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WINDY CITY TIMES

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

FEB. 23, 2011
VOL 26, NO. 21

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Rahm wins

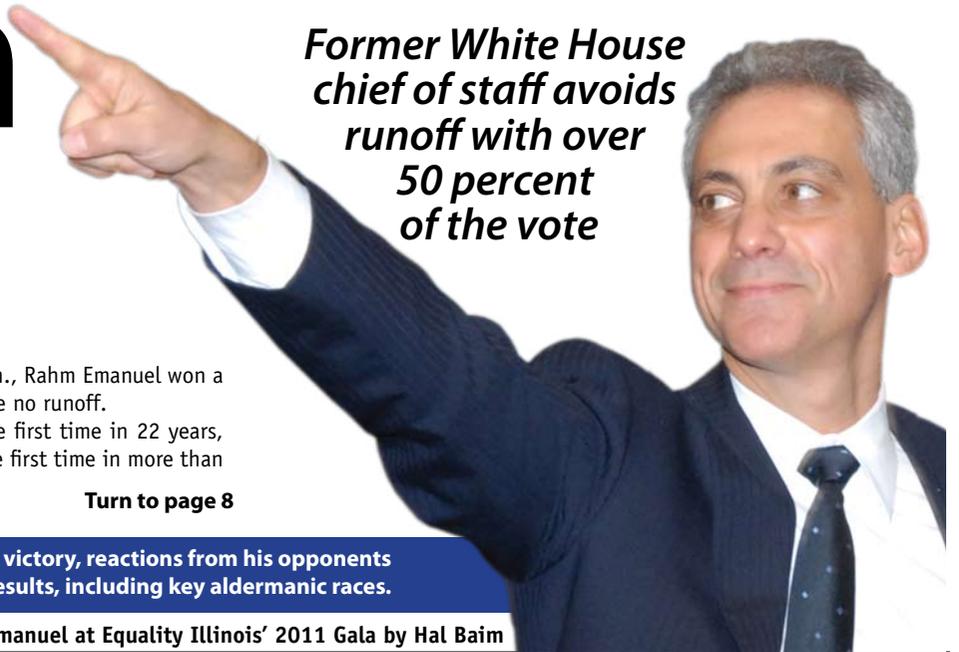
BY ANDREW DAVIS

In an election that was already decided by 8:30 p.m., Rahm Emanuel won a mayoral race so decisively Feb. 22 that there will be no runoff.

The election was groundbreaking because, for the first time in 22 years, no one named Daley was on the ballot. Also, for the first time in more than six decades, a sitting mayor did not run.

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*Former White House
chief of staff avoids
runoff with over
50 percent
of the vote*



Turn to page 8 for more on Emanuel's victory, reactions from his opponents and more election results, including key aldermanic races.

Photo of Emanuel at Equality Illinois' 2011 Gala by Hal Baim



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INTERVIEW

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LESBIAN TV HOST
TACKLES ADDICTION

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JOFFREY BALLET'S
JONATHAN DUMMAR

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nightspots
pick it up
take it home



Loving my child

BY MARSHA AIZUMI

My oldest child was born female. Today he lives as a man. For 20 years, he struggled to align his physical body with his core being. I watched that struggle and I saw his pain, but I didn't know how to help my son. His own mother did not know what to do. The man that lived inside of him screamed to be recognized. He tried to ignore this male voice, but the voice could not be silenced.

Then one day, he spoke the words that opened up a whole new world for me ... "I want to transition to be a guy". And those words changed both of our lives, setting in motion our journey as a family and his journey to become the man he was meant to be.

Throughout 2009, my daughter became my son. Day by day, small and large steps presented themselves and we weighed each one. Some steps we took and others were discounted or deferred to a later date. Aiden began hormone therapy and had "top" surgery. We went to court to change his gender and he completed all the paperwork to be officially recognized as male. With each change, my happy, confident child began to return to me. Hope came back into his heart. Today, he smiles more. He dreams often. And he has found love, when he thought love would never appear.

Turn to page 13



Marsha Aizumi and her son Aiden at the recent National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Creating Change conference in Minneapolis. Photo courtesy of Aizumi

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PHOTO SPOTLIGHT
Scissor Sisters' Jake Shears on concerts—and that cover

The Scissor Sisters are a fun disco-pop band that has to be seen live to ...

Windy City Times Click to Download PDF updated 1/3

Obama signs DADT repeal

BREAKING NEWS:
Davis drops out of mayoral race
On the last day of 2010, U.S. Rep. Danny Davis dropped out of the race to become Chicago's next mayor and put his ...

BEHAV director resigns; board 'takes pause'
Following the sudden exit of its executive director and questions surrounding its funding, the HIV/AIDS organization Better Existence with HIV (BEHV) ...

Sir Elton John's a father
Sir Elton John and his partner, David Furnish, are the proud parents of a baby boy, EW.com reported. The couple welcomed Zachary Jackson ...

COVER STORY:
Obama signs DADT repeal
Following a dramatic and eloquent speech, on Dec. 22 President Obama signed the legislation that will launch the repeal of a 17-year-old law ...

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Windy City Queer Cast updated 12/22

Podcast Sample
WCQ397 2010: The Year in Review

Host: Amy Malherby

Amy is joined by Andrew Davis, managing editor for Windy City Times, on the Queercast to talk about the year 2010. The two discuss some GLBT stories of this past year including the Don't Ask Don't Tell repeal, the publicized suicide stories, bullying, Mayor Daley stepping down, gay Glee kids, Ricky Martin coming out, Chicago sports teams in the gay parade, Illinois Civil Unions and so much more. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us on the Queercast! See you in 2011!

Movie Minute: King's Speech visit the Official Movie Site

Nightspots updated 12/22

That Guy

Get NightSpots Quick ! (Image form/PDF)

Also this week:
Take a look back at the best and brightest photos from 2010 in this full-color New Year's special issue of Nightspots pick it up, take it home

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Obama and the Gays
A POLITICAL MARRIAGE

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this week in WINDY CITY TIMES

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Photos on cover (left, from top): Joy Behar image courtesy of ABC; Johnny Weir PR photo; Jane Velez-Mitchell PR; image of Joffrey Ballet's Jonathan Dummar by Andrew Davis

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'SOUL' MAN

Actor Darryl Stephens (left) recently co-hosted "Art & Soul" at Circuit. See many photos of the event online.

Photo by Darren Calhoun



Read new columnist David Beck's piece about how gay men can market themselves online.

A special Five Worth Finding looks at what rocks in Philly.

Photo by Andrew Davis

FRENCH TWIST

Sugar & Spice reviews the new Gold Coast restaurant Bistronomic, which serves French and gastronomic fare.

NATURAL ELECTION

Find out more about Chicago's mayoral and aldermanic races online.

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

This week's entertainment round-up includes items on Lady Gaga, Rufus Wainwright and Andy Warhol.

plus
DAILY BREAKING NEWS

FRANKEL, MY DEAR...



Reality-TV vet Bethenny Frankel weighs in on her show, privacy and other topics.

Photo of Bethenny Frankel and Jason Hoppy courtesy of Bravo

It's Oscar time with Mercedes!
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Prop 8 federal case delayed for several more months

BY REX WOCKNER

A huge new delay was introduced into the federal case against California's Proposition 8 on Feb. 16.

The case is before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which, after hearing oral arguments in December, punted off a question to the California Supreme Court.

The California Supreme Court now has decided, unanimously, that it will indeed answer the question and has set up a briefing schedule, to be followed by oral arguments no sooner than September.

The 9th Circuit asked the California Supreme Court if the people who put Prop 8 on the ballot have any legal right, under California law, to be in court arguing to overturn last summer's federal District Court ruling that struck down Prop 8 as a violation of the U.S. Constitution.

Those proponents, ProtectMarriage.com, want to defend Prop 8 because California's governor and attorney general and everyone else who was sued in the federal Prop 8 case have refused to defend the constitutional amendment that, in 2008, re-banned same-sex marriage in the nation's most populous state.

The 9th Circuit decided it couldn't proceed with the case without hearing the California Supreme Court's opinion on ProtectMarriage's state-level right to defend Prop 8, which the 9th Circuit could then take under consideration in deciding whether to grant ProtectMarriage federal "standing" to appeal.

If ProtectMarriage is found to have no standing, then the case has no proper appellants and the 9th Circuit won't hear the appeal. Should that happen, the most likely outcome would be that the District Court ruling that struck down Prop 8 would take effect, and gay couples in California would be able to get married again—although the "standing" question itself could end up being appealed by ProtectMarriage to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The question the California Supreme Court will answer, as asked by the 9th Circuit, is: "Whether under Article II, Section 8 of the California Constitution, or otherwise under California law, the official proponents of an initiative measure possess either a particularized interest in the initiative's validity or the authority to assert the State's interest in the initiative's validity, which would enable them to defend the constitutionality of the initiative upon its adoption or appeal a judgment invalidating the initiative, when the public officials charged with that duty refuse to do so."

Shannon Minter, legal director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, expressed annoyance at the new, lengthy delay in the case.

"For same-sex couples waiting to marry, and for all LGBT Californians waiting to be treated as equal citizens, the knowledge that they must endure further delay is incredibly painful and frustrating," Minter said. "Prop 8 should never have been permitted on the ballot. The rights of a minority should never be put to a popular vote. Prop 8 was a toxic, anti-democratic measure that continues to wreak havoc in the lives of real people and families. The court should move as quickly as possible to resolve this issue. It is clear that California law does not give initiative proponents the power to override elected state officials who have decided not to appeal a federal court decision holding that a challenged state law is unconstitutional. The California Supreme Court should rule accordingly, and the 9th Circuit should affirm Judge Walker's ruling. Prop 8 is blatantly unconstitutional, and it is past time for it to be gone."

Lambda Legal seemed even more annoyed by the day's developments, throwing a lengthy fit from atop its highest horse.

"Because the federal appeals judges said they need clarification, we look forward to a decision by the California Supreme Court confirming that initiative proponents lack legal standing to continue the Perry case," said Marriage Project Director Jennifer Pizer. "They are not law enforcers, and have the same limited rights as everyone else to litigate only when their own rights are at stake, not merely to assert their opinions about others' rights. Initiative proponents also cannot step into the shoes of the attorney general, the governor or other state officials. The reason for this is basic: The governor and attorney general are elected by the people to represent all the people, not just one point of view on one issue, out of countless, competing concerns. Most importantly, state officials swear an oath to uphold the federal and state constitutions, including their abiding promises of equal protection and due process for everyone. Initiative proponents take no such oath, and have no such duties. Empowering initiative proponents with a special, new exception to these rules would be mistaken in any circumstances but the error is especially stark in this case. Prop 8's proponents claim to represent 'the people,' but in fact they only represent some 7



Shannon Minter. Photo by Rex Wockner

million voters in a state of 38 million residents. Moreover, according to the U.S. census, the tiny group of same-sex-couple residents targeted by Prop 8 is only around 200,000 people, or less than 2 percent of the population. The state high court's previous decision to allow the initiative power to be used in the unprecedented way Prop 8 did—to strip a terribly vulnerable minority of a fundamental constitutional right—also stripped the equality guarantees out of the California Constitution. Yet another departure now from bedrock California law to allow proponents an exception from the 'legal standing' rules would invite further, deeply problematic consequences. It would mean proponents could enter every case about an initiative to argue against the state's position. They could refuse ever to compromise about anything concerning the litigation process. And they could object to every settlement plan based on ideology about what the law should be, rather than what it is."

Equality California Executive Director Geoff

Kors also was agitated.

"Every day that Prop 8 remains intact, thousands of same-sex couples and their families are denied fundamental rights and basic protections," he fumed. "We urge the California Supreme Court to reject this attempt by the right wing to strip the attorney general of her duty to reject this assault on the California Constitution. Knowing that they are likely to lose, far right-wing California Sen. Tom Harman has introduced a bill that would compel the attorney general to defend all ballot measures and (to) appeal court decisions striking them down such as what happened with regard to Proposition 8. The bill would also authorize the groups that placed measures on the ballot to defend their measures in court if the attorney general is unable to. We call on all Californians to reject this attempt to take power away from the people's attorney, the elected attorney general, and give it to special interest groups."

—Assistance: Bill Kelley

ONLINE AT
WINDYCITYMEDIAGROUP.COM
NATIONAL NEWS

- Wall Street firms to host LGBT summit
- Gov. Deval Patrick (left) protects gender identity
- Rev. Ted Haggard backs marriage equality

U.S. House slashes budget

BY LISA KEEN
KEEN NEWS SERVICE

The U.S. House of Representatives over the weekend passed a \$1.2 trillion budget for the current fiscal year (FY 2011)—a budget that is \$61 billion smaller than the FY 2010 budget and one that includes significant cuts likely to impact the LGBT community and "massive" cuts to programs for people with HIV.

The almost completely partisan vote, led by the Republican majority, stands little chance of being sustained in the Democratic-controlled Senate or by President Obama.

Many political observers likened it to Republicans playing a game of "chicken" with the president and the Senate, with the moment of truth coming when a temporary budget for FY 2011 (known as a "continuing resolution") expires Friday, March 4. Congress must either come up with another continuing resolution or a final FY 2011 budget; otherwise, the government will be without the funds to operate.

But the House bill cuts were already easing off the pedal by the time they passed on a 235 to 189 vote at 4:30 a.m. Saturday. More conservative Republicans had threatened to cut the budget by \$100 billion.

Republicans say the cuts are necessary to fight a dangerously high deficit between what the government brings in in revenues and what it is spending. Democrats say the cuts are not a serious effort to reduce that deficit and, instead, will endanger the lives and well-being of the nation's poorest citizens, while continuing to deliver tax breaks to its wealthiest.

One government-funding watchdog, OMB-Watch, characterized the cuts as going after the federal budget with a "chainsaw," because they involved "collapsing a year-long process into a matter of hours." For instance, the budget for the Center for National and Community Service was cut by 90 percent, said OMBWatch, and the budget for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was cut by 20 percent.

Carl Schmid of The AIDS Institute said the House's proposed cuts on AIDS-related programs would have "severe ramifications to millions of people's lives both here in the United States and around the world."

For example, said Schmid, the cuts would reduce the money available to help people with HIV infection and low incomes obtain life-saving medications by \$25 million from the FY 2010 level. AIDS activists had hoped, instead, to increase the FY 2011 budget for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) by \$65 million over the FY 2010 level to help ease a growing waiting list of patients in need of such help.

The House budget also proposes significant cuts in Community Development Block Grant

(CDBG) funding, a program to provide housing assistance to families with low incomes. Some LGBT centers around the country have been able to tap into the grants to help their clients with low incomes. Obama's proposed budget for FY 2012 also includes a cut in CDBG funding.

The House considered more than 400 amendments to its original budget proposal. Many of those were voted on in blocks but none dealt specifically with funding for AIDS or funding that impacted LGBT organizations directly. But the cuts are broad and deep enough to upset nearly everyone. For instance, it cut more than \$272 million from border control measures and the all funding for public broadcasting.

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Indiana House OKs gay-marriage ban

The Republican-controlled Indiana House approved a constitutional amendment that would prohibit same-sex marriage and civil unions throughout the state, WNDU.com reported.

The vote, which took place Feb. 15, was 70-26.

State law already bars same-sex marriage. However, supporters say the amendment would protect traditional marriage even more.

Evan Wolfson, founder and president of Freedom to Marry, is urging the Indiana State Senate to reject the measure, House Joint Resolution 6. In a statement, he said that the amendment "would write discrimination into the state constitution."

The ban has to be approved by two separately elected general assemblies before it the public can vote on it.



Evan Wolfson. Photo by Rex Wockner

THE LEGACY PROJECT

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH



GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER
(1864 - 1943)
Gay U.S. Botanist

Born into slavery, George Washington Carver struggled and persisted in his quest for an education in the early years of the post-Civil War South. After obtaining his Master's degree, Carver was invited to lead the Agriculture Department at the Tuskegee Institute in 1896 and remained there for 47 years. Because decades of aggressive cotton farming had depleted the soil of vital nutrients, Carver's research focused on finding crop alternatives to cotton – such as peanuts and sweet potatoes – which he wanted poor farmers to grow as a source of food and other products to improve their quality of life. Carver's scientific achievements challenged racial stereotypes, eventually making him the most famous African-American of his time. Business leaders like Henry Ford came to seek his advice, as well as American presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Calvin Coolidge and Franklin Roosevelt. Though his renown helped to raise the profile of Tuskegee (along with desperately needed funds) administrators worried about potential scandal from the persistent rumors of his homosexuality – especially after 1935 when Carver established a life and research partnership with Austin W. Curtis, Jr. that endured until Carver's death in 1943. Rumors aside, on July 14, 1943, President Franklin Roosevelt authorized \$30,000 for the George Washington Carver National Monument – the first to be dedicated to an African-American and also the first to a non-President. Though numerous awards and accolades have been bestowed upon Carver, his most enduring tribute comes perhaps from the American Public School system and the several dozen elementary schools and high schools which bear his name.

The Legacy Project recognizes the many roles Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people have played in the advancement of world history and culture. "THE LEGACY WALK" - the only outdoor International GLBT History Museum in the World - is coming to North Halsted Street in Chicago and will be dedicated on October 11, 2011. For information, to donate or to volunteer, go to www.legacyprojectchicago.org.

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THE LEGACY PROJECT

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH



BARBARA JORDAN
(1936 - 1996)
Lesbian U.S. Congresswoman

Barbara Jordan grew up in the black ghetto of Houston, Texas. She attended segregated public schools, and an all-black college, where she graduated magna cum laude. She was first elected to the Texas legislature in 1966 and, from 1973 to 1979, served in the U.S. House of Representatives, the first black woman from a Southern state to do so. A gifted speaker, in 1974, she made an influential, televised speech before the House Judiciary Committee supporting the impeachment of President Richard Nixon. She also became the first African-American woman to deliver the keynote address at the Democratic National Convention – a speech that was ranked 5th in "Top 100 American Speeches of the 20th Century" and was considered by many historians to have been the best convention keynote speech in modern history. Suffering from Multiple Sclerosis, Jordan retired from politics in 1979 and became an adjunct professor teaching ethics at the University of Texas at Austin. Thanks to the strength of her oratory, she had earned a lasting reputation as a powerful force in American politics and, in 1990, was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame as one of the most influential women of the twentieth century. In 1992, she was again the keynote speaker at the Democratic National Convention at which she nominated President Bill Clinton. In 1994, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Her health in decline, she died on January 17, 1996, survived by her partner of 30 years, Nancy Earl. On April 24, 2009 a statue was dedicated in her memory at the University of Texas.

The Legacy Project recognizes the many roles Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people have played in the advancement of world history and culture. "THE LEGACY WALK" - the only outdoor International GLBT History Museum in the World - is coming to North Halsted Street in Chicago and will be dedicated on October 11, 2011. For information, to donate or to volunteer, go to www.legacyprojectchicago.org.

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Linda Villarosa.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROFILE
Linda Villarosa

Editor, author, journalist and public speaker Linda Villarosa has received distinguished recognition for her work in the African American and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. Among the honors bestowed upon Villarosa were awards from The American Medical Writers' Association, The Arthur Ashe Institute, Lincoln University, the New York Association of Black Journalists, the National Women's Political Caucus, the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists' Association and the Callen-Lorde Community Health Center.

Villarosa has contributed her time and talent to national magazines throughout her career including the very popular publications Glamour, Health, Latina, the New York Times Book Review, Essence Magazine, Science Times, O Magazine, Vibe and Woman's Day. Her column on the lesbian website AfterEllen is called "Outside the Lines" and she is a regular contributor to the daily online magazine for black consumption called The Root.

Born on Jan. 9, 1959, Villarosa always suspected that she was different from the other girls. Although she served on the cheerleading squad during high school, ran on the track team, wore dresses, and dated boys, she felt apart from the other girls in her class.

The University of Colorado graduate released her very first novel to the world in 2008. It was titled, "Passing for Black" and it earned the ambitious journalist a Lambda Literary Award nomination. In an interview with SheWrites, the author shared, "I wanted to write a book about passing, but didn't want it to be historical fiction. I think of it as a coming-out story with the larger theme of passing. I was inspired by the work of early 20th-century authors Nella Larsen and Charles Chesnutt. Passing is also part of my own history: My mixed-race grandmother "passed for white," in a town outside of Chicago in the 1950s and '60s, causing a long and painful rift in our family."

The above selection is from the forthcoming book **Black, Gifted and Gay** by LGBT media pioneer **Leyla Farah** (with assistance from LGBT celebrity reporter **Sarah Toce**)



Do you suffer from pain due to HIV-related neuropathy?

The Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC) is conducting a study for participants who have pain associated with HIV-related neuropathy. The study will evaluate the safety and efficacy of a trial medication to treat this pain.

If you are interested in participating, please call (312) 238-7611.

Participants must meet the following criteria:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be diagnosed with HIV-related neuropathy

This study will last about 127 days. Participants may receive placebo or study drug that has not been approved by the FDA for this condition. Subjects may receive compensation for participation.



Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

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IRB Project # INC1-10-002; Principal Investigator: Dr. Norman Harden
The Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago is an academic affiliate of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

FY 2012 budget: 'Could have been worse'—and it might be

BY LISA KEEN
KEEN NEWS SERVICE

There was relatively little for the LGBT and HIV communities to complain about in the proposed fiscal year (FY) 2012 budget released by President Obama Feb. 14. And given the president's proposed five-year freeze in non-essential domestic spending, there were some sighs of relief.

Not that everything is hunky-dory. There is no increase for the federal government's program to fight bullying and LGBT youth suicide. Some HIV funding does not keep up with the numbers of people needing help. And there was a significant slash to community development block grants, upon which many LGBT community health centers rely.

And the budget statements released with the proposed dollar figures had a healthy dose of bureaucratic doublespeak. A three-page fact sheet specific to HIV programs says the budget "authorizes HHS to transfer 1 percent of HHS domestic HIV program funding (approximately \$60 million) to support cross-cutting collaborations in areas such as increasing linkages to care and developing effective combinations of prevention interventions."

But overall, community leaders seem pleased with the proposal.

David Stacy, deputy director of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), said he's generally pleased with Obama's proposal.

"In a budget where the president is proposing a five-year spending freeze, it's great to see the administration is able to recognize HIV/AIDS as a priority for funding and to provide at least modest increases," said Stacy. Stacy said HRC is also pleased to see modest increases in the

budget for the Department of Justice for implementation of the new federal hate-crimes law.

Lorri L. Jean, co-chair of Centerlink, a national organization of centers around the country which provide health services and other programs to the LGBT and HIV communities, said even the five-year freeze is not as scary as it sounds.

"The freeze in discretionary spending is at a level that is already much higher than under the previous administration," said Jean. And with the tough economic climate in recent years, she said, LGBT centers "have taken our share of hits." But Jean said she thinks the federal government, under the Obama administration, has become more sophisticated in how it distributes program money.

"Instead of spreading money around a wide array of funders, some of which can't produce results," said Jean. "The federal government has gotten better at choosing organizations that can deliver."

"As worried as I am about all of it," said Jean, "it's different now with our community than under the Bush administration. We've got an executive branch that is open to and significantly supportive of LGBT concerns being included in the funding streams. The difference is like night and day."

Carl Schmid, deputy executive director of The AIDS Institute and one of about 40 HIV and LGBT leaders briefed about the budget at the White House on Feb. 14, said he was pleased with the budget.

"We realize the resources of the federal government are severely constrained, therefore, under today's fiscal environment, we are pleased the President has maintained his commitment to HIV/AIDS programs and even proposed some

minimal increases," said Schmid. "While the proposed funding levels are far from what is needed to provide the necessary care and treatment for people with HIV/AIDS or to significantly reduce the number of new infections, The AIDS Institute appreciates the budget requests and now urges the Congress to show a similar level of support."

The organization Log Cabin Republicans is a stark exception to the LGBT and HIV communities' relative comfort level with the president's proposal. R. Clarke Cooper, Log Cabin's national executive director, dismissed the proposal as failing to cut more.

"Our nation is at a breaking point and the president's budget proposal simply isn't a serious response to the challenges facing our country today," said Cooper. "The American people are facing a federal debt of over \$14 trillion dollars, and the President needs to join with Congress to make significant cuts."

Obviously, interpreting budget proposals is as much art as it is math. And understanding a budget proposal requires seeing not only the number of dollars the proposal puts forth but also how that number compares with the current fiscal year. The complication this year is that Congress has yet to finalize its budget for FY 2011, so budget figures put forth for FY 2012 are being compared against budget figures approved for FY 2010.

Here are some of those numbers for the LGBT and HIV communities:

—**Successful, Safe, and Health Students:** This is a consolidation of several programs, including the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program headed up by openly gay Assistant Secretary Kevin Jennings in the Department of Education. Programs under this office are addressing such issues as anti-gay bullying and suicide among LGBT youth. The budget proposal for FY 2012 is \$365 million, which represents no increase from FY 2010.



Carl Schmid. Photo by Rex Wockner

in funding," added Schmid.

—**Community development block grants:** Lorri Jean, who is co-chair of Centerlink, said "a lot" of centers depend on this funding and the president's proposal to slash 7.5 percent of that funding (from FY 2010 levels) "will have an impact," she said.

—**AIDS prevention:** The proposal calls for increasing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention budget by \$58 million to support the National HIV/AIDS Strategy goal of reducing HIV infections.

—**Breast-cancer research:** The president's budget estimates spending about \$778 million on breast cancer research in FY 2012. This is a slight increase over FY 2010's \$763 million.

—**AIDS research:** The president's proposal calls for \$3.2 billion to be spent on HIV/AIDS research in FY 2012. This compares to \$3.1 billion expected to be spent in FY 2011.

—**Hate-crimes law enforcement:** The FY 2012 budget calls for a \$2 million increase over FY 2010 in the Department of Justice's Community Relations Service, which is mandated with enforcement of the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

"Things certainly could have been much worse," said HRC's David Stacy, "and they probably will be much worse once Congress begins its deliberations."

The House and Senate budget committees will now begin to hold hearings to examine various aspects of President Obama's proposal and will begin drafting a "budget proposal" for Congress to approve. House Republicans have indicated they believe even deeper cuts are necessary in domestic spending, and LGBT and HIV leaders are clearly concerned about what will happen to the president's proposal once the Republican-dominated House begins its deliberations.

"I am more worried about what Republicans in the House might do," said Lorri Jean.

Carl Schmid said the Republican proposals for deeper cuts will "seriously exacerbate the crisis" in ensuring that people with HIV infection and low incomes can receive lifesaving medications. He noted that Republicans call for no increase in ADAP funding and are still trying to eliminate an increase of \$25 million appropriated for FY 2011.

Michael Ruppal, executive director of The AIDS Institute, issued a statement Feb. 15 saying The AIDS Institute "urges the Congress to reject those reckless cuts and consider the long term human and societal impacts of their decisions."

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Lorri Jean. Photo by Rex Wockner

—**Suicide prevention:** Funding for suicide-prevention work under the National Institutes for Health call for a significant increase—from only \$2 million in FY 2010 to a proposed \$18 million in FY 2012. Not all this research is specific to LGBT-related suicide.

—**AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP):** This program, to help people with HIV and low incomes to obtain life-saving medications, is being increased by \$105 million over FY 2010. With more than 6,000 people on waiting lists to receive such assistance, notes Schmid, the increase is "far from what is adequate." "If we have long wait lists now, just imagine what the situation will be like next year with no increases

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RAHM from cover

With 89 percent of precincts reporting at that time, Emanuel had 55 percent of the vote, with Gery Chico a distinct second at 24 percent. City Clerk Miguel del Valle had 9.4 percent and former U.S. Sen. Carol Moseley Braun was at 8.7 percent.

Heading into election day, Emanuel was cautiously optimistic, saying at one point that "two bites of the apple" (meaning a runoff vote) might be necessary. The winner needed 50 percent of the votes plus one in order to avoid a runoff.

During his victory speech, Emanuel said, "It's easy to find differences, but we can never allow them to become divisions. ... I am more convinced than ever that we can meet the challenges before us, because of you [the citizens of Chicago]."



LEFT: Rahm Emanuel at the February 8 LGBT Mayoral Forum. Photo by Hal Baim.

RIGHT: Chicago City Clerk-elect Susana Mendoza. Photo courtesy of her website.



Among the people Emanuel mentioned in his speech were President Obama, Mayor Richard Daley—and Robert Kohl, an openly gay man who was among his campaign leaders and who was part of the LGBT group that formed to support Emanuel.

Opponent Carol Moseley Braun conceded early. According to the Chicago Tribune, she said, "I

believe that hope flames eternal. We will continue to try to inspire people, to get them engaged in government. ... I wish the victor in this race all the success in the taking of the reins of government."

Chico also gave a concession speech: "We've elected a mayor tonight. I want with all of my heart for Rahm Emanuel to be successful as may-

or. We need that, ladies and gentlemen."

During an interview with Windy City Times that ran in the Dec. 15, 2010, issue, Emanuel said, "I'm determined to get things done, but it's what motivates me. [I don't want] to drive just to drive. Whether it was passing the assault-weapon ban; creating the kids' healthcare bill and the insurance companies were trying to block it; [or] passing welfare reform—I fight for things that I believe in, not just to fight for. And I think what people don't see is where the motivation comes from and what drives that. So I got the hard image, but it's on behalf of a set of people for something I think improves their lives."

Emanuel will be sworn in May 16.

Also, state Rep. Susana Mendoza became the first female to be elected city clerk. She will succeed del Valle.

Aldermanic races

Although the mayoral race received most of the media coverage, aldermanic races were held as well. These races were particularly historic as well, as 11 aldermen—including incumbents such as Helen Shiller of the 46th Ward and Mary Ann Smith of the 48th Ward—stepped down, making way for a drastically revamped city council.

The race to replace Shiller was one of three in Chicago to feature at least 10 candidates—and three in this particular race (Emily Stewart, Don Nowotny and James Cappleman) are openly gay. Although Stewart had the backing of the Chicago Sun-Times and Chicago Tribune, Cappleman (at 19.81 percent, with 98 percent of votes counted) and Molly Phelan (at 19.73 percent) appeared headed an April 5 runoff. (Runoffs involve the top two candidates in each race.)

In the 48th Ward, state Rep. Harry Osterman easily outdistanced his opponents, including openly gay paramedic Jose Arteaga.

In the 43rd Ward, with 88 percent of the votes in, Michele Smith had 37.66 percent of the vote while Tim Egan had 28.44 percent, sending those two into a runoff.

Openly gay Ald. Tom Tunney was unopposed



44th Ward Alderman Tom Tunney.

in the 44th Ward (which includes Boys Town), ensuring another term.

In the 47th Ward, a mild upset appeared to be in the works. With 98 percent of the votes counted, Ameya Pawar had 50.77 percent of the vote while retiring Ald. Eugene Schuller's ally Tom O'Donnell had 43.51 percent. (The other two candidates, Matt Reichel and Tom Jacks, had about 6 percent combined.)

Ald. Joe Moore easily retained his seat in the 49th Ward, leading challenger Brian White 72

percent to 28 percent with 90 percent of the votes counted.

In the 50th Ward, longtime Ald. Bernie Stone is seemingly headed for a runoff. With 85 percent of the votes in, Stone led a five-candidate field with 37 percent, but Debra Silverstein was

close behind with 33 percent.

Also, in the 25th Ward, Ald. Scott Waguespack easily retained his seat in a race that was expected to be much closer. With 98 percent of the vote counted, Waguespack had 66 percent of the vote; runner-up David Pavlik had 18 percent.

Affinity family event Feb. 26

The Affinity Lesbian & Bisexual Moms Roundtable is hosting "Focus on Our Families: A Family Celebration Workshop & Activities" Saturday, Feb. 26, at the First Presbyterian Church of Chicago, 6400 S. Kimbark, 12-3 p.m.

There will be a community forum on civil unions (for heterosexual and LGBT couples), and a reading and discussion led by Tina Fakhrid-Deen, the author of *Let's Get it Straight: The Ultimate Handbook of Youth with LGBTQ Parents*. There will also be storytelling for younger children.

The Chicago Childcare Collective will take care of the children. RSVP to Kymia Jones at lesbimoms@affinity95.org.

'Women of Concern' event Feb. 25

Concern Worldwide will hold its annual Women of Concern Brigid Awards luncheon on Fri., Feb. 25, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Renaissance Chicago Downtown Hotel, 1 W. Wacker.

The 2011 Women of Concern Brigid Awards luncheon honors three Chicagoland women (Justice Anne Burke, Patricia Blunt Koldyke and Terrie McDermott) for their achievements. A silent auction featuring national and local celebrities' new and gently used handbags and wallets will take place. The funds raised from this event will support Concern Worldwide's maternal and child health programs in Haiti, Rwanda and Malawi.

Call 312-431-8400 or visit <http://www.concernusa.org>.



Nikolai Alekseev. Photo by Andrew Davis

Alekseev to speak at Merlo Library Feb. 26

Russian gay-rights activist Nikolai Alekseev will speak about his home country and LGBT advocacy Saturday, Feb. 26, at 2 p.m. at the Merlo Public Library, 644 W. Belmont.

Among other things, Alekseev is expected to discuss the beliefs of new Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin, who recently said that he would continue predecessor Yuri Luzhkov's policy of banning gay-rights marches.

E-mail LGBTliberation@aol.com for more information.



46th Ward candidate James Cappleman (right) with his partner Richard Thale at the Equality Illinois gala. Cappleman appears to be headed for a runoff. Photo by Hal Baim

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Use

KALETRA is a prescription anti-HIV-1 medicine called a protease inhibitor that contains lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is used with other anti-HIV-1 medicines to increase the chance of treatment response in people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection. It is not known if KALETRA is safe and effective in children under 14 days old.

KALETRA does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS and does not stop you from passing HIV-1 to others. You may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV-1.

KALETRA Safety Considerations

Do not take KALETRA if you are allergic to any of its ingredients, including lopinavir or ritonavir. Do not take KALETRA with certain medicines, as they can cause serious problems, death, or make KALETRA less effective against HIV. Some patients taking KALETRA can develop inflammation of the pancreas and liver problems, which can cause death. Patients may develop changes in heart rhythm, large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol, diabetes, high blood sugar, changes in body fat, and/or increased bleeding in people with hemophilia. Some patients may develop signs and symptoms of serious infections they already have after starting anti-HIV medicines. Please see Brief Summary for more details.

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 (1-800-332-1088).

If you cannot afford your medication, contact: www.pparx.org or call the toll-free number (1-888-4PPA-NOW) or (1-888-477-2669) for assistance.

For additional information about KALETRA, call 1-866-KALETRA (1-866-525-3872) or visit KALETRA.com.

Please see Brief Summary on adjacent pages.

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KALETRA® (kuh-LEE-tra) (lopinavir/ritonavir) Oral Solution

CONSUMER BRIEF SUMMARY
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Patient Information

Read the Medication Guide that comes with KALETRA before you start taking it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or treatment. You and your doctor should talk about your treatment with KALETRA before you start taking it and at regular check-ups. You should stay under your doctor's care when taking KALETRA.

What is the most important information I should know about KALETRA?

KALETRA may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Interactions with other medicines. It is important to know the medicines that should not be taken with KALETRA.** Read the section "What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?"
- **Changes in your heart rhythm and the electrical activity of your heart.** These changes may be seen on an EKG (electrocardiogram) and can lead to serious heart problems. Your risk for these problems may be higher if you:
 - already have a history of abnormal heart rhythm or other types of heart disease.
 - take other medicines that can affect your heart rhythm while you take KALETRA.

Tell your doctor right away if you have any of these symptoms while taking KALETRA:

- dizziness
- lightheadedness
- fainting
- sensation of abnormal heartbeats

See the section below "What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?" for more information about serious side effects.

What is KALETRA?

KALETRA is a prescription anti-HIV medicine that contains two medicines: lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is called a protease inhibitor that is used with other anti-HIV-1 medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection. HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

It is not known if KALETRA is safe and effective in children under 14 days old.

Who should not take KALETRA?

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please see "Can I take other medicines with KALETRA?" and consult with your doctor about all other medicines you take.

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir and lopinavir.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

KALETRA may not be right for you. Tell your doctor about all your medical conditions, including if you:

- have any heart problems, including if you have a condition called Congenital Long QT Syndrome.
- have liver problems, including Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C.
- have diabetes.
- have hemophilia. People who take KALETRA may have increased bleeding.
- have low potassium in your blood.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if KALETRA will harm your unborn baby. Birth control pills or patches may not work as well while you take KALETRA. To prevent pregnancy while taking KALETRA, women who take birth control pills or use estrogen patch for birth control should either use a different type of birth control or an extra form of birth control. Talk to your doctor about how to prevent pregnancy while taking KALETRA.
- take KALETRA during pregnancy, talk with your doctor about how you can take part in an antiretroviral pregnancy registry. The purpose of the pregnancy registry is to follow the health of you and your baby.
- are breast-feeding. Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV-1. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby while taking KALETRA, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. If your baby does not already have HIV-1, there is a chance that HIV-1 can be passed to your baby through your breast milk.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Many medicines interact with KALETRA. Do not start taking a new medicine without telling your doctor or pharmacist. Your doctor can tell you if it is safe to take KALETRA with other medicines. Your doctor may need to change the dose of other medicines while you take KALETRA.

Medicines you should not take with KALETRA.

Serious problems or death can happen if you take these medicines with KALETRA:

- ergot containing medicines, including:
 - ergotamine tartrate (Cafergot®, Migergot, Ergomar, Ergostat, Medihaler Ergotamine, Wigraine, Wigrettes)
 - dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45®, Embolex, Migranal®)
 - ergonovine, ergonovine and methylergonovine (Ergotrate, Methergine), ergotamine and methylergonovine
 - Ergotrate Maleate, methylergonovine maleate (Methergine)
- triazolam (Halcion®), midazolam hydrochloride oral syrup
- pimozide (Orap®)
- the cholesterol lowering medicines lovastatin (Mevacor®) or simvastatin (Zocor®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®) only when used for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension. (See "Medicines that may need changes" and "What are the possible side effects of Kaletra?" for information about the use of sildenafil for erectile problems.)
- alfuzosin (Uroxatral®)

Medicines that you should not take with KALETRA since they may make KALETRA not work as well:

- the herbal supplement St. John's Wort (hypericum perforatum)
- rifampin (Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®)

Medicines that may need changes:

- birth control pills that contain estrogen ("the pill") or the birth control (contraceptive) patches
- certain anticancer medicines, such as nilotinib (Tasigna®) and dasatinib (Sprycel®)
- certain cholesterol lowering medicines, such as atorvastatin (Lipitor®) or rosuvastatin (Crestor®)
- certain other antiretroviral medicines, such as efavirenz (Atripla® and Sustiva®), nevirapine (Viramune®), amprenavir (Agenerase®) and nelfinavir (Viracept®)
- anti-seizure medicines, such as phenytoin (Dilantin®) carbamazepine, (Tegretol®), phenobarbital
- medicines for erectile problems, such as sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®), or vardenafil (Levitra®)

- medicines for tuberculosis (TB), such as rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- inhaled steroid medicines, such as fluticasone propionate (Flonase®)
- inhaled medicines such as salmeterol (Serevent®) or salmeterol in combination with fluticasone propionate (Advair®). Your doctor may need to change to a different medicine
- medicines for gout, such as colchicine (Colcrys®)
- medicines to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH), such as bosentan (Tracleer®) or tadalafil (Adcirca®)
- pain medicines, such as fentanyl (Duragesic®, Ionsys™, Fentora®) and methadone

If you are not sure if you are taking a medicine above, ask your doctor.

How should I take KALETRA?

- Take KALETRA every day exactly as prescribed by your doctor.
- It is very important to set up a dosing schedule and follow it every day.
- Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- Swallow KALETRA tablets whole. Do not chew, break, or crush KALETRA tablets.
- KALETRA tablets can be taken with or without food.
- If you are taking both Videx® (didanosine) and KALETRA:
 - didanosine can be taken at the same time as KALETRA tablets, without food.
 - take didanosine either one hour before or two hours after taking KALETRA oral solution.
- Do not miss a dose of KALETRA. This could make the virus harder to treat. If you forget to take KALETRA, take the missed dose right away. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Instead, follow your regular dosing schedule by taking your next dose at its regular time. Do not take more than one dose of KALETRA at one time.
- If you take more than the prescribed dose of KALETRA, call your local poison control center or emergency room right away.
- Take KALETRA oral solution with food to help it work better.
- If KALETRA is being used for your child, tell your doctor if your child's weight changes.
- KALETRA **should not** be given one time each day in children. When giving KALETRA to your child, give KALETRA exactly as prescribed.
- KALETRA oral solution contains a large amount of alcohol.
 - If a young child drinks more than the recommended dose, it could make them sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room right away.
 - Talk with your doctor if you take or plan to take metronidazole or disulfiram. You can have severe nausea and vomiting if you take these medicines with KALETRA.

- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of KALETRA. The amount of HIV-1 virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may become resistant to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- KALETRA can be taken with acid reducing agents used for heartburn or reflux such as omeprazole (Prilosec®) and ranitidine (Zantac®) with no dose adjustment.
- KALETRA should not be administered once daily in combination with carbamazepine (TegretoI® and Eptol®), phenobarbital (Luminal®), or phenytoin (Dilantin®).

Avoid doing things that can spread HIV infection. KALETRA does not stop you from passing HIV infection to others. Do not share needles, other injection equipment or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes and razor blades. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

KALETRA can cause serious side effects.

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about KALETRA?"**
- **Liver problems.** Liver problems, including death, can happen in people who take KALETRA. Blood tests in people who take KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of these signs and symptoms of liver problems:
 - loss of appetite
 - yellow skin and whites of eyes (jaundice)
 - dark-colored urine
 - pale colored stools, itchy skin
 - stomach area (abdominal) pain.
- **Inflammation of the pancreas (pancreatitis).** Some people who take KALETRA get inflammation of the pancreas which may be serious and cause death. You have a higher chance of getting pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain while taking KALETRA. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- **Increases in certain fat (triglycerides and cholesterol) levels in your blood.** Large increases of triglycerides and cholesterol can be seen in blood test results of some people who take KALETRA. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- **Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia).** Some people who take protease inhibitors including KALETRA get new or more serious diabetes, or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you notice an increase in thirst or urinate often while taking KALETRA.

- **Changes in body fat.** Changes in body fat in some people who take antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- **Increased bleeding for hemophiliacs.** Some people with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors including KALETRA.
- **Increased risk of certain problems when you take medicines used for the treatment of erectile problems such as sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®), or vardenafil (Levitra®) with KALETRA:**
 - **low blood pressure.** If you get dizzy or faint, you need to lie down. Tell your doctor if you feel dizzy, or have fainting spells.
 - **vision changes.** Tell your doctor right away if you have vision changes.
 - **penis erection lasting more than 4 hours.** If you are a male and have an erection that lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.
- **Allergic reactions.** Skin rashes, some of them severe, can occur in people who take KALETRA. Tell your healthcare provider if you had a rash when you took another medicine for your HIV infection or if you notice any skin rash when you take KALETRA.

Common side effects of KALETRA include:

- diarrhea
- nausea
- stomach area (abdominal) pain
- feeling weak
- vomiting
- headache
- upset stomach

These are not all of the possible side effects of KALETRA. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist. Tell your doctor about any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store KALETRA?

KALETRA tablets:

- Store KALETRA tablets at room temperature, between 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C).
- Do not keep KALETRA tablets out of the container it comes in for longer than 2 weeks, especially in areas where there is a lot of humidity. Keep the container closed tightly.

KALETRA oral solution:

- Store KALETRA oral solution in a refrigerator, between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C). KALETRA oral solution that is kept refrigerated may be used until the expiration date printed on the label.

- KALETRA oral solution that is stored at room temperature (less than 77°F or 25°C) should be used within 2 months.
- Keep KALETRA away from high heat.

Throw away any medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need.

Keep KALETRA and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about KALETRA

KALETRA does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV-1 infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use KALETRA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give KALETRA to other people, even if they have the same condition you have. It may harm them.

This Medication Guide summarizes the most important information about KALETRA. If you would like more information, talk with your doctor. You can ask your pharmacist or doctor for information about KALETRA that is written for health professionals. For more information about KALETRA call 1-800-633-9110 or go to www.KALETRA.com.

What are the ingredients in KALETRA?

Active ingredient: lopinavir and ritonavir

Inactive ingredients:

KALETRA 200 mg lopinavir and 50 mg ritonavir tablets: copovidone, sorbitan monolaurate, colloidal silicon dioxide, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The film coating contains: hypromellose, titanium dioxide, polyethylene glycol 400, hydroxypropyl cellulose, talc, colloidal silicon dioxide, polyethylene glycol 3350, yellow ferric oxide 172, and polysorbate 80.

KALETRA 100 mg lopinavir and 25 mg ritonavir tablets: copovidone, sorbitan monolaurate, colloidal silicon dioxide, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The film coating contains: polyvinyl alcohol, titanium dioxide, talc, polyethylene glycol 3350, and yellow ferric oxide E172.

KALETRA oral solution: acesulfame potassium, alcohol, artificial cotton candy flavor, citric acid, glycerin, high fructose corn syrup, Magnasweet-110 flavor, menthol, natural and artificial vanilla flavor, peppermint oil, polyoxyl 40 hydrogenated castor oil, povidone, propylene glycol, saccharin sodium, sodium chloride, sodium citrate, and water.

KALETRA oral solution contains 42.4% alcohol (v/v). "See How should I take KALETRA?"

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Giffords hero recognized at Hispanic conference

BY JOSEPH ERBENTRAUT

While Daniel Hernandez, Jr.—the openly gay intern who has been widely credited with saving the life of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords in the tragic shooting in Tucson, Ariz., last month—may not consider himself to be a hero, one would have been hard-pressed to find anyone else in attendance at the National Conference of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI), held Feb. 17-20 at the

Sheraton in downtown Chicago, who matched the 21-year-old's modesty.

Featured as the guest speaker for the Feb. 19 luncheon at the conference, Hernandez told Windy City Times that, while he was honored to be invited to the 29th annual event directed toward students and young professionals of Hispanic heritage, he was anxious to hop on his flight home to return to his commitments there.

While admitting that he is recognized on the

street more often these days, he said his life largely remains focused on his studies and continuing internship with Giffords' office rather than media appearances. He's also in the midst of a political campaign of his own—running for student body president of the University of Arizona—which began several months before the tragic event that launched him into the national spotlight.

"Other than being recognized, nothing has really changed," Hernandez said. "I'm still at the University of Arizona, I'm still an intern with the congressional office of Congresswoman Giffords, so I haven't let it change too much. I'm sure I could have let it get out of hand but I've made a concerted effort to try and make sure that I stay as normal as possible so still an intern, still a student."

The "as possible" caveat to that statement is an important one to note for the man who, last month, celebrated his birthday while sitting next to First Lady Michelle Obama for the president's State of the Union address, where he was also recognized with a standing ovation.

But despite all the attention, Hernandez said he is limiting the number of opportunities he will accept in order to maintain a sense of normalcy in his life. He said he said "yes" to the USHLI conference because of the organization's emphasis on the importance of education.

Introducing Hernandez at the luncheon, USHLI President Dr. Juan Andrade described the student as someone who had "won the hearts of millions and millions of people across this country" in how he responded to the Tucson shooting tragedy.

In a press conference preceding the luncheon, U.S. Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., noted Hernandez's "extraordinary courage." Durbin was on hand to receive the Institute's *Si Se Puede* Award.

"Years and years ago, I was an intern for a United States senator and there was never any job training that suggested I would face what you went through," Durbin said. "What he

lacked in training, he made up for in instinct, an instinct that he showed in Tucson of caring enough to risk his own life to try to protect others says a lot about him, his family and what his service and commitment that day in Tucson means in the future."

Addressing the conference attendees, Hernandez spoke of his experience as a first-generation college student within his family and encouraged high school students, in particular, to continue on to higher education and work hard to "be a first-rate version of yourself, not a second rate version of someone else"—advice he said he received from a fortune cookie.

"When I see the people that are here, the majority of them are where I was not too long ago—it was three or four years ago that I probably would have been in the exact same position they're in," Hernandez said. "I'm talking to them about the importance of getting an education and also not letting yourself get put into any boxes. Once you start letting others define you, that's when you start kind of losing who you are. I think it's a simple message that bears repeating."

Hernandez added that he is hopeful that the LGBT and Hispanic activist communities will pursue their legislative priorities—including, but not limited to issues including marriage equality and comprehensive immigration reform—in concert moving forward.

"One of the things that I think a lot of people have realized is that when we work together, we're a lot stronger than when we're kind of fighting our own fights because there's a lot of overlap for a lot of these things," Hernandez said.

Also present at the luncheon were U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, Cook County States Attorney Anita Alvarez, state Rep. and Chicago City Clerk hopeful Susana Mendoza and former U.S. Ambassador to Belize Carolyn Curiel. Gutierrez was recognized with the Edward R. Roybal/Henry B. Gonzalez Award for Excellence in Public Service.



Daniel Hernandez (right) speaks at the USHLI conference while U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin listens. Photo by Joe Erbentraut

SON from cover

Because of all the wonderful transformations and in gratitude for my son still being alive, I searched for a place that I could make a difference ... a place where I could give back in appreciation for what had been given to me. And a place that touched my heart so deeply that I would commit myself to doing this work the rest of my life. And as I searched I found an answer.

Aiden's high school years were filled with some of the most painful, humiliating and lonely moments of his life. He was harassed regularly at school and physically assaulted outside school. Once attacked for no reason and another time assaulted with a bat, I lived in fear for his life. At a time when my son should be soaring with hope and possibilities, looking forward to his future, he led a life of depression, solitude and withdrawal. He suffered from panic attacks. He was diagnosed agoraphobic. He almost didn't graduate high school, so afraid of leaving home.

But my son did graduate and after taking off one semester to recover from his difficult senior year in high school, he decided to attend college. Once his life took a positive turn, I started to envision a place for bullied and harassed high school students to find a safer, and more nurturing environment to get their high school diploma. With the help of many visionary leaders in the Los Angeles LGBT community, a program opened in February 2010 at the LA Gay & Lesbian Center. A partnership between Opportunities for Learning Public Charter School and LifeWorks, a youth program at the Gay & Lesbian Center became the perfect collaboration. Here students both LGBT and LGBT friendly can be in school without fear of being bullied, harassed or physically hurt. They

can receive an accredited high school diploma and go on to college. And they can start to dream about a life where they can be accepted and valued for the gifts and talents that they possess.

Besides the LA Center, I am searching for other cities to open up programs. I have talked with people in Chicago and I dream of doing something at the Center at Halsted. A beautiful location with an amazing vibe, I can imagine LGBT youth coming to the Center, loving the opportunity to study in a safe space that is both inspiring and welcoming. It would fill my heart with joy to know that there is a place for Chicago youth who might struggle and feel that the world offers no hope. I want them to know there is hope. This I know is true, because I have walked with my son on this hopeless path. But neither of us gave up ... I did not give up on him and he did not give up on himself. And so this path became part of our journey to discover how courageous we could be ... how strong and resilient was our spirit ... but most of all how much love could flow from our hearts to each other.

I found my life purpose through Aiden's journey, but I also found the real individual that lived within my child. Oh what I would have missed, if I didn't open my heart and mind, acknowledging the truth that was my son.

Marsha Aizumi lives in Arcadia, Calif. She currently works as a director of educational programs, developing experiential learning and academic opportunities that empower and inspire at risk youth in California, Colorado and Illinois. Her first book, *Two Spirits, One Heart*—a memoir about her transgender son's journey—is written through the eyes of a mother. See <http://www.marshaizumi.com>.

WINDY CITY TIMES 12th Annual THIRTY under 30 NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS

Windy City Times is seeking to recognize 30 more outstanding LGBT individuals (and allies) for its annual 30 Under 30 Awards.

Nominees should be 30 years or under as of June 30, 2011 and should have made some substantial contributions to the LGBT community, whether in the fields of entertainment, politics, health, activism, academics, or other areas.

Individuals, organizations, co-workers, etc. can nominate a person by e-mailing Andrew@WindyCityMediaGroup.com or faxing to Andrew Davis' attention to 773-871-7609. Self-nominations are welcome.

The nomination should be 100 words or fewer, and should state what achievements or contributions the nominee has made. Nominators should include their own names and contact information as well as the contact information and the age of the nominee.

Honorees will be notified in May and recognized at a free ceremony Wed., June 22, 5:30 p.m., at Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St.

The deadline to nominate individuals is Friday, April 22.



Photo of 2010's 30 Under 30 honorees by Hal Baim.

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Howard Brown's CEO talks salary, future

BY YASMIN NAIR

Howard Brown Health Center (HBHC) Executive Director Jamal Edwards helmed the organization through its recent financial crisis, and continues to oversee the changes to the group. Windy City Times spoke with him about the appointment of Karma Israelsen as chair of the board and the functions and structure of the new board of directors. We also asked him about several rumors swirling around the agency.

WCT raised the topic of his salary, which, ever since reported here and in The New York Times, has become a topic of conversation. It should be noted that the issue of his compensation is not occurring in a vacuum, as the nonprofit world struggles in a shaky economy and as several organizations across the country show signs of stress or are threatened with closure. The for-profit world has also seen some of this discussion, especially with regards to the banking institutions that have been at the heart of the recent financial crisis. However, the discussion there appears to not have had much cultural or political will, beyond the rhetoric of some politicians. Goldman Sachs recently announced that it was tripling the salary of CEO Lloyd Blankfein to \$2 million in 2011, up from last year's \$600,000 last year.

To put matters in the context of the nonprofit world: the website Mainstreet.org recently listed the 15 most highly paid CEOs in the charity world based on the findings of Charity Navigator (CN), which describes itself as an "independent charity evaluator." The introduction to CN's 2010 report states that "[m]any donors assume that charity leaders work for free or minimal pay and are shocked to see that they earn six-figure salaries. But these well-meaning donors fail to consider that these CEOs are running multi-million dollar operations that endeavor to change the world."

According to Mainstreet.org, the 13th highest salary in 2008 was \$861,625, and it went to Richard Moe of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The amount was 1.46 percent of the group's expenses. (Mainstreet notes that this was "due to a one-time deferred compensation payout," CN lists the 2009 president's sal-



Howard Brown Health Center CEO Jamal Edwards. Photo by Kat Fitzgerald

ary as \$417,808, or 0.79 percent of expenses.) The highest in 2008 was that of Zarin Mehta, of the New York Philharmonic, who was compensated \$2,649,540 in 2008, at 4 percent of total expenses. (CN lists his salary of 2009 as \$1,000,778 or 1.50 percent of expenses.)

In a wider context: Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn's salary is \$177,000 and Mayor Richard Daley makes \$216,210. However, both men also receive housing and transportation, and that includes plane travel. Arguably, both men are also in charge of the needs of larger populations and administrations.

Such reports provide objective criteria by which to judge the scale of a CEO's salary among comparable organizations. Nevertheless, the conversation about nonprofit compensations will continue as some organizations shut their doors while others, like HBHC, appeal to the community for sustaining funds. Edwards left a job as partner in the law firm Kirkland and Ellis to join HBHC. Over the coming months, WCT will be reporting on the financial details of other LGBT and AIDS organizations in the city.

Windy City Times: Karma Israelsen is the board chair. She's also from the corporation as Mark Andrews [the former board chair].

JE: They both worked in the same company, that's correct.

WCT: Was that a factor in how she was chosen to be on the board and then board chair?

JE: As far as I know, it was not a factor and I don't think it's relevant. They did work at the same company but they did not work in the same department and, quite frankly, Karma is a vice president and more senior than Mark and the board felt very comfortable there would be no undue influence or inappropriate relationship between the two, that they both served on the board or one served on the board, and I believe that completely. The board has a conflict-of-interest policy and it's fully disclosed that she worked for the same company.

WCT: Could you explain the plaque that was given to Mark Andrews and the board [at the

event announcing that HBHC had met half its fundraising goal of \$500,000]? Why was the board given a plaque of recognition?

JE: Because the board as the governing body of the agency, the board that helped see us through a substantial period of transition, deserved to be recognized for having done that. We recognized them for having done that. They also deserved to be recognized for having put the agency first and agreeing being agreeing to transition themselves out for the good of the people we serve.

WCT: Given that this is also the board that oversaw the loss of the MACS [Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study] grant, some people have been questioning that decision. This is also the board under which a substantial amount of money, \$3 million in three years, was lost. Can you address that? How did that factor that into the decision to give them a plaque?

JE: Everybody makes mistakes. But that doesn't mean that you ignore the good things they did. [As for the transfer of the grant], none of us was thrilled about that but it seemed like the right thing to do and ensure that the work continued. Had that not happened, the grant would have been lost completely. So that decision was the right decision for the agency.

More importantly, it was the right decision for the people who depended on the research and the services of the grant, and the board made that decision. At the same time, the board also made the right decision to transition the organization to a new board. That was a very important big step. The board also supported my decision and worked really hard with me to lead this lifeline appeal and raise a substantial amount of money for the organization. And despite whatever mistakes they may have made over time,

you still can't ignore the fact that they deserved to be recognized for the good decisions they made and that's what we did.

WCT: Have you and Mark Andrews been involved in any kind of romantic relationship?

JE: Absolutely not. I've been involved in no romantic relationships with anybody that has served on the board. And whoever will, currently or in the future.

WCT: Regarding the committee that has just been formed: Can you tell us about the history of how this came to be formed and the choice of Ron Nunziato as the committee chair?

JE: The board leadership and the board made the decision on the committee. Ron volunteered for this position. In fact he's the only person who volunteered for the position. The board did consider other people for the position but we felt very confident in his leadership. ... He has a history with the organization and he has a reputation for having the utmost integrity and also for being very efficient and very efficient. I've witnessed that firsthand, having served on a board with him in the past.

WCT: Did you and Karma have a say in how this committee was formed?

JE: Absolutely. Karma and I spent a great deal of time thinking this through. We had several expressions of interest from people. But we thought about the size of the committee, the great amount of work the committee has to do, with all these 30-40 applications pending, the timeline under which they have to do it. We identified the people who had expressed a very serious willingness to do this and a willingness to take all the time necessary to make that happen.

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Howard Brown on staff changes, database breach

BY YASMIN NAIR

This past week saw the news of a breach in the donor database as well as significant changes in personnel at Howard Brown Health Center (HBHC).

Board Chair Karma Israelsen and CEO Jamal Edwards sent out a jointly signed statement Feb. 19 saying that they had identified a "potential breach" in the HBHC donor database which includes personal phone numbers and e-mail addresses. The statement said there was no reason to "believe that credit card information has been compromised" or "that confidential patient records were inappropriately accessed."

Asked to elaborate on the situation, Edwards said they were looking into the matter, and had "some idea which people were responsible" and "would take swift and appropriate action."

This news came a day after a report that Dr. Rob Garofalo had been put on administrative leave. He was chief research officer at Howard Brown, medical director of adolescent HIV services at Children's Memorial Hospital and assistant professor of pediatrics and preventive medicine at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. Edwards confirmed this. Asked for details on why, Edwards first said it was a "personnel matter." Edwards also confirmed that Bryant Dunbar, director of development, has resigned.

When asked if the database breach had anything to do with Garofalo and Dunbar, Edwards said, "Not that I'm aware of." He went on to say, "Howard Brown is [still] in transition. ... We have made a substantial amount of change in the first six months and now we're focusing on a new direction ... a focus on the stability of Howard Brown. As we continue to change and improve, there will be changes where people may not fit within that new direction.

... Everybody should expect more change. There's no way we can deliver a new Howard Brown where everything stays the same. ... Any staff that's not supportive of that will not continue to work at Howard Brown."

Garofalo, who is currently the board president of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, is also known for his research and grants that support LGBT health issues, including the Transgender Research Youth Project, described on the HBHC site as "a study examining coding and risk among male-to-female transgender youth. His being put on administrative leave is bound to have some effect on the research studies under him. Edwards confirmed that there are staff at Howard Brown who participate in those studies but not the exact number. [WCT has been told by sources there are as many as 30.]

Edwards could not specify how long the leave would last but said, "There were some concerns raised by staff and patients that we are looking into and as soon as we are finished looking into those, we will take whatever action is appropriate." He said it would not stop any of the research going on: "We do not anticipate any disruption at this time." In an e-mail, Edwards also confirmed that Garofalo is employed by Children's Memorial Hospital "and they are responsible for his compensation status. His leave from HBHC suspends his participation in HBHC programs and services."

Beau Gratzler, vice president and chief operating officer, who has been with HBHC since 2003, was rumored to have been fired. Gratzler, in an interview, denied that, saying he would be "transitioning out of his role as of June 30 to focus on completing my Ph.D." (Gratzler is completing his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health.) According to Gratzler, he anticipated keeping a chief investigative role at HBHC "or in some capacity in the research department." He said that Edwards and he discussed a five-month process "to make sure the transition is smooth and that we're all on the same page."

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CEO from page 14

WCT: Out of these, all but one [Alicia Ozi-er] have had some kind of connection with HBHC.

JE: Leslie Ramyk is the executive director of a foundation [Ravenswood Health Care Foundation] that provides a relatively small but significant amount of money to HBHC, but that's the only connection.

WCT: But she does provide some amount of funding?

JE: Absolutely. And we are really grateful to the people who provide funding and continue to fight these challenges and have expressed a desire to support us, and she's one of them.

WCT: That's quite a number, five out of six [with prior connections]. Was there ever an attempt to say, "We should attempt to have at least half of the number of people who have had no connection to HBHC prior to this?"

JE: That doesn't make a lot of sense to me. We're not trying to change HBHC and basically throw out the baby with the bathwater. HBHC is an excellent organization and it has been for 37 years. We want to continue our focus, improve our focus and one of the ways to do that is by getting people who understand the mission, who are committed to the organization, who have stood by the organization.

People who have stood by the organization are the best people to lead it forward and everybody who is on that organization has stood by it in good times and bad times. And they understand the importance of the work, they understand the mission of the organization, they understand what's great about the organization and what's needed to improve that. To have outsiders who have not stepped up, who have no connection or understanding of the organization, and haven't been supportive lately, I don't think that's good for the organization.

WCT: What if you had people who were in the healthcare industry and who had an investment in that aspect of HBHC? Do you think they would not have cared at all about HBHC? Even if it was half and half, or something like that? Are you saying that someone, say, from a medical organization or a foundation that had no connection to HBHC would not have had any investment in the interests say, of patients?

JE: I'm not saying that at all, but let me say this: First of all, none of those people volunteered. The people on the committee offered to help. So if you ask me, did we go shake the tree and search for people to help us, despite our very public call for help, no we did not. But those who answered the call, those who are on the committee, have some relationship with HBHC or prior; that's not a bad thing. ... These are all people who volunteered ... who said, I want to help, let me know how I can help, I'm going to do whatever it is you need me to do to help. In fact, the people who're sitting on the committee have come into the organization over the last several months; they have helped promote the image of the organization ... they deserve to be on that committee. And I don't have a doubt they will do what's best for HBHC.

WCT: The question of your salary has come up. Your salary is \$265,000 [a year].

JE: That's exactly right.

WCT: Then the question does become if you have been part of a process that establishes a committee that then chooses a board that will also determine your salary. So, can you address the issue that might be raised with what might seem like either a conflict of interest or perhaps a way in which you are responsible for determining who will determine your salary?

JE: First of all, that is a very inappropriate insinuation. Every organization, the executive director or CEO plays a significant role in the growth and development of their board. There's not a single one in Chicago or this country where the primary head of the organization doesn't play a significant role in the development of the board of directors. The board is a partner with

the CEO. They're not antagonists of each other, they have to work together to lead the organization. They play a role in my selection, they play a role in my compensation, they play a role in everything I do and I play a role in the things they do.

The question becomes whether or not the person has the character and the integrity who won't abuse that partnership, and I think I've shown that I'm that person. I have not abused my partnership with the board, I steer very clear of things that are inappropriate for me to be involved in. The fact that the board consults with me about who might be on the committee, to select the board that I have to work with to lead this agency through crisis, is not a conflict of interest.

WCT: Okay, but just to be clear, about what you referred to as an insinuation: You do understand that, given HBHC's recent history, why people are asking these questions, the necessity of these questions.

JE: I do, but I also want to know what that has to do with helping HBHC succeed. The fact that people in the past made mistakes and took advantage and did things that were not appropriate, doesn't mean I'm going to do that. Since I've been there, I've provided more transparency with HBHC than has been provided; I have taken all of your calls; I've opened up the doors; I've worked really hard to turn this agency around; I've raised a substantial amount of money that almost all of the peer agencies in the country thought we wouldn't be able to do and we did it. We have started moving in the right direction. I don't think there's any reason for someone to think that I would abuse the trust that the people we serve have placed in me and in this organization.

I understand that you're asking the question, but I'm beyond the point of understanding it and I'm starting to wonder whether people want to support us moving forward or if they want to continue to dwell on the past.

WCT: Speaking of the past, can you speak to when we might get a full report on exactly what happened with the MACS grant and with \$3 million gone over three years?

JE: We hired new auditors. They have been very thorough. It has taken a substantial amount of effort to collect everything they've asked us to provide but as soon as that audit report is issued, we'll be publishing a report that talks about the past, what we've done over the last six months. I can tell you right now we will soon be announcing the Lifetime Appeal that's raised over \$750,000. We, as of 12/31, went from a three-to-four-year deficit to actually having a small surplus. Halfway through the end of our fiscal year, the organization is heading in the right direction, and as soon as I have the audit report for our fiscal year, 2010, we will be putting that information out to the public.

WCT: But you do understand that one reason that people are asking is because we are told that things that happened in the past won't happen again. But the issue is that we still are not clear on exactly what happened.

JE: What more did they want to know? The organization was mismanaged, grant funds were used inappropriately to cover operating costs that should have been covered by fundraising and by efficient management of the organization. We disclosed all of that, we disclosed we put in more internal controls, we focused on improving our efficiency, being very thoughtful about the bottom line of the organization. We put that all out there. The personnel issues and personnel matters: I don't know that we're ever going to share that. But we will be able to walk people through the last four years of performance of the organization and what's been happening since I've been there.

WCT: And in terms of prior personnel like Michael Cook and so on, do we know if they're likely to be subject to punitive measures, either by HBHC or by federal agencies?

JE: The federal agencies—that's something they have to decide, and I understand that's something they're looking into. The matter was

referred to the office of the inspector general ... whether or not any potential action would be taken against the organization, or any of the parties held responsible. We have not heard back from them ... except that we know every federal agency that funded us in the past has been in touch with us, we've shared all this information with them and they continue to support us and fund us.

With respect to whether the organization is going to take any action against those people: That is a question for the new board of directors and that's one of the reasons why I think it's a good idea we have a new board coming in. They can make that decision. It's ultimately their decision, not mine. ...

I want to resolve this question about my salary ... I want to be really clear about something. I think people have made a big issue about my salary and it's completely inconsistent with what has been established as a baseline for fair executive compensation for an organization of this size. My salary was set before I even came. The CEO salary was set. First of all, nobody raised any issues about this when the organization wasn't performing well. Nobody said anything about this over the last three or four years [when we] suffered a deficit. But, nonetheless, the salary was set, based upon what people in this role get paid in similarly sized organizations.

Howard Brown is a \$15 million organization; it has over 200 employees, and people that work at that size of an organization with that much responsibility get paid what I get paid. ...

I could give you some examples, if you think of it as a function of expenses, which is the guide that Charity Navigator uses. Howard Brown, we're a \$15 million organization: my salary represents less than 2 percent of the expenses [CN lists previous CEO Michael Cook's salary as \$272,690, or 1.66 percent of expenses. According to the organization's 2009 Form 990, this included a bonus of \$25,000.] Let's take some peers here in Chicago, Center on Halsted. I'm not going to point out people's salaries in particular but the CEO salary there is 3.14 percent of expenses. [CN lists Modest "Tico" Valle's salary as \$141,960, or 3.14 percent of expenses.] Another organization that I think everyone thinks very highly of: Lambda Legal. It's important to note that Lambda Legal is an \$11 or 12 million organization; Howard Brown is bigger: Their CEO makes almost \$260,000, 2.44 percent of expenses. Let's take another one: Elton John's AIDS Foundation. A \$6 million organization, the CEO makes \$239,000, 3.29 percent of the expenses. I can go on and on. There are several of them out there, who are good organizations. GLAAD: \$14 million organization; the CEO makes [\$238,003], 2.72 percent of expenses. Locally, Chicago House: \$3 million organization, the CEO makes \$150,000. [According to its 2009 Form 990, CEO Stan Sloan's base compensation was \$173,417.]

WCT: So, you're saying that, in relation to similar-sized organizations, your salary is not that disproportionate in relation to the expenses. Your salary is concomitant with what other people get in similar-sized organizations.

JE: It is, and it's important to note that in addition to just running the organization, I provide a substantial amount of the organization's legal services. ... Between my old law firm and myself, Howard Brown does not pay for legal services and we have a fair amount more legal work than we ever had before. And at the same time, I have brought in more revenue to Howard Brown in six months. We just redid our pharmacy program which, thanks to a lot of our patients who had insurance and used our pharmacy services, will probably make us over \$750,000 net in one year. I want to get to a place where people understand that for an organization to succeed, that means investing and getting the right talent and the right people to do the right work. It does not mean picking on them for making what they deserve to make.

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7:30 p.m.**

**Marya Hornbacher
An Evening With
Marya Hornbacher**

**Sunday, Feb. 27
4:30 p.m.**

**Joey L. Mogul
Andrea J. Ritchie
Kay Whitlock
Queer (In)Justice:
The Criminalization of LGBT
People in the United States**



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VIEWPOINTS

WINDY CITY
TIMES

VOL. 26 No. 21, Feb. 23, 2011

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

Community Marketing, Inc.

MARK
SEGALReflecting on
battles won

I've been very emotional in the last few weeks. After all, 35 years is a big deal.

At milestones like this, we often reflect on the past.

I've been paging through 35 years of Philadelphia Gay News (PGN). It has been an emotional journey. I was so busy on that journey that I never had much time to look back. Until I did so—looking at the wealth of community and PGN history and achievement—I never realized how hard it really was. We just fought the fight that had to be fought.

This newspaper has survived bomb threats, broken windows, graffiti, suicides, death threats, cars deliberately plowing into our vending boxes, the trashing of our offices and the American Nazi Party putting us on its hit list.

On occasion, PGN staff has had to watch police cart their publisher off to jail. When United Way wouldn't fund LGBT organizations, I secured my neck to its front door. Many a TV station was disrupted or, for my last visit to jail, I toilet-papered WCAU-TV after it did biased and negative news reporting on our community—and that was when I was beginning to use my parenting skills with my nephew. He watched Uncle Mark being handcuffed and hauled away. (A good civics lesson?) Certainly one of the many family moments members of the PGN staff have had. The staff truly makes this paper and there have been births in our family and, of course, deaths.

But through all of this, we have built a community together and have held true to our mission of being a communication platform for debate within our community. There is no issue that cannot be discussed. Sometimes it brings

us pain, as we can't only portray the lighthearted side of the community, as some would like us to do.

When there are issues in this community, these are the pages where those issues are discussed and sometimes resolved, or where we agree to disagree. Most importantly, we have chronicled the growth of the community. And the pages of this paper over the years clearly show that growth.

When we started in the 1970s, it was usual for us to cover events like police raids on gay bars and the D.A. investigating the wholesale black-mailing of gay men. PGN took on organizations such as the American Red Cross, Blue Cross Blue Shield and United Way and, sadly, we chronicled the brutality of hate crimes and murders.

We pushed every envelope, including but definitely not limited to police hiring, lesbian nuns, runaway gay children, the homeless in our community, HIV/AIDS, community funding, equal

employment and domestic-partner rights.

As a community, we did all that—and we won many battles. Today, our community has three out city judges; has had an open lesbian, Alba Martinez, as president of that same United Way that once refused to fund LGBT organizations; and had a gay man, Andy Chirls, as chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association. We have active community, health and youth centers. And this paper, your newspaper, has grown to be the nation's most award-winning LGBT weekly, one that even interviews soon-to-be presidents.

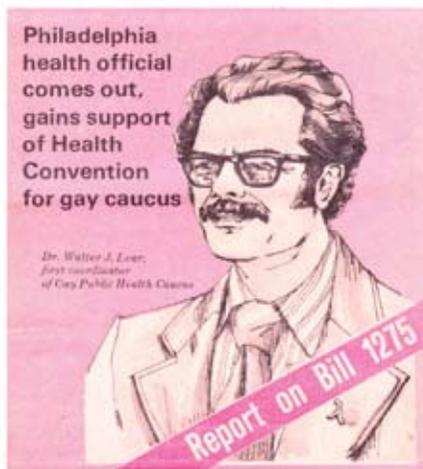
And I can't help but get emotional when I think of our start, in a building with no electricity, no plumbing and, when it rained, needed a plastic tarp. I'm not only proud of this paper, but proud too of the community we serve, and look forward to the future battles we'll wage together to bring growth and services to our community.

When this paper started, we weren't taken seriously. We changed that in our second issue with a groundbreaking interview with the governor of Pennsylvania. At that point, no other LGBT medium had ever spoken to such a high-level elected official in its pages. We made it a point if you were running for office, you'd speak to the LGBT community through its media and be accountable. Even a candidate named Barack Obama came to know that. But it goes further. It's not only speaking to the LGBT community, it's keeping the promises of equality.

PGN's mission has not changed and we hope, along with our community, that we have helped society change. In 1976—35 years ago—I really didn't understand what I was signing up for. Today, I look back and tears well up. There are too many memories, some good, some bad. If history is any lesson to us, the history lesson to our community through the last 35 years is: This paper proves this community is on the move and, after reading many of those papers over the last few weeks, late into the night, I predict our community has a bright future.

Mark Segal is PGN's publisher. He is the nation's most-award-winning commentator in LGBT media, having recently received the 2010 Columnist of the Year Award from the 2,000-member Suburban Newspapers of America. He can be reached at mark@epgn.com.

Knight newspaper heir slain



The first cover of the Philadelphia Gay News.

nearly 30 percent do not have any coverage at all.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, that is changing. The health care law is already offering new coverage options to many Americans.

The Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan is already helping people living with pre-existing conditions like HIV/AIDS to get coverage. As of last fall, insurers can no longer deny coverage to children because of their pre-existing health conditions. And in 2014, this protection will extend to all Americans. That's when new, competitive health insurance marketplaces will be established under the law, along with expanded Medicaid eligibility and new tax credits for middle class families.

The law is also protecting LGBT Americans from many of the worst abuses of the insurance industry. A year ago, insurers could cancel your coverage when you got sick just because you made a mistake on your application. Under the patient's bill of rights, this practice has been banned, along with other harmful policies like lifetime dollar limits on coverage, which often meant your benefits disappeared when you needed them most.

Thanks to the law, LGBT Americans are getting some relief from skyrocketing premiums with new resources for states to strengthen their oversight of insurance companies and new rules that limit the amount of your premium dollars that insurers may spend on marketing and CEO bonuses.

And the law is helping millions of LGBT Americans gain access to recommended preventive

care and screenings for free, including for certain diseases that affect LGBT populations at a rate higher than other populations.

The Affordable Care Act is also making additional investments to address health disparities. New funding will help build a more diverse and culturally competent health care workforce and help community health centers to serve up to 20 million more patients. And increased research and data collection on health disparities will give policymakers the knowledge and tools they need to continue to target resources to underserved communities.

For LGBT communities, the new health care law is already making a difference in people's lives, helping families get care, addressing health disparities, and putting our nation on a better path for the future.

Undoing this progress now would be a terrible mistake.

Kathleen Sebelius is the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Send letters and viewpoints to
 Andrew@WindyCityMediaGroup.com.
 Items may be edited for length or clarity.

KATHLEEN
SEBELIUSRepealing the
healthcare law would
be costly for
LGBT Americans

To win the future, America will need to make the kind of investments and reforms that allow our nation to out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world. Effectively implementing the Affordable Care Act is a vital part of this effort.

But some in Congress want to refight the political battles of the past two years and repeal the law along with all the new consumer protections and benefits that go with it. That would be a major setback for everyone, including LGBT Americans.

Evidence suggests that at least a portion of the LGBT community is disproportionately uninsured. And historically, many LGBT individuals have been misunderstood, ignored or openly discriminated against in our healthcare system.

For people living with HIV it can be even worse: Fewer than one in five has private insurance, and

GOINGS-ON

WINDY CITY TIMES' ENTERTAINMENT SECTION



Photo courtesy of ABC

COLORFUL VIEWS

Windy City Times talks with The View's Joy Behar (second from left) about gay rights and much more. See page 24.

MOVIES

Moore to see.
Page 20.

BOOKS

Skater aid.
Page 23.

PR photo



SPORTS

The bod couple.
Page 30.

Photo from Kevin Ciacco and Andre Rehkopf



Scottish Play Scott

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

Schwartz's kind of town

Will Chicago-area audiences embrace other works by composer/lyricist Stephen Schwartz's the way they did with his Broadway blockbuster *Wicked*? Some professional and non-profit producers are certainly hoping so.

Now in previews at the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place is *Working*, a revised take on the 1978 Broadway musical revue based upon the late Chicago journalist Studs Terkel's 1974 book *Working: People Talk About What They Do All Day and How They Feel About What They Do*.

Then to open its 2011 season, the Northlight Theatre is presenting the musical *Snapshots*, which features several famous and once-abandoned theater songs by Schwartz in a script by David Stern about marriage at the crossroads. The venerable Skokie-based theater company performs *Snapshots* from Sept. 16 through Oct. 23.

Though a quick flop on Broadway during its original 1978 run, *Working* instead proved to be a hit with community, school and other regional groups in the ensuing years. Now Schwartz, Nina Faso and director Gordon Greenberg have updated the show, which has always been famous for featuring material by other songwriters like Mary Rodgers (*Once Upon a Mattress*) and rock and folk star James Taylor.

Schwartz invited Tony Award-winning composer/lyricist Lin-Manuel Miranda (*In the Heights*) to contribute new songs, while Alex Lacamoire (also of *In the Heights*) wrote new musical arrangements.

This latest incarnation of *Working* was previously developed at the Asolo Repertory Theatre in Sarasota, Fla., and at the Old Globe Theatre

in San Diego. *Snapshots* has also had a long developmental life in regional theaters, starting in 1996 at the Signature Theatre in Virginia and most recently in 2008 at TheatreWorks in California.

Whether either show has a future life in New York or London might depend upon whether or not Chicago audiences turn out in droves. But for now, Chicagoans can claim these shows as their own, especially *Working* with its local roots and Chicago-based acting company.

More laughs heading your way

Expect the comedy market to get even more competitive in Chicago.

The Chicago Tribune recently reported that the famed Los Angeles comedy club **The Laugh Factory** has taken out a lease on the Lakeshore Theatre at 3175 N. Broadway, which has been vacant since April.

The Laugh Factory is set to renovate the former movie theater-turned-live venue, notably changing the venue's seating plan to a traditional tables-and-chairs comedy club configuration.

The publication also reported that The Second City is teaming up with Levity Entertainment (which owns the nationwide chain of The Improv comedy clubs) to renovate the Piper's Alley space that once hosted Tony 'n' Tina's Wedding into a 280-seat comedy club.

The Improv already has a presence at Woodfield Mall in Schaumburg, so having a Chicago outpost should please comedy fans who don't want to trek out to the suburbs. The Improv's move into the Chicago should also put pressure on the venerable Zanies, which has a comedy club down the street from Second City along with suburban venues in St. Charles and Vernon Hills.

Gay play readings a plenty

Pride Films and Plays is at it again with another script-writing contest. Last time around it was film screenplays. Now the Great Gay Play Fest is upon us.

Michael Mahler in *Working*. Image by Amy Boyle Photography

Five new plays by playwrights from around the country writing on GLBT themes have been selected to compete for prizes at this festival which runs from March 3 through 6 in the Hoover-Leppen Theatre of the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted.

The roster features:

—*False Reality* by Joe Lauderdale of Los Angeles: It's about a young man who creates an imaginary twin in order to cope with his troubled family. Patrick Rybarczyk directs this drama at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 3.

—*Short Expanse* by Corinne J. Kawecky of Chicago: This drama concerns some unsettling revelations that get unearthed at a 10-year-old girl's costume-themed birthday party thrown by her

swim coach neighbor and her partner. Liz Pazik directs the play which is read at 7 p.m. Friday, March 4.

—*Learn to be Latina* by Enrique Urueta of San Francisco: A comedy about a wannabe pop star whose Lebanese heritage proves to be unmarketable. So she's made over by her record company to be a fiery Latina, which only makes for complications when she falls in love with an actual Latina woman. Eddie Torres directs the comedy at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 5.

—*Save the Date* by Tyler Dean of Chicago: This comedy involves a wedding planner whose career could be made when he coordinates the nuptials of his friend whose intended's mother is also an editor at a high-profile wedding magazine. But when someone tries to disrupt the ceremony, the wedding planner has to sort out the ever-increasing mess. John Nasca directs this modern-day farce at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 5.

—*The Times* by Mark S. Watson of Key West, Fla.: A man's 10-year reunion with his college sweetheart goes awry when he discovers that she's placed a wedding announcement about their forthcoming nuptials in *The New York Times*. David Zak directs this comic drama at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 6.

Each play is competing for both an Audience Award and one selected by a reading panel including Marshall W. Mason, Jason Moore, Doug Finlayson, Patricia Kane, Jeremy Cohen, Patrick Trettenero, Brian Fonseca and other theater professionals.

The Great Gay Play Fest is sponsored by Pride Films and Plays and the Center on Halsted, in association with Lampkin Music Group.

Tickets to each staged reading are \$10 (\$5 for students). A weekend pass is available for \$25. Tickets can be ordered by calling 800-838-3006 or by visiting <http://www.brownpapertickets.com>. Visit <http://www.PrideFilmsandPlays.com> for more information.

Please send theater news and other related tidbits to scottishplayscott@yahoo.com and Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com.



Eddie Bennett (left) and Alex Weisman in *Mary*. Photo by Liz Lauren

THEATER REVIEW

Mary

Playwright: Thomas Bradshaw

At: Goodman Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn

Phone: 312-443-3800; \$10-\$42

Runs through: March 6

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

Our play's premise locates us in 1983, when David Jennings, a very gay music major, learns that his upstate New York school may have spawned its first outbreak of AIDS. His boyfriend, Jonathan (David and Jonathan, get it?), wants to alert their campus LGBT organization, but David refuses to cancel their plans to spend the Christmas holidays together with his parents in Maryland. The Jennings household, however, includes a pair of African-American servants employed under antiquated conditions that nobody seems to consider eccentric but damn Yankee Jonathan. Only after a series of unfunny sitcom mishaps

does David reject his family's ways (much as he lost his accent upon migrating north), demanding that Mary, the illiterate housekeeper, be taught to read.

Time passes, Mary and Mrs. Jennings bond over widowhood and education, both dancing at the boys' Massachusetts wedding in 2005. But all does not end happily: in an epilogue, we learn that two years later, Jonathan died of you-know-what disease, and Mary, now an ordained minister, proclaims this scourge to be divine punishment for the sin of homosexuality.

It's a thoroughly artificial construct, of course—the racist language is pasted into the text as awkwardly as if lifted from a tourist phrase-book, and a cook unable to read could scarcely be expected to do the grocery shopping (plantations don't raise their own food any more, you know). If playwright Thomas Bradshaw and director May Adrales had presented this material as the cartoon farce it wants to be instead of relying on its audience's willingness to be bullied, its slap-in-the-face criticism—Bradshaw claims Mac Wellman as his mentor—would still have raised the desired questions: Does inhumanity beget inhumanity? Is the American South inherently evil? Was/Is ignorance bliss? Should we be surprised when those we thought to help turn on us?

If Bradshaw's goal is to stir controversy, debate and perhaps a fist-fight or two in the lobby, his adolescent diatribe may be counted a success. But in his zeal to jerk us around far harder than necessary, he leaves us no recovery time during which to contemplate what lessons may be found in unpleasant opinions articulated by actors grimly reciting ugly words as if through surgical masks. Yes, social issues reduced to Zap Comics-simplicity are provocative—but so is a pie in the eye.

T's Bar to host event on lesbian plays

T's Bar & Restaurant, 5025 N. Clark, will mark Pride Films and Plays' upcoming lesbian-themed projects with an event Saturday, Feb. 26, 8-11 p.m.

Two plays with lesbian themes are among the finalists in the Great Gay Play Fest at Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, March 3-6. Corinne J. Kawecky, author of one of the plays (*Short Expanse*) will be present along with the play's director, Liz Pazik. The other play is *Learn to be Latina*.

E-mail PrideWomen@gmail.com for more information.

—By Abarbanel, Barnidge and Morgan

CRITICS' PICKS

The Earl, *The Inconvenience* at Red Orchid, extended through March 2. You'd never guess it was Brett Neveu supplying the ultra-violence in this Shepardesque fable of boys' games after the toys have gotten bigger and deadlier. Danny Goldring steals the show as a Dirty Harry-like hero they don't make any more. MSB

In Darfur, *TimeLine Theatre*, through March 20. This compelling drama about the recent genocide in Sudan masterfully shows the different agendas of people who are trying their utmost to help out in an impossible and deadly situation. SCM

Lakeboat, *Steep Theatre*, through Feb. 26. You'll find no thrilling adventures on a freighter carrying steel from Duluth to Chicago, but a young David Mamet captures the poetry of the inland seas and the men whose lives are bound to its watery mysteries. MSB

Travels with my Aunt, *Writers' Theatre*, through March 27. This intimate work of theatrical fabulosity, adapted from Graham Greene's comic novel, is visually and verbally stylish. Its dazzling four-man cast all play the Aunt, and everyone else! Don't miss. JA



Feet of Clay. Photo courtesy of LASTmatch Theatre Company

THEATER REVIEW

Feet of Clay

Playwright: Stephen Louis Grush

At: LASTmatch (sic) Theatre Company,

Royal George Gallery, 1641 N. Halsted

Tickets: 312-988-9000;

<http://www.lastmatch.org>; \$25

Runs through: March 19

BY JONATHAN ABARBANEL

I didn't see the press release for *Feet of Clay*, so I didn't know beforehand that it was based on Chekhov's *Three Sisters*. However, it took only minutes to figure out as Stephen Louis Grush's play is quite faithful to the original, even down to correlating the character names: Olga, Masha and Irina—Chekhov's sisters—become Orah, Matty and Iris in *Feet of Clay*.

Chekhov's play concerns the lives and loves of three adult sisters (and their wastrel brother) who are the children of an army general. His death leaves them stranded in a dreary, rural Russian military town. They dream of returning to the social and cultural high-life of Moscow, where they grew up, but as several years pass it becomes clear they never will. Grush transposes Chekhov's late-19th Century play to a contemporary Louisiana army town where the orphaned sisters dream of New Orleans.

Grush's transposition is successful in part. He's evocation of a Louisiana parish near Fort Polk reeks of the bayou, with convincing use of regional vocabulary and dialect, and proper details of food and drink. In place of Russian military men, Grush fills the ranks with Iraq

War (the first one and the present one) vets and Army lifers, and that works well, too.

But all of that is little more than a writing exercise in style and adaptation. I can discern no vital or apparent reason for creating this American version, other than as practice. Along the way, Grush has made one large, fatal error: He's condensed Chekhov's work into a much shorter play. Chekhov's three acts become three scenes in Grush's long one-act. What that does—and this is the fatal part—is to rob the audience of the ability to come to know the sisters deeply and sympathetically, and to see the relationships grow between them and the men they love. Indeed, the men's roles are so greatly reduced that one scarcely understands that there ARE relationships until they are announced. The intimate moments are missing.

Above all, Grush's swift version does not allow the audience to feel the slow and heavy passage of time. To weep for these women and understand their heartache and loss one must spend a prolonged period of time with them. Even in the shorthand of theater, that needs to be several hours.

Director David Perez has staged the play well in the tiny Royal George Gallery, which offers little room to move. Scenic designer John Wilson provides atmosphere with a crumbling wooden porch, perhaps an antebellum remnant. Kimberly Logan (Orah), Jennifer Alexander (Matty) and Leah Karpel (Iris) display nice intensity and pent-up energy. But the play doesn't provide enough for us to understand the sources and complexities of that energy.

THEATER REVIEW

The Moonstone

Playwright: adapted by Rob Kazularic

from the novel by Wilkie Collins

At: Lifeline Theatre, 6912 N. Glenwood

Phone: 761-4477; \$32-\$35

Runs through: March 27

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

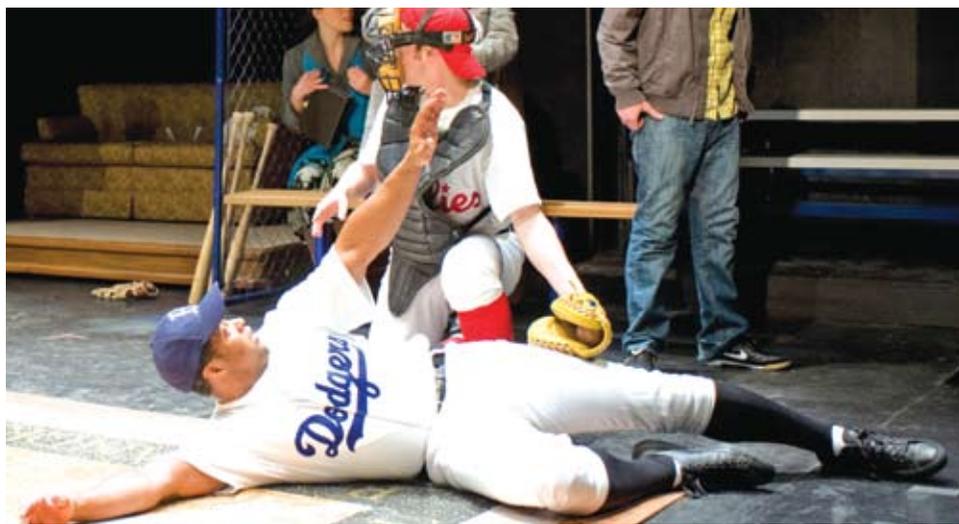
It's a statement of fact, not idle nostalgia, to say that they don't write stories like this any more. Wilkie Collins' Victorian thriller shares credit with Poe's *Gold Bug* as the prototype for the detective story genre, but whodunits in 1868 were expected to provide several weeks of ruminative reading, each new revelation being only a small step toward actually solving the crime. And so, given the length and intricacy of the source material, Rob Kazularic's two-and-three-quarter-hour adaptation (with two intermissions) represents a model of verbal efficiency.

In the first 30 minutes we learn that a sacred diamond, stolen in India by a misanthropic colonialist, has brought misfortune and discord on his descendants, and that it is now in the possession of the lovely Miss Rachel Verinder, who wears it to a party attended by her two would-be suitors—the urbane philanthropist, Godfrey Ablewhite, and the long-estranged Franklin Blake. The jewel is stolen from her boudoir that very night, after some mysterious Hindu entertainers are sighted in the vicinity, whereupon a

housemaid with a shady past begins to behave erratically, even as the burglary victim refuses to co-operate with the private investigator summoned to identify the culprit.

Our shamus has plenty of help. The compulsion to join in the search for the thief—what the family steward dubs, "detective fever"—is as universal as it is irresistible. The novel's epistolary structure is rendered on the stage by a bevy of serial narrators, none of whom are above interrupting one another's testimony to dispute order of disclosure or to hint at further information to come. Far from confusing playgoers likewise stricken with the sleuthing malady, this device serves to keep the raconteurs firmly on track as they guide us through a universe where substances frowned on today—e.g. opiates and tobacco—were commonplace.

This brand of boat-in-the-bottle drama is Lifeline's stock-in-trade: Paul S. Holmquist's direction makes for an always-uncluttered stage picture (as do the dressers responsible for converting the 11 actors into twice that number of characters in mere seconds). Together with Ian Zywicki's multiple-level scenic design—encompassing locales ranging from the exotic Orient to the foggy marshes of northern England—Cristina DeRisi's cello-based score of somnolent incidental music, and Brandon Wardell's shadowy lighting, they create an atmosphere of suspense to rivet our curiosity for every swiftly paced minute leading up to a satisfying resolution.



Jackie and Me. Photo by Michael Brosilow

THEATER REVIEW

Jackie and Me

Playwright: Steven Dietz based upon Dan Gutman's novel

At: Chicago Children's Theater at Ruth Page Center for the Arts, 1016 N. Dearborn

Phone: 866-811-4111; \$25-\$35
Runs through: March 27

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

Sequels in theater rarely succeed. But in the case of Chicago Children's Theatre's Jackie and Me, a duplicated formula definitely lives up to the original.

Chicago Children's Theatre staged Steven Dietz's adaptation of Dan Gutman's children's novel *Honus and Me* to great acclaim in 2007. Now Dietz is back adapting another of Gutman's formulaic books where a kid travels in time to meet great baseball players.

In the case of the 1999 novel Jackie and Me, it's the color-barrier-smashing baseball icon Jackie Robinson who now gets justifiably beatified in Dietz's new stage adaptation. Like in *Honus and Me*, young audiences learn American history and important life lessons from the experiences of Joey (an amiable and wide-eyed Tyler Ross) who travels back in time via magical player cards to meet with and befriend historical baseball players.

The twist this time around is that Joey becomes an African-American kid in the process, so Joey gets to experience the indignities of segregation in 1947 America firsthand.

Now some audiences may grumble about director Derrick Sanders' decision to keep Ross as Joey instead of rotating in an African-American actor. But it's a smart choice for consistency's

sake, and to highlight just how unreasonable the racist invective that was hurled at anyone (no matter what color) who was brave enough to challenge America's ingrained racism.

Though Sanders doesn't have the benefit of a thrust stage (like director Sean Graney had with *Honus and Me* at the Goodman Theatre), he works well with set designer Ian Zywicka to incorporate baseball hallmarks like bleachers and rotating outfield walls to move the story along.

As Dietz's Robinson, Kamal Angelo Bolden seems a tad stiff, playing more of the baseball icon rather than a man thrust into a history-making moment. (This stiffness also applies to Tracey N. Bonner as Robinson's wife, Rachel, rather than her role as Joey's strict history teacher.) But this fault also lies with Dietz, who understandably simplifies things for younger audiences.

The rest of the cast gets more freedom rotating through numerous roles, ranging from historical figures like Brooklyn Dodgers owner Branch Rickey (a brash Charles Stransky) to fictional ones like Joey's dad (Ron Rains in a role originally created by Sean Cooper, who is back to play the eccentric card shop owner Flip among many other characters this time around).

Patrick de Nicola is great in his two roles of Joey tormentors, while Vanessa Greenway does what she can with the small role of Joey's mom.

Instead of playing during baseball season, Chicago Children's Theatre has instead strategically programmed Jackie and Me during Black History Month. It's definitely a welcome addition that is both eminently entertaining as it is educational.

SPOTLIGHT



It wasn't too long ago that Laura Jacqmin critically acclaimed **Dental Society Midwinter Meeting** played at Chicago Dramatists. If you missed that world-premiere production, thank your lucky stars that 16th Street Theater is bringing back this quirky comedy that looks at dentists in their off hours (and the scandals they bite into). *Dental Society Midwinter Meeting* plays from Feb. 24 through March 26 at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays and at 5 and 8 p.m. Saturdays at the Berwyn Cultural Center, 6420 16th St., Berwyn. Tickets are \$18. Call 708-749-4900 or visit <http://www.16thstreettheater.org>. Photo courtesy of 16th Street Theater



A "HILARIOUS,
DISCOMFETING
NEW SATIRE"

—Chicago Reader

"BOLD...BRAZEN...
A PRICKLY PROD OF A PLAY"

—Variety

Mary

BY THOMAS BRADSHAW
DIRECTED BY MAY ADRALES

NOW THROUGH MARCH 6

Outrageous. Ruthless. Explosive. Named "Best Provocative Playwright" by the *Village Voice*, Thomas Bradshaw pulls no punches in his social satire *Mary*, which confronts hypocrisy and oppression with exhilarating wit.

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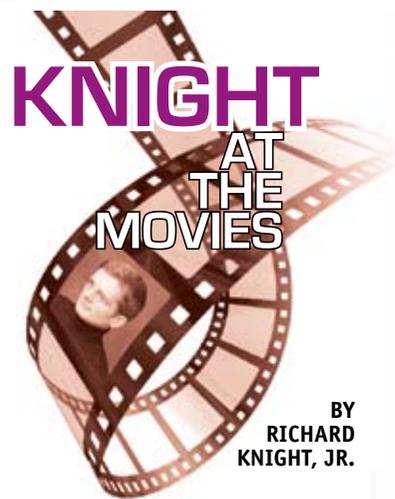
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BY
RICHARD
KNIGHT, JR.

Queer at the Oscars

The gay community's national holiday—the annual Oscar telecast—is once again upon us. (The awards don't air until this Sunday at 7 p.m. on ABC but trust me: Gay men all over the city are already decorating for their viewing parties as you're reading this.) As far as queer Oscar nominations go, the year is refreshingly tilted toward the ladies.

The Kids Are All Right, out writer-director Lisa Cholodenko's dramedy, is the most prominent of these with four nominations including one for Best Picture, one for Annette Bening as one of the lesbian moms, Cholodenko's script (co-written with Stuart Blumberg) and a supporting actor nod for Mark Ruffalo. I think the script has a chance of winning (and certainly hope it does) but the movie's shot at Best Picture isn't great. (The King's Speech and The Social Network are the odds-on favorites and out producer Scott Rudin might get an Oscar for the former or, in a long shot, his other contender, True Grit.) Bening might finally also make it to the stage if voters have weighed her multiple nominations versus Natalie Portman, whose intense, technically brilliant, much more showy performance in Black Swan is only her first Best Actress nod. Whether it's Natalie or Annette, a lesbian character is going to win that Oscar (okay, a really screwed-up ballerina with lesbian fantasies, in the case of Portman).

As for Best Actor, expect the talkative Colin Firth (who would have won last year playing gay in the sublime A Single Man if not for Jeff Bridges and his worthy performance in Crazy Heart) to make one of the drollest yet heartfelt speeches of the night for his role in The King's



Annette Bening (left) and Julianne Moore in *The Kids Are All Right*.

Speech. He will beat James Franco, who's co-hosting the Oscars along with Anne Hathaway, who is nominated for 127 Hours. The "I might be gay" Franco is hot stuff and saw his public profile take off in 2010. But suspiciously, the media blitz surrounding the actor who has played gay myriad times (and will play gay again) has either downplayed or completely ignored Franco's startling performance as queer poet Allen Ginsberg in *Howl*—the performance that should have garnered him the nomination.

But there are dozens of examples I, and a lot of other Oscar watchers, could cite when it comes to movies and performances that didn't get the all important nod. Then there are the movies and performances that nearly missed the winners' circle for business reasons. *Slumdog Millionaire*, for example, was supposed to be released straight to DVD (aka: oblivion) before making it to theaters. Probably *Blue Sky*, which eventually got released in 1994 after being locked in the vault for four years during the bankruptcy proceedings of Orion Pictures, is Oscar's most celebrated Cinderella story. When the movie finally emerged (it was the last film of bisexual director Tony Richardson, a casualty of the AIDS plague in 1991), Jessica Lange won a Best Actress Oscar.

This is an old story. Many, many other films have gotten brief releases and then have become tangled in legal or creative purgatory and gone on to box-office and award glory. (The rights to Hitchcock's *Vertigo* kept it from being seen for decades while George Gershwin's estate still refuses to let 1959's *Porgy & Bess* be shown because certain people don't like it much.) But

recent news of the problems with Regent Media really hits home for LGBT filmmakers and queer film fans. The company has specialized in licensing and distributing LGBT and foreign films for years—many of unparalleled quality. (Departures, a masterpiece from Japan, was the 2009 Best Foreign Film winner, for example.) They are accused, via a lawsuit from investment firm Merrill Lynch, of fraudulently obtaining \$90 million in loans, using its film library (which includes close to 100 titles—a majority of them LGBT-themed) as collateral.

Whether or not Regent (which, aside from the films, also owns the Advocate, Out, the Here cable channel, and various porn sites) goes down in flames or successfully refutes the charges, there are many pissed-off, saddened queer filmmakers whose creative works are lodged in legal purgatory. (Several of them talking about a class-action suit of their own.) And who knows how many of these are future Oscar contenders? Certainly *I Killed My Mother*, from gay teenage French-Canadian auteur Xander Dolan, which is mired in the legal mess, is one of them. (A full list of titles presumed to be affected by the lawsuit are listed in a Feb. 11 story by Eric Kohn; it's available at indiewire.com.)

Oscar party memorial: As for Oscar parties, the town is full of them, from high-ticket affairs to gay-bar viewing events. Last year I noted the Center on Halsted's fancy fete and the Gene Siskel Film Center's Oscar bash, Chicago's only officially sanctioned Academy Awards event (both again taking place this year). I didn't mention the annual, hotly anticipated Oscar bash hosted by Hugh Mathis and Tom Hedeem, as it was by invitation only. The two friends had co-hosted their lavish viewing party for years and last year agreed, without hesitation, to add a fund raising component for the Queer Film Society (QFS), the non-profit gay movie critic and academic organization that this writer heads.

I didn't meet the very gracious Hedeem until the night of the party but the gregarious Mathis had attended several QFS screenings and was fanatical and funny in e-mails and phone calls about the preparations leading up to the big night. When I arrived, indeed, the décor (including a life-sized Oscar statuette), food and spirits were mighty impressive—even by gay men's standards. Mathis and Hedeem, ablaze with energy and enthusiasm, were great hosts, greeting their guests (many of them in costume with a few in drag, natch) and working the crowd. As I looked around the packed room and watched friend and stranger alike unite over this one's bad gown and that one's witty remark during the telecast, I experienced a real sense of community with My People.

But this year the Mathis-Hedeem party probably won't be happening as shockingly, Mathis, only 41, passed away unexpectedly while on a vacation in late January. He had had health problems throughout the year but that didn't

stop Mathis from attending (and financially supporting) a host of other artistic events around town. So, when this year's Oscar memorial tribute is introduced and the movie actors and filmmakers who passed away last year are shown in montage, I will take a moment to think of Mathis, who co-hosted one hell of an Oscar bash. I will be thankful I got the chance to attend at least one of them.

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

Oscar galas Feb. 27

Once again, Chicago will be the site of at least two top-notch Oscar fetes.

On Sunday, Feb. 27, Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, will host its annual "On The Red Carpet" Oscar Party. Guests will enjoy sponsored cocktails and buffet while the Academy Awards are broadcast live on the big screen in the Hoover-Leppen Theatre. Guests may bid on vacations, spa packages and more in our silent auction throughout the evening. Moreover, for the first time ever, the center is conducting an Oscar prediction competition.

Doors open for the red carpet pre-show at 6 p.m., and the telecast begins at 7 p.m. Director-level tickets (\$75) include admission to the party, and producer tickets (\$125) include reserved telecast seating in the theater with table service. See <http://www.centeronhalsted.org>.

In addition, the Gene Siskel Film Center of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 164 N. State, will host "Oscar Night America—Chicago," Chicago's only event sanctioned by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The event will be 6 p.m.-12 a.m.

Tickets are \$100 each, and they must be purchased in advance. For more information, call the Film Center at 312-846-2072 or e-mail Joel Mangers at jmangers@saic.edu.

Rustin film screening at Center Feb. 28

Brother Outsider—a film about the life of the '60s Black gay activist Bayard Rustin—will screen at the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, on Monday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m.

The film has been shown at The United Nations, The Kennedy Center and for members of Congress, as well as at hundreds of film festivals, community forums, and schools; it is also being used widely in diversity presentations at corporations, law firms and other workplaces.

The Chicago Urban League and WTTW-11 are co-sponsoring the showing, and there will be a post-screening discussion with filmmaker Bennett Singer.

Facets develops anti-bullying series

Facets Multimedia, 1517 W. Fullerton, will start screening films that are part of the "No Bullies, Please!" series Tuesday, March 1, at the facility and at specific Chicago-area schools.

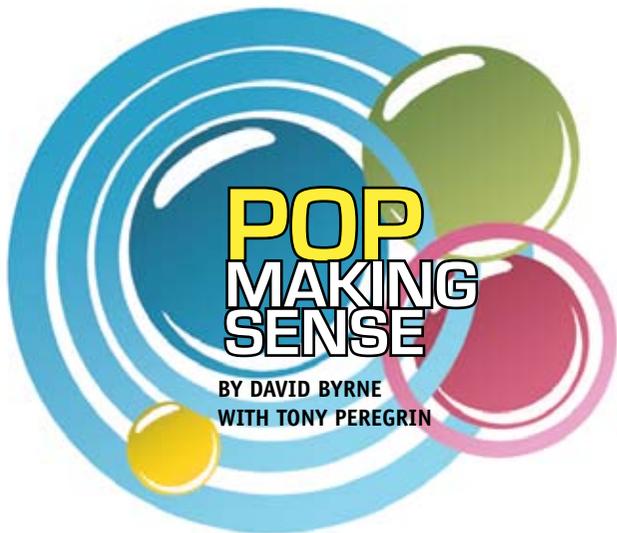
The first of the programs, "Sticks and Stones," is targeted for first- through third-graders. "Actions Speak Louder" is for fourth- and fifth-graders, while, for middle schoolers, "Teasing Texts: Don't Hit Send!" covers the too-familiar scenarios of text bullying and unwisely-sent e-mails.

E-mail fldtrips@facets.org or call 773-281-9075, ext. 3009.

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Just three months before the due date of the highly anticipated album *Born This Way*, **Lady Gaga** returns to Chicago with fellow New Yorkers Scissor Sisters for The Monster Ball Tour at The United Center, 1901 W. Madison, on Monday, Feb. 28.

The controversial blonde could not wait to release the title track, which sounds like the love child of Madonna's "Express Yourself" and Patrick Hernandez's "Born to Be Alive." There is no relation with the coming-out disco anthem "I Was Born This Way," which has been sung by Valentino and Carl Bean. On a recent appearance on *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno, Gaga said she received an e-mail with a blessing from Madonna's camp, as many have compared the two hits. The "Paparazzi" singer's new look gives a nod to the modified persons community with dulled horns in her temples and protruding bones in her shoulders. When Lady Gaga was in town last summer for Lollapalooza, she unveiled the grammatically incorrect "You and I."

There is a Facebook petition to get a **Scissor Sisters** song to be performed on *Glee*, ever since Emmy Award winner Chris Colfer said he would love to do one of the quartet's numbers on the primetime program. "Any Which Way" and the terribly catchy Elton John collaboration "I Don't Feel Like Dancin'" seem to be obvious choices, but the '80s electro-sleaze delicacy "Invisible Light" or Talking Heads-inspired "Running Out" could do the trick, too. Scissor Sisters' *Night Work* is out now.

Janet Jackson's Number Ones: Up Close and Personal Tour will be holding court Monday, March 7, through Wednesday, March 9, at The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State. Throughout her career, the superstar has claimed the top spot on the pop, dance and R&B charts on multiple occasions. The concert's set list ranges from the assertive, funky jam "What Have You Done for Me Lately?" to Jackson's contribution to the 2010 Tyler Perry film *Why Did I Get Married Too?*, "Nothing."

In 2008 Jackson deservedly received the Vanguard Award at the 19th Annual GLAAD Media Awards for continually supporting the LGBT com-



Lady Gaga on the cover of *Billboard*.

munity. Her work pleads for social justice ("Rhythm Nation"), remembers loved ones lost to AIDS ("Together Again") and tackles homophobia ("Free Xone"). On top of recording a message for the It Gets Better campaign, the Grammy winner penned the self-help book *True You: A Journey to Finding and Loving Yourself*. Jackson's latest retrospective *Number Ones* spans three decades and includes the new track "Make Me."

On "It Gets Better" **Rebecca Drysdale** tells the story of high school youths leading tormented lives. Drysdale sums up recent public episodes of bullying by stating, "There's no one who is meaner than a bunch of asshole teens." During the bridge, a laundry list of LGBT celebrities is rattled off. This recalls the "Vogue"-like "Legendary Children (All of Them Queer)" by Holly Johnson of *Frankie Goes to Hollywood* fame. Some of the names that Drysdale mentions are not commonly known as queer, such as actor Sir Alec Guinness and Billie Joe Armstrong from *Green Day*. "It Gets Better" is available on iTunes and the video is on YouTube.

As part of the It Gets Better campaign, **TimPermanent** posted a very personal video. Here, he recounts how he was picked on continually in high school and even in college. But things did get better for him, as he beams talking about making music and performing before an audience.

TimPermanent just released the EP *Marker*. Just imagine if Jason Mraz had a gay younger brother who has a knack for electronica. On "More Than Want," the Los Angeles-based artist feels pres-



TimPermanent.

sure to hold back and asks, "and what you might say if I was to sing it out like Beyonce Knowles?" On "Asymmetrical" the singer-songwriter confides that he bears his soul in his craft, which is a perfect lead into the more organic closing track "Alkaline." On *Marker* TimPermanent gives a glimpse to thoughts running through his mind in a fun, personable fashion.

Marsha Ambrosius has a must-see video on her hands with "Far Away." Here, the British chanteuse belts out a slower-paced song—not to be confused with Carole King's classic—while telling the story about her gay friend. After awkward social interactions with the object of his affection and getting beaten up in the park, her friend overdoses on pills. At the end of the clip, Ambrosius reveals that she lived through a similar event with one of her friends and she begs for tolerance and change.

"Far Away" is from Ambrosius's solo bow, *Late Nights & Early Mornings*. The trimmed-down Ambrosius might be recognized as being half of the acclaimed duo Floetry. The pair also penned Michael Jackson's "Butterflies." The scornful single "Hope She Cheats on You (With a Basketball Player)" already has been released from Ambrosius's *Late Nights & Early Mornings*.

Sophie B. Hawkins has posted a new song "Flying at Half Mast" in reaction to the tragic shootings in Tucson, Ariz., that took place Jan. 8. This track is available for free download at sophiebhawkins.com.

Hawkins is no stranger to mixing her craft with current events. Last year, proceeds from "The Land, the Sea & the Sky" benefitted Waterkeeper's Alliance to aid the Gulf Coast oil spill. Also, she transformed her breakthrough hit "Damn I Wish I Was Your Lover" into "Damn! We Wish You Were President" in conjunction with Hillary Clinton's presidential run. "Betcha Got a Cure," from the forthcoming album *Dream Street & Chance*, is available for purchase on Hawkins's official web page.



Marsha Ambrosius.

Bieber airs views on gays, abortion

Justin Bieber's popularity is skyrocketing, thanks to his music, film and television appearances—but he may now have hit a sour note with the LGBT community.

In an interview with *Rolling Stone* magazine, the "Baby" singer seemingly implied that homosexuality is a choice, even though he added that people's lives are no one else's business. When asked if he believes homosexuality is a sin, Bieber responded, "It's everyone's own decision to do that. It doesn't affect me and shouldn't affect anyone else."

The interview also had him being more conservative about abortion, even when the pregnancy is caused by rape, saying that "everything happens for a reason." He also said, "I really don't believe in abortion. I think [an embryo] is a human. It's like killing a baby."

However, according to *Digital Spy*, *Rolling Stone* admitted that an "editing error" resulted in Bieber's comments on abortion being misquoted. Bieber's full quote was, "Um. Well, I think that's really sad [referring to abortion], but everything happens for a reason. I don't know how that would be a reason. I guess I haven't been in that position, so I wouldn't be able to judge that."

During the interview, Bieber also said that he does not agree with war, saying, "I think everyone should just get along." He also said in the seven-page piece that he believes that people should not have sex without love.

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MillerCoors donates to LGBT organizations



BY CARRIE MAXWELL

MillerCoors presented checks to several LGBT non-profits Feb. 16 at its Chicago headquarters as the culmination of last summer's "Great Cents Challenge." Participating gay bars selected LGBT charities to benefit from sales of MillerCoors products.

At the event, non-profit representatives and those from MillerCoors and its distributors joined bar owners and managers.

The challenge raised \$15,000, which will be funneled to the charities on behalf of the distributors, retailers (the Chicago bars that participated) and MillerCoors. They raised the money by setting aside 15 cents from the sale of every MillerCoors product sold at the participating bars.

The participating bars were: T's, sofo, The Glenwood Bar, Sidetrack, The North End, Spin and Roscoe's. The benefiting agencies were Les-

bian Community Care Project (LCCP) of Howard Brown Health Center (HBHC), HBHC itself, HBHC's Broadway Youth Center, Chicago House and Affinity Community Services.

an amazing event because it is truly what the community is about, partnering. We very easily could have set aside a certain amount of dollars and just given it away, but we said no let's work with our partners. So we reached out to local bars and said to them, help us help the community. We asked, who should we work with? We thought what a great way to do it since we are new to the community. We've only been here in town for a couple of years [as a merged company] and it really gives us the opportunity to be sincere in our desire to help local organizations."

Mary Lou Polcyn, who has been with Chicago Beverage Systems for 15 years as director of customer service and liaison in the LGBT Community, said she was "thrilled with the commitment that MillerCoors has made in the LGBT community. They have always been great partners with Chicago Beverage Systems. Now that the headquarters for MillerCoors is in Chicago and the

Sidetrack raised money for both Affinity Community Services and Broadway Youth Center. Chuck Hyde, one of Sidetrack's co-owners, said, "We are very proud of MillerCoors and now that they have their headquarters in Chicago they have reached out to our community. They are partnering with us all the time in many different ways and this is just one significant one they did last summer. We want them to make a nice beginning in Chicago so they can grow with our growing community."

Michele Miller of Affinity said, "this is an awesome day and I am so honored. I want to thank Sidetrack for thinking of Affinity when it came to donating the funds from MillerCoors. It's an honor and we really appreciate Sidetrack's faith in us."

George Nichols, manager of the Boystown bar North End, said it originally partnered with Better Existence for HIV, but since that agency folded it is looking for another organization. Nichols said he appreciated MillerCoors for holding this challenge last summer as well as the company's commitment to the community.

Spin Nightclub owner Dave Gassman said he was thrilled to help Chicago House since the agency does such great work in the community. Michael Herman, who is the development director of Chicago House, said, "All of our corporate sponsors are fantastic, including Spin who is looking out for us and is very helpful to us. Those kinds of cooperative events allow us to grow and thrive as an organization."

Roscoe's General Manager Brenden Chrisman thanked MillerCoors while Shawn Hazen, the nightclub's promotions and marketing manager, said "This program that MillerCoors has put together to give to charities is great. Howard Brown has been so involved in our community and based in our community so it was without question who we were giving our money to."

Also attending were two representatives from the board of the group hosting the Gay Softball World Series in Chicago this summer. Board President Ted Cappas and Larry Kuhn, the group's director of sponsorships and partnership, attended because of their relationship with MillerCoors. "We really want to create an integrated partnership with the community before, during



Doug Sanborn of MillerCoors presented checks Feb. 16 from funds raised by gay bars for Chicago LGBT non-profit agencies during last summer's Great Cents Challenge. Photos by Hal Baim

joint venture we have with MillerCoors is getting stronger, it's very exciting to reach out to the community through the charities in Chicago."

Colm Treacy, owner of T's, Sofo and The Glenwood bars, selected LCCP. "It is a great opportunity to work with MillerCoors and the community to raise money for the community," Treacy said.

Daisy Lynn Mertz, director of community relations at Howard Brown Health Center, said the recognition and support they are receiving through this event speaks volumes regarding MillerCoors commitment to what LCCP does as an organization. Her colleague, Christina Santiago, manager of programming at LCCP, said "Colm and the entire T's family has been such a huge supporter of LCCP ... so we are all a part of the same family and are happy to continue this relationship."

and after the World Series," Kuhn said. Cappas added, "This goes along with what Doug said about not just giving money and walking away. It's about having a relationship and partnering to help the community in a positive way. That is one thing we are proud of with the World Series, which is the charity aspect where any leftover proceeds will be given to charity. We are hoping to raise \$20,000 during the series to help the local community."

During the check presentation, Doug Sanborn, brand manager for multicultural marketing—LGBT for MillerCoors, explained why the company was a partner for this event. He said MillerCoors CEO Leo Kiely put forth a challenge with this statement: "We work in this community, we live in this community, so we need to partner in this community." Sanborn thanked Chicago Beverage Systems, one of the distributors, as well as the bars.

Sanborn said the company no longer does "sponsorships" but rather "partnerships" with the community.

"It just warms my heart," Sanborn said. "It's

The check presentations were made at the company's Fred and Adolph's Pub, and approximately 75 people attended the event.

In next week's issue, Windy City Times will profile Doug Sanborn, the brand manager of multicultural and LGBT relations for MillerCoors.



BOOKS

Johnny Weir lets us in his 'World'

BY JERRY NUNN

Johnny Weir skated his way into being a U.S. national champion three times as well as a bronze medalist. He recently took his flamboyant costumes out of the closet with a new memoir entitled *Welcome to My World*.

Windy City Times: Hello, Johnny. I just read your book and you dedicated it to your parents. Have they always been supportive of you?

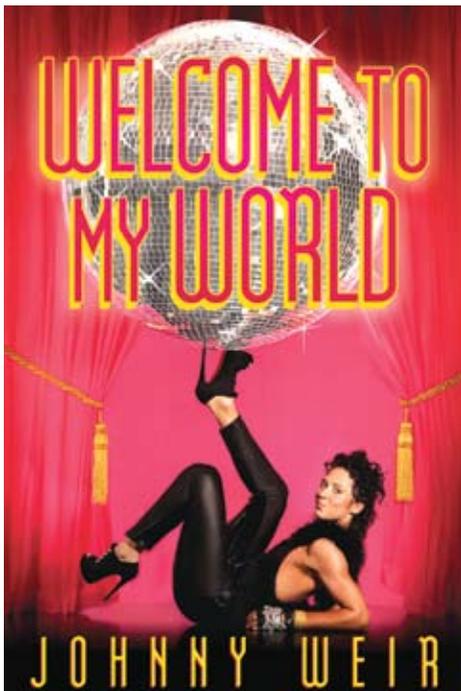
Johnny Weir: Absolutely. They have always been my biggest cheerleaders. When I was young my mom taught me about style, being eclectic, being free and expressing your feelings. My dad taught me discipline, how to be strong and do everything right the first time you do it. In that way my parents were already teaching me to be an Olympic figure skater.

WCT: It was interesting to read the whole journey towards your goals and all the behind-the-scenes [details] to get you there.

JW: I wanted to give the full experience and the whole story. Even when you show up to competition then you start to tell a little story of yourself to the press they only use little pieces and they talk about little parts. Your words can get twisted and that was the main reason for my memoirs. There was a lot of stuff out there about me that wasn't true or was written wrongly. This book was the chance to set people straight on many different facets of my personality and different times in my life.

WCT: You mentioned being a private person but then you were out there with all the of the outfits.

JW: Fashion is very inspiring to me and I almost go drag queen where I wear the heels, make-up on or a big fur coat. Those things get noticed. But today, for example, I have jeans and cashmere hoodie on. I change it up. Nobody really cared when I looked like a boy. They want-



Johnny Weir.

ed me to be some Liza Minnelli doppelganger.

WCT: Growing up, were you bullied or picked on?

JW: I lived my childhood in rural Pennsylvania so didn't experience it at first because I lived in a satellite sort of town. There was not a lot of outside influence and everyone knew each other. It was a utopian way to grow up. I could run through the forest without a care in the world. That was a beautiful way to grow up.

When I moved to Delaware to pursue figure skating I went to my first real integrated school with African-American kids, Muslim kids, Jewish kids—all those different people who had no idea who I was [started] bullying because I was different. I was tiny. I was pale. I didn't go to school the whole day because I had to go skating and train. Everyone knew what I was doing as a figure skater and, of course, you get bullied for doing those things. I never got sad when I was called the f-word or a name. I am not a person that cries over those things. I get stronger. I always come back fighting and I don't know why that it. It is my defense mechanism. When someone wants to belittle me then I come back 10 times harder so that I can be the one that laughs last. I don't let it effect me in a negative way.

WCT: How has the whole coming-out publicly been for you?

JW: I am shocked by the amount of attention that coming out gets. I never lived in the closet. I don't remember sweeping on top of my issues. I was born gay. I was born white and I was born male. I don't celebrate any of those things because they are not important to who Johnny Weir is.

Everything I have done in my life I have worked really hard for and I want people to focus on those things. The whole admission that I was in a long-term gay relationship is dirt for people to run with. Most people are hung up on the gay thing more than [I am]. I don't celebrate it on a regular basis. It is kind of a moot point because now I am so busy. I don't have sex. I don't have a boyfriend or a girlfriend. I am married to an airplane. It has probably been made into a big deal by the press because I didn't make a big deal of it in the book.

WCT: You talk about Christina Aguilera in the book and what a fan you are. Have you met her?

JW: I got to meet Christina when I went to the MTV Movie Awards this past spring. I started walking the red carpet and there was a big commotion. I sent my manager over to grab her and tell her that I wanted to meet her. That is how things work in Hollywood circles, which I am still not accustomed to.

She came over and she had seen me skate. I have always respected her for never caving in to what the public wanted to see from her. She was always so powerful and used her talent as opposed to other things to become famous. She relied on her voice to sell albums. I always respected that and tried to bring that philosophy to my world. I try to take no prisoners and be

who I am. You always have a fear when you meet famous people that they will be a douchebag or your image will crumble. All of my heroes—Lady Gaga, Elton John and Christina Aguilera—have been so beyond amazing.

WCT: Is your reality show *Be Good Johnny Weir* coming back?

JW: We are coming back again. The first season was on the Sundance Channel and now we will be on the Logo network. It will start in the springtime. The first season was my journey to the Olympic games and the competitions. Season two is about me creating my own show. It will involve ice, singers, dancers, prostitutes—whatever you think will be in the show will be there. I want to have a cabaret Berlin-in-the-'30s notion to it. The entire show will be about self-acceptance and loving yourself. It will focus on my life and going to across the country on the bus, all my day-to-day life. The main diamond will be this spectacular that I have put together.

WCT: You even have a song out now.

JW: It came out the same time as the book; it's called "Dirty Love." It's already number one in Japan. It is rising up slowly on the United States dance charts. I am very proud of it. I went into it as a side project. I had so much fun doing it and I said let's release it. If one person buys it and enjoys it that's more than enough for me, I wanted people to have fun and try something new. People tend to think that I try to do things for attention and money. In reality, I do things because they are fun and I enjoy it.

WCT: That's a good way to live life.

JW: Yesterday I had the coolest moment because I went through a Starbucks drive-thru and heard someone in the car next to me blasting my song.

WCT: Congrats! Will there be more seasons of *Skating With the Stars*?

JW: I hope there will be. There were many mixed feelings from the public. Some people liked it; some people hated it. There was a lot of drama and injury on the show, which is what America loves to watch. I was proud of the show. It came off much better than I thought it would. We had an average of five million viewers per episode. It is not the 20 million of *Dancing With the Stars* or *American Idol* but we were beating *Modern Family*, which is also on ABC and an Emmy-winning show. It all depends on the networks and what they want for their programming. I am very hopeful that we will do another season.

Buy Johnny Weir's book, *Welcome to My World*, at <http://www.borders.com> or skate over to your local bookseller.



Weir at a book-signing. Photo by Jerry Nunn

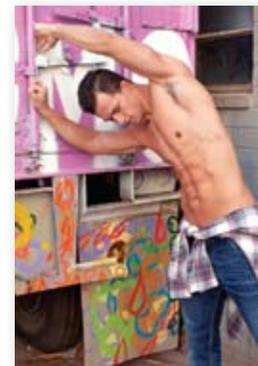
Coleman comes in second



Chicagoan Georg Coleman with her partner, Theresa McCauley (on the left in the right photo), were at a celebration Feb. 20 at Charlie's bar. Georg was a finalist on *The Food Network's Worst Cooks in America* show, coming in second. Photo by Tracy Baim

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**NUNN ON ONE:
TELEVISION**

Joy Behar airs her views

BY JERRY NUNN

Joy Behar is an accomplished comedian, writer and actress known for her quick wit on the talk show *The View*. She started her own television program, *The Joy Behar Show*, in 2009 on HLN.

Beginning as a teacher in New York, Behar instead moved to the next logical step—stand-up—before landing Barbara Walter's creation for ABC *The View* back in 1997. She has hosted her own segment, "Joy's Comedy Corner," that has opened the door to a variety of comedians, and she has written a couple of books such as *Sheet-zucacapoopoo: My Kind of Dog*. Controversy has followed all of *The View* cast members, including Behar, who recently walked off the set (along with castmate Whoopi Goldberg) during an interview with Bill O'Reilly. Strong opinions are what make talking with Behar a joy!

Windy City Times: Hello, Joy. How was your recent trip to Chicago and going on the Oprah Winfrey Show?

Joy Behar: We had a lot of fun. I like Oprah very much. I found her to be very generous and sweet. All in all, it was a lovely experience. We enjoyed it.

WCT: I attended Whoopi Goldberg's show at the Venue that evening.

JB: How was that?

WCT: She covered lots of hot topics. She said that Elizabeth Hasselbeck has grown a lot from the show. Do you think that is true?

JB: Well, she has never been homophobic. She's pro-female but she is still a Republican.

WCT: Would you do stand-up like that again?

JB: You know what? I haven't done any stand-up since last July because I have two shows now. I have a lot on my plate. I certainly plan to go back to it when I have time.

WCT: How is your grueling schedule of doing both shows? Are you exhausted?

JB: No, I am not physically exhausted at all because it is just a full day's work. I do have a lot of stuff in my head all day long, a lot of topics. I have to read the papers all day and don't have a minute where I can zone out.

WCT: That must be a hard job sometimes.

JB: That's the thing; I have to really pay attention because I am in charge of the show. *The View* has topics that I have to be on top of, we have guests, I have to watch movies, do research. It's a lot of homework but I like it.

WCT: How does it feel to have your own show?

JB: I like having my own show because I can call the shots. There are things that I am interested in doing. When you are in charge of a show it's more fun in a way because you have fewer people telling you what to do. I like that.

WCT: Is there a guest that you would like to have that you haven't had yet?

JB: We are having Helen Thomas on today, which is an interesting booking because of the stuff she said about Israel. Tomorrow we are having Rosie O'Donnell on.

WCT: What is she promoting now?

JB: She has a show on OWN [the Oprah Winfrey Network] in the fall that she is promoting. Also, she is on that Lisa Kudrow show *Who Do You Think You Are?* I haven't seen her for a while because after she left *The View*; we lost touch a little bit but now she is back.

WCT: Good. Where do you see your show going in the future?

JB: I think that the show is getting better. It has gotten better even in the last two weeks and crisper. I see it becoming more interesting. I like to keep it smart and funny.

WCT: I want to ask you the question that Oprah started to but ran out of time. How has *The View* changed your life? You have been there since the beginning.



Joy Behar. Photo courtesy of ABC

JB: Well, it has made me financially solvent—that is for sure. I bought a house. That's one thing. It allows me more access to things. More people know me so my career is better. In terms of my personal life it has not changed it that much. I still have the same boyfriend. My daughter and I are as close as ever. My friends are the same.

WCT: You have been so supportive of gay comics such as Mario Cantone and Alec Mapa. Why do you have such a strong connection to the gay community?

JB: The gay community was very good to me when I first started my comedy. I started in the village at a place called the Five Oaks near Christopher Street. They were always my big fans. They always understood what I was trying to do. That's one reason I feel great about them for that. I am very thankful, actually.

The other thing is that I have a soft spot for anyone that is the underdog. Gays in this country still don't have all the rights that they deserve and I don't think it's fair. I really go crazy when there is unfairness in the world and people are being mistreated in some way. It is in my personality to also speak out for minorities. Anybody that needs help then I am there for them.

WCT: Congratulations on the GLAAD Media Award that you won last year.

JB: Thank you. That was nice. I really appreciated it. It meant so much to me that award. I said at the time that I would rather have that than an Oscar and I meant it.

WCT: That's really nice to say...

JB: Of course, no one is offering me an Oscar so I guess it was easy to say. [Laughs] I am kidding but I am serious about that. I prefer an award that says I am doing something good in the world other than having a great performance.

WCT: Do you want to do more movies?

JB: I have a movie right now; [even though] it is a very small part but I am in all the trailers. It is called *Hall Pass*. It is the Farelly Brothers movie. It is coming out Feb. 25. I don't have a lot of time for acting but I love to do it. If I didn't have two shows and only had one then I would do something else.

WCT: Have you had a guest on *The View* who was a special one for you?

JB: Catherine Deneuve. I love French and British Cinema. I like foreign films and she is on the top of my list. When she came there I was like, "Whoa!" In fact I was stalking her so much that she asked me if I was gay! She said, "Are you lesbian?" I said, "Not really but I still love you."

WCT: I want to be the gay Barbara Walters.

Heartland's 'Art of Human Rights' Feb. 25

"The Art of Human Rights"—Heartland Alliance's annual silent and live art auction featuring unique works of art from across the world, gourmet fare, cocktails and music—will take place Friday, Feb. 25, at Gruen Galleries, 226 W. Superior, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Individual tickets start at \$125 (\$150 at the door). See <http://www.heartlandalliance.org/howtohelp/events/artofhumanrights>.

'Milly's Spring Spectacular' March 20

"Milly's Spring Spectacular: Family Style"—an installment of "Milly's Orchid Show"—will take place Sunday, March 20, at the Park West, 322 W. Armitage. The show starts at 3:30 p.m.; the parade lines up at 3:15 p.m.

"Milly's Orchid Show," a show featuring eclectic acts, introduced the world to such individuals as David Sedaris, and has featured performers such as Poi Dog Pondering and Blue Man Group. This year's show includes flamenco dancing Wendy Clinard and her family



Jojo Baby.

CEO from page 15

WCT: One of the issues seems to be that, unlike, say the other organizations you named, HBHC is a service organization. The other issue that people are raising is a question of scale, between how much a CEO gets paid versus, say, what a case manager might get paid.

JE: That's not correct, either. First of all, we're the only LGBT health center in Chicago; we're also the only health center that's as diverse as Howard Brown is, in the whole city. We're not just healthcare, we're also a youth center, we're also a retail shop. Even if you took pure healthcare and compared it to other federally qualified health centers or community health centers, their CEOs all make comparable salaries, if you compare them to an organization of our size.

Take, for example, just the medical director. Our chief medical officer rightly earns about \$160,000 a year, and that's because he or she is responsible for about \$3 million worth of

How do I make that happen?

JB: [Laughs] Well, you have to start small. She started as a small station. She was a writer when she was young at the *Today Show* and then they put her on the air one day and she kept going. You have to have a break but I think a small market is where you start.

WCT: You have to come back to Chicago soon.

JB: I love Chicago. When we were there we said, "We would rather live in Chicago with all of its miserable weather than live in Los Angeles."

For more Joy-ful antics see her weekdays on ABC and HLN. For up to date listings and information visit <http://theview.abc.go.com> Nand <http://joybehar.blogs.cnn.com>.

and the Roberto Clemente High School steel drum band, among others.

Tickets are \$17.50. (Kids under 2 are free.) Buy tickets at <http://www.BrigidsBags.com> or at the door.

Cinema Q film series in Chicago

The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, the Queer Film Society, the Center on Halsted and Chicago Filmmakers are presenting Cinema Q, a new film series celebrating outstanding LGBT movies made in Chicago.

The free screenings will take place on four Wednesdays—March 16, 23, 30 and April 6—in the Chicago Cultural Center's Claudia Cassidy Theater, 78 E. Washington, at 6:30 p.m. All screenings will feature a discussion and Q&A following the film. This series contains films with mature subject matter. Viewer discretion is advised.

Films include *Queerborn & Perversion: An Early History of Lesbian & Gay Chicago* (March 16); *Go Fish* and outtakes from *Fish Out of Water* (March 23); *JoJo Baby* and two music videos of *The Joans* by Peter Neville (March 30); and *Were the World Mine* (April 6). For more info, visit <http://www.ChicagoCultural-Center.org> or call 312-744-6630.

revenue in the organization that we generate through our medical practice on a fee-for-service basis. [This] actually includes mental health, which she doesn't technically oversee. Nonetheless, that's \$160,000 for \$3 million of the revenue. I'm responsible for five times that. Chicago House, a social-service agency which sees people for healthcare and housing, \$3 million worth of revenue; I have five times that responsibility and I don't make five times any of my peers' salary.

If people want to be really serious, they need to think about that. Same thing with our case managers: Our case managers at Howard Brown are compensated comparably with their peers at other organizations. We strive to be at parity, if not a little bit ahead of that, and I've said publicly that one of my commitments to the organization making sure our talented staff is appropriately compensated, because when you work in the health industry in particular, you have to compete with hospitals, which can pay much more money. Those people deserve to be compensated, or we'll lose them.

NUNN ON ONE: BOOKS

Jane Velez-Mitchell tackles addiction

BY JERRY NUNN

HLN's Jane Velez-Mitchell is a best selling author with a new book called *Addict Nation*. The out lesbian has been a recovering addict herself for over 15 years. Jane chatted Nunn on One about her current "Issues."

Windy City Times: Hello, Jane. How are you?

Jane Velez-Mitchell: Excellent.

WCT: Have you been busy with all the book promotions?

JV-M: I have been. It has been adventurous but a little hectic. I am trying to not descend into my addictive behavior from the stress of it. It's always a challenge.

WCT: Well, you will be pleased to know that I gave up drinking for the New Year.

JV-M: Congratulations! That is wonderful—if you gave it up for the right reasons. Some people give it up for weight loss or any number of reasons.

WCT: That is just the bonus. Tell me about your "blueprint for change."

JV-M: I am a recovering alcoholic and I will get to 16 years by April 1. I do it one day at a time. As I got into sobriety I noticed over the years that other people were behaving very addictively but not just about alcohol or smoking. I noticed a pattern of behavior in people. The first place I noticed was in generic consumption and buying stuff. People, myself included, come home every day with shopping bags full of things. Is this making us happier? No! I decided to hold a consumers anonymous meeting. It was like a recovery meeting but about consumption. People started relating stories about buying items at a superstore and making themselves feel better. Did they really need to buy two cases of water bottles?

WCT: I doubt it.

JV-M: Everybody started sharing very emotionally. To me, addiction is getting a craving, it overpowers you, binge on it, then begin to feel

the remorse. The remorse wears off and the craving comes back. The thing about addiction is that it gets more pronounced over time and the reason is that we as addicts build up a tolerance and need more of the same to get the same rush or kick. It always gets worse and worse until the point of crisis. Hopefully the person hits bottom and can see themselves more objectively.

WCT: Then what did you start to learn from research?

JV-M: I started looking at other behaviors. Celebrities were keeling over from prescription drug overdose. By talking to experts, I realized celebrities are just the tip of the iceberg. Prescription drug overdoses have surpassed car accidents as the leading cause of death! This is a huge crisis. Yet it has not been acknowledged as the crisis that it is because it is medicine.

WCT: People don't even realize that it is a problem.

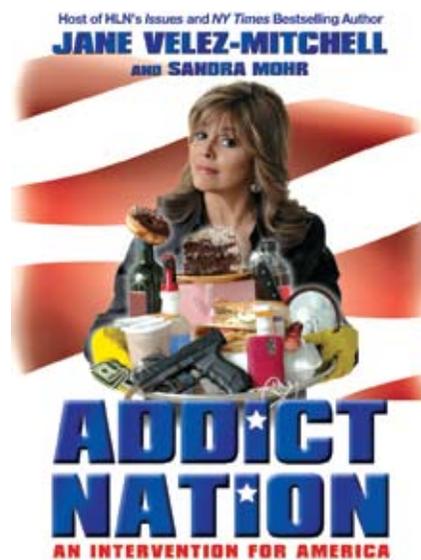
JV-M: Yes; then, I started looking at food. Two thirds of Americans are overweight or obese. People are eating addictively. It was so clear to me. The most dangerous addictions are the ones that we don't even acknowledge.

WCT: I agree with that.

JV-M: People are still talking about being overweight is a lifestyle choice and it really isn't. It is addiction, plain and simple. People are bringing all kinds of products in their homes, which I call a blended cross-addiction. This can be even with cleaning products. We know that plain old soap and water kill 99 percent of germs. People are now using products that were used in hospitals to the point where kids are developing asthma and allergies because they have not been exposed to the healthy germs that build resistance.

WCT: I have never heard that before.

JV-M: I go into a whole chapter in my book how these products then go into our eco system and pollute. The irony is that while we are cleaning, we are actually making the world a dirtier place.



WCT: That is something to think about.

JV-M: I basically outline 12 addictive behaviors that are not usually acknowledged as addictions. It is a wake-up call. The bad news is that we are not only enslaved into these terrible self-destructive behaviors that are making us high, in debt, depressed and overweight but we are also making a handful of people very rich. We are told for our economy to be stronger we all have to buy products. The average American is not getting rich off of this. The rich are getting richer because they are encouraging our addictive behavior. Television ads foster the addictive mindset. We live in a society that encourages people to be addictive across the board.

WCT: What other addictions do you mention?

JV-M: Internet porn, which is a huge addiction. It is really destroying relationships. Once a person gets addicted to this a real flesh and blood partner is not likely to do all the kinky things that is being watched on a daily basis. Gambling is another one. The Internet super-sizes our addictions so if you have a tendency toward gambling or porn then it is like having a brothel or casino 24 hours a day!

WCT: What do you recommend people do?

JV-M: The first step in any recovery problem is to admit that your life has become unmanageable and you are powerless over the substance of choice or the behavior. For example, [take]

fast food. People should admit that they are powerless to not go through a drive thru and not touch it. Studies have shown that fast food is addictive. Look at kids—they love it an early age.

WCT: Do you have kids yourself?

JV-M: No, I don't. I have two little rescue dogs. Those are my kids.

WCT: You are partnered, right?

JV-M: I do have a girlfriend. We have not decided to call each other partners yet.

WCT: Your show, Issues with Jane Velez-Mitchell, is still going strong?

JV-M: Yes. It has been more than 10 years now and we cover a lot of the subjects we have talked about today. In fact I am covering different chapters in the book starting this week.

WCT: People should check it out. You have already won the two Green Thumbs Up awards for your book.

JV-M: Yes, it is a blueprint for green living. I hope everyone reads *Addict Nation*. I defy anyone who lives in the United States to not identify with some of the addictions listed in this book.

The book Addict Nation: an Intervention for America can be purchased at <http://www.addictnation.org>.



Jane Velez-Mitchell.

BOOK REVIEW

My Life, As I See It:

An Autobiography

by Dionne Warwick with David Freeman Wooley

\$25.99; Atria Books;

384 pages, includes discography

REVIEW BY TERRI SCHLICHMEYER

Throughout your life, music has been your background.

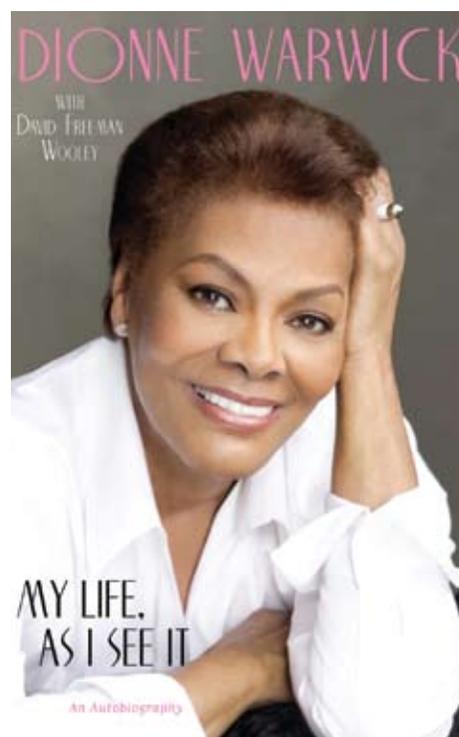
Hear the first notes of "Baby Love" and you're 10 years old, sitting on your back steps in the sun. Listen to the opening of "Hot Stuff," and you're doin' the hustle in your memories. Hear "Chances Are," and you're ready for cuddling.

But what plays in the background for those same singers? Read *My Life, As I See It: An Autobiography* by Dionne Warwick, and you might find out.

Born just before World War II, Marie Dionne Warwick was raised in a diverse neighborhood where everyone got along despite their differences. Warwick (who always went by her middle name) loved to perform, and her grandfather, a minister, gave her the confidence to sing in church.

Many in Warwick's family possessed musical talent and some of them performed as The Drinkard Singers. In high school, Warwick formed The Gospelsaires and that group was asked to do studio back-up for other acts.

But Warwick stood out from the rest and was invited to sing and record on her own. By accident, one of her first record's labels was released



with a misspelling, and the singer became officially known as Dionne Warwick.

Throughout her career, Dionne Warwick worked with some of music's best-known singers and songwriters. In this book, she writes about her early years and how she worked with Burt Bacharach and Hal David, and the "triangle marriage that worked" until it ended in lawsuits.

She writes about rivals: how Diana Ross never displayed to Warwick the attitude Ross is famous for; how Warwick "was through" with Barbra

Streisand and her seeming indifference towards her audience; and how young, up-and-coming female performers should dress better and with more class. She also writes about spoiling her cousin Whitney Houston, and supporting Houston's career goals.

Warwick writes of mistakes (the infamous "e" she added to her last name on the advice of an astrologist, then dropped) and triumphs (re-energizing her career after disco almost killed it). She also writes of her passionate wish for the cure of AIDS and her tireless work toward that end.

The problem with *My Life, As I See It* is that it suffers from the same malady as do so many other stars' autobiographies—that is, the seemingly incessant need to mention the names of every single person with whom the writer ever worked.

You can well imagine that, in her decades of performing, author Dionne Warwick worked with a lot of people. You can also imagine how tiresome it gets trying to slog through pages and pages of shout-outs and brief anecdotes. Warwick then goes further by acknowledging childhood friends, the likes of whom few readers will know or care about. Yes, there are some amusing stories in this book but finding them is a dual lesson in archaeology and spelunking.

I think, if you're a major, dyed-in-the-wool, long-time fan of Dionne Warwick, you might want to peek at *My Life, As I See It*. For the rest of us, though, just "Walk On By."

Want more? Look for *Say a Little Prayer* by Dionne Warwick and David Freeman Wooley; or *My Point of View* by Dionne Warwick.

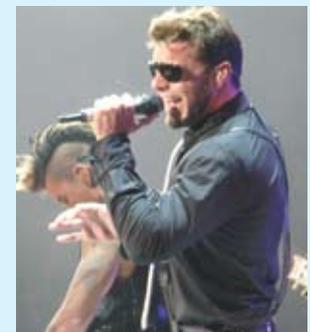
Stevie Nicks, Ricky Martin in town in April

Legendary singers Stevie Nicks and Rod Stewart will stop Saturday, April 9, at the United Center, 1901 W. Madison, as part of their joint tour.

In a press release, Stewart said, "With Stevie on board our audiences are in store for an evening of pure rock & roll music. I'm already thinking about which of my old favorites to bring back and, vocally, I think we've both begun thinking about which songs might be great fun and well-suited for a duet or two."

Also, out singer Ricky Martin will be local in April. He will appear at the Allstate Arena Tuesday, April 19, as part of his "Musica+Alma+Sexo" world tour. Tickets are \$40.50-\$126.50.

Tickets are available online at <http://www.LiveNation.com>.



Ricky Martin.
Photo by Jerry Nunn

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SPIRITUALITY

ANDREW HARVEY AT CENTER ON HALSTED MARCH 8TH, 2011. The evening will begin with a reception at 5:30P. Then at 7:00P, an hour-long presentation by Harvey on the reconciliation of the Divine Masculine and the Divine Feminine within ourselves. He will place special emphasis on how the separation of the Divine Masculine and Feminine directly impacts all genders and communities, especially the LGBT community. The lecture/presentation will be followed by an hour Q and A with the audience. **Tickets: www.mindfulmetropolis.com/andrewharvey or info@mindfulmetropolis.com or call 312-281-5199 x 7010 (3/2/11-2)**

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Auto Show wraps up



Gov. Pat Quinn (left) during his tour of the Chicago Auto Show. Photo from the show's website

The public exhibition of the Chicago Auto Show—North America's largest event of its kind—ended its run Feb. 20 at McCormick Place. It was the 103rd edition of the show.

The 2011 show spanned 1.2 million sq. ft. of the complex. There were multiple world and North American introductions and a complete range of domestic and imported passenger cars and trucks; sports-utility vehicles, experimental and concept cars. In all, approximately 1,000 different vehicles will be on display, plus hundreds of interactive, aftermarket, accessories and auto-related exhibits, competition vehicles, antique and collector cars.

Organizers estimate that the 10-day show experienced a 10-percent increase in attendance over last year.

Highlights were many. In addition to the massive exhibition, were Chicago Mayor Richard Daley regarding electric vehicle recharging infrastructure and even an announcement from Toyota about what the public selected as the plural of Prius ("Prii")—a term that Dictionary.com will now include. In addition, the black-tie affair First Look for Charity raised \$1.9 million, which will be split among 18 charities.

A lowlight occurred Feb. 16 when three men used razor knives and screwdrivers to rip the interiors of seven new Toyotas at the show, according to the Chicago Tribune. The attacks caused about \$30,000 in damage. The men, from Orland Park, damaged a Camry, a black Tundra,

a black Lexus ES350, a black RAV4, a black Land Cruiser, a blue Prius and a red Tundra. One of the three suspects had a gripe against Toyota; he was a Pontiac employee who claimed he did not like Toyota's union policies.

Next year's public show will take place Feb. 10-19, 2012.



An item at the Chicago Auto Show. Photo by Andrew Davis



The 2011 First Look for Charity. Photo from the Chicago Auto Show website

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WINDY CITY TIMES



Wed., Feb. 23

Working In the tradition of Studs Terkel, learn about local heroes through a vital new musical based on the book by Pulitzer Prize-winning author and Chicago's own Terkel. Adapted by Stephen Schwartz (WICKED, PIPPIN and GODSPELL) from the original adaptation by Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso, WORKING is the working man's A CHORUS LINE. WORKING celebrates everyday people in a genuinely funny and touching way, portrayed by some of Chicago's brightest stars, including E. Faye Butler, Barbara Robertson and Gabriel Ruiz. \$67.50-\$77.50. 7:30 p.m., 312-977-1710, Broadway Playhouse, 175 E. Chestnut, <http://www.broadwayinchicago.com>.

Palm Springs Summer Splash Cocktail Challenge America's Gay Oasis is once again seeking the best bartenders in 12 gay clubs nationwide, including Sidetrack in Chicago. 8 p.m., Sidetrack, 3349 N Halsted, <http://www.palmspringscocktails.com>

Thursday, Feb. 24

'80s Top-Shelf Night at Charlie's Charlie's features half price on any top shelf drinks you want. DJ Matt spins sweet 80 tunes till 4 a.m. 3 p.m., 773-871-8887, Charlie's, 3726 N. Broadway, <http://charlieschicago.com>

Lipstick Thursdays at Parlour Join Parlour for their weekly night devoted to the Ladies! There's plenty of libations, and love-lies surrounded by great music! 6 p.m., Parlour on Clark, 6341 N Clark, <http://www.parlouronclark.com>

Chicago Area GL Chamber of Commerce



REFLECTING ON OSCAR

Sunday, Feb. 27

Two Oscar galas will take place at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State, and the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted.

Photo from 2010 by Kat Fitzgerald

'BLACK' MAGIC Friday, Feb. 25

Woke Up Black will premiere at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State.

Photo from Mary Morten

Networking Event The first Mix & Mingle of 2011, \$20 for members and \$30 for non members; 6 p.m., 773-303-0167, Jack's On Halsted, 3201 N Halsted, <http://www.glchamber.org>

Speed Dating for Friends Perfect for those who have just moved to Chicago, relocated to a new part of town, or are just trying to spice up their social lives, Friend-Finder Speed Dating is an easy way to meet a lot of interesting people in a stress-free environment, \$12 at door, \$10 advance tickets online, info: lnemani@centeronhalsted.org; 7 p.m., Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, <http://www.centeronhalsted.org>

Friday, Feb. 25

Women of Concern Brigid Awards luncheon Concern Worldwide will hold its annual Women of Concern Brigid Awards luncheon honors three outstanding Chicagoland women for their exceptional achievements. The funds raised from this event will support Concern Worldwide's Maternal and Child Health programs in Haiti, Rwanda and Malawi. 11am, 312-431-8400, Renaissance Chicago Hotel, 1 W. Wacker, <http://www.concernusa.org>



The Art of Human Rights Annual silent and live art auction at an after-work party that offers artwork from emerging and established artists as well as Heartland Alliance program participants, benefiting Heartland Alliance's work. 6:30 p.m., Gruen Galleries, 226 W. Superior, <http://www.artofhumanrights.com>

LBTQ Women's Film Nite The Lesbian Community Care Project & SAGE (Center on Halsted) collaborate to bring you a 40+ women's film night. Join us for snacks & a great time! 7 p.m., Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted, <http://www.howard-brown.org>

London Invasion at Hydrate Hydrate and ChicagoPride.com Present: LONDON INVASION! Party London style with DJ Laura B as she spins your favorite UK and Britt hits until 4 a.m. Featuring a special Hydrag Review; 8 p.m., Hydrate, 3458 N. Halsted

Woke Up Black, a new documentary by Mary Morten The film follows five Black youth as they journey into adulthood. The opening-night premiere and party will be a benefit for the film's educational materials and outreach activities. Celebration at Petterino's Restaurant after the screening. 8 p.m., Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State, <http://www.wokeupblack.com>

Saturday, Feb. 26

USA Tour by Russian Gay Leader The Gay Liberation Network kicks off a national tour by Russian Gay leader Nikolai Alekseev and Andy Thayer. 2 PM at the Merlo Public Library, 644 W. Belmont Avenue, Chicago. 2 p.m., (773) 209-1187, Merlo Public Library, 644 W. Belmont, <http://www.gayliberation.net>

Lord of the Dance, the world's highest grossing Irish Dance show created by Chicago native Michael Flatley, performs at the Rosemont Theatre for two shows on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. 800-745-3000, Rosemont Theatre, 5400 N. River, <http://www.rosemonththeatre.com>

Amy Armstrong and Freddy Allen Live at Francesca's on Chestnut Join talented cabaret duo Amy Armstrong and Freddy Allen this Saturday at Francesca's on Chestnut, 8:30 p.m., Francesca's On Chestnut, 200 E Chestnut, <http://www.facebook.com/amyfreddy>

Urbano Clubhouse Productions presents Urbano Hip-hop for all, every Saturday night at Circuit. Music By DJ Kenae, DJ Corona and DJ Anton. \$5 cover before midnight with pass, \$10 after. 11 p.m., Circuit Night Club, 3641 N. Halsted, <http://www.circuitclub.com>

Sunday, Feb. 27

aChurch4Me MCC Worship Celebration The LGBTQ community's oldest and largest spiritual movement; 11 a.m., Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, <http://www.achurch4me.org>

Lambda Legal's Womens' Brunch Hear remarks by Jenny Pizer, Lambda Legal's National Marriage Project Director, and learn how you can support Lambda Legal in its fight for LGBT civil rights. Confirm your reservation by calling Carla at 312-663-4413; 11 a.m., 312-663-4413, Shaw's Crab House, 21 E Hubbard

Urban Village Church Wicker Park Worship Services LGBT welcoming worship services at Urban Village Church are eclectic and experiential, practical and intelligent, relevant and, hopefully, inspiring. 5:30 p.m., 1502 N. Hoyne (at LeMoynne), <http://www.newchicagochurch.com/>

2011 On the Red Carpet Oscar Party Walk the red carpet at the most glamorous Oscar Party in town! Join us at The Center for a silent auction, cocktails, buffet, and of course, the pre-show and Oscar telecast on many big screens. Attire is fun & fabulous! 6 p.m.: Red Carpet Pre-Show & Silent Auction 7 p.m.: Academy Awards Telecast; 6 p.m., 773-661-0788, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted, <http://www.centeronhalsted.org>

Oscar Party Party with the stars at Sidetrack. Win your chance to watch the show from the "Sidetrack Starbox": every hour, four people will win a chance to sip complimentary cocktails served up by the scandalous Golden Oscar Boys. 7 p.m., Sidetrack, 3349 N Halsted St, <http://www.sidetrackchicago.com>

Scissor Sisters/Haus Of Gaga pre-party A night of your favorite remixes with DJ Mann spinning after the Oscar party. Giveaways from Borderline Music and Pop On and On! \$4 Sky cocktail and \$6 Long Islands. 10 p.m., Parlour on Clark, 6341 N Clark, <http://www.parlouronclark.com>

Monday, Feb. 28

Wonka Ball 2011: Kick Off Party Join us as we kick off Wonka Ball 2011! This year, Wonka is a Royal Wedding, so we'll be throwing a wedding shower at Sidetrack in anticipation of the big day! 7 p.m., Sidetrack, 3349 N Halsted, <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=165060953542982>

Bayard Rustin screening Bayard Rustin a visionary strategist and activist who has been called "the unknown hero" of the civil rights movement, free screening co-sponsored by Chicago Urban League and WTTW-11, followed by post-screening discussion with filmmaker Bennett Singer. 7 p.m., Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, <http://www.centeronhalsted.org>

The Monster Ball Tour Starring LADY GAGA Tour extended, appearing with special guest Scissor Sisters 8 p.m., United Center, 1901 W. Madison, <http://www.livenation.com>

Tuesday, March 1

Gay Incorporated & Marriage, Policing, and War forum, Gender JUST A screening of the film Homotopia will precede the interactive forum on the current LGBT agenda and its impact on people of color, young people and low-income queers, focusing on the issues of same-sex marriage, policing through hate-crimes legislation and the issue of Don't Ask Don't Tell. info@genderjust.org. 6 p.m., Rudy Lozano Public Library, 1805 S. Loomis, <http://www.genderjust.org>

Raven Award for Excellence in Arts & Entertainment The 2011 Raven Award for Excellence in Arts and Entertainment will be presented to Award winning composer and lyricist Stephen Schwartz for; 7 p.m., 224-521-2491, Y-Bar, 224 W. Ontario, <http://www.ravenfoundation.org/details/29-the-2011-raven-award>



GOING GAGA

Monday, Feb. 28

Little Monsters will be crawling all over the United Center, 1901 W. Madison, when Lady Gaga (above) takes the stage.

Music Tuesdays: Free Lakeside Pride Symphony Orchestra concert The Unanswered Question; Grieg - Holberg Suite; Strauss - Serenade for Winds; Copland - Appalachian Spring Suite, part of a series, first Tuesday of the month through May. 7:30 p.m., Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, <http://www.lakesidepride.org>

Wed., March 2

Legacy Walk presentation at National Louis University Victor Salvo of The Legacy Project and Shannon Sullivan of the Illinois Safe Schools Alliance will speak to National Louis University GLBTQ Community about the outdoor museum exhibit to be dedicated Oct. 11 and the latest initiatives taken to meet the needs of GLBTQA students, RSVP to Gerri.Spinella@nl.edu; 5:30 p.m., 224-233-2297, Rm 5006, 122 S. Michigan

YES, I am Proud to Run! Fundraiser Fundraiser sponsored by YES Vodka at Sidetrack. Sponsor your favorite bartender, who'll be in "training" with appropriate gear and timed treadmill running; see the latest Nike running apparel, YES Vodka boys, drag queens, and door prizes. Proud To Run raises funds to help Chicagoland LGBT health and service organizations. It is presented in association with Front-runners/Frontwalkers Chicago, Chicago's LGBT running and walking club. 7 p.m., Sidetrack, 3349 N Halsted, <http://www.proudtorun.org>

Queer Social Club A no-attitude, casual evening for the Humboldt/Ukie Area LG-BTQ and their friends to come in, have drinks, meet new friends, mingle, etc. March 2nd marks our 1-year anniversary! 8 p.m., Archie's Tavern 2600 W. Iowa, <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10150094929770492>

Thursday, March 3

Great Gay Play Fest Pride Films and Plays presents staged readings of the five finalists in the Great Gay Play Contest. 7:30 p.m., 800-838-3006, Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, <http://pridefilmsandplays.com>

Friday, March 4

Chicago-Kent Lambda's First annual LGBT Civil Rights Conference Activist Art Johnston, owner of Sidetrack and a co-founder of Equality Illinois, will deliver the keynote address leading up to March 5 full-day of seminars at IIT Chicago-Kent related to LGBT issues (see calendar listing for March 5); 6 p.m., Michael Lew Gallery, 415 S. Sangamon, <http://www.cklambdas.com>

BILLY MASTERS

"I have seen some of the episodes. My niece, my young niece saw *Funny Girl* on DVD and said, 'How come you're singing so many songs from *Glee*?'—Streisand shares her thoughts on *Glee* When specifically asked if she would consider being on the show, she added, "Not if I can help it."

As you all know, I was just in London for some theatre, opera, and, oh yes, the BAFTAs. But I'm surprised I never ran into Prince Harry because, as it turns out, we travel in similar circles. On Saturday night, Harry was cavorting in a gay bar with drag queens and scantily clad men while I was trying to avoid running into Keira Knightley for the umpteenth time (no matter where I go in London she's there—like a stalker). I think Harry had the better night—he was at the popular Box Bar in SoHo celebrating a female friend's birthday. The group enjoyed the male strippers and female impersonators—to say nothing of quite a few beverages. When the Prince emerged at 3 a.m., his shirt was slightly undone and showed a bit of his ginger happy trail—which always makes us pretty happy.

Sticking with the UK, a waiter at a popular Chinese restaurant in SoHo just won a sexual-discrimination suit. The waiter (who happens to be gay and Chinese—not that it matters) claims that two male managers simulated sex acts in front of him and on sang "Like a Virgin" and kissed and fondled each other. It sounds like being at the Grammys—but is it sexual harassment? He also claims that a customer once tweaked his nipple and the manager asked "Did you like it?" I'm wondering what service he provided to provoke a customer to go anywhere near the nipple? I'm sure I've done it—but it's been established that I have boundary issues. He claims that the restaurant is very chilly and his thin uniform led to his nipples being erect. Part of the problem might be his type-2 diabetes: "My loss of weight leads me to look attractive but it brought me trouble as I suffered from sexual harassment from some duty managers. I was losing weight and, due to the tightness of the company uniform, a black T-shirt, my body figure was being shown." Oh, he's too thin and too attractive because of the diabetes. Who do I have to fuck to get that??? And, more importantly, where is this restaurant where waiters don't wear pants? The owner was ordered to pay £21,500 (\$40,000) for "lost earnings and injury to feelings." Maybe they should also send him some Sassy Nips! My feelings were hurt just reading this crap. Send me some cash.

With all the embarrassing stories that continue to surface about John Travolta's alleged gay tendencies, I am starting to believe that coming out could only help his reputation. The latest tale finds him openly flirting with a waiter—courtesy of the *National Enquirer*: "When John learned his studly server was an aspiring actor, he asked what projects he'd worked on, who represented him, etc.—and then flashed that award-winning smile and asked, 'Could you give me your phone number? I might be able to help you out.' The waiter told me it really bothered him that Kelly never even looked up at him—not once!" Well, you know, she is a Method actress!

Didya know Calvin Klein's latest boytoy, Nick Gruber/Aaron Skyline, almost appeared in *Playgirl*? Editor Daniel Nardicio said, "I had contacted him a long time ago about posing in *Playgirl*, before he was outed as a porn star. I kept trying to meet up with him and he kept blowing me off, with monosyllabic texts, yet he said he'd do *Playgirl* as long as he got the cover. Finally, in frustration I texted him to forget it, and he came back with 'You only want me because of my fame, so you can go fuck yourself.' To that I told him that in three years when Klein tired of



Nick Youngquest certainly makes sports worth watching.

blowing him, he'd be just another bottle blond looking for work, so he should be more respectful of people trying to give him work. He then texted, "Calvin is my partner—you don't understand because you don't have that. I am famous now, and people want me for my fame, and you should be careful 'cause of the people I know and what they could do to you." People want him for his fame? Really? WHO IS HE? A gay porn star/hustler who's trading sex for cash and reconstructive plastic surgery. I'm sorry, but I think it's about time someone called a whore a whore. He may not be in *Playgirl* but he's on *BillyMasters.com*. Come and get me...

Our "Ask Billy" question comes from Jeremy in San Diego: "You always know who the hottest men are. So what do you know about Nick Youngquest? I think he's an athlete, but I saw him in an underwear ad and WOOF!"

Nick Youngquest is an Australian rugby player—but, of course, we don't care about that. In 2006, he posed for the *Naked Rugby League Calendar*, which raised money for the National Breast Cancer Foundation. His shot as Mr. June 2007 immediately became a sensation as he was completely naked with his manhood partially covered by a strategically placed forearm. He was chastised by the National Rugby League, who said, "It's something we feel the publishers went too far with." Youngquest, however, had no problem with the nudity and said, "It is for a good cause, so, if it stirs any controversy, so be it." He has continued to stir all sorts of emotions in us with his second career as a male model. Cover shoots for gay magazines such as *Attitude*, *Têtu* and *DNA* followed, and he's enjoyed showing off even more of his body. (Our eagle eyes detect a sign of circumcision.) While not gay, he actively courts the attention (and affection) of the gay community. This past year, he indulged in some semi-flirtatious banter via Twitter with openly gay rugby player Gareth Thomas. The boys even took some photos when they met in a locker room. A variety of photos of Nick with Gareth and alone will be posted on *BillyMasters.com*.

When we're showing so much interest in sports, it's definitely time for me to end yet another column. Finally, I'm back in the States and spending a week (or two) frolicking in Florida. But I'm always updating *www.BillyMasters.com*—a site for sore eyes. If you have any questions, drop a note to me at *Billy@BillyMasters.com*, and I promise to get back to you before Travolta makes a reservation at that chilly Chinese restaurant! So, until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

Sunday, February 27

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Kevin Ciacco and Andre Rehkopf: Staying on track



Kevin Ciacco (right) and Andre Rehkopf. Photos courtesy of the couple

BY ROSS FORMAN

Andre Rehkopf slowly walked into Orchid's Restaurant at the prestigious Halekulani Hotel on Sunday night, Dec. 12, hours after completing the Honolulu Marathon. His partner of four years, Kevin Ciacco, was by his side, along with several Chicago friends who cheered on Rehkopf throughout his 26.2-mile journey to the finish line.

They had a view of the ocean from their table, with the picturesque sunset, and Hawaiian music in the background.

Paradise seemed perfect to pop the question.

So Rehkopf got down on one knee, slowly, still in pain from his four-plus hours running earlier that day, and proposed to Ciacco.

"I was very surprised," Ciacco said. "My hands couldn't stop shaking."

"I said, 'Yes,' right away and was so happy that he had done it with so many of our close friends there. I had no idea that he was planning on doing it either."

Rehkopf added: "He was immensely surprised, but immediately said yes. Everybody at the table congratulated us and all was just great. During dinner I saw Kevin looking at his ring; it was very endearing, as if he could not believe it."

Rehkopf and Ciacco are, sort of, the First Couple of Local Gay Runners.

Ciacco, 28, has run two marathons, each time fundraising to support the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC). He also completed his first triathlon in 2010 through AFC's Team To End AIDS (T2) endurance-training program. Plus, he ran the 2010 Monster Dash Half Marathon and completed the Ride For AIDS.

Rehkopf, 31, has run three marathons, including Chicago in 2009 and Honolulu also in 2008 to benefit AFC. And he too completed the 200-mile Ride For AIDS.

And, yes, they are planning a civil union for next summer in Illinois, if they are still living locally. Or a marriage in Rehkopf's native Germany, if they are living there at the time—but they want their Chicago friends to attend, regardless of where it is.

"Personally I would love to do [a civil union] in Chicago, but we are also talking about going back to Germany where Andre is from and getting married there. Maybe we will end up doing

both so people won't have to travel so much," Ciacco said. "We both love running and we love each other and are usually together. When one of us does a race the other usually signs up shortly after and we always start off together. I think that the running has brought us closer together. We have been there for each other when we are sore and tired, and have helped each other when one of us wanted to quit."

Rehkopf and Ciacco live together in Rogers Park. Rehkopf is a senior support scientist at Illinois Institute of Technology. Ciacco is the house manager of the CILA (Community Integrated Living Arrangement) Program for the Counseling Center of Lakeview.

"We met through a mutual friend while at Gentry [Bar] downtown," Ciacco said. "We started talking then, but nothing really happened. A few months later, we both ended up being designated drivers to drive our groups of friends to different parties that night. We spent the whole night together talking and dealing with our drunken friends. After that, we started going on dates, but did not decide to 'make it official' until [Rehkopf] knew that he would be in the States for awhile."

Their lives are intertwined with AFC and running, fundraising and T2. And plenty of love.

"I joined [the National AIDS Marathon Training Program] because of my friend Shaun Sperling. I had seen him out and he talked about how he was working with AFC and suggested that I give it a try," Ciacco said. "I had never run more than 8 miles at that point in my life, so I did not think I would be able to do it. I went home and thought about it for a long time. I finally decided to join—on the day that training was starting."

"I wanted to give back to the community in a new way. I wanted to make a commitment to a cause and push myself to try something that I didn't really think I would ever do. It was one of the best decisions I have ever made. Since then, I have stayed involved with different programs to raise money for AIDS funding and research. I have also met some of the most amazing people since joining in 2005."

In 2010, Ciacco raised about \$2,000 for AFC, bringing his overall total to about \$6,000. And he participated in T2's inaugural triathlon training program.

"I had always wanted to do a triathlon and seeing that T2 was offering a new program designed to get you ready to finish your first triathlon, I signed up the first day I could," Ciacco said. "It was an amazing process. I had never swam much and all I could do was doggie paddle. T2 and TriMonster taught me how to swim and really prepared me for the race. Now I swim once-a-week because I learned that it was something I was actually good at. I plan to do at least one triathlon a year now and would like to someday do a half Ironman."

"I know so many great people [through T2]. They offer great training programs and are very passionate about what they do."

Rehkopf has fundraised more than \$4,000 for AFC.

And this year's Honolulu race was his favorite.

"I was injured during my first marathon [in 2008] and had a really hard time finishing it. The 2010 Honolulu Marathon, meanwhile, was great. It did not rain like the [2008 race] and the course's scenery is just beautiful," Rehkopf said. "Getting up at 2 a.m. [since the race starts at 5 a.m.] sucks, but is so worth it. I always tear up when the fireworks are shot off, marking the start of the race. In the dark, running through Waikiki with a lot of people cheering ... amazing."



Rehkopf had several Chicago cheerleaders along the course in Honolulu, not just Ciacco. And also support from the T2 contingent from Los Angeles.

"It was great getting to cheer Andre on and to help push him along. I was very proud that he was able to cut over two hours off of his last marathon time," Ciacco said. "We sometimes [train together]. When we first started, we always ran together. This year, though, since I was training for a triathlon and he was training for a full marathon, we ran more apart than before. The farthest I had to run for the tri was six miles. And a six-mile run for him was pretty much a warm up."

So who's faster?

"Well, I'm faster at short distances, but Andre is better with the long distance running. I think

it's because he has much longer legs than me," Ciacco said, laughing.

Rehkopf said he is considering expanding his endurance-training to include a triathlon in 2011.

Ciacco said the keys to their success include honesty and communication. "Learning how to apologize and admit when you are wrong," is important, too, he said.

More about Andre Rehkopf and Kevin Ciacco:

—**Hobbies:** Kevin: Reading, line dancing, bicycling and playing video games; Andre: Working out, running, making music, reading and traveling

—**Favorite TV show:** Kevin: Glee. Andre: None

—**Favorite movie:** Spirited Away (Kevin), Atlantis (Andre)

—**Favorite actor or actress:** Jake Gyllenhaal (Kevin), Meryl Streep (Andre)

—**Little-known skill or trait:** Pottery (Kevin), whittling (Andre)

Gay softball series selects charity partners

The 35th annual Gay Softball World Series, which will take place in Chicago Aug. 29-Sept. 3, has chosen three local charity partners to benefit from the event's annual talent show: Howard Brown Health Center, Illinois Safe School Alliance and The Families' & Children's AIDS Network, according to a press release.

In addition to its focus on amateur softball competition, the series and its fundraising activities generate tens of thousands of dollars for charity. Series 2011 will donate 100 percent of the proceeds from its annual talent show—which will take place Wed., Aug. 31, at 8 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency O'Hare—to the three organizations.

Last year, the series donated \$11,000 to the Columbus AIDS Taskforce and Camp Sunrise (\$5,500 each).

Series 2011, Inc. is seeking volunteers, sponsors and donations (financial and in-kind). Visit <http://chicagoseries2011.com>.

LPL bowling event March 19

Lincoln Park Lagooners will hold a "Candlelight Bowl" Saturday, March 19, at Timber Lanes, 1851 W. Irving Park. Registration is at 8:30 p.m.; bowling starts at 9:30 p.m.

Two-person teams will compete, with a fee of \$30 per person. First prize is \$100, second is \$75 and third is \$50.

Reserve spots by March 12 at <http://www.LPLChicago.com> or 773-742-0793.

1st U.S. gay polo tourney held in Calif.

The First Annual U.S. West Coast Gay Polo Tournament was held Feb. 20 at the Eldorado Polo Club in Indio, Calif.

The event is organized by the Gay Polo League (GPL), which is based in Los Angeles, Calif. The league's mission is "to provide the GLBT community with the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to participate in a unique sporting activity, promote participation in amateur competitions, as well as foster, develop, support and recognize sportsmanship, fellowship and goodwill among the members," according to its website.

The International Gay Polo Tournament will take place Saturday, April 2, at the Grand Champions Polo Club in Wellington, Fla.

For more information, visit <http://www.gaypolo.com>.



Ballet dancer Jonathan Dummar



the stats

Age
27

Neighborhood
Boystown

Hometown
Reno, Nev.

Relationship status
Has been with his boyfriend for a year

Favorite snack food
Fresh produce

Dream destination
Mount Shasta

Hobbies
Reading, meditating, yoga, playing video games, going to Sidetrack's "Musical Mondays"

Favorite singer
Yolanda Adams

TEXT BY ANDREW DAVIS, PHOTOS BY ANDREW DAVIS (UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)

For Jonathan Dummar, becoming a dancer was a family affair: "My sister was taking dance lessons, and I was watching with my mom. It looked like a lot of fun and the teacher said, 'Come in here and try this.' I never left and had a fondness for it from the get-go. When I found it that you could have a legitimate career doing it, I knew it was what I wanted to do."

However, this was all back in Reno, Nev. Dummar took a circuitous route to get to Chicago and joining the world-famous Joffrey Ballet. He took summer courses in Seattle, Wash.; went to the Harid Conservatory in Boca Raton, Fla. (where he graduated first in his class); and danced with Ballet Memphis in Memphis, Tenn., before ending up in the Windy City.

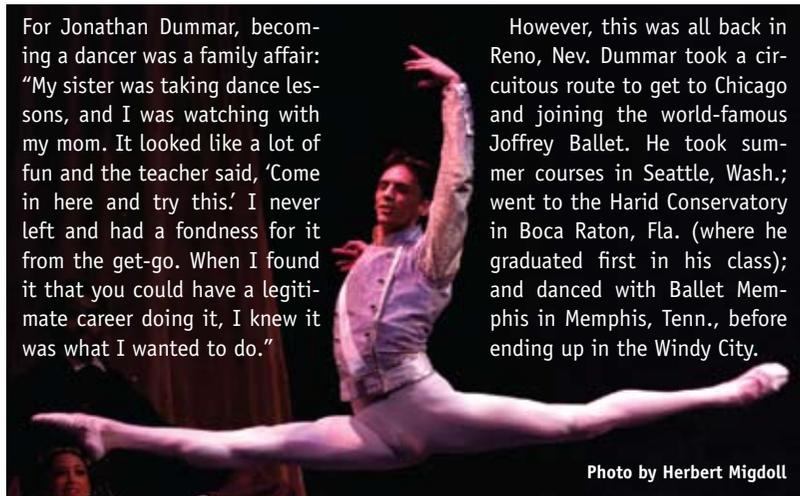


Photo by Herbert Migdoll

As for being out, Dummar said that a situation in boarding school helped him come to terms with his sexuality. ("It wasn't the first situation, but it was the first one where I was comfortable enough to admit it.") He added that "my mom still has issues with it because she wants grandkids—but she's met every guy I've called a boyfriend, and she's been gracious."

Dummar has been with the Joffrey for more than five years, meaning that he was here when Ashley Wheater became the company's artistic director (a development Dummar called "the great turnover"). "Honestly, I think he's done great things," Dummar said. "I can't complain about him at all. He's a wonderful human—so kind, so generous."

As for the company, it's currently performing The Merry Widow through Sunday, Feb. 27 at the Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress.

"[The Merry Widow] is fun; it's kinda more of a Broadway show than a ballet, but it's nice to have some levity now and again. I mean, we actually do the can-can at one point." However, Dummar is really looking forward to the Joffrey's spring show, "Rising Stars": "We're doing two world premieres as well as a Joffrey premiere with Julia Adam, whom I've had the pleasure of working with in Memphis. I'm so thrilled; I can't wait."

Dummar also teaches at the Academy of Dance. "I love teaching," he said. "Having students is such a good experience. It can make things so clear sometimes when you're trying to communicate what you're trying to achieve. I think the students also being taught by a professional—sometimes it brings in a more realistic perspective about what they're expected to do. The best thing is that knowledge is being passed down from generation to generation; it's nice to be able to share what you've learned, and to see that it makes a difference."

Lastly, with all the hype surrounding the Natalie Portman movie Black Swan, that flick begs the question: How realistic is that movie? "I actually think the competition factor is a little overstated," Dummar said. "No one wants to be doing these roles every night. We do 30 to 40 performances of The Nutcracker, and if I had to go out there and do the Cavalier 40 times, I'd be in the hospital. I think you're in competition with yourself. ... The director was probably the most ridiculous aspect of that movie."



Photo courtesy of Joffrey Ballet



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Ray J. Koenig III and Clark Hill PLC



Ray is a legal authority on all of his practice areas, which include probate, trusts, guardianship, estate planning, and elder law, including the litigation of those areas. He is a longtime advocate for and member of the LGBT community, and is involved in several charitable groups, community associations, and professional organizations. Ray is a member of Clark Hill PLC, a full-service law firm consisting of a diverse team of attorneys and professionals committed to our clients and our communities.

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April						1 PIT 1:20
					2 PIT 12:05	
3 PIT 1:20	4 AZ 1:20	5 AZ 1:20	6 AZ 1:20	7	8 MIL 7:10	9 MIL 6:10
10 MIL 1:10	11 HOU 7:05	12 HOU 7:05	13 HOU 7:05	14	15 COL 7:40	16 COL 7:10
17 COL 2:10	18 SD 7:05	19 SD 7:05	20 SD 1:20	21	22 LAD 1:20	23 LAD 12:05
24 LAD 1:20	25 COL 7:05	26 COL 7:05	27 COL 1:20	28 AZ 8:40	29 AZ 8:40	30 AZ 7:10

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 AZ 3:10	2 LAD 9:10	3 LAD 9:10	4 LAD 2:10	5	6 CIN 1:20	7 CIN 12:10
8 CIN 1:20	9	10 STL 7:05	11 STL 7:05	12 STL 1:20	13 SF 6:10	14 SF 6:10
15 SF 1:20	16 CIN 6:10	17 CIN 6:10	18 FLA 6:10	19 FLA 6:10	20 BOS 6:10	21 BOS 6:10
22 BOS 7:00	23	24 NYM 7:05	25 NYM 7:05	26 NYM 1:20	27 PIT 1:20	28 PIT 12:05
29 PIT 1:20	30 HOU 1:20	31 HOU 7:05				

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
June						1 HOU 1:20
					2	3 STL 7:15
5 STL 1:15	6 CIN 6:10	7 CIN 6:10	8 CIN 11:35	9 PHI 6:05	10 PHI 6:05	11 PHI 3:10
12 PHI TBD	13 MIL 7:05	14 MIL 7:05	15 MIL 7:05	16 MIL 1:20	17 NYY 1:20	18 NYY 3:10
19 NYY TBD	20 CWS 7:10	21 CWS 7:10	22 CWS 7:10	23	24 KC 7:10	25 KC 6:10
26 KC 1:10	27	28 SF 7:05	29 SF 7:05	30 SF 1:20		

May

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
July						1 CWS 1:20
					2 CWS 3:10	
3 CWS 1:20	4 WSH 12:05	5 WSH 6:05	6 WSH 6:05	7 WSH 6:05	8 PIT 6:05	9 PIT 6:05
10 PIT 12:35	11	12 ASG All-Star Game Previews	13	14 FLA 7:05	15 FLA 1:20	16 FLA 12:05
17 FLA 1:20	18 PHI 7:05	19 PHI 7:05	20 PHI 1:20	21	22 HOU 1:20	23 HOU 12:05
24 HOU 1:20	25	26 MIL 7:10	27 MIL 7:10	28 MIL 1:10	29 STL 7:15	30 STL 3:10
31 STL 1:15						

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 PIT 6:05	2 PIT 6:05	3 PIT 6:05	4 PIT 6:05	5 CIN 1:20	6 CIN 12:05	
7 CIN 1:20	8 WSH 7:05	9 WSH 7:05	10 WSH 7:05	11	12 ATL 6:35	13 ATL 6:10
14 ATL 12:35	15 HOU 7:05	16 HOU 7:05	17 HOU 1:05	18	19 STL 1:20	20 STL 3:10
21 STL TBD	22 ATL 7:05	23 ATL 7:05	24 ATL 7:05	25 ATL 1:20	26 MIL 7:10	27 MIL 6:10
28 MIL 1:10	29 SF 9:15	30 SF 9:15	31 SF 2:45			

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
September						1
					2 PIT 1:20	3 PIT 12:05
4 PIT 1:20	5 CIN 1:20	6 CIN 7:05	7 CIN 7:05	8	9 NYM 6:10	10 NYM 12:10
11 NYM 12:10	12 CIN 6:10	13 CIN 6:10	14 CIN 6:10	15 CIN 6:10	16 HOU 1:20	17 HOU TBD
18 HOU 1:20	19 MIL 7:05	20 MIL 7:05	21 MIL 1:20	22	23 STL 7:15	24 STL 12:10
25 STL 1:15	26 SD 9:05	27 SD 9:05	28 SD 9:05	29	30	

August

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