munar. "We're expecting that we'll need about seven or eight thousand individuals to be vaccinated against the bacterial infection to stop this outbreak. The original recommendation was that gay and bisexual men who are engaged in anonymous sex, use hook-up sites like Grindr or are HIV-positive should be receiving the vaccine and, today, the health department is broadening the call to all

gay and bisexual men to be vaccinated to put a stop to this epidemic."

Munar called on all the gay and bisexual men in the room to get vaccinated and noted that Meningitis is a deadly bacterial infection. He explained that of the seven that were infected one has already died and a number of the others are still in the hospital. Munar said that those with HIV are more susceptible to the infection than others due to their compromised immune systems. He noted that Howard Brown is offering the meningitis vaccination for free.

As far as funding for social services, Munar spoke about how the state budget issues could potentially impact that funding. He noted that the state legislature hasn't been able to balance the budget.

"We are between three and six billion dollars short and the Governor has called for across the board funding cuts for everything including destabilizing cuts to the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) as well as all other health and social services including mental and public health services," said Munar. "The General Assembly has thankfully rejected those cuts, particularly the Democrats so there is an impasse between the Democrats in the General Assembly and the governor. What that means is if

they don't come up with something in the next few days we could face a government shutdown and that might be necessary in order to bring the parties together to negotiate."

Munar encouraged everyone to contact their state representative and state senator so they know that these services are necessary for people's survival. He spoke about policy issues that are emerging including PreP and greater access to medical care. As far as long-term sur-

Chicagoan part of gender-identity campaign

Chicagoan Precious Davis is just one of the individuals in a new social-justice campaign called Happy Hippie Presents #InstaPride, a collaboration between singer Miley Cyrus and Instagram that launched June 15, according to Time.com.

Davis—who sat next to her fiancé, transgender man Myles Brady, throughout the shoot—posed in a floor-length sequined gown for the campaign. Cyrus herself shot the portraits of people who identify as transgender, trans*, genderqueer and gender non-conforming.

Happy Hippie is a non-profit focused on helping homeless and LGBT youth that Cyrus launched earlier this year, partly in response to the death of Leelah Alcorn.

The article is at <http://time.com/3917249/miley-cyrus-instagram-instapride/>.

AFC, Harmony start partnership

In advance of National HIV Testing Day on June 27, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) has announced a community outreach partnership with Harmony Health Plan of Illinois, a subsidiary of WellCare Health Plans, Inc.

The campaign, "Together Continuing 30 Years of Action to Change the Story of HIV," aims to build awareness of HIV testing, care and holistic health services in Chicago communities.

The AFC and Harmony campaign will launch in conjunction with a Harmony sponsorship of "Step Up. Get Tested.," a Chicagoland HIV-testing collaborative—a group of 34 community and public-health organizations that have joined forces to promote HIV testing in the city's most vulnerable communities since 2012.

vivor issues, Munar asked what is being done to address the issues that come up for people including post traumatic stress disorder or the effects of trauma associated with being HIV-positive including counseling, support groups and other avenues to address those needs. He also talked about health issues surrounding long term HIV survivors including inflammation and the importance that research plays regarding these health issues. Munar noted the power that comes from speaking out about ones HIV-positive status especially to those who can make a difference in the lives of everyone living with HIV.

Dr. Rick Loftus (associate program director of the internal medicine residency program at Eisenhower Medical Center in Rancho Mirage, California, and an adjunct clinical assistant professor of medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California); Dr. Frank Palella (professor of medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and attending physician at Northwestern Memorial Hospital specializing in infectious diseases and internal medicine); and Gregg Cassin (HIV health counselor for The Shanti L.I.F.E. program) were also featured speakers during the summit.

Lotus' remarks focused on "HIV & Aging" while Palella gave an update on the Multi-center AIDS Cohort Study. Among other things, facilitated a community discussion about "The Power of Community."

Q&A sessions followed each speaker's remarks.

TPAN will be hosting another meeting to discuss these issues Friday, June 26, 2-4 p.m., at the TPAN offices 5050 N. Broadway, Suite 300. To RSVP, email thereunionproject2015@gmail.com or call 773-989-9400 and ask for Jeff Berry.

See www.tpan.com for more information.

The initiative will include bus shelter, print and radio advertisements that feature a collaborative campaign message and call-to-action to drive HIV testing and participation in targeted communities.

Esteem Awards July 4 at Sidetrack

PrideIndex.co announced the recipients of the Ninth Annual Esteem Awards, which will take place Saturday, July 4, at Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted St., 2-5 p.m.

A few of the local finalists are:

—Outstanding Service, Male: Erik Glenn, Program Manager, Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus (CBGMC)

—Outstanding Service, Female: Mona Noriega, Chairman and Commissioner of the Chicago Human Rights Commission

—Outstanding Service, Transgender: Angelica Ross, CEO, Trans Tech Social Enterprises

—Future Leaders Award (formerly Outstanding Service Youth): Jaime Frazier, Founder and Sr. Pastor, The Lighthouse Church of Chicago

—Artistic Expression Based on Another Medium: Youth Empowerment Performance Project (YEPP)

The event is free and open to the public.

Since 2007, PrideIndex.com's Esteem Awards has honored local and national organizations and individuals for their continued efforts in supporting the African-American and LGBT communities in the areas of entertainment, media, civil rights, business and art.

Correction

Last week's issue mistakenly indicated that Union League President Brooke Wiseman was a current Center on Halsted board member. However, she is not presently serving on the Center's board.

Windy City Times regrets the error.

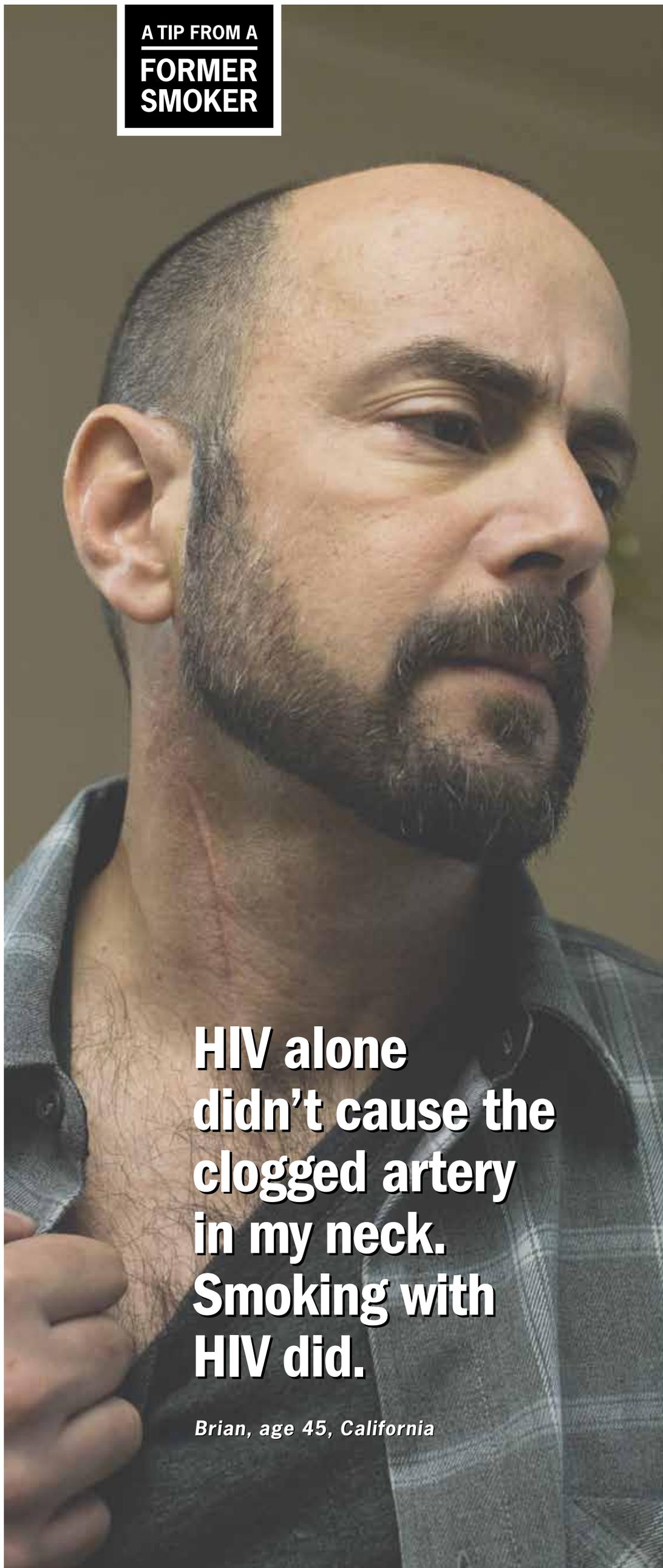


Born this way.



MENSA
Smart. Diverse.
americanmensa.lgbt

A TIP FROM A
**FORMER
SMOKER**



**HIV alone
didn't cause the
clogged artery
in my neck.
Smoking with
HIV did.**

Brian, age 45, California

Brian had his HIV under control with medication. But smoking with HIV caused him to have serious health problems, including a stroke, a blood clot in his lungs and surgery on an artery in his neck. Smoking makes living with HIV much worse. You can quit.

CALL 1-800-QUIT-NOW.



**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention
CDC.gov/tips

#CDCTips



Peace Corps holds LGBT-focused information session

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

In honor of Pride Month, Peace Corps Midwest held an LGBT focused information session June 16 at Hosting International's J. Ira and Nicki Harris Family Hostel in Chicago.

The event, which celebrated the contributions of all LGBT Peace Corps volunteers, featured remarks by Midwest Regional Diversity Recruiter/former volunteer Travis Bluemling as well as former volunteers Lee Losey, who served in Tanzania; Brett Michaelson, who served in Paraguay; and Jes Scheinpflug, who served in Togo.

"The purpose of tonight's event is to talk about being a volunteer in the Peace Corps and identifying as LGBT," said Bluemling.

Bluemling, who served in Indonesia and identifies as gay, spoke about the various aspects of the application process. Those included the fact that applicants can choose the countries and assignments they want to be considered for, and that both same- and opposite-sex couples can serve together in all countries where the Peace Corps has a presence. He explained that, in 2013, the Peace Corps began accepting applications from same-sex married couples and any couple (regardless of marital status) who want to serve together. Bluemling noted that there never was any barrier to LGBT individuals serving in the Peace Corps.

As for his experiences as a volunteer, Bluemling noted that he didn't come out to his community in Indonesia while he was serving there.

Losey and Michaelson, both of whom identify as gay, explained that they didn't come out to their recruiter when they started the application process.

Scheinpflug, who identifies as pansexual, noted that she didn't come out to her recruiter, either.

Everyone indicated that the best way to approach serving in the Peace Corps is to make serving the community they were placed in a priority and to put their personal lives on hold. They also noted that they eventually came out to other Peace Corps volunteers during their

time in service and, in some cases, community members.

As for advice they would give to prospective volunteers, Scheinpflug and Bluemling said it's important to be flexible while Michaelson noted that one can't take things so seriously. Losey explained that just getting through the first six months of the assignment is key to having a fulfilling experience.

When asked what surprised them the most from their time serving, Michaelson noted that learning to cook is at the top of his list while Scheinpflug said it was learning French and fighting with her host dad, just like she fights with her biological dad. Losey explained that he was surprised at how much he loved it and Bluemling said it was the relationships he formed.

Peace Corps Midwest will also be marching in Chicago's upcoming Pride Parade. The chapter also participated in Milwaukee's and Louisville's Pride festivals and parades as well as a number of similar events throughout the Midwest.

To apply for available assignments, visit www.peacecorps.gov/openings.

See www.peacecorps.gov/volunteer/learn/meet/offices/chicago for more information.

Final Amigas Latinas event July 10

The last event for the organization Amigas Latinas, "*Siempre Latina—Y se acaba!*," will take place Friday, July 10, at 8 p.m. at Michelle's Ballroom, 2800 W. Belmont Ave.

Amigas Latinas' founders, former board members, past and current members, friends and families will come together to celebrate the organization's 20-year-long history.

Admission is free, and there will be a cash bar. A buffet will be served. Space is very limited; RSVP at www.amigaslatinas2015.eventbrite.com.



Lee Losey, Brett Michaelson, Jes Scheinpflug and Travis Bluemling at the Peace Corps event. Photo by Carrie Maxwell



Amigas Latinas leadership over the years. Photo by Carrie Maxwell

Amigas Latinas kicks off archives project with reception

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Amigas Latinas kicked off its archives project with a reception June 11 at the Gerber/Hart Library and Archives. The archives, which will be housed at Gerber/Hart, will consist of photos, event fliers, newspaper and magazine articles, meeting agendas and minutes as well as other memorabilia from members of the organization.

The organization has announced that it is folding this summer after 20 years of providing support, education and advocacy for Chicago-area LGBTQ Latinas.

Speakers included Alicia Vega (former board member and archival project event organizer), Evette Cardona (Amigas Latinas' co-founder and first board president) and Alma Izquierdo (Amigas Latinas' final board president).

Vega provided words of welcome and encouraged the approximately 50 people in attendance to peruse the archives on display throughout the library. She noted that the library will be accepting additional Amigas Latinas materials that individuals want to donate to the archives.

Cardona spoke about how her desire to form a group for Latina lesbians led to the formation of Amigas Latinas. She also noted the three generations of leadership within the organization and thanked those who kept the organization running after the first generation stepped aside.

Izquierdo expressed her appreciation for the support that Amigas Latinas has received over the years and noted how proud she is to have been a part of the organization.

The late Christina Santiago was among the many women who were remembered for their contributions to Amigas Latinas during the speakers remarks.

Among the other individuals who spoke about Amigas Latinas' history and the contributions that the organization made to the larger LGBTQ Chicagoland community were Affinity Community Services Executive Director Kim Hunt and Association of Latino Men for Action (ALMA) Board Vice-President Kenny Martin-Ocasio. Both spoke about the special relationship that their organizations had with Amigas Latinas as both sister and brother organizations respectively as well as how much they will miss Amigas Latinas' presence in the community.

This event was a part of the larger, week-long United Latin@ Pride schedule of events that began on June 4 and ended that evening.



Born this way.



MENSA
Smart. Diverse.
americanmensa.lgbt



in the LIFE

Sage Celimene-Rowell

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY ROSS FORMAN

Sage Celimene-Rowell has been a Chicago Public School teacher for 15 years, including the first five years at Clara Barton Elementary School in the Auburn Gresham community on the Far South Side.

Teaching, she said, "is very challenging and very rewarding."

Celimene-Rowell identified as "gender-fluid or gender-queer" in the 1970s and 1980s, and started a classical transition in May 2012. She said the past three school-years "have been wonderful around the children because I think being open about a lot of gender identities allows students to also express themselves in ways they might not have before."

To that, she has received numerous letters from students, stating how much they support her. And they also have opened up about their families—"and I think that's been the most surprising," she said.

"In the classroom, I know that I create a safe, more inclusive environment—and both kids and parents have told me that," said Celimene-Rowell, who now teaches four classes with about 30 students in each. "Teaching is wonderful. Teaching also is difficult to limit myself to the current subject; I find that there is so much more that I would like to be teaching, [such as] inclusion, acceptance, and those kind of [subjects]. Sure, math and science are wonderful and important, but we have more pressing issues."

Celimene-Rowell noted that there was "a lot of progress made" in the 1960s and 1970s toward LGBT rights, "but [that progress] got turned around in the 1980s and 1990s, especially with the HIV epidemic." Over the past five years or so, "I think the newer generation has sort of rebelled against gender roles and gender expectations in a way that has made all of society more open to accepting different gender expressions."

Celimene-Rowell is often representing the Center on various trans issues, and she is actively involved in the TQI communities of



trans, queer and intersex.

"I came to the Center [years ago] looking for support, normal interactions with other people where I didn't have to talk about my history; we could, instead, just talk about movies, TV shows, cooking, [or general topics] without having to explain that I'm trans, etc.," she said.

She was offered the Center post shortly thereafter.

"I enjoy the work [at the Center], though there definitely is work that needs to be done to help make the Center more inclusive of the TQI communities, especially when it comes to race and poverty issues—and that's something that all LGBT centers face," she said. "I'm excited to bring the resources we have available here and match them to the needs of our more vulnerable community members."

Celimene-Rowell said the biggest issue facing the trans community is simple, suicide and murder.

"I think that's where my volunteer work here at the Center and [my teaching] come together because I do believe that if we used our public education system to help educate society we would see less suicides," she said. "Schools have such a potential to destigmatize gender identity and gender expressions, which I think would [help] curtail suicides very quickly."

- **Age**
"Am doing laps between 0 and 40; currently 31"
- **Neighborhood**
Hyde Park
- **Orientation**
"Irrelevant"
- **Relationship status**
Married to Catherine Celimene, a life coach
- **Gender**
"Genderful transsexual"
- **Job title**
CPS middle school teacher
- **Volunteer title**
Trans Program Liaison at Center on Halsted
- **Hobbies**
Cooking, health & fitness, traveling and advocacy
- **Favorite TV show**
Fringe
- **Favorite movie**
Breakfast on Pluto
- **Little-known fact**
"I have two tattoos: a red star and a black panther."

LGBT RIVIA

What character in the Uncanny X-Men series was revealed to be gay?

Answer on page 56

ANAL CANCER IS ON THE RISE

FOR THOSE OF US WITH HIV

CHECK ME OUT!

ANAL CANCER IS MUCH MORE EASILY TREATED WHEN CAUGHT EARLY, BEFORE SYMPTOMS DEVELOP.

the ANCHOR study.org

50% OF HIV+ MEN HAVE PRECANCEROUS ANAL CELLS AND ALMOST ALL ARE SYMPTOM-FREE.

WE NEED HIV+ VOLUNTEERS OF ALL GENDERS WHO ARE 35 AND OVER TO TAKE PART IN A NATIONAL ANAL CANCER PREVENTION STUDY.

VISIT THE WEBSITE
ANCHORSTUDY.ORG

OR CALL ANAL DYSPLASIA CLINIC MIDWEST
312-623-2625

the ANCHOR study.org

viewpoints



**Dana
RUDOLPH**

Pride ponderings

Pride is a funny concept, with both positive and negative connotations. It goes before a fall. It makes a combustible pairing with prejudice. The Marines, though few, lay claim to it. Pride can be overweening. It can blind us to the needs of others. But it can also remind us of what is important in life: our children, our families, our identities.

Personally, I'm proud I can make it through a workday, arrive home in time for my son's school bus, pry him away from video games and onto homework, throw in a load of laundry (including the dress shirt said son needs for his band concert and that has somehow ended up in a heap on his closet floor), do a few more hours of work myself and get dinner on the table for the family. You know—getting through an average day like many parents. Still, even though it's routine, we shouldn't take it for granted. What better time than Pride (which begins right between Mother's Day and Father's Day) to be proud of our domestic and parental accomplishments as well as our LGBTQ identities?

What better time than the end of the school year, too, to remind us to be proud of our children, not just for their academic accomplishments, but also for navigating the sometimes tricky social waterways of school, friendships, and extracurricular activities? I am proud of my son all the time, but find that June, with

its sense of another year completed, is a good time to reflect on that pride.

I hope my pride conveys simply that I am happy for him whenever he perseveres or feels, himself, a sense of accomplishment. Pride can, however, segue into pushiness, with parents driving their kids to excel—in school, in sports, in music or other arts—in a stressful, unhealthy way. As LGBTQ parents, we also have to curb our pride before it makes us pressure our kids to be perfect models of healthy, well-adjusted children who don't reflect badly upon LGBTQ parents. That's unrealistic and unnecessary.

Looking to the wider world, will our Pride go before a fall when the Supreme Court rules on marriage equality this month? No. I am cautiously optimistic that the court will do the right thing. Even if they don't, I think the trend of public opinion is such that it is only a matter of time before we have marriage equality one way (judicial ruling) or another (legislative action). And if they do rule in favor of equality, I am hopeful that enough LGBTQ advocates realize that marriage is not everything, that we still have goals yet to be gained like equal parental recognition, employment nondiscrimination, and transgender equality. We can be proud of our progress and still know there is more to do.

Now that I've written that paragraph, I hesitate, suddenly not all that confident of the outcome. The court could decide that same-sex couples in any part of the U.S. can marry; it could take an intermediate position that says states must at a minimum recognize marriages of same-sex couples performed elsewhere; or it could say we have no guaranteed rights to either.

Which brings us to pride in our country. Will I still be proud to be American if our Supreme Court rules against equality? Yes. I won't be proud of the justices who chose to do so, but I will still be proud to be part of a nation that

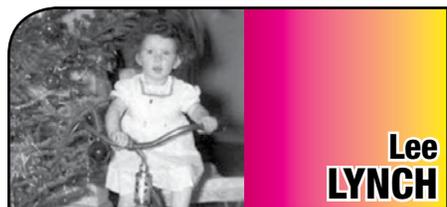
has people in it like James Obergefell, the lead plaintiff, fighting to be on the death certificate of his spouse, who died from Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS). I will be proud of plaintiffs April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse, who first went to court not to marry, but to secure adoption rights to their children. I will be proud of the many other plaintiff couples, mostly parents, who have dealt not only with the hassle of a court case, but the inevitable media intrusion upon their lives that such a high-profile case brings with it.

I will also be proud that our country has progressed to the point of debating a right like marriage, rather than the legality of simply being LGBTQ. I will be proud that our State Department has been working to expand basic human rights in countries where it is still a crime to exist as an LGBTQ person. I will be proud of all the progress we have made here at home, sometimes one family at a time, to secure our bonds and provide our children with protection and stability. I will be proud of each and every LGBTQ person, their children, and allies who have spoken out during their everyday lives, at soccer games and grocery shopping, to be visible or correct a misconception about LGBTQ people.

I will remain proud of my son, growing up to be a responsible citizen of this country and learning that while change may be slow, it can and does happen by the effort of the people.

Democracy, like pride, has its good sides and its weaker moments. Maybe I'm just fundamentally an optimist, though, because I do believe in the end, we're better with them than without. That moral arc of the universe keeps on bending—and this month, it looks like a rainbow. Happy Pride to you and your families!

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



**Lee
LYNCH**

THE AMAZON TRAIL Worst job ever

No, I never switched boxcars on the Southern Pacific Railroad, I never strip-mined mountaintops with a pick and shovel—my worst job ever wasn't even wrapping meat in a supermarket, a job I really did.

I awoke from a dream this morning in which I was a vocational counseling supervisor in a work-incentive program. Strangely, after some sleepy thought, I remembered that's exactly one of the ways I earned a living. Is there a job in the world more dehumanizing to both parties than "helping" people less privileged than oneself when the help is a sham?

There I was, earning a paycheck to assist women and men to become empowered by training for and getting decent jobs. In actuality, the state required the job-seekers to meet with me and my staff, thereby rendering the clients powerless in the hands of us minimally trained "experts."

Many "clients"—usually high school dropouts trying to bring up kids, sometimes saddled with criminal records, ill health, addiction problems, unsafe living conditions, hunger and more—saw right through the well-meant program. We young, college-educated idealists were completely hoodwinked into believing we could balance an institutionally unbalanced situation. The relationships between client

and counselor were overwhelmingly adversarial from the get go.

With some exceptions, the hopeful and/or resistant (often both) clients were of African-American or Puerto Rican heritage. We eager-beaver counselors could not have been whiter. Only one of our counselors spoke both English and Spanish. Although some of us came from originally blue-collar families, by the time we were hired we were at least breaking into the middle class.

I got along with the clients, but quickly became overwhelmed by the futility of trying to effect any meaningful change from my form-heaped desk. We used both state and federal funds so the paperwork continually threatened to become the counselors' focus no matter how hard we tried to concentrate on the clients. The process itself built a wall between helper and "helpee" that had to be scaled before anything could be accomplished. Some clients never returned after those grueling initial encounters.

Others returned because their incomes depended on their participation. Clients didn't actually have to be hired anywhere, nor did counselors have to produce jobs. The government, the program, the clients and the counselors could not right the wrongs that brought us together, so if all else failed, we might go through the motions—which should have made us, in a way, equals, and sometimes did. An unspoken understanding could come of client-counselor interactions amounted to collusion: The obstacles that our clients needed to overcome were so great, so what could we do but sign the paperwork to keep all our checks coming?

This is not to say there were no success stories. For every dozen men who perhaps drank too much to keep jobs, there was an unem-

ployed father who completed training as a union drywall installer and was able to leave the welfare system behind. For every woman who couldn't afford daycare, there was another who simply needed help putting together elements of a plan that freed her up to learn office skills and survive on pink collar wages not much higher than what she got from the government. Such meager triumphs sustained all of us. We hoped her children would go to college.

Ultimately, I burned out. We were, mostly, good people, clients and counselors, doing the best we knew how. None of us had the tools to make change and all of us felt embattled in hostile surroundings. The clients entered an environment created and operated by white people who ruled the roost yet fled for greener pastures at the end of the day. The counselors invaded the neighborhood where the clients lived and were not welcome. For all our liberal views and sympathetic efforts, we counselors were products of a classist, racist culture and, try as we might to cleanse ourselves, we carried the germs of fear, ignorance and polarization to work.

The clerical and paraprofessional staff was primarily non-white and many were program success stories themselves. Yet the counselors and supervisors earned higher wages and still held the power. Relationships between staff were touch-and-go, everyone on guard for slights and discrimination. Power struggles between clients and staff, staff and staff, staff and management, and management and funding sources were ongoing.

The physical plant mirrored this. Well-used government desks and chairs were aligned in pre-cube rows. Walls between departments

Turn to page 33

WINDY CITY TIMES

VOL. 30, No. 39, June 24, 2015
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
SENIOR REPORTER Matt Simonette
SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Terri Klinsky, Kirk Williamson, Amy Matheny, Chris Cheuvront, Gretchen Rachel Hammond, Rafael Alanis
NATIONAL SALES Rivendell Media, 212-242-6863
SENIOR WRITERS Bob Roehr, Tony Peregrin, Lisa Keen, Yasmin Nair
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, Charles Dewey, Carrie Maxwell, Billy Masters, Sarah Toce, Dana Rudolph, Sally Parsons, Melissa Wasserman, Joe Franco, Nick Patricca, Liz Baudler, Rex Wockner, Marie J. Kuda, Kate Sosin, Angelique Smith, Meghan Streit
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 2015 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 or
Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com

www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com
podcast: WindyCityQueercast.com

WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP,
5315 N. Clark St. #192, Chicago, IL, 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
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.

FOUNDING MEMBER

National
Gay Media
Association

WINDY CITY TIMES

DIVERSIONS

THEATER • FILM • ENTERTAINMENT • SPORTS



34

CeCe Peniston.



57

The creme brulee at Lockwood.



Body language

54

Pride Fest took over Boystown this past weekend.

Photo by Jerry Nunn

SCOTTISH PLAY SCOTT

Chekhovian Durang

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

Out director Steve Scott says that audiences don't need to have an extensive knowledge of Anton Chekhov's plays to enjoy the comedy *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*. The 2013 Best Play Tony Award-winner by gay playwright Christopher Durang is currently making its Chicago debut at the Goodman Theatre in a production directed by Scott.

But Scott says if you do know your Chekhov (not to mention Greek tragedy via the character of Cassandra played by E. Faye Butler), then *Vanya*... "is especially fun for students of the theater, and in some ways it is a kind of love letter, too."

Since Scott and his Chicago-area cast are all very well versed in Chekhov (particularly Mary Beth Fisher and Janet Ulrich Brooks who both starred in *The Seagull* at the Goodman), they have lots of fun pointing out all the connections and takeoffs from the Russian playwright famed for writing rather glum self-labeled "comedies" like *Three Sisters* and *The Cherry Orchard*. But Scott insists that *Durang's Vanya*... is very American with universal situations.

"Especially what happens to us when we're growing older and perhaps becoming out of touch, and sibling rivalries that grow and fester years and years," said Scott about the play's central conflict. It involves the Hollywood star Masha (Fisher) who returns to the family home with the intention to sell it, even though her gay brother, Vanya (Ross Lehman), and adopted sister, Sonia (Ulrich), feel they deserve it after devoting their lives being caretakers to their ailing parents.

"And it's also about how we as middle-aged people deal with the next generation coming up and their hopes and their great energy," Scott said, adding that Masha returns with a hunky boy toy in tow named Spike (Jordan Brown), who reawakens some dormant feelings in Vanya.

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike continues through July 26 at the Goodman Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn St. Tickets are \$25-\$86; call 312-443-3800 or visit www.goodmantheatre.org.

There is also a special Pride Night performance of *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* starting with a 6 p.m. reception with actors, cocktails and more before the show on Thursday, June 25. Tickets to the reception and play are \$49. Visit www.goodmantheatre.org/pride for more information.

New music

Chicago is rife with festivals dedicated to sketch comedy, improv and new play readings—but not so much when it comes to full-fledged musicals. The folks of Underscore Theatre Company are aiming to change that with the Chicago Musical Theatre Festival (CMTF). The second annual festival plays at the Den Theatre and features 13 new musicals in rotating repertory starting June 30.

"We wanted to provide a place for people, at least on the storefront theater level, to be able to see their work on its feet since there aren't a ton of opportunities for that," said CMTF executive producer Laura Stratford, who is also a co-writer for the newly revised pornography-dilemma musical *PrOne*.

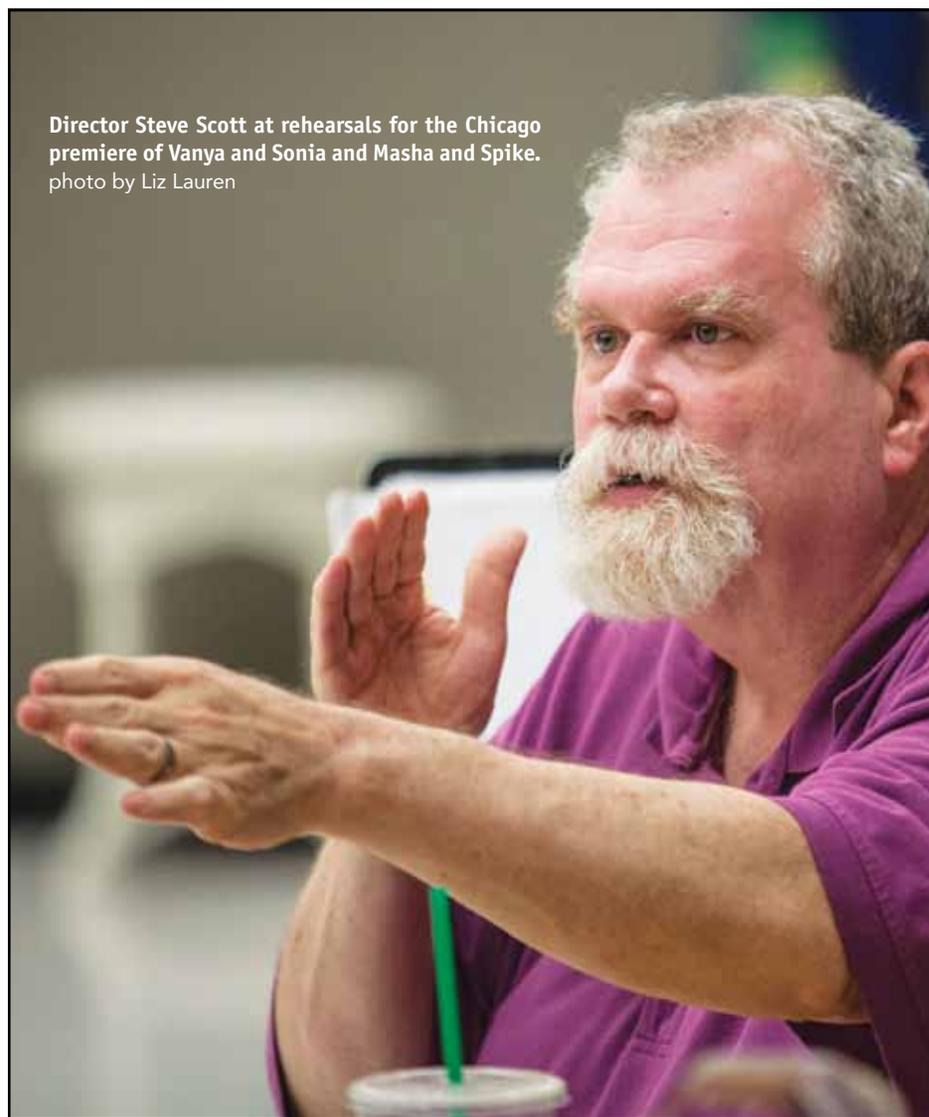
Two of the 13 shows presented at the festival this year have prominent gay themes by aiming to depict what life was like before the Stonewall Riots kicked off the modern-day LGBTQ rights movement. Both musicals also feature creators who have traveled from afar to see their work staged in the Windy City.

"It's my first piece outside of Toronto, let alone out of Canada," said Kevin Wong, the gay composer and lyricist behind the one-act song cycle called *Recurring John*. "And so it's a learning experience for me just to let go of the control of things I'm used to having."

Along with the show *American Smoothie*, *Recurring John* was one of two mentored musicals chosen by Underscore where they provide the main expertise in mounting the musical. Other shows in the festival have to be mounted much more independently without Underscore's direct intervention.

For example, gay playwright and lyricist Michael Braud from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, is using the summer break from his pharmacy schooling to work on the second-ever staging of *One Thousand Words*. The musical focuses on a heterosexual journalist who is reluctant to

Director Steve Scott at rehearsals for the Chicago premiere of *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*.
photo by Liz Lauren



do a story on the lives of a gay military couple based upon a historical photograph.

"I really hope the gay community comes out and sees the show because I think it's really something important they should see," said Braud. "Just to remind us where we're at and where we come from."

Underscore Theatre Company's 2nd annual Chicago Musical Theatre Festival presents 13 new musicals in rotating repertory June 30-July 19 at The Den Theatre, 1333 N. Milwaukee Ave. Tickets are \$15 for one-acts and \$20 for full-length shows. Visit CMTF.org.



THEATER REVIEW

Porcelain

Playwright: Chay Yew

At: Prologue Theatre at the

Greenhouse, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave.

Tickets: 773-404-7336;

www.prologuetheatreco.org; \$25

Runs through: July 12

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

Chay Yew may not be represented in the annals of Gay Theater as prominently as, say, Tony Kushner or Mart Crowley, but hindsight affirms the impact of his 1992 play addressing prejudice—racial, cultural and sexual—in a country where consensual sex between men had been decriminalized only a bare 25 years earlier.

Our story opens in a London prison cell where John Lee sits, origami-folding dozens of paper cranes, following his arrest for fatally shooting his boyfriend in a Bethnal Green public restroom rumored to be a refuge for “cottaging.” Since the murderer readily confessed to the crime—indeed, was discovered immediately afterward, weeping inconsolably over his victim—the question for the courts is not whether this lonely son of Chinese immigrants is guilty, but whether he was sane at the moment of his misdeed. Left unspoken is the question of whether a man who engages in sex with other



Porcelain.

Photo by Matthew Gregory Hollis

men can be considered sane at any time.

The narrative technique reflects its text's vintage: Verbal montages delivered by a chorus of four men swarming the stage around the with-

drawn Lee acquaint us with our environment before the speakers assume the roles of key figures and witnesses. These include a weaselly television reporter, assorted law enforcement

officers, Lee's bewildered father, community leaders eager to distance themselves from any notoriety, a lone defiant gay-rights activist, the aforementioned paramour and a court-appointed psychiatrist no more empathetic than the rest of his fellow Brits.

Gradually—and not without conspicuous symbolism involving red poppies, Lee's inmate uniform suggesting Chinese funeral garb and a folk tale based in avian social habits—we come to understand the alienation that drives Lee to seek the temporary affection of strangers and to read more into a relationship than his Anglo-privileged partner is willing to offer. (The brutal rape scene that shatters his fantasy is enacted in total darkness—another indication of the play's age.)

This could easily come off today as quaintly academic, if not for Matthew Ozawa's primary directorial experience lying in classical music theater. Under his deft physical orchestration, the didactic textual elements are presented with crisp efficiency on a set designed to invoke a shabby latrine covered in broken and discolored—you guessed it—porcelain tiles, swiftly moving to the intimate dynamics surrounding the crime of passion. By the time the action reaches its climax with the revelation of Lee's obsessive manufacture of the delicate artificial birds, the sheer romance is all but overwhelming. Bring your hankies.

THEATER REVIEW

Body + Blood

Playwright: William Nedved

At: Gift Theatre, 4802 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Tickets: 773-283-7071;

www.thegifttheatre.org; \$25-\$35

Runs through: Aug. 9

BY JONATHAN ABARBANEL

Jesus was 33 at the time of The Passion and Dan is 33 when he decides to become a priest, almost certainly not coincidental in this pithy, stimulating and well-staged world premiere. Something of a slacker and business failure, Dan (Nicholas Harazin) has been sustained by his three-year-plus relationship with Leah (Cyd Blakewell). Dan has been a “Roaming Catholic” for years, but has returned to the Church urged on by non-Catholic Leah, who thinks it might center him. Influenced by a young priest, Father Alex (Gabriel Franken), Dan now believes



Body + Blood.

Photo by Claire Demos

he has a calling. He announces this to Leah, his sister Monica (Lynda Newton) and brother-in-law Mick (Stephen Spencer) on a spring night when they expect him to propose to Leah. To Dan's profound distress, his decision is met with disbelief turning to hostile opposition.

Body + Blood could be a pot-boiler *a la* Doubt, but author William Nedved is more sincere than that, and really pares his play down

to intellectual and emotional essentials: What does it mean to be called by God? How do you know when the call is real vs. one's ego? Do those you love have the power to sway you? Do they have the right to try? Is the opposition a test of Dan's faith and commitment? The play examines all these issues but doesn't attempt to provide definitive answers. As it ends, Dan's future actions are uncertain but he hasn't re-

nounced his decision.

Body + Blood runs only 95 minutes, including an intermission bridging a time gap of several months. It would help if Nedved could eliminate the intermission and use the extra running time to more fully develop subissues he introduces to complicate things for Dan. First, devout Catholic Monica has a crisis of faith because she believes her 8-year-old son—approaching his first communion—is gay. She understands the Church won't welcome him if he acts on his desires, when he's old enough to have desires and if he's actually gay. It's a bit of a stretch. Touched on more lightly in Act II is Father Alex's revelation that he's supported Dan only because he's in love with him. Nedved follows the example of the Book of Job by removing all of Dan's possible sources of support and comfort.

The subissues are structurally somewhat clumsy but well-handled in Nedved's dialogue, which grows less humorous and more intense as the play progresses. The performances also are convincing all-around, skillfully shaped by veteran director Marti Lyons. The physical production is spare but more than sufficient, and costume designer Sally Dolemba gives Leah a smashing summer dress for the opening scene.

Body + Blood is lean, thoughtful and worthwhile as a play and production.

CRITICS' PICKS

Abraham Lincoln was a F*gg*t, About Face Theatre at Greenhouse Theater Center, through July 5. Bixby Elliot's funny and busy comic drama explores the drive of one queer youth in 2008 to find a historical role model in the 16th president of the United States. SCM

The Diary of Anne Frank, Writers Theatre, through Aug. 16. The revised script of this familiar drama incorporates long-expurgated diary passages which make Anne more human and less saintly. This production also looks afresh at the characters—Anne's parents, Mr. Dussel, etc.—to make them less archetypal and more nuanced. JA

Love and Human Remains, Cor Theater at Rivendell Theatre, through July 11. The sex and violence in Brad Fraser's play may be less shocking nowadays, but the wisdom lying beneath the graphic spectacle is no less relevant in 2015. MSB

Thunderballs: A James Bond BOYLESQUE, Gorilla Tango Theatre, open run. The cabaret theater renowned for its playful retro-style theme-burlesque revues features male strippers in this spoof of spy extravaganzas. MS

—By Abarbanel, Barnidge and Morgan

THEATER REVIEW

Goldfish

Playwright: John Kolvenbach

At: Route 66 Theatre Company

at the Greenhouse, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave.

Tickets: 773-404-7336;

www.greenhousetheater.org; \$39-\$43

Runs through: July 12

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

Leo Ledger has an addictive gambling habit and a propensity for losing bets. This not-uncommon correlation stems from his conviction that he is unworthy of happiness, so that his efforts to conceal this flaw are orchestrated to ultimately reaffirm his failure. His wife wearied of this game long ago, leaving him with custody of their son Albert, who is now 19 and departing for college, after supplying his father with a semester's worth of latchkey instructions for the maintenance of the household. Will these measures prove successful?

Hard-drinking Margaret Whitney, by contrast, realized her error in choosing a mate almost immediately following the wedding. When her daughter was born, Margaret promptly divorced her unpromising spouse and proceeded to fabricate a history meant to ensure that her offspring would follow a less precarious path. Oh, but Lucy is now 19 and attends the same college as Albert, where they meet and take a fancy to one another. What could go wrong?

John Kolvenbach has always been fond of adults behaving like preteens, so it's no surprise that much of his play is devoted to Leo and Margaret parading their immaturity with, respectively, fumbling humility and flinty defiance. (The latter's practice of shrugging off contradictions in her testimony with a casual “so I lied,” soon grows more annoying than endearing.) To be sure, they are played in this Route 66 production by Frances Guinan and Shannon Cochran, both of whom have been portraying lovable variations on these personalities for most of their careers. Sharing the dysfunctional-family tropes are Alex

Stage and Tyler Meredith, whose shy Albert and forthright Lucy poignantly convey the curiously detached emotional impetuosity so often observed in adolescents long accustomed to disappointment.

As scenic designer Collette Pollard's museum-accurate working-class kitchen hides a labyrinth of wagons and drawers suggesting auxiliary locales, Damon Kiely's direction strives to camouflage the narrative gaps lurking beneath the script's veneer of everyday realism—the scarcity of textual clues to the passage of time, for example, or Kolvenbach's ambivalence on the question of whether children are predestined to repeat their parents' mistakes (although he appears to be resigned to its inevitability). In a universe where impulse-driven youths are doomed to marry in haste and repent at leisure, however, a promise to wait a little longer before doing so and the freedom to pursue that plan represents an intergenerational compromise as close to a happy ending as we can desire.

steppenwolf

Grand Concourse

BY HEIDI SCHRECK
 DIRECTED BY ENSEMBLE MEMBER
 YASEN PEYANKOV

Featuring ensemble members **Mariann Mayberry**,
Tim Hopper (7/2 – 8/9) and **Francis Guinan**
 (8/11 – 8/30) with **Brittany Uomoleale** and
Victor Almanzar

A lively, funny and deeply moving inquiry into the limits of faith and forgiveness.



steppenwolf.org
 312-335-1650

2-FOR-1 TICKETS

preview performances July 2-10
 use code: 21122

2014/15 Grand Benefactors

2014/15 Benefactors



NUNN ON ONE: THEATER

Jerry Mitchell talks about achieving 'Feet'

BY JERRY NUNN

Right out of Paw Paw, Michigan, a huge talent was born unto the world. Jerry Mitchell left his humble beginnings behind to perform on Broadway as a dancer in *Brigadoon* and *On Your Toes*. His first choreography experience involved *Jekyll & Hyde*; he then moved on to *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and *The Full Monty*.

He directed and choreographed *Legally Blonde: The Musical* and *Kinky Boots*, which won him a Tony Award for Best Choreography.

His newest directing project, *On Your Feet!*, tells the story of Gloria Estefan's rise to stardom. Windy City sat down with him during a recent press conference to learn more about it.

Windy City Times: Hey, it's Jerry interviewing Jerry!

Jerry Mitchell: Yes, I have read Windy City Times many times over the years.

WCT: Great. First question: What was the first musical you ever saw?

JM: The Wiz—it was my first Broadway show with Stephanie Mills. [I saw it] when I was 17 years old. I was on tour with *West Side Story* and *The Young Americans*. We had a day off and the bus took us to Times Square. We were free for eight hours and I went to a matinee of *The Wiz*. I will never forget it.

WCT: It changed your life...

JM: Well, it did.

WCT: You are originally from a small town.

JM: Paw Paw, right along the bottom of the lake. I was there Sunday. I drove there to see my dad for his 85th birthday.

WCT: Did you always want to be in theater?

JM: I was 8 years old and I was in the Paw Paw Village Players. That's where I got bit by the bug. I was one of the boys in the band in *The Music Man* and knew that was it. Get out of my way—Broadway, here I come!

WCT: After all of that, how was winning the Tony for *Kinky Boots*?

JM: It was surprising. It is so weird to be up against your peers for an award when you feel their work is just as genuinely good as yours. How do you compare apples and oranges in this business? It is something that happens in this business. First, getting nominated was a great honor because you are invited to the party. When you actually win then it is sort of surreal. You hear your name called, time stops, you go into a haze, you get up there and start spewing, then when you are offstage you only think about, "Who did I forget to thank?" It is impossible to thank everyone in 30 seconds.

It was an honor. I was very proud of *Kinky Boots*, on every level. It is a wonderful story. The reactions we got in Korea, where their mayor was just re-elected and promised to help with the LGBT community, then he reneged. We opened the show in Korea, and that was a big deal.

The secret ingredient in *Kinky Boots* is the character Don, who comes out at the end in boots; he's the bully factory worker. I think across America, now we are on a national tour, you see people get on board with Lola quicker than they do in the big cities. I think maybe because they are not exposed to drag and see it in such a positive way. There is not so much for them to fear about it. We show him as a little kid in high heels so you fall in love with him right away. What's the problem? The kid loves shoes!

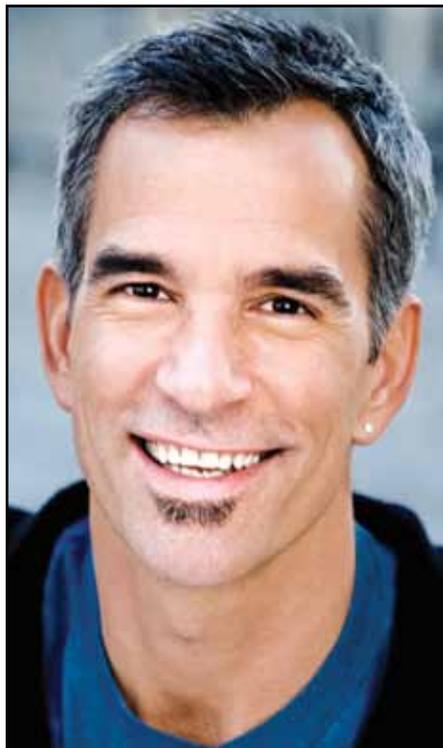
Kinky Boots has really helped a lot of people.

WCT: Is there a gay aspect to *On Your Feet!* Doesn't Gloria have a gay friend or relatives?

JM: I'm sure she does. She has a gay director!

WCT: How did you find the lead who plays her, Ana Villafane?

JM: She walked into an audition and I knew. That was it.



Jerry Mitchell.

Photo by Matthew Gregory Hollis

WCT: She looks so much like Gloria.

JM: She does. She has some of her mannerisms, too.

WCT: Does she have the Cuban accent?

JM: Gloria has no accent and was an interpreter at the Miami International Airport because she was so good with languages. Emilio has never gotten over his accent but she speaks perfect English. She spoke it very young, also.

WCT: Will the show change a lot before it hits New York?

JM: I hope so. *Kinky Boots*—from the first performance to the last performance—changed. I put in two songs, cut two songs and changed about 40 pages of dialogue. The show was good but we left town with a much better show than we started with.

Hairspray, when I did it in Seattle, opened with a great show but left with a better show.

I changed sets, costumes and dancing. The reason I come is to listen to the audience, they tell me when they love it or are confused. They will give you a lot of information if you are listening. Hopefully that information is put to use in building a better show.

WCT: You created Broadway Cares to fight AIDS, which is huge now.

JM: This is our 25th anniversary this year. It is called *Top Bottoms of Burlesque* 'cause, baby, if you're a bottom then you're the top! I am directing it. After we open here then I fly back to New York the next day for four days to put the show together at the Hammerstein Ballroom with two shows. It's really exciting.

WCT: Did you choreograph Kristin Chenoweth when she was in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*?

JM: I did where she won her first Tony Award.

WCT: You are good luck! Any advice for people who want to choreograph?

JM: Do it wherever you can do it—local community theaters, churches, schools. I did theater all over southwestern Michigan. I came here for dance conventions in Chicago. I came here to audition for a scholarship to Webster College. The night I was here, my friend got me two tickets to see *A Chorus Line* on tour. We sat in the last row in the top balcony of the Shubert Theatre. I left in tears and said, "I am going to be in that show in two years." Two years later I was in that show.

WCT: It's about making it happen.

JM: It is.

WCT: What is your plan after Broadway Cares?

JM: I come back to Chicago in December with *Gotta Dance*. It is based on a documentary film where they had an audition for the New Jersey Nets with senior citizen hip hop dancers. They performed at half time show and became huge. It is a story about those seniors, how they got together and performed. It will be sensational. It is Marvin Hamlisch's last musical he worked on. It is being finished by Matt Sklar, who wrote *Elf* and *The Wedding Singer*. Bob Martin



Bette Midler.

CONCERT REVIEW

Bette Midler makes magic with her music

BY JERRY NUNN

At 69, Bette Midler proved that blondes have more fun at the United Center on June 18. *The Divine Miss M* joked about herself and her audience throughout the evening. "Who drove here?" she asked. "I'm so glad my fans can still drive at night. There are 50 shades of gray in this section!" There was truth in that statement, with an older crowd in attendance that included her rainbow following, who possibly remembered her bathhouse days.

She began her *Divine Intervention* Tour with the title track, then broke into more humor like, "Thanks for the parade! [referring to the Blackhawks celebration]" and "I'm like vodka—ageless, odorless and tasteless!"

For her 10th tour, she proved she still has the voice with a set list full of her classic covers. She had some hilarious moments but didn't really have to be the class clown with chops like those. She connected well with people during the two-hour show in the massive sports arena, although there was a strange echo of her vocals in the United Center that bounced off the back walls the entire time that was distracting.

Her rendition of TLC's "Waterfalls"—from her recent album *It's the Girls*—had power to it that was attributed to raising a teenager herself.

The revolving cast of Harlettes were entertaining, at one point dressed as chicks to stick with Midler's chicken costume. After a theatrical interlude, she appeared in *Hocus Pocus* drag for the song "I Put a Spell on You."

She took on social media, Chris Christie and the Kardashians while taking no prisoners.

and Chad Beguelin wrote the book. Nell Benjamin is doing the lyrics. I am directing and choreographing. My co-choreographer is Nick Kenkel, who worked with me on *Legally Blonde the Musical* and *Peepshow* in Vegas.

WCT: How do you do it all?

JM: I love it. That is what really makes the difference.

On Your Feet! runs now through July 5 at the Oriental Theatre, 24 W. Randolph St., before a Broadway debut Nov. 5. For tickets, call 800-775-2000 or visit www.Broadway-InChicago.com.

Her character Delores DeLago the mermaid may finally be put to rest as a short vignette of past performances was played with a tombstone ending being projected on a massive screen. That fin sadly waved goodbye "From a Distance" and may she rest in peace.

The diva rocked out to The Rolling Stones' cover "Beast of Burden" and reminisced with Ella Fitzgerald's "Spring Can Really Hang You Up the Most."

The room waved lit up cell phones to "The Rose," which she sang wearing a fabulous red sequined dress.

After a quick break she returned for an encore and mentioned being grateful to the longevity of "Wind Beneath My Wings." Her rendition of "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" was a delight, especially when she stressed the Chicago hometown lyrics.

Midler has made so many other people's songs her own over the years and that was indeed the focus throughout the night while still managing to keep the spotlight on herself. The talented gypsy waved goodbye ready to finish off her 22 city tour. For those of us that attended in Chicago she showed that she's still got it.

Photos and text by Jerry Nunn

Dan Savage parody in Andersonville; talkback July 9

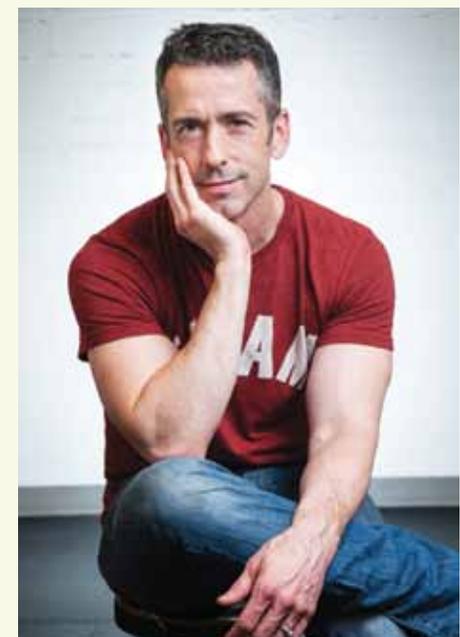
Hell in a Handbag Productions is kicking off its 2015-16 season with the Midwest premiere of *Miracle!*, a parody of *The Miracle Worker* that Dan Savage reimagined.

The production, which Derek Van Barham is directing, will play through July 10 at Mary's Attic, 5400 N. Clark St.

There will be a special talkback with Savage on Thursday, July 9, at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1387877.

Miracle! features Kristopher Bottrall, David Cerda, Laura Coleman, Sydney Genco, Rachel Hadlock, Caitlin Jackson, Ed Jones, Elizabeth Lesinski, Steve Love, Joshua Peterson, Jamie Smith and Christopher Young.

Tickets are at www.HandbagProductions.org.



Dan Savage.

Photo by LaRae Lobdell



Ana Villafane in *On Your Feet!*
Photo by Matthew Murphy

THEATER REVIEWS

On Your Feet!

Playwright: Alexander Dinelaris
At: Oriental Theatre,
24 W. Randolph St.
Tickets: 800-775-2000;
BroadwayInChicago.com; \$33-\$100
Runs through: July 5

BY JERRY NUNN

The new musical *On Your Feet!* is based on the life of singing sensation Gloria Estefan. The story chronicles her life from growing up in Cuba to making her comeback after a tragic accident. There are nods to other musicals, a pinch of *West Side Story*, a smidge of *In the Heights* and a little *Sound of Music*. Several music stars have jump-started recent musicals in Chicago before launching in New York, but this one has a personal approach—so the stakes are even higher.

From the beginning there are bright costumes, salsa moves and Miami flavor. When the charming Emilio Estefan meets the family, her grandmother, Consuelo Garcia, is immediately star-struck and exclaims, “Nice culo (ass),” noticing his tight white shorts. I’m glad Granny and I are on the same page. The humor and energy of the show has all the right moves.

Josh Segarra channels the heart and soul of Emilio. There’s a twinkle in his eye and a sense of pride that is important to the role. Segarra’s singing sometimes misses and is hard to hear at times, but the overall portrayal is very strong. He is hard not to like.

The show cleverly incorporates Gloria’s classic Spanish hits by having her mother sing them in a time warp. The mother, Gloria Fajardo (played by Andrea Burns), is vital to the plot and brings some emotional depth.

The production team of *On Your Feet!* struck gold by finding Ana Villafane to embody Gloria. It is not an impersonation but a tone that is held throughout her performance that balanc-

SPOTLIGHT



Ever wondered what a lesbian take off of *Sweeney Todd* might be like? Ponder no further since Sabrina Harper and Margaret Hicks have transformed Stephen Sondheim’s “Demon Barber of Fleet Street” into **Sweetie Maude**, Chicago’s “Satanic Stylist of State Street” in this new gender-switching musical spoof. Let’s see if there are enough lesbian fans of a musical theater masterpiece like *Sweeney Todd* to keep it afloat. *Sweetie Maude* continues at 8 p.m. Fridays until July 31 at the Annoyance Theatre & Bar, 851 W. Belmont Ave. Tickets are \$20; call 773-697-9693 or visit www.theannoyance.com.

Photo of Tamale Sepp from Christopher Kauffman

es things. When she sings either Gloria’s past hits or new songs written for the musical, her vocals hit the mark. There were a few sound-system glitches where she could be turned up, but that’s a minor quibble.

Smoother than *Celia: The Life and Music of Celia Cruz* that opened in Chicago back in 2010, *Feet* benefits from a stronger team and, thanks to director Jerry Mitchell, the pacing is kept concise and the show doesn’t drag for a moment. Time flies as the audience experiences the ups and downs of Gloria’s ride in the music business. Fighting the difficulties of crossing over when no artists were able to at that time shows how the industry has changed over the

years. While some of the younger generation may be unfamiliar with her legacy they can learn a lot from her journey by watching this production.

Costume designer Emilio Sosa has a ball with some of her ’80s fashions, especially those iconic leather chaps over jeans.

As the show marches on to Broadway in November, there are just a few minor changes to be made before audiences are standing on their feet and dancing in the aisles. The rise of Gloria back on her feet needs some tweaking to pull out the emotional struggle, but the idea is there and is inspiring.

THE HILARIOUS BROADWAY HIT MAKES ITS CHICAGO DEBUT!

VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND Spike

BY CHRISTOPHER DURANG DIRECTED BY STEVE SCOTT

NOW THROUGH JULY 26!

“A COMIC TOUR DE FORCE”
-THE VILLAGE VOICE

“DELIRIOUSLY FUNNY”
-THE NEW YORK TIMES

TICKETS START AT \$25

Thursday, June 25
PRIDE NIGHT

Tickets Still Available!
Just \$49 for an exclusive reception and tickets to the play.
GoodmanTheatre.org/Pride

American Airlines
Exclusive Airline of Goodman Theatre

PARK GRILL
Promotional Partner

312.443.3800 | GoodmanTheatre.org
GROUPS OF 10+: 312.443.3820

GOODMAN THEATRE
90 YEARS

CULTURE CLUB

"A truthful, deeply engaged production. Extraordinary in the telling."

— Chicago Tribune

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

BY FRANCES GOODRICH AND ALBERT HACKETT
NEWLY ADAPTED BY WENDY KESSELMAN
DIRECTED BY KIMBERLY SENIOR

NOW THROUGH AUG. 2

WRITERSTHEATRE.ORG | 847-242-6000

WT
WRITERS
THEATRE

lifeline
THEATRE
Big Stories, Up Close

A world premiere musical adaptation of the novel by Austin Grossman

SOON I WILL BE INVINCIBLE

May 29 - July 19, 2015
773-761-4477
www.lifelinetheatre.com

Follow #ALWAF online for special, behind-the-scenes content!

ABOUT FACE THEATRE PRESENTS THE CHICAGO PREMIERE OF

ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS A F*

ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS A F*GG*
JUNE 5TH thru JULY 5TH
© THE GREENHOUSE THEATER CENTER

For tickets visit aboutfacetheatre.org, call 773.404.7336, or stop by the Greenhouse Box Office.

"★★★★★!
90 minutes of wonderful theater."
— Around the Town Chicago

DOUBT: A PARABLE

BY JOHN PATRICK SHANLEY
DIRECTED BY WILLIAM BROWN

NOW PLAYING
WRITERSTHEATRE.ORG | 847-242-6000

WT
WRITERS
THEATRE



Rick Boynton, Phylcia Rashad, Barbara Gaines, Executive Director Criss Henderson and Simon Callow at the CST gala.

Photo by Daniel Ribar

CST gala raises \$1.2M

Chicago Shakespeare Theater (CST) celebrated Shakespeare's legacy with GALA 2015 on June 8 at the theater's home on Navy Pier.

The event raised \$1.2 million for Chicago Shakespeare in Urban Communities initiatives. Three hundred and fifty of Chicago's civic, corporate and cultural leaders attended the event that benefitted CST's engagement programs such as Team Shakespeare education initiatives and Chicago Shakespeare in the Parks.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the fifth annual Spirit of Shakespeare Awards to this year's Civic Honoree, Illinois Tool Works (ITW) as well as ITW Vice Chairman David Parry and his wife Ros Parry, and artistic honorees Simon Callow and Phylcia Rashad.

'East of Eden' cast announced

Steppenwolf Theatre Company announced the full cast for the first show of its 40th-anniversary season—the world-premiere production of John Steinbeck's *East of Eden*.

The cast features ensemble members Kate Arrington as Cathy Trask, Francis Guinan as Samuel Hamilton, Tim Hopper as Adam Trask and Alan Wilder as Dr. Murphy and Mr. Bacon. The production is a reunion for Guinan, Hopper, Wilder and Kinney, all who appeared in Galati's 1988 adaptation of *The Grapes of Wrath*.

East of Eden begins previews Sept. 17 and runs through Nov. 15 in Steppenwolf's Downstairs Theatre, 1650 N. Halsted St.

In addition, ensemble member and Tony-winning director Anna D. Shapiro will direct ensemble member Tracy Letts' new play, *Mary Page Marlowe*, featuring a 17-member cast to be announced in the coming months.

Season subscriptions are currently on sale; packages start at \$100. Call 312-335-1650 or visit steppenwolf.org.

Harris Theatre unveils 2015-16 dance season

The Harris Theater for Music and Dance President and Managing Director Michael Tiknis announced the dance performances for the 2015-

16 "Harris Theater Presents" season.

The 2015-2016 season at the Harris will begin with the Harris debut of AXIS Dance Company on Thursday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 10, at 2 p.m. AXIS Dance Company has become one of the world's most acclaimed and innovative ensembles of performers with and without disabilities.

Jessica Lang Dance will perform Wed., Nov. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Lang will create a new dance for her company in collaboration with architect Steven Holl.

Hamburg Ballet will perform Tuesday-Wed., Feb. 23-24, at 7:30 p.m. with its interpretation of William Shakespeare's *Othello*. The company will also perform *Third Symphony* of Gustav Mahler on Friday-Saturday, Feb. 26-27, at 7:30 p.m.

Lucky Plush Productions will present "Trip the Light Fantastic: The Making of SuperStrip" on Thursday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. Mark Morris Dance Group will perform Morris' masterwork *Dido and Aeneas* on Tuesday-Wed., April 5-6, at 7:30 p.m. Lastly, Miami City Ballet will make its Harris Theatre debut Friday-Saturday, April 29-30, at 7:30 p.m.

Visit HarrisTheaterChicago.org.

Northern Trust Company is the season sponsor.

Other Theatre's 'Bent' at Strawdog June, July

The Other Theatre Company and Artistic Director Carin Silkaitis are presenting *Bent*, written by Martin Sherman and directed by Keira Fromm, at Strawdog Theatre, 3829 N. Broadway, June 27-July 26.

A Pulitzer Prize-nominated WWII drama from Martin Sherman, *Bent* focuses on two men who find love in a concentration camp. According to a press release, "Sherman draws exquisitely detailed characters, each of whom embodies a different personal relationship to queer (or 'bent') desire in 1930s Germany."

Preview tickets are \$20 and regular-run tickets are \$25; visit www.buzzonstage.com/theatres/other-theatre-company. For more information, please visit theothertheatrecompany.com.



@windycitytimes1



Pride Parade grand marshal Ty Herndon.

Pride Parade June 28 in Chicago

The 46th Annual Chicago Pride Parade will take place Sunday, June 28.

Country singer Ty Herndon, who officially came out of the closet last November, is the parade's grand marshal.

The route will again begin at noon, kicking off at Montrose Avenue and Broadway. It will then go down Halsted Street (at the Broadway intersection) until it reaches Belmont Avenue. The parade will then travel east until it hits Broadway, and then will proceed south to Diversey Parkway. The parade ends in Lincoln Park.

Taste of Chicago reveals performers

The Taste of Chicago has revealed its headlining music acts for the food festival that will take place July 8-12.

The five headlining acts are, in order: Weezer, Erykah Badu, The Chieftains, Spoon and Maze Featuring Frankie Beverly.

The 35th annual Taste of Chicago will take place in Grant Park, and festival-goers can watch the headlining musical performances at the Petrillo Music Shell. Visit TasteOfChicago.us.

McCartney, Sam Smith slated for Lollapalooza

Legendary musician Paul McCartney and crooner Sam Smith are just two of the acts slated to perform at Chicago's Lollapalooza.

More than 125 acts are scheduled to play on eight stages, including Alabama Shakes, Florence + the Machine, TV on the Radio, Kid Cudi, Metallica, Marina and the Diamonds, George Ezra, FKA Twigs and A\$AP Rocky.

The event will return for its 11th year at Grant Park on July 31-Aug. 2. Visit <http://www.lollapalooza.com/tickets/>.

Dyke March details unveiled

Chicago Dyke March, per usual, will be held the day before the annual Pride Parade.

The march will take place Saturday, June 27, at the Humboldt Park Boat House, 1400 N. Sacramento Ave. Participants will gather at 1:30 p.m. at Roberto Clemente High School on the southwest corner of Western Avenue and Division Street; the kick off at 2:30 p.m., with people marching west down Division.

The Puerto Rican Culture Center and the

Trans-Latin@ Coalition have expressed their support for the event, which will take place in Humboldt Park for the second consecutive year.

The Chicago Dyke March Collective is accepting donations. Those interested in contributing should send donations via DykeMarchChicago@gmail.com on Paypal.com.

Chicago Dyke March Collective is a grassroots mobilization and celebration of dyke, queer, bisexual, and transgender resilience. Visit <http://chicagodykemarch.wordpress.com/>.

Riot Fest Chicago names headliners

Riot Fest Chicago—which will take place Sept. 11-13 at Douglas Park—has announced its line-up.

Some of the slated acts include No Doubt, Modest Mouse, Faith No More, Iggy Pop, Snoop Dogg, Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley, Merle Haggard and Tenacious D.

In addition to performances, there will be a miniature golf course, a video arcade hall, dozens of unique and diverse food, and performances from Hellzapoppin Circus Sideshow Revue and The Rock-afire Explosion.

Visit <http://riotfest.org/2015/05/chicago-riot-fest-2015-lineup-tickets-now-available/>.

BackLot Bash June 25-28

The 12th annual BackLot Bash—advertised as "Where the Girls Come Out and Play"—will take place June 25-28. The activities are as follows:

—June 25: Comedy Kickoff: Acts include Bridget McManus and Dana Goldberg. Kelly and Judy Fabjance will host.

—June 26: Sunset Concert: Slated acts include Jess Godwin, Natalia Zukerman, Daphne Willis, and Kristy Lee & Dirt Road Revival. Kat Fitzgerald will host.

—June 27: All-Day Bash: Fortune Feimster will host an event that will feature Sami Grisafe, Catfight and The Girls!, among others.

—June 28: Pride-Day Bash: Ruby Rose (from Orange Is the New Black) will perform a DJ set.

The Comedy Kickoff will take place at Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave.; all other events will take place at 5238 N. Clark St. Purchase tickets at BackLotBashChicago.com.



Jess Godwin will be part of BackLot Bash. Photo by Britton Black

Celebrating 15 years of
BROADWAY IN CHICAGO

LAST CHANCE!

SUBSCRIBE BY JULY 5

Members Save as Much as 50%

SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES AS LOW AS \$100

BROADWAYINCHICAGO.COM

SUBSCRIPTION 312.977.1717 • GROUPS 312.977.1710

BANK OF AMERICA THEATRE
ORIENTAL THEATRE
Cadillac Palace
AUDITORIUM THEATRE
BROADWAY PLAYHOUSE AT WATER TOWER PLACE
Hampton MAJESTIC
theWit
THE PENINSULA CHICAGO
UNITED

KNIGHT at the movies

BY RICHARD KNIGHT, JR.

Let's get serious about Pride

Celebrate Pride with Larry Kramer and these other LGBT pioneers.

There are many reasons Our People celebrate Pride. One of the most compelling, of course, is to honor the achievements of those who came before us; the brave activists who fought the culture wars on so many fronts.

One of the fiercest, Larry Kramer, is the subject of a forthcoming documentary that debuts Monday, June 29, on HBO. **Larry Kramer in Love & Anger** is an aptly titled movie that gets behind the angry public image that Kramer has so often projected over decades of being on the frontlines of AIDS activism.

Out filmmaker Jean Carlomusto's portrait of her old friend takes in all of the man—from Kramer's intellectual, artistic upbringing to his early successes as a Hollywood screenwriter to budding gay rights pioneer to the full-fledged, polarizing activist, co-founder of ACT UP and critically hailed playwright of "The Normal Heart" and finally to the elder statesman, a lion in winter as feisty as ever as health issues wear him down. And, yes, that portrait includes gentleness, humor and glimpses into Kramer's private world. Carlomusto's illuminating film is a great addition to the ever-growing list of documentary movies about LGBT heroes. <http://www.hbo.com/documentaries/larry-kramer-in-love-and-anger.html>

Continue your Pride celebration at the movies with a few others (of the many available) focused on one of these seminal LGBT pioneers:

The Times of Harvey Milk (1984) and **Milk** (2008)—Out filmmakers Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman won the Oscar for this moving documentary look at the slain gay-rights activist/hero Harvey Milk, movingly narrated by Harvey Fierstein. In *Milk*, Sean Penn won the Best Actor Oscar for his multifaceted portrayal of the icon in Gus Van Sant's unadorned biopic masterpiece, whose script by gay activist Dustin Lance Black also won the Oscar.

Howl (2010)—Friedman and Epstein moved from documentaries into narrative features with this sober, artsy look at groundbreaking gay poet and cultural icon Allen Ginsberg, memorably played by James Franco.

Tongues Untied (1989)—The reputation of the late queer African-American filmmaker and activist Marlon Riggs rests on this lyrical yet fiery semi-documentary look at disenfranchised

Larry Kramer in *Love and Anger*.
Photo by Lee Snider, and courtesy of HBO



Black gay men, outcasts from two societies. It remains a seminal, shattering film experience.

Gay Pioneers (2004)—Glen Holsten's insightful, inspirational look, via archival footage and interviews, includes a who's who line-up of our brave queer forebears, including Barbara Gittings. Gittings is also the subject of a new, full-length biography—the first ever—by Windy City Times Executive Editor Tracy Baim.

Details on the film: <http://www.gaypioneers.com/index.cfm>

Details on the book: <http://www.windy-citymediagroup.com/lgbt/Biography-of-gay-pioneer-Barbara-Gittings-out-in-time-for-Pride/51863.html>

Saugatuck Cures

When Drew (Glee's Max Adler) discovers that his mother, Maggie (The Young & the Restless' Judith Chapman), is dealing with a recurrence of cancer, he's at a loss on what to do. The B&B Mom runs with Drew's help in picturesque Saugatuck—the resort town 90 minutes from Chicago that boasts a healthy gay population—is in need of a lot of work and there's no extra money to pay for it or an experimental treatment that could make all the difference to Maggie's health.

Drew's arch-conservative sister who disapproves of his gay "lifestyle" is no absolutely no help, but his wacky, straight friend Brett (Danny Mooney) is a different story. He gets the ball rolling with a hefty donation and also comes up with the idea of traveling to area conservative churches, posing as ex-gay ministers raising funds to convert homos to heteros. Although Drew is uneasy about the plan, the strategy works—spectacularly so for a while.

Naturally, there are several bumps (and plot complications) along the way as the duo works against the clock in director Matt Ladensack's movie (appropriately titled *Saugatuck Cures*).

The film will have a one-week theatrical run in Chicago at Facets Cinematheque, 1517 W. Fullerton Ave., beginning Friday, June 26, followed by a DVD/VOD release from Breaking Glass Pictures. <http://www.saugatuckcures-movie.com/>

Wolfe turns 30

Wolfe Video, the world's largest distributor of LGBT cinema is celebrating 30 years this month. Founded in June of 1985 by lesbian entrepreneur Kathy Wolfe, the company has distributed hundreds of LGBT-themed movies over its history, with noteworthy titles including *Big Eden*, *Undertow*, *Desert Hearts*, *I Am Divine*, *Cloudburst* and the recent Swiss entry for the foreign Oscar, *The Circle*. Lily Tomlin—who sent congratulations to the company on its anniversary—is among the roster of talents associated with Wolfe. Other prominent out filmmakers include Donna Deitch, Charles Busch, Guinevere Turner, Jeffrey Schwarz, Javier Fuentes-Leon, Nicole Conn and Thomas Bezucha. The entire Wolfe catalogue is available online at www.WolfeOnDemand.com

Upcoming movie calendar

Highlights from films opening in Chicago, June 26 and July 3 (or available digitally)

A Little Chaos (6/26)—Kate Winslet stars in this romantic drama set in 17th-century France as a headstrong landscape artist chosen to design the main garden at Louis XIV's palace at Versailles. Alan Rickman co-stars and directs.

Saugatuck Cures (6/26)—See listing details above.

Larry Kramer in Love and Anger (6/29)—See listing details above.

Before You Know It (6/30)—P.J. Raval's 2013 documentary about a trio of gay senior citizens is both moving and eye-opening. The film, which won the Reeling Film Festival's top honor for feature documentary in 2013, premieres on the America ReFramed program on World Channel that airs locally on PBS. (Check local listings via website link.) <http://worldchannel.org/programs/episode/arf-s3-e324-before-you-know-it/>

Magic Mike XXL (7/1)—It's finally here! Channing Tatum and the rest of the hunky naked strippers (including out actor Matt Bomer) who helped elevate *Magic Mike* to box-office glory with their sexy moves are back in this sequel that promises to shake the bon-bons of audience members once more. The homoerotic undertone is a given, but here's hoping that the sequel has more than a hint of queer content. Tatum and Bomer's recent surprise appearance at the LA Pride Parade certainly helped stoked interest in the gay community for the movie.

Terminator Genisys (7/1)—After the less-than-spectacular reception to the last Terminator installment (Christian Bale's on-set tantrums possibly having something to do with the movie's bland script), here comes another attempt at rebooting the apocalyptic franchise for the big screen. (A TV version didn't catch on either.) The Kyle Reese character is back as well as Sarah Connor and, best of all, so is Arnold. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Emilia Clarke, Jai Courtney and Jason Clarke star.

**STANLEY
IN THE NAME OF
LOVE**

A GAY PORN DANCE POP MUSICAL

JULY 30 - AUGUST 29//THE DEN THEATRE

TICKETS AND INFO AT THENEWCOLONY.ORG OR CALL 773.413.0862



Magic Mike XXL.

Photo from Warner Bros Entertainment Inc. and RatPac Dune Entertainment, LLC

MOVIES

'Horses' director on lesbian romance, working with animals

BY GARY M. KRAMER

German writer/director Monika Treut has been a vibrant force in queer cinema for decades. Her debut film, *Seduction: The Cruel Woman*, in 1985, was an instant classic, and her reputation as a filmmaker of importance was cemented with her feminist effort, *The Virgin Machine*. Other career highlights include her sexy contribution to the anthology, *Erotique*, her trans documentary, *Gendernauts*, and her intriguing romantic drama about loss, *Ghosted*.

Treut's latest film, *Of Girls and Horses*, now out on DVD, showcases her emphasis on mood rather than drama as it chronicles the Alex (Ceci Chuh), a troubled young girl who is sent to work on a farm where Nina (Vanida Karun), a lesbian trains horses. While Alex is slowly drawn to Nina and the horses, her attitude changes—and romance blossoms—with the arrival of Kathy (Alissa Wilms).

The filmmaker spoke about *Of Girls and Horses* in a recent Skype session.

Windy City Times: What prompted you to make this film? What is so appealing about the bond between girls and horses?

Monika Treut: It's slightly autobiographical, a mélange of inspiration from my own childhood. I did horseback riding when I was a teenager. When I became a filmmaker, I didn't have time to continue. Horseback riding is still something I really like to do. I'm into the loose style of horsemanship, treating the horse as a partner;

you don't train them for competition. I think it's hard to understand what's so special and unique about being around horses if you're not a horse person. I like the smell of horses and the hay, and being in the stables calms me down.

WCT: What can you say about the "opposites attract" narrative?

MT: I really liked the difference between the young actresses; one [Alissa Wilms] was from a bourgeois background and the other [Chuh] from the city streets. I didn't know if there would be any chemistry between them, so I took them to a horse stable. I wasn't sure if Chuh would connect with horses, because she wasn't around them much. Alissa had her own horse, and it was like a bourgeois horse, which was not like the other horses on the farm. Opposites always give more mileage to a narrative. I wanted these two different girls to find a way to communicate with each other, and the medium was that was the horses.

WCT: How did you shape the three main characters and the storylines?

MT: With Alex, it can be a mixture of her playing the bad girl, and trying out different things. She is attracted to the more mature Nina, and feels protected and cared for by her. Kathy thinks about Alex's future. Nina is very immediate, so we know a little bit about her and her relationship, but it's not fully drawn. You, as the spectator, have to imagine it, and fill it up with your own experiences. Is Kathy



Of Girls and Horses director Monika Treut.
Photo by Ana Grillo

trying out something new with Alex? Alex is in search of warmth and emotions and friendship. I wouldn't label them; keep it open. The ending is open, too.

WCT: Can you discuss working with the actresses and the animals?

MT: I was very nervous about the animals. I've never worked with horses before on camera. I was pleasantly surprised, though. We felt that the horses enjoyed being on camera. The gelding, the dark brown horse, kept wanting us to take him. We had to shoot the halter scene 20 times, and we thought it was unpleasant for him, but he just stood there and was like, "Do it again!" We didn't have a moment where the horses were causing trouble. I think they liked the attention. We also gave them treats and petted them. It was a bit harder for the girls.

WCT: How do you see this film, which is rather sweet and gentle, fitting into your ca-

reer as a filmmaker?

MT: [Laughs] That's such an American question! One big difference was that it was my first time to shoot in the countryside, rather than Taipei, New York or San Francisco. The pace of the film is influenced by quiet farm life, the nature and the weather. I wanted to take that quality of a different lifestyle into the film. I don't think of a film in terms of career, but a new enterprise. I have his curiosity for new subjects and experiences.

©2015 Gary M. Kramer

LYNCH from page 24

were made of nothing but four-drawer file cabinets. The high ceilings of the former brick factory enabled an unceasing cacophonous racket. Years of battles were fought between smokers and nonsmokers over the tiny lounge that served more than a hundred workers. The parking lot was not considered safe. Armed guards stood at entrances. The place was never fully cleaned; the inadequate restrooms served staff and clients, stripping both of dignity.

And gay people? There were three of us on staff that I knew of—two guys and me. We hid our queerness to keep our jobs, and feared running into co-workers on days off. I never had a gay client, that I knew of. There was no government help for downtrodden gays.

Really, there was no government help for anyone. That might have been my worst job ever, but I was still the privileged one: I could leave. And did. I had the privilege to become ever downwardly mobile.

Lee Lynch is the author of more than 13 books. Her latest, *An American Queer*, is available for pre-order. You can reach Lynch at LeeLynch@ontopmag.com.

Copyright 2015 Lee Lynch

PRIDE FILMS & PLAYS

1 COMPANY...

MEN on the VERGE of a HIS-PANIC BREAKDOWN
June 23 - July 26 at The Apollo Studio Theater. 773-935-6100

3 GREAT SHOWS...

THE BOY FROM OZ
August 5 - 30 at Stage 773. 773-327-5252

BECOME A MEMBER NOW!
Call 773-250-3112 or visit www.pridefilmsandplays.com

DESIGN for LIVING
October 22 - November 22 at Rivendell Theatre. 773-334-7728

DANCE!

Sign Up for Classes Today!
ARCchicago.org

american RHYTHM center
312-922-1272

Photo by Dave Rentauskas

TAP • HIP HOP
AFRICAN DANCE
BREAK DANCING
BALLET • FLAMENCO & MORE!

410 S. Michigan Avenue, 3rd Floor (Fine Arts Building) • 312-922-1272

CeCe Peniston 'finally' finds fashion

BY JERRY NUNN

CeCe Peniston scored five number one Billboard dance hits within three years. Her signature song "Finally" has sold more than 3 million copies worldwide. (She wrote the massive hit song when she was only 21.) Now, at 45, she enters a new chapter in her life with a fashion line. Windy City met Peniston at her hotel room to discuss her new projects.



CeCe Peniston.
Photo by Jerry Nunn

Windy City Times: So you are originally from Ohio?

CeCe Peniston: I was born in Dayton, Ohio, and [was] a military brat. My dad was a master sergeant in the Air Force. We moved to Arizona when I was about 9; I have been there ever since. I lived in L.A. and New York for a year, but came back to Arizona. I figure I can hop on a plane and go wherever I need to.

WCT: I love that taco stand outside of Charlie's, the gay bar in Phoenix.

CP: It is the best!

WCT: How did the new Sew Unique Swimwear line get started?

CP: I went on a cruise and my friend had brought some bathing suits with her. I liked one with rhinestones and was showing it to my friends. They suggested I do a line. I had some friends join me. It evolved naturally. It didn't feel like a job. I enjoyed it.

WCT: Did you sew growing up?

CP: No. I have to do some sewing now. There are times I like things shorter or they are too long. There has been some trial and error.

WCT: It must be a learning process.

CP: It is. My different slant to the line is I take what people will throw away and use it as a treasure. It could be a necklace but I put it on a bathing suit. The mink suit that we have was actually my grandmother's mink coat. I kept trying to give it away because it wouldn't fit me. We just tore it and made it into a bathing suit.

WCT: So someone could bring you an item and it could be custom-made into swimwear?

CP: Yes, absolutely. Sometimes people just don't want to get rid of an item or it is stained in one area. We can use all of that.

This right here [pointing to one of her items] was made out of pieces of leather and can be used as a cover-up. You can use it over jeans or a bathing suit. It is not about getting in the pool but looking good standing there!

WCT: What size range?

CP: Some are size eight, some are size zero.

I had a friend that wanted something custom-made and her boobs are triple-Gs. We put rhinestones on it and hooked her up. These are just samples for the fashion shows to get the interest up. If someone wants something special then we can go from there.

WCT: What about clothing for men?

CP: I would like to. We just talked about that because I had an Adam and Eve thing with leaves. I wanted to write on the leaf "coming soon!" I know there is a big market for that. I figured with me having such a big gay following that it is a great idea.

WCT: Maybe work with Andrew Christian.

CP: Yes; me and Andrew could come together. I want to make something different.

WCT: Do you have a separate website than the CeCe Peniston one just for fashion?

CP: I haven't finished a separate website yet. I want to get the visuals and pictures done. People will be able to see the fashion shows and runway stuff. Then they will know I am serious. They don't want to hear about it. They want to see it. This Chicago fashion show is the first one.

WCT: So you will be traveling around with more fashion shows?

CP: I would like to. These are the only two I have booked so far. I am the face of an energy and beer drink called SHE, so I would like to incorporate that. I would like to do a "Sex and the City" thing where the girls lay down and have rhinestones on them, along with food. There would be my swimwear and SHE. It depends on who is doing what.

On July 10, we are doing the CityWalk at Universal Studios, where I will be doing another fashion show there.

WCT: Let's talk about music.

CP: I have a brand-new single with Frankie Knuckles. It is called "Love Don't Take Over."

WCT: When did you work with Frankie before he passed away?

CP: My friend had sent him this track. Since I had never had a song remixed like this except for what Eric Kupper did with David Morales for "Finally." When they had this one they put the director's cut on it. He loved it so the song came out of that.

I just performed at House of Blues last week with house music artists. A lot of people think EDM is still here, but house is coming back.

WCT: What else are you working on?

CP: I am doing a fitness competition in November and will be making a workout video. I wanted to not only get healthy but reinvent myself. Next year is the 25th anniversary of "Finally," so I am going to make a new video with my little pants. I still have them in my closet.

I just did a movie also, called Where Is Good? It is a play off words with Good instead of God. The plot involves date-rape drugs. It is an independent film. We just did a red carpet for it.

Iddy Id art exhibition Aug. 14 at Space 1858

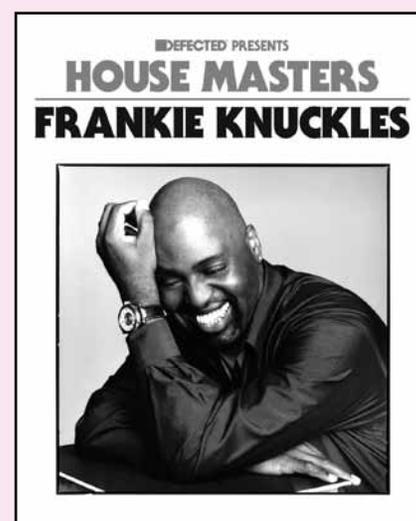
Iddy Id Design will present a group exhibition of new works featuring mixed media, visual and performing artists.

"A.U.C.T.I.O.N." will be a one-night-only run Friday, Aug. 14, at Space 1858, 1858 W. Grand Ave.

Several local and out-of-state artists will be featured, including Iddy Id Design, Ayodele Drum and Dance, Nish Hamilton, Alycia Davis, Jeremy Royster, Wanda Rosado-Johnson, Kia Givhan and Kim Ferguson, among others.

In a release, organizers stated, "The focus of A.U.C.T.I.O.N. is to create a space for Black culture to thrive and be appreciated and elevated. All art performed and displayed transcends over decades of injustice—and pride—in African-American life."

Pre-sale tickets will include a light dinner reception. (Tickets sold at the door will not.) Call 314-255-4050 or email idyiddesign@gmail.com.



Frankie Knuckles CD released

Defected Records has released House Masters Frankie Knuckles—with tracks the late DJ personally selected, according to a press release.

The two-CD set is a charity release in collaboration with Def Mix Management and the estate of Frankie Knuckles. A few of the tracks include Knuckles' mix of Inner City's "Whatcha Gonna Do With My Lovin'," an ex-

The previews have been really great for it.

WCT: Are you still performing at gay street festivals?

CP: Yes, absolutely. I have a show I getting ready to do at the Queens Festival. I will definitely do more festivals and gay Prides. Call me—you know I love performing!

WCT: How was it seeing your song in the movie The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert?

CP: I felt like it gave new life to my song at that point. The mix was like seven minutes long and I didn't know the skit with the guy would be like that. I felt like it gave it a new push.

In fact, I was in London with my mom one time and they were doing Priscilla, Queen of the Desert from Broadway. I kept thinking I am the little girl at 13 years old with a dream and a poem, and here it is onstage. That gave me chills.

WCT: It has been great hearing about your projects.

CP: I don't want to stop. I can lay down when I'm in my coffin!

Visit www.cecepeniston.moonfruit.com for more of Peniston's projects.

tended version of Adeva's "Beautiful Love," Knuckles' "The Whistle Song" (Sound Factory Mix), Rufus & Chaka Khan's "Ain't Nobody" (Hallucinogenic Version) and Pet Shop Boys' "Left To My Own Devices" (Frankie Knuckles Royal Piano Version).

All profits are donated directly to The Frankie Knuckles Fund/Elton John AIDS Foundation.

For more information, visit <http://london.ejaf.org/aids-news/featured-news/defected-presents-house-masters-frankie-knuckles-all-profits-to-be-donated-to-frankie-knuckles-fund/>. To purchase the CD, visit <http://store.defected.com>.

Black Alphabet Film Festival July 23-26

The Black Alphabet Film Festival (BAFF) returns for its third outing of showcasing films and other works that highlight and explore the Black LGBTQ and same-gender-loving (SGL) experience on July 23-26.

This year BAFF's international film festival will now take place beginning Thursday, July 23, and closing on Sunday, July 26, at Center on Halsted and a venue to be determined in the near future.

Tickets will be available for purchase as of early June.

BAFF is conducting an Indiegogo campaign at <http://igg.me/at/BAFF2015>. The campaign launched April 17 and ends July 17. Last year, the festival raised \$3,120; this year's goal is \$5,000.

Also, BAFF is accepting film and video submissions. For details on how to submit a film or video, visit <http://blackalphabet.org/submission> or <https://filmfreeway.com/festival/baff>.

Visit www.blackalphabet.org for more information.

Kelly Clarkson tour in Rosemont Aug. 1

American Idol and Grammy Award winner Kelly Clarkson has announced her 2015 "Piece By Piece" tour.

The 36-city tour, promoted exclusively by Live Nation, will start on July 11 in Hershey, Pennsylvania, and culminate on Sept. 20 in Camden, New Jersey. It stops at Rosemont's Allstate Arena on Saturday, Aug. 1.

Pentatonix and singer-songwriter Eric Hutchinson will join Clarkson on the tour.

For more information on the tour and specific on-sale dates, visit www.KellyClarkson.com or www.LiveNation.com.



An **extra** reason to play.

FREE

\$1 Lotto Quick Pick*
when you buy \$5 of Lotto.**

Available at:

- Retail
- Online
- Mobile App

EXTRA SHOT™
Lotto

June 1-30



Play responsibly. Must be 18 or older to play. Gambling problem? Crisis counseling and referral services can be accessed at 1-800-GAMBLER. For more info or to exclude yourself call 1-800-252-1775 or visit illinoislottery.com. *Quick Pick is for next available draw. **On one ticket.

Debra Messing.
Photo from NBC



The mysteries of Debra Messing

BY JERRY NUNN

This season of *The Mysteries of Laura* has just wrapped up but Debra Messing and the gang are already gearing up for second time around in the fall. In case anyone missed it the series follows a single mom NYPD homicide detective who cracks cases who is raising twin boys while clashing with her police detective ex-husband.

The Mysteries of Laura stars Debra Messing who many know from NBC's Emmy Award winning television show *Will & Grace*. She followed her Grace Adler role with another Emmy nomination for USA's six hour television event *The Starter Wife*.

She then did a two season stint on the TV Broadway drama *Smash* building a loyal fan-base. Her roots are in theater where she got her start on a pre-Broadway workshop in Tony Kushner's Tony Award winning play "Angels in America: Perestroika."

On the big screen, Messing has tackled several projects, including *Nothing Like the Holidays*, *The Women* and *Along Came Polly*.

In her free time, she supports the Human Rights Campaign, Gay Men's Health Crisis and GLAAD, giving back to the community that has followed her over the years.

Windy City called the talented actress up, along with a group of reporters, for a chat.

Q: Hi, Debra. What originally attracted you to this part on *Mysteries of Laura*?

Debra Messing: Oh, it was definitely the pilot script. I read it, and immediately I was struck by this homicide case and this mystery really sucked me in. By the time I finished the script I thought, "Wow, this is very unique. They're trying to marry two genres. This is going to be a huge challenge." But I was really excited by the possibilities.

Q: Do you still find that part a challenge now that you've been doing it for quite a while?

DM: Yes. I certainly have a much better idea of the tone of the show and the balance of the show.

I think the trickiest thing will always be finding that balance between the light humor and the sophisticated dark urban homicide case.

In my private life I love mysteries. I love watching all of the homicide shows. It's just something that really fascinates me. So to sit down to read a script and to get into this case, and then, all of the sudden to find myself laughing I was so confused.

Q: Any quirks you have been about to bring from real life into the character of Laura?

DM: Oh, gosh—besides what she does for a living I really relate to her on all fronts. I feel like being a single working mother is an incredibly challenging thing to do. You always have 12 hats in the air. You have to take it hour by hour. One hour you succeed, and the next hour you don't do so well. You just have to keep go-

ing because you can't stop.

I also responded to and love the fact that she's the best there is. That she's the smartest one in the room and really, really disciplined and very dedicated to the work that she does do.

I think those are things that drew me to the character and made me feel interested and like I could relate to her.

Q: Eric McCormack guest-starred this season. Any chance of nabbing him for season two?

DM: We just found out the wonderful news a week ago that the show is coming back and we're the only show on NBC that premiered last year that is coming back. So we are very grateful and excited. The focus is really just getting on track for starting up in less than two months.

We want to have as many exciting guest stars as possible. The better the guest star the better the show in terms of just the quality and the investment that the audience can have in each episode.

Specifically about Eric coming back, I don't have any information.

Q: Has there been any talk of a *Will & Grace* reunion or movie?

DM: No; there has never been. I know that every once in a while Twitter explodes with these rumors that something is in the works but, unfortunately, no one has spoken to any of the cast members about it.

So my assumption is that means that nothing is in the works. I always say, "Never say never."

I just am so grateful to our fans. I mean, the *Will & Grace* fans are really the most passionate fans around. They write me that they watch it every day still. So that is pretty wonderful.

Q: Megan Mullally was just in Chicago so you should come visit again, too.

DM: I would love to!

Q: Is there any storyline you like to see explored in the upcoming second season?

DM: I know that everybody is very excited about making the homicide cases as smart and surprising as possible. Much like the TV show *Sherlock*, we want to keep them as sophisticated as possible. The light moments that have to come when her private life sort of interjects itself. I think you're going to see more of Jake and Laura spending more time together. It's going to be the show that you know, our fans have come to really love and be entertained by. It's just making it a little bit sharper.

Q: Did you celebrate by splurging on something when the second season was picked up?

DM: I'd like to say that I went out and I bought me something really snazzy and spectacular, but I didn't because I just bought an apartment in New York City—and that's as

snazzy as I could go right now.

I did go out and celebrate with some of my cast members who are still in New York. I'm just enjoying this time off, catching up on sleep. This season is a trying one, so [it's] very physically exhausting.

Q: How about a crossover from *Mysteries of Laura* with another show?

DM: Oh, yes—[*Law & Order*] SVU, please. Mariska Hargitay is my best friend in real life. I've been on her show as a guest star and that was just awesome. I think it would just be wonderful and hilarious to the audience if we were able to somehow interact with each other.

Q: With the girl power of Mariska on SVU and Sophia Bush on *Chicago P.D.* Do you get to hang out and give each other tips?

DM: Well, unfortunately, I haven't been able to hang out with Sophia because she is in Chicago. We have done some press together. I just saw her at the up fronts and we had a big snuggle and giggle fest together. I think she is so wonderful. I can't say enough about her.

Mariska and Sophia had definitely become close because of those crossovers. The cast of SVU flew out to Chicago and spent a lot of time together.

Q: Do you get to collaborate with the creative team on *Mysteries of Laura*?

DM: I'm working nonstop every day, so it's hard for me to be involved at every stage of story development. When the script gets to me then I will look for opportunities to make it a little bit more specific. For example, one of the first episodes Laz's character, Billy, gets hit in the face and he's bleeding. I pull a sanitary napkin out of my purse and stick it to his face to stop the bleeding. That was my idea.

Q: I heard you are making a new film.

DM: Yes, I am going to Bulgaria. I'm playing a queen. It's a mix between *Lord of the Rings* and *The Princess Bride*.

Q: How has the move to New York been, as opposed to living in LA?

DM: Oh, gosh—now, it's pretty wonderful being here and realizing that this is my home again.

Smash brought me here and I have an 11-year-old son. He really has just blossomed since we've moved here. Regardless of whether or not *Smash* was going to continue or not we decided that we were going to stay in New York.

Like I said earlier, I finally bought an apartment instead of renting. I definitely feel like now I have roots. I'm a homebody in real life so having roots really does a lot for me. It feels just like an exciting new chapter of my life honestly.

Look for *The Mysteries of Laura* season two this fall on NBC.

'Too Much Light' to benefit Night Ministry

The troupe *The Neo-Futurists* will present its annual Pride Weekend benefit 30 Queer Plays in 60 Straight Minutes, a special edition of *Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go Blind*: 30 Plays in 60 Minutes that combines queer and gender binary-smashing plays from the past with new work to benefit and support local LGBTQ organizations.

The 2015 beneficiary is *The Crib* at *The Night Ministry* (thenightministry.org).

Performances are June 26-27 at 11:30 p.m., and June 28 at 7 p.m. Ticket prices are \$9 plus a roll of the die. (Advance tickets are \$20, with a roll-back refund at the door.) A special June 25 performance at 11:30 p.m. will have a \$25 admission, with all proceeds going to beneficiary.

Call 773-275-5255 or visit www.neofuturists.org.

Bailiwick, Griffin top non-Equity Jeffs

The Wild Party and Men Should Weep took home top honors June 8 at Park West during the 42nd Annual Non-Equity Jeff Awards ceremony recognizing excellence in non-union Chicago theater.

Bailiwick Chicago's musical of Michael LaChiusa's *The Wild Party* led all musical nominees with eight awards, and Griffin Theatre's *Men Should Weep* led play nominees with three awards.

Longtime Chicago actors Karl Hamilton and Sarah Hayes emceed the awards show, which recognized 118 nominees in 24 categories from 66 Jeff-recommended productions, and ultimately honored 24 recipients from nine theaters.

Among a few of the winners were Kevin Cox (actor in a principal role—play, for *La Bête*), Robin Witt (director—play, for *Men Should Weep*), Danni Smith (actress in a principal role—musical or revue, for *The Wild Party*) and Donterrio Johnson (actor in a supporting role—musical, for *Jesus Christ Superstar*).

Visit JeffAwards.org for the entire list.

caliXta: Molding her career as a VJ/DJ

BY ROSS FORMAN

Isabel Buchanan Arellano transforms into caliXta, a dual VJ and DJ—it's a job she created because "I didn't see [the dual role] happening in Chicago," she said.

Her first venture was as a DJ, which she ended up learning out of necessity when she and some friends were interested in similar music, mostly from Latin America, but would lament that they weren't hearing those sounds at bars, clubs or shows.

Several months after she started working as a DJ, a friend and fellow DJ wanted to do visuals for a show he was working. He asked if she would help and she agreed "because I thought it would be interesting to learn," she said. Two days before the gig, he showed her how to use a VJ program, which basically allows you to do live visual/film editing. After their 20-minute lesson, "I jumped right in doing some visuals for his gig that weekend," she said. "It was very experimental for me since I was basically exploring what he had briefly showed me, but I thought my visuals came out great considering everything."

"I really enjoyed doing visuals for the party that night and saw the potential for bridging space through music and visuals, so I continued to learn, mostly through self-guided learning."

caliXta, 26, who lives in LaVillita and is "dating a wonderful woman," admitted that she was "very nervous" before her first gig as a VDJ. "I wasn't sure if people would like the music I played since it was going to be pretty new for almost everyone," she said.

caliXta was VJing at the 2015 South by Southwest (SXSW), an annual film, interactive, and music festival and conference held in March in Austin, Texas.

"A friend, fellow DJ and one of my original inspirations for scene-building through music, DJ rat from the Maracuyeah DJ collective in Washington DC, asked me to be her VJ. I was really honored and excited to work with her again, and SXSW is a highlight for a lot of artistic careers," caliXta said. "We played the Sol Life label launch party and official SXSW showcase, organized by Sol Collective."

One of caliXta's crews is the CumbiaSazo! crew, which organizes the monthly CumbiaSazo! party at Double Door in Wicker Park. "I've been working on doing more hand-made stage decor and decorations for the party, which has been really fun and an exciting venture," she said. "I like thinking of new ideas and themes that I can work with to incorporate hand-made art and projected visuals with the music."

"In general, I take all the gigs and moments of my career as highlights. Every experience is special and is something I can learn from. Even if a night or an event doesn't turn out how I imagined, I [still will] reflect and learn from it."

Some of her favorite career moments have been VJing for Los Macuanos and María y José (two separate events), who are two of her favorite artists. "VJing for them has really brought it home for me that the work I'm doing, along with other Chicago DJs, artists and friends, is creating a space in Chicago and bringing artists that may not have come before to our city," she said. "The Los Macuanos



caliXta.
Photo from caliXta

show was organized by the Festival de Musical Electronica Latina (Festival of Latin Electronic Music), and María y José was the headliner for a CumbiaSazo! party."

When asked why she does what she does, caliXta replied, "For myself and the people I've collaborated most deeply with, my and our work has been about more than just being able to listen to or see certain artists/music in Chicago—it's a movement to bridge the beautiful, often revolutionary and political messages, of different artists to our home, and to re-shape the boundaries of what Latinx music is or can be, especially when it is so often pigeon-holed into very traditional sounds, artists, songs and genres. [Note: "Latinx" queers the Spanish grammatical Latino (universal or male) and Latina (female) adjectives by replacing gendering (o/a endings) with the unknown "x."]

"Latino culture tends to be stereotyped in dominant society, so I think it is important to show that we change, develop, grow, fuse, expand and innovate beyond tradition. To clarify, there is nothing wrong with traditional Latinx music, artists, songs or genres, and I love that

music very much and it constantly influences me. The point is that it's not the only music out there from Latin America or Latinxs, but that there's a very active, growing and innovative Latinx music scene happening that is bringing together past and future sounds."

caliXta said one of her career goals is to VJ/do visuals for Javiera Mena, another favorite artist of hers, and also book an overseas gig, preferably in Tokyo or Seoul. "I'd like to get into making custom visual graphics for clients, produce my own music tracks, and also toy with the idea of making music videos," she said.

"I love creating. I've always been someone who has a million ideas and images in her head and now I feel like I have an outlet for them."

caliXta said that the events she does usually have a heavy queer contingent. "I think that's because myself and others work very hard to make parties, in particular, a safe space for everyone and also because a lot of my friends and their friends go," she said.

The CumbiaSazo! party is held every fourth Saturday at Double Door.

MORRISSEY

JULY 9

CIVIC OPERA HOUSE

PURCHASE TICKETS AT THE CIVIC OPERA HOUSE BOX OFFICE, AT TICKETMASTER.COM, OR BY PHONE 800-745-3000

93XRT TRUE-TO-YOU.NET PETA.ORG JAM PRODUCTION

MARGARET CHO

THE THERE'S NO I IN TEAM BUT THERE'S A CHO IN **PSYCHO** TOUR

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3

ON SALE NOW

TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE CHICAGO THEATRE BOX OFFICE, ticketmaster OR CHARGE BY PHONE AT 800-745-3000

MSG ENTERTAINMENT THECHICAGO THEATRE.COM

The Chicago Theatre provides disabled accommodations and sells tickets to disabled individuals through our Disabled Services department, which may be reached at 888-609-7599 any weekday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Ticketmaster orders are subject to service charges.



Rapper Chicks at Slo 'Mo.
Photo by Jaclyn Rivas

Slo 'Mo creates an R&B paradise for Pride

BY MELISSA WASSERMAN

Slo 'Mo: Slow Jams for Homos (and their Fans) created its own rhythm nation with Paradise at The Promontory on June 19.

"I think tonight was a beautiful picture of everything that Slo 'Mo aims to be—community-engaging, celebratory, full of love," said Slo 'Mo Founder and Paradise party host/producer Kristen Kaza.

For the past four years, Slo 'Mo has called Logan Square's The Whistler home. The third Thursday of every month, R&B lovers are welcome to let their hips swing at the award-winning dance party. DJs Tess and Audio Jack spin the hits from a range of decades. Kaza said Slo 'Mo also aims to evolve by holding concerts, the Proud to Run 5K, trivia nights and storytelling events throughout the year.

"We just want more opportunities to bring people together and make them feel good about themselves and we could all use another chance to feel good and feel some love," Kaza said.

Kaza described Paradise as a love letter to the Slo 'Mo family. This Pride celebration welcomed about 250 guests to the Hyde Park venue and although, it resembled Slo 'Mo's classic style, it was taken to another level with live entertainment.

"There's plenty of events that happen on the North Side and many of them are fantastic, but there certainly isn't a need there," said Kaza. "We had some of the best musicians in Chicago perform some of our favorite R&B covers and I just can't wait to do it again."

The Paradise house band and guest artists including JC Brooks, Kiara Lanier and Rapper Chicks performed covers of some favorites, while Tess and Audio Jack carried on the classic Slo 'Mo party style into the late hours of the evening. The musical range carried from the old school to the newer school with songs by Janet Jackson, Sade, Beyonce, Luther Vandross and many more.

"I think R&B—really, more than any other

kind of music, in my opinion—brings people together, and I think that's because it's extraordinarily nostalgic and it makes you feel good," Kaza said. "Because of that, we draw people of different races, ethnicities, identities and expressions. We have people that come that are 21 and we have people that come that are 41. It makes you feel good to be in the presence of good music and other people that are loving it. So, I think it has bred a really diverse culture."

"It's the music of my life," said Elizabeth Cronin, who has been part of the Slo 'Mo family for three years. "Kristen and I first bonded over music—over Mary J. Blige and Anita Baker and D'Angelo. This entire Slo 'Mo soundtrack is like seventh grade through college for me."

Charlie Coffeen put the evening's band together and curated the live set list with Kaza. He explained he selected the best Chicago musicians to give Slo 'Mo fans something extra.

"Soulful music is my main thing," said Coffeen, who played keyboard along with the band. "I like music that moves me and that moves people. So, tonight the music that moves people is '90s feel-good, early 2000 throw-back jams, so we do that. There's guys in the studio playing this and they sound great, so to play it live, there's something to it for musicians to get this song and play it and transform it into something different."

A portion of the event's proceeds went toward South Side-based social justice organization Affinity Community Services. Affinity works with and on behalf of Black LGBTQ communities, queer youth, and allies.

"Slo 'Mo has always been about community gathering and really supporting the people in the family network," said Kaza. "Slo 'Mo and Affinity line up really well and they're a really important organization. They're doing critical work here in Chicago. I hope people continue to support them and that this party gave them a little bit of a platform to do that."

For more information, visit: <http://www.slo-mo-party.com/>.

BUSINESS

Gay Chicagoan opens Wrigleyville hairstyling facility

BY ROSS FORMAN

At age 5, Jacob Leatherman got a pair of dance shoes and his first blow dryer for Christmas. He was ready for his future.

Now 34, Leatherman spent 12 years as a professional dancer—in Los Angeles, Las Vegas and on board cruise ships.

"As my knees started to give out, I knew it was time to move on to something new," he said, laughing. So, in 2008, Leatherman went to cosmetology school, which lasted about 10 months. "I knew that I wanted to be a hairdresser. One of my best friends at the time was working on [some TV shows] and I was assisting him; he was a makeup artist.

"Moving into this field was a natural progression."

Leatherman has lived in Chicago for about five years and now calls Lake View home—and that's where he now works, too.

In May, after about four months of planning and construction, he opened a new salon—BLOWN by bocaj, which is his first name spelled backwards—along North Clark Street in Wrigleyville.

"I've always known that I've wanted to own a business," said Leatherman, who formerly worked at other area styling centers. "The blow dry caters to my aesthetic, my style. It's in line with what I like, what my passions are."

He also is a makeup artist, "and I wanted a one-stop shop for women for beauty," he said.

BLOWN offers five specific blow dry services, each named after the women who inspired him the most.

A portion of every service goes to charity, he said. And Leatherman is planning a major fall event, including a fashion show and more, which will be a fundraiser to launch a nonprofit he plans to start, ideally to aide women and LGBT youth.

BLOWN encompasses 800 square-foot upstairs and another 400 square-foot downstairs (for an office and a spray tan facility).



BLOWN by bocaj's Jacob Leatherman.
Photo by Ross Forman

The facility was formerly another salon, but when Leatherman negotiated the space in January, he immediately gutted it. The remodeling took about six weeks to complete.

"I wanted to create something that is classy," said Leatherman, whose facility has six chairs for stylists and he eventually wants to have 10 or 11 stylists on board at the store.

Wednesday nights at BLOWN are men's night, which launched in June, featuring an in-store DJ and a bartender for beer, bourbon and \$35 haircuts and \$15 straight razor shaves. Men's nights are catered to those from Boystown and Wrigleyville.

BLOWN has a staff of 11, including five full-time. Of the 11, six are openly LGBT.

"This is a dream come true," Leatherman said. "It's been quite a year."

Leatherman said he will host events and parties at the facility, such as girls-night-out parties. Plus, he's planning fun, kitschy events to introduce Boystown to Wrigleyville, such as events with drag queens, he said.



Jacob Leatherman with a client.
Photo by Ross Forman

BOOKS

'Crossword' a study of gay Mexican identity

BY MELISSA WASSERMAN

Rigoberto González's Mexican identity comes across and queer identity is written down, but his newest book of poetry, *Our Lady of the Crossword*, is not an unsolvable puzzle.

The author explores queer identity's complexities in Mexico and the United States as well as the border that unites the two countries. This theme reflects from the front cover art to the last page, while memory fuels his writing.

"Mexico is a big part of my consciousness and this is my imagination," González said. "I look at my writing as a way of looking back at the country [Mexico] to what it could be; to the times that it was a place of wonder and a place of magic. I think it still lives, but it's hard for us to see that through what's happening to the country right now."

González was born in Bakersfield, California, and raised in Michoacan, Mexico. Coming from a family of migrant farm workers, he grew up aware of his Mexican heritage and developed a strong work ethic. As a child in the '80s, he moved to southern Calif. with his family. Eventually, his family moved back to Mexico and as a young adult, González stayed on his own to pursue his own life path.

González was the first in his family to graduate from high school and college. His grandparents were illiterate, while his parents had elementary-school education, barely knowing how to read or write. With the desire to further his own educational experience, González forged his grandmothers signature—the only thing she knew how to write—to fill out college applications, which required a guardian's signature.

As an 18-year-old, he spent his undergraduate years at University of California Riverside. This was a decision he made on his own. He told his grandmother the week before he left for school and his father and grandfather the day he left to go, saying it was the only way to do it without anyone's input and skepticism.

"I am the person I am because of what my family did for me and what they did not do for me," said González. "Writing came to me not that long afterward because I was such a reader looking for answers in books and books were also a way to help me understand about my sexuality. Nobody in my family was out and the Mexican culture is notoriously homophobic. All these things made me understand that books mattered, that writing stories and our narratives matter."

Since then, he has earned graduate degrees and made the big move to New York City, where he said felt at home, realizing it was a place of immigrants. Currently, he resides in Queens. He is a contributing editor for *Poets & Writers Magazine* and a professor of English at Rutgers-Newark, the State University of New Jersey.

"For me, it's an opportunity to make sense of the world I live in," said Gonzalez of his passion for writing. "It's a very complicated world I live in—a very difficult world I live in—certainly as a gay man and my journey as somebody who comes from a family background where education wasn't a priority or wasn't even an option."

González has authored 15 books of poetry and prose, including *So Often the Pitcher Goes to Water until It Breaks*, *Other Fugitives* and *Other Strangers*, *Unpeopled Eden* and his memoir *Butterfly Boy: Memories of a Chicano Mariposa*.

He is the recipient of a number of fellowships, grants and awards. His most recent poetry collection, *Unpeopled Eden*, won the Lambda Literary Award and the Lenore Marshall Prize from the Academy of American Poets.

González described *Our Lady of the Crossword*, which is published by A Midsummer

Night's Press and comes out June 15, as a "recognition of a portrait of gay, Mexican identity and all its complexities," containing stories of sadness and triumph.

"I just want to bring something more complicated to the mix, so the couple of poems in there about young or even older gay Mexican men finding peace and love and comfort in their identity," said González. "People really imagine the gay body or gay sex as something to be feared and I wondered what if I write a book in which that kind of activity is seen as something desirable, positive, [and] something beautiful."

This book, he emphasized, depicts a shift from his previous works, namely, *Other Fugitives* and *Other Strangers*, which he wrote in his 20s. The shift, he said, is maturity. Admitting he used to obsess over things such as relationships, jobs and identity and suffer from anxieties and insecurities in his younger years,



Rigoberto González.
Photo by
Deidre Schoo

now he has come to terms with many parts of his life, including his gay identity.

"What I'm creating is a record of my thinking and my imagination and my curiosity," González said. "Everything was so tragic about queer identity and I think a lot of that has to do with my upbringing and coming to terms with where I come from. Now, as a gay man

writing in my 40s, I see things very differently. ... I just wanted to pay homage to that—to the narrative of the gay Mexican that not only is able to push through the obstacles, but also celebrate themselves in the process."

For more information, visit: <http://amidsummernightspress.com/WP/category/titles/>.

MAX ADLER DANNY MOONEY JUDITH CHAPMAN

SAUGATUCK CURES

A Film By MATTHEW LADENSACK
Written By JAY PAUL DERATANY

Available on iTunes, Amazon Instant, Vudu,
Google Play, and All Cable Providers. June 30th!
www.saugatuckcuresmovie.com

Gittings at New York Pride 1972.
Photographer unknown. Copyright
Manuscripts and Archives Division,
The New York Public Library

Barbara Gittings: Gay Pioneer

BY TRACY BAIM

Her smile was perhaps her biggest asset.

Barbara Gittings countered the vitriol of homophobes by using any tactic at her disposal. Sometimes that was verbal debate. Or wearing a flowery dress, smiling, and carrying a protest sign. Or creative activism with a kissing booth. But mainly, Gittings used her persistence and boundless energy to wear down her enemies, winning victory after victory for the LGBTQ community over the course of her nearly five decades of activism.

Gittings and her colleague Frank Kameny are often viewed as the two most significant and longest-serving activists on behalf of the gay-rights movement, before it even used the term “gay” in a defining way.

Born in 1932, by the mid-1950s Gittings was on her way to a life of activism, launching the New York chapter of the Daughters of Bilitis in 1958, two years after meeting DOB’s co-founders, Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, in California.

By her side for almost all of this work was Kay Tobin Lahusen. The women met in 1961 and were together until Gittings’ death in 2007. Lahusen became a critical documentarian of the movement. She photographed some of the most important moments of the fledgling community, including the couple’s own historic activist moments. She also wrote articles for gay newspapers, as well as chapters on Gittings for key movement books.

Gittings’ long association with the Daughters of Bilitis included serving as editor of the group’s national magazine, *The Ladder*, from 1963 to 1966. Gittings was becoming upset with the status quo of the homophile movement and soon pushed *The Ladder* in new directions, including using Lahusen’s photos of actual lesbians on the cover, replacing the line drawings that had until then dominated the magazine.

As *The Ladder* addressed more controversial issues, including advocacy for more activism, Gittings also started to take to the streets in picket lines and rallies.

In 1965, she joined the pioneers who participated in the first wave of public gay pickets at the White House, at the Pentagon and at

Independence Hall in Philadelphia. The first of five Annual Reminder Day July 4 pickets at Independence Hall drew 44 people, in 1965. Philadelphia is marking the 50th anniversary of those Reminder Day events in 2015, with several celebrations, panels and other events.

Gittings also joined Kameny in efforts to fight against institutional homophobia in a wide variety of places, from the Defense Department to the media. Kameny was acting as personal counsel to gays who had their security clearances suspended by the government. Gittings was assistant personal counsel.

“For gay men or lesbians in trouble, Frank and Barbara had explicit recommendations that boiled down to four vital points,” Troy Perry and Thomas Swicegood wrote in their book *Profiles in Gay & Lesbian Courage*. “(1) Say absolutely nothing, (2) sign nothing, (3) get counsel, and (4) fight back! Frank declared, ‘It is the patriotic duty of every citizen to resist investigations and interrogations of homosexuals. Questions about homosexuals or homosexuality are never the proper concern of the government, and should not be answered.’”

Kameny and Gittings helped in the landmark case of *Scott v. Macy*, where Bruce Scott was denied a Defense Department job because of “immoral conduct.” Kameny had urged the National Capital Area affiliate of the American Civil Liberties Union to take on Scott’s case, and it eventually did—after much pressure from Kameny. Ultimately, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit said the charge was too vague, handing Scott the first major court victory for homosexual employment rights. [The case was argued December 17, 1964 and decided June 16, 1965.]

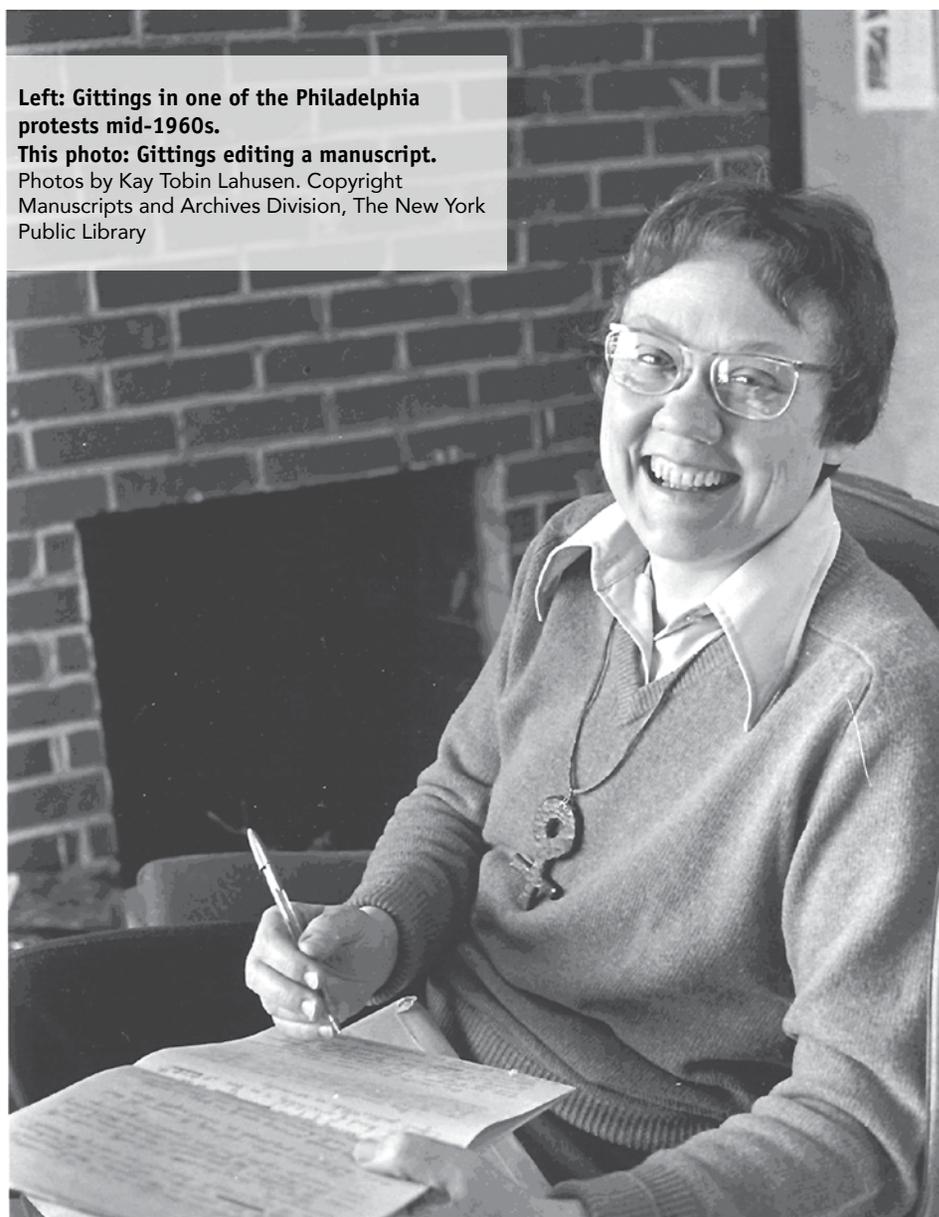
David Johnson documents this era in his book *The Lavender Scare: The Cold War Persecution of Gays and Lesbians in the Federal Government*. “The total number of men and women affected by the anti-homosexual purge is incalculable ... [but] as many as five thousand suspected gay or lesbian employees may have lost their jobs with the federal government during the early days of the Cold War. At the very least, these partial statistics suggest that



Left: Gittings in one of the Philadelphia protests mid-1960s.

This photo: Gittings editing a manuscript.

Photos by Kay Tobin Lahusen. Copyright
Manuscripts and Archives Division,
The New York Public Library





Kay Lahusen and Barbara Gittings in the mid-1980s on the steps of Barbara's mother's house in Wilmington, Delaware. They are holding two stuffed dinosaurs, props they brought around to many gay community meetings and events starting in the early 1970s. They were making light of the time they were called "dinosaurs" by younger activists at a meeting of the Gay Liberation Front, a short-lived post-Stonewall group.

Photo Courtesy of Kay Tobin Lahusen. Copyright Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

the total number of federal employees fired for homosexuality is well into the thousands."

One of Kameny and Gittings' higher-profile cases, on which they also worked with the ACLU, was that of Benning Wentworth, an electrical technician who worked for a private company that did secret work with the federal government. The Philadelphia Inquirer reported November 25, 1967, that Wentworth had been notified that his security clearance was revoked in 1966, after his name was found in the address book of a homosexual Air Force service member who was just an acquaintance, not a sexual partner. Harper's Magazine noted that the question was not whether Wentworth was homosexual; "rather, it was the essence of his defense that he was a publicly admitted, openly practicing, mentally competent adult homosexual, and was not, therefore, liable to the possibilities of blackmail, bribery, coercion, and pressure to have caused other homosexuals to be regarded as 'security risks.'"

Gittings is quoted as saying the only relevant question should be, "Is this person capable of safeguarding classified material?"

The New York Times reported on Wentworth's victory in May 1972, stating that "a district judge ordered the Defense Department to restore the security clearance it had revoked from Benning Wentworth."

At the same time they were defending gays in federal employment and military cases, Kameny and Gittings were still protesting in the streets and in other venues. Kameny, at Gittings' memorial event, said the East Coast Homophile Organizations coalition was succeeded by the North American Conference of Homophile Organizations in 1966. Both Kameny and Gittings attended the 1968 NACHO conference in Chicago, when Kameny revealed his "Gay Is Good" campaign. He said Gittings "actively supported" his efforts at NACHO.

Two of the biggest institutions Gittings helped to take on were the American Psychiatric Association and the American Library Association. Her groundbreaking efforts to change those two national organizations are among her most important achievements.

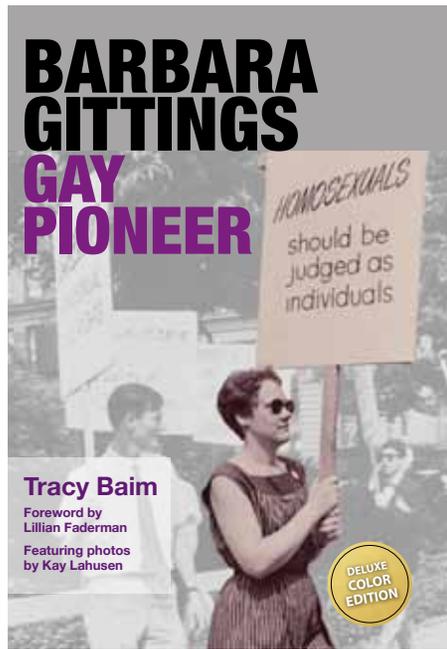
Though she was part of numerous short-term projects, Gittings also played an important role in organizations that have lasted for many decades.

In 1973, she was a founding member of the National Gay Task Force, now known as the National LGBTQ Task Force, alongside other key people from the movement. Gittings was also a charter member of the Gay Rights National

Lobby, a major national gay political group. Steve Endean had been its leader from 1978, and he founded the Human Rights Campaign Fund as a political action committee to raise funds for candidates in 1980. There was a lot of debate about the need for two separate groups, so eventually GRNL and HRCF merged and became the Human Rights Campaign in 1985.

Despite years of work advocating for change against great resistance, Gittings remained an optimist. Her love of music is perhaps what carried her through all the battles.

She was ferocious, tenacious and committed beyond almost anyone else in the movement. And her accomplishments were garnished with that big, charming smile.



This article is excerpted from the new book *Barbara Gittings: Gay Pioneer* (Prairie Avenue Productions), by Tracy Baim, foreword by Lillian Faderman, photos by Kay Lahusen, available from amazon.com in both B&W and color editions, and July 15 on Kindle, in color. It is also available at Women & Children First Bookstore in Chicago. Tracy Baim is publisher of Windy City Times.

The link to the B&W edition is: <http://www.amazon.com/Barbara-Gittings-Pioneer-Tracy-Baim/dp/1512019747>.

Color: <http://www.amazon.com/Barbara-Gittings-Gay-Pioneer-Color/dp/151201978X>.

*** CHICAGO PREMIERE ***
NOW PLAYING THROUGH JULY 26

"A ripped-from-the-headlines love story"
— *Gapers Block*

"Absolutely delivers"
— *Chicago Stage Standard*

"Ambitious and engrossing"
— *Newcity*

\$5 OFF
with code
WINDYCITY5

I·N·A·N·A

BY MICHELE LOWE
DIRECTED BY KIMBERLY SENIOR

Timeline
Theatre Company

timelinetheatre.com 773.281.8463

ADVERTISE IN AMERICA'S PREMIER LGBT PUBLICATIONS TODAY!

STRONGER THAN EVER

Spending in America's LGBT media is at a record high of \$381.4 million, up 18.2% from 2012. Circulation and readership of LGBT media are also up a healthy 15.1%*

Now that's just SUPER!

Designed by Azer Creative: azercreative.com

*2013 Gay Press Report

National Gay Media Association

BAY AREA REPORTER | BAY WINDOWS | BETWEEN THE LINES | DALLAS VOICE | GA VOICE
GAY CITY NEWS | SOUTH FLORIDA GAY NEWS | WASHINGTON BLADE | WINDY CITY TIMES

Advertise in America's premier LGBT publications today! Call 212-242-6863

Book examines the great gay riot

BY JOE FRANCO

Ann Bausum is no stranger to social-justice history.

She has written more than half a dozen books focusing on the topic in the last two decades. However, she had never focused on the LGBT community and spent the majority of her resources on women's rights, the right to vote and the African-American civil rights' movement since the 1960s. She had an interest in the LGBT struggle for equal rights, but had never felt herself able to write about the topic.

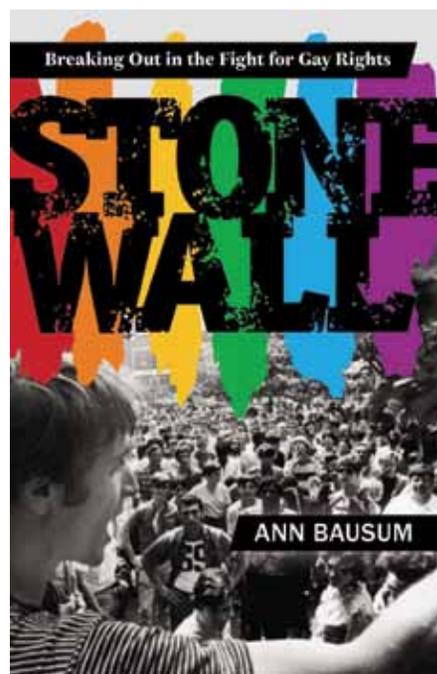
Bausum is straight.

In 2010, following the death of Tyler Clementi, Bausum had a new perspective that, as she described it, "gave her permission to write a book on LGBT social justice." Clementi's story deeply moved her, not only from his vantage but also from the viewpoint of Clementi's parents. "It was the parental connection for me.

That did it. My own children are not gay, but to lose a child? I can only begin to imagine how wrenching that would be. Clementi's death lit a fire under me to write this book," Bausum told Windy City. So she began the research for Stonewall: Breaking Out in the Fight for Gay Rights.

Even in 2010, Bausum was not sure that any publisher would be interested in the format for Stonewall. "I just wasn't sure that they would find this story compelling," she said. "I wanted the book to serve as an introduction to the LGBT social-justice movement, particularly for young people."

Bausum's Stonewall is a page-turner. She very clearly and deliberately made the story of the Stonewall Riots in the summer of 1969 a narrative that people, but especially the younger generations would find riveting. "I wanted a book that would be hard to put down and also teach people something, not only about Stone-



wall but about the entire LGBT movement," she said. The book really does bring a tremendous amount of history to the table for any age group. The history of LGBT equality began be-

fore Stonewall and continues even now.

Bausum pointed out that the Stonewall Riots were a catalyst for a movement that had already started slowly moving in the late 1950s. "If people discovered the truth about a person's homosexuality at that time, it would have been disastrous for the person who actually was gay," said Bausum. "It was illegal to be gay. Just being gay could mean losing your job and the rest of your life with it too. These early LGBT civil-rights leaders, who encouraged greater visibility in the 1960s, were particularly courageous. They were giving up everything."

Although she had not intended for Stonewall to be a reminder to the LGBT community concerning the purpose and function of a riot, with the growing racial tensions in the United States surround police violence against people of color and the resulting protests and riots, this book is acutely perfect for its timing. In the book, Bausum brings up the social status of LGBT individuals in the time just before Stonewall. "This was a population that was ghettoized if those who were gay did not live a lie of heterosexuality," she said. "In a very similar way that African-American's have no ladder out of the lives that they are in, gay and lesbian men and women during the time of Stonewall and even today, had no way to get out of their loop."

Bausum stressed the importance that social cries for justice are heard, then as now. "I think stories can provide the strength for doing what needs to be done. We all need to be reminded of those stories, especially the younger generations," she said. She noted that this was not just about reminding the young where they came from but was also about giving them the drive to move forward. "I find what the youth of today have to face is incredibly daunting," Bausum commented. "They have the social justice problems we have always faced along with the terrifying environmental and political issues of the modern world. We should be providing the younger generations with all of the help and inspiration that they can get."

Bausum also had a secondary reason for writing the book for young people; as she pointed out, LGBT youth are insular. There are no role models in their homes to show them "how to be gay" or to teach them their history. As Bausum explained, "gay, lesbian and transgender youth are not frequently raised in households run by gay parents or even socially similar parents. If you grow up Catholic, you usually have Catholic parents or if you are African-American usually so are your parents. You learn about your culture and your history at home. But with LGBT youth, they have to find all of this out on their own and that is a difficult thing to do." Stonewall provides one more voice in the historical and cultural chorus of voices trying to reach the younger generations.

Stonewall is the story not only of the famous riots in 1969 but is also a unique device to bring the struggle from simply being able to dance with people of the same gender to now being able to marry people of the same gender alive in a way that has not been told before. Bausum's Stonewall, while not offering new historical information, offers a unique voice and narrative that makes the discovery and re-discovery of these stories fascinating for all ages.

CHANGE LIVES, INCLUDING YOUR OWN.

peacecorps.gov

chicago@peacecorps.gov | 312.353.4990

f Peace Corps Midwest t PeaceCorps_MW

THE FINAL PRIDE ISSUE
ON STANDS NOW!

nightspot
PRIDE
YEARBOOK
2015

WINDY CITY TIMES

16th annual

30 UNDER 30

HONORING THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST INDIVIDUALS IN CHICAGO'S LGBTQIA+ YOUTH COMMUNITY

WED., JUNE 24, 5:30 PM RECEPTION/6 PM EVENT

CENTER ON HALSTED, 3656 N. HALSTED ST.

FREE EVENT. CATERING BY POLO CAFE & CATERING
HOSTED BY KIRK WILLIAMSON & JERRY NUNN

CO-SPONSORED BY



L'Oreal Bailey

L'Oreal Bailey, 29, is a lifelong resident of the West Side of Chicago. L'Oreal holds a Bachelor of Science degree in public health with an emphasis in health administration from Northern Illinois University (NIU) and a Master of Business Administration degree from DeVry University. While attending NIU, she joined the S.I.S.T.E.R.S organization, which not only gave back to the community but helped uplift young women of color.

In 2010, she began working at Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center, where she became an advocate linking and re-engaging people living with HIV/AIDS back into care. Currently, L'Oreal is the research evaluation coordinator for Project Elevate at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago. Project Elevate is a groundbreaking STI prevention and treatment campaign created by and for young cisgender women of color and young transgender women of color throughout the Chicagoland area. L'Oreal believes her greatest accomplishment to date is having a healthy, beautiful baby boy who keeps her active and reminds her daily that our youth is our future. As an ally for the LGBTQ community, Ms. Bailey has participated in several campaigns to improve the health of this community and to raise awareness for the many issues faced by these individuals on a daily basis.

DID YOU KNOW? L'Oreal loves swimming. It gives her a sense of peace and calmness.

Brian Bautista Gutierrez

Brian Bautista Gutierrez, 25, is a University of Washington-Seattle alumnus, having graduated with a degree in political science and Spanish, with a focus on Latino civic engagement. He began addressing HIV in college by volunteering with a local Latino HIV Prevention nonprofit, Entre Hermanos. He travelled to Chicago in 2011 to attend the United States Conference on AIDS. He fell in love with this incredible city and its people, decided to make Chicago his new home, and has been working for How-

ard Brown Health Center since 2013.

He began his career there as a health educator, providing HIV prevention services to youth at the Broadway Youth Center; a service through Howard Brown. Eventually, he transitioned to his current role as PrEP coordinator at Howard Brown's main clinic site. Bryan helps some of Chicago's most vulnerable populations for HIV infections navigate the complexities of the health-care system so that they can access PrEP, a new biomedical HIV-prevention option involving daily medication. Furthermore, Bryan has been part of the effort to get out the Latino vote in Chicago, working with various political campaigns. Most recently, he volunteered for mayoral candidate Jesús "Chuy" Garcia and newly elected 35th Ward Ald. Carlos Ramirez-Rosa. Bryan plans to continue his work at Howard Brown and eventually return to academia to pursue a Master of Science in nursing.

DID YOU KNOW? Bryan is a fan of author Junot Díaz. He has been reading his books for years, finding his writing both familiar and empowering.

Bria M. Berger

Bria M. Berger, 25, was born and raised in Michigan, and now calls Chicago home. Bria works as an intensive case manager at Chicago House and Social Service Agency where she supports HIV-affected adults and families experiencing homelessness and unstable housing. Prior to this, Bria worked in the TransWorks program of the TransLife Center where she co-developed a mentorship program for trans-identified community members. In addition to nonprofit work, for the past five years Bria has worked in academic research on various projects, studying HIV prevention, LGBTQ youth homelessness and the lived experiences of people experiencing mental illness. Most recently, Bria has been researching the family connections of LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness with researchers at University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration, where she graduated with a master's degree in social work in 2014.

Bria also volunteers as a clinic escort with Illinois Choice Action Team to support those

accessing reproductive services. An avid writer, Bria recently published her first piece in a literary journal.

DID YOU KNOW? Bria has synesthesia, which causes her to experience visual textures to words and sounds.

Alex Blair

Alex Blair, 28, was born in West Bend, Wisconsin, and now lives in the Loop. Alex owns and operates four Freshii franchises in Chicago, with more locations opening throughout the year. He earned his B.A. in business management from University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Without any true restaurant experience, Alex joined the Freshii team and has played a major role in building the fast-casual restaurant's presence in Chicago.

When Alex is not at one of his Freshii locations serving customers fresh juices and energizing meals, he can be found exercising at Equinox, inverting at Yoga Six or in the pool competing with the Illinois Masters swim team The Chicago Smelts. He lives for visits to dog parks with his three adorable French bulldogs: Baxter, Trubble and Jack. He savors summer Sundays boating along Lake Michigan. As a new resident to the Bucktown neighborhood, Alex loves exploring the diverse culinary adventures with his husband, Christopher.

DID YOU KNOW? Alex's first trip out of the country was to meet the Freshii corporate team in Toronto.

Femmily Blake

Femmily Blake is a Sagittarius with a Pisces rising and moon who grew up in the south suburbs and moved to Chicago in 2006. He does youth work at the Broadway Youth Center (BYC), providing HIV/STI-testing sessions, and designing and facilitating sexual health programming. He provided support for survivors of sexual violence as an advocate and hotline worker before coming to BYC. He believes in intentional, accessible and harm reduction-based health care, and is pursuing a nursing degree. He is grateful for the amazing youth workers,

young people, rad nurses, organizers and activists that came before him whom he's able to learn from.

Did you know? He got the No. 1 femme hippo award at BYC two of the three years he's been working there.

Blue

Blue is a program manager at Howard Brown Health Center where he coordinates transgender and gender non-conforming specific services. He trains medical, behavioral health and support service staff all over Chicago on how to be more trans* inclusive and celebratory.

Driven by his own experiences as a trans-masculine person, Blue believes in the power of resource-driven healing spaces where trans* and gender non-conforming people come together, dream and take control of their own healthcare.

DID YOU KNOW? Blue is in a queer punk band called SLOP SINK.

Robert Carnilius

Robert Carnilius, 27, is an award-winning filmmaker, graphic designer, illustrator and animator based in Chicago. He recently received his M.F.A. in cinema arts and sciences at Columbia College Chicago, and is dedicated to improving LGBTQ visibility and diverse representation in media.

His films range from narrative drama and animation comedy to experimental and documentary. Regardless of the genre, Robert's films focus on topics in the LGBTQ community and communities of color, including HIV/AIDS stigma, religion, racism, police brutality, being genderqueer and more.

An activist through his work, Robert strives to improve visibility and representation in the media. He hopes that educating, engaging and entertaining audiences will help remove the ignorance and fear at the core of many obstacles facing the LGBTQ community and communities of color.

DID YOU KNOW? Robert hates gender roles and is agnostic, but he enjoys his all-inclusive church. He is also addicted to video games and plans to create one.



Naomi Lahiri



Page May



Jessica London-Shields



Christopher Lense



Lucas McKeever



Christine Head



Jess Kadish



Molly McAndrew

Christine Head

Christine Head, 25, was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. After attending Bryn Mawr College and working in the Office of Intercultural Affairs around issues of race, class, sexual orientation and gender identity, Christine moved to Chicago to start her career in policy advocacy and continue her work as an ally.

After working as an external organizer at Service Employees International Union Local 73, Christine began her work in juvenile justice advocacy at Health & Medicine Policy Research Group. During her time at Health & Medicine, Christine has successfully spearheaded many efforts to improve outcome for LGBTQ youth in the juvenile system that include, but are not limited to, the adoption of a best practice guide for probation officer in Cook County, planning a number of interactive forums on issues related to juveniles such as Disproportionate Minority Contact and healthcare access, and speaking at the W. Haywood Burns 10th-anniversary conference on the future of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity competence in relation to racial and ethnic disparities. Christine continues to work to push forward policy reform that is conscience of SOGI competence as well as racial and ethnic disparities in contact with the juvenile justice system.

DID YOU KNOW? Christine has had the chicken pox twice. Yes, that is totally a thing!

Jess Kadish

Jess Kadish, 26, is a Boston-born, Chicago-based artist who's obsessed with storytelling—both doing it herself, and building spaces for others to tell them.

As a storyteller, she's an actor, director and teaching artist around town; a proud company member with 2nd Story and Aguijón Theater Company; and has also collaborated with Goodman Theatre, Lifeline Theatre, and Pride Films and Plays, among others.

As a builder of story spaces, Jess serves as director of programming at 2nd Story, a collective dedicated to the power of nonfiction storytelling. To her, nothing is better than that moment when a writer or performer sees their own story in a new way for the first time, or when an audience member finds something of him- or herself in another's story and is moved to tell their own.

Jess also works as the project manager at Morten Group, a consulting firm specializing in social change, where she coordinated the 2011 LGBT Community Needs Assessment—her first real introduction to Chicago's LGBTQ community, which she couldn't be more grateful to be a part of.

This fall, Jess will be pursuing her M.F.A. in acting at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

DID YOU KNOW? Jess recently proposed to her partner Erica with a line from a Key and Peele sketch (and she said yes!).

Naomi Lahiri

Naomi Lahiri, 26, had parents—immigrants from West Bengal—who raised her and her siblings in the United Kingdom. She moved to the United States in her teens. She then came out to herself and most others at the beginning of college, when she was 17.

Naomi completed her undergraduate degrees in gender studies and social work at the University of Missouri, and then her master's is social work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has been pursuing her social work and activist dreams in Chicago for the past three-and-a-half years, and is now a licensed clinical social worker. Much of her hands-on organizing and work experience has been through Trikone-Chicago, Apna Ghar and Chicago Desi Youth Rising—all organizations working toward social justice and empowerment for South Asians and immigrants. She is now becoming more involved with the Desi LGBT Helpline and the Queer South Asian National Network.

DID YOU KNOW? She doesn't like fresh mangoes. She hasn't admitted this to very many people before.

Christopher Lense

Christopher Lense was born and raised in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. In February 2014, he attended his first service at the Lighthouse Church of Chicago. He continuously attended and, in May 2014, he became a part of the Pastoral Advisory Counsel as steward of worship. Through his leadership, he worked to create a safe space for gay men and women so they could come to worship and know that they have valued members of the church.

Christopher advocates for HIV/AIDS health care and rights. Christopher studied at Truman College for his general studies.

Christopher recently relocated to the Bay Area of California and works as a flight attendant for a major U.S. airline. In The Golden State, he plans to attend a four-year university to further his education and earn a Ph.D. in sociology with a concentration in African studies, HIV/AIDS and LGBT issues. He also hopes to become involved in the gay community as he did in Chicago, the place that will always be his hometown.

DID YOU KNOW? Christopher loves the sounds of high heels and dress shoes on marble floors. That is why he enjoys wearing his dress shoes. CLICK CLACK!

Jessica London-Shields

Jessica London-Shields, 29, grew up in San Francisco, but has been a proud Chicagoan for more than 10 years. She is the co-founder & managing director of {she crew}, a multidis-

ciplinary journaling to performance empowerment program for middle school girls. Founded with her partner, Meredith, {she crew} exists to support girls at a time of transition, focus their individual voices, create a safe space for self-expression, and facilitate a community that aids in the development of all its members. All {she crew} programs are obviously queer inclusive and trans and gender variant welcoming. {she crew}'s 2015 Summer Intensive is produced in partnership with the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum.

Jessica is also an award-winning theater and film artist here in Chicago. In her creative work, she is dedicated to representing female stories with dignity and LGBTQ stories with authenticity. She is passionate about widening our perceptions about one another through genuine and authentic artistic representation.

DID YOU KNOW? Jessica can solve a Rubik's Cube in less than two minutes.

Page May

Page May, 26, is a Black, queer, woman who grew up in rural Vermont. Moving to Chicago four years ago was profoundly politicizing for her: The city's rich community of radical activists connected her to organizing and has supported her ongoing political education and leadership development.

She is now an organizer with We Charge Genocide, a grassroots effort to resist police violence against young people of color in Chicago. She is one of the eight youth delegates who traveled to the United Nations and the lead author of the shadow report submitted to the U.N. Committee Against Torture. She has helped to organize several actions and events including the Reclaim MLK march, Stephon Watts Memorial and Freedom Ride, Women to Celebrate, Rally for Reparations, Police Torture Pop-Up Exhibit and #Chi2Baltimore march. She is currently focused on the youth-centered campaign, #ChiStops, which seeks to challenge stop-and-frisk practices in Chicago. She is also working to launch Assata's Daughters, a new grassroots organizing collective for Black women in Chicago.

Throughout all of her work, she strives to challenge anti-blackness and organize through a Black, queer, feminist politic.

DID YOU KNOW? Page's favorite instrument is the banjo. She dreams of the day she will sit on her front porch and learn to play the blues.

Molly McAndrew

Molly McAndrew, 27, was raised in Lisbon, Iowa. After receiving her B.A. from the University of Iowa, Molly moved to Chicago to complete her graduate studies at the University of Chicago. After graduating, Molly remained in Chicago and began working at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

Molly's passion for healthcare access and affordability began and was fostered in college while volunteering for a women's reproductive health clinic. Molly saw first-hand the hurdles many women—specifically those with low income and those of color—faced when trying to access reproductive health care, and decided to become more involved, joining the clinic's board of directors. In Chicago, Molly continued to work in the field of health care while interning at Heartland Alliance, specifically advocating for Illinois to expand Medicaid as part of the Affordable Care Act.

As the policy manager at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, Molly works on the HIV Health Reform project which focuses on the Affordable Care Act and its impact on people living with HIV. This fall, Molly will begin a Ph.D. program at Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Impact and Management and focus her research on health care access, utilization and quality in the context of vulnerable populations, and those living with chronic illnesses.

DID YOU KNOW? Molly is a die-hard Batman fan and is proud to boast she recently acquired the limitedly produced, ultimate collector's edition of the Batman Dark Knight trilogy.

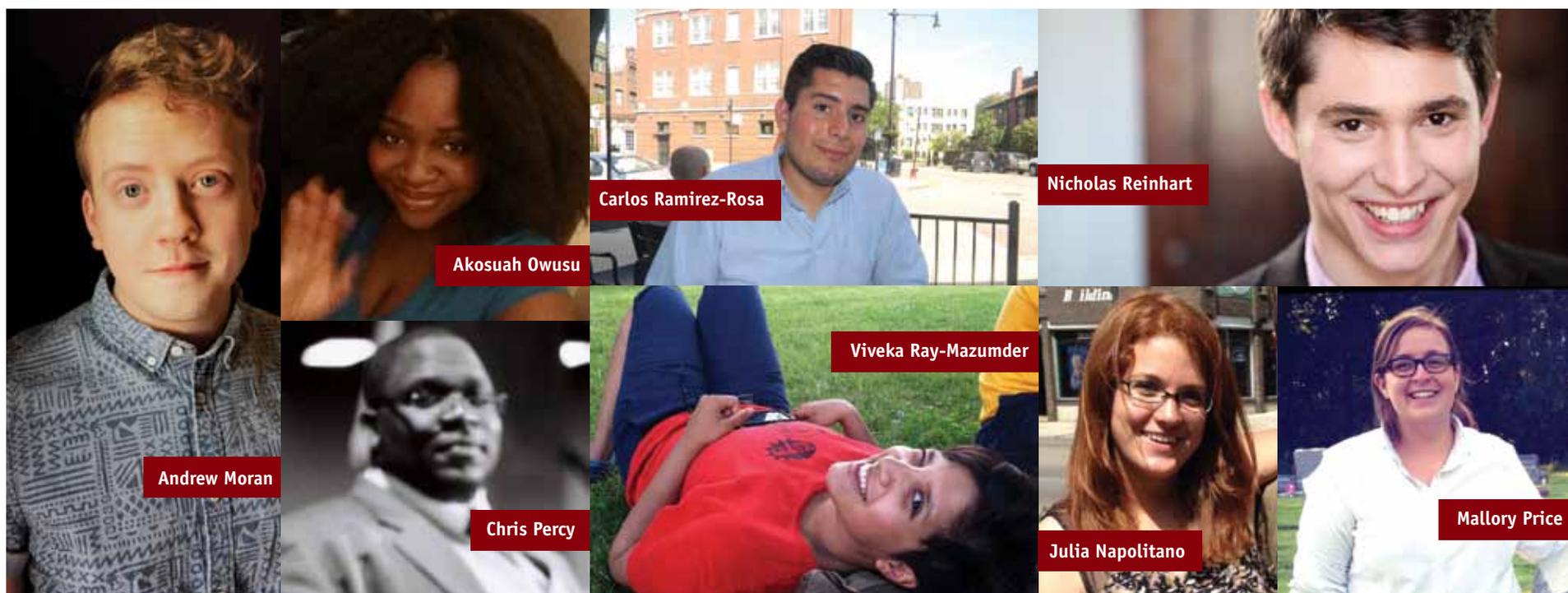
Lucas McKeever

Lucas McKeever, 27, grew up in the country outside of Macomb, Illinois. He received his master's degree from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in May 2013.

Throughout graduate school, Lucas explored ways in which libraries can better serve their LGBTQ users. In October of 2013, he moved to Chicago and began an internship at Gerber/Hart Library and Archives. After the successful opening of the new facilities at 6500 N. Clark, the board of directors asked Lucas to stay on as a paid staff member. Since then, he, until recently, worked with many amazing community members to increase the accessibility of Gerber/Hart and the histories it houses.

Moving forward, Lucas is a member of the Rainbow Book List Committee of the American Library Association's GLBT Round Table, which assembles a list of the best LGBTQ literature published each year for ages 0-18. He is also a co-convenor of the premier sessions of the LGBTQ Users Special Interest Group for the International Federation of Library Associations, facilitating conversations on service to LGBTQ communities in an international context at the federation's annual conference. Lucas is also currently serving as chair for the Disability Hospitality Suite Committee of the 2016 Creating Change Conference in Chicago.

DID YOU KNOW? Lucas is the first person to graduate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a bachelor's degree in queer studies.



Andrew Moran

Andrew Moran, 25, is a graduate of Eastern Illinois University and a current graduate candidate for an M.A. in clinical mental health counseling from Roosevelt University. He is also the manager of volunteers at Lakeview Pantry, where he has the pleasure of coordinating a corps of nearly 1,000 volunteers who help to serve those in need in the Lake View community.

Drew started as a volunteer for Lakeview Pantry in 2012, before becoming an intern with its advocacy program. Eventually, he became a half-time worker in the volunteer department while attending graduate school. After 18 months with the organization, Drew stepped into his current role heading a department that coordinates more than 36,000 hours of volunteer time per year. He is now honored to supervise and work alongside one of the most diverse, giving and talented groups of individuals the city has to offer. In addition to his full-time work at the pantry, he continues to work toward practicing therapy, with a specialization in queer issues and sexuality. He hopes he will be able to apply his knowledge and experience to his work as an advocate for the queer community and for all those who find themselves in need and lacking opportunity.

DID YOU KNOW? Before entering his graduate program, Drew received an undergraduate degree in philosophy, which often gets him into trouble at cocktail parties.

Julia Napolitano

Julia Napolitano, 27, was born in Illinois, grew up in New York State and returned to the Midwest in 2007 for the opportunity to attend Indiana University-Bloomington. While in Indiana, she co-chaired the Midwest BLGTA College Conference and, in 2010, worked with the National LGBTQ Task Force on its annual Creating Change Conference. When she moved here in 2011, Julia started to volunteer in health-care settings as a space to explore gender and sexuality, believing that nuanced understandings of bodies, pleasure, desire and identity pave the way for better overall health of individuals and the communities and social movements they are a part of. She is currently an HIV test counselor and health educator in Chicago House's Prevention Department, and also works at the welcoming, sex- and body-positive store Early to Bed.

DID YOU KNOW? Julia would like to start playing her viola again. Anyone interested in rocking out can get in touch!

Akosuah Owusu

Akosuah Owusu, 21, was born Oct. 10, 1993, in a two-parent home on Chicago's Southwest Side. She attended high school at Kenwood Academy and went on to a college university, where she's majoring in business accounting and minoring in studio design. Akosuah is a youth leader council for the Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health (ICAH), where she teaches sexual health, rights and justice. ICAH has helped Akosuah in many ways. For one, she's learned how to show support for many communities by becoming an ally.

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family doing fun activities, learning new things about society and making changes in her community.

DID YOU KNOW? Akosuah dreams of owning her own multinational business where she can better service people and bring forth positive changes in the world.

Chris Percy

Chris Percy is a passionate political and issue organizer from the Austin area of the West Side of Chicago.

After studying psychology at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Chris moved back to Chicago looking for an opportunity to use the skills he obtained through study to empower people to empower others. By chance, he heard about the Organizing Fellowship with Obama for America in 2011. As a fellow with the Obama campaign, Chris spent eight months working with the Oak Park and Proviso Townships to implement the neighborhood team model, assist in the recall campaign against Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, and organize for progressive candidates in both Wisconsin and Iowa.

In 2013, Chris joined Organizing for Action (OFA) as the marriage-equality issue organizer. After a successful campaign, Chris continued working with OFA as a spring trainer, training fellows to be organizers. After leaving OFA, Chris worked as a regional field director for Quinn for Illinois.

Most recently, Chris worked as part of state treasurer Kurt Summers' campaign, as the field director for Summers for Chicago, where he assisted in implementing a neighborhood think tank program for each neighborhood, including constituency think tanks for youth and the LGBTQ community in conjunction with the treasurer's office.

DID YOU KNOW? Outside of organizing, Chris enjoys traveling and reading, cooking, watching ridiculous amounts of television.

Mallory Price

Mallory Price, 27, grew up on the South Side of Chicago and in the suburb of Tinley Park. She attended Saint Mary's College of Notre Dame, where Mallory served as the president of the Gay and Straight Alliance. As a Point Foundation scholar, Mallory attended the University of Chicago for her master's in social work. During grad school, Mallory interned at UCAN's LGBTQ Host Home Program, helping to raise more than \$10,000 to help house LGBTQ youth.

Mallory has worked at Chicago House and Social Service Agency for the last few years but left her position as career services manager this June to take a position as vice president of operations for a construction company. Although she is leaving the social work field for now, she plans to run job-readiness workshops for Chicago House's Employment Program each month. Mallory is also a vice chair of the Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, and helped pioneer the first scholarship for LGBTQ students at the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College, which two students were awarded this April. In her time off, Mallory enjoys antiquing; collecting rare books; playing with her dog, Tiny Tim; and fixing up her new house in Flossmoor.

DID YOU KNOW? Mallory has been to 48 out of 50 states.

Carlos Ramirez-Rosa

Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, 26, was born on February 18, 1989 in Chicago, Illinois, where he has lived his whole life. He attended Chicago Public Schools and graduated from Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, where he was his senior class president. He then attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he was an elected member of the Illinois Student Senate. After graduating in 2011, Carlos served as a congressional caseworker in the office of Congressman Luis Gutierrez.

After working for Gutierrez, Carlos worked as a Family Support Network Organizer with the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights until he ran for alderman in 2015. On Feb. 24 of this year, Carlos received 67 percent of the vote, defeating incumbent alderman Rey Colon—and becoming one of the youngest aldermen in the city's history.

DID YOU KNOW? Carlos is one of five LGBT members of the Chicago City Council.

Viveka Ray-Mazumder

Viveka Ray-Mazumder (Vi), 26, is a one-and-a-half-generation Indian American youth worker

and community organizer. Growing up in New York in the wake of 9/11 impacted Vi deeply, and it moved them to become active around issues of racial justice, youth empowerment and prison abolition. Currently, Vi runs a teen program called KINETIC for immigrant and refugee youth in Chicago Public Schools through Asian Americans Advancing Justice—Chicago.

Vi is a founder and current collective member of Chicago Desi Youth Rising, a core member of Invisible to Invincible, an organization that celebrates Asians and Pacific Islanders who identify as LGBTQ in Chicago, and a former collective member of the Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois. In 2014, Vi was recognized as one of the Trans 100.

Among other things, Vi is passionate about using art as a tool for social change, and building strong communities and chosen families.

DID YOU KNOW? Vi is all about making stencils. Surprise them with spray paint and an X-ACTO knife, and they will be your new best friend.

Nicholas Reinhart

Nicholas Reinhart, 26, is a writer and director, who was born and raised in the western suburbs of Chicago. An imaginative and energetic only child, his parents spent years trying to channel his enthusiasm, finally enrolling him in a local children's theater production and sparking a life-long love of live theater.

Nicholas attended Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois, graduating with a B.F.A. in music theater. He returned to his hometown and quickly became active in Chicago's vital theater scene. In 2012, he was invited to join Circle Theatre as a company member and, within a year, he was promoted to producing director. He oversaw the remount production of the Jeff Award-winning *When the Rain Stops Falling* in the city as well as two full productions. In 2014, when Circle Theatre encountered operating troubles, he was appointed artistic director.

A proud gay man, Nicholas found a second artistic home at the LGBT theater company MidTangent Productions, where he served as associate creative director. Last year, he worked as the music director and as a cast member in the long-running production *Snow White and the Seven Drag Queens*. This past winter, he co-wrote and directed the 1980s-themed musical *The Bitchfest Club*.

As a firm believer that the arts are not a luxury but a necessity, Nicholas seeks to create art that is smart, inclusive, and ultimately, an entertaining night in the theater.

DID YOU KNOW? Nicholas has an unhealthy obsession with awards shows.



Monica Trinidad



Debbie Southorn



Jeffrey Leon



Derek Van Barham



Ian Harris Schroeder



Liz Thompson



Will Von Vogt



Chris Rice

Chris Rice

Chris Rice, 29, is an out and proud marketing professional bringing LGBT advocacy to corporate America.

Having grown up in rural Hickory Tree, Tennessee, and coming out at the age of 15, Chris decided he would never go back into the closet to climb the corporate ladder. He has found that being out at work is an asset to his career and has served as the lead of the Whirlpool Pride Network, which is an LGBTQ resource group for Whirlpool Corporation, the world's leading marketer of home appliances.

Chris helps some of the world's most recognized appliance brands connect with the LGBTQ community—think the Maytag Man holding a rainbow cake to celebrate June pride month. Chris gives back to the community by organizing an annual fundraiser at the World of Whirlpool in Chicago's River North neighborhood supporting organizations, like Project Fierce, that benefit Chicago's LGBTQ youths experiencing homelessness.

DID YOU KNOW? Chris went to high school in a NASCAR track. When his school was temporarily condemned his senior year, classes were held at Bristol Motor Speedway.

Ian Harris Schroeder

Ian Harris Schroeder is a youth advocate, group facilitator and prison abolitionist with a passion for dancing, mediating conflict, rapping, gospel music and baking. Currently working as the Family Ties case manager at Chicago House and Social Service Agency, Ian supports families transitioning out of homelessness to send first-generation students to college, build connections between parents and children, engage harm-reduction practices for substance use and nutrition and generally achieve their life goals.

Ian has spent their life crafting theater with street-based and LGBTQ young people as a method of storytelling and healing, most recently as artistic coordinator with the fabulous Youth Empowerment Performance Project. Over the past five years, Ian has published phenomenological research on gender identity development, developed and facilitated gardening projects with adolescents experiencing incarceration, and supported families with refugee status from Somalia and Ethiopia to engage in theater and sports to process trauma. They hope to move forward in their life to use arts to collaboratively create a better world.

DID YOU KNOW? Ian would love to marry Dai Burger and Neil deGrasse Tyson, minus the patriarchy. Also, Ian has great hair; they have totally won awards for it.

Debbie Southorn

Debbie Southorn, 26, grew up near Portland, Oregon, and moved to Chicago in 2010 after getting a B.A. in music and a minor in American ethnic studies at Willamette University. She spent her first two years in Chicago teaching youth media and the past three advocating against militarism with the American Friends Service Committee.

Since 2010, she has volunteered and coordinated childcare with other queers in the Chicago Childcare Collective. In 2012, Debbie helped lead a campaign pressuring Center on Halsted to cancel its support for the Chicago Festival of Israeli Cinema, in solidarity with Palestinian queers living under military occupation. In 2013, she co-founded the Chicago chapter of Black & Pink, a national organization of LGBTQ prisoners and "free-world" allies that challenges the violence and isolation of the prison industrial complex.

Debbie just got back from a four-month stint in the Bay Area, California, where she participated in the Anne Braden program, a political education and training program for white anti-racist organizers run by the Catalyst Project.

DID YOU KNOW? Debbie has a chip blog (reallygreatchips.tumblr.com), and she really loves Doritos and Diet Dr. Pepper.

Liz Thompson

Liz Thompson, 29, grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina, before moving to Chicago in 2008 after completing a bachelor's degree in sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. While in Chicago, she completed her master's in public health at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2013, while working full time in the public health sector.

Upon moving to Chicago, Liz immediately began her career in public health as an HIV tester and sexual health educator at Chicago House. While working there, she collaborated with a dynamic group of social service providers to help launch the Chicago Female Condom Campaign (FC2s) in 2009. Liz eventually expanded her work with FC2s to the National Female Condom Campaign, developing a toolkit for local FC2 education and promotion. In 2012, Liz was invited by the Center for Health and Gender Equity to represent Illinois at the Healthy Future Action Summit and Lobby Day in Washington, D.C..

Liz is committed to applying her skills and knowledge to address health disparities and social injustice. She is now the health services coordinator for Deborah's Place, Chicago's largest provider of supportive housing for women experiencing homelessness.

DID YOU KNOW? Liz is an avid weightlifter and hopes to eventually compete in local powerlifting competitions.

Monica Trinidad

Monica Trinidad, 28, was born on the Far South Side of Chicago, in the East Side/South Chicago communities. She began organizing against the Iraq War as a student at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in gender and women's studies.

In 2012, she co-founded Brown and Proud Press, a zine-making collective of queer people of color with the intent of sharing personal narratives as a catalyst for collective healing and change. Now in its third year, Brown & Proud Press has zines archived at the University of Chicago's Library Zine Collection and Barnard Zine Library and sold through various distributors and bookstores across the country. In 2014, Monica traveled to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, with We Charge Genocide to deliver a report on police violence against youth of color in Chicago. Monica recently had her artwork featured in the first-ever Artists Against Police Violence curated exhibit at EMW Gallery in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She's currently in her second year of co-organizing Fed Up Fest, a three-day, DIY music and workshop festival centering queer and trans voices in punk communities.

DID YOU KNOW? Monica is a textbook Virgo and will organize your closet if you let her.

Derek Van Barham

Derek Van Barham (29) - was born and raised in south Mississippi. A Southern gentleman to the core, he attended the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) before moving to Chicago in 2008. He received his M.F.A. from the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, where his thesis focused on gender-blind casting in theatre.

Derek found an artistic home with two Chicago companies committed to developing new work. He is the artistic director of The Ruckus and an artistic associate with Pride Films & Plays, whose mission is to create powerful theatrics and films that speak for the LGBTQ community and are essential viewing for all audiences.

He directed Topher Payne's Angry Fags as part of the Steppenwolf Garage Repertory, and co-directed the Chicago premiere of Terrence McNally's Some Men with David Zak. He received a Jeff nomination for directing Songs from an Unmade Bed and developed Kill Your Boyfriends (based on the poetry of Walt Whitman, Richard Siken and Alex Dimitrov) for the Naked July Festival. His current show, Miracle!, by Dan Savage, asks the important question: "What if Helen Keller were a drag queen?"

As an improviser, Derek currently plays at iO Chicago with the queer team Baby Wine. For the second year, he is helping host and curate QWEIRDO!, a Pride showcase of Chicago's best

queer comedians and improvisers.

DID YOU KNOW? The name of Derek's home Wi-Fi network is Girl, Interrupted. The password is "Clea Duvall."

Will Von Vogt

Will Von Vogt is an actor/producer/casting director who grew up on the coast of Maine. He moved to Chicago in 2004 to get his B.F.A. in acting from Chicago's famed Theatre School at DePaul University. After graduating, he lived and worked in Minneapolis and New York City as an actor and talent manager.

Will returned to Chicago in 2012 and has since worked in various forms in the city's art scene. As an actor, he has given focus to portraying queer characters and is passionate about telling stories that go beyond traditional stereotypes. He is a producer and casting director for Cor Theatre—a storefront theater company in its first season that's producing the queer play A Map of Virtue—and the hit show Love and Human Remains, which is currently running.

Will is committed to creating work for queer and minority artists. He is a proud member of the curatorial team of Salonathon—a weekly performance series happening every Monday night at Beauty Bar Chicago. Salonathon is a home for underground, emerging, and gender defining art, which spearheads opportunities for LGBTQ artists of all mediums to come and share their work.

DID YOU KNOW? The way to Will's heart is potato and, as a proud Gemini, he checks his horoscope with great frequency.

Teen special mention

Jeffrey Leon

Jeffrey Leon: As a future LGBTQ activist, Jeffrey is an 18-year-old transgender (FTM) Latino senior at UNO Charter School Network Major Hector P. Garcia High School. Jeffrey, who began his transition earlier this academic year, is the current president of the school's Pride Club, where membership has tripled under his leadership to include both LGBTQIA-identified students and allies.

Jeffrey was one of the speakers from the Trans Male Latino Panel for United Latino Pride recently. The purpose of this panel was to shed light on the barriers that trans Latino men face regarding society, family, culture and oneself. Jeffrey feels it's important that we, as a community, come together and understand where we stand on issues and stigma.

While considering colleges, Jeffrey hopes to pursue a career in LGBT mental health, with a focus on the Latino community.

DID YOU KNOW? Jeffrey loves organizing—to the point that when he gets bored, he makes a mess so he can reorganize it again.

You conquered the closet.



Your career is next.

Let us help you discover a career that's as fabulous as you are.



JODY MICHAEL ASSOCIATES

CAREER COACHING • EXECUTIVE COACHING

773.275.5566 www.jodymichael.com

Event company aims to shatter stereotypes over Pride Weekend

BY ROSS FORMAN

Anthony DiFiore knows all too well about perception—and he's working hard to combat it, and has been for years.

DiFiore is the owner and creative director of Neverland Events, which has been in business for about three years and runs five or six large Neverland parties annually, some corporate and private events, and four or five other smaller GayGlow dance parties at Hydrate Nightclub in the heart of Boystown. In addition, Neverland has tried its hand with a Market Days Yacht Party and the Pride Pool Party.

Neverland events are not—repeat, not—just for the twentysomething, muscled party boys with no more than 1 percent body fat.

"The actual people who come to our party fill a wide spectrum of ages, body shapes, genders and sexualities," said DiFiore, 31, who lives in Chicago's Lake View neighborhood. "People of all ages like to go out and have fun, and Neverland is a conduit for that, with glossy production and great music."

And that's not just words to push attendance. Neverland proves it. DiFiore said it is "extremely important" to reach all demographics, all sub-communities that stand under the rainbow flag.

"The more people who come to our parties, the more diverse the crowd, and the cooler the experience," he said. "If you break everyone down into niche groups and throw a bunch of small niche Pride parties, you can't create the kind of big experiences that will make Chicago's Pride world-class. If everyone bands together to support a great party, our community could be taking over places like Millennium Park and the Aragon to celebrate Pride in the years to come."

Neverland has certainly tapped into Chicago's local transgender community. "Long before transgender issues became a hot button topic, Neverland was including transgender people in its photoshoots and was hiring transgender performers at our events," DiFiore said. "We believe that the trans community is largely left out of the marketing that goes into big gay dance parties. When we work with a variety of types and genders, it makes the party feel much more welcoming and inclusive of everyone."

In advance of Neverland's three major events around Pride weekend in late June, the company has already done a promotional photoshoot with transgender model Joselyn Lopez, and another is planned with model Alessa Schmalbach, DiFiore said. The star performer at Neverland's "Bougie Ball," Sasha Colby, is transgender and a former Miss Continental.

Neverland's Pride weekend plans are three-fold: On Saturday, June 27, there will be an outdoor, daytime pool party for 400 people at Deuce's and the Diamond Club in the Boystown area. The Neverland "Bougie Ball" is Saturday night at Metro, which will be a massive event with glitzy production, and music by Neverland alumni Alex Acosta (Mexico City) and Alexander (Los Angeles). With most of the Halsted bars closing at 2 a.m. on Pride Saturday so that Halsted Street can be prepped for the parade, Neverland's party at Metro will be one of the only late-night options for the community. Then Sunday, after the parade, Neverland is taking over The MID, for a closing party with Europe's Ivan Gomez and Puerto Rico's Queen Bee Ho. A portion of all proceeds benefit the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

The Bougie Ball and the Pride Closing Party are each expected to draw 800 to 1,000.

Individual tickets for each event are avail-



Anthony DiFiore.

Photo by Fierce Finder Studio

able at Egoist Underwear in Boystown, or online at www.showclix.com/event/neverland-pride. A weekend pass for all three events is \$95. The Pride Pool Party and the Neverland "Bougie Ball" are \$50 each, while the Pride Closing Party is \$40.

There will be a variety of go-go dancers at the "Bougie Ball," including a transgender dancer.

"Our goal is simple: We want to create a cool environment where anyone can go to have fun, no matter what they look like," DiFiore said. "Trans people encounter a lot of discrimination in daily life, and we want to create a discrimination-free zone where people can party and feel good about themselves."

DiFiore expects a strong trans presence at all three events.

"Neverland started as a costume party, but has evolved to become a thematic dance party, but the original idea was that anyone should come dressed however they want. The idea has been 'be yourself and be comfortable with yourself' since day one," he said. "The key to our marketing is that we work with a variety of people, but still maintain the fantasy."

"The evolving emphasis of a Neverland party has always been about the art. Art is inclusive of all types of people, and so as an art-centric party, it would be silly for us to only work with chiseled, muscular men. We've worked extensively with drag queens since the very beginning, inviting artists like Kim Chi, Pearl, Shea Coulee and Eddie Couture to host and perform at our parties. We've worked with a variety of models and go-go dancers of all races, from big muscle to trim, from smooth to hairy. We've also worked with a number of transgender models and go-go dancers. My favorite photos from our marketing campaigns are when you see the muscle boys alongside drag queens and trans people and club kids."

Kim Chi, a gay drag queen who lives in Andersonville, said working with Neverland has been "the best opportunity I've ever gotten in my lifetime. I get to work alongside incredibly talented and kind hearted people and help with some of the best production Chicago's seen in a party."



Neverland promo.

Photo by Zapata Photography

Chi agreed that Neverland events are for everyone. "We're all about the gay community coming together and becoming a part of this elaborate, avant-garde costume party," Chi said. "We're all creatures of vanity to an extent and what better way to celebrate than at an over the top party."

"Neverland is very inclusive when it comes to models for [promotional photo] shoots. [There have been] transgender models, models of all diversity, biological woman, legends in the Chicago club scene, etc. As long as their look matches the concept and the theme of the event."

The upcoming Bougie Ball is the lone themed night for Neverland during Pride, and the Bougie Ball is "a celebration of all things luxurious and fabulous," DiFiore said. "It's a perfect fit for

Pride weekend, because it encourages everyone to dress their best. There's going to be huge production at the Bougie Ball, with a massive stage installation, costumes, performances, and décor that matches the theme."

DiFiore added, "For the past three years we've been working hard to get to the point where we can provide all the big dance party entertainment on a major weekend like Pride. We've had our ups and downs with different venues around the city, and different experiments in date selection. But now we've finally got three awesome venues and a lineup of exceptional DJs on a weekend when 1 million people [locally] are celebrating Gay Pride."

"This year is going to be the beginning of an exciting new chapter."



Dance for Life in 2014.

'Dance for Life' on Aug. 15

Seven of Chicago's dance companies will once again come together for Dance for Life on Saturday, Aug. 15.

The gala reception will be at Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Ave., at 5 p.m. The performances will take place at Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Pkwy., at 7:30 p.m.

Participating companies include Giordano Dance Chicago, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Joffrey Ballet, River North Dance Chicago, C5, Chicago Human Rhythm Project and Same Planet Different World Dance Theatre.

Tickets are \$15-\$75 (performance only) and \$250-\$600 (includes admission to the gala reception and premiere seating at the performance); call 312-922-5812 or visit www.danceforlifechicago.org.

'Chefs and the City' June 25 at Montgomery

Heartland Health Outreach, Inc. (HHO) has announced the return of its annual "Chefs and the City" tasting event at the Montgomery Club, 500 W. Superior St., on Thursday, June 25, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

More than 20 chefs from Chicago restaurants will share their cuisine at the event. Honorary chairs Nina and Bob Mariano (Mariano's) and Cat De Orio (WTTW Chicago's Check, Please!) will host.

Tickets for the event are \$250. To purchase tickets, visit <http://www.heartlandhealthoutreach.org/calendar/events/chefs-and-the-city/>.

BOOK REVIEW

Speak Now: Marriage Equality on Trial

by Kenji Yoshino
\$26; Crown; 384 pages
BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Third finger, left hand.

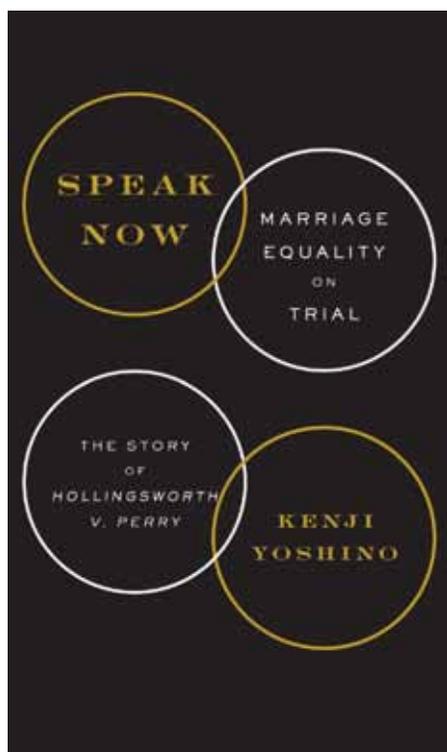
If you're wearing a ring there, chances are that it means more than a bit of metal around your digit. It's undoubtedly more precious than the sum of its parts.

It means a commitment of marriage—that is, if you can get married, because some still cannot. And in the new book *Speak Now*, by Kenji Yoshino, you'll read about a trial that impacted many an engagement.

Just before Yoshino married husband Ron in 2009, the officiant pulled the couple aside and reminded them that, although they were really no different than any other two people in love, he could not marry them under federal law because of DOMA (the Defense of Marriage Act). As they said their vows in Connecticut, another legal drama on the other side of the country was just beginning...

Only four states recognized same-sex marriage then; California wasn't one of them. In 2008, that state's voters passed Proposition 8, effectively amending its constitution to allow legal marriage between opposite-sex couples only. A legal challenge to Prop 8 was filed in California in May of 2009, which ultimately opened the doors for an unlikely pair of lawyers to take the issue to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Attorney Ted Olson was famous for helping to put George Bush in office in 2000, and had worked in Ronald Reagan's Justice Department. Though Olson was known for his conservative



stance, he was friends with David Boies, a renowned, more liberal litigator. They seized the opportunity to argue this important case together, and began laying the foundation for it.

But their unusual pairing wasn't the only uniqueness in *Hollingsworth v. Perry*: The judge assigned to the case was known to be gay. Lead counsel for defense of Prop 8 had once flirted with a pro baseball career. Both sides tried to keep direct mentions of sex out of the courtroom. In the end, children played a large part.

And, although neither side wanted it, the case went to trial.

That last point, says author Yoshino, came as the biggest surprise. Issues such as same-sex

marriage very seldom go to trial; both parties usually try to avoid it long before things ever get that far.

But Yoshino's fascination—and the in-depth examination he offers on *Hollingsworth v. Perry*—becomes a mixed bag in *Speak Now*. On one hand, there are heartfelt examples of people who would most benefit from the defeat of Prop 8, as told from the exciting perspective of a major courtroom drama; on the other hand, there's a lot of legalese here that is only partially explained in layman's terms. We're treated to detailed, sometimes happy human-interest stories (including the authors' own),

followed by information that will send many readers scrambling for a legal dictionary. Oy.

Still, despite that near-obstacle, I think this book is worthwhile—if nothing but for the significance of the case it highlights. Read carefully, don't rush yourself, have a legal reference source handy, and *Speak Now* is a book you won't want left on the shelf.

Want more? Look for *Just Married: Same-Sex Couples, Monogamy, and the Future of Marriage*, by Stephen Macedo; or *License to Wed: What Legal Marriage Means to Same-Sex Couples*, by Kimberly Richman.

Tommy Tune at July 30 tap event

The Chicago Human Rhythm Project (CHRP) welcomes 10-time Tony Award winner Tommy Tune at its 25th-anniversary Jubilee Gala.

This evening, hosted by WGN's Dean Richards, takes place Thursday, July 30, at 5:30 p.m. at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, 220 E. Chicago Ave.

At the Jubilee, Tune will perform his one-man show *Taps, Tunes and Tall Tales*, an autobiographical journey. Mayor Rahm Emanuel is the gala's honorary chair.

Tickets are \$500; call Tim Bowser 312-542-2477, ext. 211, write to gala@chicagotap.org or visit chicagotap.org.

'Circo Tap' June 27

Chicago Tap Theatre (CTT) will present the world-premiere production of *Circo Tap*—choreographed by CTT Artistic Director Mark Yonally with music direction by CTT Music Director Kurt Schewitz—at the Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport Ave., on Satur-

day, June 27 at 8 p.m.

Chicago Tap Theatre continues its circus odyssey that began this spring with the behind-the-scenes-inspired *TightWire*, a live performance combining traditional circus arts with tap dance.

Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$27 for seniors (65 years or older), and \$22 for students and dancers. Purchase tickets at www.atheneumtheatre.org or 773-935-6875.

'We Gotta Bingo' opens Aug. 3

We Gotta Bingo—an interactive dinner-theater experience in the vein of *Tony n' Tina's Wedding*—will officially open in Chicago on Monday, Aug. 3, at 7 p.m. at the new Chicago Theater Works, 1113 W. Belmont Ave.

The show, directed by Ross Young, allows guests to mix and mingle with a lively cast of characters while eating, drinking and playing bingo.

Tickets for regular performances are \$64.75-\$74.75. Visit WeGottaBingo.com or call 312-391-0404.

2015 BMW M4 convertible.
Photo from Gaywheels.com



VEHICLE REVIEW

2015 BMW M4 convertible makes you feel naughty

BY CASEY WILLIAMS, GAYWHEELS.COM

I felt so naughty after driving the M4 that I should have had a cigarette. It looks like it will cut a diva and has the engine to serve stinging rebuke to serious muscle cars. What once was the M3 has become the M4, a convertible engineered to make drivers chortle like they just ingested a bottle of Jack while scorching a Cohiba. It's pretty good.

It almost snarls just looking at it. An aggressive front fascia, clean underbody and integrated rear spoiler optimize fuel economy while reducing lift at high speed. Press a button in the console and the upper half flips and folds into the lower half—a stunt that would make Cirque du Soleil twist in the wind. All of this angry acrobatics sits over 19" black light alloy wheels.

A softer approach is taken inside with stitched leather on the dash and doors, carbon fiber trim, and comfy leather seats that cushion your rump and grip your sides. A tri-spoke leather-wrapped steering wheel and multi-color head-up display give drivers the right tools. Two people fit better than four, but the rear seats are habitable for fast ice cream runs. The heated steering wheel, heated seats and neck warmers tame fall chills while blind spot detection and around-view camera enhance safety. Crank the Harman Kardon audio system, flip the lid and enjoy a drive.

Open the muscular hood and peer past the gorgeous carbon fiber tower brace for the car's jewel. Accelerative glee is dispensed by a 3.0-liter turbocharged inline-six-cylinder engine conjuring 425 horsepower and 406 lb.-ft. of torque—enough to move the convertible from 0-60 mph in 4.4 s and on to a final velocity north of obnoxious. Gas mileage rates just 17/24-MPG city/hwy, but why concern ourselves? An M4 demands to be thrashed.

Tromp the throttle and the exhaust note goes from tepid to torrential as forward momentum gathers at a pace that would please a rocket jockey. As the seven-speed dual clutch transmission with paddles upshifts through the

gears, the exhaust lets out a loud crack before tossing your cookies back for the next stage. Launch control gets the car off the line cleanly.

You can adjust the steering and suspension for COMFORT, SPORT and SPORT+. In none of these settings does the car take on a light and airy feel. It's a powerful German sport machine and always drives as such. I'd prefer actual comfort in the COMFORT setting—lighter steering and more compliance from the suspension over rough pavement. The car should be able to do both well. Ah heck, just stick it into a corner and giggle.

As a time-bending bonanza, the M4 is proficient. But, it's not perfect. There's no reason why the suspension has to crash over every bump. I've learned to use the iDrive infotainment system, but it still requires levels of menus to accomplish simple tasks. And, what minion eliminated a "P" setting for the gear selector (goes into Park when the ignition button is pressed)? It's complication without distinction.

All of this debauchery comes at a price—a steep one. While you can get an M4 Coupe for \$64,200, the M4 Convertible starts at \$72,500. All in as-equipped, bring \$87,941 to the signing. For that, you can get a Corvette Z06, Porsche Boxster Spyder, Mercedes E550 Cabriolet, or TWO Mustang GT Convertibles. But I wouldn't feel half as naughty driving them.

Storm forward!

2015 BMW M4 convertible

Four-passenger, RWD
Powertrain: 425hp 3.0-liter Turbo-I6, 7-spd. auto trans

Suspension f/r: electronic Ind/Ind
Wheels: 19"/19" alloy f/r

Brakes: disc/disc fr/rr
Must-have features: Turbo power, Naughty style

0-60 mph: 4.4s
Fuel economy: 17/24 mpg city/hwy
Assembly: Munich, Germany
Base/As-tested price: \$72,500/\$87,941



VIEWPOINT

Did the Supreme Court hurt or help with license ruling?

BY RICHARD READ, GAYWHEELS.COM

On June 18, the Supreme Court issued a ruling involving free speech and specialty license plates. (If you missed it, wrote about it for TheCarConnection.com.) In a five-to-four decision, the majority found that license plates are state speech, not personal speech, and that states therefore have the right to control the plates' messages.

Personally, I'm a little conflicted about the decision.

On the one hand, I agree with the majority that plates are, in many ways, state speech. The state receives applications for specialty plates, facilitates public comment on them, evaluates them, and if they're approved, the state manufactures and sells them. It's basically a state ID for your vehicle, and few people would argue that state IDs are personal speech.

However, as appalling as the plate in question was (you can see it above), and as timely as the decision may have been (arriving on the same day that a racially motivated hate crime in South Carolina was making national

headlines), I'm a little uneasy at the thought of states determining what is and isn't offensive speech. For example, as a firm believer in reproductive rights, I'm kind of offended by the presence of anti-abortion specialty plates in so many states across the United States. Now that plates are recognized as state-approved speech, does that mean that states with those plates are officially anti-choice?

How does all of this affect LGBT Americans? Consider the case of the Indiana Youth Group; the organization fought long and hard to get its own specialty plate approved. Early in the application process, it was clear that Indiana's DMV was unwilling to approve a plate with an overtly pro-LGBT message. And that's how the group wound up with the non-descript plate it has today: apart from the rainbow hands, there's no indication that proceeds from this plate support LGBT youth at all.

Don't get me wrong: I think it's great that there's a specialty plate raising funds for LGBT young people in Indiana—home of much homophobia and hullabaloo earlier this year. And sure, I understand that, even if Indiana had nixed the plate altogether, supporters would've been able to slap bumper stickers on their cars—just as the Sons of Confederate Veterans can do in Texas. But it doesn't change the fact that the state now has full control over some messages in the public arena.

Is this a slippery slope that could lead to the erosion of individual free-speech rights? Or is this a narrow ruling that has little bearing on what you and I can say in public?

I don't have any answers here. Just food for thought, I guess.

CITY OF CHICAGO

Don't Ignore It – Report It!

C | C | H | R Chicago Commission on

HUMAN
RELATIONS



Chicago's Discrimination Laws

Hate Crime Victim Assistance

Community Tension Intervention

The Chicago Commission on Human Relations (CCHR) is charged with enforcing the Chicago Human Rights Ordinance and the Chicago Fair Housing Ordinance. The Commission investigates complaints to determine whether discrimination may have occurred, and uses its enforcement powers to punish acts of discrimination. Under the City's Hate Crimes Law, the agency aids hate crime victims. CCHR also employs proactive programs of education, intervention, and constituency building to discourage bigotry and bring people from different groups together.

Call 312-744-4111 or stop by our offices at 740 N Sedgwick, 4th floor.

You can also visit www.cityofchicago.org/humanrelations or visit our FB page at <https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoCHR>

cchr@cityofchicago.org

MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL



2015 BMW M4 convertible.
Photo from Gaywheels.com



Shirtless Summer?



actual patient

BEFORE



actual patient

AFTER

Go ahead...take your shirt off this summer.

Enjoy \$500 OFF Body Reshaping through June 30th.



MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR AESTHETIC PLASTIC SURGERY



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLASTIC SURGEONS



DAVID SHIFRIN MD
PLASTIC SURGERY

Visit www.davidshifrinmd.com

Call 1.312.502.6200

UK native Sarah Outen on homestretch of four-year adventure

BY ROSS FORMAN

In 2009, Sarah Outen rowed across the Indian Ocean, from Australia to Mauritius. It was an inspiring, empowering adventure that launched her toward her current expedition.

Outen, 29, from Oxfordshire in the United Kingdom, is traveling from London to London—literally, around the world. She's now on the homestretch of a four-year adventure.

"I wanted to extend that experience of the ocean and myself to a global journey," she said. "I wanted to explore, learn and share stories, especially with children. I wanted a huge adventure."

And this certain is, as she's kayaked, cycled, rowed and kayaked again east across land and oceans. She is now cycling across North America to the East Coast from where she will row home across the North Atlantic. She is aiming to reach Tower Bridge once again in the fall.

"I love adventure and exploring the world, the newness of places, the contrasts and diversity," Outen said while in New York City. "I love the challenge of planning and the physical and mental efforts required. I love the stories I find and the people I meet, the lessons and the learnings that will stay with me forever. I love feeling landscapes and seascapes and meeting wildlife. That's what I get—a whole lot of good energy, perspective, insight, satisfaction, challenge, contentment and a glow on hearing that people have been inspired."

"And a shaggy mane of messy hair."

Outen—an adventurer, speaker and author—is engaged to Lucy, a development that happened mid-Pacific over satellite phone. "I never imagined I would come home from this journey engaged. It is magic," she said.

The trip has had plenty of other magical moments since launching April 1, 2011, from London's Tower Bridge in her kayak. She then paddled to France down the River Thames and across the English Channel. Also on the trip:

—April 4, 2011: Swapped boat for bike and started cycling East through Europe and Asia to the Pacific Ocean;

—Sept.-Oct. 2011: Kayaked and cycled from Russia to Japan;

—Nov. 7, 2011: Dipped her toe in the Pacific Ocean in eastern Japan, completing the first Eurasian leg;

—May 13, 2012: Launched across the Pacific from Japan in her rowing boat, named Gulliver;

—June 14, 2012: Rescued from the Pacific Ocean after her boat was damaged by a tropical storm, losing her boat in the process;

—April 27, 2013: Launched across Pacific in new boat, Happy Socks, from same point in Japan as previous launch, having spent nine months in the United Kingdom;

—Sept. 23, 2013: Landed in Adak, Aleutian Islands, Alaska after 150 days at sea, solo aboard Happy Socks. Diverted en route from original goal of Canada as poor weather prevented progress;

—May, 2014: Started kayaking from Adak Island, Alaska, eastward up the Aleutian Island chain and Alaskan Peninsula with Justine Curgenvin;

—Aug. 14, 2014: Completed kayaking leg—1,500 miles to Homer on the Kenai Peninsula, for the start of the road for her bike journey;

—Aug. 31, 2014: Started biking from Homer; and

—March 13, 2015: Arrived in New York City,

having cycled 5,000 miles from Alaska through the U.S. and Canada, through the winter.

So what's left?

She left New York City in late March to cycle the final few hundred miles to Cape Cod, Massachusetts. There, she will prepare to row solo across the North Atlantic to get back home, launching in early May, weather depending.

Outen, who spent about 15 months planning this adventure, said the most challenging part was simply getting the project off the ground and then keeping it going after major setbacks. "It is also very challenging being apart from my fiancée, Lucy, having met during the journey in 2013," said Outen, who noted that a young male she met in China has been the most surprising moment—because he cycled with her for about 2,000 miles. He joined "on a complete whim," she said. "He had never cycled more than a few miles before and we did over 2,000 [miles] together over five weeks."

Outen said being apart from Lucy has been "really difficult" and admitted that, last autumn, she questioned the journey on those grounds. "I think it's always important to keep checking in with your goals and how they sit with you," she said.

"I expected an adventure and I got it," she added. "But I could never have predicted the changes and evolution. That's the magic of an adventure."

Outen was always solo on the journey, except for the kayaking legs where she paddled with Justine Curgenvin. "In my mind, she is the queen of sea kayaking," Outen said. "I have a team around the world, though mostly UK-based, who support and activate different aspects, [such as a] project manager, doctor, weather router, ocean logistics, psychotherapist, accountant, publicist, and more."

Outen said she isn't nervous. At least not much. "I get scared when I need to. I never want to lose that," she said.

And she never gets lonesome. "I long to be with Lucy, but I enjoy the mix of solitude and people that different phases bring me," she said.

And, yes, she is admittedly tired.

Outen said the first thing she plans to do when she finishes is hugs and high-fives all around—and some champagne.

"People have been really positive and supportive," during this adventure, she said. "It is humbling to have strangers play such an important part in my journey."

Outen will write a book and is planning to make a film about the four-year adventure.

The journey certainly isn't just about Outen. Rather, she is using it to raise as much money as possible for charity and sharing stories with people, especially children, she said.

"I always wanted to share the benefits of this journey—through story-telling and also fundraising for charities which are important to me," she said. "I am supporting four great organizations which reflect causes close to my heart: CoppaFeel! (breast-cancer awareness), Jubilee Sailing Trust (accessible sailing adventures), MND Association (support for sufferers and families with this disease) and WaterAid (working to enable access to clean water and safe sanitation solutions in communities worldwide)."

For more information on Outen's adventure, or to donate, visit www.sarahouten.com; on Twitter, visit @SarahOuten.



Sarah Outen in 2011.

Photo from Outen



Blackhawks fans at Boystown spot D.S. Tequila.

Photo by Ross Forman

Reports: Stanley Cup to be in Pride Parade

BY ROSS FORMAN

Even before the final buzzer sounded, clinching the Chicago Blackhawks' Stanley Cup championship on June 15, there was plenty of buzz locally—and, yes, even nationally—about a return visit by the trophy itself to the annual Chicago Pride Parade, as it happened in 2010.

Multiple sources told Windy City Times on June 22 that the Stanley Cup will have a prominent place in the 46th annual parade June 28. The event is expected to draw more than 1 million fans along the route that runs south from Uptown into Lake View.

The question is: Where will the Cup appear, meaning, with which parade participant will the Cup ride?

The Chicago Gay Hockey Association (CGHA) wants the Cup again with its parade entry, and has made that known locally and also nationally with representatives of the New York-based National Hockey League (NHL). The CGHA played host to the Cup in 2010 as the 35-pound silver trophy rode on the CGHA float, along with former Hawks' player Brent Sopel, who is now a special commentator for Chicago's NBC-TV affiliate.

Tommy Hawk, the Hawks' mascot, will be part of the CGHA's 2015 parade participation.

Sidetrack also has made a strong push to host the Cup on its parade float, particularly because the popular, long-standing Lake View bar is rolling with a sports theme this year, and the slogan, Team Sidetrack.

Other parade entrants also have expressed interest in hosting the Cup in the parade, Windy City Times has confirmed. But the CGHA and Sidetrack are, reportedly, the two leading candidates, with multiple parties lo-

cally and even nationally ironing out final details.

"I think there's a good chance [the Cup] will be there, but there are conflicting [reports] of who it will march with; there are several interested parties [wanting to host the Cup]," Andrew Sobotka, the CGHA president, said June 22.

"The NHL wants the Cup to be in the parade; the Blackhawks want the Cup to be in the parade; the fans definitely want the Cup to be in the parade."

The CGHA is playing host to one of the largest gay hockey tournaments, the Chicago Pride Classic, with games at McFetridge Sports Center on Chicago's North Side June 25-27. The second-ever CGHA tournament is expected to draw 160 players, with 10 teams and two divisions.

The CGHA is sending three teams to the tournament, which is about 45 players. There also is a predominantly straight, Chicago-based team participating that has a few openly gay players.

The tournament will feature about colors of the LGBT rainbow, Sobotka confirmed.

About 15 to 20 percent of the tournament participants are straight, he said.

There are players coming to the tournament from Toronto, Boston, Vancouver, Wisconsin and elsewhere.

The vast majority of the tournament participants are expected to march in the parade with the CGHA, so Sobotka said the team will be represented by 200 or more hockey players.

"This is the most comprehensive tournament I've ever been to," said Sobotka, who noted that the tournament has five days of events.

For more information about the Chicago Pride Classic, go to www.chicagogayhockey.org.

CELEBRATE PRIDE WITH THE CHICAGO SKY!

PRIDE NIGHT



VS.



**JUNE 30TH @ 7:00PM
ALLSTATE ARENA**

\$30 PRIDE PACK INCLUDES:

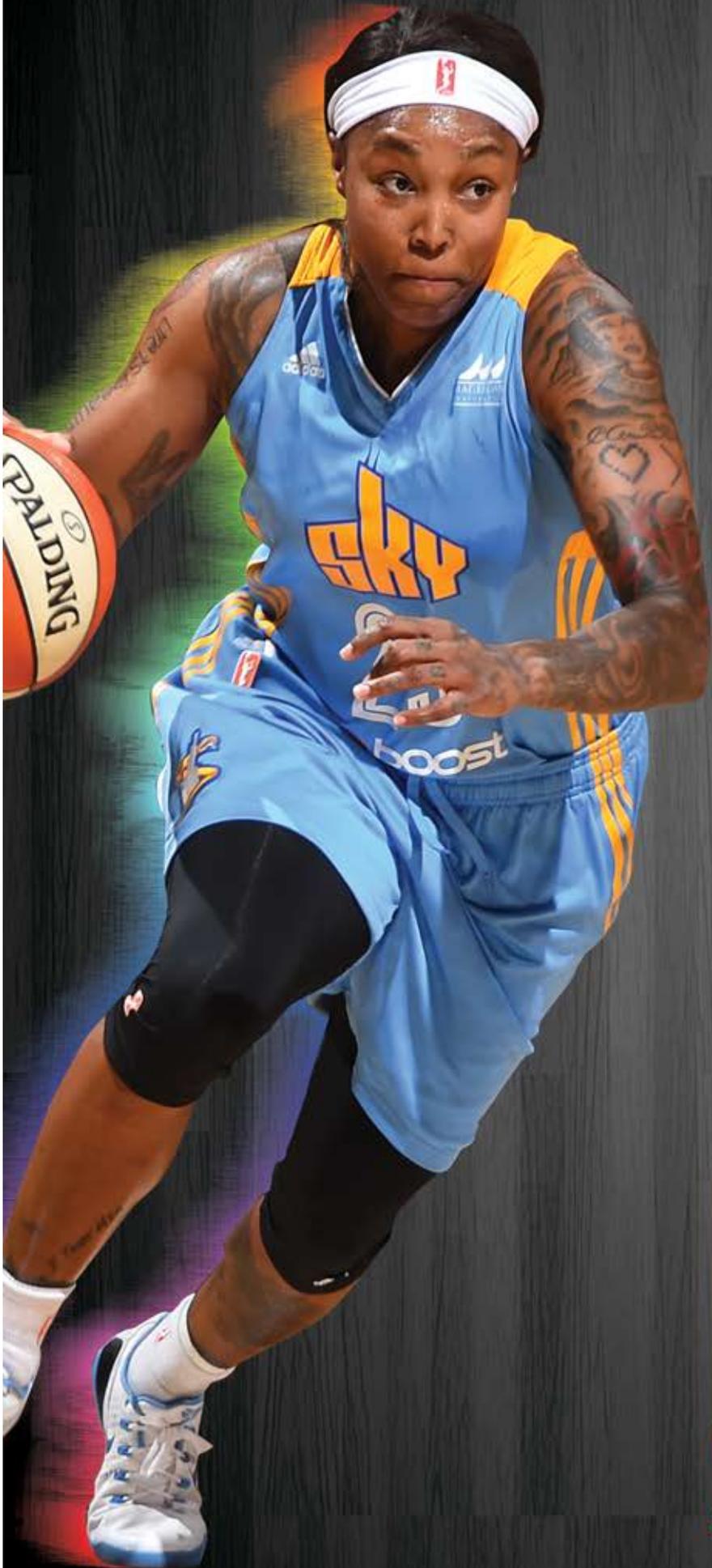
- 1 PRIDE NIGHT GAME TICKET
- SKY PRIDE RECYCLABLE TOTE BAG



JOIN US FOR A PRE-GAME PANEL FEATURING ESPNW WRITER MECHELLE VOEPEL. PANEL STARTS AT 6:15PM IN THE SKYLINE ROOM AT ALLSTATE ARENA.



866.SKY.WNBA CHICAGOSKY.NET



Rain and rainbows at Pride Fest



In anticipation of the upcoming Pride parade on June 28, Boystown was turned upside down on June 20-21 for Pride Fest, which marked 13 years in 2015. The two-day festival, which the Northalsted Business Alliance sponsors, stretches from Addison Street to Grace Avenue on Halsted Street.

Multiple stages had singers, DJs and bands performing. Among them were artists such as Estelle, Crystal Waters and Big Freedia. Local acts were included, with Cat Fight, Wedding Banned and 16 Candles. Girl group The Veronicas cancelled at the last minute because of visa issues and were replaced by DJ Micky Friedmann on the night of June 20, although the

rain forced early closure of the festival around 8 p.m.

There were 60 vendor booths lining the pavement, including the Illinois Lottery and Barefoot Wine.

On June 21, there was a fun pet parade sponsored by PetCo and hosted by local personality Miss Foozie. The weather on the second day made for a smoother experience for festival-goers.

For information on more events in the Halsted area, visit www.northalsted.com.

Text and photos by Jerry Nunn. See more online at www.windycitymediagroup.com





PARADE INFORMATION

as of Tue., June 23

provided by **PRIDEChicago** (parade coordinators)

For further updates and corrections: www.ChicagoPrideCalendar.org

DATE: Sunday, June 28

TIME: 12 Noon

STARTS AT: Broadway & Montrose

LINE UP: North Broadway (both the east and the west curb lanes, from Montrose to Wilson); West Montrose (both the north and south curb lanes from Broadway to Clark) and Sunnyside Ave from Broadway to North Sheridan Road.

ROUTE: Step off from the Broadway/Montrose corner, proceeding south on Broadway; then south on Halsted; then east on Belmont; then south on Broadway; then east on Diversey to Cannon Drive.

CONTENT & DESCRIPTION:

The parade will feature 200 registered entries, including floats, decorated vehicles, performance groups, a marching band and walking contingents.

The entries represent community organizations, businesses, governmental officials and individual community members. Crowd estimates each year are in the hundreds of thousands. So the plans are to line the parade route with barricades on both sides of the street from the beginning to the end of the parade route. Spectators will be required to remain behind the barricades. (Only parade registrants traveling down the middle of the street, police officers, other city officials, parade marshals and credentialed media reps will be allowed in the street). In recent years, the City of Chicago has required that several large city parades, including the Pride Parade, line their parade routes with barricades at our own expense. Police officers and parade marshals will be stationed at various points on the street in front of the barricades along the parade route.

Police officers will also be in the area surrounding the parade. In addition, PRIDEChicago (parade coordinators) are providing a security team of 90 off-duty police officers to supplement the police presence along and surrounding the parade route.

\$1000 FINE FOR PUBLIC ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION:

The parade will have more security and a tighter rein on public alcohol consumption. In addition to the large number of police officers who staff the event, PRIDEChicago (parade coordinators) are providing a security team of 90 off-duty police officers to supplement the police presence. Penalties include, but are not limited to, \$1,000+ tickets being issued and/or the immediate disposal of open containers of alcohol into trash receptacles.

PARADE DAY HEALTH/SAFETY: Bring plenty of bottled water, sunscreen and a hat or other head covering, and dress lightly because parade day is usually hot and sunny.

STREET CLOSURES: (on parade day, Sunday, June 28) include:

ASSEMBLY AREA: Tentative time: 10:30 a.m.

PARADE ROUTE: Rolling closing times. Cross streets will close as the parade travels south down the route. The parade starts at 12 Noon at the Broadway/Montrose corner proceeding south on Broadway; then south on Halsted; then east on Belmont; then south on Broadway; then east on Diversey to Cannon Drive.

NO PARKING: Both the Assembly Area and Parade Route (listed above) will be posted with temporary signs indicating "NO PARKING ON SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2015, FROM 5:00 AM TO 8:00 PM. - Both sides of the street."

- Montrose Ave. - Greenview Ave. to Hazel St.
- Broadway St. - Leland Ave. to Grace St.
- Sunnyside Ave. - Broadway St. to North Sheridan Rd.
- Halsted St. - Grace St. to Belmont Ave.
- Belmont Ave. - Sheffield Ave. to Broadway St.
- Broadway St. - Belmont Ave. to Diversey Pkwy.
- Diversey Pkwy. - Broadway St. to Cannon Dr. (Sheridan)
- Cannon Dr. - Diversey Pkwy. to Fullerton Pkwy.
- Addison St. - 736 W. Addison St. to Sheffield Ave.
- Waveland Ave. - Halsted St. to Broadway St.
- Grace St. - Halsted St. to Fremont St.
- Clifton from Montrose Ave. to Sunnyside Ave.

ADDITIONAL PARKING RESTRICTIONS:

There will be additional parking restrictions on Sunnyside Ave. between Broadway and North Sheridan Road.

TOWING: Begins at 5 AM. Due to the volume of vehicles involved, the issuing of parking violation citations and towing will start at Promptly 5 AM.

CROSS STREETS: Rolling closing times. Cross streets will close as the parade travels south down the route. After stepping off at 12 PM, the parade will take approximately two and one-half hours to finish crossing the Broadway & Montrose corner. After this time, the floats will still be winding their way to the end of the parade route at Diversey & Sheridan. This year there will NOT be a Buffer Zone on Halsted Street after the parade ends. Police will work to re-open the streets to vehicular traffic as soon as cleaning crews are finished and the streets will not remain open to foot traffic.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION: This year, you can get access to the parade from more CTA stations than before, including Wilson and Sheridan. From the Red Line, Wilson, Sheridan, Addison or Belmont all provide access via a short walk to the parade route.

PLEASE NOTE: The Belmont station (and the surrounding area) tends to become the most crowded, so you are encouraged to consider watching the parade from the other parts of the route, including areas toward the start of the route—such as Broadway, south of Montrose—which are served

by both the nearby Wilson and Sheridan stations on the Red Line. In addition, a number of lakefront bus routes including the 146 and 151 provide convenient access from the north, the Gold Coast/North Michigan Avenue and downtown to areas east of the parade route.

Extra service will be provided on the "L" on parade day to accommodate the large numbers of people who attend the parade. Due to the increase of local traffic and a number of bus reroutes, potential parade spectators are advised to make use of the L or the various bus routes.

BUS REROUTES:

8 Halsted, 22 Clark, 36 Broadway, 76 Diversey, 77 Belmont, 78 Montrose, 151 Sheridan, 152 Addison.

Also see CTA web site or call them for updated information concerning the train and bus routes. CTA: 1-312-836-7000 www.transitchicago.com Other information on public transportation: 1-312-322-6900 www.metrarail.com

PEDESTRIAN CROSS-OVER STREETS:

There will be six cross-over streets:

- Montrose Ave. at Broadway
- Irving Park Rd. at Broadway
- Grace St. at Halsted St.
- Addison St. at Halsted St.
- Roscoe St. at Halsted St.
- Wellington Ave. at Broadway

At each corner of the streets listed above there will be police officers assigned to assist pedestrians to cross the parade route.

NEEDS AND SPECIAL NEEDS:

1. Portable Restrooms - are stationed along both the parade line-up street and the parade route. Included at several locations are restrooms for the physically challenged.
2. Physically Challenged Area/Wheel chair Accessible Area/Seniors - for people who need or want more space: the sidewalks of West Diversey Parkway (near 600 W. Diversey). Traditionally this area of the parade route has fewer spectators than other sections of the parade route. Spectators in these areas generally arrive there early on parade morning to secure their viewing spots. Included there are restrooms for the physically challenged.
3. Seniors (outdoor) - The area mentioned above in #2 (600 W. Diversey sidewalks) is a designated OUTDOOR area for seniors. Spectators in this area generally arrive there early on parade morning to secure their viewing spots. Included there are restrooms for the physically challenged.
4. Cooling Busses - Halsted, south of Belmont
Irving Park between Clark and Broadway
Addison, west of Halsted
Belmont, east of Broadway

For more information: www.ChicagoPrideCalendar.org, PrideChgo@aol.com or 773-348-8243.

the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR Lockwood

BY ANDREW DAVIS

The Parker House Hilton is probably one of the more stately hotels in Chicago, combining elegance and history. **Lockwood** (17 E. Monroe St.; LockwoodRestaurant.com) has the advantage of being in this building, located just off the main lobby.

The restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch, dinner and even afternoon tea, and the Bar at Lockwood was bustling with people, even as my friend and I visited in the late morning hours.

As for the restaurant, it's solid, overall. Our server (Jill) and the manager (Oscar) were especially friendly, attending to the needs of everyone around us as well as ourselves.

However, there were a couple speed bumps. There were aspects of the decor that bothered both of us. For my friend, it was the low ceilings, making things almost claustrophobic for him. For me, it was the mirrored pillars; I don't know of too many people who would want to watch themselves dining. (On the plus side, if you need to check for food in your teeth, you needn't go far.)

The food initially left me wanting. Executive Chef Mathew Wiltzius has impeccable credentials (Fred's Restaurant at Barneys New York; the Waldorf Astoria Chicago) so my expectations were really high—and, for the most part, they were met.

The bacon-and-onion tart was serviceable; the taste was there, but the dough was a bit tough. However, the breakfast tacos were much better, with a slight kick. My friend then got the turkey burger (with smoked Gouda, pancetta and herb aioli on a brioche); it was deli-



Lobster club with fries (left) and creme brulee at Lockwood.
Photos by Ed Negron



cious, and pretty sizeable. My lobster roll also put a smile on my face; "zesty" is the best word I can use to describe it.

The desserts were probably the highlights of the meal. Bertha's brownie came with caramel sea-salt ice cream and almond streusel, and was especially memorable. Likewise, the vanilla-bean creme brulee was absolutely stellar, with berries, magnolia shrubbery and toasted oatmeal. (I was a little worried when I saw "shrubbery" on the menu, but the greenery was far less than I feared.)

Another highlight during the meal was meeting Ken Price, Palmer House historian and the host of the hotel's "History is Hott" tour. (Yes, it's "Hott.") Price oozes old-school Hollywood

and has more personality than a gaggle of Kardashians. I definitely plan on going on a tour sometime after Pride Month.

So is Lockwood as stately as the rest of the Palmer? I would say it's not quite there. However, there are definitely delights to be had.



Palmer House historian Ken Price (left) and Lockwood Executive Chef Mathew Wiltzius.

CLASSIFIEDS

ADVERTISE HERE

ADVERTISE HERE: Want to advertise your product, service, etc. to thousands of readers? Place an ad in the Windy City Times! We offer affordable rates, convenient service, and as a bonus, your ad runs in our online section for free. To place an ad, contact Terri at 773-871-7610 ex 101, terri@windycitymediagroup.com, or go to our website <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/placeclassified.php>.

BOOKKEEPER AVAILABLE

QUICKBOOK BOOKKEEPER AVAILABLE. Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable, Invoicing, Collections, Time Tracking, Bank & Credit card reconciliations, Financial Statements, Journal Entry, Reports for accountants for year-end and Much More! www.rockstarbooks.webs.com

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** (11/18/15-52)

HOME IMPROVEMENT & PAINTING

MAKE YOUR HOME LOOK FABULOUS! Now scheduling Spring and Summer home repair and remodeling projects. We do bathrooms, carpentry, drywall repairs, deck cleaning and staining and painting. "A+" with BBB. Licensed-Bonded-Insured, One year Warranty. Free Estimates! **Andy OnCall 847-328-3100 www.andyoncallchicago.com** (10/14/15-56)

MESSAGE

MESSAGE 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** (6/24/15-13)

MEDIATION SERVICES

McDONOUGH MARITAL MEDIATION SERVICES Divorce, prenuptial, parenting, EEO, and workplace. Thirty years experience mediating – personal, workplace, and federal. Telephone conferencing available. Call Virginia 630.355.7055 or McDonoughMediation@gmail.com. www.McDonoughMediation.com (10/14/15-52)

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

HELLENISMOS

ORPHISMOS

STUDY AND WORSHIP

inquire.hellenicgods@gmail.com

www.hellenicgods.org

INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY. Dignity/Chicago envisions a Catholic Church welcoming to all – LGBTIQ. Join us on Sunday's for Catholic Mass 5:00 p.m. at BUMC, 3344 N Broadway. **Learn more at www.dignity-chicago.org** (11/11/15-52)

SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

ARE YOU INTELLECTUALLY GIFTED? Are you interested in meeting other LGBTs like you? Come join the LGBT and Allies Special Interest Group in Chicago Area Mensa. **To inquire, contact lgbta@chicago.us.mensa.org**. (4/20/16-52)

SURVEY

DO YOU IDENTIFY AS lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ), and have you ever been in a romantic or sexual relationship? Would you like a chance to earn a \$100 Amazon.com Gift Card? Researchers at Northeastern Illinois University invite you to participate in an important ONLINE survey! **For more information, visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/P3K9BGQ** (6/24/15)

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** (9/2/15-13)

REAL ESTATE

CASH BACK HOME PURCHASE

Top Chicago Gay Realtors Represent You FREE. Choose your Perfect Agent On-Line & Receive up to \$2500 VISA Gift Card! No Cost / Obligation. WWW.GAYREALESTATE.COM/PERK (9/9/15-26)

HOUSE - FOR SALE

BEVERLY SHORES, IN. Beautifully restored 'Bartlett Stucco' only 60 minute drive from downtown. Four bedrooms, three luxurious bathrooms, study/office, fireplace, chef's kitchen, three season room with great views. Two lots, beautifully landscaped, short stroll to the beach. Call Beth Doherty/Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, 773.255.3534. **MLS#366657** (6/24/15-5)

ENJOY LIFE ON THE LAKE in this totally renovated home on Lake Koshkonong with full lake rights. Located in Edgerton, WI - 30 miles south of Madison, WI. \$189,900. Visit www.11647lakeview.com for a visual tour. For more info contact: kmcc21@yahoo.com / 608-751-4326. (6/24/15-4)

MAGNIFICENT LAKE, BEACH & SKYLINE VIEWS



Extremely rare Hollywood Towers 2BR/2BTH 7th floor CORNER UNIT, overlooking fabulous HOLLYWOOD BEACH. Featuring a very sunny, spacious open-concept layout, remodeled kitchen and baths, hardwood flooring throughout, tons of closets & more! Full amenity building ON THE BEACH with LOW ASSESSMENTS including HEAT, A/C, CABLE TV, and INTERNET! \$259,900

Keith Schumann / 847.404.8800
Keiths@atproperties.com

ONE OF A KIND

SINGLE FAMILY HOME IN BURLEY!

1757 W SCHOOL



4 Bed, 3 Bath single-family home in the Burley School District!

Large rooms and tons of light. New kitchen with high-end appliances & cozy breakfast nook. Master bath with Jacuzzi tub, separate shower & double vanity. 3 working fireplaces. 2 car garage. Steps to Whole Foods, restaurants, 3 blocks to Brown Line. Must see!

swakegroup
Walking you home, every step of the way.

dreamtown



THOMAS SECSON
773.618.5297
thomas@secsoninthecity.com



WCT30

\$30 FOR 30 YEARS OF WINDY CITY TIMES

To mark the 30th year of Windy City Times, we are partnering with some amazing businesses to raise \$30,000 to help us cover the editorial costs of producing Windy City Times as a free weekly newspaper each week, and free online daily.

These are just some of the businesses, people and nonprofits providing perks to help us meet our goal at

www.indiegogo.com/projects/windy-city-times-30th-anniversary/

There is something here for everyone! Check regularly to see full rotating list of perks.

To add perks from your company, email editor@windycitymediagroup.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wed., June 24

Queerest House in Chicago? A tour of Hull-House with exploration of early 20th century stories of gender non-conformity and diverse definitions of family. 3:00pm - 4:00pm Jane Addams Hull House Museum 800 S. Halsted St. Chicago <https://www.facebook.com/hullhousemuseum>

Windy City Times 30 Under 30 Awards 2015 Windy City Times will recognize 30 more outstanding LGBT individuals (and allies) for its annual awards. www.windy-citymediagroup.com. 5:30pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago 773-871-7610

Wednesday Night Out with Victory Gardens Theater, The Who and the What Cocktail Hour with free appetizers. 7:30 pm performance of The Who and the What, about the daughter of a conservative Muslim family in Atlanta who writes a book about women and Islam. Following the performance, a panel conversation addressing the intersections between faith and sexuality. 6:30pm Victory Gardens Biograph Theater, 2433 N Lincoln Ave., Chicago <http://victorygardens.org/our-season/the-who-and-the-what/>

Words by Friends Southside authors Erin Yanz, Margie Browne Gallagher, Po O'Connor and Steve English will read unpublished works. Free for adults with donations accepted for Erin's Farm, a sanctuary farm in Monee, IL. BYOB allowed. Questions to theblossomboys@yahoo.com 7:00pm - 9:00pm Community Room of Beverly Area Planning Association, 1987 W 111th St., Chicago <http://facebook.com>

The Gay Mafia is Real Gallery owner Scott Speh has invited LGBTQ artists on Western Exhibitions' roster to exhibit their own works alongside artists of their own choosing. The show opens with a public reception from 5 to 8 p.m. and runs through July 18. 11:00pm - 6:00pm Western Exhibitions, 845 W. Washington Blvd., 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60607 312-480-8390 <http://www.westernexhibitions.com/>

Thursday, June 25

Zoo Pride Chicago Talk to the Animals Official Pride Day at the Zoo, open to the public 10 am to 5 pm with rainbow flags, entertainment, LGBTQ vendor expo, speakers. \$15. Transportation \$30 leaving Boystown at 10 am and Brookfield Zoo at 4 pm can be booked by A List/Midwest. 7-10 pm LGBTQ cocktail party with curators, docents, cocktails, snacks, Scarlet DJ, auction. \$60. VIP Tickets \$100 10:00am - 10:00pm Brookfield Zoo, 3300 Golf Rd., Brookfield, IL Tickets: <http://www.ZooPrideChicago.com>

Pride Classic Ice Hockey Tournament This Chicago Gay Hockey Association event continues through June 28 with social events, etc. tournament@chicagogayhockey.org. Time: TBA McFetridge Sports Center (Chicago Parks District), 3843 N. California, Chicago, IL www.chicagogayhockey.org

Girls 4 Science Welcomes Summer with Fourth Annual Garden Party Fundraiser Hosted by Amy Wilson, Senior Patent Counsel, Baxalta US, Inc. Proceeds will benefit Girls 4 Science, a nonprofit organization dedicated to exposing girls in Chicago ages 10-18 years old to (STEM) science, technology, engineering and math fields. \$50 online, \$60 door. 5:30pm - 11:45pm 410 Wesley Ave., Evanston (646) 872-0654 <http://girls4science.org> Tickets: <http://girls4science.org>

Tribute reception: A Taste of Pride Handcrafted drinks from mixologists, food tastings from some of Chicago's most delicious and special restaurants, and a night of music and fun. 6:00pm 50th Floor, 300 E Randolph St., Chicago Tickets: https://equalityfederation.salsalabs.com/o/35010/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=3431

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike Reception and Performance Reception followed by the Tony Award-winning Broadway show Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike. Specialty cocktails, food, Goodman artists and a fortune teller. Tickets to reception and show \$49. Enter the promo

PRIDE RIDE
Sunday, June 28

The 46th Annual Pride Parade will kick off at noon.
Photo from 2013 by Tim Carroll

code PRIDE to unlock seats. 6:00pm Goodman Theatre 170 N Dearborn St Chicago 312-443-3800 http://www.goodmantheatre.org/pride?utm_source=Windy%20City%20Times&utm_medium=Bonus%20Art&utm_campaign=Vanya Tickets: <http://www.goodmantheatre.org/tickets/reserve.aspx?performanceNumber=6490>

Chefs and the City A tasting event unlike any other. The finest cuisine in Chicago. Creative cocktails and more. Proceeds benefit Heartland Health Outreach's HIV services. Luxury raffle prizes. Supports Heartland Health Outreach's HIV/AIDS services, including the Vital Bridges Center on Chronic Care. 6:30pm - 9:00pm Montgomery Club 773-271-9161 Tickets: <http://action.heartlandalliance.org/site/Calendar?id=105861&view=Detail>

Backlot Bash, Comedy Kickoff Where the girls come out and play. Bridget McManus, Dana Goldberg, Kelly and Judy Fabjance, sneak peek Tellofilms series "Plus One" \$20-\$30. Email backlotbash@yahoo.com. 7:00pm Mayne Stage 1328 W Morse Ave Chicago <http://www.backlotbash.com> Tickets: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1465886>

Move Your Body: The Evolution of House Music Exhibition in the Chicago Rooms celebrating more than 30 years of a homegrown art form that is now heard around the world. Through August 16, 2015 7:00pm - 9:30pm Chicago Cultural Center 78 E. Washington St. <http://www.cityof-chicago.org>

Pride Lakefront Party and 5K Run/Walk Registration 6 pm. Run along the lakefront path starting at Lakefront at Fullerton and Cannon Drive. DJs Matthew Harvat and Adam LeBlanc of Sixteen Candles will entertain at the Pride Weekend Kick-Off Party at Diversey Harbor, immediately following the race. www.iloveruns.com/pride-5k. 7:00pm Diversey Harbor, Chicago <http://starevents.com/events/pride-5k/>

Porcelain An examination of a young Asian gay man's crime of passion, written by Chay Yew and directed by Matthew Ozawa. 7:30pm Greenhouse Theater Center 2257 N. Lincoln Ave.

Schoolboy to Schoolgirl: The Alexandra Billings Story The life of the former Chicagoan who is an educator, actress and activist. 10:30pm 11.1 WTTW HD <http://www.wttw.com>

Too Much Lights Makes The Baby Go Blind Presents 30 Queer Plays in 60 Straight

Minutes Special Pride edition is a benefit for the Crib at Night Ministry, combining queer and gender binary-smashing plays from the past with new work. For tonight's performance, all proceeds go directly to the beneficiary. All tickets tonight are \$25 with all proceeds going to beneficiary 11:30pm The Neo-Futurarium 5153 N Ashland Chicago 773-275-5255 Tickets: <http://www.neofuturists.org/>

Friday, June 26

Free HIV Testing Across Chicagoland See more dates and location on site 10:00am - 2:00pm Pulaski & Lake CTA "L" Station <http://www.StepUpGetTested.com>

WXRT Pride kickoff party Win Lollapalooza tickets, courtesy of Tito's Vodka. TGIF showtunes 5-9 pm. Big City Friday Night party until 2. 4:00pm - 7:00pm Sidetrack 3349 N Halsted St Chicago <http://www.sidetrackchicago.com>

Backlot Bash, Sunset Concert Hosted by Kat Fitzgerald. Jess Godwin 6 pm, Daphne Wills 7 pm, Natalia Zukerman, 8 -m, Kristy Lee, Dirt Road Revival, 9 pm. \$15 online, \$20 door. 5:00pm 5238 N. Clark St. Chicago Tickets: <http://BacklotBashChicago.com>

Pride and Joy Reception Event takes place on the Daley Rooftop Terrace. Tickets, which include light hors d'oeuvres, 3 drinks and dancing, are available at the door, from members of the Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame, or at the website below. Chad Michaels, winner of RuPaul's Drag Race and DJ Billy Brown. Email info@glhalloffame.org. 5:30pm - 9:30pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago 773-281-5095 Tickets: <http://tinyurl.com/p3njld>

LGBTQ Jewish Pride BBQ & Beach Service Free event. Email office@orchadash.org. 6:00pm Congregation Or Chadash at Emanuel Congregation 5959 N Sheridan Rd Chicago 773-870-5921 <http://www.orchadash.org>

Chi-Town Squares Way Forward Committee meeting at Jon-Paul and Frank's house. Share ideas for growth of the club. Contact Jim Cosenza at jim@jimcosenza.com for information. 7:00pm - 9:00pm Contact organizer for location <http://www.chi-townsquares.org>

Anshe Emet Synagogue Celebrates Pride Shabbat Anshe Emet celebrates Pride Shabbat by welcoming Elliot Vaisrub Glassenberg, a Chicago-born Israeli Jewish educator and LGBT activist. 7:00pm Anshe Emet Synagogue, 3751 N Broadway <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eb526oowfeeac18d&oseq=&c=&ch=>

Saugatuck Cures screening Gay son of a woman with cancer sets out to raise money for her treatment by posing as an ex-gay minister "converting" homosexuals into heterosexuals. 7:30pm Facets Multimedia 1517 W Fullerton Ave. <http://www.facets.org>

Sweetie Maude. Sweetie Maude is the lesbian version of Sweeney Todd. An all-female story of jealousy, cruelty and ultimately revenge. 8:00pm - 9:15pm Annoyance Theater, 851 W. Belmont, Chicago, IL, (773) 697-9693 <https://theannoyance.com/>

Win Morrissey Tickets at All Geeks: Pride Friday A crazy cos-play runway variety show by the Chicago chapter of Geeks OUT and OutLoud Chicago. Absolut "Express Yourself" joins in the mayhem around 11 pm with a Pride tasting. DJ Greg Haus. Led by host Adam Guerino. Show off your own super-heroic looks at the photo wall with photog Marisa KM. As a special nerdy bonus, you can win a pair of tickets to see legendary UK recording artist Morrissey live in concert with a prize drawing around 1 am, furnished by Nightspots. 10:00pm - 4:00am Berlin Nightclub 954 W Belmont Ave. <http://www.berlinchicago.com>

Saturday, June 27

Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance (LGBTQ) Support meeting to talk about illnesses, symptoms, treatment, doctors, and personal issues such as dating, relationships and work. Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted 11:00am - 12:30pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://dbsa-glbtc-chicago.com>

Farmer's Market: Chicago Nettelhorst French Market Through Nov. 7. A French Market brings sense of community like the markets of France, a place to gather, so-

cialize and purchase fresh produce, flowers, artisanal oils and vinegars, fresh baked croissants. 8:00am - 2:00pm Nettelhorst School, Broadway & Melrose, Chicago

Proud to Run Annual 10K run & 5K run/walk along the lakefront, focused on celebrating Pride in a healthy way. Tech shirt. To benefit Affinity Community Services, AIDS Legal Council of Chicago and Chicago House. Presented in association with Frontrunners/Frontwalkers, Chicago's LGBTQI&A running and walking club. Register at the link below. 8:00am Montrose Ave. and Simonds Dr., just north of Montrose Harbor. <http://www.proudtorun.org> Tickets: <http://www.proudtorun.org/>

Randolph Street Market Pride Party Urban antiques market hosts around the clock entertainment, a beer garden with vintage carnival games and concessions, rainbow themed bites and drinks, and fest fashions from 300+ vintage and indie vendors. Makeup artist and body painter Orlando Barsallo will be painting Lady Liberty. Natasha Douglas in drag will be entertaining guests on Saturday. Fun N' Games area for kids. Advance tickets \$8, general admission \$10, students with ID \$3 or \$5 at the gate. Children 12 and under free. Email info@imagepilots.com. randolphstreetmarket.com. 10:00am - 5:00pm Beaux Arts Plumbers Hall 1340 W. Washington St. Chicago 312-666-1200

Neverland Pride Bougie Ball World-class DJs, performers and extravaganzas. Kim Chi will host; Sasha Colby will perform. DJ/producers Alex Acosta and Alexander will man the decks until 5am. Dress to impress. \$50 at door. \$85 weekend passes to all three Neverland Pride events online. Individual tix sold separately at Egoist Underwear (in Boystown) or online. 12:00pm Metro Chicago 3730 N Clark Chicago <http://www.neverlandchicago.com> Tickets: <http://www.showclix.com/event/neverlandpride>

Let's Get This Straight Handbook for youth with LGBTQ parents. Parents/guardians are encouraged to bring their children, tweens and teens. Light refreshments will be served. 1:00pm - 3:00pm Black Stone Branch of Chicago Public Library, 4904 S. Lake Park Ave., Chicago

Chicago Dyke March 2015 Gather at 1:30 pm at the southwest corner of Western and Division. Email: dykemarchchicago@gmail.com 2:30pm Humboldt Park Boat House in Chicago, Illinois <https://www.facebook.com/groups/dykemarchchicago/?fref=fb>

Backlot Bash, All Day Bash Hosted by Fortune Feimster. Featuring CatFight 8 pm, Sami Grisafe 7 pm, The Girls!, 6 pm, Fashion show by Wake Up Call Tees/DJ Sandra Suave. \$20 at the door 4:00pm Back Lot Bash, 5238 N. Clark (behind Cheetah gym), Chicago <http://www.backlotbashchicago.com/schedule/>

Annual Pride Liturgy by Dignity/Chicago. All are welcome. www.dignity-chicago.org. 5:00pm Broadway United Methodist Church 3338 N Broadway Chicago

Bonaventure House Sober and Proud Mardi Gras Celebrate Pride Weekend with a sober dance party. Talent show, BBQ, food, karaoke, music. Free HIV testing. Suggested donation \$10. 6:00pm - 11:00pm Bonaventure House, 825 W. Wellington Ave., Chicago <https://www.facebook.com/bonaventurehouse>

Welcoming You Home: Pride Worship Service Celebrates 15th Anniversary of Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches. Offering and dessert reception/raffle to benefit Cafe Pride (a safe social space for LGBTQ youth). Email info@chicagowelcomingchurches.org. 6:00pm Lakeview Presbyterian Church 716 W Addison St Chicago

Free HIV Testing Across Chicagoland: Youth Skate Party ages 13-20 Free skate rental for those who step up and get tested. Onsite Remote Radio Broadcast: Power 92 6:30pm - 10:30pm, The Rink <http://stepupgettested.com>

Sunday, June 28

Pride at Montrose Vendors, DJs, performances on two stages. Free admission. Step Up, Get Tested. 6:00am - 7:00pm Cricket Hill Outdoor Recreation Park, Chicago <http://stepupgettested.com>

Pre-parade party Muffy Fishbasket and her Broadway Divas. Along parade route. 10:00am Uptown Underground, 4707 N.

Broadway, Chicago, IL, 773-867-1946

Chicago 46th Annual Pride Parade Starts at corner of Broadway and Montrose, proceeding south on Broadway, then south on Halsted, east on Belmont, south on Broadway, east on Diversey to Cannon Drive in Lincoln Park. 12:00pm Chicago <http://www.ChicagoPrideCalendar.org>

Pride North Glenwood Arts District Featuring the Vertical Sideshow at 6 pm. The Locals, DJ Katie Kirby, DJ Herrbear, DJ Greg Deluca, DJ Zo Diez, DJ Steve Henderson, The Byrne Twins 12:00pm - 2:00am on Glenwood Avenue right off the Morse stop on the Red Line <https://www.facebook.com/events/1443522865898128/>

New Town Alano Club Open House Food, fellowship and an open meeting in a sober environment. 12:00pm - 5:00pm New Town Alano Club 909 Belmont Ave 2nd Floor

Black Pride Various events scheduled this week for the LGBTQIA Black Pride celebration. Parties July 2-5. See website for further information. Time:TBA Location to be announced. <http://www.windycity-blackpride.info>

12th Annual Back Lot Bash Women's Festival Rockin', well-attended outdoor women's festival. DJ Ruby Rose, She's Crafty, DJ All the Way Kay, DJ J. Cur. \$20 door, \$40 for weekend pass. 4:00pm Back Lot Bash, 5238 N. Clark (behind Cheetah gym), Chicago www.backlotbashchicago.com

Monday, June 29

TransSafe Drop In Resource Center Trans and gender non-conforming. Hang out, socialize, enjoy some food. Access medical, hormones, legal, housing, social, employment New day and location. 1:00pm - 4:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago http://www.chicagohouse.org/?post_causes=translife-center

Decision Day - A Hopeful Celebration of Equality A Monday in June is when it is expected we will know the decision on the same-sex marriage case currently before the Supreme Court. We are creating this Event with the date of Monday, June 29th, as a placeholder, but many expect this could be the actual day the decision is announced. Sidetrack, in conjunction with Lambda Legal and the entire Chicago LGBTQ Community, is prepared to celebrate a decision that could change gay rights in America forever. 12:00pm Sidetrack 3349 N Halsted St

Tuesday, June 30

Salute to LGBT veterans Speakers, performance of the national anthem, presentation of colors, and a wreath laying ceremony. For more info, email jamesdarby@aol.com. This event is presented in partnership with the Chicago chapter of American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER), a national group of LGBT military veterans. 12:00pm Daley Center Plaza 50 W Washington St Chicago 773-752-0058 <http://www.averchicago.org>

Growing Up Trans This TV program explores the struggles and choices facing transgender kids and their parents. 10:00pm 11.1 WTTW HD <http://www.wttw.com>

Wed., July 1

CAPS Meetings Beats 1923, 1924 & 1925 Community policing meetings 7:00pm - 8:00pm 19th District Police Station 850 W. Addison St.

Eddie Fake: Grey Area Gouache-and-ink drawings of the artist's first solo show since moving from Los Angeles in 2014. Free public reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Show runs through July 18. Gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday and most Tuesdays as well. 11:00pm - 6:00pm Western Exhibitions, 845 W. Washington Blvd., 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60607 312-480-8390 312-480-8390 <http://www.westernexhibitions.com/>

BILLY MASTERS



Kathy Griffin has fired back on social media, Billy says.

Photo by Jerry Nunn

"Fuck off. EVERY show has new stuff & YOU know I'm KNOWN for that."—Kathy Griffin tweets a response to someone who said he'd wait to see her "till u can com up w som new stuff." Them's fighting words.

If you've learned nothing else from the two decades I've been writing this column, it's that the better looking you are, the more advantages you have. Admittedly, good-looking people also have issues, but that's their problem. This is not news to us, because we gays are a good-looking bunch. For years, society has objectified women far more than men. But that certainly is changing and some actors don't have a problem with it. Chris Pratt was recently asked if he minds people being interested in him solely for his looks. He said, "I think if we really want to advocate for equality, it's important to even things out. ... Not objectify women less, but objectify men just as often as we objectify women. There are a lot of women who got careers out of it, and I'm using it to my advantage."

Pratt ain't the only one. I've often pointed out that when Channing Tatum isn't acting, he usually gains an enormous amount of weight and lets himself go. But when he's filming, he makes sure to give his audience exactly what they want. And with Magic Mike XXL, he's going the extra mile. Since the film opens July 1, why not publicize it during a Gay Pride event? The film had a float in the L.A. Pride parade featuring Channing Tatum, Matt Bomer and Adam Rodriguez—at least for part of the way. We hear that the boys joined the parade already in progress, but made up for lost time by dancing alongside the professional strippers. To be more accurate, Bomer spent most of his time sitting or walking alongside the float passing out flyers. However, Channing kept busy by showing off his dance moves. While the actors kept their shirts on, Tatum ended up showing more than he expected. In the midst of some rather vigorous dancing, he split the back of his cargo shorts! Occupational hazard.

Colton Haynes has never been shy about showing off his assets—whether it's on Teen Wolf, Arrow, or in XY magazine cavorting with other hot boys. But he just posted an image which puts all his previous efforts to shame. He captioned it "Workout Wednesday." You'll get quite a workout when you see it on BillyMasters.com.

Kristen Stewart's mom revealed that her sullen daughter is dating a woman. "I've met Kristen's new girlfriend, I like her. What's not to accept? She's a lovely girl," said mom Jules. Stewart's girlfriend is her "personal assistant," Alicia Cargile. Maybe Ali can get Stewart to crack a smile—Robert Pattinson and that married director couldn't.

Months after telling Paper Magazine that her

sexuality is "fluid," Miley Cyrus is going public with her latest relationship. Friends say that she's dating Stella Maxwell, a Victoria's Secret model. The only good news I see in this story is that Patrick Schwarzenegger is single. Although, from what we've heard, he's already got his eye on someone—someone 180-degrees opposite of Miley. That's all we're saying ... for now.

At the Women in Film's Crystal + Lucy Awards (which, shockingly, are not telecast), Nicole Kidman revealed that she has some regrets. At the top of her list is a Jane Campion film she turned down because it required her to wear a shower cap and kiss a girl. I'm not really sure which one of those things turned her off more, but have you ever seen Kidman in a shower cap? It's not a pretty sight. Anyhoo, her message was that women should be more fearless. And with that, Nicole pulled a shower cap out of her purse and said she was ready to "kiss any woman in the room." Naomi Watts (who was presenting her with the award) took her up on that offer. In a related story, Tom Cruise also

wishes that he kissed more girls—and is willing to wear a shower cap if necessary.

Last week, Susan Sarandon attended a Trevor Project fundraiser in NYC and she had this to say about her son with Tim Robbins: "My son Miles is a musician and a DJ and sometimes when his band performs they all wear dresses, and he has long hair." You know a trend is on the way out when Susan Sarandon jumps on the bandwagon. Dress or not, Miles is pretty damn hot. Check him out on BillyMasters.com.

I wonder if this is something we'll see covered on Fashion Police. Oh, yes, Fashion Police is coming back. So who will be at the table? I kinda guessed the answer to this after Melissa Rivers showed up on a dozen or so talk shows hawking her book and guest co-hosting The Talk. It wasn't enough that Missy ran Fashion Police behind the scenes. Now, she'll be front and center—sitting in Joan's chair. Look, I don't begrudge Melissa a job. I don't even begrudge her this job. But taking over as host after years of claiming that she was always uncomfortable being in the spotlight and only did it because her mother made her seems somewhat—oh, I don't know—disingenuous. On the positive side, we're told that talks are ongoing to bring Kelly Osbourne back to the show.

Could it be that a certain singer stayed away from a high-profile gay pride event for a less-

than-proud reason? Rumor has it she was afraid to be performing in a venue so close to the local police station! You see, despite her numerous legitimate projects, she's got a nasty habit that she's trying to kick. At the same time, the fuzz are closing in on her dealer, and he's putting pressure on his highest-paying clients to protect him. The one thing our sometime songstress doesn't want is for this information to go public. Imagine how that would play on both her shows—with her sisters and her sistas—if her imprisoned connection pointed across the street and said, "That girl!"

When we're dragging poor Marlo Thomas into this, we've definitely come to the end of yet another column. Just to be clear, Marlo is not, nor has ever been, the answer to a blind item. But since that new Decades channel ran a That Girl marathon last week, she was on my mind (and we hear she is a loathsome individual). To find out what's going on in the current decade, be sure to check out www.BillyMasters.com, the site that will tell you not only about today, but also the past and the future. If you've got a question for me, send it along to Billy@BillyMasters.com, and I promise to get back to you before Colton Haynes gets cast in the next Magic Mike movie. So, until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

Proud Today. Proud Every Day.
OPEN AT 11 AM ON PRIDE PARADE SUNDAY!

CELEBRATE SUMMER WITH TEAM SIDETRACK

#NoCover@Sidetrack

TEAM SIDETRACK 82

#WoofWednesday • June 24. Open 3pm
 9pm-2am with the Sidetrack #WoofPack

Pride Friday • June 26. Open 1pm
 WXRT Pride Kickoff Party! 4-7pm
 Win Lollapalooza tickets from Tito's Vodka!
 TGIF Show Tunes 5-9pm
 Big City Friday Night Party 'til 2am

Pride Saturday • June 27. Open 1pm
 Stoli Big Deck Party! 1-7pm
 with Boyz, Gurlz, & Games!
 Ultimate Pride Weekend Energy Mix 'til 3am!

Pride Parade Sunday • June 28. Open 11am
 Parade ON OUR SCREENS! Deck open too!
 Where Chicago celebrates Pride!

3349 N. HALSTED
 SidetrackChicago.com

BACARDÍ ABSOLUT CITRON COINTREAU Miller Lite EFFEN VODKA SOUTHERN COMFORT Tito's Handmade VODKA MAESTRO DOBEL TEQUILA

UIC honors out former softball standout Charbonneau

BY ROSS FORMAN

In her first at-bat of her first game for the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) softball team in 1995, Tricia Charbonneau smacked a home run against the University of Maine in a game played in Orlando, Florida.

Charbonneau went on to an illustrious, record-setting—mostly on offense—career for the Flames ... except for one game against Cleveland State University during her junior season, when she set the NCAA record for most strikeouts (seven) in a game.

"Reflecting on my career, one thing that really stands out is, the improvement that I felt I made over my career. I wasn't very big or very fast as a high school athlete, but was a hard worker," said Charbonneau, who played softball and competed on the golf team in high school in her native Moline, Illinois. "I wasn't a natural athlete by any means, but felt that, through the quality of coaching and the breakdown of technique and the reinforcement of fundamentals, it was something that I really latched on to."

She was a scholarship athlete who "really blossomed in that environment, in that opportunity.

"I'm proud of the career that I had."

In conjunction with the 50th anniversary since the inception of Circle Campus, UIC Athletics recently named the top 50 male and female athletes within the past 50 years. The decorated group, including Charbonneau, was

recognized during halftime of a men's basketball game this season.

The 50 male and 51 female selections (there was a tie for 50th spot) were decided solely by fans through an online voting campaign, with more than 3,500 participants over the 50 days of voting. Athletes who competed prior to 1965 at the Navy Pier campus were not included in the voting.

Curtis Granderson (baseball) and Joanne McCarthy (women's basketball) topped the list for male and female honorees, respectively.

"Looking back, the thing that I'm most proud of is, the success of the program over the course of time and the expectation of excellence every single season," Charbonneau said. "It was our motivation and our expected goal that we would win the regular-season conference championship, and then the conference tournament, and then win the regional ... that's what we were always working toward."

"I liked our standard of excellence and the opportunity to play a lot of ball ... Those were the highlights for me.

"It was quite an honor just to be nominated [for the top 50 list], especially since there were so many other great softball players at UIC, before and after me. I felt like I was just one cog in a very successful softball program.

"I'm very proud to recognize the university and the athletic department."

Now 38, Charbonneau lives in Chicago's Edgewater neighborhood with her wife of four years, Amanda Malsch. Charbonneau is a de-



Tricia Charbonneau (right) with her wife, Amanda Malsch.

Photo from Charbonneau

signer and project manager for deGiulio Design in Wilmette and has lived in Chicago for about 20 years.

She was at UIC during 1994-98, playing third base and batting leadoff. She was a four-time All-Conference award-winner and an All-American candidate. When she graduated, she left UIC with eight of the school's 11 career offensive records.

She even was the NCAA leader for games played and at-bats.

She simply laughs at the seven-strikeout game.

"Hey—everyone is human," she said. "That game was a great preparation for life, when it just is not your day."

Charbonneau has played softball, badminton and indoor volleyball for the predominately gay Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association (CMSA) and spent 10 years, including the national championship season of 2013, on the Chicago Force. She played left guard as a Force rookie and later was a backup receiver, running back and linebacker. But her legacy will be as the Force's left-footed kicker.

"The athleticism gained during college definitely was re-captured as a player for the Force," Charbonneau said. "The whole reason that I started playing football was because I missed the collegiate experience."

Charbonneau was in the closet as a UIC freshman, but came out as a sophomore.

"The culture at the time was a little different [than in 2015]," said Charbonneau, who admitted that she was leery how being openly gay would be received on the team and throughout the athletic department. "I can feel for those who have a hard time coming-out, especially those in their late teens and early 20s; it's a hard [decision]."

"For me, sports gave me something else to think about, and through sports I was able to meet a lot of other lesbians."

In the mid-1990s, there definitely was a

stigma about being gay in the sport, Charbonneau said.

"I think [my] acceptance as a lesbian had to do, to a certain amount, with the product that I was producing on the field," she said.

By the time she graduated, there were other teammates who also came out, she said.

"So, to a certain extent, do I feel like a trailblazer? Maybe a little bit," Charbonneau said.

Charbonneau admitted that her freshman season was "kind of a challenge" playing while in the closet.

When she told an assistant coach at the start of the sophomore season that she was gay, Charbonneau said she wasn't treated any differently.

There was, though, one issue, Charbonneau said—with an older teammate who had taken Charbonneau under her wing during Charbonneau's freshman season. "When she found out that I had come out, it did really change her opinion of me, and I think there was a while there that she didn't really like me—and that was unfortunate because she and I had been very close [friends]," Charbonneau said. "I think her attitude might have also been felt by some of the other players [on the team], but they did not make it as apparent."

Flash-forward about 15 years. Actually, two or three years ago at the school's softball alumni game, the former teammate spoke with Charbonneau and met Malsch for the first time, Charbonneau said.

The next day, she reached out to Charbonneau and told Charbonneau that she didn't handle her coming-out very well. She said that she "acted in a poor way," Charbonneau recalled her former teammate saying.

The teammate also apologized.

Charbonneau and her former teammate are back friends. "I'm glad that situation [developed as it did]," Charbonneau said. "She's a big person for having come forward and saying what she did. I definitely appreciated that."

SQUIRT
.org
Hot 'n horny hookups.

**Non-Stop
Cruising**

Get up to 10 days unlimited access.
Join now for FREE.

Accessible:

Force playoff game June 27 at Lane Stadium

The Chicago Force will host its first playoff game in 2015 against the Cleveland Fusion.

The game will take place Saturday, June 27, at 6 p.m. at Lane Stadium, 3500 N. Western Ave.

Other first-round games in the National Conference are the West Michigan Mayhem at the Boston Renegades (with the winner playing the Force-Fusion victor), Miami Fury at the D.C. Divas, and the Atlanta Phoenix at the Jacksonville Dixie Blues.

Visit ChicagoForceFootball.com.



Proud to Run in 2013.
Photo by Carrie Maxwell

Proud to Run registration open

Registration is now open for its 2015 Proud to Run 10K run and 5K run/walk that will take place June 27.

Proud to Run has selected Affinity Community Services, AIDS Legal Council of Chicago (ALCC) and Chicago House as beneficiaries of its annual race. Since 1982, Proud to Run has raised more than \$400,000 for local LGBTQ organizations. Affinity and ALCC are first-time beneficiaries while Chicago House has been involved in past Proud to Run races.

The event will start at Montrose Avenue and Simmonds Drive, just north of Montrose Harbor. There are staggered starting times; the 10K starts at 8:04 a.m., with the 5K commencing at 8:15 a.m.

Runners and walkers can sign up in one of three categories: mixed, male-identified or female-identified. The top team in each category in the 10K run and in the 5K run/walk will receive a coupon for a custom cake from Whole Foods.

Interested persons can register at www.proudtorun.org. Race-day registration is also available.

Pride 5K run/walk June 25 in Boystown

The second annual Pride lakefront party and Pride5K run/walk will take place Thursday, June 25.

The outdoor bash, which benefits Center on Halsted, will feature DJs, drinks and go-go dancers following a 5K "fun run" along the lakefront path.

The race kicks off at 7:30 p.m. near the Lakefront at Fullerton Avenue and Lake Shore Drive. When the run is over, DJs Matthew Harvat and Adam LeBlanc of Sixteen Candles will be the featured entertainment at the Pride Weekend Kick-Off Party at Diversey Harbor, 6-10 p.m. Beer and wine will be available for purchase.

The fee is \$45 (\$50 after May 15). Packet pick-up will take place on Friday, June 19 (6-10 p.m.), and Saturday, June 20 (9 a.m.-5 p.m.), at Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St. Visit <http://starevents.com/events/pride-5k/>.

Hall of Fame nominations now being accepted

Nominations for this year's Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame are now being accepted.

If you know someone who meets the criteria below and think that they would be a good addition to the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame, complete and submit the nomination form that can be found at this link by July 15 for consideration.

Criteria are as follows: Induction into the Hall of Fame symbolizes that the recipient has made either:

- (1) a single, far-reaching contribution or
- (2) significant long-term contributions to the quality of life of Chicago's LGBT community or of the city of Chicago.

The Hall of Fame also recognizes "friends of the community" and LGBT organizations (including businesses) that have made similar contributions to Chicago's LGBT communities.

Those with questions about the nomination process should contact Executive Director Israel Wright at israel@glhalloffame.org.

CONNEXIONS

MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

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 Tax Dispatch, Inc., ALS No. 09-0661

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

Family Law

Donald B. Boyd, Jr.

- Civil Unions • LGBT Issues
- Divorce/Wills/Trusts • Real Estate Closings
- Custody Violation • Child Support

Free Initial Consultation
708-848-1005

113 South Marion St., Ste. 100, Oak Park, Ill., 60302



Evening & Weekend
Appointments Available
Major Credit Cards Accepted



www.BoydDivorce.com

Rite On! Ceremonies



Deb Rostorfer, M. Div., Wedding Officiant

riteonceremonies.com • 312-547-0725

We Bring the Showroom To You®



Helping our clients with:
Flooring Projects including Wood, Laminate, Carpet, Vinyl and Tile.
Window Covering Projects from Shades to Shutters to Draperies.



Schedule a Free Estimate
Mention this ad for a 20% discount

Charles Jones
(773) 935-8700
(773) 915-3271 Cell/Text
cjones@nfwchicago.com
www.nfwchicago.com



2014 Angie's List
Super Service Award
Gay owned and operated
Chicago small business
since 2007

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

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

iloilo

CUSTOM FRAMING

Framing Chicago's art since 1991.

1478 W. Berwyn - 773.784.3962

Mulryan & York

Attorneys At Law

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

Family Owned & Operated Since 1965
24-Hour Emergency Service
We Service ALL Makes & Models

- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial

- Service
- Installation
- Sales

Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/AAService

847-729-7889

www.AAServiceCo.com
550 Anthony Trail, Northbrook, IL

CONNEXIONS MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

**YOU HAVE UNIQUE NEEDS,
I CAN HELP.**



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



© 2015 RBC Wealth Management, a division of RBC Capital Markets, LLC, Member NYSE/FINRA/SIPC.



Dr. Teresa Tam
MD, FACOG
Board Certified

Specialist in:

- Well-Woman Care
- Genetic Screening
- Contraception
- Minimally Invasive Surgery
- Bleeding & Menstrual Issues
- Pelvic Pain and Endometriosis
- Sexually Transmitted Infections



Call: 773.904.8641

2800 N. Sheridan Road, Ste. 205N, Chicago, IL
1725 W. Harrison St, Ste. 400, Chicago, IL
(New location in Rush Medical Center)

All for Women Healthcare, SC
Exceptional Care for Exceptional Women

Book Your Appointment Online At:
www.allforwomenhealthcare.com

Whether you are just acquainting with your gender identity, struggling with a gender transition, confused about your sexuality or you may be facing issues in an existing relationship, **Guided Path can help.**



Guided Path
Psychological Services

Enhancing Your Journey Toward Wellness

847-809-3031

Two locations: Palatine and Hinsdale
www.guidedpathpsychologicalservices.com

Ray J. Koenig III and **Clark Hill PLC**



- Probate
- Trusts
- Guardianship
- Estate Planning
- Elder Law

Clark Hill is an entrepreneurial, full service law firm that provides business legal services, government & public affairs, and personal legal services to our clients throughout the country. With offices in Arizona, Delaware, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C. and West Virginia, Clark Hill has more than 300 attorneys and professionals.

312.985.5938 | rkoenig@clarkhill.com

clarkhill.com

CLARK HILL

Dr. Edward J. Fajardo

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

4633 N. Western Ave., Suite 206
Chicago, IL 60625
(312) 623-0502

dr.edwardfajardo@gmail.com

Look for Dr. Edward Fajardo on Facebook

**Specializing in
Gay-Affirmative Psychotherapy**

**American Budget
Mechanical Service**

Air Conditioning/Heating

847-529-0050

Repair • Service • Maintenance • Installation

A gay owned and operated business
Proudly serving our community

Lowest prices on Services & Products
GUARANTEED!!!

24/7 Weekends, Nights & Holidays
100% Guarantee



WWW.AMERICANBUDGETMECHANICALSERVICE.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

1435 W. Rosemont Ave, #1W, Chicago, IL, 60660



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

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

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

1103155 11/11



**JOSEPH RICE
INTERIORS, INC.**

CHICAGO

(773) 779-8707

www.josephriceinteriors.com

Specializing in Drapery Treatments



**Bernie
Carter**

708-912-2769

**Bernie
LaRocco**

312-543-3838

Serving Chicago and Suburbs

"Let our years of experience work for you"

PROUD MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

THE LYSTER FIRM
ATTORNEYS

CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS

Serving the LGBT Community for Over 30 Years

TOUGH, EXPERIENCED AND DEDICATED
312-855-0875 | 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL
LysterFirm@aol.com
24/7 Emergency Phone: 847-309-7777

- State & Federal Courts
- Felonies & Misdemeanors
- Internet & White-Collar Crime
- All Drug Charges
- Sex Offenses
- Weapon & Gun Charges
- All Serious Traffic Offenses
- Drunk Driving
- Orders of Protection
- Expungements

Speak to an experienced
attorney within minutes who
will fight for you



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



*When experience counts...
In service to the community
for over 35 years.*

- Bankruptcy
- Wills, Trusts & Probate
- Real Estate Closings
- Premarital Agreements

33 N. Dearborn St., Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60602
312-263-8800 RVMLAWYER@AOL.COM

We are a debt relief agency.

We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the bankruptcy code.



We
Print
With
Pride

Topweb LLC

Digital and Offset Web Printing



5450 N. Northwest Highway • Chicago, IL 60630-1114
Phone (773) 975-0400 • Facsimile (773) 763-7106
www.topweb.net



WE FOCUS ON HIV
TO HELP YOU FOCUS ON
TODAY

Ask your doctor if a medicine made by Gilead is right for you.

onepillchoices.com