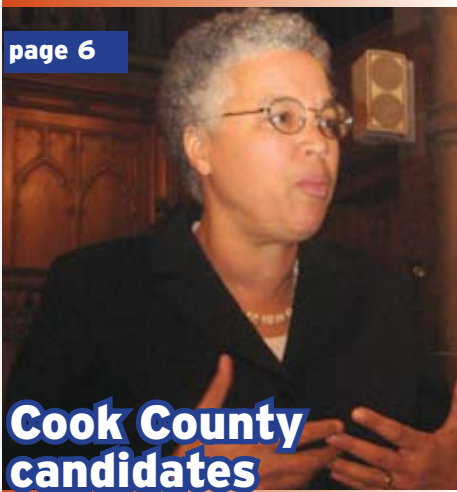


page 6

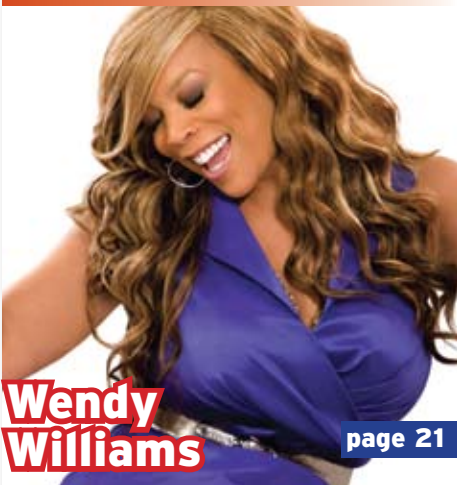


**Cook County candidates**

page 15



**Charles Busch in Chicago**



**Wendy Williams**

page 21

**nightspots**  
pick it up  
take it home

Windy City Times'

# 1000 AND UNDER

## Holiday Gift Guide

Week one of our two-week guide to affordable gifts for your loved ones this hectic holiday season  
**Pgs. 9-11**

## FBI: Hate crimes on the rise

BY SAMUEL WORLEY

New data collected by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) appears to show an increase in bias-motivated crimes—hate crimes—on the basis of sexual orientation in 2008. Crimes on the basis of religious prejudice may also be up sharply, although crimes based on racial prejudice—which still account for more than half of the 7,783 bias-related incidents reported—appeared to decline slightly.

Attached to the findings was an FBI note cautioning against identifying trends from year to year—the data is not collected systematically and can be subjectively reported. Because the number of agencies which voluntarily report to the Bureau changes from year to year, so can the numbers which it compiles in its reports—and the FBI cautioned that the apparent increase might be attributable to more agencies reporting than in previous years.

The data compiled showed an overall 2 per-

cent increase in bias-motivated incidents from 2007 to 2008, nationwide. The number of crime victims—classified as individuals, institutions, and property—was up slightly from 9,535 to 9,691.

The FBI collects data on bias-motivated crimes on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and disability. Under federal hate-crimes legislation recently signed by President Barack Obama, the bureau will begin to collect statistics on crimes against transgender people.

In Chicago, the FBI reported 31 total incidents: 13 on the basis of race, seven each motivated by anti-gay or anti-religious animus, and four on the basis of ethnicity. Houston, Texas—only slightly smaller than Chicago—reported 28 total incidents; Los Angeles, the next largest U.S. city, reported 168.

The FBI sorts hate-crimes data into three categories: incidents, offenses and victims. Incidents are defined as the overall situation in which one or more legal offense can occur. The

FBI tracks 11 types of potential bias-motivated offenses, including rape, assault, robbery and vandalism.

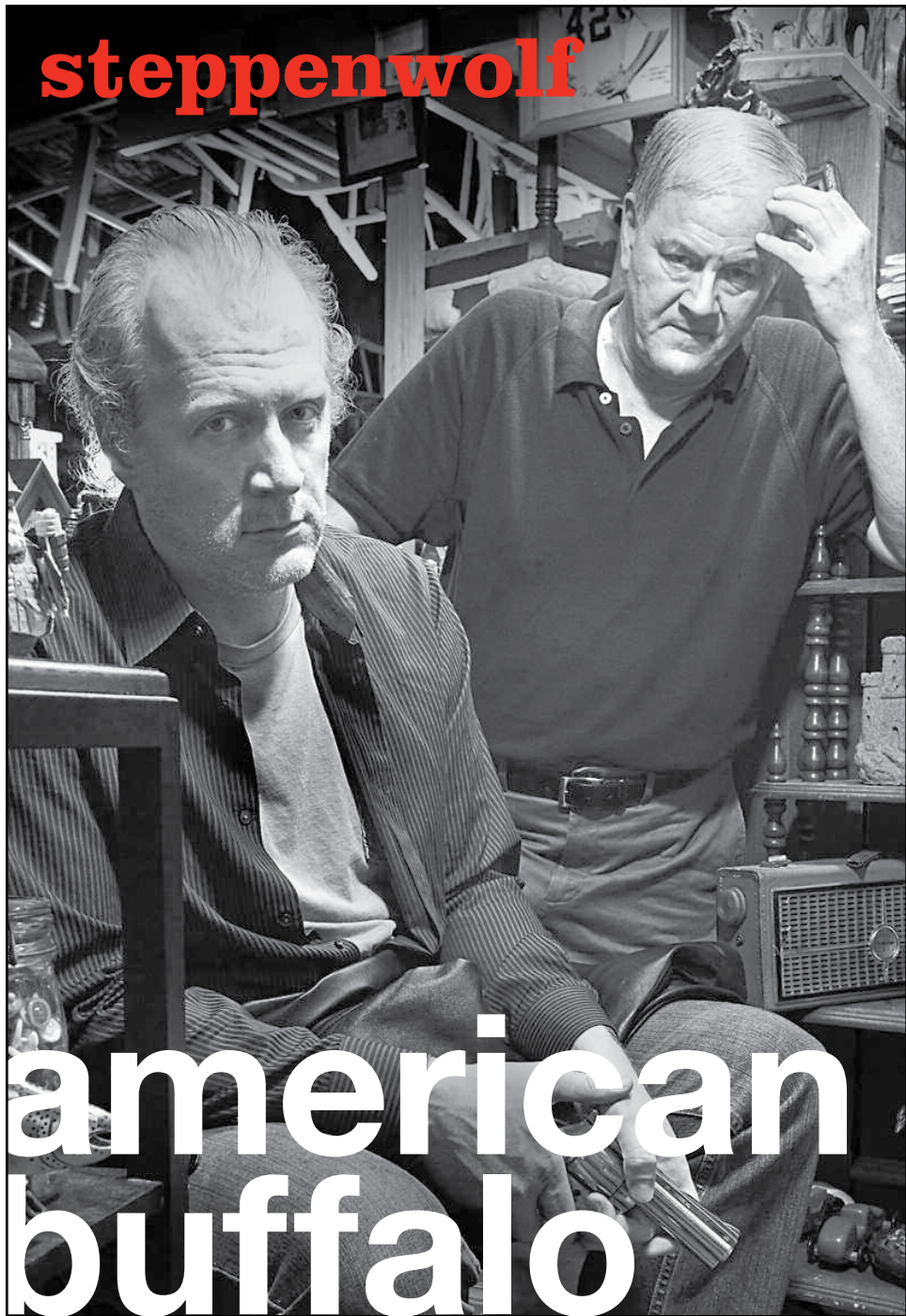
The parallel tracking methods also make it difficult to identify trends in the data. For instance, though the number of legal offenses on the basis of anti-gay prejudice were up nearly 11 percent in 2008, the number of discrete incidents appeared to increase only 2.5 percent.

And though the number of racially-motivated offenses declined slightly—by half a percent—the number of incidents rose more than three percent.

Moreover, the numbers are at odds with those released by other organizations which collect this sort of data. Earlier this year, for instance, the Chicago Commission on Human Relations said that it had collected information on 72 hate crimes in Chicago in 2008. And the Center on Halsted's Anti-Violence Project reported 125

Turn to page 5





# steppenwolf

# american buffalo

written by **David Mamet**  
directed by ensemble member **Amy Morton**  
featuring ensemble members **Francis Guinan** and **Tracy Letts** with **Patrick Andrews**

In a cluttered, run-down Chicago junk shop, three small time crooks plot to steal a valuable coin collection. As the heist unravels, the men's frustration and paranoia intensify. Ensemble member Amy Morton directs this groundbreaking American play that weaves humor and menace throughout an emotionally charged struggle for identity and dominance.

**Begins Thursday, December 3!**

December 3, 2009 - February 7, 2010

**American Buffalo Wine Tasting**

Wednesday December 23 at 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy varietals from Vinci's wine cellar paired with dishes like risotto and orzo salad from their gourmet kitchen in Steppenwolf's Balcony Lounge before the show. Tickets only \$60 for tasting & the show – one of the best deals in town! Please use code **5822** when ordering.

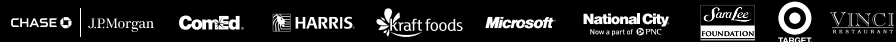
buy online at [steppenwolf.org](http://steppenwolf.org) or call **312-335-1650**.

Production Sponsor of *American Buffalo* **UNITED**

SEASON GRAND BENEFACTORS



SEASON BENEFACTORS



PRESENT

# Justice for All

2010 EQUALITY ILLINOIS GALA

ONE IMPORTANT NIGHT,  
ONE IMPORTANT CAUSE

## Gala

**SATURDAY JANUARY 23, 2010**

HILTON CHICAGO 720 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE

Starting at 6pm

COCKTAIL RECEPTION AND SILENT AUCTION  
DINNER, AWARDS PROGRAM AND DANCING  
BLACK TIE OPTIONAL - Valet Service and Self Park Available

## Premier Reception

**FRIDAY JANUARY 22, 2010**

A NEW LEAF 1820 NORTH WELLS

6-9pm For Premium Ticketholders

## Tickets

\$250 INDIVIDUAL

\$350 INDIVIDUAL PREMIER

Includes Special Seating and Admittance to Premier Reception

For more information or to purchase tickets  
call 773.477.7173 or visit [WWW.EQIL.ORG](http://WWW.EQIL.ORG)



All Gala proceeds will benefit the Equality Illinois Education Project, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent provided by law.

# WINDY CITY TIMES **index**

## NEWS

- Clinton urges stand 4
- Minn. lesbian couple 4
- Local: Forum on Hunters 4
- Passages: Gallup, Smith 5
- FBI hate-crime statistics 5
- Cook County candidates 6
- Thanksgiving delivery 6
- Quotelines 7
- Views; letter 8

## ENTERTAINMENT

- Holiday Gift Guide 9
- Charles Busch 15
- Theater 16
- Cameron Esposito 16
- KATM: DVD gifts 17
- Billy Masters 19
- Wendy Williams 21

## OUTLINES

- Calendar Q 18
- Real estate; classifieds 20
- Sports: Cleveland 22

Cover photos and credits (from top): Photo of Toni Preckwinkle by Meghan Streit; Photo of Charles Busch (left) and Julie Halston courtesy of Victory Gardens Biograph Theater and Busch; Wendy Williams photo by Amy Etra



Lesbian comic Cameron Esposito, who is recording a live CD this week, is profiled. See page 16.

Rendering courtesy of Cameron Esposito



The theatrical production Perseus and Medusa (above) is reviewed this week. See page 15.

Photo courtesy of the Piccolo Theatre

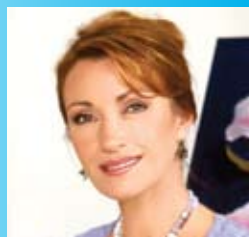
**DOWNLOAD THIS!**  
 Go to [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com) to download complete issues of Windy City Times and Nightspots.  
 Then click on any ad and be taken directly to the advertiser's Web site!

**nightspots**  
**WORLD OF CHOCOLATE**  
 Photo by Randy Pubert

[www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)  
**ONLINE INDEX**

### NUNN OF THE ABOVE

WCT's Jerry Nunn talks with Jane Seymour (right) and dog whisperer Cesar Millan, who are both coming to town.



PR photo

### OUT IN LEBANON



Matt French's (left) series about being in the Middle East continues with this round-up of an average day.

Photo courtesy of Matt French

### 'HOLIDAY' SPIRIT

Pop Making Sense offers various CD possibilities for the holidays, including Kathy Griffin's 'Suckin' It for the Holidays.' (right)



**ACTRESS JACKIE HOFFMAN SHOW# 341**  
**WindyCity Queercast**  
 www.WindyCityQueercast.com

**QueerTV Network**  
**CHECK OUT OUR VIDEO CHANNEL FOR NEW VIDEOS WEEKLY**  
 www.QueerTVNetwork.com



Barbara Heinrich Studio

**4 DAYS ONLY**  
**Dec 3-6**

Chicago's most **oneofakind** time of the year.



# oneofakind

Show and Sale® **Chicago**

Shop for unique gifts from more than 500 artists, artisans and designers.

**The Merchandise Mart**  
**Open to the public**

- Thurs** Noon - 9pm **Opening Day**
- Fri** 11am - 9pm
- Sat** 10am - 7pm
- Sun** 10am - 5pm

Adults \$12 | Seniors & Students \$9 | Children 12 & under Free

For details and tickets visit:  
[oneofakindshowchicago.com](http://oneofakindshowchicago.com)

Sponsored By



PRODUCED BY MMPI



Bill Clinton. Photo by Ralph Alswang

## Clinton: U.S. must 'stand against' bias in fighting HIV

BY LISA KEEN  
KEEN NEWS SERVICE

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said Nov. 30 the U.S. government must "stand against any efforts" to discriminate against the LGBT community worldwide.

The remark came during a ceremony to mark World AIDS Day, which is observed Dec. 1 every year. The ceremony was held at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, which houses White House administrative offices.

Clinton used the occasion to announce that the International AIDS Society has agreed to hold its 2012 International Conference on AIDS in Washington, D.C.—the first time the preeminent AIDS conference has been held here since 1989.

The first International Conference on AIDS was held in 1984 in Atlanta, home of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The conference was held in San Francisco in 1989, but was banned from the United States following that conference, because the U.S. had passed a law prohibiting people with HIV infection from traveling to this country.

Jeffrey Crowley, the openly gay director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy, said President Obama is "thrilled" the International Conference will be held in Washington in 2012.

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said that ending the ban on HIV immigration and enabling the conference to take place in the United States "shows our commit-

ment to fighting this epidemic and the stigma surrounding it."

"Now is the time to redouble our efforts, not just abroad, but here at home, where HIV/AIDS still infects 56,000 and kills 14,000 Americans each year," said Sebelius. "That's why my department is devoting new energy and resources to reduce the spread of HIV, improve treatments for people with AIDS, and eliminate HIV-related health disparities here in the U.S."

President George W. Bush signed legislation in 2008 to end the statutory ban on people with HIV entering the U.S. President Obama on October 30 directed the Department of Health and Human Services to end its long-standing policy of banning people with HIV from the U.S. The new policy will take effect beginning early next year, said Clinton.

At the press event, Eric Goosby, the president's U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, noted that it has been 20 years since the last International Conference on AIDS was held in the United States—in San Francisco.

Sebelius noted that the Obama administration was launching a new HIV education campaign—the first for the United States in 20 years. The new campaign is critical, she said, to address the continued spread of HIV in this country. In 2005, she said, the CDC found that almost half of all African-American gay men in five major U.S. cities are HIV positive.

Clinton noted that discrimination against LGBT people and others have hampered many efforts at HIV outreach and treatment, making the fight against discrimination important to the fight against HIV.

Discrimination against LGBT people, she said, is "an unacceptable step backwards" in the fight for human rights generally "and undermines the effect of efforts to fight disease worldwide."

©2009 Keen News Service

## Minn. lesbians to mark 30 years

Karen Thompson and Sharon Kowalski—a St. Cloud, Minn., lesbian couple—will mark their 30th anniversary with a Dec. 5 event in the in Atwood Memorial Center's Cascade Room at St. Cloud State University, according to a press release.

Kowalski and Thompson lived as a couple for four years when Kowalski was struck by a drunk driver and sustained a traumatic brain injury. Kowalski's parents then learned of their daughter's relationship with Thompson—and Kowalski's father assumed guardianship of his 27-year-old daughter, despite her requests to be placed in Karen's care. Kowalski's father moved her to

a nursing home 200 miles away from Thompson, who was denied visitation rights.

With the support of several LGBT rights, women's rights and disability-rights groups, Thompson began an almost-decade-long legal battle to bring Thompson home, in a groundbreaking situation. In 1993, Kowalski returned home with Thompson.

To read a more detailed account about Kowalski and Thompson, visit [windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=15473](http://windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=15473).

## LOCAL NEWS

### Forum held on Hunters' ID policy

BY STEVEN CHAITMAN

The T-Storm Coalition for Gender Justice organized a forum Nov. 23 to discuss the new door policy at Hunters Nightclub in Elk Grove Village that supposedly targets transgender individuals.

Prominent figures and concerned citizens in both the Chicago trans and greater LGBT community gathered at the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, for the discussion, which was moderated by openly gay state Rep. Greg Harris, D-Chicago. Among the topics addressed were the reasons for the change in policy and which laws, if any, defend it.

Hunters' management was invited to the forum but were not present. Instead, they provided a written statement that was read aloud at the meeting. Part of the statement, as follows, addresses the legal aspect of the policy.

"Without our true and steadfast dedication to the laws that govern our industry there would be no place in the northwest suburbs for the LBGTQ community to assemble and enjoy a safe environment," the statement read. "If these laws seem discriminatory, it is not our intention. These laws are in place to stop underage drinking and every retail liquor establishment must follow these laws, not just Hunters. This is NOT Hunters Nightclubs Elk Grove's policy, it is the law."

Management from local LGBT nightspots Big Chicks and Roscoe's were present at the meeting and addressed this particular point.

"Our concern is, 'Are you over 21?'" said Michelle Fire, owner of Big Chicks. "That's the real key. Not what you dress like, not what you look like, not what gender you appear to be. [Trans ID] hasn't been an issue. In the history of the business everybody has always looked different. It's not like there's a cookie-cutter version of any of us, so I think this issue is kind of strange to come up at this point."

In a previous Windy City Times story about the Hunters' ID controversy, manager Peter Landorf said the law is that the look must match the ID, which is an obvious obstacle for any patron who goes out in a look that is not permanent. Landorf also said that issues with sexual solicitation on the Web site Craigslist involving Hunters and indecent exposure prompted the tightening of the policy.

Members of T-Storm and their advisor—Rick Garcia, political policy director of Equality Illinois—as well as Harris were not aware of any law or legal precedent that upholds Hunters right to turn down anyone whose look is not identical to their ID photo. The Human Rights Act, however, is inclusive of the transgender population, stating one cannot take into consideration a person's sexual orientation or gender identity in housing, employment and public accommodations.

"[Equality Illinois is] very concerned that everyone be treated fairly and equitably in the great state of Illinois, nothing more or nothing less," Garcia said. "You can't have a different set of rules for different groups of people. We're committed also to helping business and public accommodations understand what they can and cannot do under the law."

Discussion leaders also felt prostitution was

ONLINE AT  
WINDYCITYMEDIAGROUP.COM  
NATIONAL NEWS



—Lambda Legal's  
suit against cops

—GOP Mass. gov.  
hopeful chooses  
gay running  
mate  
(left)

a separate issue that Hunters is responsible for policing within their establishment. The pressing concern, they said, is that the policy appears to be applied arbitrarily.

On Oct. 23, members of T-Storm and others totaling 40 people attempted to enter Hunters in drag. According to Kate Sosin and other T-Storm organizers, many were let in with looks that didn't match their IDs, although two were turned away in the initial group and a few who tried to get in later in the night reported much later that they had also been denied entry.

One member who was turned away was Aidan Tharp, a 22-year-old grad student who went to Hunters in a dress, a brunette wig, some make-up and a female ID. Tharp says he then changed out of his drag clothes and approached the same doorman who turned him away earlier and at that point was allowed in the club.

"If this is supposed to be a law or standard, it's not being applied consistently," said T-Storm organizer Christina Kahrl.

Many voiced concern over the arbitrary timing of the policy as well. Hunters has existed for 27 years and has served the trans community for much of that time.

"This has been a safe place for us to gather for many, many of those [27] years," said Helena Bushong, T-Storm organizer and transgender health advocate. "Why now? Why now is this policy being instituted, and I might add again, inconsistently? Why is it after 25 years of participating in their business and being a safe place for gender variant people they can't come to us, even today they can't come to us, and talk to us?"

"Hunters Nightclub is one of our bars, and we're invested in it, in keeping it a safe place," Sosin said.

T-Storm and other organizations—including the Gay Liberation Network, Join the Impact-Chicago, The Bilerico Project, Genderqueer Chicago and the Straight and Gay Alliance Ministry—endorse a boycott of Hunters until the club makes a concerted effort to work toward a change in the policy or the way it is currently implemented.

Chicago Gender Society (CGS) President Jackie Perry was also at the forum. Hunters has sponsored the CGS float at Chicago's annual pride parade in the past as well as solicited through the organization's newsletter. Perry said she was stunned and disturbed by news of this policy and, consequently, CGS has stopped accepting money and withdrawn all advertising for the nightclub.

T-Storm, Garcia and Harris all encouraged anyone who has felt discriminated against by Hunters to file a complaint with either or both the Illinois and Cook County departments of Human Rights.

The meeting ended with Sosin calling for solidarity on the issue and an end to the notion of the "T" in LGBT being silent. Organizers also stressed the importance of reaching out to the "L," "G" and "B" for support if any change is to occur.

## PASSAGES The Rev. Grant Gallup

Pioneering minister the Rev. Grant Gallup passed away Nov. 26 of heart failure. He was 77.

According to Louie Crew ([queereye4lectionary.blogspot.com](http://queereye4lectionary.blogspot.com)), Gallup was a charter member of Integrity's first chapter, in Chicago, and served as chaplain to that chapter. For several years in the 1970s and '80s, Gallup edited Integrity Forum. For many years he was vicar of St. Andrew's on the near West Side of Chicago, and since about 1988 he had been a missionary in Managua, Nicaragua, where he founded Casa Maria.

Gallup wrote frequently for The Witness and other progressive journals.

In 1976 he was president of the Episcopal liturgists association. His liturgical reflections, *Homily Grits* (2000-2007; [andromeda.rutgers.edu/~lcrew/homilygrits/index.html](http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~lcrew/homilygrits/index.html)) remains very popular.

Gallup was known affectionately by his close friends as Sister Mary Rattle Beads, and rattle them he did. He was one of the first out priests in the USA, speaking on the Studs Terkel radio program.

Crew added, "I remember asking Grant how those at St. Andrew's were dealing with his openness. [Gallup said,] 'The same way I deal with theirs. When someone's son was arrested for using crack, Grant was there to help the family cope. When someone needed groceries to make it to the end of the month, Grant was there for them. His larder was never empty. On some days half the block seemed to show up in his dining room for a meal. He had the gift of endless, joyful hospitality. He kept polished the silverware.

Few people have influenced me as much as Grant. I loved him dearly. He taught me much about justice and about courage. He was a strong

friend when I had few. He constantly pointed me to gospel imperatives. He eschewed pettiness."

## PASSAGES Eddie Smith

Eddie Mikel Smith, for years a familiar figure to late-night patrons of North Halsted Street's gay-bar scene, died suddenly Nov. 17. He was 52.

Smith worked for Little Jim's, North Halsted's oldest gay bar, for more than 15 years, greeting patrons at the door, keeping a watchful eye on the streets outside and helping more than a few late-night customers find a safe way home.

"He was a very generous and giving person," said Barry Allen, Smith's longtime friend and roommate. "I don't think anybody ever had anything bad to say about him."

In recent years, Smith worked the busy weekend nights at Little Jim's door.

"He really knew how to handle people," Allen said. "And he had a wonderful sense of humor."

Smith also was known to his friends for his love of cooking and sharing food; his potato salad was a staple of Little Jim's anniversary celebrations.

"When I walked in today, I was just thinking about all the things I would depend on him for, stuff I wouldn't even give a second thought to because I knew Mikel would take care of it," said Little Jim's manager Jeff Morgan. "I can't replace him. He was just a really great guy."

Smith grew up in Bridgeport but had lived much of his adult life on the North Side.

He is survived by his mother, Flora Manning; sisters Janel Smith, Judy Manning and Kristie Manning; brothers Bruce, Carl and Vernon Smith; and numerous nieces and nephews. One sister, Andra Manning, preceded Smith in death.

In accordance with Smith's wishes, no funeral service was scheduled.

## State Senate forum Dec. 2

The candidates for the 7th District seat in the Illinois Senate—Democratic incumbent Heather Steans, Democratic challenger Jim Madigan and Republican challenger Adam Robinson—will participate in a town-hall forum Wed., Dec. 2, at Loyola University's Damen Hall/Finnegan Auditorium, 6430 N. Kenmore, 5-7 p.m.

The Loyola College Republicans and Loyola College Democrats are sponsoring the event. E-mail [svera@lucollegerepublicans.com](mailto:svera@lucollegerepublicans.com) and [LSTRZEP@luc.edu](mailto:LSTRZEP@luc.edu).

## HATE from cover

incidents of anti-gay crime alone in 2008.

The Commission on Human Relation's data is collected through the Chicago Police Department; and the COH program is part of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP). In a press release earlier this year, the NCAVP said that the reason for the discrepancy between its data and the FBI's was that the FBI relies on local law enforcement agencies only, while the NCAVP looks at victim service organization data.

Rick Garcia, director of public policy for Equality Illinois, said that the FBI numbers were underreported. "Oftentimes," Garcia said, "victims of hate crimes are reluctant to report it. ... It's embarrassing and you don't want people to know"—particularly when that means coming out to family, for instance, to whom a victim is not out.

He also said that certain jurisdictions—he used locales in southern Illinois as an example—can also be "lax" about reporting hate crimes. Those crimes, then, are doubly underreported. "Whenever I see hate-crime statistics," Garcia said, "[I] multiply it by 10."

"It's extremely important for these numbers to be collected," he said, "but the reality is

## BEHIV art-therapy show through Dec. 4

Better Existence with HIV (BEHIV) is exhibiting its art-therapy items through Friday, Dec. 4, at Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted. The event kicked off with a reception Nov. 4.

BEHIV's art-therapy program aims to help people struggling with the emotional stress of an HIV-positive diagnosis.

See [www.behiv.org](http://www.behiv.org).

that hate crimes are underreported."

Bill Dobbs, a longtime gay activist and civil libertarian, downplayed the usefulness of hate crimes statistics. "These are crime incident statistics," said Dobbs, who is based in New York City. "And what crime incident statistics do is that they activate very deep emotions in people."

Dobbs said that reports like the FBI's contain "raw crime statistics" that don't take into account the entirety of the legal process that follows the alleged crime. "Was there a police investigation? Was there an indictment?" Removing the crimes from their contexts, Dobbs said, "feeds a climate of anxiety about crime."

In terms of the broader community response to hate crimes, Dobbs criticized the emphasis on enhanced criminal penalties supported by some LGBT groups, and included in most hate-crimes legislation. (Chicago, for instance, considers hate crime to be a Class 4 felony; state-wide, "hate" can be considered an aggravating factor in sentencing.)

"You can't solve a social problem with law and order," he said. "I think we have to start being smarter about this. There's a difference between vengeance and justice."

**The Mystery of Irma Vep**  
by CHARLES LUDLAM Directed by SEAN GRANNEY

★★★★★  
-Time Out Chicago

★★★½  
-Chicago Tribune

"Court Theatre ... has a winner."  
"You will laugh your face off."  
"... a show as deft, well-timed and polished as a discriminating vampire fang meeting its mark."  
—Chris Jones, *Chicago Tribune*

Professional Theatre at  
**court**  
THEATRE  
the University of Chicago

**NOW PLAYING**  
Student Tickets \$24  
for ALL performances!  
*One per student with valid ID. Not valid on previous purchases.*

**(773) 753-4472**  
**CourtTheatre.org**

Group, Student, Senior Discounts Available  
5535 S Ellis Ave, Hyde Park • FREE Parking

Sponsored by  
Grant Thornton  
WINSTON & STRAWN  
LLP

Photo of Erik Hellman and Chris Sullivan (Brosilow)



Toni Preckwinkle at the candidates' meeting. Photo by Meghan Streit

## County board candidates vie for gay vote

BY MEGHAN STREIT

Three of the four candidates for Cook County Board president spoke to the LGBTQ community Nov. 29 at a forum hosted by the Social Justice Alliance of Affinity Community Services, which includes Affinity, Coalition for Justice and Respect, Windy City Black LGBT Pride and Youth Pride Services.

Cook County Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown, Chicago Alderman Toni Preckwinkle and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago President Terrence O'Brien attended. Current Cook County President Todd Stroger was absent, although forum organizers said he was expected to be there. Affinity Executive Director Kim Hunt said she had not received any word from Stroger's office about why he failed to show up as planned.

U.S. Rep. Danny Davis, D-7th, who recently dropped out of the race for county board president, moderated the discussion.

Brown, Preckwinkle and O'Brien answered questions about their views on the controversial Cook County sales tax; funding to treat and prevent sexually transmitted infections (STIs); violence against LGBTQ people; and their goals for their first 90 days in office.

Brown said she would work to "strategically lower the county's sales tax, while replacing it with new revenue and lower expenses." She said hiring collection agencies and entering into advertising contracts might be solutions to generate new revenue.

## Holiday delivery



Vital Bridges/Open Hand marked the 20th year of delivering Thanksgiving meals to people with HIV/AIDS donated by Ald. Tom Tunney and his Ann Sather Restaurant on Belmont. Lori Cannon and Tunney, co-founders of the program, were joined by volunteers Jay Cook and Jason Hendrix, plus restaurant employee Will Hope. Left: Hendrix, Cook, Cannon and Tunney get cooking. Right: Tunney, Cannon, Hope and Hendrix serve up the meals. Photos by Hal Baim

"We will work on finding revenue without raising taxes," Brown said.

Preckwinkle said she also supports an elimination "over time" of Stroger's penny-on-the-dollar sales tax increase. She spoke out strongly in favor of making permanent the independent board that was created last year to oversee the Cook County Health & Hospitals System.

"The independent governance board of the healthcare system has already proven itself," Preckwinkle said, pointing to cost savings since the board was created.

O'Brien took a more aggressive stance on the sales tax than his opponents. "The first thing I would do is repeal the 1 percent sales tax increase," he said.

O'Brien said the higher sales tax has driven businesses out of the county and taken jobs away from residents. He also said he would consider alternative sentencing for non-violent offenders like home confinement and electronic monitoring to cut costs and reduce the population at Cook County Jail.

When asked how he'd ensure equitable distribution of funding among Cook County communities to treat and prevent STIs, O'Brien said he would look to organizations like Affinity and AIDS Foundation of Chicago for guidance. "What we need to do in county government is work with community groups," he said.

O'Brien also said he'd work to improve medical bill collections and would pursue state and federal grants for health care.

Brown said she would "want to make sure re-

sources are properly allocated to the communities that need them most." She said she issued her own executive order against discrimination at the clerk's office and pointed out that she has received awards from African-American and LGBTQ community groups.

"I have a history of helping in this area and I will continue to do that," she said.

On the broader issue of county health care, Brown said she would strive to work closely with the Department of Public Health. She also said she would try to increase funding for medical testing, referrals and prevention.

"I'm going to create a grants and research department to make sure we're going after every grant that is available," Brown said.

Preckwinkle said she would emphasize prevention of STIs, particularly in the African-American community. "STIs aren't prevalent in equal proportion among the different ethnic groups in Chicago," she said.

She also applauded Cook County's Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center, and said she would try to ensure the center continues to receive adequate funding.

All three candidates said they would work to prevent violence against LGBTQ people.

Brown said she would form an advisory committee of community groups to solicit advice on curtailing violence against LGBTQ people. She said hate crimes based on sexual orientation, like domestic violence, can be reduced with education and training for law enforcement.

"We have to raise awareness, just like with

domestic violence—law enforcement didn't take that seriously a few years ago," Brown said.

O'Brien said that first we have to encourage LGBTQ victims to report attacks. "Then we have to work with the State's Attorney to send the message that we will not tolerate hate crimes," he said.

Preckwinkle similarly emphasized the importance of "vigorous" prosecution of hate crimes. But, she added that she would use her post as Cook County board president to raise awareness about violence and discrimination against LGBTQ people.

"The president of the Cook County board should use the position as a pulpit to ... stand up for equality for all of our citizens," she said.

Preckwinkle also said she is the only candidate for county board president who supports the legalization of same-sex marriage. Brown and O'Brien both said they support civil unions.

## Gay priest in Oak Park Dec. 5-6

Openly gay South African priest Robert Taylor will be at Grace Church, 924 Lake, Oak Park, on Saturday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 6, at 10:30 a.m. There is a suggested donation of \$10 for both appearances.

Taylor, mentored by Bishop Desmond Tutu, is the author of *I'm Spiritual Not Religious: Your Guide to an Ethical Life*.

See [www.GraceOakPark.org](http://www.GraceOakPark.org) or call 708-386-8036. For more about Taylor, visit [www.RobertVTaylor.com](http://www.RobertVTaylor.com).

## Gay History Project holding Photo Days

The Chicago Gay History Project will be holding community photo days Thursday, Dec. 17, 2-7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 19, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; and Tuesday, Dec. 22, 12-4 p.m.

There will be individual head shots as well as group photos. No reservations are needed.

Photos will be posted at [www.ChicagoGayHistory.org](http://www.ChicagoGayHistory.org), a project by Windy City Times Publisher Tracy Baim.

## Vital Bridges brunch Dec. 6

Vital Bridges will hold its 20th-anniversary brunch at the Four Seasons Hotel's Grand Ballroom, 120 E. Delaware, on Sunday, Dec. 6, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

The brunch has raised more than \$1.5 million to provide food, housing and counseling to those most in need.

Robert S. Mayo will be posthumously awarded the 2009 Food for Life Award. In addition to the brunch, there will be a raffle (with \$100 tickets) for the chance to win \$10,000.

Tickets start at \$250 each. Call 773-665-1000 or visit [www.VitalBridges.org](http://www.VitalBridges.org).



Have your premiums increased recently?

See me:  
**Charles T. Rhodes,**  
Agent  
2472 N. Clark  
**773.281.0890**

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company  
(not in NJ)  
State Farm Indemnity Company (NJ)  
Home Offices: Bloomington, Illinois

Thursday, Dec. 10  
7:30 p.m.  
**Janice Metzger**  
*What Would Jane Say?*

Sunday, Dec. 13  
5:30 p.m.  
**Sara Paretsky**  
*Hardball*  
**Libby Fischer Hellman**  
*Doubleback*  
**Chanukah Celebration**



5233 N. Clark  
(773) 769-9299

**WOMEN & CHILDREN FIRST**  
FEMINIST BOOKS - CHICAGO

wcfbooks@aol.com  
[www.womenandchildrenfirst.com](http://www.womenandchildrenfirst.com)  
Parking Available  
Wheelchair Accessible

Select Italy Travel

- Custom Trip Planning
- Honeymoons
- Vacation Packages
- Privately Guided Tours
- Museum, Opera & Theater Tickets
- Hotels, Villas & Apartments

IGLTA

Your Italian travel experts since 1997

303 W. Erie Suite 410  
Chicago, IL 60654  
[www.selectitaly.com/wct](http://www.selectitaly.com/wct)  
800-877-1755

# QUOTELINES

BY REX WOCKNER

**"STRAIGHT PEOPLE, THEY'RE NOT SO INTERESTED IN US.** They really aren't. And part of it is that to them gay equals a sexual act. The other part of the problem is gay equals not them, therefore not interested. I find this with my extremely enlightened straight friends, they still don't quite have a handle on the best reason for legalizing gay marriage, which is those thousand civil rights that just automatically transfer with a heterosexual marriage license from state to state. It takes some explaining to them to show how ludicrous it is to set up a crazy quilt America where some states have gay marriage and some states don't, because if I get married and then by some misfortune move back home to Oklahoma, my rights don't come with me." — *Openly gay Washington Post TV critic Hank Stuever to the D.C. gay magazine Metro Weekly, Nov. 5.*



**I am a fantastically good partner in all things sexual.**

—Margaret Cho



**"I AM A FANTASTICALLY GOOD PARTNER IN ALL THINGS SEXUAL.** I am tireless and enthusiastic and very flexible both physically and emotionally. I am a good time." — *Honorary-homosexual comedian Margaret Cho to the Palm Springs gay magazine The BottomLine, Oct. 23.*

**"WE ARE FOOLS TO HAVE SPENT ALL THIS MONEY AND TIME** (on same-sex marriage in California and Maine) and not have defined the opponents. It's not enough to answer their charges. We need to hit them back and not let up on it until voters don't buy their lies anymore. Malpractice in my opinion." — *Steve Hildebrand, who was Barack Obama's deputy national campaign director and still advises Obama on gay stuff, to this column, Nov. 6.*

**"(I KNEW ELLEN WAS THE ONE) WHEN I FIRST LAID EYES ON HER.** But it took me three years to actually tell her how I felt about her because I was on Ally McBeal at the time and wasn't living as an openly gay person. I was closeted and very, very afraid that if I talked

about being gay it would be the end of my career. So I wasn't about to date the most famous lesbian in the world." — *Portia de Rossi in a Nov. 9 appearance with wife Ellen DeGeneres on Oprah.*

**"IT'S NEVER CROSSED MY MIND THAT IT'D EVER BE POSSIBLE** for me (to get married). That's the scar that I and so many others bear—we believed ourselves to be second-rate citizens for so long, the idea of being able to say 'This is my husband, these are my children'

was not an option. I remember Tom Stoppard saying to me when I came out, 'I feel so sorry for you, because you'll never have children.' These days I would say, 'Well, why not, Tom?' But 20 years ago I accepted his judgment." — *Openly gay actor Sir Ian McKellen to Details magazine, Oct. 29.*

**"I FELT LIKE IT (BEING GAY) WAS THIS HUGE SECRET** that I carried around with me. And I think professionally now I don't have any secrets and that's really incredibly freeing. I don't think privately I've had any secrets for a long, long time, but that line between public and private life was getting really hard to maintain. Especially now, I don't know what it is—it's kind of freakish—but people demand so much, to know so much about people who act. And that was just getting kind of exhausting for me." — *Top Gun actress Kelly McGillis to the Palm Springs gay magazine The BottomLine, Oct. 23.*

—Assistance: Bill Kelley

Limited engagement through January 10 only

NATHAN LANE

BEBE NEUWIRTH



The Addams Family  
A NEW MUSICAL

PRE-BROADWAY WORLD PREMIERE  
BROADWAY IN CHICAGO.com (800) 775-2000 Groups: (312) 977-1710  
Tickets available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices or any Ticketmaster Outlet:  
Carson Pirie Scott, Hot Tix, select Coconuts & fye stores

FORD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
ORIENTAL THEATRE  
24 W. Randolph (between State and Dearborn)



TheAddamsFamilyMusical.com

COMFORT — ELEGANCE — FUNCTION

LAKESIDE INTERIORS

A full-service interior design firm experienced in

- KITCHENS
- BATHROOMS
- FURNISHINGS
- CUSTOM BUILT-INS
- WINDOW TREATMENTS



1129 McDaniel Avenue  
Evanston, IL 60202  
ph. 847-512-5045  
www.lakesideinteriors.com





**ELIZABETH  
RODRIGUEZ**

## A beautiful struggle

For me, growing up as a Puerto Rican woman in Chicago has been bittersweet. In the typical Chicago Latino neighborhood of Humboldt Park, I was definitely odd for a number of reasons. I was not Latina enough because I wasn't born in Puerto Rico, my Casper-like skin tone wasn't dark enough, and I didn't attend my neighborhood school with everyone else.

In the gay community I wasn't gay enough because of my bisexual status. Among my old school Latino family, I was an uncomfortable, crazy and embarrassing topic.

I'm the oldest of 13 grandchildren. I got the message it's all right to be gay, but if it's in your family it's a different story.

My family grew up in neighborhoods where the racial tension between whites and Blacks was violent. There are times when my sister, brother and I sat and listened to my family talk about 1968 and how rough it was to live in what Chicagoans now call Lincoln Park, a gentrified neigh-

borhood.

It shocked me growing up that even though my family faced discrimination, they found it hard to accept my bisexuality. Like no one Latino is gay—ha!

My mother had the hardest time accepting my bisexuality.

"I didn't raise you to be no fucking *pata* (derogatory for lesbian)! Is that what I send you to an all girl school for?" my mom yelled frequently.

Whenever she said the word "*pata*," I felt a hole in my soul. I knew she meant it was something dirty, and it was something she was highly embarrassed about. Whenever she was upset with me she always had to throw in the fact that she thought I was weird and of course unacceptable.

She was taught being gay was wrong in God's eyes from a very young age. Did she walk through the Puerto Rican Festival with her eyes closed in Humboldt Park? As the years went on it seemed to become a pre-game party before the annual Chicago Annual Pride Parade. How could she think I was an outcast?

I have the most respect for my *abuela* (grandmother). I went to my grandmother with my confusion and pain growing up, hoping for some gentle guidance. I asked her what God might think of me and if she still loved me because I was bisexual. I knew *abuela* was old school, and no matter how she answered, I would respect whatever she said. It was more important for me to tell her myself, to be brave enough to expose my real self. I wanted her to know all about a

person who is gay without the stereotypical garbage. I'm her first grandchild, the brave one.

"I don't know what to tell you to do *mi'ja*. I don't have the answer for you. I think God put man and woman on earth to be together, not two women or two men. All I can tell you is to ask God and pray about what you should do. I love you no matter what," she said.

Over the years, I've expressed to my family how much hypocrisy there is in teaching us to accept other people's cultural differences and that God loves us all. How can they not accept our sexual differences?

Over time their attitudes slowly changed.

My dad said, "You know Dad loves you no matter who you love, right, Ely? You know I'd be there if you decided to marry a woman, right? I want you to know I love you and no matter what, nothing will change that."

I've struggled a great deal over the years being myself with my family. It was extremely hard. However, I've also begun a dialogue so that our cultural and sexual differences can walk together across a bridge that leads to unified acceptance and understanding. Differences are what keep this world going.

As a Latina I have a responsibility to speak up for others who can't, especially if they're gay or bisexual. My ancestors have taught me to be strong and lead. Who would I be if I forgot all the parts that make up my pride?

**Elizabeth Rodriguez is a marketing student at Columbia College Chicago.**



**MALCOLM  
LAZIN**

## Stop the slaughter!

Since Matthew Shepard's murder in 1998, there have been over 16,000 hate crimes based on sexual orientation and gender identity. This represents about 1,450 annual sexual orientation and gender identity hate crimes. Last year, 29 gay, lesbian and transgender Americans were victims of hate crime murders.

On Oct. 28, 2009, President Obama signed into law the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which among other classifications added sexual orientation and gender identity to the federal hate crimes statute.

While that appeared to be a cause for celebration, it is the beginning, not the end, for America addressing homophobia in its schools, communities and culture. The FBI recently reported that in 2008 hate crimes were up 2 percent over the prior year. Sexual orientation and gender identity hate crimes increased by 11 percent. One in six hate crimes was perpetrated on gay, lesbian and transgender citizens.

That need for a national call to consciousness was underlined Nov. 14 when Jorge Lopez Mercado, a 19-year-old student from Caguas, Puerto Rico was found by the side of the road burned, decapitated and with all limbs dismembered from his torso. This crime would be shocking if it occurred in Baghdad or Kabul and is all the more horrific having occurred in a U.S. territory.

Jorge was a well-liked and openly gay teen. He was active in HIV prevention and gay civil rights. The police have arrested Juan Martinez, a 26-year-old father of four. The LGBT community has called on U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder for a federal investigation and the first prosecution under the Matthew Shepard Act. In 2002, Puerto Rico included sexual orientation in their

hate-crimes statute. Despite hate crimes against LGBT citizens, there have been no prosecutions.

About the same day that Jorge was butchered, James Mattison, Jr., a 15-year-old African American high school student from Baltimore, was found dead. His body was stuffed in a closet. James was a popular, academically gifted and openly gay teen. His dream was to become a pediatrician.

James was found raped and bludgeoned to the head and throat. The accused, Dante Parish, is a 35-year-old with a record of violence.

If there is a cause for optimism, it is that those in the religious community who have marginalized LGBT Americans are becoming less likely to engage in overt homophobia. When religious leaders say that gays and lesbians will not go to heaven or assert that they are anything less than the children of the Almighty, they facilitate emotional and physical harm.

Our public schools need to be safe havens for all students. The pejoratives "faggot" and "that's so gay" are regularly uttered in almost all high schools without sanction.

While mainstream media has made noteworthy strides in the portrayal and coverage of gays and lesbians, there were few news accounts of the gruesome murders of Jorge Lopez Mercado and Jason Mattison, Jr.

If we are to change the dynamic, we must use Jorge and Jason's murders as a call for a national discussion to include LGBT Americans in the pursuit of a more perfect and inclusive America.

Miriam Mercado, Jorge Lopez Mercado's mother, said it best: "When my son told me he was gay, I told him, 'Now, I love you more.' I want to tell the world that hatred is not born with human beings, it is a seed that is planted by adults and is fostered by creating a climate of intolerance and violence. We must change our ways and understand that anyone...could have been my son. And I want everybody to know that Jorge was a very much loved son."

**Malcolm Lazin is executive director of Equality Forum.**

## Letter

### Banning the ban

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) has rightfully come under attack again. The American Medical Association recently voted to oppose DADT, saying the policy of forcing gay service members to keep their sexual orientation a secret from their physicians has a chilling effect on communication and is a bad law. These conclusions are neither new nor unexpected.

The rationale of prohibiting gays from serving in our military forces has been consistently contradicted by at least three studies commissioned by the U.S. Department of Defense itself. The Crittenden Report (1957) concluded that homosexual service members did not pose a greater security risk than heterosexual personnel. According to the report, intelligence officers sometimes considered heterosexual relations more of a security threat than homosexual conduct.

The prohibition, persecution and prosecution of gays in our military forces are increasingly indefensible in light of a new report by education and military leaders. An alarming 75 percent of Americans ages 17 to 24 would not qualify for military service because they are physically unfit, have criminal records, or have not finished high school.

Of course, DADT is attributable to violence as well, but not only toward gay and lesbian military members. Recently, a Chicago man was charged with murdering his wife. While the crime was portrayed as domestic violence involving insurance money, DADT played a role as well. When the wife reportedly discovered her husband was secretly engaged in MSM activities and threatened divorce, the husband understood that his military career and pension were endangered and chose murder in response.

It's time to end DADT and allow gays and lesbians to openly serve in our military forces.

—Bob Zuley, U.S. Army veteran

ASSISTANT PUBLISHER Terri Klinsky  
MANAGING EDITOR Andrew Davis  
BUSINESS MANAGER Meghan Streit  
DIRECTOR OF NEW MEDIA Jean Albright  
ART DIRECTOR Kirk Williamson  
ACCOUNT MANAGERS: Amy Matheny, Kirk Williamson, Cynthia Holmes, Carlos Paret  
PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR Cynthia Holmes  
NIGHTSPOTS MANAGING EDITOR Kirk Williamson  
NATIONAL SALES Rivendell Media, 212-242-6863  
SENIOR WRITERS Bob Roehr, Rex Wockner, Marie J. Kuda, David Byrne, Tony Peregrin, Lisa Keen, Yasmin Nair, Emmanuel Garcia  
THEATER EDITOR Scott C. Morgan  
CINEMA WRITER Richard Knight, Jr.  
BOOKS WRITER Yasmin Nair  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT WRITERS  
Mary Shen Barnidge, Jim Edminster, Steve Warren, Lawrence Ferber, Mel Ferrand, Catey Sullivan, Zachary Whittenburg, Jonathan Abarbanel  
COLUMNISTS/WRITERS: Yvonne Zipter, Susie Day, Jorjet Harper, Lee Lynch, Steve Starr, Joe Rice, Dan Woog, Marie-Jo Proulx, Lisa Keen, Chris Crain, Charles Dewey, Michael Knipp, Mark Corece, Sabine Neidhardt, Sam Worley, Billy Masters, John Fenoglio  
PHOTOGRAPHERS Kat Fitzgerald, Mel Ferrand, Steve Becker, Steve Starr, Emmanuel Garcia  
ARTISTS/CARTOONISTS Alison Bechdel, Mikeoart  
CIRCULATION  
CIRCULATION DIRECTOR Jean Albright  
DISTRIBUTION: Ashina, Allan, Dan, John, Renee, Sue and Victor



Copyright 2009 Lambda Publications Inc./Windy City Media Group. All rights reserved. Reprint by permission only. Back issues available for \$3 per issue (postage included). Return postage must accompany all manuscripts, drawings, and photographs submitted if they are to be returned, and no responsibility may be assumed for unsolicited materials. All rights to letters, art and photographs sent to *Windy City Times* will be treated as unconditionally assigned for publication purposes and as such, subject to editing and comment. The opinions expressed by the columnists, cartoonists, letter writers, and commentators are their own and do not necessarily reflect the position of *Windy City Times*. Publication of the name, photograph, or likeness of a person or organization in articles or advertising in *Windy City Times* is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such person or organization. While we encourage readers to support the advertisers who make this newspaper possible, *Windy City Times* cannot accept responsibility for advertising claims.  
(773) 871-7610 FAX (773) 871-7609  
e-mail: editor@windycitymediagroup.com

www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com  
radio: WindyCityQueercast.com  
video: QueerTVNetwork.com

WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP,  
5315 N. Clark St. #192, Chicago, IL 60640 USA  
(MAILING ADDRESS ONLY)


*Windy City Times* Deadline every Wednesday.  
Nightspots Deadline Wednesday prior to street date.  
Identity (BLACKlines and En La Vida): Now online only  
Deadline The 10th of month prior.  
OUT! Resource Guide ONLINE  
www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com

www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com  
www.WindyCityQueercast.com  
www.QueerTVNetwork.com



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





# Windy City Times' 100 AND UNDER Holiday Gift Guide

THIS YEAR, WINDY CITY TIMES IS ALL ABOUT THE BENJAMINS AS THE ANNUAL GIFT GUIDE (WHICH RUNS THIS WEEK AND NEXT) EXCLUSIVELY FEATURES ITEMS THAT DO NOT EXCEED \$100. LET THE SHOPPING COMMENCE!



### Mean green

People who want to do their part to save the environment will enjoy Eco Hatchery's Eco Kits. All kits include energy-saving and conservation products, illustrated instructions, energy-saving tips and an A-Z recycling resources guide. Some of the products included are an energy monitor, water-quality test kit, stainless steel reusable water bottle and a premium eco light bulb. If that's not enough, kit owners can join an online "Eco community."

**\$50-\$97.50; [www.ecohatchery.com](http://www.ecohatchery.com)**



### Soap and faith

Want something sleek and cool that won't cost an arm and a leg? Then, look no further than the simplehuman sensor soap pump. Using sensor technology to dispense soap touch-free, the pump prevents cross-contamination from dirty or wet hands—and it features a pop-up lid for no-mess refills. Being clean never looked so good.


**\$30; [www.simplehuman.com](http://www.simplehuman.com)**



### The meal thing

Some people are all about efficiency—down to their lunchboxes. Lunchsense lunchboxes are waterproof, easy to open and quick to clean. Each lunchbox features a set of well-constructed plastic containers that fit neatly together, and the lunchbox itself doubles as a fold-out placemat. Your kid will be the envy of the playground.

**\$35-\$44; [www.lunchsense.com](http://www.lunchsense.com)**



### By George!

George Michael may have grabbed headlines in recent years for various off-stage antics, but it's still the man's music that draws people to him. Live in London, the first live DVD of Michael's career, showcases 23 songs, including "Faith," "Freedom" and many more. Recorded and filmed at the final two concerts in London's Earls Court arena on Aug. 24-25, these shows marked the end of his 25 Live Tour.

**\$17.98; [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)**



### Cash and carry

Here's another argument that looking stylish doesn't have to be expensive. The Marc wallet is made of cowhide that is studded with steel grommets. Moreover, it has a double cash compartment and two organized sides.

**\$32; [www.bedstu.com](http://www.bedstu.com)**



### Throw down

Rocksteady Pillows uses a pretty unique concept—taking old concert T-shirts and converting them into pre-made or customized throw pillows. Whitney Houston? Yes! Erasure? Yes! Hilary Duff? You might be on your own.

**\$35-\$40; [www.RocksteadyPillows.etsy.com](http://www.RocksteadyPillows.etsy.com)**

Windy City Times'

100 AND UNDER

Holiday Gift Guide



Sweet dreams

The Cholive Company has the perfect gift that's a splurge for your taste buds, not your wallet. Gift packages of cocktail chocolates known as Cholives® and Chruffles®, wine-pairing truffles, are designed to pair with your favorite beverage or enjoyed as a little luxurious treat. Also, for those watching their girlish figures, Cholives are less than 50 calories each.

\$5.95-\$7.95; [www.thecholive.com](http://www.thecholive.com)



Hold on

The idox Traveler is designed to keep your iPod Nano, iPod Touch or iPhone stationary and upright to more easily enjoy videos, Web content, speaker-phone calls, photos or podcasts—like Windy City Queercast. Simply snap your device into the Traveler; rubber feet on the bottom of the stand will keep it from slipping. Also, you won't look like a total fool trying to prop your iPod Touch against something.

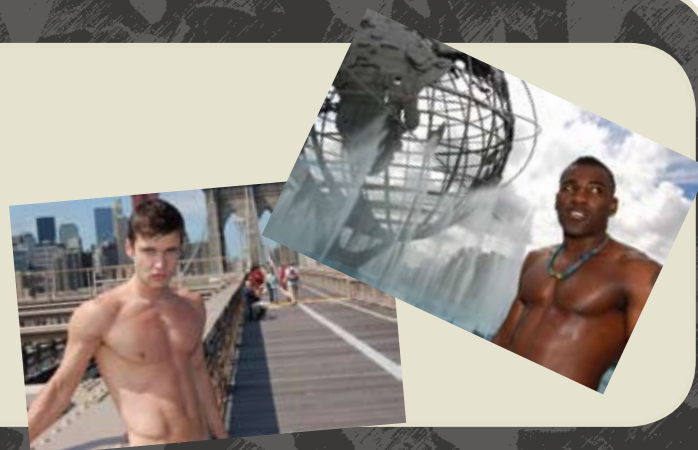
\$24.95-\$34.95; [www.idox360.com](http://www.idox360.com)



New York, New York

Fight choreographer Andrew, poet Noel and personal trainer Petr are just a few of the treats in Sexy in the City, a 2010 calendar that features hunky models against various New York City backdrops. You might even want to look at the pics while listening to Alicia Keys and Jay-Z's instant-classic "Empire State of Mind" to get the full effect. By the way, a portion of the net proceeds will benefit Beauty Cares, which helps domestic-violence survivors.

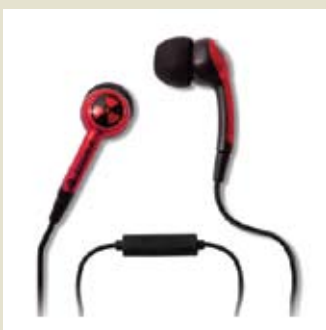
\$19.95; [www.SexyInTheCityCalendar.com](http://www.SexyInTheCityCalendar.com)



Listen up

This holiday season, iFrogz has something for everyone—including custom headphones for your music-lover and iPhone- and BlackBerry-compatible earbuds with a built-in microphone for your favorite techie. iFrogz currently has three styles of completely customizable headphones. Customizable components include headband, base, side piece, speaker piece, cushions and hinge piece (depending on earphone model); the options make it possible to create more than 200,000 unique pairs of headphones—so you can definitely make your own statement, even if you listen to what everyone else likes.

\$19.99-\$49.99; [www.ifrogz.com](http://www.ifrogz.com)



Let's chill

The ravi Instant Wine Refresher will likely become an indispensable item for anyone who throws dinner parties. The secret of this revolutionary cooler is that instead of chilling the entire bottle, the ravi cools the wine itself. As the wine flows through the ravi, its temperature instantly drops by an average of 12 degrees Fahrenheit. Cool.

\$39.95; [www.RaviSolution.com](http://www.RaviSolution.com)



Batt, man

If you're looking for intriguing home-furnishings items, try Hazelnut New Orleans, owned by openly gay Mad Men co-star Bryan Batt and his life/business partner, Tom Cianfichi. Among the items are glass lamps; pewter moose salt and pepper shakers; and the store's signature candle, which has a pear-and-rhubarb scent.

\$32-\$88; [www.HazelnutNewOrleans.com](http://www.HazelnutNewOrleans.com)



PIZZERIA - VINO - FRIENDS

GRUPPO **GA** DI AMICI

Tuesday Goes To The Dogs

Dine with us on Tuesdays and we will donate 5% of your dinner tab to the featured animal shelter dog.

1508 W JARVIS ST, CHICAGO, IL 60626  
TEL 773 508 5565

SPECIALTY WINE & BEER LIST - FULL BAR - DRINK SPECIALS  
WINE & BEER TASTINGS - CARRY OUT

HOURS TUES-SAT 5 PM-12 AM, SUN 5 PM-10 PM, CLOSED MONDAYS  
WEB [www.gruppodiamici.com](http://www.gruppodiamici.com)

Mention this ad for a free gift.

YOUR HAPPY PLACE

SUN CENTER

Garden and Gifts

Yard Art.  
Indoor Fire Pots.  
Orchids & Bonsai Plants.  
Hand-Blown Glass.  
Carruth Sculpture.  
Fountains.  
Bonsai Workshop: December 5.

145 East Main Street  
Glenwood, IL  
1/2 Hour South of  
Downtown Chicago.  
Have fun!  
It's worth the ride.  
708-757-3337  
Open 7 days a week.



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

Windy City Times'

1000 AND UNDER

Holiday Gift Guide



All wet

A timely twist in eco-design, the Bedol Water-Powered Alarm Clock is a truly unique eco-friendly gift offering for the holidays. A perfect green-minded gift, Bedol's sustainable design has an intriguing practical function—keeping perfect time without batteries. It even has an alarm. You just add fresh water to the clock's tank to make it work. Electrodes harvest energy from the water, powering the clock for as long as four weeks. There's no word, however, on if it's better to use Evian or tap.

\$16; [www.bedolwhatsnext.com](http://www.bedolwhatsnext.com)



Local color

Artist Steve Ohlrich is selling high-quality, original art reproductions of his acclaimed 2002 "Chicago Composition" poster. It is a signed reproduction of a commissioned, 4' x 5' oil painting of the City of Chicago. Every time I look at it, I see something I'd previously missed.

\$34, including shipping; [www.steveohlrich.com](http://www.steveohlrich.com)

Star power

Star Wars The Clone Wars: The Complete Season One takes place immediately after the events of Star Wars-Episode II: Attack of the Clones. The 22-episode series follows Obi-Wan Kenobi and his apprentice, Anakin Skywalker, and introduces us to some new characters such as Ahsoka Tano, a girl Jedi knight. Your niece or nephew will never stop loving you, I suspect.

\$44.95; [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



Skin tight

According to its Web site, Zia Daily Moisture Screen SPF 15 "simplifies your life with this lightweight complex that moisturizes as it protects." Well, I'm for anything that makes my life easier. The product contains aloe and rice bran oil, which provide light, non-greasy moisture to soften and nourish skin. Moreover, Neil Patrick Harris is reportedly a big fan—and he certainly looks, um, supple.

\$20.95; [www.zianatural.com](http://www.zianatural.com)



Tea time

For a beverage that's a little different, consider Firefly Vodka—which is infused with sweet tea. And the roots of this vodka are definitely Southern: Firefly was first created at the Firefly Distillery on Wadmalaw Island, S.C. In addition, you can mix it up; there are original, peach, raspberry, lemon and mint-flavored versions.

\$17.99; [www.fireflyvodka.com](http://www.fireflyvodka.com) and [www.superwinewarehouse.com](http://www.superwinewarehouse.com)



Roasted chestnuts

Christopher Anthony Toasty Boys are undies for those who definitely want to stay warm during the Chicago winter. However, these items (from Oak Lawn-based Anthony) don't just keep you toasty—the thermal undies also help to shape, if you know what I mean.

\$24; [www.christopheranthony.net](http://www.christopheranthony.net)



Chicago Aquarium Co.

Fresh & Saltwater TROPICAL FISH -- AQUARIUMS -- SUPPLIES -- INVERTS  
We hand select a supply of new fish every week - come in & browse  
Delivery & Set-Up -- Service Calls & Onsite Maintenance



LIVE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

OPEN Tue. thru Sunday

5040 N. Clark St.

773.878.8474

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

BUILD A BURGER GET ONE FREE\*

BUILD ANY BURGER AND CUSTOMIZE A 2ND BURGER FOR FREE

\*Bring in this Windy City Times ad for a second burger of equal or lesser value. Not valid with any other offer or discount. Exp. 1-17-10.



THE COUNTER CUSTOM BUILT BURGERS

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, DOUBLE YOUR TASTE, BUT NOT THE TAB!

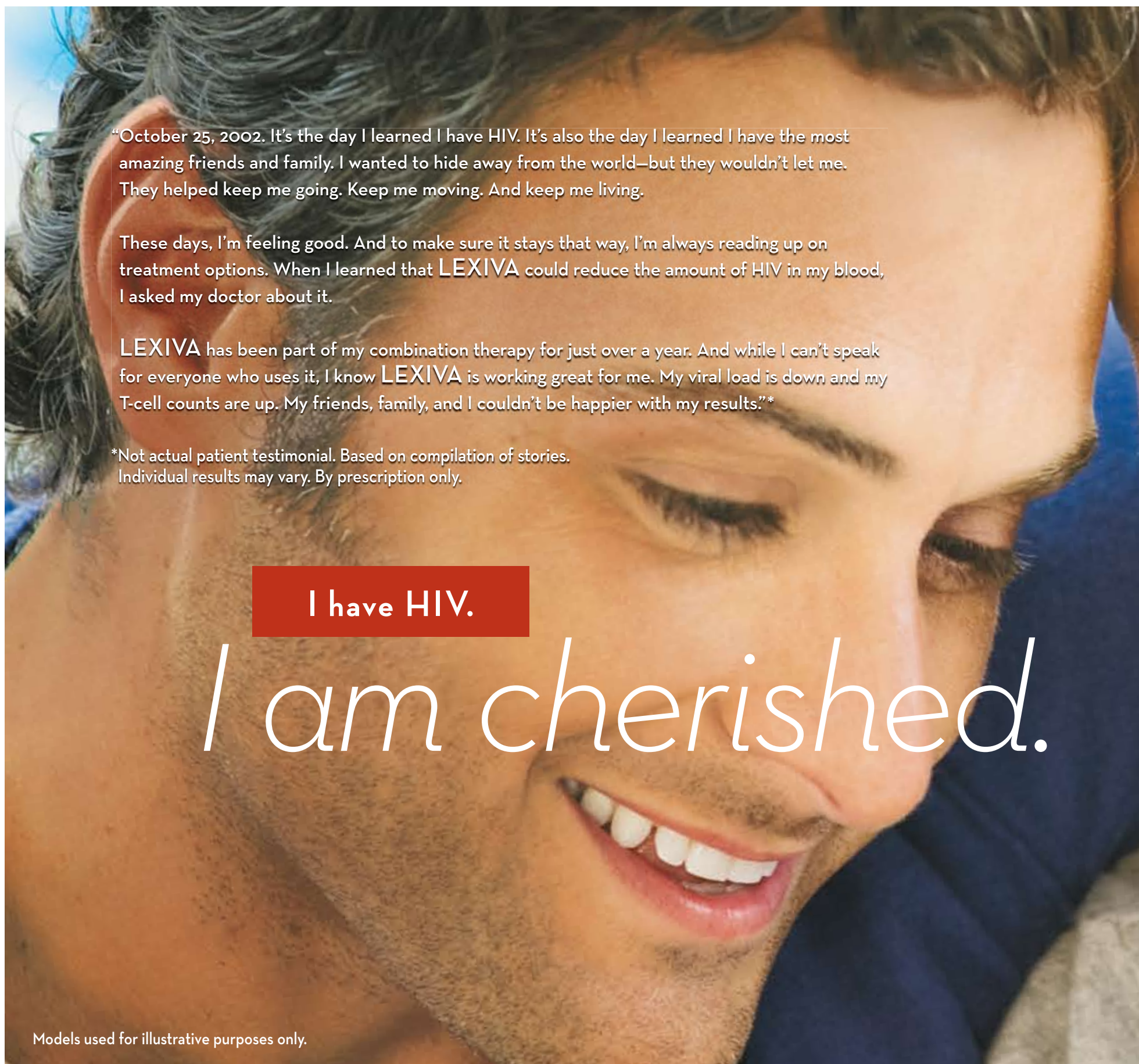
"Happy Holidays from your friends at The Counter!"  
666 West Diversey Pkwy  
Chicago IL 60614  
773 935 1995 773 935 1997 Fax  
[thecounterburger.com](http://thecounterburger.com)

"BEST BURGER" -Oprah Winfrey Show

"ONE OF THE BURGERS YOU MUST EAT BEFORE YOU DIE" -GQ Magazine

"2008 HOT LIST FOR GREAT DINING" -CHICAGO MAGAZINE

"BEST VEGGIE BURGER" -CHICAGO TRIBUNE



“October 25, 2002. It’s the day I learned I have HIV. It’s also the day I learned I have the most amazing friends and family. I wanted to hide away from the world—but they wouldn’t let me. They helped keep me going. Keep me moving. And keep me living.

These days, I’m feeling good. And to make sure it stays that way, I’m always reading up on treatment options. When I learned that LEXIVA could reduce the amount of HIV in my blood, I asked my doctor about it.

LEXIVA has been part of my combination therapy for just over a year. And while I can’t speak for everyone who uses it, I know LEXIVA is working great for me. My viral load is down and my T-cell counts are up. My friends, family, and I couldn’t be happier with my results.”\*

\*Not actual patient testimonial. Based on compilation of stories. Individual results may vary. By prescription only.

I have HIV.

*I am cherished.*

Models used for illustrative purposes only.

LEXIVA is indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV infection.

- The PI-experienced-patient study was not large enough to reach a definitive conclusion that LEXIVA/ritonavir and lopinavir/ritonavir are clinically equivalent
- Once-daily administration of LEXIVA plus ritonavir is not recommended for PI-experienced patients or any pediatric patients

LEXIVA does not cure HIV or prevent passing HIV to others.

Please see Important Patient Information below and on the following page. You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [fda.gov/medwatch](http://fda.gov/medwatch), or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

#### IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

- You should not take LEXIVA if you have had an allergic reaction to LEXIVA or AGENERASE® (amprenavir).
- High blood sugar, diabetes or worsening of diabetes, and bleeding in hemophiliacs have occurred in some patients taking protease inhibitors.

- When you start taking HIV medicines, your immune system may get stronger and could begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body, such as pneumonia, herpes virus, or tuberculosis. If you have new symptoms after starting your HIV medicines, be sure to tell your doctor.
- Changes in body fat may occur in some patients taking antiretroviral therapy. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- Skin rashes can occur in patients taking LEXIVA. Rarely, rashes were severe or life threatening.
- Opportunistic infections can develop when you have HIV and your immune system is weak. It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while you are taking LEXIVA to discuss any side effects or concerns.
- Kidney stones have been reported in patients taking LEXIVA. Tell your healthcare provider if you have pain in your side, blood in your urine, or pain when you urinate.
- Most common side effects in clinical studies were diarrhea, headache, nausea, rash, and vomiting. In most cases, these side effects did not cause people to stop taking their medicine.

Ask your doctor if **LEXIVA** is right for you.  
Learn more at [www.LexivaNews.com](http://www.LexivaNews.com)

**LEXIVA**<sup>®</sup>  
fosamprenavir calcium  
700 MG TABLETS

BY YOUR SIDE.

#### DRUG INTERACTIONS

- LEXIVA should not be taken with: AGENERASE<sup>®</sup> (amprenavir), Halcion<sup>®</sup> (triazolam), ergot medications (Cafegot<sup>®</sup>, Migranal<sup>®</sup>, D.H.E. 45<sup>®</sup>, and others), Propulsid<sup>®</sup> (cisapride), Versed<sup>®</sup> (midazolam), Orap<sup>®</sup> (pimozide), Zocor<sup>®</sup> (simvastatin), Mevacor<sup>®</sup> (lovastatin), Rifadin<sup>®</sup> (rifampin), Rescriptor<sup>®</sup> (delavirdine mesylate), or St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*). If you are taking Norvir<sup>®</sup> (ritonavir), you should not take Tambocor<sup>®</sup> (flecainide) or Rythmol<sup>®</sup> (propafenone hydrochloride).
- Serious and/or life-threatening events could occur between LEXIVA and other medications, including Cordarone<sup>®</sup> (amiodarone), lidocaine (intravenous only), Elavil<sup>®</sup> (amitriptyline HCl), and Tofranil<sup>®</sup> (imipramine pamoate), tricyclic antidepressants, and Quinaglute<sup>®</sup> (quinidine).
- Women who use birth control pills should choose a different kind of birth control. The use of LEXIVA with Norvir (ritonavir) in combination with birth control pills may hurt your liver. Also, birth control pills may not work if you take LEXIVA or LEXIVA with Norvir. Talk to your healthcare provider about choosing the right birth control for you.
- Patients taking Viagra<sup>®</sup> (sildenafil citrate) or LEVITRA<sup>®</sup> (vardenafil HCl) with LEXIVA may be at increased risk of side effects.
- This list of drug interactions is not complete. Be sure to tell your healthcare

provider about all medicines you are taking or plan to take, including over-the-counter drugs, vitamins, and herbals.

#### RESISTANCE

- Missing or skipping doses of your medicine may make it easier for the virus to mutate and multiply. Your medicines may not work as well against a mutated virus and you may become cross-resistant to other HIV medicines. It's important to take your medicine exactly as prescribed.



#### SAVE ON YOUR MEDICATIONS.

Ask your doctor about the Patient Savings Card or visit [www.mysupportcard.com](http://www.mysupportcard.com) to learn how to save on your out-of-pocket expenses. Subject to eligibility. Restrictions apply.

**gsk** GlaxoSmithKline

**GSK for you** If you don't have prescription coverage and can't afford your medicines, visit [GSKforYou.com](http://GSKforYou.com) or call 1-866-GSK-FOR-U (1-866-475-3678)

**PATIENT INFORMATION**  
**LEXIVA®**  
 (lex-EE-vah)  
**(fosamprenavir calcium)**  
**Tablets and Oral Suspension**

Read the Patient Information that comes with LEXIVA 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 healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment. It is important to remain under a healthcare provider's care while taking LEXIVA. Do not change or stop treatment without first talking with your healthcare provider. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you have any questions about LEXIVA.

**What is the most important information I should know about LEXIVA?**

LEXIVA can cause dangerous and life-threatening interactions if taken with certain other medicines. Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

- Some medicines cannot be taken at all with LEXIVA.
- Some medicines will require dose changes if taken with LEXIVA.
- Some medicines will require close monitoring if you take them with LEXIVA.

Know all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Keep a list of the medicines you take. Show this list to all your healthcare providers and pharmacists anytime you get a new medicine or refill. Your healthcare providers and pharmacists must know all the medicines you take. They will tell you if you can take other medicines with LEXIVA. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking LEXIVA without talking with your healthcare provider or pharmacist. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a list of medicines that can interact with LEXIVA.

**What is LEXIVA?**

LEXIVA is a medicine you take by mouth to treat HIV infection. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). LEXIVA belongs to a class of anti-HIV medicines called protease inhibitors. LEXIVA is always used with other anti-HIV medicines. When used in combination therapy, LEXIVA may help lower the amount of HIV found in your blood, raise CD4+ (T) cell counts, and keep your immune system as healthy as possible, so it can help fight infection. However, LEXIVA does not work in all patients with HIV.

**LEXIVA does not:**

- cure HIV infection or AIDS. We do not know if LEXIVA will help you live longer or have fewer of the medical problems (opportunistic infections) that people get with HIV or AIDS. Opportunistic infections are infections that develop because the immune system is weak. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections. It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while you are taking LEXIVA. The long-term effects of LEXIVA are not known.
- lower the risk of passing HIV to other people through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood. For your health and the health of others, it is important to always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never use or share dirty needles.

LEXIVA has not been fully studied in children under the age of 2 or in adults over the age of 65.

**Who should not take LEXIVA?**

**Do not take LEXIVA if you:**

- are taking certain other medicines. Read the section "What is the most important information I should know about LEXIVA?" Do not take the following medicines\* with LEXIVA. You could develop serious or life-threatening problems.
  - HALCION® (triazolam; used for insomnia)
  - Ergot medicines: dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylergonovine such as CAFERGOT®, MIGRANAL®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, METHERGINE®, and others (used for migraine headaches)
  - PROPULSID® (cisapride), used for certain stomach problems
  - VERSED® (midazolam), used for sedation
  - ORAP® (pimozide), used for Tourette's disorder
- are allergic to LEXIVA or any of its ingredients. The active ingredient is fosamprenavir calcium. See the end of this leaflet for a list of all the ingredients in LEXIVA.
- are allergic to AGENERASE (amprenavir).

You should not take AGENERASE (amprenavir) and LEXIVA at the same time.

There are other medicines you should not take if you are taking LEXIVA and NORVIR® (ritonavir) together. You could develop serious or life-threatening problems. Tell your healthcare provider about all medicines you are taking before you begin taking LEXIVA and NORVIR (ritonavir) together.

**What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking LEXIVA?**

Before taking LEXIVA, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions including if you:

- are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. It is not known if LEXIVA can harm your unborn baby. You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if LEXIVA is right for you. If you use LEXIVA while you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about how you can be on the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
- are breastfeeding. You should not breastfeed if you are HIV-positive because of the chance of passing the HIV virus to your baby through your milk. Also, it is not known if LEXIVA can pass into your breast milk and if it can harm your baby. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- have liver problems. You may be given a lower dose of LEXIVA or LEXIVA may not be right for you.
- have kidney problems
- have diabetes. You may need dose changes in your insulin or other diabetes medicines.
- have hemophilia
- are allergic to sulfa medicines

Before taking LEXIVA, tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. LEXIVA can cause dangerous and life-threatening interactions if taken with certain other medicines. You may need dose changes in some of your medicines or closer monitoring with some medicines if you also take LEXIVA (see "What is the most important information I should know about LEXIVA. "). Know all the medicines that you take and keep a list of them with you to show healthcare providers and pharmacists.

Women who use birth control pills should choose a different kind of contraception. The use of LEXIVA with NORVIR (ritonavir) in combination with birth control pills may be harmful to your liver. The use of LEXIVA with or without NORVIR may decrease the effectiveness of birth control pills. Talk to your healthcare provider about choosing an effective contraceptive.

**How should I take LEXIVA?**

- Take LEXIVA exactly as your healthcare provider prescribed.
- Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of LEXIVA at any one time. Do not change your dose or stop taking LEXIVA without talking with your healthcare provider.
- You can take LEXIVA Tablets with or without food.
- Adults should take LEXIVA Oral Suspension without food.

- Pediatric patients should take LEXIVA Oral Suspension with food. If vomiting occurs within 30 minutes after dosing, the dose should be repeated.
- Shake LEXIVA Oral Suspension vigorously before each use.
- When your supply of LEXIVA or other anti-HIV medicine starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. The amount of HIV virus in your blood may increase if one or more of the medicines are stopped, even for a short time.
- Stay under the care of a healthcare provider while using LEXIVA.
- It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of LEXIVA by more than 4 hours, wait and take the next dose at the regular time. However, if you miss a dose by fewer than 4 hours, take your missed dose right away. Then take your next dose at the regular time.
- If you take too much LEXIVA, call your healthcare provider or poison control center right away.

**What should I avoid while taking LEXIVA?**

- Do not use certain medicines while you are taking LEXIVA. See "What is the most important information I should know about LEXIVA" and "Who should not take LEXIVA?"
- Do not breastfeed. See "Before taking LEXIVA, tell your healthcare provider". Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- Avoid doing things that can spread HIV infection since LEXIVA doesn't stop you from passing the HIV infection to others.
- Do not share needles or other injection equipment.
- Do not share personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes or razor blades.
- Do not have any kind of sex without protection. 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 LEXIVA?**

LEXIVA may cause the following side effects:

- skin rash. Skin rashes, some with itching, have happened in patients taking LEXIVA. Swelling of the face, lips, and tongue (angioedema) has also been reported. Tell your healthcare provider if you get a rash or develop facial swelling after starting LEXIVA.
- diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia). Some patients had diabetes before taking LEXIVA while others did not. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others may need a new diabetes medicine.
- increased bleeding problems in some patients with hemophilia.
- worse liver disease. Patients with liver problems, including hepatitis B or C, are more likely to get worse liver disease when they take anti-HIV medicines like LEXIVA.
- changes in blood tests. Some people have changes in blood tests while taking LEXIVA. These include increases seen in liver function tests and blood fat levels, and decreases in white blood cells. Your healthcare provider may do regular blood tests to see if LEXIVA is affecting your body.
- changes in body fat. These changes have happened in patients taking antiretroviral medicines like LEXIVA. The changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- kidney stones have been reported in some patients taking LEXIVA. If you develop signs or symptoms of kidney stones (pain in your side, blood in your urine, pain when you urinate) tell your healthcare provider right away.

Common side effects of LEXIVA are nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Tell your healthcare provider about any side effects that bother you or that won't go away.

This list of side effects of LEXIVA is not complete. 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 LEXIVA?**

- LEXIVA Tablets should be stored at room temperature between 59° and 86°F (15° to 30°C). Keep the container of LEXIVA Tablets tightly closed.
- LEXIVA Oral Suspension may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated. Refrigeration of LEXIVA Oral Suspension may improve taste for some patients. Do not freeze.
- Keep LEXIVA and all medicines out of the reach of children.
- Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

**General information about LEXIVA**

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Do not use LEXIVA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give LEXIVA to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about LEXIVA. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about LEXIVA that is written for health professionals. For more information you can call toll-free 888-825-5249 or visit www.LEXIVA.com.

**What are the ingredients in LEXIVA?**

Tablets:

Active Ingredient: fosamprenavir calcium.

Inactive Ingredients: colloidal silicon dioxide, croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, and povidone K30. The tablet film-coating contains the inactive ingredients hypromellose, iron oxide red, titanium dioxide, and triacetin.

LEXIVA Tablets, 700 mg, are pink in color and are capsule-shaped, with the letters "GX LL7" printed on one side of the tablet.



Oral Suspension:

Active Ingredient: fosamprenavir calcium

Inactive ingredients: artificial grape-bubblegum flavor, calcium chloride dihydrate, hypromellose, methylparaben, natural peppermint flavor, polysorbate 80, propylene glycol, propylparaben, purified water, and sucralose.

LEXIVA and AGENERASE are registered trademarks of GlaxoSmithKline.

\*The brands listed are trademarks of their respective owners and are not trademarks of GlaxoSmithKline. The makers of these brands are not affiliated with and do not endorse GlaxoSmithKline or its products.



GlaxoSmithKline  
 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

©2009, GlaxoSmithKline. All rights reserved.

September 2009

©2009 The GlaxoSmithKline Group of Companies  
 All rights reserved. Printed in USA.



Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated  
 Cambridge, MA 02139

LXV683R0

September 2009

LXV:7PIL

SCOTTISH PLAY SCOTT  
**Into the Busch**

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

Charles Busch doesn't willfully intend to mislead audiences. But some people anticipating the legendary playwright/actor/drag artiste's return to Chicago will surely grumble if they spy the publicity shot he provides for the one-night-only show "An Evening with Charles Busch and Julie Halston."

"Unfortunately the only publicity photo we have together is where I'm in drag. I'm afraid it gives the wrong impression," Busch said, confirming that he had no plans to get wigged up for Victory Gardens Theater's Freshly Squeezed series.

Busch "won't be in drag, but I probably will be," joked Halston, Busch's close friend and frequent artistic muse. Halston promised that she'll do all she can on stage to compensate for Busch's lack of big hair and makeup.

This is, shockingly, Halston's very first time performing in Chicago, despite the fact that her husband, Ralph Howard, once worked in the Windy City radio market (or for Busch's Chicago ties of attending Northwestern University and first earning his Equity card at Victory Gardens).

"I've been all over this country, but I've never played Chicago," Halston said, tempering her enthusiasm by saying that she and Busch will only be in town for about 36 hours. "At least 36 hours is better than no hours."

If you're not familiar with Busch and Halston's celebrated place in modern American theater, then rent the 2005 film *The Lady in Question Is Charles Busch*. This acclaimed documentary by John Catania and Charles D. Ignacio is not only a must for any aspirant drag artists, but for theater fans in general.

Throughout the film, there's amazing video footage that charts the rise of Busch and Hal-



Charles Busch (left) and Julie Halston. Photo courtesy of Victory Gardens and Busch

ston from their 1983 friendship as performance art newbies to respected performers and writers.

"It is kind of fun to watch some of that stuff because it was such a wild and heady time and we were just having fun," Halston said. "But it's also so wild to watch because Charles has become a really fantastic playwright and I think we all knew that this guy was onto something."

Both have gone on to have credits on Broadway (Busch's hit 2000 comedy *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*; Halston's featured roles in *Gypsy*, *Hairspray* and *The Women*), on TV (Busch's memorable turn as Nat Ginzburg the HBO prison series *Oz*; Halston as Bitsy Von Muffling in HBO's *Sex and the City*) and on the Hollywood big screen (both have cameos in the 1993 film *Addams Family Values*, while Busch's own 2003 screenplay adaptation and starring role in *Die, Mommy, Die!* remains one of his proudest artistic achievements).

**SPOTLIGHT**



Seasonal Nutcracker mania is already upon us. But if the Sugar Plum Fairy doesn't do it for you, rush out to see **Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's Winter Series**, which features the internationally acclaimed repertory pieces "Off Screen" by Alejandro Cerrudo, "Tabula Rasa" by Ohad Naharin's and "Walking Mad" by Johan Inger. Hubbard Street Dance Chicago performs 7:30 p.m. Dec. 3; 8 p.m. Dec. 4-5; and 3 p.m. Dec. 6 at Millennium Park's Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E. Randolph. Tickets are \$25-\$90; call 312-334-7777 or visit [www.hubbardstreetdance.com](http://www.hubbardstreetdance.com). Photo courtesy of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago

But what first put both Busch and Halston theatrically on the map was his wildly campy play *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* (first performed at a seedy New York performance art venue before triumphantly transferring off-Broadway in 1985 for an acclaimed 344-performance run). As rival vampires who have catfights throughout history, Busch and Halston were able to channel their love (and lifelong obsession) with old Hollywood films with a distinctly gay camp sensibility.

"An Evening with Charles Busch and Julie Halston" will take place Monday, Dec. 7, at Victory Gardens Biograph Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30-\$35; see [www.VictoryGardens.org](http://www.VictoryGardens.org).

**Online This Week:**

- Irma Vep
- Aunt Dan and Lemon
- Beethoven, As I Know Him

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

VICTORY GARDENS *fresh squeezed* IS

# QUEER!

Join six queer icons at the Biograph Theater in our 09/10 season

An evening with **Charles Busch & Julie Halston**

Known for his drag star alter-egos in works like *Die, Mommy, Die*, and *Psycho Beach Party*, writer-director-actor Charles Busch will take the stage with his best friend and muse, Julie Halston. She is the acclaimed actress most recognized as Bitsy Von Muffling from *Sex and The City*. Together, the pair will recount their theatrical climb from campy cult success.

**Monday, Dec. 7, 7:30pm**  
\$30 in advance, \$35 day of show

VICTORY GARDENS BIOGRAPH THEATER  
2433 N Lincoln Ave  
773.871.3000 [victorygardens.org/QUEER](http://victorygardens.org/QUEER)

ARTISTIC & MUSICAL DIRECTOR  
**Patrick Sinozich**

**Athenaeum Theater**  
2936 N. Southport Ave

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT  
**Athenaeum Box Office**  
or  
**Ticketmaster.com**  
(312) 902-1500

3 SHOWS!  
FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 11, 8PM  
SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 12, 3PM & 8PM

**CHICAGO GAY MEN'S CHORUS**

*We Can't Celebrate Without You!*

# CHRISTMAS FOLLIES

"It's The Mormon Tabernacle Choir meets the Rockettes... CGMC style!"

FOR TICKETS and MORE INFO VISIT **CGMC.org**

COLORFUL



Perseus and Medusa. Image courtesy of the Piccolo Theatre

## THEATER REVIEW

# Perseus and Medusa: Or It's All Greek to Me!

Playwright: Jessica Puller

At: Piccolo Theatre, 600 Main, Evanston

Tickets: 847-424-0089;

[www.piccolotheatre.com](http://www.piccolotheatre.com);

\$10 kids, \$25 adults

Runs through: Dec. 19

BY JONATHAN ABARBANEL

Great Britain's Christmas pantomimes aren't about Christmas and aren't pantomimes, but they've been a holiday tradition for 150 years. These lavish musical shows often retell familiar tales—Puss-in-Boots, Cinderella, Robin Hood—

and follow such conventions as a young woman playing the boy hero, a character man playing the Grande Dame and planned audience participation in which children of all ages are encouraged to hoot and holler.

In Chicago, the only example of a British panto is Piccolo Theatre's annual holiday show, sometimes an existing British panto and sometimes a new piece created in the traditional style, which is the case this year. This reduction of Greek mythology presents Perseus (the "boy" role) as a young man in an Athens bait shop (and beauty parlor) who learns he's really a prince. When he falls in love with the evil king's daughter, Andromeda, he's sent in quest of the head of a gorgon. With the help of Pegasus and assorted friends (among them the Dame), Perseus saves Andromeda and secures a gorgon (Medusa herself) who turns the evil king to stone for a happy ending.

Old or new, pantos are leavened with rapid-fire word play, puns and sometimes-topical bad jokes. This one includes the following exchange: "He's the world's biggest worm," to which the reply is "Who would have thought he could outdo Joe Lieberman?" More typical, however, is the reference to an ancient Greek bridal registry at "Crete and Barrel," or a description of various mythical creatures as "wood nymphs and sea nymphs and nymphomaniacs."

Those cracks notwithstanding, the story and humor mostly are pitched to kids, meaning rug rats as young as four or five. Perseus and Medusa probably isn't a show to see with adult friends unless you're in the mood for outright silliness or a Panto 101 lesson. A panto is best played to an audience of kids who can provide the critical mass necessary to launch the show, something which was missing at the performance I saw. When present, all concerned will have a delightful time.

Piccolo squeezes 13 players onto its tiny but highly colorful stage, and they are deft at the physical business, throw-away jokes and performing the simple, pleasant, too-brief songs by Tyler Beattie. Darcy Elora Hofer's brightly-hued costumes add much fun, looking as if pulled from the Attic (pun). Still, each year I want Piccolo's panto to be bigger and have stronger musical elements and to abandon some of the Brit traditions which don't necessarily make the show better. I'd love to see Piccolo join forces on a panto with Redmoon or with House Theatre of Chicago, our best theater storytellers. These troupes already use many panto techniques and could complement Piccolo's demonstrated expertise.

## CRITICS' PICKS

**The Addams Family**, Ford Center/Oriental Theatre, through Jan. 10. Critics can't see it until Dec. 9, but you can. With Nathan Lane and Bebe Neuwirth respectively as Gomez and Morticia and a creative team headed by vets of Jersey Boys and Shockheaded Peter, how wrong can ya go? JA

**Carnival Nocturne**, Silent Theatre at The Storefront, through Dec. 20. The exquisite visual imagery in this darkly romantic fairy tale—rendered smaller than Nutcrackers or Carols in both physical dimension and ticket price—is so intricately detailed that a single viewing is barely enough to scope it all out. MSB

**Dr. Harlon's Keys to Better Living**, Royal George Theatre Gallery, through Dec. 15. Portraying half a dozen or so all-American nut jobs, Will Clinger puts his gloriously goofy comedic persona to use with an alternately eccentric and hilarious spoof on the self-help movement. Would that all Power-Point presentations were this entertaining. CS

**When She Danced**, TimeLine Theatre, through Dec. 20. Jennifer Engstrom may never dance as the modern dance pioneer Isadora Duncan, but you get a sense of why her vivacious personality attracted such an international cortege of fans and followers in this enthralling production. SCM

—By Abarbanel, Barnidge, Morgan and Sullivan

Chicago Gay History Project

## Community Photo Days

Center on Halsted

3656 N. Halsted, 2nd floor, Chicago

Thursday, Dec. 17 2 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 19 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Tuesday, Dec. 22 Noon-4 p.m.



A free photo session for you, your friends, partner and family.

Come be part of the Chicago Gay History Project and have your images be part of our community's history.

Photos will be posted at [www.ChicagoGayHistory.org](http://www.ChicagoGayHistory.org), a project by Windy City Times Publisher Tracy Baim.

Photos take just a few minutes per person, so just come prepared for your close-up! No reservations needed.

You will be asked to sign a legal release. Optional will be a Q&A form that you will be emailed.

Questions?

Email [info@chicagogayhistory.org](mailto:info@chicagogayhistory.org)



Individual head shots, plus group and couples photos.

CHICAGO GAY HISTORY



Cameron Esposito.

## COMEDY

# Cameron Esposito's latest 'Grab'

BY MICKI LEVENTHAL

Cameron Esposito, the rare full-time, out queer comic currently working in Chicago, has been enjoying a growing popularity with local audiences for the past three years. (In June, she was named one of Windy City Times' 30 under 30.) Having just returned from touring with *El Circo Cheapo*, the smart, energetic 28-year-old is now doing five to seven shows a week, teaching stand-up to aspiring female comics and working part-time as a nanny.

Her latest accomplishment is a contract with Rooftop Comedy Records. *Grab Them Aghast* will be recorded live at Lincoln Lodge, 4008 N. Lincoln, Dec. 3-4, and Esposito hopes that the place is packed with fans, old and new. The album is scheduled for a February release and will be available on iTunes.

Esposito is not an Angry Comic; she prefers to shine a light on "the intricacies and interactions of daily life" and her humor is absurdist rather than overtly political. "I think of myself as a slippery activist. You can't necessarily tag

what I'm doing—being present and challenging people's assumptions," she said.

She writes all her own material, drawing on her experiences as a "gay lady" or "queer," stage monikers she chooses over "lesbian," considering that label a bit old-school and perhaps boundary setting. "If you use the term 'lesbian' in a predominantly straight room—and most rooms are predominantly straight—it becomes the focal point," Esposito said. "Some gay comics only work gay rooms. Being part of the mainstream comedy scene, you're in a situation that is mostly heteronormative and mostly men. I need to live in the middle, career-wise."

Esposito grew up in the Chicago suburb of Western Springs in a conservative Catholic family. "I did not get messages of hate or disgust," she said; she simply was unaware of the existence of "gay people." "I dated men because that was what was supposed to happen," Esposito said. "I had dreams about women and really close relationships, but I was not very self-aware and did not see myself for a very long time." In fact, she was quite religious. "I was an outspoken advocate of abstinence," she said with a laugh. "Realizing that I was queer at that point would have been like discovering I was, say, a leprechaun. There were just no examples of this in my life."

It wasn't until she was at Boston College working on a double major in English and theology (with a minor in Faith, Peace and Justice) that Esposito realized she was sexually attracted to women. "The first time I kissed a woman was one of the most pivotal moments of my life," she said.

You can find many reasons to love Cameron Esposito at The Lincoln Lodge, 4008 N. Lincoln, Thursday-Friday, Dec. 3-4. Shows begin at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10; call 773-251-1539 or visit [www.thelincolnlodge.com](http://www.thelincolnlodge.com).

Read more about what Cameron Esposito is thinking online at [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com).



# KNIGHT AT THE MOVIES



Julie and Julia.

## Holiday 2009 DVD gift ideas

BY RICHARD KNIGHT, JR.

This year Black Friday, the traditional jumping-off point for the annual holiday shopping madness was just the beginning of sales on just about everything including DVDs (both "regular" DVDs and the new, supposedly improved Blu-Ray formats). For movie fans of all stripes, especially those of a queer bent, this will prove to be an incentive to stock up on a slew of new titles and perhaps even buy a few as gifts should the spirit of the season truly arrive. A few suggestions from my own shopping list (unless noted, these titles are already in stores or will arrive on Dec. 8):

### Tis the season

Three holiday-themed movies worth adding to

the collection: **Make the Yuletide Gay**, though a tad on the thin side, is one of the few queer-themed holiday movies that hasn't made me want to toss my eggnog. Criterion is releasing **A Christmas Tale**, the superb 2008 drama starring Catherine Deneuve about the holiday gathering of a dysfunctional French family. And **Remember the Night**, the nearly forgotten 1940 holiday gem with Barbara Stanwyck and Fred MacMurray from Preston Sturges, is finally getting a release via the new DVD on Demand program, thanks to TCM and Universal (and no one tell my husband, who has had this on his wish list for decades).

### Classics

The joint TCM/Universal DVD on Demand program has also just given us the **Universal Cult Horror Collection**, a nifty set of five horror programmers with stars Lionel Atwill, George Zucco and others (and look for a set of early Cary Grant films in early January with more titles appearing quarterly). MGM is getting in on the DVD on

Demand action beginning on Dec. 15 with several recent titles and two older favorites: 1962's **Two for the Seesaw** with Shirley MacLaine and Robert Mitchum and 1956's **Trapeze** with Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis fighting over Gina Lollobrigida.

Universal also recently released the three-disc **Claudette Colbert Collection**, which includes six hidden gems of one of Hollywood's unsung (and rumored Sapphic) classic stars. And Warner Home Video has superb new additions (in both DVD and Blu Ray formats) celebrating the 70th anniversary of **Gone with the Wind** and **The Wizard of Oz** as well as a 50th-anniversary edition of **North By Northwest**—all with hours of extras including feature length documentaries, etc. in sparkling new digitally improved formats.

### Recently in theaters

**Bruno**, the latest from shock character comedian Sacha Baron Cohen—that includes a batch of deleted scenes and other extras, is at the top of my comedies list. **Julie & Julia**—the delightful dual biopic of blogger Julie Powell and legendary French chef Julia Child with a star turn by Meryl Streep and a delightful performance by Amy Adams in the title roles—is first on my partner's wish list, next to mine for **500 Days of Summer**, the witty romantic comedy with Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Zoey Deschanel, one of the year's best films. It arrives on Dec. 22 just in time to stick under the tree—as does Mike Judge's very funny comedy, **Extract**, with Justin Bateman, which hopefully will find a larger audience on DVD than it did in theaters.

I have several blockbuster action fans on my list so I'm picking up several of last summer's biggest hits, now hitting stores—**Star Trek** for my best friend (a dedicated Trekkie for 30

years), **Terminator Salvation** for that cousin on my list who has a thing for Christian Bale, **Public Enemies** for myself and anyone else who wants a large dose of Johnny Depp until Alice in Wonderland arrives this spring (and maybe Dark Shadows in 2011?) and **Inglorious Basterds** for that friend (and you know who you are) with the twisted sense of humor (arriving Dec. 15). My partner's son-in-law wants the **Watchman Ultimate Box Set** and, though I thought everything about it (except Billy Crudup's blue penis) was a waste of time, his wish is my command. My two favorite blockbusters from last summer are going into my collection: **Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince** (the two-disc edition with all the behind-the-scenes features) and **District Nine** (which squeaks under the Christmas-giving wire with a Dec. 22 release date).

### Going green

**Earth**, the stunning documentary from Disney, won't break the bank and **Water Life**, a fascinating six-part documentary (available in a three-disc Blu-Ray version) from Anamorphic is a great companion set. I'm also a big fan of the trend—started by several of the indie distributors—of releasing DVDs in recycled packaging—a trend that hopefully will spread to the majors.

### Queer-themed

There's plenty out there just for Our People (most of it in the romance or sex comedy department) starting with Zeitgeist's wonderful documentary **Chris & Don: A Love Story** and Ang Lee's underrated dramedy **Taking Woodstock** (arriving Dec. 15). Several other interesting LGBT-themed titles: **Hollywood Je T'aime**, a sexy romantic comedy with Chad Allen and French hottie Eric Debets (from Wolfe Video), the rough-and-tumble **Shank** and **Redwoods**, a gay romance (both from TLA), **Ghosted**, a lesbian romantic mystery from First Run Features and **Lucky Bastard**, a sexy drama from Breaking Glass. And don't forget to pick up **Eating Out: All You Can Eat** from Ariztical to get your holiday quota of hunky near-naked studs tossed in with the comedy.

### TV time

There's more queer-themed material (lots of it) when my list veers toward the small screen starting with the sixth and final season of **The L Word**, the latest seasons of **Ugly Betty**, **Desperate Housewives** and **Brothers & Sisters** (each featuring gay characters), Showtime's season three of **The Tudors** with queer fave Johnathan Rhys-Myers in the title role lands on Dec. 15 and just after the holidays (on Dec. 29) comes **Glee, Vol. One: Road to Sectionals**, which includes the first 13 episodes of the hit Fox dramedy—something to use one of your gift cards on!

Happy holiday shopping to one and all.

Check out my archived reviews at [www.windycitytimes.com](http://www.windycitytimes.com) or [www.knightatthemovies.com](http://www.knightatthemovies.com). Readers can leave feedback at the latter Web site.

## CULTURE CLUB

AMERICAN BLUES THEATER  
proudly returns with

*It's a Wonderful Life*  
Live at the Biograph!

Come Experience the  
1944 radio broadcast of  
*It's a Wonderful Life*

Victory Gardens Biograph Theater  
2433 N. Lincoln Avenue Chicago, Illinois

Text "Biograph" to 41411  
for news and discounts

Nov. 27th thru  
Dec. 27th  
Thurs - Fri 8pm  
Sat 5 & 8pm  
Sun 2:30pm

Call the BOX OFFICE at  
(773) 871-3000  
or visit [americanbluestheater.com](http://americanbluestheater.com)

THEATRE  
NORTHLIGHT

*Souvenir*

sponsored by  
ComEd

by Stephen Temperley  
directed by Steve Scott

FLORENCE FOSTER JENKINS'  
UNLIKELY JOURNEY  
FROM LAUGHINGSTOCK  
TO MUSICAL LEGEND.

NOV 12 - DEC 20 || 847.673.6300 OR [northlight.org](http://northlight.org)

OH COWARD!

A MUSICAL COMEDY REVUE

WORDS AND MUSIC BY NOËL COWARD DEvised BY RODERICK COOK  
MUSICAL DIRECTION BY DOUG PECK DIRECTED BY JIM CORTI  
Performed at 664 Vernon Avenue, Glencoe

PLAYING NOW!

Don't miss  
this must-see  
evening of the  
most memorable  
tunes of the  
20th century!

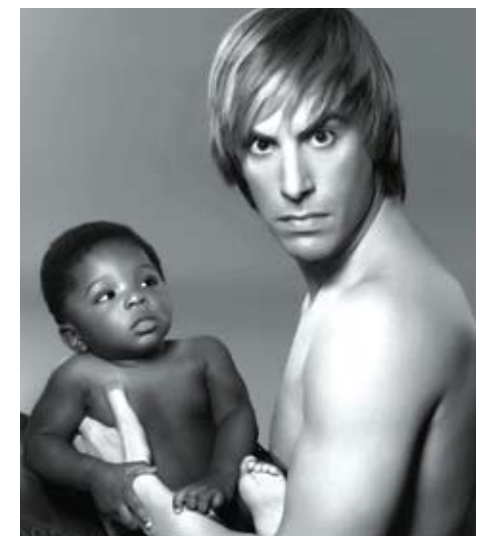
ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY!  
[WRITERS THEATRE.ORG](http://WRITERS THEATRE.ORG)  
847-242-6000

Production Sponsor  
NES  
Media Sponsor  
PIONEER PRESS  
WRITERS' THEATRE

David Bowie Wants To Stuff...  
Your Stocking!

New Millennium Theatre Company Presents:  
The David Bowie Hepzkat Funky Velvet  
Flamey Solstice Spectacular Live...from Space  
(David Bowie's Christmas Special 1977)

11:00 pm Fridays & Saturdays Nov. 20 - Dec. 19  
National Pastime Theater 4139 N. Broadway  
\$15 for tix.  
reservations call 312.458.9083  
[www.nmtchicago.org](http://www.nmtchicago.org)



Bruno.

# calendar

Brought to you by the combined efforts of

WINDY CITY TIMES



## Wed., Dec. 2

**Power Groups** Looking for African American MSM's who are HIV+ and have a history of substance abuse to participate in a 6 week intervention to reduce the risk of further transmission or re-infection, and to reduce the use of substances. This group meets twice a week on Monday and Wednesdays from 1-3 at 5537 N. Broadway. POWER is Positive Outcomes Wellness Education and Recovery. Call the POWER line at 773-944-9400 and ask for the POWER department.. 1 p.m., 773-989-9400, www.tpan.com

**Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams Book Signing** Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams will be at Jayson Home & Garden, 1885 N. Clybourn, signing copies their new book, The Comfortable Home: How to Invest in Your Nest and Live Well for Less, 6-8 p.m., 773-248-8180, www.jaysonhomeandgarden.com

## Thursday, Dec. 3

**World of Chocolate 2009** World of Chocolate is the AIDS Foundation of Chicago's (AFC) annual holiday fundraising event held in commemoration of World AIDS Day. Guests sample scrumptious chocolate creations from more than 30 of Chicagoland's finest restaurants, caterers, and chocolatiers. 5 p.m., Chicago Hilton and Towers, 720 S. Michigan, www.aidschicago.org/events/world\_of\_chocolate.php

**American Veterans for Equal Rights** Monthly meeting of the Chicago chapter; 7 p.m., 773-472-6469, Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted, www.aver.us

**CenterED: A Holiday Ornament Workshop with Dan Crowley** Local Chicago artist Dan

## THE MEAL DEAL Sunday, Dec. 6

The Vital Bridges 20th Annual Holiday Brunch will take place at the Four Seasons, 120 E. Delaware.

Photo of Debbie Hinde and Ron Nunziato from '08 brunch by Mel Ferrand



Crowley will guide participants through the fun of creating three different holiday ornaments using polymer clay, glitter and other materials. Two-session workshop takes place Dec. 3 and 10. \$50 includes all materials. Register online. Questions to culture@centeronhalsted.org; 7pm, 773-661-0763, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted, www.centeronhalsted.org

**Dating for Lesbian Nerds** Find love with other smart single women over board games and trivia quizzes at Fat Cat, 4840 N. Broadway. 7pm, 312-265-6085, nerd-satheart.com

## Friday, Dec. 4

**Workshop for Girl-Serving Groups about Healthy Sexuality** Discussion of needs and next steps to inform a city-wide girl-oriented series of events and activities focused on Healthy Sexuality and HIV. For individuals who work with and for girls as teachers, counselors, social service providers of all forms (health, art, leadership,

social justice etc.), and other adult allies. Free. Registration and light breakfast 8 a.m. at Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center, 2020 W. Harrison; 312-353-4321. www.workingtogetherworkshop.eventbrite.com

**Q Review reading by GLBT writers** Performances by David Trinidad, Ames Hawkins, Gregg Shapiro, Aldo Alvarez and Samuel Park at Columbia College Chicago's Conaway Center, at 1104 S. Wabash Ave. in the South Loop. Free. 5pm, http://www.qreviewonline.com

**The Flesh Hungry Dog Show, Christmas With The Crawfords** This holiday extravaganza features Chicago's favorite party band The Joans, rakish and urbane rockers The Handcuffs, and the loveable and lo-fi Blue Ribbon Glee Club. The show will also feature "Bag of Fun" prize giveaways from The Pleasure Chest, groovy movies, and special guest performers from Girlie-Q Burlesque. 21+; 9pm, 773-743-5772, Jackhammer, 6406 N Clark, www.fleshhungrydog.com.

## Saturday, Dec. 5

**Lesbian Survivors of Sexual Assault Therapy Group** This YWCA group is for lesbian women over 18 who have experienced sexual abuse as a child or as an adult. The group will meet weekly on Saturday mornings and will take place on the North side. The group will focus on coping and self-care skills. Please call Katie at 312-762-2769 for more information. 10am, 312-762-2769

**Windy City Gay Chorus and Aria: Windy City Women's Ensemble Holiday Concert** "Winter Wonderland," under the co-direction of interim music directors Bill Howes and Claire Bigley. Dec. 5 at 5 and 8 pm, and Sunday, Dec. 6 2 pm; \$20, general admission online or at the door one hour prior to performance. 5pm, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted, www.windycityings.org

**"Single Mingle" Gay Speed Dating at Sidetrack** A Date & Dash Production. With winter on the way, start expanding your social calendar! Knowing a good man is hard to find, we've created this event specifically for the guys. 7pm, Sidetrack, 3349 N Halsted, www.dateanddash.com/index.php#eve

**Embodying the Change: World AIDS Day Benefit** Wicker Park Grace and Ubuntu Global Village Foundation welcomes local and global community members for an evening of live art, music, poetry and spoken word, awareness community connection and more at Embodying the Change: World AIDS Day Ubuntu Benefit; 7pm, 312-399-2081, www.wickerparkgrace.net

**Delight Before Christmas** Girlie-Q Productions presents its first original, full-length production, Delight Before Christmas, a sexy, campy, comic burlesque journey to discover the meaning of Christmas. Performances Thurs., Fri., Sat. at 8:30pm through Dec 19. Tickets \$15-\$20 via Ticketmaster online. 8:30pm, Theatre Building Chicago, 1225 W. Belmont, girlieq.net/delight

## Sunday, Dec. 6

**Vital Bridges 20th Annual Holiday Brunch** Enjoy the company of friends and warmth of the day with a Four Seasons Sunday meal, entertainment, a raffle, and dozens of holiday gift temptations. Vital Bridges will honor Robert S. Mayo (posthumously) with our Food For Life Award. Auctions will feature trips to the Bahamas and Montana; a luxury yacht cruise; theater, restaurant, and spa packages. Grand raffle prize is \$10,000 cash. Four Seasons Hotel, 120 E. Delaware. Individual Ticket \$250.00. 11am, www.vitalbridges.org

**Women of All Colors Together (WACT) brunch** WACT is a brunch and social support organization or all lesbians and bisexual women. Call for location. Holiday party immediately following the brunch. 12pm, 773-271-2393

**Gender JUST Semi-Monthly Organizational Meeting** Be a part of strategy on both of Gender JUST's campaigns, as well as other projects including Community Alternatives to Hate Crimes Legislation and Stopping the Deportation of Rigo Padilla. Gender JUST, 813 E 63rd, 1pm, 312 545-6871

## Monday, Dec. 7

**Season of Concern & The League of Chicago Theatres industry party "Tis the Season."** An industry holiday party, awards presentation and mad, hot sing-off. Larry Sloan Awards will be presented to Rondi Reed, Jonathan Abarbanel and The Actors Fund. Suggested donation benefits Season of Concern. Chopin Theatre, 1543 W Division; 6:30pm, Chopin Theatre, 1543 W Division, www.seasonofconcern.org

**Legacy Project: Preserving the Legacies of LGBT Playwrights** One-night-only event will spotlight individuals and companies who work to promote LGBT theatre and playwrights in a panel discussion, to be facilitated by Venus Zarris (Gay Chicago, Chicago Stage Review). Monologues from acclaimed LGBT playwrights will be performed, and a Q&A session will follow the presentation. Throughout November, People's Theatre and the Center have been producing staged readings of rarely seen plays that explore LGBT themes through the Legacy Project. \$10 (\$5 student/senior discount with valid ID) at the door goes to support cultural programs at Center on Halsted. For more information, please email culture@centeronhalsted.org; 7pm, 773-661-0763, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted, http://www.centeronhalsted.org

**Whining in the Windy City: Holiday Edition** Acclaimed New York comedic actress (and hilarious holiday-hating Hebrew) Jackie Hoffman will debut her no-holds-barred original musical comedy rant about showbiz, not-so-charming children, and of course the holidays, in four performances only at the Royal George Cabaret. 7:30pm, 312-988-9000, Royal George Theatre, 1641 N Halsted

## Tuesday, Dec. 8

**Addams Family Musical Benefit for Equality IL** Supporters of Equality Illinois have a special opportunity to attend the Addams Family musical and benefit Equality Illinois at the same time. 1:15pm, 773-477-7173, Ford Center Oriental Theatre, 24 W Randolph St, http://eqfed.org/equality\_illinois/events/addamsfamily/details.tcl 10am, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted

Gerber/Hart Library Women's Book Group



## DEAR JON Monday, Dec. 7

Windy City Times theater critic Jonathan Abarbanel is among the Larry Sloan Award recipients at the Chopin Theatre, 1543 W. Division.

Photo courtesy of Abarbanel

Second Tuesday of each month. Discussion: The Price of Salt by Patricia Highsmith (originally published under the pen name Claire Morgan); 7:30pm, Gerber/Hart Library, 1127 W Granville Ave, http://www.gerberhart.org

## Wed., Dec. 9

**Power Groups** Looking for African American MSM's who are HIV+ and have a history of substance abuse to participate in a 6 week intervention to reduce the risk of further transmission or re-infection, and to reduce the use of substances. This group meets twice a week on Monday and Wednesdays from 1-3 at 5537 N. Broadway. POWER is Positive Outcomes Wellness Education and Recovery. Call the POWER line at 773-944-9400 and ask for the POWER department.. 1 p.m., 773-989-9400, www.tpan.com

**G&L Chamber Holiday Party** The Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce Annual Holiday Party, to be held at the beautiful Hotel 71 Penthouse. Member rate of \$35. This rate includes two beverages and heavy appetizers, along with beautiful views of the city. 6:15pm, 773-303-0167, Hotel 71, 71 East Wacker, www.glchamber.org

## Friday, Dec. 11

**Center on Halsted's CENTERscreen series shows "Dirty Laundry"** Center on Halsted, in partnership with More For Gay Men presents an evening of great movie viewing, camaraderie and conversation. Experience a different way to talk about the movies. "Dirty Laundry" stars Loretta Devine and Rockmond Dunbar in the story of a gay man returning home to Georgia to face his family, and the news that he has a 10-year-old son. Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door. Admission includes facilitated discussion and light refreshments. 6:30pm, 312-645-8300, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted, http://www.moreforgaymen.com

## Wed., Dec. 16

**Champagne Wrapture 2009** 8th Annual Champagne Wrapture cocktail party and art auction featuring Veuve Clicquot Champagne and Belvedere vodka, silent auction & raffle, and live music from cabaret duo Amy Armstrong and Freddy Allen; 5:30pm, Hotel Sax, 333 N. Dearborn, www.chicago-house.org/event\_4.html

## Saturday, Dec. 19

**Center on Halsted Holiday Food Drive, Stocking Making with GLBT families.** RSVP for this free event to Cathy Jones (Recreation Health and Wellness Coordinator) at 773-472-6469 x265 or email cjones@centeronhalsted.org. 10am, 773-472-6469 x265, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted, www.centeronhalsted.org

## OF NOTE

### Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 5-6

Windy City Gay Chorus and Aria: Windy City Women's Ensemble will perform at Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted.

Photo by Ross Forman

Get  
calendar  
online

WindyCityMediaGroup.com  
ChicagoPride.com

# BILLY MASTERS

"If a high school drama teacher (who works as a dominatrix on the weekends) directed 'Frankenstein' in a musical homage to Paula Abdul's 'Cold Hearted Snake' video and 'Showgirls', it might look a little like Adam Lambert's performance on the AMAs last night!"—Michael K, DListed.com.

Last week, I had a difficult personal decision to make—the details of which needn't concern you. (Believe it or not, I don't tell you everything.) While weighing my options, I was looking for a sign. Then I literally walked into a wall, split my forehead open and almost gave myself a concussion. Later in the day, I went forward with my plan, and then wondered why I felt like I was banging my head against a wall. The signs aren't worth a thing if you don't heed them.

Adam Lambert had a similar dilemma—to go forward with a performance that would obviously polarize people watching the American Music Awards, or play it safe. No one can be surprised at his decision. After all, Kris Allen won American Idol and no one was asking him to sing (although, to be honest, I prefer his single). Lambert took a page from the Madonna playbook—whether people liked him or not, they were all talking about him the next day. When asked what he would change if he could do it all over again, Adam did address my big gripe with the performance: "I would sing it a little better."

Last week, everyone was in a tizzy over the opening of "New Moon." During the media blitz, Robert Pattinson told David Letterman that requests to bite someone on the neck have not been limited to the ladies: "There was a guy, kind of, maybe 230-pound guy who was at the premiere, kind of Hispanic-looking, and he was asking me to bite him as well. So I did. And surprisingly, I kind of liked it afterwards. And I've been out to dinner a couple times with him since." And that concludes this week's installment of "Gay or British!"

Pattinson ain't the only "Moonie" getting attention from the boys. There's also mega-hot Kellan Lutz (in spite of that unfortunate hair color he's currently sporting). The gay rumors about him can be traced to his own co-star, sexy Peter Facinelli. Mr. Jennie Garth posted a photo of the pair holding hands on Twitter stating, "Co-stars caught holding hands. Guess this picture proves everything." Then Kellan added fuel to the fire, saying, "It's the naked one of us in the bubble bath that would really get us into trouble!" Well, that proves it—he's straight. No self-respecting queen would make such a lame joke!

Taylor Lautner is showing off his hotness on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine. Since he refuses to discuss any details of his romantic life (i.e., Taylor Swift), the interviewer says, "Another possibility is that maybe you're just sort of discovering yourself, as a young person trying to figure out his sexual identity in the world." Gotta give the mag some credit for bringing that up (not that I think there's anything to the speculation). I give even more credit to Lautner, who addresses the comment: "OK, I see where you're going. Interesting choice. There's a lot of rumors out there." Indeed there are. Incidentally, Taylor Lautner hosts Saturday Night Live Dec. 12.

Brace yourself—it's time for a special installment of "Fayewatch." Ah, La Dunaway—where has she been? What has she been doing? Well, I think the easy answer is "not working." And not paying her bills. According to documents filed in New York County Court, the actress owes \$1,920.85 in back rent. Of course, one doesn't get threatened with legal notice for being late once, or even twice. Apparently, there's a history of late payments and this is the first step toward eviction. Faye, pay up—the last thing someone on a fixed income wants to do is lose her rent-

controlled apartment!

Speaking of evictions, Boy George is allegedly going to participate in the popular UK reality show, Celebrity Big Brother. What's interesting about this decision is that he's routinely turned down all reality shows in the past. Why now? Well, he'd be paid over \$300,000—and for someone with no income, that's a BIG incentive. Plus, after spending time in the Big House, the Big Brother House should be a piece of cake.

Our "Ask Billy" question this week came in from Thomas in San Diego: "I keep hearing that Emmanuel from 'Chef Academy' was a porn star. He certainly looks like he could (should) do porn, but he doesn't look familiar to me. What do you know?"

The reason he doesn't look familiar to you is because he's done straight porn. Yes, believe it or not, some people watch straight porn. He



Adam Lambert plays it safe—not!

goes by the name Jean Valjean—which I assume means he's got an impressive loaf of French bread! His porn past was actually revealed on an episode of Keeping Up With The Kardashians, where he took an acting class with Khloe (fill in your own joke). Because you asked, I've been compelled to look up nude photos of a guy having sex with a girl—proving categorically that no sacrifice is too great for my fans. While he doesn't necessarily have the body of our gay boys (that's how you can tell if a porn star is gay or straight), he is handsome and well-endowed. Photos can be found on BillyMasters.com. But I promise—no vag shots!

By the way, my spies in South Florida tell me that the Kardashian's "store," Dash Miami, is never open. The buzz is that the space is basically used as a prop. When then need to film a scene for the show, the shop opens up, the crew herds shoppers in, and the magic happens. Then, when they have enough footage, lock 'er up.

When Dash Miami is the least fake thing about the Kardashians, it's definitely time to end yet another column. Since Thanksgiving just happened, let me take a second to thank my proofers and legal team—without their weekly input, I'd never have been able to do this for 14 years! But, most of all, I have to thank the fans. Trust me when I tell you no one is getting rich over at www.BillyMasters.com. But because of your support, we're having a good time keeping you informed and entertained. If you've got a question, feel free to write me at Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before Boy George signs up for Celebrity Fit Club—because he's so fit! So, until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

hot drinks to warm your soul

coffee • cider • hot chocolate • tea

WE'RE PROUD TO SERVE



And mix in favorites like:

**PAMA**  
POMEGRANATE LIQUEUR

**LICOR**  
43

**WILD TURKEY**  
AMERICAN HONEY

**SIDETRACK**

3349 N. Halsted  
Valet Parking Available  
www.SidetrackChicago.com

## THE HOTTEST TICKET ON THE WEB

**FREE 30 MIN. CODE: 04149**

KYLE KING  
COURTESY OF  
HOTOHOUSE.COM

**GayMovies.com**

Only 10¢ Per Minute • 650 Gay Studios • Over 12,000 Movies  
No Memberships • No Monthly Fees

# REAL ESTATE

## FOR SALE

### OUT OF TOWN

**FOR SALE IN UNION PIER.** Custom home. First time on market. 2 BRM, 2 bath + office, attached garage. 4 blks from the lake. So private, difficult to find. 10 wooded acres behind. **269.612.7506 (11/25/09-2)**

## HOUSES



New custom home in Deerfield, 4 BR, 3.5 baths, 2 car heated garage, high ceilings and full unfinished basement. 2 blocks from metra, close to park and award winning schools. 3375 sf on tree lined street. \$789,000. Call Steve at 847-875-1200 or email at [kozer.steve@gmail.com](mailto:kozer.steve@gmail.com)

## CONDOS

**LOFT WITH PRIVATE GARDEN** Sunny 2 bedroom brick and beam loft in great location in Lakeview. Soaring 20 foot ceilings, new hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances, wood burning fireplace, private entrance, it's very own professionally landscaped fenced garden and a heated garage spot. \$349,000 Call PJ Duffy @properties 312-278-3772 more info [www.postlets.com/reph/2839330](http://www.postlets.com/reph/2839330) (12/2/09-4)

**Two bedroom and den, 2 bath condominium in East Hyde Park.** Balcony, garage space included. Red oak floors, cherry/stainless/granite/satin nickel. Window treatments, washer/dryer hookups. \$185,000 Shirley Chua, realtor. (773) 320-7064 (12/2/09-2)

## FOR RENT

### ONE BEDROOM

**RAVENSWOOD ONE BEDROOM: ONE MONTH FREE,** pet friendly, great kitchen, oak floors, walk-in closets, laundry, walk to Brown Line. \$795/heated 773-743-4141 [www.urbanequities.com](http://www.urbanequities.com) (11/18/09-4)

### TWO BEDROOM

**DOWNTOWN OAK PARK LIMITED TIME - 1st MONTH FREE.** Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1150 including heat, water and parking. Call 847-520-4201. [www.pabcormanagement.com](http://www.pabcormanagement.com) (11/18/09-4)

**ANDERSONVILLE - BEAUTIFUL, COMPLETELY REHABBED 2 BDRM. APT ON RIDGE & ARDMORE.** Central air/heat, great sun light, security alarm, new white cabinetry, granite countertop, stainless steel appliances hardwood flooring, spacious living & dining rooms, brick fireplace, laundry in building. Near Lakeshore Dr. Available now. \$1000/mo. Please call 312.907.6539 or [lakesidec@gmail.com](mailto:lakesidec@gmail.com) (11/18/09-4)

**LARGE UNIT VINTAGE BUILDING 2 BR, 2 Bath,** Heat included, formal dining room, oak floors, fans, private deck, eat-in kitchen w/dishwasher, newly remodeled, laundry&storage in building. \$1150/month [wpier@aol.com](mailto:wpier@aol.com) (12/9/09-4)

**Nice 2 BRM in 3 unit brick walk up in progressive Oak Park.** \$1300 includes 2 off street parking spaces, heat, utilities, storage. On site laundry. Avail. Dec. 1. 901-378-4361 (12/2/09-2)

### THREE + BEDROOM

**ROGERS PARK, FREE PARKING: 3BR 2Bath.** Easy commute. Own laundry & indiv. lg bsmt. Fenced yard. Hardwood floors. Avail. now or Nov 1. \$1,150+ HEAT & UTIL. JACK: 312-305-5473 or 773-338-5473. (12/2/09-4)

# CLASSIFIEDS

## ADVERTISE HERE

**ADVERTISE HERE:** Want to advertise your product, service, etc. to thousands of readers? Place an ad in the Windy City Times! We offer affordable rates, convenient service, and as a bonus, your ad runs in our online section for free. To place an ad, contact Terri at 773-871-7610 ex 101, [terri@windycitymediagroup.com](mailto:terri@windycitymediagroup.com), or go to our website [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LESBIAN HEALTH STUDY** Recruiting lesbian women who have abused their intimate female partners for a research study and focus group. Call toll-free: 1-866-849-7716, and leave a message with a way to contact you that protects your privacy. (12/2/09-4)

## BUSINESS FOR SALE

**PROVINCETOWN RESTAURANT OPPORTUNITY:** Martin House, a Provincetown legend. Historic building (wood panelling, pine floors, wainscotting and fireplaces). Full bar, 5 dining rooms, kitchen. Prime location. \$849,000. Harborside Realty 508-487-4005. (12/16/09-4)

## CLEANING SERVICES

**CHESTNUT CLEANING SERVICES:** We're a house cleaning service for homes, small businesses and small buildings. We also have fabulous organizational skills (a separate function at a separate cost that utilizes your assistance) for what hasn't been cleaned in many months or years due to long-term illness, depression, physical/mental challenges, for the elderly, if you have downsized and more. Depressed about going home to chaos? We can organize your chaos, straighten out your chaos, help you make sense of your chaos and finally clean what is no longer chaos. Can we help you? Bonded and insured. Chestnut Cleaning Service: 312-332-5575 (4/30/10-tk)

## CONTRACTORS

**Shannon Contractors: We specialize in all your residential and commercial building requirements.** From new construction, remodeling, all carpentry, porches, decks, patios, electrical, masonry, tuck pointing, concrete work, drywall, and painting. Licensed, insured and bonded. Call Brendan Coyle 312-307-6515, [coylies@yahoo.com](mailto:coylies@yahoo.com) (2/24/10-13)

**P&L CONSTRUCTION SERVICES INC.** Kitchens, bathrooms, basements, hardwood floors, painting, tile, windows, doors, siding, gutters, decks, porches, carpentry, commercial space, build outs. Serving Chicago and suburbs. CALL 847-361-6306 FOR A FREE ESTIMATE. (1/27/10-13)

## COUNSELING

**LICENSED PSYCHOTHERAPY:** 20 years experience providing counseling and clinical hypnotherapy. I specialize in relationship issues, childhood trauma, and recurrent patterns that inhibit potential. Individuals and couples. Starla Sholl, LCSW, PC, 773.878.5809, [info@starlasholl.com](mailto:info@starlasholl.com); [www.starlasholl.com](http://www.starlasholl.com).

## HELP WANTED

**RECRUITING PARTICIPANTS IN RELATIONSHIPS.** We are conducting a research study and looking for participants! We welcome all participants 18 and older, and healthy. A compensation (between \$40 and \$80) is offered for your time. We are looking for: 1) Heterosexual or GLBQ individuals in relationships; 2) Individuals in relationships with multiple people, or in polyamorous relationships; 3) Individuals in relationships with one person; 4) Women and men. This study involves: completing questionnaires (e.g. background, health, social variables, & personal sexuality); and quick & easy saliva research samples. To volunteer or for more info, please contact [vanandersbpl@umich.edu](mailto:vanandersbpl@umich.edu) or 734-763-7121. This research is being conducted

## Lakeshore Dunes

We believe that  
**Peace**  
should be a  
standard amenity.

219-938-0500

*Studios \$430*

*1 bedrooms \$525*

*2 bedrooms \$625*

*3 bedrooms \$875*

Miller Beach, IN - Just 40 minutes from downtown Chicago

detail, quality,  
space, view, price

DONE

check us out  
[www.2500south.com](http://www.2500south.com)

*open house every sat & sun from 2-4*

## REMODELING/CONSTRUCTION

**REHAB & REMODELING KITCHENS & BATHROOMS:** Over 25 years of experience serving Chicago and surrounding suburbs. Emergency plumbing services available. Fully licensed and insured. Free estimates. Contact Steve 847-791-2216 or [s\\_shoptz@yahoo.com](mailto:s_shoptz@yahoo.com) (12/16/09-52)

## TRAVEL

**THE BEAUTY OF DOOR COUNTY:** beckons for your romantic stay in the warmth of Birchwood Lodge. Elegant suites include a king size bed, in room whirlpool and fireplace. Some suites are equipped with walk in showers. Visit us at [www.birchwoodlodge.com](http://www.birchwoodlodge.com). (8/22/10-52)

by: Sari van Anders, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Michigan. For more info, please contact [vanandersbpl@umich.edu](mailto:vanandersbpl@umich.edu) or 734-763-7121 (IRB: Behavioral Sciences; IRB Number: HUM00029316; Document Approved On: 05.12.09). (12/2/09-2)

## INTERPRETER

**FOR YOUR AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE/ENGLISH INTERPRETING NEEDS:** To consult with you or your company with your ADA needs. Diana Thorpe CI/CT/NIC Master, Nationally Certified Interpreter, 773-401-1339, or e-mail [thorpe2001@aol.com](mailto:thorpe2001@aol.com) [P-TB]

## LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State," as amended, that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County. File No. D09119748 on November 4, 2009, Under the Assumed Name of "Via Times Publications" with the business located at 3108 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, IL 60618. The true name(s) and residence address of the owner(s) is: Veronica V. Leighton, 3108 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, IL 60618.

## MASSAGE THERAPY

**CHICAGO MALE MASSAGE REVIEWS:** Find over 50 male massage therapists in Chicago on [MassageM4M.com](http://MassageM4M.com) - Hundreds of reviews of each gay friendly male massage therapists. [www.massagem4m.com/chicago](http://www.massagem4m.com/chicago) (1/13/10-8)

Deborah A.  
Murphy  
CPA

Accounting

Tax Services

Financial  
Consulting

Business  
Planning

773-404-8401  
2155 W. Roscoe  
1 South

TV

## Wendy Williams keeps it real

BY ANDREW DAVIS

This year, a self-described “messy” bombshell hit the television talk-show circuit—and her name is Wendy Williams. (By the way, her fans will be thrilled to know that The Wendy Williams Show—with the host saying her signature line, “How you doin’?”—has been extended through the 2011-12 season.) In a candid interview with Windy City Times, Williams talked about everything from her recent induction in Chicago’s National Radio Hall of Fame to why many gay people love her.

**Windy City Times:** How are you doing, Wendy?

Wendy Williams: How you doin’, Andrew?

**WCT:** [Laughs.] You know, it’s a little surreal right now. I’m talking with you and, yet, I’m also watching your show.

WW: Isn’t that weird? Yes, it’s a Friday, and we’re live from New York Monday through Thursday; the Friday show is taped Thursday afternoon at about 1:30. So on a Friday recently I walked into a place for breakfast—and there I was on TV in the bar area. It was weird, you know?

**WCT:** I have to say that you’re really rocking that dress.

WW: Oh, the pink one? Thank you! It’s Robert Rodriguez. And you know what? When I saw Chris Brown’s video, I said, “Oh, my gosh. Cassie [the female singer in the video] is wearing a similar dress to what I have on.” And her hair is pushed to the side, the way mine is. [Note: Singer Chris Brown was Williams’ guest this particular day.] I had no idea, but there I am!

**WCT:** What was it like interviewing Chris Brown? Did you have any preconceived notions going in?

WW: No, because I had met him before—maybe twice, at the most. I didn’t have any preconceived notions. The first time I met him I thought, “Here is a young boy with a whole lot of talent: the singing, the dancing, the charm, the charisma.” He’s one of the rare young men in R&B and hip-hop who’s over 4’2” and he has a nice smile. I was very disappointed to hear about what happened back in February [when he assaulted his then-girlfriend, singer Rihanna], but I had no preconceived notions. I watched the video and had some conversation with him.

**WCT:** It seems like you’re getting increasingly comfortable with your show. Do you feel you’ve made it as a TV host?

WW: No. [Laughs] I don’t like to be presumptuous, but I thought I had at least the [moxie] to get off the starting block. I’ve always had some sort of interest in having my own daytime talk show. That interest does not come without totally focusing on [aspects] like what types of guests I wanted and how I would act. This whole process is a culmination of my wildest dreams come true. I know it’s more exciting to say, “One year ago, I was a nurse on the eighth floor of a hospital...” I’ve prepared all my life for this moment.

**WCT:** Something I like about you is that you’re enjoyably over the top but you also keep it real. You remind me a lot of Dolly Parton in that way—and it was pretty fitting that you dressed as her for your Halloween show.

WW: [Giggles] I love Dolly and I love that comparison. I take that as the highest honor for you to read through all the people you could compare me to and pick this woman because of the audacity she has to be herself. That is the highest compliment. Thank you.

**WCT:** Last night on The Jay Leno Show, she was asked, “What’s the first thing you do in the morning?” She said, “I put my dress on and go home.”

WW: [Laughs] Oooh—the sloppy, messy answer! I love it!

**WCT:** I don’t know if you recall this, but on an episode [in August] you were talking with



Wendy Williams.

this woman in the audience who was talking about her battles with food and weight, and you started crying.

WW: I’m such a crybaby. I don’t recall that, but so many women identified with me. Maybe I haven’t gone through it, but they’re comfortable asking me something. Or maybe they’ve heard

me mention something, like weight. Again, I can be nothing but flattered.

I just love this whole talk-show world that’s been created for me (with this supportive staff) and by me, because I’m not scared to be myself. The idea that, in one hour, we can go from hot topics to celebrities—today I’m talking with Chris Brown and the fabulously legendary Diahann Carroll, in a short tank dress with sweaty armpits [Interviewer laughs.]—to our “Ask Wendy” segment... I love this show. It’s fabulous—and I can do it all in five-inch heels. [Both laugh.]

**WCT:** Why do you think you resonate with so many members of the gay community?

WW: Probably because we share [the fact] that we’re not like the rest—from the beginning. There’s having a surprise to pop on the world; for me, it was, “Guess what, world? I’m not perfect. I am who I am. I’m taller and bawdier—and I’m not going to do anything about it. I’m not going to fit into your perfect little box.” With a gay man or woman, it’s, “Guess what, world? I am who I am, and there’s nothing you can do about it.”

Then, there’s also the obvious: I’m brighter than the girl next door. [I like] my pink, my hair is too high, my boobs are too big, my hips come out too much, my heels are too high, my

voice is too loud and my laugh is over the top. I laugh from my feet, and the laughter and joy ring through my 40-inch legs, wrap around my 30-inch waist, pass through my double-F boobs and out of my mouth. And you see all my big teeth—and it is what it is. [Both laugh.]

**WCT:** By the way, I have to congratulate you on being inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame [in Chicago in November]. I was looking at the list of previous inductees: Dick Clark, Abbott & Costello, Yvonne Daniels, Groucho Marx and Wolfman Jack are just a few of them. How does it feel to be included with them?

WW: It feels groundbreaking and it feels fabulous. I feel deserving, though; I’m rolling with the big boys—and the legendary big boys, at that. It feels just great.

After 25 years of being in radio, and to still be young enough to matter—I’m not dead or irrelevant—feels wonderful. This is the real deal.

I have been called legendary before [both laugh] but this is truly LEGENDARY. My [descendants] will be able to walk in and see crazy Miss Wendy.

To read Wendy’s thoughts about her recent photo shoot with Mike Ruiz as well as her own ideas regarding beauty (including hers), visit [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com).



Sidelined by diarrhea?  
 HIV-positive?

At least 18 years of age?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in our clinical study. We are testing an investigational medicine that may help control HIV-associated diarrhea and get you back in the game. For more information, call Alianza Research at 312-988-4500.

**ADVENT**

ADDRESSING DIARRHEA TO VENTURE FORWARD

Salix Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Napo Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

27 May 09, version 2.0



Doug Anderson. Photo courtesy of Anderson

## GAY GAMES

# Optimism reigns in Cleveland

BY ROSS FORMAN

They had exactly 1,775 days from the Sept. 29 announcement that Cleveland would host the 2014 Gay Games until that event's opening ceremony Aug. 9. And organizers are already predicting many other incredible, eye-popping numbers for the event, which will carry a registration fee of \$135, regardless of the date. Just consider that there will be:

- 15,000-20,000 participating athletes;
- 4,000-5,000 participants for cultural events;
- 250,000 attendees over a 10-day span;
- 7,000 rodeo participants, since rodeo will be at the Games for the first time; and
- 70,000 attending the opening and closing ceremonies, both to be held at Cleveland Browns Stadium, home of the National Football League franchise, with the Goodyear blimp flying overhead.

"We absolutely believe that this is going to be one of the greatest events that the Federation [of Gay Games, FGG] has ever had," said Doug Anderson, 54, one of the three co-founders of the Cleveland Synergy Foundation, the Cleveland bid committee that presented its case for 2014 to the FGG in September in Cologne, Germany, site of the 2010 Gay Games.

"If you talk to athletes, for them, it's about their sport, the love of their sport; it's the reason why they do it," Anderson said. "Cleveland might not be the most spectacular city, but it's a city that, come 2014, people from all over the world truly will be welcome, safe and secure. And that's a message that the Federation is sending out, too. Just because a city is high-profile does not mean that hosting a Gay Games will be a financial success, as we've learned."

Cleveland landed the Games away from fellow finalists Boston and Washington, D.C.

There initially were 14 cities worldwide that expressed interest in hosting the 2014 Games. They were then narrowed to four, but Miami ultimately did not meet a deadline to submit its bid.

So, on the final Tuesday in September, with the world watching live via an Internet broadcast, Chicagoan Dick Uyvari, in Cologne, announced that Cleveland was the 2014 winner.

"We knew that our bid was really strong," said Anderson, whose crew delivered a final 45-minute presentation to the FGG, followed by a 30-minute question-and-answer session the days before the announcement.

"We went in with a message that we are the heartland and that just expressing interest in hosting the Games has created enormous change in Cleveland-Akron," Anderson said. "We also told that we had secured the incredible Fires-

tone Stadium in Akron and the Firestone Country Club, marking the first time [that country club] has been opened to an LGBT organization.

"Our presentation in Cologne stressed that we are Midwesterners, that we are family, that we're detail-oriented, that we're professional event-planners."

Cleveland's on-site crew in Cologne numbered 20, including a representative from Continental Airlines, which already has agreed to be a corporate sponsor in 2014.

"Our message was, 'Come to Cleveland; it's accessible, it's affordable; it's welcoming,'" Anderson said. "One of the things that we knew was going to be our strength was our financial package. The Cleveland Synergy Foundation had been granted \$700,000 and a minimum of \$1.3 million in in-kind donations [done in goods and services rather than cash] from the City of Cleveland to host the 2014 Games.

"We knew that we had far exceeded the minimum expectations for the venues for the athletic and cultural events. But we also knew that we were at a disadvantage because Boston and D.C. each had representatives in the Federation, so we had to stress that our message was change.

"Cleveland is a melting pot; we have people living here from all over the world. And Cleveland is a fun city."

And when Oosterberg announced Cleveland's name, Anderson admitted he was "floored."

"We thought in our hearts that we had won, but in our heads that we had lost," he admitted. "We knew we would have some battles to entice voters to vote for Cleveland. Eventually, we won the vast majority of the voting delegates, and that was a huge message from the Federation delegates, specifically, the Europeans.

"We were completely nervous when the announcement was being made, but that quickly turned to pandemonium. It was phenomenal."

The Cleveland representatives returned home for a congratulatory party with the city's mayor, other politicians and more.

But Cleveland? Yes, Cleveland!

"Before you can pass judgment on anything, you either need to taste it, look at it, partake in it or participate in it. So before you ever say anything [negative about Cleveland], come to Cleveland, and see what the city is all about. Cleveland is a city that is blazing with innovation, blazing with change, blazing with vitality," Anderson said.

The 2014 Gay Games will be the largest event/conference in the city's history.

"I could easily list the reasons why people should come to Cleveland. As for those who are negative [toward] Cleveland, well, that's just the nature of the beast," Anderson said.

Anderson, originally from central Pennsylvania, lived in Cleveland in the '80s and '90s, then in California and Arizona. With his partner of 15 years, Jeff Axberg, they returned to Cleveland in December 2006 "and we fell in love with the city again."

Anderson has for years played in gay volleyball tournaments—in Cleveland and elsewhere in North America. "That was an important part of my life and I developed some great friendships," through gay volleyball, he said.

And when he returned to Cleveland a few years ago, he resumed playing volleyball—and he found friends he knew 30 years earlier.

The Cleveland gay volleyball league, the North Coast Athletics Volleyball (NCAV), has grown tenfold in recent years, to more than 400 participants. NCAV is an active affiliate of the Cleveland Synergy Foundation.

Ironically, those 2014 Games almost went to Orlando.

You see, a few years ago, Anderson was contacted by officials with Orlando's Gay Days to see if he was interested in developing the first LGBT Sports Festival at the Wide World of Sports complex in Orlando, which would include volleyball, softball, tennis and a 5K run. Then Orlando officials thought they could host the Gay Games, and Anderson was asked if he would be interested in submitting a letter of intent for Orlando for 2014, and that's what he originally did.

But, when he returned home to Cleveland, "I just thought, 'Why Orlando? Why not Cleveland!' After all, Cleveland has great venues, a great lake, a great community—so why am I doing it for Orlando?"

Cleveland eventually expanded to incorporate nearby Akron.

"Every year up until 2014, we will host an annual My Games Rock Sports Festival," Anderson said. "[Starting] in April 2010, [the event] will include volleyball, swimming and diving, racquetball and squash—and also rugby, soccer or flag football. It will be at Cleveland State University, and this was something we were going to do regardless if we won [the 2014 Games.]"

Ultimately, every 2014 Gay Games sport will have a dry run of sorts in Cleveland, "so we will know what we will have to do, what we will have to change, what we will enhance upon," for the 2014 Games, Anderson said.

There also will be four LGBT cultural events happening annually until 2014.

"Since being awarded the Games, Cleveland has [received requests] from international athletic and cultural organizations to host their conferences, their national championships," Anderson said. "That will really give Cleveland huge exposure over the next five years in a multitude of sports.

"We're going to make sure that when 2014 rolls around, at Browns Stadium for the opening and closing ceremony, it will be the most spectacular opening and closing ceremonies that the Federation has ever seen."

Anderson spoke on several other Gay Games topics:

—**Registration:** The fee is \$135, regardless of when you register. Most major sporting events have a lower fee to register early, and then the price increases the closer the event gets. "Ultimately, we had \$4.5 million worth of support to do this event," Anderson said. "Our budget for corporate fundraising, and fundraising in general, was already covered before we even took one dime through registration."

—**Cologne Gay Games in 2010:** "We're definitely an advocate for a successful event in Cologne; there's no question about that," said Anderson. "And that's been the case even before we landed the 2014 Games. A successful event in Cologne will help create more energy for 2014. We will help Cologne as much as we can."

—**Unique marketing push for 2014:** According to Anderson, it was Brazil, "especially since Rio de Janeiro just landed the 2016 Olympics."

—**Worldwide economic crisis:** "It would cost you twice as much to participate in [the Games in] D.C. or Boston; that's the beauty of Cleveland," Anderson said. "The LGBT community spends money where it wants to, and athletics certainly are on that list [of where they spend their money]. And they will do it here in Cleveland. It's all about affordability, and Cleveland probably is one of the most affordable cities in the U.S."

—**World Outgames:** "There is a potential that the Outgames won't happen in 2013 because Copenhagen [this past summer] was not a success based on attendance [the number of participants]," Anderson said. "What I would really like to see is communication between the entire GLBT community. If the Gay Games maintains the integrity that it is an athletic event, and enhances the cultural component by maybe doing a [human rights] conference, [as done at the two Outgames,] one that doesn't take away from the athletic component, then you have the best of both worlds. The possibility does exist that [the 2013 Outgames in] Antwerp would not happen. I think the necessary parties [that govern the Gay Games and the World Outgames] should all get together, open up dialogue, be welcoming to each other. We just think it would be better for the entire LGBT community to just have one [major sporting event] every four years, [not two]."

—**Rodeo:** "Those boys are very excited about participating in Cleveland [in 2014]," Anderson said.

## SPORTS SHORTS

# Red Stars to hold fall, winter clinics

The local women's pro team Chicago Red Stars is holding multiple soccer clinics throughout Chicagoland this fall and winter.

Several sessions include the opportunity to learn alongside Red Stars defender and 1999 World Cup champion Kate Markgraf as well as Red Stars forward and former University of Illinois All-American Ella Masar. Space is limited for the Red Stars' winter clinics, so register early.

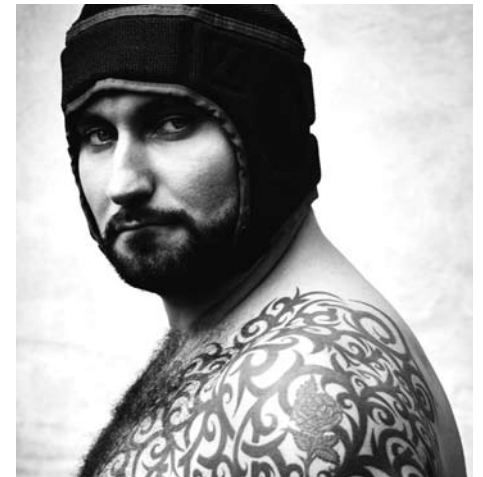
Contact Red Stars Camp Director Kate Westfall at 708-496-9511, or register online at ChicagoRedStars.com. Winter sessions run Dec. 21-Feb. 27.

# Danish rugby club out with calendar

The Copenhagen Wolves RFC, Denmark's first rugby club with gay and straight members, has released its first-ever calendar.

Copenhagen Wolves was established in 2004 and currently plays in the West Second League of the Danish Rugby Union. Most members of the 30-player strong club are gay but a growing number of straight guys have joined in recent years, creating Denmark's first dedicated gay and straight rugby club, based in the Danish capital.

See [www.cphwolvesrfc.dk](http://www.cphwolvesrfc.dk).



Andrea of the Wolves calendar.

# Maple Leafs GM proud of gay son

In an ESPN.com article, writer John Buccigross detailed the coming-out story of Brendan Burke, the son of Brian Burke, the general manager of the National Hockey League's Toronto Maple Leafs, according to Advocate.com.

Brendan, a student manager for the Miami (Ohio) University hockey team, came out to Brian two years ago—and the father accepted what his son told him, the article stated. Brian Burke said, "I wish this burden would fall on someone else's shoulders, not Brendan's. Pioneers are often misunderstood and mistrusted. But since he wishes to blaze this trail, I stand beside him with an axe! I simply could not be more proud of Brendan than I am, and I love him as much as I admire him."

# SkiBudz trip to Wis. Jan. 8-10

SkiBudz, a local LGBT skiing/snowboarding club for participants of all levels, is travelling to Wauwau, Wis., for its 4th Annual Granite Peak Trip Jan. 8-10, 2010.

The Jefferson Street Inn is even offering SkiBudz discounts for its rooms, which now cost \$109-\$259 per night. Reservations must be booked by Dec. 5.

For more information on the Granite Peak ski area, see [www.skigranitepeak.com](http://www.skigranitepeak.com). For more about SkiBudz, visit [www.skibudz.org](http://www.skibudz.org).



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

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

- Bankruptcy
- Wills, Trusts & Probate
- Real Estate
- Litigation
- Powers of Attorney
- Business Law

19 S. LaSalle, Suite 1500, Chicago, IL 60603  
312-263-8800, email RVMLAWYER@AOL.COM  
*We are a debt relief agency. We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the bankruptcy code.*

The Law Offices of  
**Alexander Weaver**  
312-588-5005  
email: violaw@rcn.com

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

410 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 628, Chicago

**MAKING YOUR TIME WORK FOR YOU**

9 Improve how you spend your time?  
Need more time?  
Want to achieve more success?



8 Contact Craig for your free, no obligation 20 minute consultation

6 **Personal Effectiveness Plus!**  
**www.gainingtime.com**  
**414-460-3253**  
Phone consultations available

**iloi**

**CUSTOM FRAMING**  
**25% off all custom framing!**  
1478 W. Berwyn - 773.784.3962

**You're a neighbor, not a number.**

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

**Total average savings of \$489\***  
Getting to know you helps me find all the auto discounts you deserve. Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®  
CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7.

\*Average annual household savings based on national 2009 survey of new policyholders who reported savings by switching to State Farm. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL. P090119 06/09

SERVING THE NEEDS OF HIV+ INDIVIDUALS  
• LOWEST PRICES  
• FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
• COUNSELING  
• CONFIDENTIALITY

WE ARE A DISTRIBUTOR OF  
**Dr. Siegal's COOKIE DIET**

**THORNDALE PHARMACY**  
1104 W THORNDALE, CHICAGO

(PH) 773-561-6660  
(FX) 773-561-6685

**FULL SERVICE**

**WE SHIP ANYWHERE**

DR. JAY L. HAMMERMAN, R.PH.

**Ray J. Koenig III and Clark Hill PLC**

A widely published author and speaker, 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.

Clark Hill is a full-service law firm consisting of a diverse team of attorneys and professionals committed to our clients and our communities. Count on Us. Count on More.

312.985.5900 | clarkhill.com  
rkoenig@clarkhill.com

**CLARK HILL**

© 2009 Clark Hill PLC ARIZONA ILLINOIS MICHIGAN WASHINGTON DC

**Susan O'Dell, PhD**  
*Down to earth, change oriented therapy*

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

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

773.262.7010  
1422 W. THOME AVENUE, CHICAGO IL 60660

**WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP**

Windy City Media Group would like to thank the following supportive businesses advertising this week in Windy City Times, Nightspots, Windy City Queercast and www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com

American Airlines	Court Theatre	Media Consultants, Inc.	Shannon Contactors
American Blues Theater	Creaoke	Merchandise Mart	Starla Sholl, LCSW
Berlin	Drury Lane Water Tower	MidTangent Productions	Sidetrack
Birchwood Lodge	Equality Illinois	National A-1 Advertising	Spin
Broadway In Chicago	GlaxoSmithKline	New Millennium Theatre	Steppenwolf Theatre Company
Center On Halsted	Gruppo Di Amici	Northlight Theatre	Sun Center Garden & Gifts
Charlie's	Hamburger Mary's	Of Sound Mind, Inc.	Susan O'Dell, PhD
Chicago Dept Of Health/STD/HIV Prevention	Hydrate	P & L Contracting Services	The Call
Chicago Gay History Project	ICCT Research International	Personal Effectiveness Plus	Urbano
Chicago Gay Men's Chorus	Iloilo Custom Framing	Pops for Champagne	Vari Architects
Chicago State University	Lakeshore Dunes Apartments	Charles Rhodes, State Farm Insurance	Victory Gardens Theater
Chicago Theatre	Lakeside Interiors	Roscoe's	Alexander Weaver & Associates
Clark Hill PLC	Man's Country	Rufskin Denim	Writers Theatre
Class 'C' Entertainment	MassageM4M.com	Scot's	
	Roger V. McCaffrey-Boss & Associates	Select Italy Travel	

# VEHICLES YOU CAN HAVE PRIDE IN

## INFINITI LIMITED ENGAGEMENT WINTER EVENT



### 0% FINANCING ON MOST MODELS\*

2009 INFINITI G37X SEDAN	2009 INFINITI G37X COUPE	2009 INFINITI G37 CONV.	2009 INFINITI M45X	2010 INFINITI QX56	2010 INFINITI EX35	2010 INFINITI FX35
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>OFF^</b>	<b>OFF^</b>	<b>OFF^</b>	<b>OFF^</b>	<b>OFF^</b>	<b>OFF^</b>	<b>OFF^</b>

\* With approved credit. Plus tax, title, license, and doc. fees. See dealer for details. Up to 36 months. Excludes all Convertibles. ^Cash not available with 0% or special financing offers. Offers expire 11/30/09.

**FIELDS INFINITI GLENCOE**  
2100 FRONTAGE ROAD  
GLENCOE, IL 60022  
847.998.5200

**FIELDS INFINITI LAKE COUNTY**  
1121 S. MILWAUKEE AVENUE  
LIBERTYVILLE, IL 60048  
847.362.9200



**20 MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN CHICAGO**  
**VISIT US ON THE WEB AT FIELDSINFINITI.COM**