

WINDY CITY TIMES

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

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Main photo of Market Days 2016 by Ed Negron. Photo of Max (left) courtesy of Eli Wenig (Crush Music).



EASY LIVING

The Hampdens is providing luxury living.
Rendering courtesy of The Hampdens

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MARKET DAYS

Annual Boystown street festival features music from MAX (inset) and more

SCHEDULE ON PAGE 40; MAX INTERVIEW ON PAGE 30



MARILYN MORALES

Lesbian candidate seeks aldermanic seat.

Photo courtesy of Morales

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TO CELL AND BACK

Talking with 'Orange Is the New Black' stars.

Photo of Taylor Schilling courtesy of Netflix

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ARMAND CERBONE

Aiming to be first gay APA leader.

Photo by Israel Wright

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PRECIOUS BRADY-DAVIS

Trans activist releasing memoir.

Photo by Korto Photography

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Above: Windy City Times reviews BLISS (or Emily Post Is Dead!).
Photo by Tom McGrath, TCMcG Photography

online exclusives at
www.WindyCityTimes.com



SOCIAL HOUR

The Loews Hotel has culinary offerings galore with Streeterville Social (left) and ETA.

Photo by Andrew Davis

CLASS DISTINCTION



The 2018 BMW 740e is an expensive ride with social responsibility.

Photo courtesy of Gaywheels.com

'LOTTERY' WINNER

WCT reviews the book The Lotterys Plus One, by Emma Donoghue.

THAT'S SHOW BIZ

Find out the latest about Jodie Foster, Lance Bass and Chaka Khan.

plus
DAILY BREAKING NEWS

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Tiven resigning from Lambda Legal

Rachel B. Tiven has announced that she will be stepping down as CEO of Lambda Legal to work on the 2018 midterm elections. She had headed the organization since 2016.

The Executive Committee and Board will be communicating about interim leadership and next steps shortly.

Tiven said, "I was hired at Lambda with a mandate to make big changes. I am proud of how much we've accomplished, and proud of how Lambda has responded to the assault on our rights posed by the Trump administration. Ultimately, though, with Justice Kennedy's retirement and Brett Kavanaugh's nomination, so much of what Lambda



Rachel Tiven.

Photo by Matt Simonette

is fighting for rests on what happens in Congress. I'll be joining the Leadership Now Project, and spending the next crucial months helping save our democracy at the ballot box.

"I'm grateful for the experience I've had at Lambda, and will remain a strong supporter and donor. We need Lambda Legal more than ever, and I'll be rooting for them."

In response, Lambda Unites—the organizing committee of Lambda Legal's employee union—issued a statement. In part, it reads, "The staff at Lambda Legal have worked tirelessly for over 45 years for the communities we serve. Every attorney, every administrator, every accountant, every director, every legal assistant, every communications staffer, every fundraiser, every community educator—and all who are listed here and all who are not—are proud of the work we have done to make Lambda Legal the institution that it is today.

"We see this new opportunity for a change in leadership as a fresh start, and a way for Lambda Legal to prove its commitment to the staff that has worked so hard to make this institution what it is. We have been in the process of working on a union contract for five months now, and Lambda Legal management's actions have frequently indicated to us that they have not been as in-

vested in quickly coming to an agreement as we are. However, we have hope that this process can and will be better going forward. We are firmly committed to developing a contract that allows Lambda Legal's devoted staff the opportunity to focus on our work without fear of financial insecurity, job insecurity, and insufficient health care coverage (including our current lack of necessary coverage for all transition-related care for transgender staff)."

Almost \$130K raised for gay student

Seth Owen—the openly gay valedictorian of his senior class at First Coast High School in Jacksonville, Florida—will be able to attend his choice of Georgetown University, thanks to a GoFundMe page and the university's choice to reduce his costs to zero.

Owen, who was also on his school's swim team, had split with his Southern Baptist parents because of the family church's anti-gay views. The teen then realized that he could not attend Georgetown University because the school had based his aid package on an expected \$20,000 contribution from his parents.

Jane Martin, a biology teacher at his high school, then launched a GoFundMe page to raise tuition for Owen. Almost \$130,000 has been raised, which Owen will use to set up a scholarship fund for other LGBTQ students.

Cuba set to approve same-sex marriage

Cuba looks to become the latest country in Latin America to approve same-sex marriage, after the National Assembly, on Aug. 5, unanimously approved a new constitution that defines marriage as "the consensual union of two people, regardless of gender," The Guardian reported.

The new constitution, known as the Magna Carta, will be put to a referendum later this year.

The document will replace the current constitution's definition of marriage as the "voluntary union between a man and woman." The new constitution does not explicitly address the question of whether same-sex couples can adopt children; however, experts say this will now likely be possible.

The Guardian article is at <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/23/cuba-new-constitution-paves-way-for-same-sex-marriage>.

GUEST COLUMN



BY BRUCE KOFF

AIDS then and global anti-LGBTQ persecution now: We know what to do

I've been here before. I hear it in their stories. Fearful of rejection by their own families, silenced by a fiercely homophobic culture, abandoned by friends who dare not associate with them, they fear for their lives. Each of them faces an onslaught of trauma: bodies beaten, homes lost, livelihoods stolen, the threat of death becoming the ultimate "quarantine."

"It is an epidemic, and the tragedy and loss is mounting. And here's one more parallel to the early years of AIDS: It's up to us—the LGBTQ community and our allies—to do something."

I've been here before. The world largely ignores their plight. The numbers don't mean much, because the lives of LGBTQ people just don't count for much.

So it was then, in the early years of the AIDS epidemic. So it is now with an epidemic that has no comparable name, no CDC to pursue a cure, no ACT UP to invade city halls and corporate headquarters. It is a worldwide scourge. It is anti-LGBTQ persecution.

Here are some numbers: 76 countries with over 40% of the world's population criminalize homosexuality, while others enable persecution of LGBTQ people despite laws in place to protect them. It is happening every day and, in fact, in many parts of the world, it is happening more.

What does persecution look like? It is about as ugly as an opportunistic infection in the early years of AIDS. I remember.

If you're a gay man in Egypt, you unfurl a rainbow flag at a concert one night and find yourself imprisoned and fearful of attack in the morning. If you're a trans woman in Jamaica, you become a "gully queen," exiled from your family, denied work, slashed more times than you can count, settling into Kingston's sewer system for refuge. If you're a lesbian in the Middle East or North Africa, you're compelled

to marry, bear children, and restricted from association with others like you. If you are arrested for any reason and it is determined you are a lesbian, you may be raped.

Gay in Iran? The sentence can involve getting thrown off the roof of a tall building. Nigeria? The sentence is 14 years, if a mob doesn't set you ablaze first. Aceh, Indonesia? 85 lashes with a cane. If you engage in same-sex relations in Chechnya, you can be detained, tortured and forced to name names, only to be returned to your family whom the state implores to kill you.

It is an epidemic, and the tragedy and loss is mounting. And here's one more parallel to the early years of AIDS: It's up to us—the LGBTQ community and our allies—to do something.

And we are. LGBTQ people in some of these countries, under the most adverse conditions, are forming connections and starting groups. Some are openly organizing and advocating at great personal risk. These are today's heroes as surely as the heroes of ACT UP were in the 1980s. They are worthy of our support.

One more number: there are an estimated 15,000 LGBTQ people in the U.S. waiting for asylum. Most of them dare not speak for themselves for fear of jeopardizing their case for freedom. It is our obligation to speak for them when we can and give them a forum when they are able to speak for themselves. We have an obligation to make this country a welcoming place for those members of our worldwide LGBTQ family fleeing for their lives, forced to leave all they know and love. We have an obligation to care for them and to fight for them.

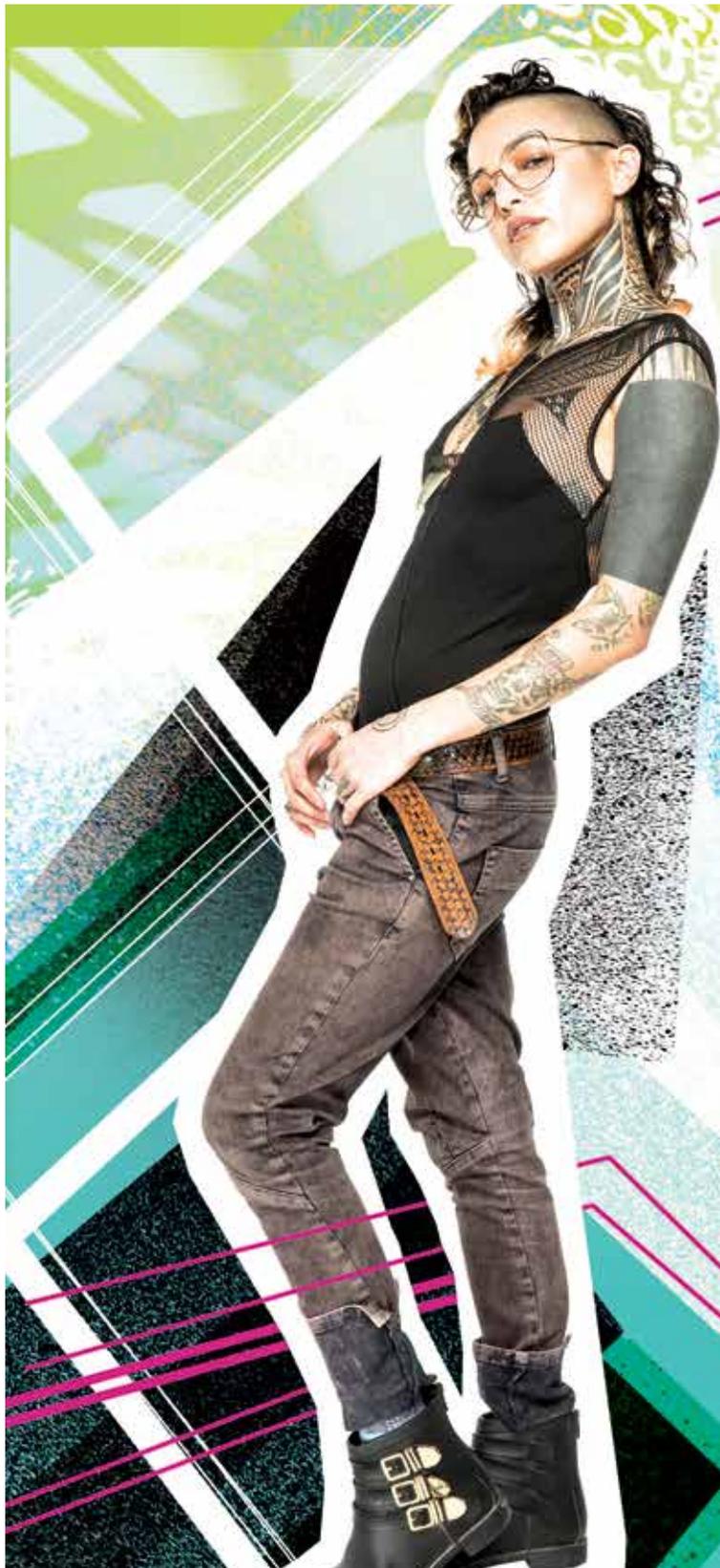
What can you do? Start with this: On Thursday, Aug. 16, 6:30 p.m., at Center on Halsted, a group of organizations are coming together to sponsor a panel/community discussion entitled, "If Not US, Who? The Struggle of LGBTQ Refugees and Asylum-Seekers." U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley will speak, along with a panel of experts and an amazing trans woman named Gabrielle who just won asylum in the U.S. Hear what they have to say. See this as an opportunity to be moved, to learn what we can do, and to act. Join us.

We've been here before. We know what to do. **Tickets for "If Not US, Who?" are available at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/if-not-us-who-tickets-47916204658>.**

Bruce Koff serves on the All Aboard USA Committee of Rainbow Railroad, an international organization dedicated to rescuing LGBTQ individuals facing persecution abroad and bringing them to safety.

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LGBTQA forum tackles gun-control issues

BY MATT SIMONETTE

When it comes to changing laws that can stem the flow of guns used to commit crimes into communities, U.S. Rep. Robin Kelly (D-Chicago) is blunt: "It's going to take changing who we've got in Congress. ... That's the honest-to-God truth."

Kelly and activists met with officials, advocates and other community members the afternoon of Aug. 1 to discuss efforts within the LGBT community made towards curbing gun-violence.

The 2nd District Congresswoman noted that civic engagement is one step towards raising awareness, and that stoking such engagement will be important as the country ages. She added, "Only three percent of millennials voted. We have to change that if we're going to make some

changes."

Jason Lindsay—who founded and is executive director of Pride Fund, a Washington, D.C.-based advocacy highlighting the LGBT community's voice in the fight against gun violence—discussed the disproportionate role the National Rifle Association plays in funding and lobbying American politicians, and said that he was inspired to launch Pride Fund shortly after the Pulse Nightclub shootings in Orlando in 2016.

Lindsay wanted Pride Fund to function as a PAC that supports politicians interested in gun-law reforms and raise awareness of gun issues in the LGBT community.

"Our community is excited and revved up about creating change on this issue," Lindsay said, noting that there are about 500 members in the Chicago area alone.



From left: Marley Rosario, Rep. Robin Kelly and Jason Lindsay.
Photo by Matt Simonette

He said that real change for Chicago has to come at the federal level, since many guns used to commit crimes in the region flow in from Wisconsin and Indiana, where there are less-strict laws to access firearms. He also suggested that mainstream gun-control organizations must adopt more robust strategies to tackle systemic issues perpetuating gun violence instead of focusing on smaller-scope issues such as waiting periods and background checks.

Anti-violence activist Marley Rosario, who is a University of Chicago student, said he's found that students across the country, since they have been at the forefront of this issue for years, are eager to become engaged.

"Kids in [Chicago Public Schools] want to be involved," Rosario said, recalling that when he was a CPS student, "I was looking to get involved. I didn't know where to find [involvement]."

Rosario additionally noted that survivors of school shootings such as those in Parkland, Florida, understandably receive attention for the trauma they've endured on school property, CPS students impacted by gun violence outside of school receive no such attention or resources.

"Our students are in our country are waking up and realizing that they have to fight for their lives," he said.

The Aug. 1 gathering was held at the downtown offices of the law firm Clark Hill LLC.

UIC seeks director of gender/sexuality center

The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is seeking applicants for the position of director of the Gender and Sexuality Center.

The director is responsible for the administrative leadership and management of the Center, and oversees all operations of the Center. This includes development and administration of programs and activities that provide faculty, staff and students' knowledge of issues relating

to the LGBTQIA+ communities.

This position promotes an inclusive environment that facilitates LGBTQIA+ students' advancement, growth and development through advocacy, policy development and institutional intervention to support diversity on campus.

A minimum of a master's degree in a relevant field is required; Ph.D. candidates should have expertise on issues relating to LGBTQIA+ communities.

For fullest consideration, submit an application at <https://jobs.uic.edu/>, click on the job board and then the job, and upload a resume and cover letter by Wed., Aug. 8.

Panel reflects on knowing LGBT history

BY MATT SIMONETTE

An Aug. 2 discussion at the Weinberg/Newton Gallery in River North focused on the importance of conveying LGBT history in Illinois schools.

The matter is currently before the General Assembly; a bill that would make Illinois the second state to mandate instruction on adding LGBT history to its curriculum passed the state Senate with bipartisan support, and has also passed through a House committee. Supporters expect a House vote during the fall veto session, said Mike Ziri, Equality Illinois' director of public policy, who spoke at the Aug. 2 discussion, which was largely geared towards educators.

Such a curriculum, Ziri added, would resonate powerfully for LGBT students "who will see themselves in how they are taught."



LGBT history panel, from left: Maureen Loughnane, Victor Salvo, Ramon Gardenhire and Mike Ziri.
Photo by Matt Smionette

Legacy Project founder and Executive Director Victor Salvo said that not only would such teachings give LGBT students "a sense of context," it would also inform non-LGBT students of the contributions community members made as well.

The Legacy project, Salvo noted, was about "looking to reinstate a sentence that somebody else left out."

AIDS Foundation of Chicago Vice President of Policy Ramon Gardenhire reflected on how a sense of history is important as racism, xenophobia, sexism and other prejudices continue to impede social progress.

Gardenhire admitted that political work is daunting, "but I am able to do that from a place of privilege because there were people who came before me [in HIV/AIDS activism] ... whose very existence was criminalized."

The panel was moderated by Maureen Loughnane, executive director of the Chicago office of the national organization Facing History and Ourselves.



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Mother says daughter targeted for being lesbian

BY MATT SIMONETTE

A West Side woman said that her 15-year-old daughter, who was attacked the afternoon of July 31, was targeted for being a lesbian, according to reports.

The girl, Amari Graves, and a 13-year-old female friend were on the 5700 block of W. Augusta Blvd. at about 2:20 p.m. when three persons—two females and one male—approached in two vehicles and attacked the two girls, according to Chicago Police spokesperson Jennifer Byrk.

Graves was taken to West Suburban Hospital with facial injuries, bruising and swelling in her left eye, as well as lacerations to her left elbow and her right hand.

No offenders are in custody and an investigation is ongoing, Byrk added.

Graves' mother, Catina Parks-Dorsey, told NBC 5 that the attack was motivated by anti-gay bias and demanded to know why CPD wasn't doing more.

"Absolutely nothing was done," Catina Parks-Dorsey said. She added that the episode should be treated as a hate crime.

Graves said that one of the females assailants was a girl she knew from school; the other female was that person's mother, who Graves said recorded the assault.

NBC 5's report is at <https://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/teenage-girl-attacked-austin-489825901.html>.

Reports: State rep resigns after revenge porn allegations

BY MATT SIMONETTE

State Rep. Nick Sauer (R-Libertyville) resigned Aug. 1 after allegations broke that he'd posted intimate photos of his ex-girlfriend, Kate Kelly, on a fake Instagram account, where he additionally engaged in sexually tinged banter with other men.

Politico first reported the allegations Aug. 1. According to that report, Sauer would directly message other men pretending to be Kelly. The couple broke up last March, and Kelly notified Chicago police when she became aware of Sauer's activities. An investigation is reportedly pending.

Sauer was running for a second term in office and was a member of the state's tollway board and the House's Sexual Discrimination and Harassment Task Force.

In his resignation, Sauer wrote, "My ability to fulfill my obligations as a State Representative and public servant will be affected by the distraction of addressing these allegations."

Sauer succeeded state Rep. Ed Sullivan Jr., the second Republican House member to back marriage equality.

Politico's report is at <https://www.politico.com/story/2018/08/01/illinois-lawmaker-nude-photos-754563>.

Sykes, Rippon at Sept. 14 Chicago House event

Chicago House—which provides housing and support for those living with HIV/AIDS—has announced its 8th Speaker Series, with Wanda Sykes and Adam Rippon as headliners, on Friday, Sept. 14, in the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Ave., 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Local NBC reporter Chris Hush will emcee the event.

Sykes, an out stand-up comedian and actress, received an Emmy nomination for her first HBO comedy special, *Wanda Sykes: Sick and Tired*. Since, she has received numerous awards and nominations, including a 2010 GLAAD award and a 2017 Primetime Emmy nod for her work on the ABC show *Black-ish*.

Before he even stepped on the ice at the 2018 Winter Olympics, figure skater Adam Rippon made history as the first openly gay U.S. male athlete to qualify for the Winter Games. He eventually earned the bronze medal as part of the figure-skating team event, becoming the first openly gay athlete to medal at the Winter Olympics.

The event's hosts include co-chairs Nabeela Rasheed, intellectual property section head at AbbVie; and Chicago House Board Chair, Ray J. Koenig III, a Clark Hill Executive Committee and the managing member of the

law firm's Chicago office as well as a member in Clark Hill's Litigation and Personal Legal Services practice groups.

See ChicagoHouse.org for tickets and more information.



Left: Adam Rippon. Right: Wanda Sykes.
PR photos

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Trans Ecuadorian woman on asylum, life in Chicago

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Gabrielle (who prefers not to use her last name) was at her breaking point when she left Ecuador more than 10 years ago.

"I left for many reasons," said Gabrielle. "My family did not accept that I am a transgender woman. I was bullied by fellow students and teachers my entire time at school and got fired from my job because they perceived that I was gay. I faced many dangers in public places. My transgender friends and I got arrested because we wore dresses in public. The cops also beat us and threw gas at us before putting us in a jail cell with dangerous criminals. We got raped and tortured by those criminals."

Gabrielle knew she identified as a girl at a young age but her parents punished her whenever they found her wearing her cousin's dresses and makeup or playing with dolls. She said that despite her parent's punishments these were the happiest moments of her childhood.

The outside world was not any better. Gabrielle got bullied at her public school for wanting to dance and do craft activities. Gabrielle's parents put her into a private Christian school because they thought she could be "cured" through the school's brand of "conversion therapy" which was forcing her to fast for four days. This mistreat-

ment continued throughout her time at a Catholic university until she could not take it any longer.

"I gave my country many opportunities and tried to make a life there, but I always got hurt," said Gabrielle. "Of the 17 trans friends I knew growing up only three of us are alive, and it is because all of us left Ecuador. The others either disappeared, were murdered, got arrested and then murdered in prison or were denied health-care and died."

When Gabrielle came to the United States on a J-1 internship visa, she chose Gurnee, Illinois, because of its proximity to Chicago. At first, Gabrielle did not know she could apply for asylum due to the discrimination she faced in Ecuador because of her gender identity.

"I thought I did not have any rights at all," said Gabrielle. "When you suffer so many traumas in your life you think that is normal and you accept that as your destiny in life."

At first, Gabrielle pursued other routes to stay in the United States with her immigration attorney Mike Jarecki. This included sponsorship through a family member and a U-1 visa because she was a victim of a hate crime in 2012. Due to the long wait times for the visa benefit, Jarecki advised Gabrielle of her right to apply for asylum, which she did in November 2013. The process was long and arduous, according to Gabrielle, because



her interview did not take place until May 2017.

"The interview was not easy because I had to talk about every single horrible situation I suffered back in Ecuador," said Gabrielle. "I was also going through depression at the time which made it worse. A year passed by and I never got an answer, so I sued the government to demand that they make a decision on my long-pending case. Amazingly, six weeks after that, on June 20 of this year, they sent my approval letter for asylum. I felt like I could breathe and my new life was just about to start."

Currently, Gabrielle is completing her master's degree in finance from a private Chicago university. When she graduates next year she will be pursuing her own hedge fund. Gabrielle's goal is to create a safe work place for anyone in the LGBTQ community who wants to work in finance. She also wants to start grant programs for other transgender and gender nonconforming people so they can pursue their own dreams.

Gabrielle will be participating in an upcoming panel discussion, "If Not Us, Who?," focusing on

the worldwide struggle of LGBTQ refugees and asylum seekers alongside Jarecki, Chicago and Midwest Human Rights Watch Director Jackie Kaplan Perkins, Rainbow Railroad U.S. Development Officer Eduardo Hernandez and Center on Halsted Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator Joanna Thompson.

"This is the first time I am doing such an event, but I am excited to help my community by telling my story," said Gabrielle. "I think that people who do not advocate for change are contributing to the mistreatment of asylum seekers. Having a quota for how many people can be granted asylum per year is unconscionable. We are all humans who should take care of each other because it is the only way we will survive. I dream of a world where discrimination does not exist and everyone has a fair shot at happiness."

The panel discussion will take place Thursday, Aug. 16, at 6:30 p.m. at Center on Halsted. To RSVP for this event (admission: \$10), visit <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/if-not-us-who-tickets-47916204658>.



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PHOTO: Todd Rosenberg/Alice Klock

Lesbian candidate Morales seeks 45th Ward aldermanic seat

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Activist Marilyn Morales is making a bid to become the 45th Ward's representative on the Chicago City Council, challenging incumbent Ald. John Arena, in next winter's municipal election. If elected, she would be the City Council's first openly lesbian Latinx member. Morales, a longtime Chicago Park District employee who lives in Jefferson Park, discussed why she's running with Windy City Times.

Windy City Times: Why are you entering the race?

Marilyn Morales: When people ask that, they're often interested in hearing my platform, but I first say, "Because I can." Because we live in this country where we have the freedom to do what we want to do. We have freedom of speech and we have freedom of expression. I think it's been a long time coming. As a gay Puerto Rican woman, I feel that I can run. First and foremost, I'm practicing my First Amendment rights.

Secondly, I think that, as a gay Latina activist, I've grown up since my last run for city clerk eight or nine years ago. I've gone through a lot, personally and professionally, and as I look to end my career in public service, in terms of my professional work with Chicago Park District, I felt very compelled to represent where I've lived for the past 20 years, as a gay woman raising my children, in a ward that has been progressive, open and extremely supportive of me.

WCT: What is your biggest advantage in the race, and, conversely, what is your biggest challenge?

MM: In terms of assets, it's my ability to be more inclusive. I had that skill-set and I've had that experience. Not only that, as a gay woman, as a mom, as a daughter of a mother with Parkinson's, I'm so sensitive to so many different issues. I think I can bring people together about so many different issues that are currently dividing the community.

Like anyone who is [facing] an incumbent my biggest challenge is a lack of money. That needs to be addressed. That's why we have a lot of great people who can't or don't want to run for office, because of the financial burden you have to undertake. It is frustrating. That will be a challenge, to see if I can rile up the community and get the people involved and try not to count on the dollars as much.

WCT: What are the most pertinent issues for the ward?

MM: The ward is a large area, and every part of it has different issues. I think right now the main issue for the north end of the ward is development and density. John Arena's approach to this issue is in fact what prompted me to run—we need to hold more community meetings and get more community input. ... The other issue is economic development. On Milwaukee Avenue,

Six Corners, we need to track businesses and get our own community to buy locally and invest in our businesses, so there's job creation and mobility. There are a lot of store fronts that are closed.

WCT: Speak about some of some of your activism from within and on behalf of the LGBT community.

MM: I can't say that I've served on any boards or that I've been part of any organization, other than parks stuff, or the Puerto Rican Agenda. But I do think that anyone who comes to the table with different types of life experiences, whatever they are, and has genuine experience and can advocate based on that, is someone that we need to have at the table.

When I started at the park district, the domestic partnership policy was not in place—we were not yet able to get married—so I pushed for that. Information on LGBT issues in public spaces was also not yet addressed, and I felt that we really need to start talking about those issues in the park community in terms of access.

Two years ago I brought in Illinois Safe Schools Alliance to have them speak to our supervisors. We have 500 parks in the city, with 500 public bathrooms. If you're transgender, whoever is run-

Pro-LGBT groups respond to 'religious liberty' task force

On July 30, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the Department of Justice's creation of a "religious-liberty task force" to "help the department fully implement our religious guidance"—and many pro-LGBT organizations were quick to respond.

Out & Equal Workplace Advocates issued "5 Things To Know About the Religious Liberty Task Force." Among the items listed were that Sessions is bolstering discrimination by citing the backlash against the baker in the Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission case; and that religious freedom should not be used as leverage to discriminate against anyone.

The Human Rights Campaign also issued a statement, with Legal Director Sarah Warbelow saying, "This taxpayer-funded task force is yet another example of the Trump-Pence White House and Jeff Sessions sanctioning discrimination against LGBTQ people. Over the last 18 months, Donald Trump, Mike Pence and Jeff Sessions have engaged in a brazen campaign to erode and limit the rights of LGBTQ people in the name of religion. The Attorney General standing shoulder-to-shoulder this morning with anti-LGBTQ extremists tells you everything you need to know about what today's an-



Marilyn Morales.

Photo courtesy of Morales

ning that park facility should be sensitive to that issue. That is important to me—we've had issues. One of our janitors called the cops on a person who looked like a man in the women's bathroom. By the time I got there the person had left. I think it was at that point that I thought that we

nouncement was really all about."

In addition, the Democratic National Committee LGBTQ Media Director Lucas Acosta said in a separate press release, "By creating this task force, Sessions is establishing a unit dedicated to undermining LGBTQ rights and giving anti-LGBTQ far-right extremists like task force head Jesse Panuccio a taxpayer-funded platform to push their anti-equality agenda. Rather than ensuring every person has equal protections and opportunities, Sessions is shamefully doubling down on bigotry."

"The task force will help the department fully implement our religious liberty guidance by ensuring that all Justice Department components are upholding that guidance in the cases they bring and defend, the arguments they make in court, the policies and regulations they adopt and how we conduct our operations," Sessions said.

Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio and Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy Beth Williams will co-chair the task force.

Legacy Walk to unveil Tchaikovsky

CHICAGO—One of the immortal composers of classical music, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, will join the ranks of such LGBTQ icons as Alan Turing and Sylvia Rivera with a biographical memorial in Chicago's award-winning outdoor LGBT His-

need to address this issue. We need to be sensitive to it, and be educated about it. The park district has, for the past few years, been doing a lot of professional development on LGBT issues in public spaces.

See marilyn45.com .

tory Museum's "The Legacy Walk."

With Ravinia Festival, Ravinia Board Chairman Jennifer Steans, Illinois state Sen. Heather Steans (D-7th District) and Ravinia President/CEO Welz Kauffman and husband Jon Teeuwissen sponsoring, the Tchaikovsky exhibit will be unveiled at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13, in the Boystown area of Chicago.

Award-winning jazz pianist/composer/accordionist Ben Rosenblum will give a street performance at the dedication and will make his Ravinia debut later that night. A "Dedication Celebration" will follow the installation at Sidetrack, 3349 N. Halsted St.

The Legacy Walk is an international and multicultural half-mile installation that celebrates the contributions LGBTQ people have made to world history and culture. Its bronze biographical memorials feature detailed text and images of individuals who have championed the community, such as Jane Addams, Bayard Rustin, Alan Turing, Sally Ride and James Baldwin.

Each marker is digitally linked to a cloud-based Near Field Communication system that enables patrons to access video and download lesson plans, study guides, and reading resources through their smartphones. The Legacy Walk also serves as an "outdoor classroom" for LGBTQ youth to learn about historically significant role models. The streetscape, which soon will be granted historic landmark status, is the only installation of its kind in the world.

See LegacyProjectChicago.org.



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Human Rights Watch issues U.S. LGBT healthcare report

BY MATT SIMONETTE

New York City-based Human Rights Watch (HRW) issued a report on July 23 addressing the many healthcare barriers faced by LGBT individuals in the United States.

Among the issues discussed in the 34-page report are access to services, discrimination in healthcare settings and decisions by LGBT persons to delay or forego care outright.

According to HRW Researcher Ryan Thoreson, who authored the report, the project arose from an initial investigation into the impact of so-called "religious refusal" laws.

"We kept hearing stories about how difficult it was to access healthcare," he said, noting that researchers realized that the access issue was "a larger piece of the narrative that kept getting lost."

The report documents a number of degradations to LGBT healthcare that have taken place in the wake of the Trump administration, but Thoreson said that one of the most significant degradations was the administrations lack of commitment to LGBT rights.

"The religious refusal piece is part of it, but I think this [lack of commitment] is much bigger than that," he added. "The Obama administration committed to putting up resources on LGBT and women's health, and FAQs, saying that they were taking discrimination seriously and interpreting rules to fight discrimination robustly. We've seen the Trump administration back away from all of

that. That, combined with the strong embrace of religious refusals, sends a strong signal that the Trump administration is not on LGBT people's side."

The report documents how transgender individuals are particularly vulnerable. Thoreson said, "When you are unable to access services, it is not just a denial of health and well-being generally, it's also an attack on who you are and get care that affirms your identity."

Although the report centers on issues facing, among others, LGBT individuals who are poor, or live in underserved settings, Thoreson pointed out that even individuals who have robust insurance in places with strong legal protections may face the issues at some point.

"One of the issues that others have done research on is the way these issues play it in elder care settings," he explained. "There may be a time in their life down the road where they are dependent on Medicare or Medicaid, where their options on mobility and choice are limited."

Thoreson added, "You can't look at the health care issues without looking at the whole universe of religious-refusal arguments. ... We're seeing a very aggressive promotion of the principle that someone's religious beliefs trump any other responsibilities that they have under the law. I think that's a very dangerous principle."

The complete report is at <https://www.hrw.org/report/2018/07/23/you-dont-want-second-best/anti-lgbt-discrimination-us-health-care>.

'U=U' HIV event on Aug. 16

On Thursday, Aug. 16, 1-6 p.m., "U=U" will celebrate the science and advocacy that has shown that people living with HIV on successful anti-retroviral treatment —meaning their viral load is undetectable for at least six months—are not capable of transmitting HIV sexually to their HIV-negative partners.

The event will be at Rush Center of Excellence, 1725 W Harrison St. Speakers will include Prevention Access Campaign's Bruce Richman; Dr. Toyin Adeyemi, of the Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center; and Getting to Zero advocate Noel Green. Storie Devereaux will serve as moderator, with Global Girls and GayCo providing entertainment.

Space is limited; RSVP at www.aidschicago.org/uandyou.

NCTE VIP reception set for Aug. 13

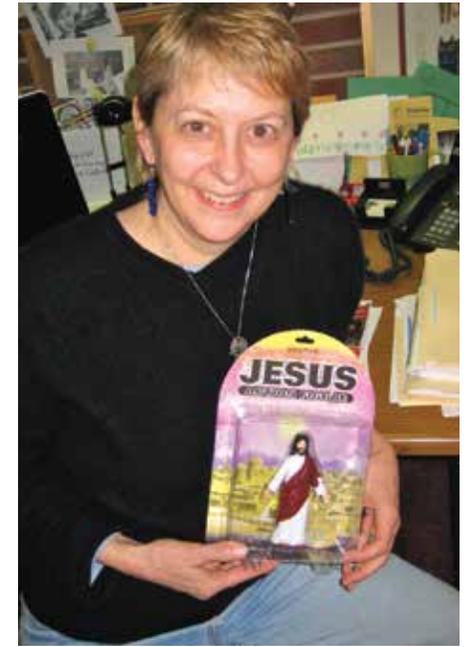
The National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) will hold its VIP Chicago reception Monday, Aug. 13, 6-8 p.m., at Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St.

This will be an evening of socializing with NCTE Executive Director Mara Keisling over drinks and light fare. There will be a conversation on the current state of transgender rights, NCTE's history, and the vision for the future of transgender equality.

All guests will be encouraged to make a meaningful gift; for more information, contact Daniel Shad at dshad@transequality.org.

Anti-racism series Sept. 14-Nov. 17

A six-session anti-racism seminar for white people (called "Doing Our Own Work") will be held Sept. 14-15, Oct. 26-27 and Nov. 16-17 at Youth and Opportunity United, 1911 Church St.,



Rev. Lois McCullen Parr.
Photo by John Fenoglio

Evanston. Allies for Change is hosting the series. The sessions, which are gender-inclusive, will be led by Aaron Wilson-Ahlstrom and Lois McCullen Parr.

This event is gender-inclusive, and attendance at all six sessions is required.

Some of the topics to be discussed include movements for racial justice in the United States, strategies for institutional change, and white privilege and unearned advantage.

The cost is \$475 (\$100 deposit; \$375 balance due), which covers the program, resource materials, beverages and snacks for six days. Scholarships and/or time payments are available.

There are 20 spaces available; visit AlliesForChange.org/doow-evanston-2018.html.

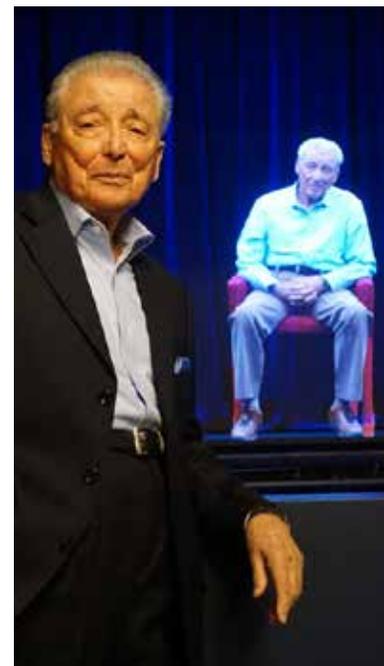
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Local psychologist hopes to be first gay APA president

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Recently, Dr. Armand Cerbone was nominated as one of the five finalists on the ballot to become president of the American Psychological Association (APA). If elected this fall, he will become the first out gay president of the APA. His campaign slogan is "advancing all of psychology to advance all people."

Currently, the candidates are campaigning, with the balloting period set to run Sept. 15-Oct. 31. The winner will be announced in early November.

During the APA's annual convention (Aug. 9-12) in San Francisco, Cerbone will be doing his major campaign push to the members.

"Though the APA has approximately 67,000 eligible voters, only 8-10,000 vote in any given year," he said. "If I can secure at least 4,000 in the first round, I would likely carry the election. The APA uses preferential balloting that has five rounds until the winner is chosen."

Cerbone's journey toward psychology was circuitous because he originally wanted to be a priest and work in a Boston parish where he grew up during the '40s and '50s. He is a first genera-

tion Italian American. Cerbone studied to be a Catholic priest, but was counseled out of being a priest when he reported a sexual encounter with another man to his seminary confessor.

At first, they sent him to the faculty psychologist who in turn sent him to a psychiatrist. Since the seminary and his parents would not pay for the therapy the psychiatrist recommended, Cerbone opted out of it and instead finished his BA in philosophy. The degree was unaccredited.

After leaving the seminary, Cerbone applied to teach at Catholic high schools that would take his seminary degree. Cathedral High School in Boston's South End hired him and he became the first man to join their faculty of nuns.

"I ran the school dances on Friday nights, bingo on Wednesday nights and formed an oratory club for the students, to augment my income," said Cerbone. "By the time I left the school in 1968 to begin graduate studies in counseling psychology at Notre Dame, I had formed a teachers union with three other male teachers. That union still represents many Catholic schools in Boston.

"I loved teaching those kids and I am sure I learned more than they did. I could not see myself teaching in a high school classroom for the

rest of my life, which is why I went back to school to become a psychologist."

Cerbone said that, while he was teaching, he intended to return to the seminary, but when five years of "conversion therapy" did not work, he abandoned those plans. He applied to Catholic graduate schools who would accept his seminary degree and eventually received his doctorate from Notre Dame.

Since 1978, Cerbone has been in a solo practice. He is among the first psychologists to offer affirmative psychotherapy to the LGBT community. Over time, Cerbone began to see gay patients when he became more well known in the LGBT community and started coming out at work.

"I organized a sexual orientation section (now the Section on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity) at the Illinois Psychological Association (IPA) to get a voting seat on the governing council," said Cerbone. "From there, I could review agenda to prevent any antigay measures from being introduced or passed unwittingly and add or introduce pro gay measures to the agenda. I also organized a Midwest Association of Lesbian and Gay Psychologists to provide support to lesbian and gay psychologists in the field and to foster affirmative psychotherapy in the mid-1980s."

Cerbone explained that the AIDS crisis during the 1980s and '90s, took a toll on him because he provided care for many positive men. He said it was devastating to him when he would find out that a patient was hospitalized or had died of AIDS.

"On more than one occasion, when that patient did not show up for an appointment, I would

learn that he was found dead at home," said Cerbone. "There was no time to grieve; another patient was arriving for his appointment."

Cerbone has done workshops and consultations on ethics, marriage and relationships and human sexuality. He was instrumental in getting a mandatory continuing education law passed so psychologists stay current with research and best practices.

"I got IPA to establish prescriptive authority for psychologists with appropriate training as their number one legislative priority," said Cerbone. "This was a major expansion of our scope of practice that was signed into law by then Gov. Pat Quinn.

"I co-authored the APA's Professional Practice Guidelines on Psychotherapy with LGB Clients and chaired the working group that developed the APA's Policy on Same-Sex Families and Relationships. The guidelines have been translated into many languages and stimulated the passage of similar guidelines in countries across the globe, while the policy was cited by the California Supreme Court, the appeals court and the U.S. Supreme Court to rule in favor of same-sex marriage."

Cerbone chaired the first APA LGB international conference in 2001 that formed an international network of psychological associations, the iPsyNet. This international network promotes pro-LGBT health policies. For iPsyNet's first eight years, Cerbone served as the chair and APA representative.

"Last April, I was invited to provide a keynote address and a three-day workshop on LGBT psy-

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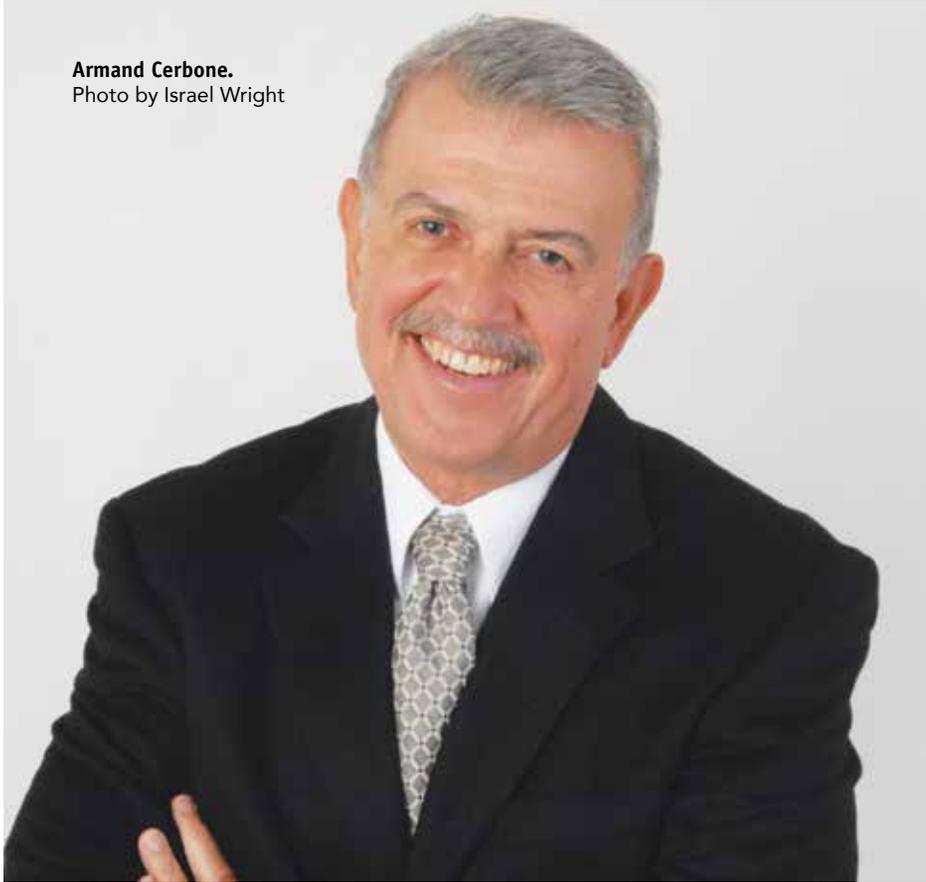
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Armand Cerbone.
Photo by Israel Wright



chology and psychotherapy to Oriental Insight, a Chinese psychology organization, in Wuhan, China," said Cerbone. "Wuhan is in central China and is often referred to as the Chicago of China, since it is an industrial, communications and educational center in the middle of the country. Attendees came from as far away as Beijing and Shanghai. As much as I taught, I learned so much about China and the growing visibility of LGBTs in those two major cities."

Cerbone has been a longtime IPA member and was its first out gay president from 2004-2005. He held leadership positions at the APA including as chair of the board of directors, ethics committee, the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest and the Committee on LGB Concerns (now the Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity). Cerbone has also served a term on the APA Board of Directors.

Additionally, Cerbone served as president of the APA's Division 44 (Society for the Psychological Study of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity) and Division 29 (the Society for the Advancement of Psychotherapy). He currently serves as a the diversity representative to the APA Council of Representatives, the organization's highest policy making body, from Division 42 (Independent Practice).

Recently, Cerbone has had his work published in medical journals including as a guest editor for the section on the intersection of science and LGBT sexuality in *The Journal of Clinical Psychology: In session*. In 1998, he appeared on the Bill O'Reilly show opposite an ex-gay psychotherapist.

From the mid-1970s to mid-1980s, Cerbone had academic appointments at the University of Illi-

nois at Chicago, Nova University and the Illinois School of Professional Psychology.

"I would be teaching today if they paid adjuncts enough to make the work worthwhile," said Cerbone. "I miss teaching."

Among the many accolades Cerbone has received over the years include being inducted into the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame in 2003, two awards from the APA—The Ray Fowler Award and The Heiser Award, an APA presidential citation and an outstanding achievement award from the Committee on LGB Concerns.

"I have tried to bring the benefits of psychology to our LGBT community in Chicago over the years in ways that were not limited to professional services," said Cerbone. "I served on the board of IMPACT, Illinois' first gay PAC. I served as Vice-chair of the board and sang bass with the Windy City Gay Chorus because it was breaking down barriers to gays in the arts. I was one of three chorus members interviewed on the Studs Terkel Show. Those experiences and others like it taught me much about leadership and activism. I have also consulted with state Rep. Kelly Cassidy and state Sen. Daniel Biss in their successful efforts to outlaw conversion therapy for minors."

When Cerbone is not working, he enjoys spending time with his partner, Mike Zartman, playing with their two Lab/Sheperds on Doggie Beach, using their Movie Pass and dining outdoors as much as possible when the weather permits. July 15 marked their 24th anniversary. Zartman will be campaigning for Cerbone at the APA convention.

See <http://www.armandcerbone.com/> and <http://armandcerbone2020.com/> for more information.



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Youth activist Mack Guthrie talks 'My Body, My Story' campaign

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

In the months after the November 2016 election, Mack Guthrie decided he had to get involved with issues he was passionate about. That decision eventually brought him to the My Body, My Story Planned Parenthood of Illinois campaign.

Guthrie had just quit swimming due to medical reasons and wanted to fill up that time with something that was meaningful and would effect real change in the world.

"When I saw the application for My Body, My Story I got excited, and applied right away," said Guthrie. "I already followed Planned Parenthood of Illinois and Planned Parenthood Illinois Action on Facebook, and they shared the application, so I applied and then forgot about it. A few months later, in March 2017, they contacted me and asked me to come down for the group's first meeting. I thought 'Wow, that is great. Now I am a board member.'"

When asked why he wanted to be an advocate for reproductive justice, given that he is a gay man, Guthrie said it was something he got inter-

ested in during middle school, when he was forming his political philosophy and learning about social justice issues.

His parents were always open with him about these issues, and his high school, New Trier, had a comprehensive sex education program that helped expand his knowledge base.

"It always came back to women's rights and their ability to fundamentally control their own reproductive systems," said Guthrie. "Ever since then, I have been learning more about feminism and how that intersects with other social justice issues, including things affecting my own LGBTQ community."

Guthrie's work with this campaign has primarily been on Instagram and Facebook, designing posts that focus on the needs of the community. The campaign is currently working on storytelling where teens talk about birth control and other reproductive topics to their peers instead of relying on information from adults who might not relate to the issues young people face today. He said hearing other people's stories is a more powerful way to get a message across and learn from each



Mack Guthrie.
Photo by Sophie Leuchtner

other's mistakes.

"Over the past year we went to other schools for tabling events during lunch periods," said Guthrie. "Sometimes people would share their stories with us. We handed out free condoms and gave demonstrations so people know how to use them. We have been doing workshops to spread the word about our campaign, so students will know how to stay safe and protected."

While working on the campaign, Guthrie said, his favorite moments have been when he pushes teens out of their comfort zone. That's when he knows he is helping them learn about birth control, sex and women's issues on the whole.

"There was a moment where I realized I was most of my friends' go to person on these issues," said Guthrie. "I had one person ask me where she and her friend could get tested for STIs, and another asked me about how they could obtain birth control with her parents' insurance. They knew it was something that I cared about, whether I was wearing a condom pin to school, or just talking about it. I find a way to bring it into a lot of conversations."

One day in his government class, Guthrie was wearing a pin with an IUD on it. An acquaintance from across the room asked him about the pin in the middle of class so he started explaining the benefits of a paraguard (copper) IUD to her. Guthrie said one of his friends in the room started laughing hysterically because this interaction had become the norm when the two of them were together.

Guthrie explained that the last time he got an HIV test he took a picture of his finger prick and posted it to his Instagram story to remind his friends to get tested. He said a number of people messaged him about the test and he pointed them to the proper resources.

The AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) recently unveiled a youth HIV campaign, "Sexperts Slay," and Guthrie took on the role of sexpert to his friend group.

The thing that has surprised Guthrie the most is how misinformed people are about the vari-

ous facets of sex education. He said that, even at New Trier, the comprehensive information that is taught goes in one ear and out the other because people do not realize how these issues affect them.

Guthrie explained that the internet is a great resource only if one knows how to search these topics. For example, he explained that a cursory Google search on birth control might only show the pill and condoms, but not the IUD or emergency contraception Plan B or Ella.

"I definitely get the 'you are not going to have a baby, your partner is not going to have a baby, why are you crazy obsessed with this'," said Guthrie. "A lot of my friends are women, and some of them have had pregnancy scares, so I want to be there for them as an ally. I know HIV is a looming threat over our heads, so I have been able to have conversations with other gay men about HIV and PrEP, using condoms and how to be safe, so ultimately I think it is all tied together. Our material is inclusive of the entire LGBTQ community."

Working on this campaign has changed Guthrie's worldview for the better, he said, because he has been exposed to other teens from diverse communities across the Chicagoland area. He added that there have been some weird moments and he has considered where how he positions himself as a man speaking on these issues. This has resulted in him taking a back seat when there are women present.

"I was the only white male on our board this past year and I think that is really cool, because normally white men are making these decisions or coming up with ideas," said Guthrie.

This past spring, Guthrie graduated from high school where he was the co-editor of the New Trier News and a four-year member of Model UN. He said those two activities prepared him for working with the My Body, My Story campaign because they involve talking to people that might have differing opinions on various issues. Guthrie was also the vice president of communications for Food Taxi, where students collected extra food

from the Friday school breakfast to donate to various homeless shelters and other places of need. He also worked at Wagner Farm in Glenview.

Guthrie was more or less out his sophomore year and then in junior year he switched his Facebook profile to note his interest in men. He said everyone in his life has been very supportive.

When Guthrie heads to American University in Washington, D.C. this fall, he will continue his activism through Planned Parenthood Generation Action. Since the My Body, My Story campaign is an Illinois initiative focused on high school students, he will be leaving the board this summer.

Guthrie said he hopes to keep playing in the orchestra (having been a violinist since he was 4 years old) in college, as well as work on the newspaper and join an international relations group. He would like to be in the foreign service or go to law school.

In terms of youth activism on the whole, Guth-

rie said the prevalence of school shootings like the one in Parkland are tragic incidents, but it has been great to see young people come into their own and take charge of issues they care about, including gun control. He explained that the only way to make change is by amplifying one's voice and then going to the polls for every election. Guthrie praises the Parkland activists for creating the Road to Change tour to register voters and talk about the issues.

"The more you talk about issues openly, the less stigma there will be," said Guthrie. "Whether it is about sex, birth control, HIV/AIDS, gun violence, LGBTQ issues, race and/or intersectional feminism, remaining silent is not an option."

See <https://www.instagram.com/mybodymystoryppil/> and <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-illinois/campaigns/my-bodymystory> for more information.

adding she was almost relieved to discover other people had received similar correspondence.

Gonzalez was saddened to see that Purkart lived just down the street.

"I came to find out he lives a block away from me, goes to my church and has actually had a beer on my front patio," she added. "He knew my neighbors and was sitting on the patio having a beer with us one night."

All three of the recipients felt that Purkart was getting off light with the pending charges. The gay man questioned why he was not being charged with a hate crime.

"He'll probably end up with community service and a fine, for the amount of emotional turmoil he put us all through," Gonzalez said. "...It seems the punishment doesn't fit the crime."

Center seeks Billiken parade volunteers

LGBTQ facility Center on Halsted is marching in the Bud Billiken Parade this year on Saturday, Aug. 11, at 10 a.m.—and is looking for volunteers to represent the Center while handing out materials to community members.

As the largest African-American parade in the United States (and the largest one in Chicago), the Bud Billiken Parade has grown into an institution with generational participation across the country. The parade—which began Aug. 11, 1929—was intended to be a symbol of pride, happiness and hope, as well as represented unity in diversity for the children of Chicago.

This year's theme is "Back to School, Back to Work, Back to Life, Back to Bud," with an '80s/'90s-themed festival after the parade with plenty of food and games. The parade is routed south on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, through the historic Bronzeville neighborhood, into Washington Park.

Those interested in volunteering should email JoannaThompson@centeronhalsted.org or visit https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0XKmuiEjx42tbM_8nf5f0yBuThQdxAFiDH-tRwBg_-6U0mQ/viewform.

Suburban man charged with sending racist, anti-gay hate mail

BY MATT SIMONETTE

A gay man who resides in Batavia, Illinois, was among several residents of the western suburbs who received hate mail from a local resident taking umbrage with statements they'd posted or supported on social media.

Anton Purkart of Geneva faces four counts of misdemeanor disturbing the peace in court on Aug. 7.

Many whom Purkart allegedly harassed had only minimally engaged in the online conversations in question. The gay man and a female Geneva resident, both of whom wished to remain anonymous, had only posted a "sad" emoji on a post about immigration issues in late May. In both cases, Purkart included a printout of the discussion and circled their name on a list of contributors.

Even more upsetting to them, however, were crude and bigoted notes he scrawled on the printout. The gay man's message included a homophobic slur and even insulted where he went to school.

"I couldn't believe that he took the time to look me up on Facebook, print it out, look up my address and mail it," said the man.

"It caught us all off guard," said the woman. "It was so unexpected to get a letter like that in the mail."

Geneva resident Brenda Gonzalez received hate mail allegedly from Purkart May 11 after she posted a one-sentence message of support for local food trucks.

"There was absolutely nothing controversial about the food trucks," Gonzalez recalled.

About a week later, she received a printout with a typewritten note that contained numerous slurs against Latinx persons.

"We took it to the police department that evening and filed a report and, then ... we all kind of started to find each other," she said,

This Week's Featured Properties



Centered on an open steel stairwell with a shimmering three-story water feature running against a subway slate backdrop, the residence is reminiscent of a Parisian garden court with an abundance of natural light reflecting off an array of stones, metals, woods, and glass — all artfully integrated into every inch of its construction.

1457 W. Addison St.
\$2,190,000



With an enormous suburban-sized yard perfect for tented parties, pick-up soccer games, or a simple breakfast coffee, this grand estate comprising 5+ lots proves you can have it all in the city — right across from the park and lake. Driveway and 3+ car garage.

530 W. Hawthorne Pl.
\$3,795,000



Rock-star architectural transformation! A modern space with seamless outdoor/indoor living which maximizes light, utility, and design. One-of-a-kind special property. Amazing!

820 W. Wolfram St. #F
\$765,000



Rare opportunity for expansive 2-bedroom in newer boutique East Lakeview elevator building with two attached heated garage spaces (one included in price)!

545 W. Aldine Ave. #4D
\$570,000



With expansive views East and North of the harbor, park, and lake beyond, this is what pre-war Lake Shore Drive living is all about. Sprawling 3-bedroom/3-bath residence.

3530 N. Lake Shore Dr. #7A
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Duane Cerny on new book, antiques and Gwendolyn Brooks

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

When Duane Cerny was a child, his favorite place to hang out was in his parents basement because it was filled with '50s-era furniture from their first apartment in Rogers Park.

"My parents preferred buying new things," said Cerny. "Having lived through the Great Depression, they were done with hand-me-downs. When they moved into their first house, they put the old furniture, lighting and knickknacks in the basement and bought new things. Even as a child, I would rather play in the basement than be outside. My poor parents thought something was seriously wrong with me; maybe they were right, but playing with all that kitsch was nirvana to me. I would watch I Love Lucy reruns on TV, then go downstairs and practically be in the same set. I was in heaven"

Cerny was able to take that love of antiques and parlay it into a decades long career as a business owner. He first opened the Wrigleyville Antique Mall on Clark Street in 1990 with his business partner, Jeff Nelson. At the time Boystown was the best place to have an antiques store. But by 1998, they had outgrown that location and purchased a larger building in Edgewater. They named this new store Broadway Antique Market (BAM), and became the largest gay-owned multi-dealer antique store in Chicago.

"We pioneered Edgewater from a resale/retail perspective," said Cerny. "Now more vintage dealers call Edgewater home than any other neighborhood in the city. We are very proud to have been influencers in that regard."

Since few people were initially merchandising vintage items with much innovation, Cerny and Nelson were able to be at the forefront of collecting trends. Some examples were tin litho lunch boxes and thermoses with TV shows, movies or characters on them; lucite purses; Higgins Glass; and hundreds of vintage '50s dinettes. Cerny explained that the key was to get out of the market for specific antique categories before the it flattened.

"We sold a custom dinette set to Oprah Winfrey that seated 20," said Cerny. "She used it on one of her early book club shows, and then it went into Harpo's lunchroom."

Cerny has sold items to a variety of notable people and they are mentioned in his new book, *Selling Dead People's Things: Inexplicably True Tales, Vintage Fails & Objects of Objectionable Estates*, in a chapter called, *Name Dropping Dead*.

"I offer snippets of stories that document a handful of celebrities we have had as clients over the years," said Cerny. "It is rather a famous laundry list that includes Anthony Quinn, Gene Siskel, Nora Ephron, John Candy, Tom Hanks, Rita Wilson, John Paul Gaultier, Beck, John Goodman, Fred Schneider, John Leguizamo, David Copperfield, Nate Berkus, Thomas O'Brien, Billy Corgan, Lauren Bush, Nick Cave, John Malkovich, Michael Rooker, Florence Welsh, Michael Carbonaro and many local celebrities."

Cerny wanted to tell the stories that arose from the house calls or estate sales that he and Nelson would attend to seek out items for their store. Both would oftentimes look at each other and ask, "What the heck was that all about?" Cerny



Duane Cerny.
Photo by Eric Swanger

started documenting these stories about the odd people, places and circumstances they encountered over the years. In 2013 an estate essay he wrote, *Traces of a Man Who Disappeared*, was published in *The New York Times* and he said the piece "spoke to thousands of readers in a myriad of ways."

"I realized then what was missing: a serious discussion about the objects in our lives that did not involve appraisals or the value of things," said Cerny. "What was most important was the object's owner and their stories, and I needed to tell some of those stories. For centuries, money has obliterated the opportunity of revealing a clear perspective about what these objects mean in our lives. If you think about it, nearly every antiques collecting book out there is about identifying an item and determining value. My book is about people and their treasured objects. To me, this is infinitely more interesting."

When asked how he would describe the book to someone who has never read about antiques and their owners, Cerny said, "A book about death appears to say so much about life." He noted that readers have told him the book is funny and joyous as well as sad and scary.

"I think most everyone will catch a glimpse of themselves in one of the many antique mirrors I hold up," said Cerny. "The most surprising thing I discovered while writing this book is that the greatest stories can be found in the smallest or most insignificant of objects."

Cerny said the chapter titles were inspired by many things, including statements a client said or implied. For years, customers were given index cards to create their wish lists and one card had "Artificial Limbs & Railroad Timetables" on it, so that became one of the chapter titles.

They were, incidentally, able to fulfill that customer's request.

Writing is not a new thing for Cerny. When he went to college, he was looking for writing scholarships at Northeastern Illinois University (he graduated with a BA in English and Theater) so he could finance his education. He applied for every writing scholarship they offered, including poetry.

"The university provided two full four-year poetry scholarships and I snagged one," said Cerny. "My winning poem was entitled *LSD Consumes 47 Times Its Weight in Excess Reality*. Gwendolyn Brooks personally chose it and a few of my other poems to be read at the scholarship induction ceremony. Now, some of my poems were rather graphic. I recall the President of the university kept looking over to see his wife's reaction, but she clearly was enjoying my poems more than her nervous husband. After the reading, Gwendolyn Brooks told me never to be embarrassed by honest writing and said, 'You got their attention tonight, and that is always a good thing.'"

Cerny's writing has also included all the marketing and advertising for both stores, from postcards in the pre-internet age to present-day e-blasts and website/social media updates.

One of the ways Cerny has given back to the community is by co-producing a benefit antique show for the White Crain Wellness Center several times.

"BAM has also donated to countless causes but more often we have helped individuals in very difficult situations," said Cerny. "Having lived through the darkest days of the AIDS crisis and as a caregiver to multiple friends and family members, I encourage everyone to take care of themselves and their loved ones. In the end, we're all in this together."

See <http://bamchicago.com/> and <https://sellingdeadpeoplesthings.com/> for more information.

Broadway Antique exterior.
Photo by Eric Swanger



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Mytesi is a prescription medicine that helps relieve symptoms of diarrhea not caused by an infection (noninfectious) in adults living with HIV/AIDS on antiretroviral therapy (ART).

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For Copay Savings Card and Patient Assistance, see Mytesi.com

Please see complete Prescribing Information at Mytesi.com.

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This is only a summary. See complete Prescribing Information at Mytesi.com or by calling 1-844-722-8256. This does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or treatment.

What Is Mytesi?

Mytesi is a prescription medicine used to improve symptoms of noninfectious diarrhea (diarrhea not caused by a bacterial, viral, or parasitic infection) in adults living with HIV/AIDS on ART.

Do Not Take Mytesi if you have diarrhea caused by an infection. Before you start Mytesi, your doctor and you should make sure your diarrhea is not caused by an infection (such as bacteria, virus, or parasite).

Possible Side Effects of Mytesi Include:

- Upper respiratory tract infection (sinus, nose, and throat infection)
- Bronchitis (swelling in the tubes that carry air to and from your lungs)
- Cough
- Flatulence (gas)
- Increased bilirubin (a waste product when red blood cells break down)

For a full list of side effects, please talk to your doctor. Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or does not go away.

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

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- This drug should only be used during pregnancy if clearly needed

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What Should I Know About Taking Mytesi With Other Medicines?

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Mytesi comes from the *Croton lechleri* tree harvested in South America.

Julie Goodridge talks investing, historic marriage-equality case

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Throughout most of her working life, Julie Goodridge has been interested in socially responsible investing (SRI). That, and her desire to start her own company, led Goodridge to form NorthStar Asset Management (NorthStar) in 1990.

"I was tired of pretending that I fit in downtown, in an office with 125 brokers, of which I was the lone female," said Goodridge. "I moved from EF Hutton in 1987 to Dean Witter (now Morgan Stanley), and while my manager was wholly supportive of my interest in SRI, I was very isolated among these traditional guys, and it was just too much.

"I asked 10 of my favorite clients if they would follow me if I started my own firm. They agreed, so I filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and became a registered investment advisor with a mere \$10 million under management. I started adding employees in 1994 when I was pregnant with my daughter Annie. Now there are 15 of us at NorthStar managing \$500 million."

Until recently, NorthStar was an all-female firm. This past spring, Goodridge added a close friend, an 81-year-old man who was not ready to retire. So now the firm consists of four African-American women, one Asian-American woman, one white man and eight white women. Over one quarter of the staff are lesbians.

Goodridge heard about SRI in 1984 from investment advisor and author Amy Domini. She

read Domini's book *Ethical Investing*, and called her immediately after.

"The next thing I knew, she invited me to co-teach SRI at the Cambridge Center of Adult Education," said Goodridge. "My background as a community organizer made the transition from 'traditional investing' to SRI a no-brainer."

Goodridge puts SRI into practice with her company by screening investments to determine whether they are the right fit to add to their portfolio. She and her team look at their contributions to solving or contributing to problems related to race and gender, income equality, human rights, environmental justice and corporate governance.

"Mostly these areas intersect with each other, and no public company, when we are talking about stocks, successfully pass our social criteria," said Goodridge. "So in the public equity space, we invest and research individual stocks and bonds and do not invest in funds. We engage in shareholder activism by filing shareholder resolutions at the companies in the portfolio to change the behaviors of the companies we are concerned about, and because of those actions we have created a lot of change.

"We went after FedEx about not providing equal benefits to same-sex partners, arguing that they had broad protections in place for our community; that equal marriage was the law in many states, at the time; and [that] the company was discriminating against their LGBT employees by refusing to offer equal benefits. Just before our resolution was to appear on the proxy statement, FedEx announced that they would be extending benefits to all employees."

When asked what she and her team do when they discover corporations in NorthStar's portfolio have given money to anti-LGBT politicians, Goodridge said they file numerous shareholder resolutions asking these corporations to look at their "incongruent" contributions.

As a result of her activism and approach to challenging corporations, *Diversity Inc.* magazine called Goodridge the scariest person in investment banking in 2011.

"I was honored," said Goodridge. "To aid in pushing companies to improve and take responsi-



Julie Goodridge at her 60th birthday party.

Photo by Kim Becker

bility for their behavior in the global community by using in-your-face tactics is uncomfortable for some, but can really create some important dialogue and change in my opinion. I have never been a wallflower, and now NorthStar embodies that 'creating change without fear' mentality."

Goodridge also received recognition from *American Banker* magazine as one of their top 25 women in investment banking.

"The recognition from *American Banker* was a much further leap for me to receive as an activist," said Goodridge.

Recently, NorthStar's team completed a white paper, "Prison Labor in the United States: An Investors Perspective." The genesis came from a conversation she had with clients four years ago who said, "We want to do something about prisons and the homeless population that results when people are released into communities with no skills, no housing and thus, no income."

"I started thinking about how we could address this in our investment portfolio," said Goodridge. "Shortly after that, Whole Foods was

chastised for having prison labor in their supply chain. Whole Foods immediately divested, and all I could think was, Did we lose an opportunity for engagement on working conditions and rate of pay? Whole Foods could have demanded fair wages, audited working conditions and suggested job training or post prison placement program as a requirement for being in their supply chain, before divestment.

"At the time, however, we had no real facts on the prevalence of public companies using prison labor, what best practices would even look like, and how we would engage with companies to fix this problem. We have spent the last three years collecting information on prison labor in the supply chain of corporations and we wrote this white paper to begin to educate our colleagues on this prevalent and complicated issue."

The company has released two other white papers, *Corporate Electioneering Contributions* and *Fossil Fuel Divestment*. According to Goodridge, these papers allowed NorthStar to "debunk and/or expose faulty thinking and assumptions about the intersection of corporate America and the impact on our communities. There is a lot of green washing out there, companies touting their wonderful contributions to the environment, sustainability, our community, if it involves a marketing effort, and we want to expose the truth."

Goodridge got her degree in philosophy from Boston University (BU), where she paid her tuition and room/board with loans and a 30 hour a week job at the BU public relations office. At graduation she took a community organizing job at ACORN, the former Association of Community Organizations for Reform. Goodridge joined the ACORN team in Philadelphia where she organized neighborhood residents around socio-economic justice issues such as housing, transportation and access to local government. She did organizing in a working-class white neighborhood in Philadelphia, a Hispanic community in Denver and an underserved Black community in Tampa, Florida.

"I loved learning from these communities about their struggles to survive and working with them to try and address some of the obstacles that they faced," said Goodridge.

In 1981, Goodridge decided to go to Harvard's Graduate School of Education where she focused on human development. Goodridge explained that she chose that program because she wanted to study the intersection of depression and oppression.

When Goodridge received her master's degree in 1983 she, like most students today, was faced with considerable student loan debt, and needed to make enough to pay back that debt. Faced with a job market for her field of study was sparse at the time, she got a job in finance. Goodridge said working at Merrill Lynch put her in the black, but she hated the men she worked with, the sexual harassment, being in the closet and "most of all the values of the company."

Goodridge moved to EF Hutton in 1985 and it was there that she learned about financial planning and ethical investing. She said ethical investing was the only way she could survive in the for-profit world. Working at EF Hutton changed the trajectory of her career and it was there that

Among Men, and Trans Homo...Gasp! Gay FTM & Cis Men on Sex and Love. Speakers will include "Daring" author Brice D. Smith, Ph.D.; "Trans Homo" co-editor Pete Bailey, MS OT; and "Trans Homo" local contributor Ishmael Dickinson.

This is a free event, and no RSVP is required. For more info, visit CenterOnHalsted.org/new-events-details.cfm?ID=15449.

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'Pioneers & Playboys' Aug. 10

"Pioneers & Playboys: Gay FTM's Then & Now" will take place Friday, Aug. 10, 7-9 p.m., at Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St.

This will be a trans-focused book reading with the author, co-editor and contributor of two new trans books: *Daring To Be A Man*

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Book by trans activist Precious Brady-Davis acquired by TOPPLE Books

TOPPLE Books, led by Editor-at-Large Jill Soloway, has acquired world rights for its first two titles. TOPPLE Books spotlights the voices of women of color and gender non-conforming, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer writers.

I Have Always Been Me: A Memoir, by social-justice and LGBTQ advocate Precious Brady-Davis, chronicles the author's traumatic childhood of abandonment and neglect and her resilience as a biracial, Pentecostal, queer young person growing up in Omaha, Nebraska, while revealing the unrelenting, self-empowering spirit that guided her into community activism and ultimately happiness, success and love.

An American Coven(ant), by Lucile Scott, is a groundbreaking queer-feminist pop history of how mystical traditions intersected with modern feminism in America.

"Davis' memoir is at the core of TOPPLE's mission to publish work, especially by women of color, that drives social change and the conversation around sexuality and gender," said Soloway, "and Lucile Scott's exploration of the occult's longtime link with queer culture and inherent energy of female empowerment helps all look closer at what's fueling the present-day resurgence of women seeking deeper meaning in the chaos of

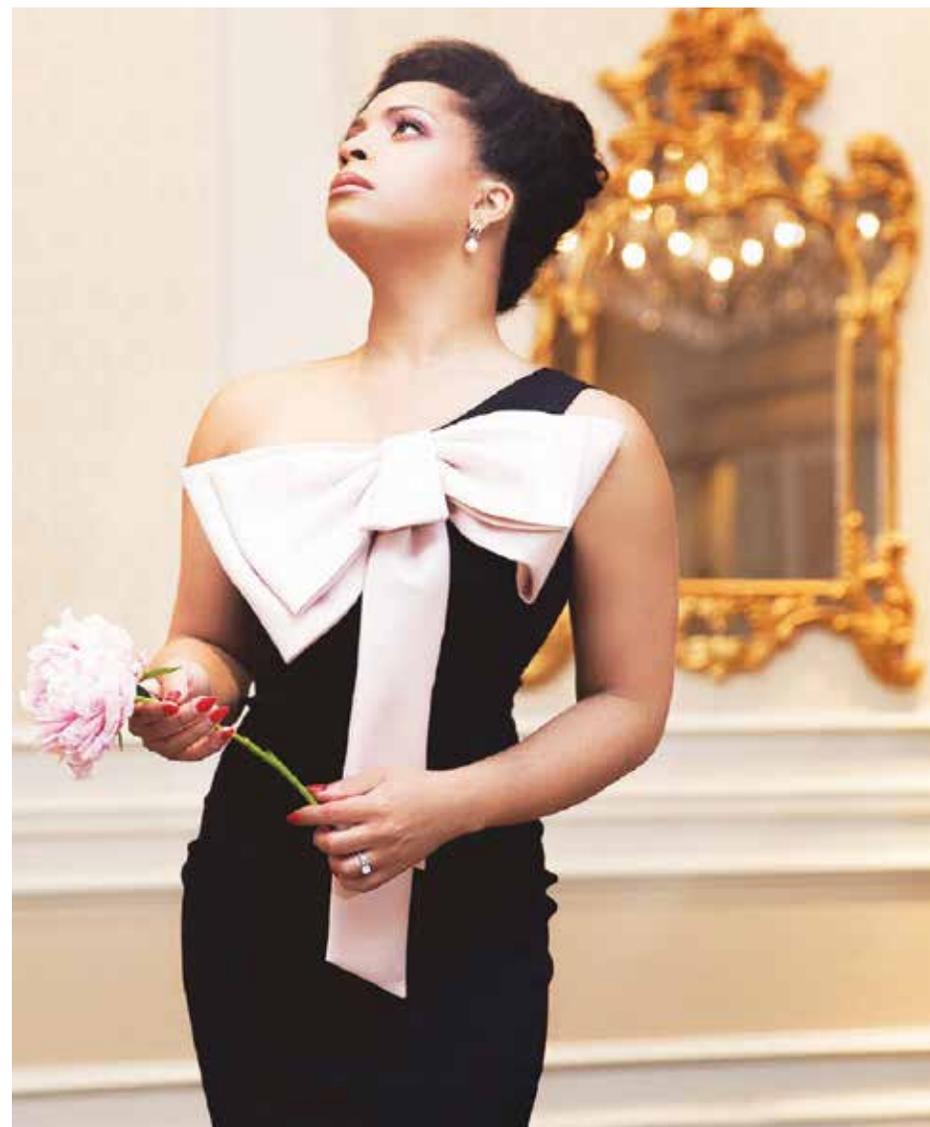
the Trump era and an increasingly secular world."

Brady-Davis is represented Melissa Edwards at Stonesong and *I Have Always Been Me*, acquired at auction, will be edited by Hafizah Geter. Scott is represented by Jane Dystel at Dystel, Goderich & Bourret LLC and *An American Coven(ant)* will be edited by Erin Calligan Mooney.

Both titles are slated for publication in 2020.

About *Precious Brady-Davis: With more than 15 years of experience in nonprofit administration, leadership development and public relations Precious is a dynamic speaker and panelist who has been featured at: University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Reed College, University of Michigan, The Chicago Community Trust, Hampshire College, James Madison University and the University of Cambridge.*

Davis said she finds "deep meaning in finding the root of what proliferates bias, bigotry and prejudice in our world. Through celebrating the beauty of coexistence, uplifting and centering the stories of those who are most marginalized, and seeing that all issues that damn the human condition are interconnected she invites all who come in contact with her to see the resilience that lives within us all." See PreciousDavis.com.



Precious Brady-Davis.
Photo by by Korto Photography



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GOODRIDGE from page 20

she came out to all of the other brokers in the office one by one in the conference room.

"I said, 'I am a lesbian—what questions do you have?,' and that was that," said Goodridge.

Outside of the world of finance, Goodridge is known for her involvement in the landmark 2004 court case *Goodridge v. Massachusetts Department of Public Health*, which led the way toward marriage equality. Goodridge and her then-partner Hillary, who were divorced in 2009, sued Massachusetts alongside six other couples for the right to marry.

When asked what made her want to put her name on the case, Goodridge said their lawyer from GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), Mary Bonauto—who also argued the *Obergefell v. Hodges* case in front of the U.S. Supreme Court—asked them to be the lead plaintiffs. Goodridge explained that at the time they had no idea what being the named plaintiff would entail.

"Our case was booted up to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and our 'activist judge,' as identified by George Bush in his 2004 State of the Union address, Margaret Marshall, wrote the opinion confirming our right to marry the person that we love," said Goodridge. "Interestingly, because she stayed the decision for 180 days, we ended up getting married on the 50th

anniversary of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision—May 17, 2004."

Goodridge said the case was emotionally torturous because some of their close friends, Annie's classmates parents and their enemies opposed the conservative idea of them getting marriage. She explained that they got death threats, hostile and targeted leafleting in their neighborhood and targeted harassing mailings from 2001-2004.

"In the grand scheme of things, and when looking back at social movements and change, winning equal marriage in three short years was extraordinary and a breeze compared with the important civil rights struggles of the last 60 years," said Goodridge. "That said, we are in danger of having all civil rights achievements torn away right now in this country. There is movement afoot to have a constitutional convention under the guise of the need for a balance budget, coming from the right and the desire to overturn Citizens United from the left.

"If both sides are successful in winning the support from the requisite 32 states in support of a constitutional convention, they will be able to bring up and challenge every protected civil right, create an amendment to take away same-sex marriage and destroy a woman's right to choose. This cannot happen under any circumstance."

See <http://northstarasset.com/> for more information.

Lurie study seeks LGBTQ youth

Lurie Children's Hospital and Northwestern University are partnering with IL DCFS to learn more about LGBTQ youth in DCFS care.

The study is ALLIED (Advancements Leading to LGBTQ Improved Experiences in DCFS), and the current project aims to understand the perceptions of adolescents in foster care regarding an assessment of gender identity and sexual orientation within the child welfare system.

They are recruiting self-identified LGBTQ youth 12 years or older who are in the custody and guardianship of Illinois DCFS for one-on-one interviews (in-person or by phone) lasting approximately 90 minutes each.

Food and travel reimbursement will be provided for those who meet in-person, and all eligible youth will receive a \$25 for participating. The study conductors will travel throughout the state to meet youth at locations of safety and convenience for them.

Interested persons should call Elizabeth at 312-227-2595.

Shriver Center starts Get Care Illinois website

The Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law (Shriver Center) has launched the Get Care Illinois website, at GetCareIllinois.org.

The website offers low-income individuals and families a road map to finding, obtaining and using healthcare coverage in Illinois. Available in both English and Spanish, Get Care Illinois is designed to help individuals navigate and understand the options available to them through the Marketplace and Medicaid to get their families the healthcare that they need.

The Shriver Center is a Chicago-based non-profit that provides national leadership in advancing laws and policies that secure justice to improve the lives and opportunities of people living in poverty. Visit PovertyLaw.org to learn more about the organization.



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MOMBIAN

Creator of study on LGBTQ families talks about new findings

Thirty-two years ago, Nanette Gartrell, M.D., launched a project to follow the first wave of lesbian families created through donor insemination. Now, her National Longitudinal Lesbian Family Study (NLLFS) is the longest-running study on LGBTQ-parent families, and Gartrell and her team have just released a paper about the now-grown children at 25 years old. Gartrell, a psychiatrist and Visiting Distinguished Scholar at the UCLA School of Law's Williams Institute, spoke with me about the latest results and more.

Gartrell and her colleagues began interviewing the mothers in 84 lesbian families in 1986, when they were inseminating or pregnant, and when their children were a year and a half to two years old, five, 10, 17, and 25. (Limited resources meant they did not also look at adoptive families.) They directly questioned the children at 10, 17 and 25.

In their latest paper, in the peer-reviewed *New England Journal of Medicine*, they looked at the mental health of the 25 year olds, "because the peak incidence of many psychiatric disorders occurs during emerging adulthood," they write. They matched the 77 adult offspring in the NLLFS with a population-based sample of 77 adults of comparable age, sex, race/ethnicity and education, and found "no significant differences in measures of mental health" between the two groups, including the presence of behavioral or emotional problems, scores on mental health diagnostic scales, and percentages of scores in the borderline or clinical range.

That might not surprise those familiar with the earlier results. When the children were 17, the NLLFS had shown they were well-adjusted and happy, even in the face of discrimination and stigma, and "rated higher than their peers in social, academic, and overall competence, and lower in aggressive behavior, rule-breaking, and social problems, on standardized assessments of psychological adjustment."

One thing that surprised her about the 25-year-olds, though, Gartrell said, is their ongoing "enthu-



Nanette Gartrell, M.D.
Photo by Jane Cleland

siasm for participation," which she thought might wane when they left home. Instead, she received an "overwhelming" number of responses saying, "We'll continue as long as you're willing to do it; this is so important to so many people." In fact, there have been no dropouts since the kids were 10 years old, giving the NLLFS a 92 percent retention rate, which she finds "remarkable."

How to explain the children's outcomes? "These are pioneer parents," Gartrell said. "The fact that these parents were so committed to being very good parents and did a wonderful job of being involved in [their children's lives] every step along the way I think is responsible for producing the good outcomes. I think that would be the case regardless of the sexual orientation or gender identity of the parent."

Some people looking to discredit LGBTQ parents have doubted the NLLFS findings because of its relatively small sample size and self-selected participants. Gartrell asserts, though, that one strength of NLLFS is that neither the parents nor their children volunteered after the children were already doing well—the parents started before the children were born and had no idea how they'd turn out. "We have as a result very, very strong data showing that they are doing quite well and that all those stereotypes and assumptions have absolutely no scientific merit."

One legitimate criticism of the NLLFS is that the vast majority of families in it are White and mid-

dle- or upper-middle class—but Gartrell explained that in 1986, many prospective lesbian parents were "terrified about losing custody of their children. There was no opportunity to obtain a representative national sample." The researchers acknowledge the limitations, though, calling in their latest paper for their results to be replicated in a larger population with racial, ethnic and socioeconomic diversity and across the LGBT spectrum.

Evidence from dozens of other studies, however, including ones from the NLLFS team using data from nationally representative, population-based samples, has supported the broad NLLFS findings that children of lesbian parents do just as well as their peers.

While the latest NLLFS paper says its results will be useful for medical professionals consulted on the mental health of young adults with sexual minority parents, the implications go further. Gartrell explained, "Our findings show there is no justification for restricting child custody, child placement, or access to reproductive technologies based on the parent's sexual orientation."

That takes on renewed importance today, when 10 states now allow publicly funded adoption and foster care agencies to refuse services to LGBTQ parents and children (among others) if providing them conflicts with the agency's religious beliefs—and a bill in Congress would allow the same nationwide. "It would be wonderful to be in a place where we didn't need to continue to address the assumptions that were made in the 1970s that unfortunately have reared up again very vividly in the last couple of years," Gartrell observed.

Beyond politics, the NLLFS results also teach us about the particular aspects of lesbian families and offer lessons for all. Even when the children were only 10, for example, Gartrell noted "how important it was to them for all people to be accepted for who they are and for differences to be appreciated. The kind of education that goes into creating that kind of perspective in a child is really quite phenomenal," Gartrell said. She credits the parents' own experiences of discrimination and "wanting to make their children's lives better based on their understanding of it."

"So much conflict in this world is based on a fear of difference," she added. "Appreciation of difference is a great need that we have in our country and our world. I see these kids as having been given that gift from their parents."

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

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e-mail: editor@windycitymediagroup.com or
Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com

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The Harvest looks at young evangelical missionaries.

Photo of Raphael Diaz and Paloma Nozicka by Michael Courier

THEATER FEATURE

'Pillowtalk' a love story for post-marriage equality world

BY CATEY SULLIVAN

The audience won't hear the Toni Morrison quote that serves as an intro to playwright Kyoung H. Park's *Pillowtalk*, running Aug. 17-18 at the Victory Gardens.

Morrison's words are a punch to the heart, the gut and the brain—and while they go unsaid, they inform Park's intense two-hander about a gay interracial married couple. Here's the quote:

"There is nothing in nature like [love]. Not in robins or bison or in the banging tails of your hunting dogs and not in blossoms or suckling foal. Love is divine only and difficult always. If you think it is easy you are a fool. If you think it is natural you are blind. It is a learned application without reason or motive except that it is God."

When love isn't the entire answer

The divine difficulty of maintaining love—arduous, maddening, frustrating and punctuated by as much despair as joy—is at the heart of *Pillowtalk*. Set over the course of a single night, the plot follows an interracial gay couple's struggle to define their marriage, their careers and their obligations to fight for social justice in President 45's America. The 90-minute drama is one of six different productions running Aug. 13-18 as part of the Sixth National Asian American Theater Conference and Festival.

"Marriage has always been a heteronormative, mainstream structure. How do historically marginalized people deal with that? What does mar-

riage mean for queers in terms of race and class and power, especially for queers of color?" Park (he/him/his) said.

Pillowtalk doesn't provide answers. But it does offer an unflinching exploration of how the all-encompassing macro issues plaguing society at large play out on a micro-level between two queer men of color.

Saving the world, losing yourself

There are two characters in *Pillowtalk*. Buck, an Asian-American, and Sam, an African-American. For both, love is at once the answer to many of their thorny problems and the source of them. Their relationship is also deeply complicated by issues of class and race.

Like many other millennials, Buck and Sam are burdened by debt and living barely a paycheck away from insolvency. Much of their turmoil comes from idealistic dreams clipped by financial realities.

"Idealism is wonderful," said Park. "But how can you devote yourself to saving the world when your most immediate, personal cause—caring for yourself, paying the rent, putting food on the table—takes almost all of your time and energy and money?"

Like a wrecking ball

Buck and Sam's conflicts also spill into the workplace. Since his marriage to Sam, Buck's journalism career has stalled. His inability to tell his husband Sam that he's been laid off—an event that could be directly tied to his matri-

monial status—complicates the couple's every interaction. So does Buck's long-ago dream of being a dancer.

"Unemployment is a wrecking ball looming throughout their conversation," Park said. "Its presence is part of the structure of the whole play." Alongside that wrecking ball, however, is the fluid beauty of bodies in motion. Throughout the 90-minute play, dream-like choreographed sequences express in movement ideas that words stumble to capture.

"We can't always give a verbal answer about dealing with systemic racism and oppression. But we can find hope in art, in Buck's case, dance," Park said. "I've heard people say they are saddened by the words in the play, but for me, the words are not the end. Dance is, and the expression of joy and hope through our bodies."

Not-so happily-ever-after marriage equality

Park grew up in Santiago, Chile, after his parents moved from South Korea to Chile. He came

to the United States in 2000 to study writing at New York University. He lived in South Korea during 2005-09, and earned a master's in peace studies from Columbia University in 2012. The year before he graduated from Columbia, he founded Kyoung Pacific Beat, a Brooklyn-based theater company dedicated to promoting a "culture of peace" by staging his plays. Married to Daniel Lim for five years, Park was an early activist in the Marriage Equality movement. The euphoria of attaining the movement's goal dimmed in the ensuing years, he said.

"After we finally got marriage equality, I felt like we were on a high and we all felt like we were moving forward," Park said. "Now it feels like we've living with constant backlash and regression. We have a president who won't recognize Pride Month, who won't recognize LGBTQ rights, who won't even recognize us as people."

A month before the 2016 presidential elec-

Turn to page 28



From left: JP Moraga and Basit Shittu in *Pillowtalk*.

Photo by Walter Wlodarczyk

THEATER REVIEW

Rick Stone
the Blues Man

Playwright: Jackie Taylor

At: Black Ensemble Theater, 4450 N. Clark St.
Tickets: \$55-\$65; BlackEnsemble.org 773-769-4451

Runs through: Aug. 26

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

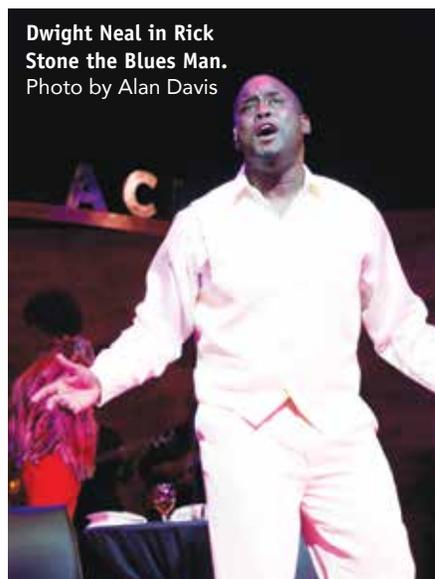
Since its debut in 1976, Black Ensemble Theater's fortune has rested on its docudramas celebrating the influence of African-American entertainers on our national culture, pursuant to "eradicating racism through art." After generating such good will for so long, isn't it about time that this bold theater company was given its *own* musical revue?

The gently "meta" framing device for this au-

tobiography-on-stage is a humble one, absent the usual hoofers in yards of mylar and sequins. Instead, Bekki Lambrecht's scenic design reconfigures the stage into a replica of a vintage Chicago Blues club, modestly dubbed "Ricky's Place," and outfitted with cocktail tables, a bandstand at floor-level, a proprietor of the room ("somewhere to play" constituting the third item on the musician's survival list) and a coterie of loyal retainers.

These are played by longtime BET regulars, performing under their own names, who discuss the topics indigenous to their milieu—old men chasing women, young women proclaiming independence, sad memories of hard times, gambling superstitions and marital troubles of all kinds. Among them is the heartwarming story of two next-door neighbors named Rick Stone and Jackie Taylor, who met in the Cabrini-Green Homes as children to become lifelong friends and fellow mainstays in the theater company founded by the latter.

Dwight Neal in Rick Stone the Blues Man.
Photo by Alan Davis



THEATER REVIEW

BLISS (or Emily Post Is Dead!)

Playwright: Jami Brandli

At: Athenaeum Theatre (Studio One),
2936 N. Southport Ave.

Tickets: \$17-27; 773-935-6875 or AthenaeumTheatre.org

Runs through: Aug. 25

BY LAUREN EMILY WHALEN

Teatime English crumpets, handmade red scarves, pills concealed in a Hoover bag—these are the talismans of Greek goddesses reincarnated as bored housewives and precocious teenagers in 1960 New Jersey.

And when a prophet comes to town in the form

of a meek typist, how will everything change? BLISS (or Emily Post is Dead!) is an intelligent, fierce exploration of second-wave feminism interspersed with ancient legends. Anna Bahow's thoughtful yet brutal direction of Jami Brandli's world premiere (simultaneously opening in Chicago, San Diego and Los Angeles) sets a strong precedent for female-driven plays in the Me Too era.

No one expects to hear their own demise, but that's precisely what Cassandra (Kaci Antkiewicz) sets out to do. However, no one will listen. Maddy (Alice Wu) is preoccupied with her absentee spouse and making the perfect snack. Clementine (Jamie Bragg) is intent on leaving her husband for her doctor (Jared Dennis, who also plays Apollo). And Antonia (Kellen Robinson) dodges her abusive guardian while pining after a boy of another race. They all rely on Emily Post's advice,

her etiquette edicts a shared language—but what happens when Post meets own fate and Cassandra's visions start coming true?

Having a sellable concept—Greek goddesses in sixties suburbia!—is one thing, but strong execution is quite another, and I've seen many plays without the latter. BLISS is a clear exception: Brandli's done her research on Clytemnestra, Medea, Antigone and Cassandra. As well as the general arcs, little touches abound: an ad for Antonia's uncle Creon's business, Clementine's elegy for her lost child, Maddy's struggle to hide her true self and follow every single invisible rule. Is it any wonder they turn to pharmaceuticals? As mediocre white man Apollo points out, Cassandra is a Black woman in a white society; as he infers, she's doomed to take on endless physical and emotional labor from everyone around her.

Only a few hiccups exist. Cassandra's less char-

acter and more plot device, while the other three women have rich inner lives. Also, Cassandra's prophecy of modern times—"a demagogue rises to power"—feels superfluous, and why would Antonia pick 2018 over any other year?

Despite Brandli's minor setbacks, she's broken through the "simpler time" nostalgia and created a candy-colored world with dark undertones that's still painfully relevant. Carrie Campana's costume design is both accurate and vibrant, with pastel housedresses to die for. Both Bragg and Robinson shine as young women on the verge, ultimately doomed but willing to sacrifice for love. Equal parts Real Housewives, Mad Men and myth, BLISS perfectly sums up today's dejected Hillary supporters, recovering assault survivors and persecuted women of color in one angry climactic line: "I am not your girl anymore!"

manent separation as they pursue different missions. There's also Ada (Kiayla Ryann), an experienced missionary who teaches them Arabic, has anecdotes for every situation and craftily derails doubts.

Subtly at first, The Harvest reveals that Tom's longing for Josh goes far beyond church-sanctioned friendship, although Josh does not seem fully to perceive Tom's passion or return it. Josh is escaping a tortured family history, which is highlighted when his older sister (Paloma Nozicka) returns to town and tries to dissuade Josh from his mission. Complicating things, Tom's father is Pastor Chuck (Patrick Blashill), founder of the church which is sponsoring their overseas missions.

The Harvest is a lovely and intelligent ensemble piece, from the opening scene of glossolalia to the final lady-or-the-tiger moment when Josh must choose the course that will determine his future, and maybe Tom's, too. All the actors perform with conviction as directed by Jonathan Berry, in a slightly-claustrophobic church basement set, a multi-function room, neatly designed by Sotirios Livaditis. Blashill is particularly good, entering late in this 100-minute

work and performing a near-monolog with quiet authority and genuine humanity, against the hell-and-brimstone the audience anticipates. It's cagey writing which highlights the dilemma of Josh and Tom, caught between what is expected of them and their fundamental doubts.

Playwright Hunter never disparages evangelical Christianity. He does lay out, however, that it's a belief system of absolutes; a universe of all-black and all-white in which the Biblical Word of God is the final authority. Of course, fundamentalist Islam is the same, substituting Allah and the Koran. It's not at all safe for the world that fundamentalist faiths have become politicized—but I digress.

This production should deepen as it's performed, allowing the emotional subtext to grow stronger. The speaking-in-tongues, for example, needs to be ecstatic, leaving them spent in an orgasmic sense.

Samuel D. Hunter's award-winning earlier play, The Whale, was seen in 2013 at Victory Gardens Theater, where Hunter is part of the Playwrights' Ensemble. I'll venture that The Harvest is his best work since The Whale.

CRITICS' PICKS

Defacing Michael Jackson, Flying Elephant Productions at Stage 773, through Aug. 12. It takes a village to raise, or reject, a child—and Aurin Squire's memory play recalls a pivotal moment in 1984 when four youths looked to the rock superstar to deliver them from a hostile Florida ghetto. MSB

The African Company Presents Richard III, Oak Park Festival Theatre, through Sept. 1. The great director Ron OJ Parson helms an outstanding ensemble to tell the 1821-set story of a revolutionary theater troupe comprised largely of escaped slaves. CES

Buddy, American Blues Theater @ Stage 773, remounted through Sept. 15. Far more concert than story, the short, mostly-sweet life of Buddy Holly is presented by 16 rocking vocal and instrumental stars. Don't miss! JA

—By Abarbanel, Barnidge
and Sullivan

THEATER REVIEW

The Harvest

Playwright: Samuel D. Hunter

At: Griffin Theatre Company at
The Den, 1331 N. Milwaukee Ave.Tickets: 773-697-3830; GriffinTheatre.com;
\$36

Runs through: Aug. 25

BY JONATHAN ABARBANEL

The young adults in The Harvest have grown up as part of an evangelical community in a small and culturally isolated Idaho town. In the opening scene, they pray in tongues as they prepare to become missionaries in Islamic lands. One quickly understands they are not yet fully grown-up, and are experiencing crises in faith.

The would-be missionaries include Denise (Kathryn Acosta) and Marcus (Taylor DelVechio), a young married couple somewhat unsure of what they expect from each other and the future, and lifelong best friends Josh (Raphael Diaz) and Tom (Collin Quinn Rice), facing per-

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MUSIC

Cabaret singer Marieann Meringolo gets candid

BY TODD SUSSMAN

From the cabaret rooms to the friendly skies, Marieann Meringolo has been making beautiful music for 25 years. Now she is celebrating the release of her new live CD, a collection of lyrics by the legendary Alan & Marilyn Bergman. In a candid interview, Meringolo spoke with Windy City Times about being compared to her idols, paying her dues, and finding the truth in song.

Windy City Times: On your new live album, *Between Yesterday and Tomorrow: The Songs of Alan & Marilyn Bergman*, you perform segments of “The Way We Were” at three different places, each time pairing it with a different Alan & Marilyn song. What a unique approach! How was that idea born?

Marieann Meringolo: It was my director, Will Nunziata, who pitched the idea to me as the “through line” of the show—the thread throughout the “quilt,” a connective tissue that makes it a true theatrical piece. I became very excited about that concept, and I was happy to discover how wonderfully it worked with this show.

WCT: Your voice has been compared to Barbra Streisand’s. It is well-documented that she prefers recording in the studio rather than performing live. What is your preference?

MM: Well, for different reasons I love both. I love being in the studio, because hours could go by, and it’s hard to believe how much time has passed. I love the energy and creativity that being in a recording studio creates. It makes one feel like a true artist. I love the process of recording a take and then listening back to see if we want to do another take or part of the song, to really portray what the message of the song calls for. It’s kind of like eavesdropping on yourself. So, in a sense there is less pressure because you know you could always do it again if you’re not happy.

Now, with singing for an audience, there is a lot of pressure to perform each number perfectly. I do like that challenge, and it’s truly thrilling to feed off the energy of an audience. Performing live is a give and take for all involved, and I just love that.

WCT: In addition to Streisand, your song styling has also been said to evoke k.d. lang. What does it mean to you to evoke the legends?

MM: I would say it’s quite an honor and incredible to hear that I evoke the caliber of talent of the legends I’ve been compared to. It’s especially special because I’m a huge fan of both Barbra and k.d. I could go on and on about Barbra because she is my idol and the reason I sing. I do

believe I was born a singer, but there was always something about Barbra that stopped me in my tracks to the point where I’ve said publicly that she changes the molecules in my body. I think I might have an out-of-body experience if I ever met her.

WCT: How would you describe your musical style?

MM: My musical style falls into the category of American popular standards, with a contemporary flare. I do like to put my own spin on what’s already out there, but I also like singing original songs as well. The ones I’m most drawn to have an inspirational message or a romantic feel.

WCT: I understand you are the first out artist on your label (BluJazz). How does it feel to break new ground here?

MM: Funny—I didn’t think of it that way. I’ve always been out, so it didn’t dawn on me that I was the first out artist on the label. Actually, it wasn’t brought to my attention until now! BluJazz was just open to who I am. Very cool!

WCT: On your new CD, you have the first recording of “Fifty Percent” sung from one woman to another. Have you always chosen the approach of being open in your singing?

MM: I have always been open, but in a more subtle way. I would choose just not to sing “he” or “him,” instead singing “you” or “someone.” It’s wonderful how everyone just relates to the choice I made with “Fifty Percent.” I’d say that’s real progress. I’m proud that I feel comfortable enough in my own self that I could honestly express myself in this song. There was no other authentic way for me to sing it. I either embraced it fully or it couldn’t have been sung by me if it wasn’t to another woman.

WCT: Your most recent show is a tribute to the Bergmans. How did you come to develop an entire show on their lyrics?

MM: My Bergman show had been in the back of my mind for a while. In 2012, I had put together a Michel Legrand show which included many of the Bergman pieces. Well, it came time to figure out what would be next after the “Crazy Love” show. It wasn’t until after I sang in the 2015 Cabaret Convention, where KT Sullivan asked me to sing “The Way We Were,” that I decided to create an entire show featuring Bergman lyrics. I loved that each of their songs told a story. Then, together with my director, we also discovered that with some of the songs combined, we could tell a more in-depth story than they could tell individually. That concept gave us an exciting entry into the Bergmans’ world.

Read the entire interview with Meringolo online at WindyCityMediaGroup.com.



Marieann Meringolo.
Photo courtesy of Ralph Lampkin

PILLOWTALK from page 25

tion, Park was at conference when he realized the marriage equality movement was lacking when it came to addressing many issues. Organized by the Center for LGBTQ Studies, the “After Marriage Conference: The Future of LGBTQ Politics and Scholarship” left Park with questions.

“I realized that a lot of people who were part of the marriage-equality movement left that movement once marriage equality was passed,” he said. “For me, I saw a lot of issues impacting people of color that still needed to be resolved.” Among those issues: racism, marginalization, alienation and violence impacting LGBTQ people of color. Through Buck and Sam, Park addresses all of these in *Pillowtalk*.

“I am a queer artist of color. I am now married. Our struggle to find societal acceptance is ongoing,” Park said “I wanted to ask the questions that I ask myself every day: How does race and racism impact being in love? How do conventional notions of beauty impact desire?”

The importance of date nights—and more

Park’s research for *Pillowtalk* uncovered some ugly history. “There was a time when it was white women marrying Asian men was criminalized in the United States, when American women could lose their citizenship for marrying an Asian,” Park said.

Park and Lim work to keep their five-year-old marriage remains strong. “We do regular date nights. Last week we saw ‘Ant Man,’ which was great. There’s also a lot of self care. And Pose. We love watching Pose,” Park said. “One of my goals with *Pillowtalk* is to humanize love between queer men. It’s been shocking to me how much everyone—straight and queer—have been able to relate to this story.

“It’s a really specific story, but so many people can relate.”

***Pillowtalk* runs Aug. 17-18 at the Victory Gardens Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave. For more information and a detailed schedule of the Sixth National Asian American Theater Conference and Festival, visit CAATA.net.**



Jesse Montoya and Tom Chiola in Hurricane Damage.
Photo by Paul Goyette

THEATER REVIEW Hurricane Damage

By: Kevin Brofsky

At: Pride Arts Center at the Broadway, 4139 N. Broadway

Tickets: 773-857-0222 or

<http://prideartschicago.com>; \$20-\$30

Runs through: Aug. 26

BY CATEY SULLIVAN

Common sense will tell you that the ending will be sad. This much is clear to Oscar, Dennis and Norman—three of the four gay men at the wounded, vibrant heart of Kevin Brofsky's marvelous drama Hurricane Damage.

The truth of the Carousel lyric (referenced by Dennis) is brutal: Live long enough, and you'll understand that life is one, long series of good-byes. But as the men clean up from a hurricane

that has ravaged Florida's Gulf Coast, they find a gleaming shard of joy piercing the loss.

Directed by Paul J. Cook, Hurricane Damage is both brutal and beautiful. The same can be said of 52-year-old Dennis (Charles Berglund), his long-time partner Oscar, 67, (Danne W. Taylor), their devoted hired hand Ford, 26, (Jesse Montoya) and old friend Norman, 52 (Tom Chiola).

The drama is set in 2011 Dunedin, Florida, but the dialogue takes the the men (and the audience) back to New York City during the wild, endless party of the 1970s and through the decades-long nightmare that followed the onset of the AIDS pandemic.

The plot churns into high gear with the arrival of Norman, once an integral part of the part of a lower Manhattan social circle powered by youthful beauty, idealism and the dreams of rising artists. In the 40+ years since Norman last saw Dennis and Oscar, conventional beauty has faded—and other major changes have occurred.

Once a dancer on the verge of a Broadway career, Dennis closed the door on his dreams when he and Oscar fled AIDS-ravaged New York in the '80s. Their plan to stay in Florida "just until this blows over" turned into a lifetime. Dennis gave up dancing to start a cleaning business. Oscar's career as a high-powered ad exec is now no more than barely remembered campaigns. Norman, meanwhile, has wandered the globe, a world-renowned photographer who lives everywhere and has a home nowhere. Then there's Ford, an adorably sweet millennial who confuses Bea Arthur with Maude Adams and whose admission that he's "heard of" Judy Garland sets Dennis on a hilariously on point exegesis about Garland's importance to the gay community.

The performances are stellar. Oscar's second act monologue about life and death in the '80s is one of the emotional high points of the production. Berglund's Dennis is as lovable as he is acerbic. Chiola's Norm is earnest and endearing, both subtly visible beneath a gruff exterior that cloaks layers of world-weary sadness.

Finally, there's Montoya's Ford, a young man with abs for days and guns that could take out Anita Bryant at 500 yards. He's the adorable, loving handyman/best friend every household should have.

The final image of Hurricane Damage is achingly beautiful and one of the rare instances where on-stage nudity enhances the entire play rather than distracts from it.

SPOTLIGHT

The music soars in **Heartbreak Hotel**, Broadway in Chicago's sonically irresistible prequel (of sorts) to Million Dollar Quartet. Set in Memphis, 1954-57, it follows pre-superstar Elvis Presley on his early journey toward becoming Swoon King of the bobby-soxers and Vegas icon. The score includes a roster of hits, "Blue Suede Shoes," "Shake, Rattle, and Roll" and the titular tune among them. Watch for upright bassist Zach Lentino (as Bill Black, anchor of the Blue Moon Boys), whose acrobatic stylings but the roll in rock-and-roll. It runs

through Sept. 30 at the Broadway Playhouse, 175 E. Chestnut St.; \$35-\$75. BroadwayInChicago.com

Caption: Photo by Brett Beiner



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MAX.
Photo
courtesy of
Eli Wenig
(Crush
Music)



NUNN ON ONE: MARKET DAYS

MAX makes moves at Market Days

BY JERRY NUNN

Singer Max Schneider, known in music as MAX, started performing at the age of three and didn't look back. He was a swing understudy in the musical *13*, covering four roles, back in 2008.

He also modeled with Madonna for an international Dolce and Gabbana campaign, then wrote a song for the Disney Channel. He starred in the Nickelodeon film *Rags* as Charlie Prince, before focusing mainly on music, as well.

Schneider's 2016 album *Hell's Kitchen Angel* spawned a major radio hit with "Light Down Low" with a number of celebrity cameos in the video, including Lin-Manuel Miranda and The Chainsmokers. He has a new song with the Swedish dance act Galantis called "Satisfied," and another one with Noah Cyrus called "Team."

Proceeds from his recent single "Still New York," with Joey Bada\$\$, are being donated to New York public schools and to an animal shelter where he adopted his dog, Wink. Schneider performs the song at animal shelters around the country, including the CACC (Chicago Animal Care and Control) in Chicago on Aug. 5.

Max Schneider: We met last year at Lollapalooza, didn't we?

Windy City Times: Yes. I am heading to the festival today.

MS: I will see you in the press tent, then. I am here and playing with Galantis. We have a song that just came out together, so I am hopping onto their set tonight.

I will be hanging out again tomorrow. There is a group called Party Pupils and we are doing an after party tomorrow night for our new single called "Sax on the Beach." I will then head out. I couldn't miss Lolla. This is the best. It is one of my favorite festivals ever.

WCT: You have a musical background?

MS: Yes. I grew up in *Hell's Kitchen*, New York City. I lived right near all of the Broadway shows.

I was the little kid that went to *The Lion King* and *Beauty and the Beast*. I would reenact the entire show on my living room table in my underwear. I caught the bug and never stopped.

I did my first show, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, when I was five years old. I performed musical theater as a youth, but my first real gig was when I was 16. I did a musical called *13* on Broadway. That was with Ariana Grande and a bunch of other fun people. That was my upbringing.

That has so influenced my show. It is very theatrical. I always try to bring that energy that comes from musicals to my own live MAX show.

WCT: What is Ariana like in person?

MS: She is fabulous, of course. It is always funny to look back and see how she was even in that show. She is still the same person in so many ways. She always had that voice. She was driven to be famous.

With the last name, her family always said, "We do things Grande!"

WCT: What is your favorite musical of all time?

MS: *West Side Story* is, because it is so near and dear to the city I grew up in. Tony was always my dream role.

The only other performer in my family is my cousin who was the original Baby John in the movie and the show. His name is Eliot Feld. That show holds the closest place in my heart.

WCT: How has the ride been for the massive single "Turn the Lights Down Low?"

MS: It has been amazing and crazy. I have always been in little boxes, whether it was being a "Nickelodeon kid," or the "musical theater kid," or the "YouTube cover kid." It is a whole other world to be the "Lights Down Low guy."

It is a new box, but the one I have always dreamed of. The story behind it is that I wrote it for my wife and I proposed to her with it. It is so special to me and in our life. It will never get old

to sing it or have people know that song, because it is so special to me.

WCT: I bet it gets played at weddings.

MS: It is an interesting thing. I am excited to play at Market Days and have played at so many Pride festivals. No matter where I am in the world, there is a beautiful acceptance and diversity. I went to a performing arts high school. Everybody is whomever they want to be, and there is an acceptance of that.

Before I play the song, I say, "This is a song comes from a place of love, so it stands for love, whether you are gay, straight, bisexual or transgender. It doesn't matter who you are, but you should love yourself, whoever you want to love, and support each other in doing that."

It has been so beautiful to say that in places like Alabama, where we played Hangout Fest. Alabama is a way more progressive place than people realize. Sometimes I will say that speech and it is met with applause and roaring of agreement. Sometimes it is met with silence. At Hangout it was met with silence. In the middle of the song, one beautiful woman got down on her knee and proposed to her girlfriend. We brought them up onstage. Those are the moments I do music [for]. The fact that the music meant that much to them, and they proposed to the person they loved, never stops being so special.

WCT: You have so many young fans that you can reach with the important messages like that.

MS: It is scary too with the things I wear and the way I am; there are plenty of people who think I am too much or don't like me for who I am. As you get older, you start to accept yourself more and it's okay if people don't like you. When I was younger, I was so much more insecure and I wouldn't wear the things I wear now because I was afraid of people judging it. I think it is important to let people know that they can be encouraged to be their freaky, weird, wonderful selves, because that is who they are and they will attract those same people to be their friends. We should all encourage that.

WCT: How did you get involved with Market Days?

MS: I have been doing a bunch of Pride festivals across the country from Kansas City to DC Pride. It is a few people who have put 120 of them together in a year, which is crazy. I met with them.

Pride festivals are just incredible and the best. The energy is unbelievable and people are living their best life. My wife lived in Chicago for seven years and I proposed to her here in Chicago. She tells me Market Days is the one where everyone has the most insane time.

WCT: Is she coming with you to Market Days?

MS: Yes, she will be there with me. All of our best friends will be there, so I am hoping for a very exciting time.

WCT: You have a new song with Louis the Child?

MS: Yes, the Chicago boys. I am excited for it to come out. It has been beautiful to see just how they have grown, even from a friend level. I met them five years ago.

We put out a song with Whethan, who is part of the Chicago clique community. Whethan was 15 years old, and they were 17 at the time. Eight of

them used to all share a 20' x 20' studio.

Now they sell out the Aragon Ballroom and have never changed their style of music. They just keep taking more risks. It is an honor to put out this record with them and keep cheering them on.

WCT: I interviewed them at Lollapalooza and they were so young.

MS: It is wild that neither of them are named Louis!

WCT: How was it working with Noah Cyrus on the song "Team?"

MS: Noah is great. With "Lights Down Low," I asked my friend gnash to be part of the song because I just heard his voice and I told him my story.

With Noah, the same thing happened. She reached out to me and it got to be a duet. Two years into my marriage, being a team with the person you love and the petty fights, it is important to let those things go. If you are lucky to have someone love you so much, you can be on a team forever. When Noah sent me that song I just responded to that message. We got to hang and eat In-N-Out Burger.

WCT: Do you have more acting planned?

MS: I don't have any more acting planned, except for all of my music videos. I always want to bring that element to my videos, like with the "Lights Down Low" video—it has the story of us growing old.

I am always scared to spread myself too thin, but one day I would like to pull a Lenny Kravitz and pop up in *The Hunger Games* with some glitter eyes. That would be amazing!

Look for Max at Market Days Sunday, Aug. 12, at 9 p.m. on the Bud Light North Stage. Find more information about Market Days at NorthHalsted.com and visit MaxHellsKitchen.com for more Max.

Gay plays part of ConFest 2018

The Consortium of Asian American Theaters & Artists (CAATA)—dedicated to advancing the field of Asian-American theater—has announced that Chicago will host the Sixth National Asian American Theater Conference and Festival (ConFest) Aug. 13-18.

At least two of the productions included this year employs queer themes and/or companies.

Pillowtalk (which Brooklyn company Kyoung's Pacific Beat is presenting Aug. 17-18 at Victory Gardens Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave.) brings to life one night in the lives of Sam and Buck, a recently married interracial couple. Ya-Ku-Za (from Austin company GenEnCo, and which is running Aug. 16-17 at Victory Gardens) follows an ambitious young assassin's bid to become the first female member of the infamous Japanese crime syndicate. GenEnCo is devoted to work from queer people of color.

Victory Gardens Theater, Silk Road Rising and the DePaul University School of Theater are hosting ConFest.

See CAATA.net for tickets and passes.

BOOK REVIEW

Blame It on Bianca Del Rio

by Bianca Del Rio

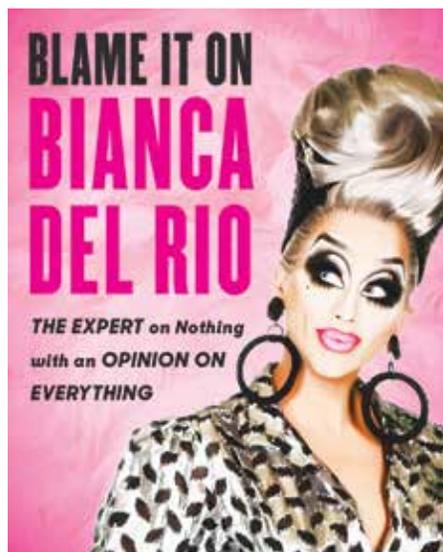
\$21.99; Dey Street Books; 272 pages

REVIEW BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

You have no rope left.

You were at the end of yours last week, and you need help. Advice. Tell-me-what-to-do direction. Even a little hint would be great, and in Blame It On Bianca Del Rio, you might find it.

Or not. Then again, Del Rio adamantly said that she gives “better advice than Dr. Phil” because what she espouses is based on “years and years of insightful prying and corrosive gossip...”



many cats a queen can have before crossing the line, and what to do about a terrible mother-in-law.

There’s “advice” here on how to deal with neighbors who don’t like you, and neighbors you like a little too much. Find out what Del Rio said about unknown paternity and how to avoid the same situation in the future. Get help on dealing with homophobia, parents that are overly supportive, bad Grandmas, and other family matters. Learn how to turn down an invitation, how to read an invitation, and how to be rude-not-rude.

Finally, find out what it’s like to be famous, fabulous, and fabulously famous. In a rush of snark and a long answer, Del Rio tells all...

In case you hadn’t already figured it out—whether you are familiar with author Del Rio or not, whether you know her work or don’t—you need to know that there’s not one single thing about “Blame It On Bianca Del Rio” that’s PC. Nope, in fact, there may actually be parts of this book that could be downright insulting.

Contrary to what you were told in grade school, however, there are some books that need to be judged by their covers and this one is a good example. With one look, you should know what you’re getting yourself into, and a good insult is half the appeal of what you’ll have once you’re there. Mixed in with that is the occasional usable nugget, a lot of “You go girl!” empowerment, blunt MYOBiz answers to authentically sticky problems, and fall-down screaming-hysterical laughs hidden in the snarkiest of comments.

Blame It on Bianca Del Rio absolutely does not belong on the shelf with other Agony Aunt tomes. Get it, and it might not even need a shelf at all because you’ll want it close, all tied up in fun.

Want more? Then look for Workin’ It!: RuPaul’s Guide to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Style, by RuPaul; or Why Drag?, by Magnus Hastings and Boy George.



Bianca Del Rio.

Photo by Jovanni Jimenez-Pedraza

That’s what this “literary goldmine” is based on, but Del Rio cautions that she changed names and circumstances as she wrote this book. In other words, even if you see your name here, it’s not all about you.

Some of the problems here may be yours, though, and Del Rio offers “help”—first on health and grooming. This includes bad smells and what to do about them, rocking a bald look, dealing with serious illness, preparing yourself for a loved-one’s death, and looking one’s best (or lowering one’s standards).

This book wouldn’t be right without Del Rio’s guidance on sex and relationships. She has a lot to say about LBD (Lesbian Bed Death), coming out as gay to your girlfriend of four years, how



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Lollapalooza covers Bruno Mars, LL Cool J and queer musicians

BY JERRY NUNN

Grant Park has hosted Lollapalooza Music Festival since 2005—and this year, the Aug. 2-5 event was bigger and hotter than ever.

There were more than 100,000 festivalgoers walking through the park each day, even with temperatures climbing to higher than 90 degrees at times. While there were the usual fence-jumpers, a few arrests and some hospitalizations, the sheer amount of the crowds decreased from last year. Watering stations and cooling buses helped combat the blazing heat for baked festival goers. At least there was no electrical storm this year to force an evacuation, so the weather was an improvement, in some ways. Some people now watch the festival on livestream broadcasts in air conditioning, but there is still nothing like experiencing it live and in person.

This year, there were noticeably more pop artists in the lineup, with headliners Bruno Mars and The Weeknd drawing in tons of teens Aug. 2-5. Khalid, Camila Cabello, Dua Lipa and Bebe Rexha packed their individual stages with eager young listeners, thanks to the musicians' radio-friendly hits. (It just doesn't get more pop than Carly Rae

Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe.") Top Ten Post Malone should have been booked as a headliner he was so popular and seemed clearly touched by the overwhelming turnout.

Out and proud queer acts over the course of the festival included New Jersey's FLETCHER, songwriter Morgxn, and one member of The Aces all girl rock band. Chance the Rapper did not crash his bisexual brother Taylor Bennett's set who played his new EP *Be Yourself* with rapper Twista as a surprise guest.

A rainbow of fans turned up and were not afraid to express themselves in style and attitude over the course of the festival. A makeup smeared St. Vincent aka Annie Clark gave a shout out to all gender types for the song "Slow Disco" including non-binary people.

Many performers identified as straight but were strong allies when talking backstage with Windy City Times. Singer MAX made a surprise appearance to perform with electronic duo Galantis and said how excited he is to play Market Days the weekend after Lolla.

Another star heading for bigger things is Justin Bieber protege Madison Beer, who fanned out about RuPaul's Drag Race and Drag Con. Beer also

Bruno Mars.
Photos by Jerry Nunn



mentioned having a gay grandfather.

Minneapolis rapper/singer Lizzo covered TLC's "Scrubs" at the Tito's Handmade Vodka Stage after a long night performing at Berlin Nightclub the previous evening. She described her late-night performance as a great time, then English crooner James Bay (recently interviewed in WCT) walked up to catch up about his travels to Australia. Speaking of the land Down Under, Australian singer Amy Shark chatted to our publication about how important it was for her to have her tune in the gay film *Love, Simon*.

Michigan rockers Greta Van Fleet have many saying they were a highpoint to day two with some solid playing, sounding like Led Zeppelin.

Rapper Logic made several fans feel special as he asked the crowd to call them by name since they had waited since 6 a.m. to see the show.

Nineteen-year-old producer Oshi played music before The National who failed to compete with the fireworks and fun of Bruno Mars across the park. Closing down the festival on Friday night had the same feeling of a Super Bowl halftime show with Mars sporting a Bulls jersey. The Hawaiian native has a smooth and polished act that was full of "Finesse."

On day three, things heated with rising temperatures and rap acts like LL Cool J, who followed young fan favorite Lil Pump. After his DJ's laptop overheated, Pump left the stage with a shortened set that left the huge crowd disappointed and frustrated. Throwing water bottles at the stage only seemed to stir the already heightened security in attendance at the lip of the stage. Saving the day on the neighboring stage, LL showed what a seasoned professional can do with a crowd pleaser like "I'm Bad" and a proper DJ.

Later, R&B singer Daniel Caesar sang over smooth beats under the trees of the American Eagle stage. Newcomer Lauv lit up his new EP the day before on the same stage for a respectable set. This is area is one of the best spots to relax on the grass and listen to music at a sometimes frenzied festival.

Dueling set times had indie band Vampire Weekend competing with The Weeknd on a larger stage. Fresh off the LGBT music festival LOVELOUD, poor Zedd had to compete with both weekenders at Perry's stage during the same time



Lizzo.

slot.

Sunday (Aug. 5) continued to boil with high temperatures throughout the day. The BMI Stage was nicely shaded for acts like rockers The Wrecks and the smooth solo act Grace Weber, who sang Michael Jackson's "Human Nature."

It was just too blazing hot to head-bang with The Vaccines at the Bud Light Stage, leaving only the most devoted punk rockers.

Jack White closed and cooled down the massive music festival. With a special show at Metro the night before when he started 1:30 a.m. makes one wonder when the talented man sleeps. Maybe he's a vampire on the weekend.

With so much hot music over a long four days, I might not be able to feel my melted face either, Mr. Weeknd, but I still love it!

Keep watch on lollapalooza.com for early tickets to next year's festival.

Inspired by the New York Times Best Seller **FULL SERVICE**

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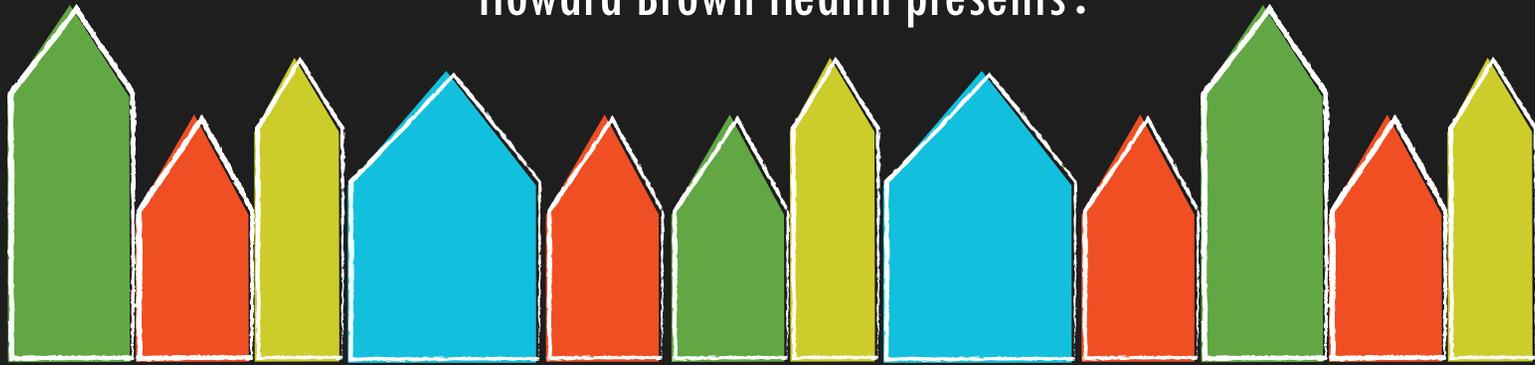
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REAL ESTATE

The Hampdens: Aiming for luxury living in Lincoln Park

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Nestled on a quiet side street off of Diversey Parkway, The Hampdens of East Lincoln Park (The Hampdens) will soon be home to 45 multi-bedroom residences.

The two boutique-style, six-story buildings, Hampden 53 and Hampden 73, will offer future homeowners a prime viewing and party location for Chicago's Pride Parade. Construction is slated to be finished next spring, just in time for the parade's 50th anniversary.

But the area's connection to the LGBT community extends beyond recent memory. The neighborhood was once home to much of Chicago's gay community during the '60s and '70s; many of them moved there when higher rent rates came to the Loop and the Near North Side. Since the '70s, many in Chicago's LGBT community have subsequently moved north of Diversey and now live along Lake Michigan from Boystown/Lake View to Rogers Park. Of course, LGBT people have always lived all over the region, but there were these pockets where they could live and work more openly, concentrated around a few key bars and restaurants.

Today, this neighborhood is a hotbed for new development. Apartment buildings, hotels and a re-imagined retail hub at Diversey/Clark/Broadway are setting the foundation for growth and walkability. The Hampden's developer Zev Salomon, a Lincoln Park native, wanted to add a missing residential offering to compliment the other changes that are taking place in his neighborhood.

"There is a shortage of new and modern three-to five-bedroom homes in this area that cater to the needs of today's buyers," said Salomon. "The residences at The Hampdens have a thoughtful design, clean-line aesthetics and the latest home amenities that people have come to expect. So much of what is currently available in Lincoln Park and Lake View is old and dated, or in walk-up buildings. There are simply not any new offerings like ours."

"The area is ideal for LGBT people who are looking to move away from Boystown to a quieter locale, but who also want to stay close enough to the action when the weekends come," said Jameson Sotheby's International Realty Director of Developer Services Cory Robertson. "The Hampdens is also home to Alcott Elementary School, which is rated one of the top neighborhood Chicago Public Elementary Schools. Alcott is a great place for gay and lesbian parents to send their children to school, and it is only three blocks away."

Residences at Hampden 53 (with 10 of its 15 properties sold) and Hampden 73 (with 19 of 30



Cory Robertson.

Photo courtesy of Jameson Sotheby's International Realty

properties sold) have private elevator access, indoor parking, floor-to-ceiling windows, large private terraces, between four to five bedrooms with walk-in closets, a family room or office, dining room and an open plan kitchen.

During the development process and early construction phases of these new condos, buyers have been able to pick everything that goes in their new home. Salomon said that, since many of the units have already pre-sold, there is limited time to customize the floor color, cabinet color, tiles and other finishes before the developers standardize them to finish the project.

The Hampdens is a short walk away from the Diversey L trains and downtown bus routes as well as Lake Shore Drive. The Magnificent Mile or Loop are a 10-15-minute Uber/Lyft ride away.

For more information, visit <https://www.thehampdens.com/> or the sales center at 509 W. Diversey Pkwy. It's open every day from noon to 6 p.m. and by appointment. Sales inquiries may be directed to Tim Flannery at 773-904-7792.



Above: The Hampdens exterior. Below: Penthouse.
Renderings courtesy of The Hampdens



Sinfonietta's 'Diversity' shows Sept. 22, 24

Chicago Sinfonietta, led by conductor Mei-Ann Chen, will launch its 2018-19 season with "I.D.: Images of Diversity" on Saturday, Sept. 22, at 8 p.m. at Wentz Concert Hall at North Central College, 171 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville; and Monday, Sept. 24, at 7:30 p.m. at Chicago's Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Ave.



Conductor Mei-Ann Chen.
PR photo

"I.D." will feature the Jeff-award winning guest artist Steep Theatre Company. The program includes works by Giuseppe Verdi (Nabucco Overture), Aaron Copland (Variations on a Shaker Melody from "Appalachian Spring"), Arturo Márquez (Danzón No 2, and James Price Johnson (Drums "A Symphonic Poem").

The show will conclude with a multimedia performance and the Chicago premiere of Peter Boyer's *Ellis Island: The Dream of America*. This piece, composed in 2002, celebrates the historic U.S. immigrant experience and the American dream, employing actors from Chicago's Steep Theatre Company and projected historical images from the Ellis Island archives.

Tickets are \$10-\$62 each; visit ChicagoSinfonietta.org.

Drag reality show on YouTube in August

Camp Wannakiki is a new drag reality show airing on YouTube starting in late summer.

The premise is seeing which of eight drag queens can last the week at an actual summer camp and claim the crown "Queen of Camp." The creator/producer of the show is Hamburger Mary's owner Ashley Wright.

Contestants include O'laysia (Chicago), Dominique DeGrant (Eau Claire, Wisconsin), Vajay J Snappinturtle (Madison, Wisconsin), Pagan Holladay (Milwaukee), Sylvia Nixx (Milwaukee), Alexis Bevels (Chicago), Muffy Fishbasket (Chicago) and C'est Kevvie (Chicago), along with camp counselor Dear Ruthie and camp directors Apple



Brown Betty and Cherry Pi.

The trailer is at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTaJeMK7RE0&t=5s>; viewers can meet campers at <https://campwannakiki.com/#campers>.

Lambda Literary forms new council

As it celebrates its 30th year, Lambda Literary has announced the formation of its first-ever Leadership Council—a group of LGBTQ writers, cultural figures and benefactors who will advise and advocate for the organization.

The Lambda Literary Leadership Council's members are writers Hilton Als, Kate Bornstein, Jennifer Finney Boylan, Alexander Chee, David Ebershoff, Chuck Forester, Cherrie Moraga, Chinelo Okparanta, Justin Torres and Alok Vaid-Menon.

Two former board presidents who are also novelists—Katherine V. Forrest and Judith Markowitz—have joined the council, as have J. Michael Samuel, a long-serving board treasurer, and writer/publisher and major donor Chuck Forester.

See LambdaLiterary.org.



Kate Bornstein, who's part of Lambda Literary's new leadership council.

Photo by Maxwell Lander



Windy City Times

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The Sporting Life: Cameron Turner

BY ROSS FORMAN

It was Cameron Turner and his teammates battling a very talented Atlanta team years ago at the annual Gay Softball World Series.

"They had power and speed, were rowdy and intimidating," Turner said. "A lot of Chicago fans came out to support us, and it was a back and forth game from inning to inning with the fans very much into the game."

Atlanta's leadoff hitter came to the plate, known for his speed, and there was a runner on the bases in front of him. "The speedy guy hit a gap shot that got between me and, I believe, Rob Burton in the outfield. Rob chased down the ball and hit Danny Tag, his cutoff man, who then relayed it home to Pete Kavanagh who was catching. By that point, the speedster had caught up with the guy in front of him. They both tried to slide into home behind one another, and Pete tagged the first one and then the second. The ump signaled, 'Out! Out!'

"The crowd went crazy [and] we went on to win the game."

The memories are priceless, some of the minor details are, years later, a bit sketchy.

But gay softball has long been a home, and maybe even heaven, for Turner, 45, who lives in Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood and is a partner in the law firm Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney. He is originally from downstate Illinois, yet has lived in Chicago for the past 24 years, and he's partnered to Carmelo Duarte.

Turner has been in a gay softball lineup since 2005, his first gay sport.

"I only played softball my first year in CMSA; I was a bit of a late bloomer coming to the league and had more or less [previously] played in the local straight leagues up to that point," Turner said. "I reached out to Shawn Albritton, who I didn't know at the time, and he encouraged me to join a C-League team that needed a player. I met some of my first CMSA friends from that [first] team: Steve Kasperski, Anthony Miceli, Rob Paradise, Tim Worthington, Dan Tran [and] Mark Vild, to name a few."

Turner has played softball annually, at times anchoring the Chicago Menace, a top-tiered A-Division of the Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association. He also has played flag football, basketball, indoor and beach volleyball, table tennis, indoor and outdoor soccer, dodgeball, darts and probably another gay sport or two that he admittedly has forgotten.

"Certain sports seem to be more popular with certain generations, and I think that's a reflection of the popularity of certain sports changing over time," Turner said. "For example, these days it seems that sports like softball and [flag] football are less popular with younger generations, and sports like volleyball, soccer and some of the more recreational sports like dodgeball and kickball are more popular."

"Having played in both gay and straight leagues and tournaments in several sports, I've found that the gay leagues and tournaments tend to be more organized with a commitment from both those running things and participating to making the experience positive for everyone."

Turner certainly has had some really positive on-the-field moments—starting with a Gay Softball World Series title with the Spin Cougars in 2009. Some of the Chicago Menace teams over the years also had some very good tournaments against some outstanding competition, "so I'm very proud of those performances too," said Turner, who also won championships with various basketball teams.

Turner is playing this summer for an A-Division team in Minneapolis as Chicago no longer fields a top-tiered team. He has mostly played outfield over the years, "but as I've gotten older, I've done a lot of campaigning to play positions that require less running."

Gay sports, overall, Turner said, has given him perspective, especially in recent years "when I've focused on the fun and camaraderie, and less on playing lots of sports and trying to win at ev-



Local women arrange Italy LGBTQ adventures

Chicago's Lesley Pritkin and Rosanne Cofoid are offering LGBTQ-specific adventures in Italy with unique venues for same-sex wedding celebrations and honeymoons that cater to all tastes and budgets.

Said venues include tiny secluded towns, sprawling olive and lemon groves in rural areas and to southern Italy's "Sassi" of Matera—prehistoric dwellings that some may prefer for



Left and above: Cameron Turner. Photos courtesy of Turner

everything."

Turner has been practicing law for about 21 years, and 18 of those years have been with Segal McCambridge, which is a defense-focused litigation firm with a broad practice spectrum. "My personal practice over the years has focused on products liability defense, general personal injury defense with an emphasis on toxic exposure matters, and commercial litigation," he said.

Turner also has, for years, done *pro bono* legal work for the LGBT community.

"I've helped out where I could and it made sense, and I've helped countless people in the community find good representation," Turner said. For example, he handled work for the Gay Softball World Series committees in Chicago and Austin when those cities hosted the event. That

unique "cave weddings."

Pritkin owns a Rome-based Illinois destination marketing company, Divertimento Group; she is helping locals network with USA travel professionals who have an LGBTQ clientele. Cofoid, owner of Hindsdale's 10 year-plus boutique agency La Dolce Via Travel, is Divertimento Group's travel agency partner for the U.S. market.

To contact Pritkin, visit DivertimentoGroup.com or email Lesley@divertimentogroup.com. To reach Cofoid, email Rosanne@ladolceviatravel.com.

work involved corporate matters, preparing their 501c3 not-for-profit applications and reviewing vendor contracts.

"I've also helped out friends in the community who needed help that I was able to provide, even though they couldn't afford to pay me for my services," he said.

Why do the *pro bono* work?

"It's part of being a professional—plain and simple," Turner said.

Extra innings with ... Cameron Turner

—Favorite pro sports team: Chicago Cubs

—Favorite pro athlete: Javier Baez

—Favorite stadium: Wrigley Field

—One pro athlete you'd like to meet: "Javier Baez, of course, but I'd be pretty excited to meet Rafael Nadal, Chris Paul or Steph Curry, too."

—One pro sports event/game you'd like to attend: "A Game 7 of the 2018 World Series in Wrigley Field."

—Still to accomplish in sports: "I haven't won a [Gay Softball] World Series in the A-Division; I'd like to do that before my A-Division playing days are over."

—On gay sports: "[They] are an important part of the community. If you aren't playing, but think you might want to, come try it out. If you've never thought about playing, please think about it; you won't regret it."

—Legally speaking: "I'm here to help, and if I can't do that work, I'll always help you find someone who can."

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TELEVISION

'Orange Is the New Black' cast talk new season, LGBT issues

BY JERRY NUNN

Orange Is the New Black is finally ready to be binge-watched on Netflix, with a newly released season six. The series is based on Piper Kerman's memoir *Orange Is the New Black: My year in a Women's Prison*. Thanks to recent events, the current storyline revs up from a minimum- to a maximum-security prison—and loads of brand new characters.

In its first season, it was nominated for 12 Primetime Emmy Award and won three. "Orange" continues to garner more Emmys along with nominations for Golden Globes and Writers Guild of America Awards, and the show has earned a Peabody Award.

The show has done well for humanizing prisoners, thanks to the cast that includes three who came to Chicago to promote it recently:

—Taylor Schilling plays Piper Chapman, and has received an Emmy nomination and two Golden Globe nominations, along with winning several Satellite Awards and a Webby for the show.

She has a vibrant movie career with *Dark Matter*, *The Lucky One* and *Argo*.

—Kate Mulgrew is Russian cook Galina "Red" Reznikov. Mulgrew started her television career on *Ryan's Hope* before landing Kathryn Janeway in *Star Trek: Voyager*. She has an impressive theater background from *Othello* to *Equus* and voiced video games along with cartoons.

—Dascha Polanco, as Dayanara "Daya" Diaz, gives heart to an inmate, and this is the actress' first full-time acting job. This led her to play Detective Lori Wieder in three episodes of *The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story* this year.

Windy City Times: Do viewers ever confuse you with your character on TV?

Dascha Polanco: They think I am my character and call me by her name. They don't even know my real name.

Kate Mulgrew: Yes, lots of times. I get "Red" or "Captain Janeway" all the time. Make up your mind!

Taylor Schilling: I like to give people the benefit of the doubt. I don't think they confuse me with my character. When they say "Piper," I don't think that they are concerned I just busted out of the prison gate.

WCT: Orange Is the New Black has covered so many topics. Is there one you wish they would but haven't?

DP: I would love one scene of John Bennett coming back and for them to have a closing chapter. That would be epic.

KM: I would like to see homophobia covered with the Russian. It is integral to the Russian

character. Red could be tough on homosexuality. She would be talking shit about that all the time, but I haven't so far. I only did it with Laverne Cox with the transgender scene when I said, "Why did you chop off your baby maker?"

I think there should more of that coming from the Russian...

TS: Is homophobia really baked into Russian culture?

KM: It's the law, sweetheart. They haven't brought that up with Red, and I see it all the time in the prison so I think it should be addressed.

TS: I wouldn't even know where to begin with stories for Piper.

WCT: Is Piper Kerman very hands-on with the series?

TS: She was when the show was based on a real person. She was there a lot, but we have gone far away from that for many years.

WCT: Were the other characters based on real people?

KM: Mine is the only one that is dedicated to an original character, whose name was Pop. She was Greek, not Russian.

WCT: Are there any divas on the set of Orange Is the New Black?

TS: I don't think so.

DP: Production or Jenji Kohan wouldn't allow that.

KM: I don't like divas so I won't go there. I don't tolerate that shit.

WCT: Who is the biggest prankster?

KM: I can be a little bit of a prankster. We are all full of mischief. When we start to laugh I am gone!

TS: My giggles are inappropriate.

KM: Remember that day we did 12 takes?

TS: It is not even funny. It's holding up people and is irresponsible and unprofessional.

WCT: Is there anyone similar or not like their characters at all?

DP: I think we are all different and similar.

TS: At this point I can see a lot of differences in most people from their character.

DP: I am super-glam, you know?

KM: They are picking from us with writing the characters.

DP: I am different than everyone else. I am more like my character.

WCT: Have you heard from LGBT fans about the show?

DP: Gay Pride goes crazy for Orange!

TS: I haven't done a lot of Prides. Have you?

DP: I did one in New York City and Canada once.

KM: I don't get invited to any Prides. See? Russian homophobia! [All laugh.]

I think we have done cinematically for the



Orange Is the New Black's Dascha Polanco, Kate Mulgrew and Taylor Schilling (from left). Photo by Jerry Nunn

LGBT community than maybe any other television show, as we should.

WCT: What do you want to tell readers about season six?

TS: What did you think of it?

WCT: I loved it. I had issues with season five.

KM: You and everyone else...

DP: What part did you not like?

TS: The whole thing.

DP: I didn't like the makeovers.

WCT: It was slow.

KM: You cannot concentrate a show like that from three days time. That is what you felt on season five. It is just impossible unless you really work on that years in advance. That density requires a certain amount of time.

TS: That is for a movie, not a television show, with a lot time and care.

KM: That is feature-film time.

WCT: I loved season six from the beginning, with Crazy Eyes' musical sequence.

TS: We know how to hook you, Jerry—with musicals!

DP: They cut out the huge end part of modern dance where they lifted me up in the air. I was twirling in the air. They had never lifted me up so high before!

KM: I had a big clown routine that they cut. The season gets scary and dark very fast, though, doesn't it?

WCT: Yes.

KM: What did you think about the betrayals of Red?

WCT: I was concerned about your bald head.
KM: You were concerned? I had to shave it. This is a very expensive wig I am wearing today.

WCT: It is?

KM: I'm kidding!

WCT: Was it hours to get on the bald cap?

KM: No, I don't do anything for hours. It was fast. It was just a wig.

WCT: Dascha, how did you get the part on The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story?

DP: I am actress so I auditioned to play a les-

bian detective. It was nominated for an Emmy Award for Outstanding Limited Series.

It was great to be part of that because I realized that back then women were not allowed to have leadership roles. If they were then everything was questioned. Seeing her in the moment of trying to solve the crime and people not listening to her because she was a woman and also LGBT. It was something so frustrating.

KM: Great to play, though, right?

DP: It was a great role.

TS: I cannot wait to watch that.

KM: You can binge it. That's not even one bottle of wine!

WCT: How was it having your daughter play you in a flashback on Orange Is the New Black?

KM: It was amazing. I am very proud of her and she was very professional, which I made sure. It was great she got to play my younger self. I think people now realize we look a lot alike. I don't see it, but people always say that.

I think it was great for the show.

WCT: Craziest thing a Star Trek fan has ever asked of you, Kate?

KM: Are you serious? You have no idea! I've been asked to marry them, someone threatened to kill me, another one wrote a 600-page tome about me as a dominatrix with porn, which of course I read with the greatest delight. [Laughs] They have asked for everything and then some. They have crossed over to Red. The loyalty factor is pretty high!

WCT: How do you juggle the movies and what is coming out soon, Taylor?

TS: It is a lot of work and I am really tired all the time. I am happy to do things outside of Orange. I am so grateful to have different places to stretch my wings because there is only so much time.

There's a film called *Family* and one called *Prodigy*. With *Prodigy*, MGM has brought Orion back, who will release it. It is a very exciting horror film. I am the mother with a demon child—scary!



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Market Days schedule

The Northalsted Business Alliance (NBA) delivers a diverse and dance-heavy line-up for this year's Market Days, set for Aug. 11-12, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

The fest (said to be the largest two-day event in the Midwest) will return to Boystown with entertainment, shopping, food and more.

Entertainer Todrick Hall will take the stage as part of his Forbidden tour on Aug. 11, while Betty Who will sing her power pop on Aug. 12. MAX, with the gold single "Lights Down Low," will end the festival.

Some of the other acts include former American Idol acts Trenyce and Kimberly Locke; legendary songstresses Martha Wash, Kristine W and Ultra Nate; the girl group Expose; local act 16 Candles; out country singer Ty Herndon; and the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus.

There is a \$10 suggested donation.

Formed in 1980, NBA represents more than 100

businesses along the Halsted Street corridor. The organization hosts major events throughout the year, including Chicago Pride Fest, Northalsted Market Days, the Halloween Parade and Frost Fest. For information about NBA, visit Northalsted.com.

Saturday, Aug 11

Addison Bud Light North Stage

1:30-3:30 p.m. - Drag show

2:30-3:30 p.m. - Todrick Hall

3:30-4:15 p.m. - Trenyce

5-6:30 p.m. - Cat Fight

7-7:45 p.m. - Kimberly Locke

7:50-8:35 p.m. - Ultra Nate

8:40-9:25 p.m. - Martha Wash

Hydrate Stage

11:30 a.m. - DJ Laura Bee

1 p.m. - Drag show

4 p.m. - DJ Laura Bee



See Todrick Hall on Saturday, August 11. PR photo

WCT COLORS Windy City Times: An LGBTQ History Coloring Book Series



This week's Windy City Times Coloring Book illustration of icons from LGBTQ history is of Mexican artist **Frida Kahlo** (1907-1954), by artist Mandy Robertson. Kahlo's folk art style, including many self portraits, explored identity, postcolonialism, gender, class and race, and her work was described as surrealist or magical realist. Kahlo suffered physically, having survived both polio and a traffic accident. While she had a well-known relationship with artist Diego Rivera, they both had numerous affairs, and Kahlo is celebrated among LGBTQ artists of the past. "Kahlo's work has been celebrated internationally as emblematic of Mexican national and Indigenous traditions, and by feminists for what is seen as its uncompromising depiction of the female experience and form," as stated in https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frida_Kahlo.

5:30 p.m. - DJ Cajjmere Wray

7:30 p.m. - DJ Oscar Velazquez

Roscoe Stage

1:15-2:30 p.m. - Hello Weekend

3:15-4:30 p.m. - Girl Power Night

5-5:45 p.m. - DJ

5:45-6:25 p.m. - Crystal Waters

6:25-7 p.m. - DJ

7-7:45 p.m. - Ty Herndon

8:20-9:45 p.m. - Hank & Cupcake

Aldine Jazz Stage

1:30-3 p.m. - Sam Fazio Quartet

3:30 p.m. - Lakeside Pride Strayhorns

5:30-7:30 p.m. - Feathered Beaus

Sunday, Aug. 12

Addison Bud Light North Stage

1-2 p.m. - DJ

2-2:45 p.m. - Betty Who

3:30-4:30 p.m. - Sushi Roll

4:45-6:15 p.m. - DJ

6:15-7 p.m. - Expose

7-9 p.m. - DJ

9-9:55 p.m. - MAX

Hydrate Stage

11:30 a.m. - DJ Laura Bee

12:30 p.m. - Drag show

3:30 p.m. - DJ Guy Scheiman

5:30 p.m. - DJ Toy Armada

7:30 p.m. - DJ Tom Stephan

Roscoe Stage

1-1:45 p.m. - Chicago Gay Men's Chorus

2:15-3:45 p.m. - Boy Band Review

4:15-5 p.m. - Kristine W

5:15-7:15 p.m. - Rod Tuffcurls

7:45-9:45 p.m. - 16 Candles

Aldine Jazz Stage

1:30-3 p.m. - BMR4

3:30-5 p.m. - Joe Policastro Trio

5:30-7:30 p.m. - The Flat Cats

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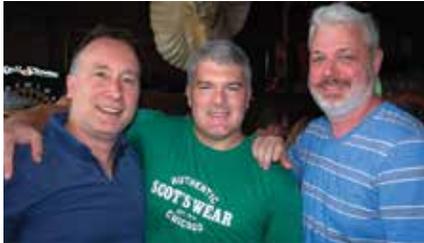
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SCOT'S

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BILLY Masters

"First of all, it's totally hogwash. My sister would never, ever have done anything to do any harm to any child, especially within our family. And for those lies to be perpetuated in this so-called documentary film, I think it's evil. I will never, and I mean this, ever forgive those who perpetuated this insanity."—**Dionne Warwick** addresses claims that sister Dee Dee sexually molested Whitney Houston and her brother Gary. I gotta give props to anyone who still uses the word hogwash!

Last week, a 23-year-old male model came out as gay—and, no, it was not someone on The Bachelorette. This is **Derek Chadwick**, who is described as an "influencer"—which begs the question, how much influence does someone no one ever heard of have? Eh, he's happy, I'm happy. And he's hot enough to post photos of on BillyMasters.com.

Speaking of male models, four are coming out, claiming they were sexually assaulted by photographer Rick Day. Barrett Pall accused Day of masturbating him and urging him to ejaculate on his face! The second model, Kai Braden, said Day pinned him against the wall and asked if he had ever had sex with another guy. Kai said he never had sex period, so Day backed off. Twins Michael and Zach Zakar say they were sexually assaulted separately. Michael said Day tried to push his head down as the photographer pulled out his penis. According to Zach, Day said, "I'm going to shoot you, then you're going to make me shoot."

There's a dispute a-brewin' between **Kim Kardashian** and **Tyson Beckford**. It all started when Beckford commented on a photo of Kim where one hip looks significantly larger than the other. (I assumed it was sloppy Photoshopping.) He wrote, "Sorry I don't care for it personally. She is not real, doctor fucked up on her right hip." Kim wasted no time in clapping back (and from the looks of her derriere, she could cause a standing ovation): "Sis we all know why you don't care for it," with an emoji of a frog, a steaming cup of coffee (or, more likely, tea), and a nail being painted. Suddenly I feel SO old—I thought she was asking Tyson to get together for a manicure over coffee and frog legs! I guess "Sis" should have clued me in that she was implying Tyson is gay—and apparently getting his nails done, drinking tea and doing something unspeakable with a frog! Tyson responded, "Train 5-6 days a wk, weights Martial Arts and Firearms and I defend those who can't defend themselves! I support LGBTQ, even though I'm not Gay. It's just the Human thing to do." Then TMZ caught up with matriarch Kris Jenner and asked what she thought. She amped up the ridiculous factor by saying, "Who's Tyson?" Like there's a Jenner/Kardashian woman who is unaware of a hot Black



Britney Spears is under attack, Billy says.

Photo by Michelangelo Di Battista

man within 100 feet!

Poor **Britney**. Prior to performing at Brighton (UK) Pride last weekend, Spears released a Pride edition of her perfume, Fantasy. She even donated one pound (British currency) from every purchase to GLAAD. Now, that sounds good until you do the math. The perfume costs 40 pounds, so her donation is roughly 2.5 percent of sales—which I still think is OK. But many people feel it isn't enough. One critic said, "Can you not afford to donate more and also to a UK based charity, you are after all celebrating love and equality here in the UK." In other words, the optics are bad. I suspect Spears' heart is in the right place, but she's really not what I'd call a numbers person. She thinks, "Blah-blah-blah, I'm doing a good thing." So give the girl a break. And perhaps a calculator.

Can you believe it's been almost 20 years since **Trick** came out? The film that introduced us to **Christian Campbell**, **JP Pitoc**, **Miss Coco Peru** and the comedic talents of **Tori Spelling** was released in 1999. Apparently, people have been clamoring for a sequel—but enough about Miss Spelling. Back in 2014, director Jim Fall said he was open to the idea. Tori pitched her scenario: "I always saw her still wedging her way into Gabe's relationship—even offering to be a surrogate for them while she does a one woman musical on 'Mommie Dearest'. That's my fantasy." JP had his own view: "I always like the happily ever after thing. And I think that they would stay together and they'd have kids." Fall said, "It'll never be like anything you just said." I guess we'll find out soon enough. Fall says he's written the script, is planning a reading with the cast, is starting to raise the money and hopes to have the film released next year to coincide with the 20th anniversary. He better hurry.

Our "Ask Billy" question is from Stephen in Boston: "I know you said **Davey Wavey** was running a gay porn website. Are any of his personal videos on it?"

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LEAD LOVE

I don't believe he's shot any footage for the site. But some new nudes of him recently surfaced—allegedly from a hook-up site. And let's say Davey ain't shy about showing off his best side, as you'll see on BillyMasters.com.

When Davey's waving at us, it's definitely time to end yet another column. If I may briefly revisit last week's column, I am shocked that many people thought I trashed the Broadway musical *Head Over Heels*. Yes, there are things that I felt could be better, but I still loved it and had a great time—and from Billy Masters, that's a rave. For more of my ravings, check out BillyMasters.com—the site that will leave you head over heels. If you have a question, send it to Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before someone explains to Tyson that we gays can actually defend ourselves (but we appreciate the support). Until next time, remember: One man's filth is another man's bible.

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the DISH

Weekly Dining Guide in
WINDY CITY TIMES

SAVOR

Hubbard Inn; Taste of Andersonville

BY ANDREW DAVIS

Although it's been around for a decade, I had never stepped foot in **Hubbard Inn** (110 W. Hubbard St.; <https://www.hubbardinn.com/>), a European-influenced restaurant in Chicago's River North neighborhood.

It certainly won't be another 10 years before I return, as this place has too many intriguing bits to miss.

Start with the decor, which is a hodgepodge of various influences, thanks to Western European-themed paintings to Moroccan lamps to steampunk touches to drink menus on the walls that use the same font utilized in the TV show *American Horror Story*. (The music was also eclectic, with The Fugees and Mark Knopfler in the mix.) There's also a space in the back of the first floor that resembles a really cool library. (The second floor was off-limits, as Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel—with security detail—and 1st



Lacquered duck breast at Hubbard Inn.
PR photo

Ward Ald. Proco Joe Moreno were holding a get-together of sorts.)

However, Hubbard Inn also has culinary and drink attractions. The Martha's Vineyard is an intoxicating (pun intended) mix of Tito's vodka, blueberry lemongrass, peach liqueur, otto's dream, sauvignon blanc and lemon. Other options include items such as the Black Cat Blue (Bombay dry, lemon, blackberries and egg whites) and the classics (like the Moscow Mule, Corpse Reviver

and the Aviation).

With the food, Chef Jason Hedin (who also helms nearby Joy District) concocts dishes that can be gustatory challenges—in a good way. The seasonal flatbread contains elotes, charred corn and brown-butter emulsion, with seasoned popcorn. However, the most unique option had to be the foie-gras sundae that was accompanied by peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches. (The manchego croquettes are not exotic, but were undeniably delicious.)

As for the entrees, the tandoori chicken was wonderfully tasty (and with a most unique presentation, with the bird covered with charred red onion). My dining partner wasn't too keen on her lamb loin—with one problem being that the server didn't ask her how she wanted it looked. But that was the only blip on a wonderful night.

'Taste of Andersonville' coming up Aug. 15

The Andersonville Chamber of Commerce will welcome guests on a dining tour of Andersonville's robust restaurant district during the annual **Taste of Andersonville** on Wed., Aug. 15, 6-9 p.m. (Check-in starts at 4 p.m. at the Swedish American Museum, 5211 N. Clark St.)

The event has expanded this year to three routes in order to accommodate increased participation from area restaurants and businesses, as well as diversified menu offerings, with each route highlighting dinner, dessert, and drink options. Tickets are available online now for three curated routes—**FORK**, **KNIFE** and **SPOON**—each featuring 12 small plate stops. Guests can also select **THE WORKS** ticket, allowing dining access to two

routes of their choice.

Just a few of this year's participating spots include **FORK's** Candyality, **FRIIO** Gelato, **Lady Gregory's** and **Simon's Tavern**; **KNIFE's** Bar Roma, **The Wooden Spoon** and **Reza's**; and **SPOON's** Octavio Cantina and Kitchen, **Appellation** and **First Slice Pie Cafe**.

All routes will feature vegetarian-friendly options. Routes, participating restaurants and menu items are subject to change.

Tickets can be purchased online at andersonville.org until Aug. 15 at noon. If available, additional day-of tickets will be sold starting at 4 p.m. at the Swedish American Museum.

Note: Restaurant profiles/events are based on invitations arranged from restaurants and/or firms.



Taste of Andersonville patrons in 2017 with Cherry Streusel Pie Bites at First Slice Pie Cafe.

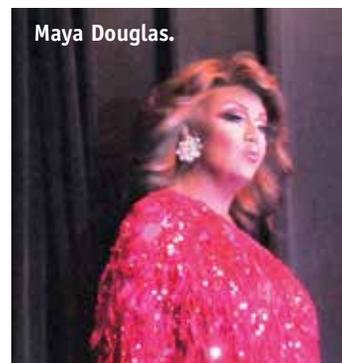
Photo courtesy of Andersonville Chamber



Jim Flint with current Miss Continental 2017 Shanell D'Marco.



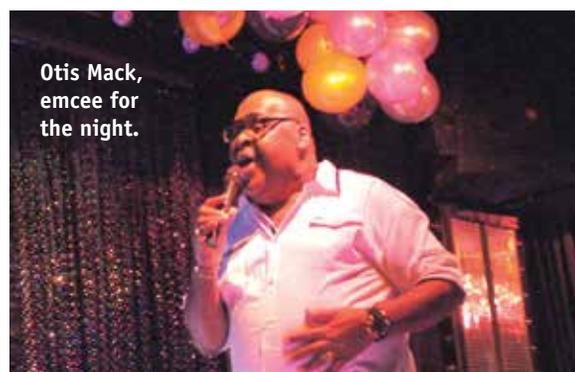
Tasha Long.



Maya Douglas.



Cezanne.



Otis Mack, emcee for the night.

THE BATON

Celebrating Jim Flint's 77th birthday, Monday, July 30.

Photos by Hal Baim



Mimi Marks.



Angel Saez.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO is seeking applicants for the position of Director of the Gender and Sexuality Center. View position details and apply online at <https://jobs.uic.edu/>. For fullest consideration, please upload a resume and cover letter by August 8, 2018 (8/8/18-13)

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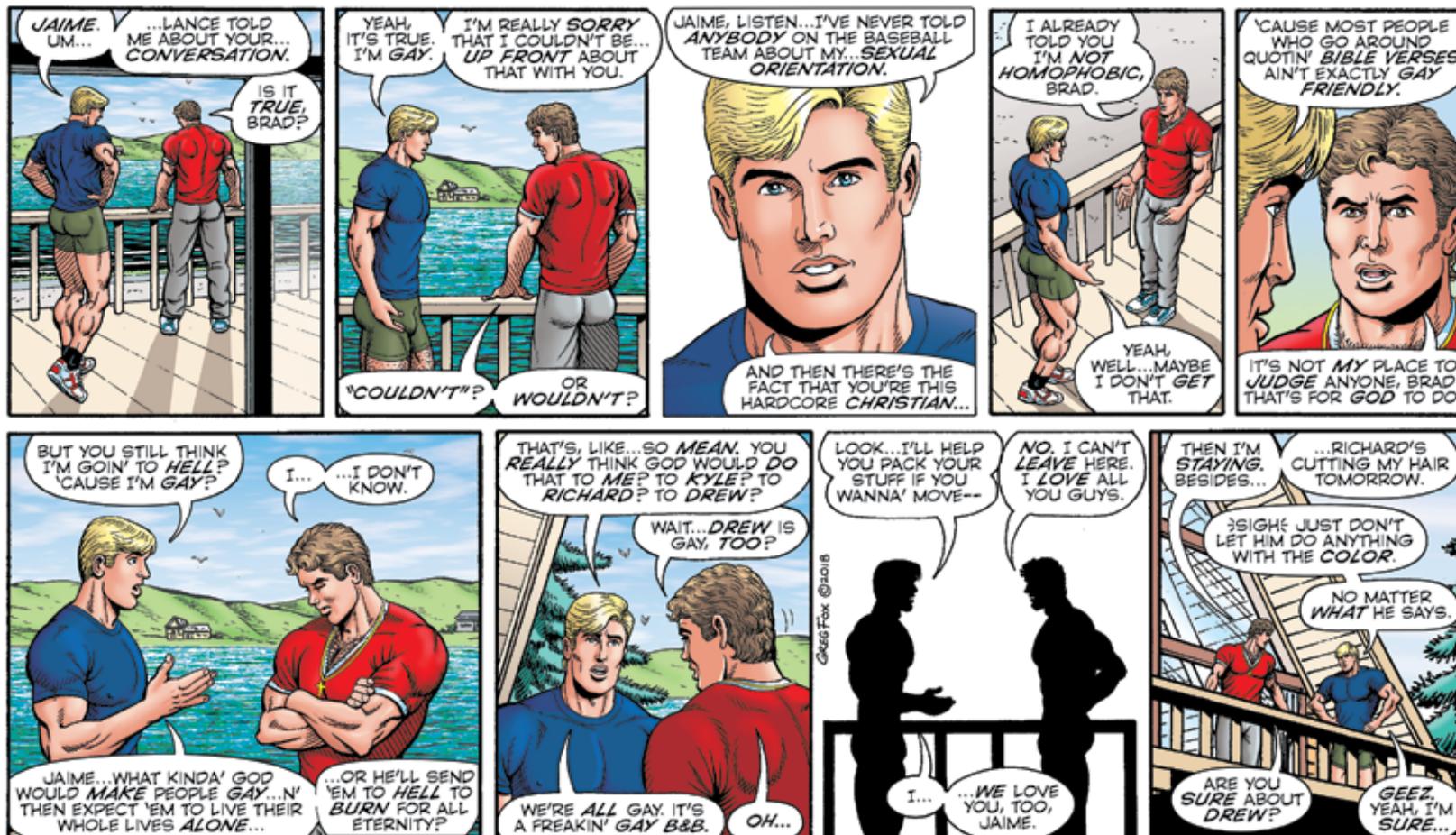


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KYLE'S BED & BREAKFAST

by Greg Fox



WINDY CITY TIMES

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wed., Aug. 8

HIV/AIDS in the Age of PrEP. There has been a rise in other STI's and there is continued disparity amongst populations of color who have historically lacked access and resources. What is the responsibility of those with access and with privilege to advocate? Free 7:00pm - 9:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/hiv-aids-in-the-age-of-prep-tickets-48396501238>

Thursday, Aug. 9

LGBTQ Parenting RoundTable, Our Children series, LGBTQ Parenting Moderated panel of LGBTQ parents and adult children who were raised in same-gender households will discuss issues prevalent in their own families and answer questions. The Cradle partners with Center on Halsted 6:00pm - 9:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.centeronhalsted.org/newevents-details.cfm?ID=15450>

It's Not Me, It's You: A Paradise Lost Reimagining Presented by Yes Ma'am Circus. \$26. Student, senior, active military, kids, groups 10+ discounts 8:00pm The Athenaeum Theatre 2936 N Southport Ave Chicago 773-935-6875 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DFYy6CZwVg> Tickets: <http://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/995806>

Friday, Aug. 10

Neverland presents The Norse Gods: A Market Days Dance Party A viking-themed dance party featuring sounds from DJs Isaac Escalante and Alex Cabot. Lights by Joe Gillian. \$61 in advance; \$71 at the door. 11:00pm - 4:00am Metro Chicago 3730 N Clark Chicago Tickets: <http://bit.ly/2KfAWUX>

The Sip online show Live show every Friday night, three gay men from diverse occupations and life journeys discuss everything from world headline news to pop culture from a Black LGBTQ perspective. 6:00pm - 7:00pm Online at <http://goo.gl/pL7wWA>

Queer Genre Fiction Book Group Each second Friday 7:00pm - 9:00pm Gerber



LOOSEY GOOSEY

Sat., August 11

DJ Harry Cross (pictured here with Debbie Fox) spins with Honey Soundsystem at a special Market Days edition of Loose Ends.

Photo by Kirk Williamson

Hart Library and Archives 6500 N Clark St Chicago <http://www.gerberhart.org>
Pioneers and Playboys, Gay FTMs Then and Now Trans-focused book reading with author, co-editor, and contributor of two new books - Daring To Be A Man Among Men and Trans Homo...Gasp! Gay FTM & Cis Men on Sex and Love. Free 7:00pm - 9:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.centeronhalsted.org/newevents-details.cfm?ID=15449>

Everybody A 2018 Pulitzer Prize finalist for drama, Branden Jacobs-Jenkins' *Everybody* is a modern retelling of the 15th-century morality play *Everyman*. Through Aug. 12. 7:30pm The Buena, Pride Arts Center 4147 N. Broadway <http://BrownPaperBox.org>

The One Woman No Show Actors cold-read selections from a show written especially for them, revealed to them that night, lights up, in front of an audience. Every second Friday of the month 10:00pm CSz Theater Chicago, 929 W. Belmont, Chicago <http://onewomannoshow.com> Tickets: <http://www.facebook.com/onewomannoshow>

Saturday, Aug. 11

Northalsted Market Days Northalsted Market Days is the largest street festival in the Midwest with four stages, 200+

unique vendors, arts, crafts, food and drink, DJ's and dancing, sponsor booths. Presented by Northalsted Business Alliance. Concludes Aug. 12. Performer schedule at link. 11:00am - 10:00pm Boystown on Halsted Street from Belmont to Addison <http://northalsted.com/marketdays>

Market Days at Cirque Du Sidetrack Celebrate Market Days at Sidetrack. 11:00am Sidetrack 3349 N Halsted St Chicago <http://sidetrackchicago.com>

Circuit Mom presents: Warriors Dance away Market Days weekend with Grammy-nominated DJs/producers Rosabel. 9:00pm - 3:45am Aragon Ballroom 1106 W Lawrence Ave Chicago <http://www.ticketmaster.com>

Furball Chicago: Market Days Superstar DJs/producers Aron and Ale Maes. Hosted by Nick Kern, Boy Alberto and Honey Bear + Ruff. Go-go bears and cubs (oh my)! Advance tickets \$16; \$20 at the door. Presented by Joe Fiore. 10:30pm - 5:00am Metro Chicago 3730 N Clark Chicago <https://metrochicago.com/event/furball-chicago-2/> Tickets: <https://metrochicago.com/event/furball-chicago-2/>

KOK Frat Night: Toga Party Pledge Night Take your paddlings at this special frat night party. 9:00pm - 3:00am The Sofa Tap 4923 N Clark Chicago <http://www.thesofotap.com>

Chicago Make Out Party: Market Days Edition Put your mouth on this monthly party, featuring DJs Michael Serafini, Club Chow, Madeline and Nark. Hosted by Lucy Stooles, Laila McQueen, Liz Dummer, Miss Meadows, Gnat, Dan Polyak, Ram Slam and Baby Club Daddies. Photobooth by Nark Magazine and photographer Erik M. Kommer. Free shots in the booth. 10:00pm - 5:00am Jackhammer 6406 N Clark St Chicago Tickets: <http://www.universe.com/marketdays>

Loose Ends: Market Days with Honey Soundsystem/Harry Cross \$10 all night with valid student ID, \$15 advance, \$20 door. 10:00pm - 5:00am Smart Bar 3730 N Clark Chicago Tickets: <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/7681107/honey-soundsystem-chicago-smartbarchicago?cobrand=metrochicago>

Jeannie Tanner Swing Out Sisters Journey through the 1900's with the songs of women in music with Tanner, LaShera Moore and Ellen Winters. 8:00pm Skokie Theatre 7924 Lincoln Ave Skokie, IL 60077 <http://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pe/10305578>

Gay Is Good: Homophile Activism before Stonewall Detailing the beginning of the homophile movement in the U.S., its peak during the ECHO and NACHO conferences, and eventual decline after the Stonewall Riots. Through September 10:00am - 4:00am Gerber Hart Library and Archives 6500 N Clark St Chicago <http://www.gerberhart.org>

Bud Billiken Parade The largest African American parade in the United States every 2nd Saturday in August. Live broadcast on ABC7 10:00am - 1:30pm Bronzeville

It's Not Me, It's You: A Paradise Lost Reimagining Presented by Yes Ma'am Circus. \$26. Student, senior, active military, kids, groups 10+ discounts 2:30pm The Athenaeum Theatre 2936 N Southport Ave Chicago 773-935-6875 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DFYy6CZwVg> Tickets: <http://web.ovationtix.com/trs/pr/995806>

Sunday, Aug. 12

Northalsted Market Days Northalsted Market Days is the largest street festival in the Midwest with four stages, 200+ unique vendors, arts, crafts, food and drink, DJ's and dancing, sponsor booths. 11:00am - 10:00pm Boystown on Halsted Street from Belmont to Addison <http://northalsted.com/marketdays>

Circuit Mom presents: Drama Official closing party of Market Days. DJs include Hector Fonseca and Micky Friedmann, spinning together for the first time. Tickets available at Men's Room. 9:00pm - 4:00am House of Blues 329 N Dearborn Chicago Tickets: <http://www.ticketmaster.com>

Monday, Aug. 13

National Center for Transgender Equality VIP Chicago Reception Socializing with NCTE Executive Director, Mara Keisling, over drinks and light fare, conversation on the state of transgender rights, NCTE's history, and future of transgender equality. 6:00pm - 9:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51171/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=10952

Summer Concert at Millennium Park Broadway In Chicago free concert sponsored by ABC 7 Chicago and hosted by Janet Davies, with the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. Preview performances from upcoming performances. 6:15pm Jay

Pritzker Pavilion at Millennium Park, 201 E Randolph St. <http://chicago.thelocaltourist.com/event/millennium-park-presents-broadway-chicago-summer-concert>

Broadway Concert in the Park After-Party Sing your showtunes with Musical Monday. 8:00pm - 2:00am Sidetrack 3349 N Halsted St Chicago <http://www.sidetrackchicago.com>

Wed., Aug. 15

Taste of Andersonville Three curated dining routes will highlight Andersonville's robust restaurant district. Hosted by the Andersonville Chamber of Commerce. Advance ticket online. 6:00pm - 9:00pm Check in after 4pm at Swedish American Museum, 5211 N. Clark <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3566621>

Thursday, Aug. 16

U=U and YOU! Undetectable = Untransmittable. Free event to celebrate the science and advocacy that has shown the world that people living with HIV on successful antiretroviral treatment 1:00pm - 6:00pm Rush Center of Excellence, 1725 W Harrison St <http://www.aidschicago.org/uuandyou>

If Not Us, Who? The Struggle of LGBTQ Refugees & Asylum-Seekers Worldwide struggle of LGBTQ refugees and asylum-seekers, what we can do to help. Distinguished speakers and panel. 6:30pm - 8:00pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://rosemont.zanies.com/https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/if-not-us-who-tickets-47916204658>

Trans Talk with Congressman Mike Quigley Q&A with Congressman Quigley and Vanessa Sheridan of Center on Halsted 7:00pm - 8:30pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted Chicago <http://www.centeronhalsted.org>

The WOMB Open Mic Nite Open mic poetry event. Affinity Community Services is a social justice organization serving the needs of the Black LGBTQ community of Chicago with a particular focus on Black women. 7:00pm Affinity Community Services 2850 S. Wabash Ave. #108 Chicago <http://affinity95.org>

Friday, Aug. 17

BTQ Book Group Meet at the library each third Friday 7:00pm - 9:00pm Gerber Hart Library and Archives 6500 N Clark St Chicago <http://www.gerberhart.org>



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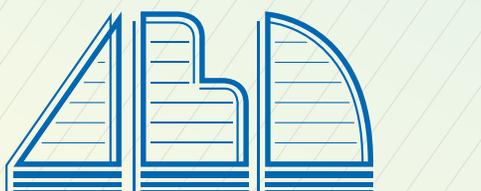
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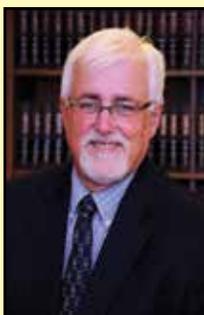


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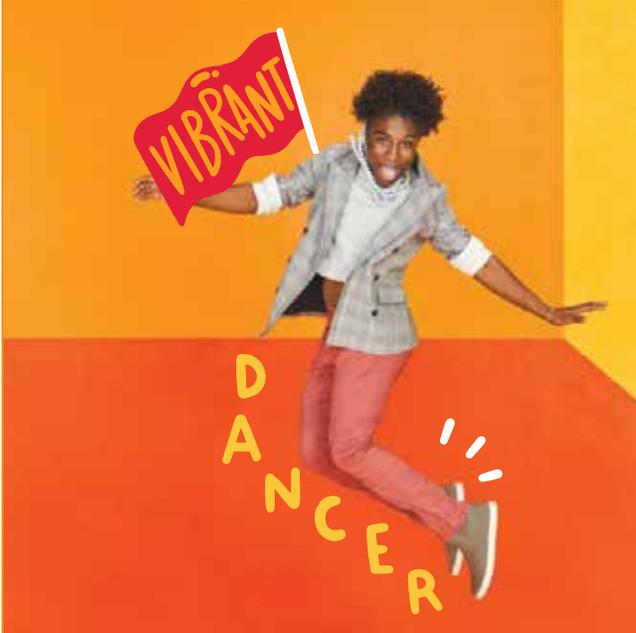
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